



# BLUES NOTES

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VOLUME TWENTY-ONE, NUMBER FOUR • APRIL 2016

## Davina and the Vagabonds

**Thursday**  
**April 28th @ 6 pm**  
**21st Saloon, Omaha**

**Friday**  
**April 29th @ 5 pm (FAC)**  
**Zoo Bar, Lincoln**

## EDDY "THE CHIEF" CLEARWATER

**Wednesday, April 6th @ 6 pm**  
**Zoo Bar, Lincoln**

**Thursday, April 7th @ 6 pm**  
**21st Saloon, Omaha**



### THURSDAY BLUES SERIES

4727 S 96th Plaza

All shows 6pm – bands subject to change



March 31st.....	Ghost Town Blues Band (\$10)
April 2nd (8pm).....	Laura Rain and the Caesars (\$10)
April 7th .....	Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater (\$15)
April 9th (8pm).....	Harlis Sweetwater Band (\$10)
April 14th .....	Selwyn Birchwood (\$10)
April 16th (8pm).....	Jason Elmore and Hoodoo Witch (\$10)
April 21st.....	Rev. Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys (\$10)
April 23rd (8pm).....	Rockabilly Revival at the 21st Saloon w/Ross Kleiner and more! (\$10)
April 28th .....	Davina and the Vagabonds (\$12)
April 30th (8pm).....	Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers (\$15)
May 5th.....	Shawn Holt and the Teardrops (\$10)
May 7th (8 pm) .....	Toronz Cannon
	Alligator Records CD Release Party (\$10)
May 12th.....	Eric Steckel (\$10)

## JIMMY THACKERY

**Wednesday**  
**April 27th @ 6pm**  
**Zoo Bar, Lincoln**

**Saturday**  
**April 30th @ 8 pm**  
**21st Saloon, Omaha**

## ***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 Blues venues and musicians and events in the area through our sponsorship and volunteer support:

- 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. Blues Ed 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 Sher Dostal at [membership@omahablues.com](mailto:membership@omahablues.com) to switch to e-mail 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](http://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](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](http://KZUM.org).  
Monday – 3:00-6:00pm "World Gone Wrong Blues"  
Tuesday – 3:00-6:00pm "Group W Blues"  
Wednesday – 3:00-6:00pm "My Deja Blues"  
Thursday – 3:00-6:00pm "Every Kind of Blue"  
Friday – 1:00-3:00pm "Women's Blues & Boogie" • 3:00-4:30pm "Hudson Blues"  
Friday – 4:30-6:00pm "Highway Blues"



# GHOST TOWN BLUES BAND

Thursday, March 31st @ 6 pm • \$10 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE



*"With a shoot-from-the-hip Memphis attitude, and a STAX-busting explosion of modern blues vision, GTBB represents a welcome changing of the guard."*

**-Living Blues Magazine**

Beale Street's latest success story, BBMA 2015 Nominee for "Best Blues Band" and 2014 International Blues Challenge Runner-up is Ghost Town Blues Band. Not your grandpa's blues band, their live show has been captivating audiences

in the U.S. and Canada with a second-line horn entrance, cigar box guitars and electric push brooms to Allman Brothers style jams and their rapping trombone player. Both Preston McEwen behind the drums and Matt Karner on the bass guitar are a punishing rhythm section behind multi-instrumentalist/frontman Matt Isbell with raunchy cigar box guitar licks and raspy "Dr. John-like, whiskey and smoke-soaked vocals." With the addition of guitarist Taylor Orr, trombonist Suavo Jones and Jeremy Powell on keys, the grooves go from funky to "funk-nasty" as the band gains more notoriety in the blues festival and jam circuit.

Ghost Town Blues Band is a modern blues band with an intimate knowledge of both blues, rock and improvisational jams. At the same time, the band's raw energy and intensity is reminiscent of some of the best blues that rock n' roll has ever offered. The band can turn on a dime from North Mississippi hill country grooves to classic electric urban blues and Funky Meters and Southern roots style jams. This Memphis-based, gritty, seven-piece has been touring the US and Canada since its inception in 2009, gaining a strong following within the Blues and Jam Band circuit.

*"GTBB shows what can happen when the past is distilled through young sensibilities, voices, and instruments. This is 21st century blues at its best."*

**-Living Blues Magazine**

*From the Ghost Town Blues Band website*



**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.**

**Look for B.J.'s byline under the Music tab at [thereader.com](http://thereader.com)**

## BSO CORPORATE SPONSORS

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Down Under Lounge  
Hawk's BBQ,  
Chris & Brenda Hawkinson

# What's New with BluesEd?



BluesEd held its Kick-Off Meeting for the 2016 season with our largest group of students ever in the program.

We now have 44 students in 6 performance bands and several more students in our Intern program. Our 15th year of BluesEd promises to be one of our best yet with multiple performances already lined up for all six of our bands.

At the Kick-off students and parents had a chance to hear from BluesEd Directors about the upcoming performances & expectations for BluesEd this season.

In addition, BluesEd Clinicians, Ron Cooley and Carlos Figueroa spoke to the BluesEd students regarding their expectations for the year.

Ron instructed students on the importance of charting music. Carlos spoke to students on practices, performances and workshops.

Our BluesEd students and parents also had a chance to hear from one of their own, Graham Brooks, on Voodoo Vinyl's experience at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis in January. Graham spoke from his heart about how attending the IBC and participating in the Youth Showcase was an amazing experience for him & his band.

 **OMAHA GIVES!**  
*powered by the Omaha Community Foundation*

BluesEd relies heavily on donations from The Blues Society of Omaha and its members to "keep the blues alive" in Omaha.

Last year was the first year BluesEd participated in the Omaha Gives charitable giving day sponsored by the Omaha Community Foundation and American National Bank.

Again, this year we will be participating in this one-day only event on May 25.

You can help us by scheduling your gift to BluesEd early at [omahagives24.org](http://omahagives24.org). Your donation will not be processed until May 25th.

The more donations we receive the better our chances to receive bonus dollars from the Omaha Community Foundation.

We are hosting an event on Sunday, May 22nd at 5:00 p.m. at the 21st Saloon in hopes that BSO members will see several of our terrific bands in action & donate. PLUS, we have a BluesEd alumni band, \*The Navigators,\* performing. This group of former students have all graduated from the BluesEd program anywhere from 1-5 years ago.

BluesEd is much more than a fun summer of music for our students. They are building bonds with like-minded musicians and continuing to perform at a high level.

We hope to see the BSO out in full force at this event or any of our other performances:

**June 5th: BluesEd Showcase at the 21st Saloon on 96th & L**

**July 10th: BluesEd Benefit Concert at Alley V near Oak View Mall**

**Aug 7th: BluesEd Season Finale at The Waiting Room on 62nd & Maple**

Additionally, BluesEd bands will be performing at Playing with Fire, Jazz on the Green, Bridge Beats, Summer Arts Festival, Bellevue's Riverfest, Kidchella at Stinson Park & many more great venues and festivals.

For the latest updates, check out our website: [www.BluesEd.com](http://www.BluesEd.com) and follow us on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BluesEd> and twitter: <https://twitter.com/BluesEdOmaha>

--Kevin and Chris Shouse  
BluesEd Directors





## LAURA RAIN AND THE CAESARS

**Saturday, April 2nd @ 8 pm • \$10**  
**21st Saloon, 96th and L Street, Omaha, NE**



From the moment Laura Rain and the Caesars take the stage, they give the impression of a distinctly old-fashioned kind of band. For one thing, the show begins with only the Caesars onstage and Rain nowhere in sight. The band—guitarist George Friend, drummer Ron Pangborn, bassist Gwen Hayes,

and keyboard player Phil Hale—lays down some soulful R&B instrumentals. Friend and Hayes smile at each other, playfully trading licks. The band is warming up, but they're also warming up the crowd for the arrival of the main attraction: Rain herself. After three instrumental tunes and a big wind-up of an introduction, Rain takes the stage in a red top, a black skirt, metallic gold tights, and high-heeled boots. With a swelling beehive hairdo and cat glasses, she's an outrageous physical presence to rival another soul master who knew how to make an entrance: James Brown. And when she opens her mouth to sing, Rain easily defends her claim to Brown's soul legacy.

