

Volume Fifteen, Number Six • June 2011



Big James and The Chicago Playboys are confirmed to headline "The Blues Society of Omaha presents The Aksarben Village BluesFest" on Saturday, June 25th. The Fest will be held at Stinson Park on 64th & Center. Opening the show at 4pm will be (2) BluesEd Bands, Us & Them and Mojo Bag, followed by Lou DeLuca and the R&M Blues Band, and then Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns, prior to Big James' set.

Please mark your calendar to attend this free event. The BSO will be vending beer, cocktails, and soft drinks, so we will need consumers and volunteers!

Summer 2011 Band Lineup HEARTLAND CAFE & CATERING 2615 Main St. • Elkhorn, NE 68022

June 4 Luther James Band
June 18 Daddy Mac and the Flak
June 25 The Juniors
July 2 Brad Cordle Band
July 9 Meredith & Michael from the Sugar Thieves
July 16 The Personics
July 23 Mike Adams Off the Grid Band
BACK TO BACK WEEKEND
July 29 The Blues Orchestra
July 30 The Sugar Thieves Band
Aug 6 The OK Sisters Band
Aug 13 Blue House with Rent to Own Horns
Aug 20 The Juniors
Aug 27 Mary Bridget Davies

Sept 3 Luther James Band
Sept 10 Mike Adams Off the Grid Band
Sept 17 The Blues Orchestra
Sept 24 The OK Sisters Band
Sept 30 Grand Finale with The Blues Orchestra
5:00 Doors - 7:00 Bands Begin

Soaring Wings Vineyard Bluesfest

Saturday, June 4, 2011
17111 S 138th St • Springfield, NE 68059
5:30-6:30 Elwin James Band - 2012 Nebraska NBC finalist
7:00-8:00 Shannon & The Rhythm Kings Popular - KC Blues Band
8:30-9:30 The Candymakers - Winner of the Iowa Blues Challenge
9:30-10:00 JAM Session

2011 OUTDOOR CONCERTS AT A GLANCE

6/4	Soaring Wings Vineyard Bluesfest
	Lincoln BBQ and Blues Fest
	Big Head Todd & The Monsters w/
0, 20	Toots & The Maytals at STIR
6/10-12	Omaha Summer Arts Festival
6/12	BluesEd Benefit at Slattery Vintage Estates
6/19	Blues at Bel Air (120th & W. Center Rd.)
6/25	BSO presents Aksarben Village BluesFest
6/25	Carolyn Wonderland at Glenwood Amphitheater
6/25	Back to the Country Wine and Music Festival,
	Silver Hills Winery
	Saturday in the Park, Sioux City
	South Loup River Blues Fest
7/8-9	Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival
	Zoo Bar Street Fest
7/9	Dawn Tyler Watson & Paul Deslauriers w/
,	Trevor Finley at Glenwood Amphitheater
	Bellevue Riverfest
	Playing with Fire
	Red Sky Music Festival
	Hullabaloo at Anchor Inn
	Ruthie Foster at Glenwood Amphitheater
8/20	Lucky Bucket Blues Fest at Sumter Amphitheater in Papillion

The following artists will perform at **21st Saloon located at 4737 S. 96th St. in Omaha, NE**

— All shows at 5:30pm —

Thu 6/2	Trampled Under Foot
	Davina & The Vagabonds
Thu 6/16	The Nighthawks
Thu 6/23	Popa Chubby
Thu 6/30	Jim Suhler & Monkey Beat

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 600 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 revues 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!



BLUFS ON THE RADIO:

Mondays 1pm-3pm on KIOS 91.5 Mike Jacob's "Blues in the Afternoon"

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-Rock & Blues" from Dave Reece • 3:00-6:00pm "My Deja Blues"

Thursday – 3:00-6:00pm "Flashback Blues"

Friday – 1:00-6:00pm "Blues all Afternoon"

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

18TH ANNUAL SOUTH LOUP RIVER BLUES FESTIVAL

Friday, July 8th and Saturday, July 9th

The 18th Annual South Loup River Blues Festival is set for Friday, July 8th and Saturday, July 9th at the Old Mill Park in Arnold, Nebraska. Once again, the festival organizers have a full slate of outstanding musicians.