Though the band is based in the Detroit area, many of its members have worked with remarkable national names. Friend has performed with rockabilly revivalist Robert Gordon and blues vocalist Janiva Magness; Hale with R&B legends from Martha Reeves to George Clinton. Pangborn was an original member of the Detroit pop collective Was (Not Was). Rain doesn't have quite the same list of all-star collaborations under her belt, but music clearly runs in her blood. She was trained as a classical vocalist, but the music of Aretha Franklin drew her to the world of soul, R&B, and funk in her mid-teens. She began sneaking into Detroit clubs to sit in and sing with the bands, and by her early twenties she was singing professionally most nights of the week.

The Caesars' collective decades of professional experience are evident in their live show. While Pangborn, Hayes, and Hale all do fine work, they're mostly content to sit back and leave the spotlight on Rain and Friend, who are more than happy to seize it. Rain makes full use of a remarkable vocal range, singing with fiery passion and a sassy outward manner that invite comparisons to Aretha, her childhood inspiration. As she improvises wildly against the melody line of whatever she's singing, be it one of the Caesars' original tunes or a Led Zeppelin or Al Green cover, Hayes and Pangborn give her a solid, unfussy groove to work over.

Occasionally Rain plays flirtatiously off Friend, a compelling player in his own right. There's personality to spare in Friend's guitar work even when he's playing a simple rhythm, and when he solos, he's a flashy, bluesy force of nature, his body contorting over his guitar while face remains the picture of relaxation.

When this band gets going, it's hard not to get pulled along by their talent and passion, whether you're dancing or just tapping your toe, the R&B legends the Caesars emulate would be proud of how the band is carrying the torch.

*From the [www.annarborobserver.com](http://www.annarborobserver.com),  
 story by Patrick Dunn*

## REVEREND RAVEN AND THE CHAIN SMOKIN' ALTAR BOYS

**Thursday, April 21st @ 6 pm • \$10**  
**21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE**

Bringing crowds to their feet at the hardest to please and sophisticated night clubs in the Midwest, Reverend Raven and the Chain Smoking Altar Boys play traditional blues, straight up with a big dose of passion. With smoking grooves, served up with hot harmonica and smooth stinging guitar they play original songs peppered with nods to Slim Harpo, Little Walter, Jimmy Rogers, Billy Boy Arnold, Junior Wells and the three Kings.



Born and raised on south side of Chicago, the Reverend has been playing the blues since 1971 when he first saw Freddy King play at the Kinetic Theatre in Chicago. After 15 year hitch in the Navy he moved to Milwaukee where he began a long friendship and collaboration with Madison Slim, long time harmonica player for Jimmy Rogers.

Since 1990 Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys have opened for B.B King, Gatemouth Brown, Pinetop Perkins, Koko Taylor Band, Junior Wells, Billy Branch, Magic Slim, Elvin Bishop, Sugar Blue, Lonnie Brooks, William Clarke, Lefty Dizz, Rod Piazza, Fabulous Thunderbirds, Duke Robillard, Jeff Healy, Trampled Under Foot, Mike Zito, Nick Moss, Tommy Castro and numerous others at festivals and at Buddy Guy's Legends where he has been on rotation as a headliner for 16 years.

This show will feature *Westside Andy Linderman* on Harmonica. Andy is a world class harmonica player endorsed by Hohner harmonicas, Sonny Boy Jr amplifiers and Blow Me Away microphones. His most recent CD "Blues Just Happen" is in the top 30 Blues CDs for 2015 and he is also featured on our top 30 CD "Live at the Big Bull".

Wisconsin Music Industry (WAMI) award for best blues band in 1999, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2010, and 2015.

People's Choice Award in 2006, 2008, 2010. Voted the Best Blues Band in Milwaukee by The Shepherd Express Reader's Poll in 2012, 2014 and 2015.

2011 Blues Blast Music Award Nominee for Best Blues Band" and "Best Song" 2015 Blues Blast Music Award Nominee for Best Live CD

2007 Grammy Award Nominee for "Best Blues Compilation CD" for Bamfest 2007

***The band recently had the honor of being the host band for the Pro Jam on the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise #26 in January.***

*From the Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys website*

## — B.S.O. Mailbag —

My name is Sammy Listoe and I am an acoustic singer/songwriter from Los Angeles, CA. My 2015 tours included Hollywood venues (House of Blues, Whisky A Go-Go, Novel Bar), and expanded nationally to venues in Nashville, New Orleans, and throughout the Southern/Western USA. I am touring in the months of June/July and would love to book something June 9th if possible. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Sammy Listoe – 951-691-6951*

*Itunes - Sammy Listoe*

*Spotify - Sammy Listoe*

*facebook.com/samlistoemusic*

*youtube.com/sammyl217*



Saturday, April 1st @ 6 pm  
**The Bel Airs**

Wednesday, April 6th @ 6 pm  
\$16 adv. / \$20 dos  
**Eddy Clearwater**

Wednesday, April 13th @ 6 pm  
**Selwyn Birchwood**

Friday, April 16th @ 9 pm \$8  
**Kilborn Alley Blues Band**

Wednesday, April 27th @ 6 pm  
**Jimmy Thackery**

Friday, April 29th @ 5 pm (FAC)  
**Davina and the Vagabonds**

**For a full schedule see  
[www.zoobar.com](http://www.zoobar.com)**

## JOSH HOYER AND SOUL COLOSSAL "RUNNING FROM LOVE" Album Release Shows

JOSH HOYER  
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**ALBUM RELEASE SHOW  
"RUNNING FROM LOVE"**

W/ SPECIAL GUESTS: HOOD SMOKE / DJ RELIC

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1  
BOURBON THEATRE**

\$5 ADV/\$7 DOS. 9PM. [WWW.JOSHHOYER.COM](http://WWW.JOSHHOYER.COM)

**Saturday  
April 2nd @ 9 pm  
Slowdown**

**729 N. 14th Street, Omaha  
Doors at 8:00 pm - Main Room**

**SLOWDOWN**

**\$8 Advance/\$10 Day of Show**

**All ages show.**

**With Satchel Grande  
and CJ Mills**

**Tix @ [www.theslowdown.com](http://www.theslowdown.com)**



# EDDY "THE CHIEF" CLEARWATER

Wednesday, April 6th @ 6 pm • \$16 adv. \$20 dos • Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th Street, Lincoln, NE

Thursday, April 7th @ 6 pm • \$15 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE



*"A focused mixture of T-Bone Walker cool and distinctly Chicago riffage... uncanny grooves... satisfying and funky."*

—**Billboard**

*"Between his slashing left-handed guitar work, his room-filling vocals, his self-defined 'Rock-A-Blues' style (a potent mix of blues, rock, rockabilly, country and gospel), his boundless energy and even*

*his signature Indian headdress, Clearwater is among the very finest practitioners of the West Side blues working today. He's a fine singer who puts on a wild, exciting show... the sort of exuberant entertainer who can turn a concert into a party."*

—**NY TIMES**

One of the Blues most colorful and compelling characters, best songwriters and a stylist capable of hard driving, Windy City blues and fretwork fireworks, Chicago legend Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater is an intense, flamboyant blues-rocking showman. He's equally comfortable playing the deepest, most heartfelt blues or rocking to good-time party music. "Left-hander Eddy Clearwater" is a forceful six-stringer. He lays down some gritty West Side shuffles and belly grinding slow blues that highlight his raw chops, soulful vocals, and earthy, humorous lyrics." (Down Beat) "The Chief" is equally adept at strutting Chuck Berry Hillbilly meets R&B riffs.

Born Edward Harrington (a cousin of late blues harpist Carey Bell) in Macon, Mississippi, Eddy moved with his family to Birmingham, Alabama at age thirteen. With music from blues to gospel to country & western surrounding him from an early age, Eddy taught himself to play guitar (left-handed and upside down), and began performing with various gospel groups, including the legendary Five Blind Boys of Alabama. After moving to Chicago in 1950, Eddy stayed with his uncle and took a job as a dishwasher, saving and stretching as much as he could from his \$37 a week salary. Through his uncle's contacts, Eddy met many of Chicago's blues stars. He fell deeply under the spell of the blues, and under the wing of West Side soul star Magic Sam, who would become one of Eddy's closest friends and mentors. He met and befriended everyone from Sunnyland Slim to Earl Hooker, picking up licks and lessons along the way. As 'Guitar Eddy', he was making a name for himself, working the South and West Side bars regularly. And after hearing Chuck Berry in 1957, Eddy adopted that rock and roll slant to his already searing blues style, creating a unique sound that brought him a wider audience which defines him to this day. He recorded his first single, Hillbilly Blues in 1958 for his uncle's Atomic H label under the name Clear Waters. His manager at the time, drummer Jump Jackson, came up with the name as a word play on Muddy Waters. It was a regional hit and the name morphed into Eddy Clearwater.

He worked the local circuit steadily throughout the 1950s, 1960s and into the 1970s, finding success among the North Side college crowd who responded to his individual brand of blues, his rock and roll spirit and his high energy stage show. Wearing a full Indian headdress on the cover of his first full-length release (an homage to his Cherokee blood),

"The Chief", as he was now known, reached the largest audience of his career. EC went onto recording numerous albums for various labels during the 1980s and 1990s. With his fierce guitar playing, soulful and emotive vocals and wild stage shows, Eddy's star continued to grow even brighter. His 2003 CD Rock 'N' Roll City paired him up with the surf-rocking, Mexican wrestling-masked instrumentalists, Los Strait-jackets. The unlikely pairing turned out to be a match made in Blue Heaven, garnering a nomination for a Grammy Award and earning Eddy a multitude of new fans. With West Side Strut, Eddy has made his self-declared, best album of his life. "Joyous rave-ups... Clearwater testifies with stunning soul fervor and powerful guitar. One of the Blues finest songwriters." (Blues Review) Between the untamed guitar work, the rough and tumble vocals and the strength of the songs, the old-school yet contemporary, "West Side Strut" articulates Eddy's inimitable blues perspective. Clearwater loves to perform, constantly tearing it up somewhere around the world on any given night strutting his slicing guitar licks, his rock-fueled blues, rockabilly, country and gospel gumbo in his inimitable style. From straight ahead blues and humorous rockers to plaintive, emotion packed ballads. All are brought to life vividly by Eddy's ferocious and unflinching guitar playing, his power-packed vocals and unlimited energy. Eddy Clearwater takes his listeners on "an inspired trip to that rollicking crossroads where the blues and rock collide." — Billboard

From <http://tbonewalkerbluesfest.com>

## BANDS AND VENUES...HELP US HELP YOU!!! HELP US PUT MORE BUTTS IN MORE SEATS

The Blues Society of Omaha maintains a powerful calendar of events on its website, [omahablues.com](http://omahablues.com). We invite all venue and band managers to take advantage of this free opportunity for promotion. Since we are an all volunteer organization, we ask you to get an account and help us by maintaining your digital space on this calendar.

*Our calendar has the following features:*

- A real-time page showing the most timely upcoming events.
- A powerful search engine for users to find specific events by name, venue, band, and date.
- Events pages that allow rich text, photos, and external links to band site and venue pages. Much of the page is generated automatically from the venue page. It also makes it easy for use to add events to their calendar and to use a map.
- Venue pages that allow contact information and photos, map insets linked to full mapping, and links to external sites.
- For bands, we have a band listing page with links to individual band pages. These are full free-form WordPress pages supporting text, graphics and links.
- The site works well on mobile devices like smartphones.

If you are interested, please contact Sid Sidner at [support@omahablues.com](mailto:support@omahablues.com) to learn more and to get registered for a free account today.

*Musical genres supported by the Blues Society of Omaha on our calendar.*

**Blues • Surf Rock • R & B • Jazz • Rockabilly • Funk • Soul • Roots  
Swing • Americana • Rock & Roll • Blue Grass**



# GREGG ALLMAN

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# BLUES IN APRIL & MAY

**Fri Apr 01**

Swampboy Blues Trio (6:00 pm) (Jazz – A Louisiana Kitchen)  
 Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal Running from Love Album Release (8:00 pm) (Bourbon Theater)  
 Motown – Terry Parker on piano & vocals, John Mertz on guitar, Tommy Wells on bass (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 The Dust Jackets (8:30 pm) (The Garage)

**Sat Apr 02**

Bel Airs (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Laura Rain and the Ceasars (8:00 pm) (The 21st Saloon)  
 The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Allied Saints (9:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)  
 Josh Hoyer And Soul Colossal Album Release Party (9:00 pm) (The Slowdown)

**Sun Apr 03**

Brad Cordle Band (4:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Mon Apr 04**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Hector Anchondo – solo set (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Tue Apr 05**

First Tuesday Fundraiser with Da Crabby Blues Band Featuring Bucky McCann (6:00 pm) (Schucks)

**Wed Apr 06**

Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Swampboy Blues Jam (8:00 pm) (Black Eye Dive)

**Thu Apr 07**

Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater (6:00 pm) (The 21st Saloon)  
 Ed Archibald on Sax & Craig Franklin on Piano – Blues & Smooth Jazz (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Open Jam hosted by the Luther James Band (8:00 pm) (Rusty Nail)

**Fri Apr 08**

Ladies Sing the Blues with Susie Thorne – Hosted by Carol Rogers (7:30 pm) (Love's Jazz & Arts Center)  
 Motown – Terry Parker on piano & vocals, John Mertz on guitar, Tommy Wells on bass (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Sat Apr 09**

Sunday Roadhouse Presents "Robbie Fuls" (6:30 pm) (Reverb Lounge)  
 Harlis Sweetwater Band (8:00 pm) (The 21st Saloon)  
 Hector Anchondo Band (8:00 pm) (Bourbon Theater)  
 The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Circle of Fifths (9:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)  
 Swampboy Blues Band (9:00 pm) (Copacabana)

**Sun Apr 10**

Sailing in Soup (4:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Mon Apr 11**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Hector Anchondo – solo set (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Wed Apr 13**

Selwyn Birchwood (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Swampboy Blues Jam (8:00 pm) (Black Eye Dive)

**Thu Apr 14**

Selwyn Birchwood Band (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)  
 Ed Archibald on Sax & Craig Franklin on Piano – Blues & Smooth Jazz (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Open Jam hosted by the Luther James Band (8:00 pm) (Rusty Nail)

**Fri Apr 15**

Kilborn Alley Blues Band (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Motown – Terry Parker on piano & vocals, John Mertz on guitar, Tommy Wells on bass (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Sat Apr 16**

Jason Elmore & Hoodoo Witch (8:00 pm) (21st Saloon)  
 The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Harper and Midwest Kind (9:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Sun Apr 17**

The Sunday Roadhouse Presents "Bill Kirchen-Seeds and Stems Tour 2016" (4:00 pm) (The Waiting Room Lounge)  
 Seepeoples (4:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Mon Apr 18**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Wed Apr 20**

Swampboy Blues Jam (8:00 pm) (Black Eye Dive)

**Thu Apr 21**

Reverend Raven & the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys Featuring Westside Andy Linderman on Harmonica (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)  
 Ed Archibald on Sax & Craig Franklin on Piano – Blues & Smooth Jazz (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Open Jam hosted by the Luther James Band (8:00 pm) (Rusty Nail)

**Fri Apr 22**

Motown – Terry Parker on piano & vocals, John Mertz on guitar, Tommy Wells on bass (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Sat Apr 23**

Rockabilly Revival Festival (8:00 pm) (21st Saloon)  
 The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Sun Apr 24**

The Sunday Roadhouse Presents "The Suitcase Junket" (4:00 pm) (Reverb Lounge)

**Mon Apr 25**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Hector Anchondo solo set (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Wed Apr 27**

Jimmy Thackery (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)  
 Swampboy Blues Jam (8:00 pm) (Black Eye Dive)

**Thu Apr 28**

Ed Archibald on Sax & Craig Franklin on Piano – Blues & Smooth Jazz (7:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Davina and the Vagabonds (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

**Fri Apr 29**

Motown – Terry Parker on piano & vocals, John Mertz on guitar, Tommy Wells on bass (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

**Wed Apr 27**

Davina and the Vagabonds (5:00 pm FAC) (Zoo Bar)

**Sat Apr 30**

Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers (8:00 pm) (21st Saloon)  
 Hector Anchondo Band (8:00 pm) (Whiskey Roadhouse)  
 The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)  
 Run With It (9:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)  
 Mon May 02  
 Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Tue May 03**

First Tuesday Fundraiser with Da Crabby Blues Band Featuring Bucky McCann (6:00 pm) (Schucks)

## HEY BANDS & BARS

If you want your schedule printed monthly in  
**BLUES NOTES**, e-mail to [bsc\\_calendar@yahoo.com](mailto:bsc_calendar@yahoo.com)  
 All schedules must be received by the 21st of each month.  
 Get calendar updates @ [www.omahablues.com](http://www.omahablues.com)