The weekend starts on Friday night at 8:00 when the Mike Adams Trio from Kearney, Nebraska takes the stage. This band consists of talented musicians who share a love of Americana and folk rock. Friday's show is free and sponsored by KBBN 95.3 FM "The Thunderbird."

Saturday, July 9th starts at 11:00 that morning with the **Melvin Running Bear Band**, a group of musicians who call Central Nebraska home. Next on stage will be the **Matt Cox Band** from Omaha. Whether you crave the guitar driven jams of the Allman Brothers, the story telling of Dylan, or the country charm of Willie Nelson, the Matt Cox Band is sure to deliver! The **Lil' Slim Blues Band** from Lincoln will take the stage at 2:00. This group is considered one

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of the best blues bands in the Midwest and they bring a vast knowledge of Chicago blues to the festival. Up next that afternoon and back by popular demand is the Kris Lager Band! These guys have dedicated their lives to playing soulful, original music, traveling the country and honing their craft. It's undeniable that the Kris Lager Band is the real deal - good people, good music, and a real good time! At 7:00 that evening we'll welcome our early evening headliner. Earl and Them. who hail from the beautiful Ozark Mountains of Arkansas. With more

than a combined 150 years of playing experience, Earl and Them bring electricity to the stage that is grounded by a rich history and lasting tradition in the blues. This band provides a smokin' hot show with the widely acclaimed quitar mastery of Earl Cate, the distinct guitar sounds and soulful vocals of Jason Davis, and the tight grooves laid down by Mike Murray on bass and Terry Cagle on drums. And, joining them that evening for a great jam session will be Lil' Slim! This year's festival will close with Super Chikan and the Fighting Cocks from Clarksdale, Mississippi. James "Super Chikan" Johnson is an award winning American blues musician, artist, guitar maker and nephew of fellow blues musician Big Jack Johnson. "Super Chikan" has toured and performed at festivals around the world and was recently nominated again by the Blues Foundation for the Blues Music Awards for Entertainer of the Year and Traditional Male Blues Artist. And, last year he won the BMA for traditional Blues Album of the Year for Chikadelic. This year's festival promises to be another great time. Don't miss out on an opportunity to see some of today's best blues musicians perform live in Arnold, Nebraska.

For locations where advance tickets can be purchased, ticket prices, or other festival information, please call David Birnie at KBBN-FM (1-800-584-9336) or visit our website at www.southloupbluesfest.com.

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

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What's New with BluesEd?

In May, our BluesEd students not only juggled finals, school performances, and high school graduation, but also attended a wonderful and very informative workshop on stage presence hosted by Brian Eckleberry (of the band EckoPhonic) and his wife Annette. Brian has been a BluesEd clinician in the past and filled in at the last moment for Carol Rodgers who was unable to attend. The students learned what to wear to a performance, where to look when performing, how to introduce their band, and performance techniques such as effective communication with fellow band members via hand signals, posture, and set list strategies. The workshop concluded with performances by Crimson Dawn and Us and Them. The two bands were critiqued to help all the BluesEd bands improve their performances. A good time was had by all! BluesEd would like to extend our gratitude to Kathy and Ted Baer for loaning us the Georgetown Club for the special workshop.

This Month's Spotlight on BluesEd Clinician, Carlos Figueroa



If you're a drummer in Omaha, Nebraska, you've most likely heard of Carlos Figueroa. Many years ago, he was in the process of writing a business plan for a non-profit arts organization when he heard about BluesEd. Already aware of the lack of organized music education programs in the United States that focus on contemporary, blues, and rock-based instrumental

configurations, Carlos jumped at the chance to fill that void.