**7:00PM-10:00PM**  
**THE ZOO BAR HOUSE**  
**BAND • \$3<sup>00</sup>**

# BLUES IN APRIL & MAY

**Wed May 04**

Shawn Holt and the Teardrops (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Thu May 05**

Shawn Holt and the Teardrops (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

**Fri May 06**

Swampboy Blues Band (9:00 pm) (Havana Garage)

**Sat May 07**

The Smoove Brothers – Ed Archibald on sax, John Metz on guitar (8:00 pm) (The Omaha Lounge)

Toronzo Cannon – Alligator Records CD Release (8:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

Swampboy Blues Band (9:00 pm) (Havana Garage)

**Sun May 08**

Studebaker John (4:00 pm) (Doghouse Saloon)

**Mon May 09**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Thu May 12**

Eric Steckel (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

James Armstrong (4:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Fri May 13**

HullabaCruise Friday Night (7:00 pm) (Miller's Landing)

**Sat May 14**

HullabaCruise Saturday Night (7:00 pm) (Miller's Landing)

**Sun May 15**

Josh Hoyer &amp; Soul Colossal (4:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Mon May 16**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Wed May 18**

Gracie Curran &amp; The High Falutin' Band (6:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Thu May 19**

Gracie Curran &amp; The High Falutin' Band (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

**Fri May 20**

Swampboy Blues Trio (6:00 pm) (Jazz – A Louisiana Kitchen)

Gregg Allman (8:00 pm) (STIR Cove)

Set In Stone (9:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Mon May 23**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

**Thu May 26**

The Cate Brothers (6:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

Swampboy Blues Band (6:00 pm) (Dr. Jack's Drinkery)

**Fri May 27**

Gina Sicilia (5:00 pm) (The Corner Bar)

**Sat May 28**

Lippy's 5th Annual BBQ Blues Fest (12:00 pm) (Lippy's BBQ)

Hector Anchondo Band (7:00 pm) (Stinson Park – Aksarban Village)

Jason Ricci &amp; the Bad Kind (8:00 pm) (21st Saloon)

**Mon May 30**

Zoo Bar House Band (7:00 pm) (Zoo Bar)

## WEEKLY OPEN BLUES JAMS

— **Wednesdays, 8 to 11** —

### BLACK EYE DIVE

**72nd & Harrison, Omaha**— **Thursdays, 8 to 11** —

### RUSTY NAIL PUB

**142nd & Pacific, Omaha**

## Playing with Fire Free 2016 Summer Concert Series Returns to Saturday Shows with Award-Winning Roster of Performers at Midtown Crossing Turner Park

**Saturday, July 2**Sugaray Rayford (*Headliner*)

Andria Simone and Those Guys

Nick Schnebelen Band

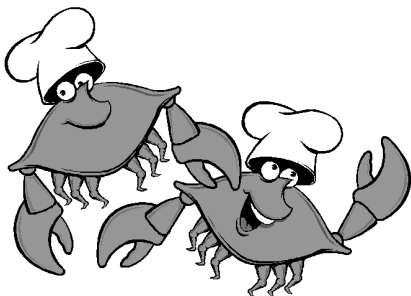
Far & Wide (*BluesEd Band*)**Saturday, August 27***in support of Donate Life Nebraska*Walter Trout Band (*Headliner*)

Steve Hill

Levi William

The Redwoods (*BluesEd Band*)

To learn more about **Playing with Fire**  
and the 2016 concert series and artists,  
visit [www.playingwithfireomaha.net](http://www.playingwithfireomaha.net) or  
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/PlayingWithFireOmaha)  
PlayingWithFireOmaha



## FIRST TUESDAY FUNDRAISER

**With the Crabby Blues Band  
featuring Bucky McCann**

**Tuesday, April 5th from 6 to 9 pm****Shucks, 119th & Pacific, Omaha****All proceeds to benefit the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**



# THE HARLIS SWEETWATER BAND

*Saturday, April 9th @ 8 pm • \$10 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE*



"Music has always been a huge part of my life," says Harlis. "From the time I was 5 years old my mother was playin' great music in the house. Cats like Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley...she sang and played a little bit of guitar too."

"When I was 7 my mother sat down with me and showed me an album she had. It was Chuck Berry's Golden Decade Vol. 1. and when I opened that double record set and saw the photo of him on the inside, man, that did it. Iconic photo. Chuck lookin' down at his guitar, flooded in stage lights, sweat dripping off him...THAT, is Rock N' Roll, and THAT'S what I wanna do! I wanted to be THAT guy!"

From Huntington Beach California, Harlis Sweetwater, as a singer /guitarist/ songwriter and frontman, has shared the stage with everyone from Jimmie Vaughan, Robert Randolph & the Family Band, Los Lobos, Everlast, and Brian Setzer to R&B/Blues legends Etta James, James Cotton, and Wilson Pickett to name a few.

He has been called "the best singer in any genre" by music critic Robert Kinsler of the OC Register, while SugarBuzz Magazine had this to say: "From the heart, Harlis Sweetwater, you know instantly the real deal is upon you. This man knows the blues." Recently CBS online named Harlis one of Orange County's best singer songwriters.

Harlis first arrived on the scene with his band Barrelhouse O.C. and the group came into its own in the early 1990s. A favorite of L.A. and Orange County CA music critics, the band possessed a deep passion for the music of Otis Redding. It was the group's mission to bring Soul music to the masses behind the orange curtain. With a 3 piece horn section, piano, 2 guitars, bass and drums, and Harlis' broad and gravelly vocals at the helm, the band was like an explosive soul revue.

The band quickly became known for their highly entertaining shows and authentic southern soul sound. After 3 albums and an EP they began feeling like they had run their course and called it quits in 2001. After the break up, Harlis experimented with other styles and genres, but he longed to get back to the music that inspired him.

He formed the Harlis Sweetwater Band in 2012 to get back to the Blues/Soul and Americana music he loves. He enlisted fellow musicians Jimmy Sena on

Drums and Jason Holser playing Bass; both with extensive recording and performing experience, to lay down a solid foundation of groove for His wild, bluesy & intense guitar playing and husky soulful voice. The group often times plays with the 3 piece horn section of Geoff Yeaton (Saxophone), Jed Thurkettle (Trombone) and Ken Effrem Shaw (Trumpet) known as the "Voodoo Horns," two of whom are former Barrelhouse members.

The chemistry of the bands players makes for high energy performances that both entertain and mesmerize, and often times the party on stage rivals the one in the audience, making the Harlis Sweetwater Band one of the more fun and entertaining bands to see live.

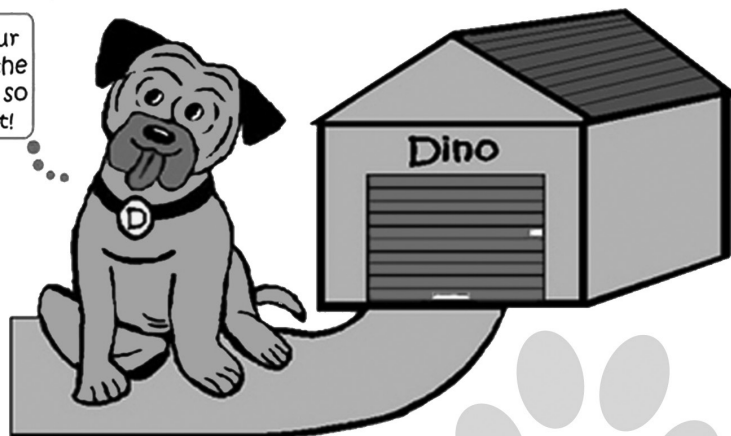
The band released "Lights Goin' Down" in Oct. 2012, to rave reviews. Gary Schwind of the Examiner.com stated "This Album Is Brilliant." and Incognito Magazine wrote in its review of the album "If you want some music you can feel and not just hear, check out this band." The album was featured in iTunes Blues "New and Noteworthy" section, made several appearances in iTunes top 200 best selling blues albums and the song "I Can't Justify" charted #46 on the U.S. Blues Charts as well as their songs appearing on Blues Charts in Ireland, Sweden and New Zealand.

The group's second album "Put It In Dirt" released May 2014, debuted on iTunes Top 200 Best Selling Blues albums at #106 and reached #30 and continues to receive rave reviews from all over the world.

*From the Harlis Sweetwater Band Website*

## Dino's Storage

Where your stuff's in the doghouse, so you're not!