As far back as Carlos can remember, he has always known he was supposed to play drums. He started playing Tupperware in 1968 and quickly realized he needed a drum set. At night, when his Tupperware was too loud, he would play with pencils on a picture of a blue sparkle drum set in the 1971 Sears catalogue. For the next two years, he saved enough money from mowing lawns, shoveling snow, and delivering newspapers to buy that same drum set for \$200.00. From the moment the drum set arrived on his doorstep, he has been a lifelong student of drums and music.

Carlos played his first gig with his band "Eternal Flame"



when he was 15 years old. After he graduated from high school, Carlos joined the Air Force and played in 16 different bands for 23 years. Since then, he has played with over 50 local bands and artists including Mulberry Lane, Omaha Big Band, Old Money. Rat Pack Jazz w/ Adams and Cooley, Novak & Haar, The Brews Bros., and The Omaha Community Playhouse. Carlos feels the diversity offered by participating and playing with a variety of groups of artists is the key to musical growth—for any level of musician.

In talking with Carlos about the BluesEd program, his passion to help the students learn and excel is evident. He says, "Playing music has repeatedly saved my life. Through the BluesEd program, I have had the opportunity to be the person I never had access to when I was a 13-year-old boy living in Chicago. As a clinician, I hope to provide a safe and artistic environment in which the kids can study the language of music."

BluesEd is very grateful for not only Carlos' expertise, but also his attention to excellence as he encourages all the students to be the best musicians they can be. Once again, thank you to our three wonderful clinicians for their dedication to the BluesEd program and its mission!



FUTURE BLUESED PERFORMANCES: SAVE THE DATES!

Saturday June 11, 11:30 – 12:10 p.m., Omaha Summer Arts Festival Family Stage, Crimson Dawn

Sunday, June 12, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m., Annual BluesEd Fundraiser at Slattery Vintage Estates

Sunday, June 19, 2:45 – 3:45 p.m., Bel-Air Plaza Blues Festival, Mojo Bag

Saturday, June 25, 5:00 p.m., Aksarben Village Blues Festival at Aksarben Village, Mojo Bag and Us & Them

Saturday, June 25, 7:00 p.m., Davies Amphitheater Fundraiser at Glenwood, IA, Crimson Dawn

Saturday, July 16, 5:00 p.m., Playing with Fire, Crimson Dawn

Friday, July 29, 7:00 p.m., BluesEd Showcase at P.S. Collective

Friday, August 5, 7:00 p.m., BluesEd Showcase at P.S. Collective

Saturday, August 13, 7:00 p.m., Davies Amphitheater Fundraiser at Glenwood, IA, Us & Them

Find us on **Facebook at BluesEd** to keep up with all the future performances and events!

--Vicky DeCoster



Playing with Fire 2011 SUMMER CONCERTS

www.playingwtihfireomaha.net

LEWIS AND CLARK LANDING, OMAHA, NE

FREE LIVE MUSIC
July 16

Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings

Malford Milligan Band

Brad Cordle Band

BluesED





'RAISE THE ROOF'



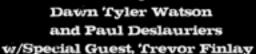
A Special Fundraiser \$20/ticket*

Davies Amphitheater

Glenwood Iowa

June 25 Carolyn Wonderland















BLUES at BEL AIR

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Mojo Bag 2:45 to 3:45 Blind Dog Fulton 4:00 to 5:15 Brad Cordle Band 5:30 to 7:00



IT'S FATHER'S DAY, So Bring Dad! Spinday June 19th 2 to 7, Bands start at 2:45 12100 West Center Road diching Openha State Bank)

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Paul R. Waggener, President



JAZZFEST 2011 SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The 2011 Sioux Falls Jazz & Blues - JazzFest Main Stage schedule is now available. Headlining this year's festival are: The Fabulous Thunderbirds on July 14, Little Feat on July 15, and funky METERS on July 16.