**DinosStorage.com**  
402.916.4015



Love's Jazz and Arts Center is asking you to help support our campaign to raise \$5,000 to purchase this beautiful Baby Grand Piano!

Love's Jazz and Arts Center is raising funds for a Baby Grand Piano through a *gofundme* campaign.

Donations can be made at  
<https://www.gofundme.com/liveatloves>.

The mission of the Love's Jazz and Arts Center is to preserve, promote, and present African American Arts, and Jazz with a vision of becoming the recognized jazz and cultural arts center/authority based in North Omaha, serving Nebraska and the surrounding region.

VISION: To become the recognized jazz and cultural arts center/authority based in North Omaha, serving Nebraska and the surrounding region.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the LJAC is to present a rich array of culturally diverse arts programming for Nebraska and the surrounding region in efforts to educate, enlighten, enrich and entertain audiences of all ages, while providing leadership and support to advance the appreciation of African American Arts and Jazz in the community.

LJAC provides a variety of community programs for all ages. LJAC presents various exhibits throughout the year. The organization offers guided tours for students to introduce them to Preston Love's musical achievements and provides a history of the impact of Jazz both locally and nationally. We offer Workshops/Master Classes for Youth and Adults during Jazz Concert Series. We will continue sponsoring and hosting culture events year-round. Our programs will continue to provide a platform for youth to tell their stories through a theatrical lens, as well as musical expression, provide cultural perspective of the arts and cultivate the Omaha Jazz Renaissance of our times.



Sunday, April 3rd @ 4 pm  
**Brad Cordle Band**

Saturday, April 9th @ 9 pm  
**Circle of Fifths**

Sunday, April 10th @ 4 pm  
**Sailing in Soup**

Saturday, April 16th @ 9 pm  
**Harper & Midwest Kind**

Sunday, April 17th @ 4pm  
**SeepeopleS**  
*(from Portland, Maine)*

Saturday, April 30th @ 9 pm  
**Run With It**

Saturday, May 7th @ 9 pm  
**Plush Revolver**

Sunday, May 8th @ 4 pm  
**Studebaker John**

Thursday, May 12th @ 4 pm  
**James Armstrong**

Sunday, May 15th @ 4 pm  
**Josh Hoyer and Soul Colossal**

Friday, May 20th @ 9 pm  
**Set in Stone**

Friday, May 27th @ 5 pm  
**Gina Sicilia**

**All Free, No Cover Shows!!**

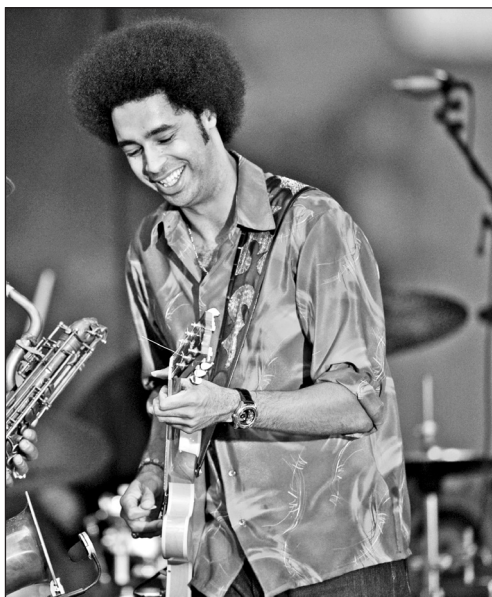


# SELWYN BIRCHWOOD

**Wednesday, April 13th @ 6 pm • Zoo Bar, 136, North 14th St., Lincoln, NE**  
**Thursday, April 14th @ 6 pm • \$10 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE**

Selwyn Birchwood, Florida's rising young blues fireball, is a guitar and lap steel playing bundle of pure energy. He delivers his original songs with a revival tent preacher's fervor and a natural storyteller's charisma made all the more impactful by his raw, unvarnished vocals. Birchwood plays high-octane blues – at once deeply rooted, funky and up-to-the-minute – with true passion and honest emotion. With his band feeding off his drive and exuberance, the striking 6'3" 29-year-old with his trademark Afro roams the stage (often barefoot), ripping out memorable guitar licks with ease. His ability to win over an audience – any audience – is proven night after night on the bandstand. With his warm, magnetic personality, Birchwood is as down-to-earth as his music is fun, thought-provoking and vital. His mission is to spread his music far and wide, to share his joy, to play his heart out, and to push the blues into the future. "There's nothing I'd rather be doing than playing the blues," he says. "And I try to convey that with every song and with every performance."

In 2013, Birchwood catapulted from local hero to shooting star. He won the world-renowned International Blues Challenge, beating out 125 other bands from the U.S. and abroad. He also took home the Albert King Guitarist Of The Year Award. It wasn't long before Alligator Records president Bruce Iglauer offered Birchwood a contract. His debut album, *Don't Call No Ambulance*, is a fully realized vision of contemporary blues. Birchwood's original songs range from raucous romps to hill country stomps, from searing, serious slow blues to modern blues rock. Between his uninhibited sense of fun and adventure and his serious-as-a-heart-attack musicianship, *Don't Call No Ambulance* is a window into the future of the blues. "All originals and no filler," he says of the



album. "It's that genuineness of emotion in the songs that people can hear."

Birchwood, his father from Tobago, his mother from the UK, was born in 1985 in Orlando, Florida. He first grabbed a guitar at age 13 and soon became proficient at mimicking what he heard on the radio. But the popular grunge rock, hip-hop and metal of the 1990s didn't move him, and he quickly grew bored. And then he heard Jimi Hendrix. "He was larger than life. What he did was mind-blowing. When I realized Hendrix was influenced by the blues, I found my path," he says. By 17 he was deep into the blues, listening to Albert King, Freddie King, Albert Collins, Muddy Waters, Lightnin' Hopkins and especially Buddy Guy. As luck would have it, just as Birchwood was discovering Guy, the blues master had

a concert scheduled in Orlando. Birchwood was there, front and center. "I was floored," he recalls. "I completely connected with the blues. I knew I had to make this music." As Selwyn's guitar proficiency grew, a friend told him that his neighbor was a blues guitarist and had a band. The 19-year-old Selwyn went over to check it out and jam. The guitar playing neighbor turned out to be the Texas born blues legend Sonny Rhodes, who was instantly impressed with the enthusiastic young guitar slinger. Within one month's time, Rhodes asked Birchwood to pack his bags and join him on the road. It was an incredible experience for Birchwood, as Rhodes took the youngster under his wing, not only teaching him guitar and lap steel, but also how to conduct business, how to run a band, how to reach an audience. "Sonny always said, 'Play what's in your heart.' I've never lost sight of that," says Birchwood.

*From the Alligator Records website*

## LOOKING FOR BSO MERCHANDISE COORDINATOR/ASSISTANT

BSO is seeking a volunteer to either take over the Merchandise Coordinator position, or, work as an assistant with our current Merchandise Coordinator.

### JOB DESCRIPTION/DUTIES

Merchandise Coordinator-Order and maintain inventory • Stock displays / manage storage / manage event set-ups  
 Coordinate merchandise volunteers for events • Manage receipts and report to Treasurer-Report at BSO meetings

Merchandise Assistant-Stock displays / manage storage / manage event set-ups

Coordinate merchandise volunteers for events • Manage receipts and report to Merchandise Coordinator

***If you are interested in volunteering, or, if you have any questions, please contact Jeff Malloy at oobaby44@yahoo.com or call 402-536-0739. Training will be provided.***

## BSO BAND DIRECTORY

Band	Contact	Phone # / Email
<b>COUNCIL BLUFFS</b>		
The Packages.....	Rick Hillyard.....	712-420-1232
Street Level Band.....	Steven Rains.....	402-980-7898 / srains58@yahoo.com
<b>FREMONT</b>		
Punching Puppets.....	Lance Clark.....	402-727-1999 / lance.clark86@gmail.com
<b>HASTINGS</b>		
Peace Hogs.....	Rich Mattison.....	402-469-5818 / peacehogs1@gmail.com
Smokey B. and the XYZ's.....	Byron Starr.....	402- 462-5879
<b>KEARNEY</b>		
Kate Fly.....		308-627-3021 / kathryn1981@gmail.com
<b>LINCOLN</b>		
Blues Messengers.....	Jake Wiese.....	402-601-4959
Church House Blues Band.....	Danny Dakan.....	402-890-2533 / Firewarrior57@aol.com
The Dust Jackets.....	Travis Koester.....	402 560 8415 / www.dustjackets.com
Jared's GoodTime BluesParty.....	Jared Alberico.....	402-474-2473
John Walker and the New Hokum Boys.....	John Walker.....	402-466-7254
Josh Hoyer & the Soul Colossal.....	Josh Hoyer.....	402-416-3846 / jhoyerandtheshadowboxers@gmail.com
Jr. Stephens Blues Project.....	Lary Lehman.....	1-800-422-1340
Levi William.....	Levi William 402-310-2681, Cindy Patton 402-850-8549 / pattonpromo@gmail.com	
The Mezcal Brothers.....	Gerado Meza.....	402-438-5120
The Tijuana Gigolos.....	Marty Steinhousen.....	402-742-5892
Tim Budig Band.....		503-719-3969 / budigtim@gmail.com
Upstairs Blues Band.....	Caleb Long.....	402-430-1792
<b>OMAHA</b>		
112 North Duck.....	Michelle.....	402-210-9378 / je@112northduck.com
Back Alley Blues.....	Craig A. Hassa.....	402-594-9147
Backer's Blues.....	Jeff Kangas.....	402-650-8580
Banjo Loco.....	Blind Burrito.....	402-850-0245
Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns.....	Joe Putjenter.....	402- 658-2222 / joe@artisticsign.net
The Blues Explosion.....	Dave Skinner.....	402-330-7366
BluesEd.....	Chris Shouse.....	admin@bluesed.com / 402-578-3133
Brad Cordle Band.....	Brad Cordle.....	702-533-2427 / funksoulbro@isp.com
Chuck Brown and the Basement Devils.....	Chuck Brown.....	402-610-1522
Dilemma.....	Chris Shouse.....	shouse.cj@gmail.com / 402-578-3133
Drew Jude and the Cool Tones.....	Drew Jude.....	402-714-1244
Elwin James and the Way Outs.....	Patrick Peters.....	402-292-6435 / zappotheseane@aol.com
George Walker.....	George Walker.....	402-871-1469
Hector Anchondo Band.....	Hector Anchondo.....	402-215-3956 / hectoranchondo@gmail.com
John Crews Blues.....	John Crews.....	402-714-7634
Johnny Reef & the Shipwrecks.....	Tommy Kriegshauser.....	402-517-8248 / tommykblues@yahoo.com
Jorge Nila and the Jazz Ninjas.....	Jorge Nila.....	402-932-JAZZ
The Kris Lager Band.....	Kris Lager.....	402-304-7269
Life of Riley.....	Rebecca Packard.....	402-699-0958 / lofriley@gmail.com
Little Joe and Big Trouble.....	Little Joe McCarthy.....	402-680-2924 / rodeo1@cox.net
Lou De Luca & the R & M Blues Band.....	Lou De Luca.....	402-677-7156 / Lou562016@cox.net
Luther James Band.....	L.J. Johnson.....	402-213-5234 / ljband@cox.net
The Matt Gagne Blues Experience.....	Matt Gagne.....	402-212-0694 / mgagne1@cox.net
The Mighty Sapphire Kings.....	Bill Ferleman.....	402-658-1785
Mojo Bag.....	Barb Fisher.....	402-968-1127
Neptunes.....	John Hartley.....	402-995-2926 or 402-391-4762
The Omaha Blues Society All-Stars.....	Craig Balderston.....	402-208-1068 / dudup@cox.net
Paul Scott Hoagbin Blues Band.....	Paul Scott Hoagbin.....	402-689-1183 / paulscotthoagbin@cox.net
The Rex Granite Band.....	Kevin Loomis.....	402-306-9342 / rexgranite@cox.net
Rhythm Collective Reggae.....	Frank Fong.....	402-556-3568
Rich Patton Blues and more.....	Rich Patton.....	402- 841-1110 / rpatton1947@gmail.com
Rich Mattison and the Peace Hogs.....	Rich Mattison.....	402-469-5818
Sailing In Soup.....	Gunnar Guenette.....	402 599-9255
Soulfinger.....	Barry Clark.....	thbear57@cox.net
Spike Nelson Trio.....	Mike Nelson.....	402-612-1250
Stephen Monroe.....	Stephen Monroe.....	402-699-5905
Steve Lovett Blues Band AND Steve Lovett-Solo Acoustic Blues.....	Steve Lovett.....	402-660-7146 / deerscry@aol.com
The Stimulus Packages.....	Rick Hillyard.....	712-420 1232
Sue Murray / The WILDFIRE Band.....	Sue Murray.....	402-533-4791 / songbird362@gmail.com
Susan Thorne Group.....	Susan Thorne.....	402 968-4991
Swampboy.....	Tim Koehn.....	402-830-0021 / tim@swampboybluesband.com
Thrift Shop Radio.....	K.C. Kelley.....	319-431-3508
Vintage.....	Charlie Ames.....	816-678-8360 / vintagevideography@gmail.com



**Ross Kleiner & The Thrill** are no mere revivalists. Like Nick Curran, JD McPherson, and Nikki Hill, the Minneapolis, Minnesota-based Kleiner infuses vintage forms with unexpected accents, producing music that is both respectful of its sources and strikingly original. The combination of hot rhythms with cool lyrics, the judicious application of modern sounds and production values, and the energy of an H-bomb, yields explosive results in The Thrill's wild, exciting brand of hi-test roots rock.

The charismatic Kleiner fronts a versatile and dynamic group, formed in the fall of 2012 with Victor Span, whose resume includes stints with Hubert Sumlin, James Cotton, Buddy Guy, and Nick Moss, on drums; Elmer Johnston on the big bass; and a devastating secret weapon in guitarist Cornelius Watson. Listeners seeking something a little off the beaten path have been rewarded by the Thrill's electrifying live shows, where vintage vibe meets up-to-date attitude. The debut album *You Don't Move Me*, which captured the group's fresh sound and Kleiner's solidly rocking, melodic material, was released late in 2013 to rave reviews.

**Rumble Seat Riot:** Two and a half years ago, Larry Kaster returned from a stint in Nashville to his native Iowa, ready to start a band. He had few parameters for his vision, save for a stipulation that they play rock and roll; and so he beat down the barstools of Des Moines' East side in the same manner Johnny Cash went door to door, once upon a long time ago, peddling wares. It wasn't long before he met Gene Senn, a mechanic with dust on his boots who enjoys cheap beer and biker bars, and the project now known as Rumble Seat Riot was born.

Frontman Gene Senn is quite the crooner, and a hot rod aficionado who had a repertoire of 3 songs written in his garage during breaks buffing the '29 Ford, when bassist Larry Kaster met him. Now they are a tightknit group of three – recently reunited with their original drummer, Butchie Spector, of former Slipknot fame. They have also gathered quite the following of tattooed, pin-up styled men and women of the rockabilly persuasion, though they maintain that they

write with strictly rock and roll in mind.

Rumble Seat Riot's first album, "Locked, Cocked, and Ready to Roll" was recently released and a short Midwestern tour followed. This came on the heels of a gig opening for Reverend Horton Heat, and a video shoot in an old airplane hangar. They pack the house (and the dance floor) at nearly every gig, sending rumbling rock vibrations through the floorboards underneath the rhythms of Gene's mean green guitar, Larry's badass bass lines, and Butchie's first generation punk beats. At once fun, fearless, and feisty, with brief forays into heartache – these three should definitely be on the radar of anyone who considers themselves a fan of rock and roll, and hasn't forgotten its beginnings.

**Big Red Rawkit Riot** is Sioux Falls' Premier Rockabilly band. Playing 100% American rock "n" roll, 1950's rock, with that modern twist. You can expect to hear the American Rock classics of

the 1950's and early 1960's, as well as songs from today's artists of the same style. Expect anything from Elvis, Eddie Cochran, Johnny Cash to the Stray Cats, Reverend Horton Heat and the Cramps! Add a splash of classic country and honky tonk, 18 of our own songs (we have just released our self-titled CD) and there you have it! Rawkin, performing and making sure everyone has a good time!