FULL SCHEDULE:

Thursday, July 14

Indigenous: 6:30pm •The Fabulous Thunderbirds: 8:30pm

Friday, July 15

Sharon Little: 6pm • Anders Osborne: 8pm • Little Feat: 9:30pm

Saturday, July 16

Elisabeth Hunstad: 12pm • JazzFest Jazz Camp with Allen Vizzutti: 1:30pm • Mike Miller Trio: 3pm MARACA and the Afro-Cuban Jazz Masters: 4:30pm • Jeff Lorber Fusion: 6pm • funky METERS: 8pm Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience: 10pm

Times are approximate and subject to change. For more information, visit jazzfestsiouxfalls.com.

HEY BANDS & BARS

If you want your schedule printed monthly in BLUES NOTES, call (402) 616-3159 or e-mail to tsedivy@yahoo.com. All schedules must be received by the 23rd of each month. Get calendar updates @ www.bluesgroup.com

THE FOLLOWING ARTISTS WILL PERFORM AT 21st SALOON LOCATED AT 4737 S. 96th St. In OMAHA, NE All shows at 5:30pm.

Thu 5/19 Anthony Gomes Blues Band (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 5/26 The Bel Airs (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 6/2 Trampled Under Foot (5:30pm) \$10 Cover
Thu 6/9 Davina & The Vagabonds (5:30pm) \$8 Cover
Thu 6/16 Nighthawks (5:30pm) \$10 Cover
Thu 6/23 Popa Chubby (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 6/30 Jim Suhler & Monkey Beat (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 7/7 Earl and Them featuring Baby Jason
and Earl Cate (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 7/14 Lil Slim's Blues Band's CD Release Party

5:30pm) \$5 Cover

Thu 7/21 Matt Schofield (5:30pm) \$8 Cover
Thu 7/28 Janiva Magness (5:30pm) \$10 Cover
Thu 8/4 Bel Airs (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 8/11 Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones (5:30pm) \$9 Cover
Thu 8/18 Ronnie Baker Brooks (5:30pm) \$10 Cover
Thu 9/1 Ollie Brown Band (5:30pm) \$8 Cover
Thu 9/8 Ana Popovic (5:30pm) \$12 Cover
Thu 9/15 Trampled Under Foot (5:30pm) \$10 Cover
Thu 9/29 The Iguanas (5:30pm) \$13 Cover
Thu 10/6 Lil Ed and the Blues Imperials
(5:30pm) \$12 Cover

— BSO VOLUNTEERS —

The volunteer season is soon upon us and the BSO Volunteers will soon be in full swing of serving up our volunteer support to events across the community. For all blues friends, family, fans and co-workers wanting to receive BSO volunteer requests, please sign up @ http://omahablues.com/index.php?page=volunteers or go to www.omahablues.com and look for "Volunteers Needed" in the upper left hand corner of the Home Page. For security reasons, you must send an email of request and will receive a notice of confirmation (Please note: ONLY you can sign yourself up, coordinator cannot submit the requests for you.) You will then start receiving all messages sent from the BSO Volunteer Coordinator. Please know all efforts are made to honor requests.

For all BSO sponsored events needing volunteers, please contact the BSO Volunteer Coordinator at bsovolunteers@gmail.com.

Here's to a great season of summer blues! See you out on the dance floor.

Vanessa Bauer • BSOVolunteer Coordinator

The Zoo Bar anniversary week runs from Monday July 4th thru Saturday July 9th... Monday thru Thursday there will be shows inside the Zoo Bar featuring Lil Slim's Band, winner of the 1st Nebraska Blue Challenge! SON OF 76, STONE RIVER BOYS, KRIS LAGER

FRIDAY 7-8-2011

Tijuana Gigolo's w/ Billy Bacon 5 PM • Brad Cordle Band w/ Horn section 7 PM Dave Alvin and The Guilty Ones 9 PM • Brave Combo 11 PM

SATURDAY 7-9-2011

Academy of Rock 1 PM • Son del Llano 3 PM • Derailers 5 PM • Stone River Boys 7 PM Kelley Hunt 9 PM • Self Righteous Brothers 11 PM