Playing for over 7 years, Big Red Rawkit Riot has performed at Argus Leader Ribfest, Sioux Falls Automania (4 years in a row on the main stage), Hot Harley Nights, Winterfest of Wheels (3 years in the running), Wheels & Squeals, as well club dates, casinos, poker runs, numerous car shows. This band is perfectly suited for these occasions or just for tearin' up the dance floor! Big Red Rawkit Riot has opened for national acts like the Reckless Ones, Mad Max & the Wild Ones, Koffin Kats, Bob Wayne & the Outlaw Carnies, The Living Deads, Pearls Mahone & The One Eyed Jacks, Supersuckers, Larry and his Flask, The Safaris, Hillbilly Casino and the Reverend Horton Heat. Good tunes and a whole lotta fun!!

*From the 21st Saloon Facebook page*

**ROCKABILLY**  
Saturday, April 23rd  
8p.m. Showtime  
\$10

**Big Red Rawkit Riot**

**Rumble Seat Riot**

**Ross Kleiner & The Thrill**

THE 21ST SALOON

# Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers

Wednesday, April 26th @ 6 pm • Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th Street, Lincoln, NE  
 Saturday, April 30th @ 8 pm • \$15 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE

There are many spectacular guitar players, using many diverse styles and countless hours are spent debating which is best (a pointless exercise as Kenyan, Columbian, Blue Mountain and Black Ivory are all excellent coffees, and which is 'best' is just a matter of taste.) Jimmy Thackery has built a long career on his wide-ranging guitar skills, covering Blues, Jazz, Rockabilly and some things that don't have a name yet! He was good enough to attract the attention of Mud-dy Waters, no less, then founded a long-running band and went on to front a well-respected trio where he can show his chops, as he explores the outer reaches of guitar technique.



Born in Philadelphia in 1953, Jimmy Thackery started playing guitar with a school band alongside his friend David, who is Bonnie Raitt's brother. Inspired by attending Buddy Guy and Jimi Hendrix concerts, Jimmy started to take his playing very seriously, and at the age of 20 he was co-founder of the successful, hard-touring Washington DC band The Nighthawks, who are still going strong after 40-odd years incidentally. Fourteen years on the road with that band saw Jimmy singing and playing lead guitar on 20 albums, including 'Jacks & Kings' in 1977 alongside Pinetop Perkins, Bob Margolin and Luther 'Guitar Junior' Johnson. Feeling the need to find a platform for his own material, Jimmy formed The Assassins in 1987, and this six-piece Blues-rock band toured the country relentlessly for five years releasing a couple of vinyl albums

and a CD as digital technology came along. Jimmy's confident manner with a Fender and a decent Blues voice were the essential tools required to set up his band The Drivers, where he could stretch out and explore his guitar innovations in a flexible trio form. Much of Jimmy's live set consists of 10-minute variations on a theme, mostly self-written, and it is huge credit to his virtuoso technique that interest never wanes.

All Jimmy's work centres around his phenomenally versatile guitar style, which is deeply rooted in the Blues, but able to incorporate twangy 'surf' tones, 'film-noir' themes and Pink-Floyd-like dreamy sequences. Beginning with 'Empty Arms Motel', his 1992 debut album with The Drivers, Jimmy has pretty much maintained an album release every year, and this has included collaborations with David Raitt, John Mooney, and an excellent album with Tab Benoit.

There have been a couple of recent changes in the long-standing line-up of The Drivers, as bassist 'Bumpy Rhoades' Bumgarner has been forced to retire for health reasons, replaced by Rick Knapp from Walter Trout's Free Radicals, and drummer George Shepherd is out for a while after shoulder surgery. Jimmy will keep on Driving, as he continues to fascinate audiences on the club scene and the Festival circuit his mature, thoughtful music, so rich in spectacular runs.

From [www.allaboutbluesmusic.com](http://www.allaboutbluesmusic.com)

A Fundraiser for ICARE Youth Services

*Ladies Sing the Blues*

Music Icon Award!  
Silent Auction!  
Raffles!!

Hosted by  
Coral Rogers

**Friday  
April 8th, 2016**

Love's Jazz & Arts Center  
2510 N. 24th St

**Susie Thorne**

Doors open 6:30 pm  
Show starts 7:30 pm

\$20 Minimum  
Donation Requested

ICARE is a 501c3  
Nonprofit. Donations  
are Tax Deductible

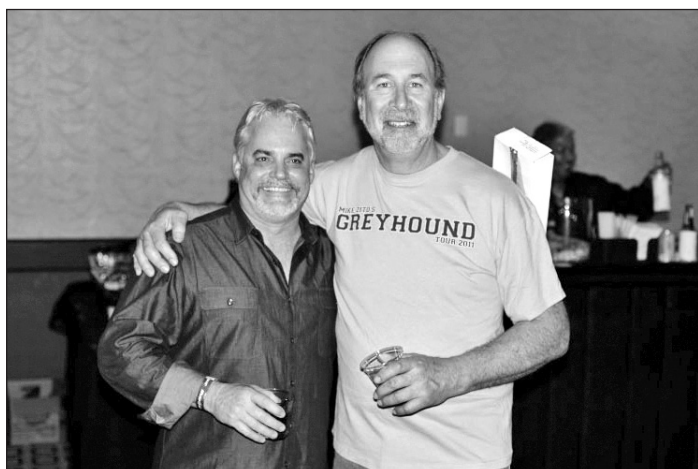
Tickets available at Love's Jazz & Arts Center (402) 502-5291; ICARE Youth Services (402) 968-2486 & online at [Eventbrite.com/](http://Eventbrite.com/)

[LadiesSing-the-Blues](http://LadiesSing-the-Blues)

Welcome to the 4th annual **Ladies Sing the Blues!**, a fundraiser for **ICARE Youth Services Inc.** a non-profit 501c3 serving at-risk youth in Omaha, NE. ICARE's mission is to help youth "Maximize Their Potential and Eliminate Self-defeating Behaviors." Not only is **Ladies Sing the Blues** a celebration of our diverse musical culture, but it also supports the mission of the revitalization efforts of the Omaha 360 Empowerment Network's vision for the city -- The North Omaha Village Zone...Connecting a Rich History with a Sustainable, Thriving Future. Revitalization of North Omaha, and the arts are a part of this mission and ICARE believes strongly in the transformational power of the arts to engage and empower.

**ICARE Youth Services Inc.** was developed to give youth the skills they need to better address life's challenges. We offer educational, social and vocational assistance for at-risk teens experiencing self-depreciating behaviors. We educate young people in the qualities needed for constructive personal interaction and successful participation in their community through mentoring and community service opportunities. ICARE began as a Limited Liability Company in 2007 with four students, and has now served over 500 youth in this community! Thanks to a grant from the Collective for Youth and Sherwood Foundation, we now offer programs in several OPS Middle Schools. We work very closely with corrections and other youth-serving agencies to provide wraparound services that help young people get back on track. We need your help to continue to offer programs like anger management and life skills to the youth and families we serve at no cost to them. Please support our efforts and get your tickets today at [www.eventbrite.com/](http://www.eventbrite.com/)!





Let never be said that Mark and Lynda Grubbs do not know how to throw a shindig!  
Great night of music and friends to help Mark kick off his sixth decade...

I thank Mother Grubbs and Mark for all they do for the live music scene  
wherever they may be. Happy Birthday Mark!

*Conrad Good*

# Davina and the Vagabonds

## CD Release Parties for their new Live CD!!

Thursday, April 28th @ 6 pm • \$12 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE

Friday, April @ 5 pm (FAC) • Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th Street, Lincoln, NE

### PASSION, PRECISION AND PERSONAL STYLE

Davina's passion is evident in her singing and performing style. She purrs and growls, whispers and wails. Sweet and seductive one moment, she's in your face the next, and then she makes you laugh. Her voice is a complex, expressive, flexible instrument made of sugar and grit. Hearing her talk gives almost no clue to how she sounds when she sings. It's part song, part storytelling, part theater. "I think about the story," she explains, "and lend my voice to the phrasing of the song. I try to be as dynamic as I can be, to tune into the truth of what I'm singing and saying."

She's been compared to singers as diverse and disparate as Nina Simone, Maria Muldaur, Bessy Smith, Amy Winehouse and Adele. "When people compare me to other singers, it's

hard for me because I've never sat down and dissected their singing. I don't own an Amy Winehouse album. I don't own an Adele album. I just try to be as honest as I can with the story I'm telling in the voice I choose to tell the story."

On stage, whether pounding the piano or belting out a lyric, Davina is utterly in the moment, ready to sing, say and do almost anything. She seems fearless. Is she?

"I am. On stage, in front of an audience, is the time when I feel most secure. I can be 100 percent myself. I can be shy. I can be angry and get away with it. I can be happy, and people can share that with me. I can cry. It's my time to be exactly who I am, and be accepted for who I am."

From [www.minnpost.com/arts-culture](http://www.minnpost.com/arts-culture)

## SUNDAY ROADHOUSE SERIES BRINGING 3 GREAT SHOWS IN APRIL



### Saturday April 9th, 7:30pm ROBBIE FULKS

This is a full band show (including pedal-steel!) in support of the new record "Upland Stories" releasing on April 1st. This show is at Reverb Lounge and tickets are limited so get them soon....

### Sunday April 17th, 5pm BILL KIRCHEN

The Titan of the Telecaster! Grammy nominated guitarist, singer and songwriter Bill Kirchen is one of the fortunate few who can step onto any stage, play those trademark licks that drove his seminal Commander Cody classic Hot Rod Lincoln into the Top Ten, and elicit instant recognition for a career that has spanned over 40 years and includes guitar work with Nick Lowe, Emmylou Harris, Doug Sahm, Elvis Costello and many more. Named "A Titan of the Telecaster" by Guitar Player Magazine, he celebrates an American



musical tradition where rock 'n' roll and country music draws upon its origins in blues and bluegrass, Western swing from Texas and California honky-tonk.

### Sunday April 24th, 5pm THE SUITCASE JUNKET

"You haven't experienced true mystical music magic until you see The Suitcase Junket perform live. There really are no words to accurately describe what you witness unfold in front of your eyes as he creates a tapestry of sound that 10 men could not successfully conjure up. His ability to master not just one, but a collection of sounds and emotions is uncanny." – Red Line Root



Since his sold-out show at Reverb Lounge last September, The Suitcase Junket secured an opening slot for several Lake Street Dive gigs last Fall! This show is also at Reverb Lounge so fair warning to get your tickets early..

See [www.sundayroadhouse.com](http://www.sundayroadhouse.com) for info & tickets



# Shawn Holt and the Teardrops

Wednesday, May 4th @ 6 pm • Zoo Bar, 136 North 14th Street, Lincoln, NE

Thursday, May 5th @ 6 pm • \$10 • 21st Saloon, 96th & L Street, Omaha, NE

Shawn Holt is the son of legendary blues master, Magic Slim. Shawn started playing the blues at the age of 17, when he went on the road with his father and Slim's brother, Uncle Nick Holt and the Teardrops.

Shortly after that tour with his father, Shawn realized his genetic destiny (all the Holts are talented musicians) and formed his own band. He has been watching, learning and playing blues ever since.

Magic Slim & the Teardrops have probably been nominated for the WC Handy "Blues Band of the Year" award more times than any blues band playing today - including eight times in the last 10 years. You can't become a Teardrop until Magic Slim says you're good enough. Shawn Holt became a Teardrop in 2013, the year when his father was hospitalized during a east coast tour, when he stepped up to the microphone and continued the tradition.

When Shawn Holt & the Teardrops opened for Johnny Winter in Phoenixville Pennsylvania, two hours after Slim had been admitted to the local hospital, they received a standing ovation. Johnny insisted that Shawn and the Teardrops complete the tour as his opening act.



The high energy, hard-driving sound of the Teardrops is still alive and well and if you like what Magic Slim and the Teardrops had been doing for the last 35 years, you can continue to enjoy that unique sound and energy with Shawn Holt, a chip off the old block, fronting his old man's band.

After twenty-four years and ten releases as Magic Slim's label, Blind Pig Records is very proud to announce the debut recording by Shawn Holt & the Teardrops, "Daddy Told Me." Shawn's booming vocal presence is more than a little reminiscent of his father's, and his guitar playing while similar to Slim's exhibits a broader mix of classic and contemporary influences. Combining a couple of his Dad's songs and other songs associated with him with five of his own originals, Shawn shows himself more than capable of leading the Teardrops into a new era. On two songs, the band is joined by John Primer - a former Teardrop and now a blues luminary in his own right.

Shawn Holt and The Teardrops won the *Blues Foundation Blues Music Award* in 2014 for "Best New Artist Debut" for their debut recording on Blind Pig Records - *Daddy Told Me*.

Shawn Holt and The Teardrops also won the 2014 *Blues Blast Music Award* for "New Artist Debut Album for *Daddy Told Me*" on Blind Pig Records.

*From the Blind Pig Records website*

## Letter From The Prez

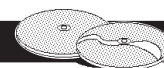
*Greetings Blues lovers,*

First, thanks to everyone that attended our little gathering at the DoubleTree. I couldn't have asked for a better way to usher in my sixth decade on Planet Earth. I really thought both bands brought their "A" games. Hope you all had as much fun as I did. Thanks to all that brought cards, and special thanks to Conrad Good for digging through his vast files and bringing that wonderful collage of photos. Also a huge thank you to Reva Bily and Gail Beaudry - Heuton for the delicious cakes and brownies. Tammy Parks and my wife Lynda also get a big thank you and shout out for doing all the creative work on the fans and table decorations. Steve and Lisa Krueger once again lined up volunteers on short notice because I neglected to ask them earlier, so thanks to them for pulling through in a pinch. Again, thanks to everyone for making it an evening that will long live in my memory.

The Blues Society officers and board members have been debating the cost of newsletters for quite a while. As it now stands the cost of a newsletter mailed to your home is almost \$2.00 each month or \$24.00 a year, leaving only \$1.00 to go towards our objective of promoting the blues and getting more people to the shows. I feel we need to raise the cost of memberships for those that prefer to get the hard copy vs. the email version. The membership fees have not gone up since 2008. Please consider going green if you can, and pull Glenn Bauer or myself aside to give us your thoughts.

*Thank you,  
Your Prez, Mark Grubbs*

## CD Review



### Too Slim and the Taildraggers *Blood Moon*

Underworld Records



I know what I always expect from Too Slim and the Taildraggers, blistering guitar, great lyrics, amazing slide guitar work and with the release of "Blood Moon" I wasn't disappointed. You can always count on Tim for some infectious riffs and they are there throughout the CD. The melodic "Blood Moon" and the soulful "My Bodyshowcases Tim's songwriting abilities. The "Letter" I think is a homage to all his fans and friends for their support and love during his recent illness. All the songs were written by Too Slim, with "Twisted Rails" and "Get Your Going Out On" co-written with Jeff "Shakey" Fowlkes. Another great album from Underworld recording artists Too Slim and the Taildraggers, with Tim "Too Slim" Langford on vocals and guitar, Jeff "Shakey" Fowlkes on vocals and percussion and Robert Karnes on vocals and bass.

Too Slim and the Taildraggers "Blood Moon" is a must have for any music lover.

*Ric Cowger*



We have had a problem at the 21st Saloon lately with the promotional posters for the shows being taken well before the shows, and wanted to remind folks to please leave them intact till the day of the show.

Terry Sedivy takes care of the posters for the 21st Saloon, and invests a lot of his time and gas money in replacing these posters multiple times.

We have quite a few members who collect signed posters, and Terry wanted to offer a new option. With some lead time Terry can produce a new poster for your favorite band for \$5 per poster. For the collectors, that has to look better than a torn one from the bathroom wall with tape.

If this option has your interest contact Terry at [tsedivy@yahoo.com](mailto:tsedivy@yahoo.com)

## Member

# BENEFITS

-  **Monthly newsletter**
  -  **Special events, parties**
  -  **10% off your bill on Mondays at BAILEY'S BREAKFAST & LUNCH, 1259 S. 120<sup>th</sup> Street (next door to Bronco's), Omaha, with your current BSO Donation Card**
  -  **Special pre-sale and discounted tickets to selected BSO events**
- ...and more*

### Blues Notes Advertising Rates

Ad Size	Member Rate	Non-Member Rate
Bus. Card	\$20	\$30
1/4 page	\$65	\$100
1/2 page	\$110	\$175
Full page	\$190	\$325

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### GO GREEN!!!

☐ YES!

I would like to receive my newsletter by email. No need to mail me a newsletter.

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Donate online at [www.omahablues.com](http://www.omahablues.com) or mail this Application Form to:  
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  - Name Listed in Blues Notes Newsletter
- Blue Club Donor** ..... \$250
  - Monthly Newsletter – Blues Notes
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  - 1<sup>st</sup> Month Free Business Card Advertisement

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Credit cards also accepted on line at [www.omahablues.com](http://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 !!!

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*Keepin' the Blues Alive!*

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