Blues in June & July

[Wed 6/1] Great American Taxi w/ Hanging Cowboys (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Thu 6/2] Brad Cordle Band (06:30pm) (Ozone at Anthony's) Paperclips w/ The Vingins (09:30pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)
The Blues Orchestra (Gator Omally's Pub)
Trampled Under Foot (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Zoe Muth and The Lost High Rollers (Barley Street Tavern) Marcos and Sabor (Havana Garage) The Willards Band w/ Loyd McCarter And The Honky Tonk Revival (Waiting Room) [Sat to/4]
Blind Dog Fulton (Easton Memorial Poker Run)
Blue House And The Rent To Own Horns (The Corner Bar)
Brad Cordle Band (Kearney Festival)
Dave Zollo (Havana Garage)
Davina and The Vagabonds w/ the Academy of Rock Blues
Program, Blues Orchestra Chicago Rhythm & Blues Kings
(03:00pm) (SouthPointe Pavilions, Lincoln) John Walker (Mo Java Coffeehouse)
Luther James Band (Heartland Cafe)
Swampboy Blues Band (07:00pm) (Jazz A Louisiana Kitchen)
Swampboy Blues Band (Welcome Inn Tavern) [Sun 6/5] 112 North Duck (Taste of Omaha) Chuck Brown & The Basement Devils (02:00pm) (VFW (33rd & Leavenworth)) Lil Joe and Big Trouble (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313) [Mon 6/61 [Mon 6/6]
Langhorne Slim (Waiting Room)
Omaha Big Band (Ozone)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (Dueces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (The Brass Monkey) [Wed 6/8] Chatham County Line (Waiting Room) Lil' Brian and The Zydeco Travelers (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Thu 6/9] Davina and The Vagabonds (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln. 402-435-8754) Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place) [Fri 6/10]
Dave Zollo (Havana Garage)
Multi-band (Celebrate Lincoln Festival)
Multi-Band Line-up (12:00pm) (Summer Arts Festival)
Swampboy Blues Band (Soaring Wings Winery)
Tijuana Gigolos (06:30pm) (Duggans Pub)
WGO Soul Revue (Ozone) 112 North Duck (The Side Door)
Darryl White Band (Havana Garage)
Dr. Spit and the Blues Mechanics (09:00pm) (Welcome Inn,2332 S. 24th St.,402 344-2850)
Levi Willam (Heidelbergs South)
Multi-band (Celebrate Lincoln Festival)
Multi-Band Line-up (11:00am) (Summer Arts Festival)
Sachel Grande (Bourbon Theatre)
Us & Them (11:30am) (Omaha Summer Arts Festival) Acoustic Groove (Riverside Golf Club) Blues Ed Benefit (03:00pm) (Slattery Vintage Estates Vineyard-Nehawka) Cold Steel (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313)
Multi-Band Line-up (11:30am) (Summer Arts Festival)
Swampboy Blues Band (Heron Bay)

[Mon 6/13] Dale Watson (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (Dueces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (The Brass Monkey) [Wed 6/15] 112 North Duck (06:30pm) (Papillion City Park) Nighthawks (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Thu 6/16]
Cornerstone Dub w/ Vibenhai (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Nighthawks (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place)
The Avey Brothers (Gator O'Malley's Pub)
The Avey Brothers (Gator Omally's Pub) Brad Cordle Band (09:00pm) (Gator O'Malley's Pub) Hegg Brothers (Havana Garage) John Walker (Bagels and Joe)
Swampboy Blues Band (Kennedy's Irish Pub and Grill)
The Blues Orchestra (Road House) [Sat 6/18] Sat 6/18]
Brad Cordle Band (09:00pm) (Wilderness Lodge - Fremont, NE)
Daddy Mac and The Flak (Heartland Cafe)
Hegg Brothers (Havana Garage)
Levi Willam (Sun Valley Bar and Grill)
Lil Ed (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Kennedys)
Randy McAllister (09:00pm) (Woodcliff Marina - Fremont)
The Blues Orchestra (09:00am) (Haymarket Farmer's Market) [Sun 6/19] Brad Cordle Band (Belair Festival) Brad Cordle Band (Goodnights Pizza Bar)
Dr. Spit and the Blues Mechanics (09:00pm) (Havana Garage)
Fishheads (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313) Mojo Bag (02:45pm) (Bel Aire Plaza) Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns (Goodnights Pizza Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (Dueces Lounge) Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Tue 6/21] Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (The Brass Monkey) [Wed 6/22] Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns (River City Star College World Series Party)
Jimmy Thackery (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754) Reggae Souljahs Worldwide (Bourbon Theatre) Cowboy Indian Bear w/ Sleepy Kitty (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Popa Chubby (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place) [Fri 6/24] Fri 6/24j
Acoustic Groove (Firewater Grille)
Blind Dog Fulton (Old Mattress Factory)
Brad Cordle Band (Havana Garage)
Drew and the No Name Blues Band (Bob's Tavern)

Swampboy Blues Band (04:30pm) (The Grove)

[Sun 7/10]

341-1313)

Blues in June & July

[Sat 6/25]
Big James and The Chicago Playboys w/ Blue House, R&M
Blues Band, Mojo Bag, Us & Them (04:00pm) (BSO presents
Aksarben Village Blues Fest)
Brad Cordle Band (09:00pm) (Cunningham's-Omaha)
Carolyn Wonderland w/ Crimson Dawn (07:00pm) (Davies Amphitheater in Glenwood, IA)
Kris Lager Band (Biker's For Boobies in Louisville) Marcos and Sabor (Havana Garage)
Mojo Bag w/ Us & Them (03:00pm) (Bel Aire Plaza)
Swampboy Blues, Fever and the Funkhouse and Son of 76 and the Watchmen (10:00am) (Back to the Country Wine and Music The Juniors (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn) [Sun 6/26] Fork In The Road (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313)
John Statz w/ Manny Coon (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (Dueces Lounge)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Tue 6/28] Brad Cordle Band (Goodnights Pizza Bar)
Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St.
Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Stephen Marley (Whiskey Roadhouse)
Tim Koehn Akoustic Jam (The Brass Monkey) [Wed 6/29] Jim Suhler (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Thu 6/30] 112 North Duck (07:00pm) (Upstream (170th and W. Center Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns (Corvette Car Show) Jim Suhler and Monkey Beat (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Swampboy Blues Band (Perry's Place) [Sat 7/2] Brad Cordle Band (06:00pm) (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn) [Sun 7/3] Swampboy Blues Band (Soaring Wings Winery) [Mon 7/4] Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) Earl and Them w/Baby Jason and Earl Cate (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Mike Adams Trio (08:00pm) (18th Annual South Loup River Blues Festival) Multi-Band Line-up (Riverfront Jazz and Blues Fest) Meredith and Michael from the Sugar Thieves (Heartland Cafe) Multi-Band Line-up (Riverfront Jazz and Blues Fest) Super Chikan and the Fighting Cocks w/ the The Matt Cox Band, Lil' Slim Blues Band Kris Lager Band, Earl & Them (11:30am) (18th Annual South Loup River Blues Festival)

Rythm Collective (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402

Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) [Thu 7/14] Lil Slim's Blues Band's CD Release Party (05:30pm) (21st Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Fri 7/15] Acoustic Groove (Firewater Grille) [Sat 7/16] Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings w/ Malford Milligan Band, Brad Cordle Band, Blues Ed band Crimson Dawn (05:00pm) (Playing with Fire Concert Series) The Personics (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn) [Sun 7/17] Fishheads (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313) [Mon 7/18] Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754)
Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Tue 7/19] Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) [Thu 7/21] Matt Schofield (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Fri 7/22] Acoustic Groove (Soaring Wings Vineyard) Mike Adams Off the Grid Band (Heartland Cafe) Mike Adams Off the Grid Band (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn) [Sun 7/24] Lil Joe and Big Trouble (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park Rd.,402 341-1313) [Mon 7/25] Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Z Jam Open Stage (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) Open Mic and Jam hosted by Aldric Meints (Louis Bar and Grill) Janiva Magness (05:30pm) (21st Saloon) Piano Happy Hour (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N. 14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) [Fri 7/29] BluesEd Showcase (07:00pm) (PS Collective)
Brad Cordle Band (09:00pm) (Brewskys)
Horse Opera w/ Hanging Cowboys (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar,136 N.
14th St. Lincoln,402-435-8754) The Blues Orchestra (Heartland Cafe) Jared and the Blues Teachers (Brass Monkey)

The Sugar Thieves Band (Heartland Cafe)
The Sugar Thieves Band (Heartland Cafe, Elkhorn)

Brad Cordle Band (04:00pm) (Anchor Inn,2499 Freedom Park

Rd.,402 341-1313)

MiKE ZiTO - ZOO BAR 4-21-2011

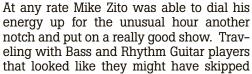
I truly think some of the National acts that



come to Omaha and Lincoln are amazed that a 5:30 or 6:00 PM matinee show draws any people at all! However most of the acts I talk to think it's a great idea... I think it's easier to sneak out of work a ½ hour



ing up past midnight and ask your tired old body to be at it best and alert in the morning as you stumble into work.



6th period to make the trip. Mike said the rhythm player was from his home town in St Louis and it was nice to have someone play along with him instead of competing against him.

The band seemed to feed off the energy of the Zoo Bar



which is often the case for both Lincoln and Omaha venues, hey man we know our stuff, and appreciate road warriors trying to scratch out a living in the middle of another joyous \$4.00



per gallon gas crunch by traveling the land clubbing and strutting their stuff.



Merchandise sales were good for Mike tonight, remember that when you buy music from right off the stage you are doing more than just saying thanks, you are helping keep them on the road and getting them to the next show.

Live and local, if ya like it, ya gotta live it, or you just might lose it!

--Conrad Good



Gladstone Bluesfest will be held June 10-11, 2011, Oak Grove Park, located at 76th & N. Troost. Nice FREE festival in North Kansas City -- very nice space and nice folks...great line-up this year including Stacy Michhart and Tab Benoit on the Friday night... http://www.gladstonechamber.com/BluesFest.aspx

Free Admission, but \$5 to park

FRIDAY:

Park opens at 5pm music starts at 6pm Lionel Young Band International Blues Challenge Winner Stacy Mitchhart • Tab Benoit

SATURDAY:

Park opens at 1pm music starts at 2pm
Jason Vivone - KCBS Solo Winner

Mary Bridget Davies Group - KCBS Band Winner
Lonesome Hank & The Heartaches
Marquise Knox • Kelley Hunt





end the

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Academy of Rock Blues Program

Blues Orchestra featuring Honeyboy Turner

The Chicago Rhythm and Blues Kings

Davina & The Vagabonds

TIME

3:00 pm-4:00 pm

5:00 pm-6:30 pm

7:00 pm-8:30 pm

9:00 pm-10:30 pm



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www.famousdaves.com/lincoln

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O.B.S. MAILBAG

23 May11

Dear Blues Society of Omaha,

Paul Scott Hoagbin Trio wants to thank BSO for selecting us as one of the bands to participate in the 2011 First Annual BSO Blues Challenge!

It was a thrill of a lifetime for the three of us to perform some of our originals to the wonderful, appreciative crowd and judges at the Waiting Room.

Personally meeting the other bands meant so much. Putting faces and personalities to the names we often see in print was very cool.

Our deepest thanks and gratitude go out to Michelle Olmstead, Terry Sedivy,

Ric Cowger, Terry O'Halleran, and the countless behind-the-scenes volunteers

for organizing and working this world class event.

Many thanx are in order for all the fans who came out to witness the historic 1st BSO competition.

Last but not least, we want to thank all 9 judges who volunteered their valuable personal time and comments.

It was indeed a world-class event and we are looking forward to applying for next year's competition. If you have fund raisers throughout the year to help pay for next year's BSO competition, please include us as performers. We certainly wish to give back to such a fantastic cause, i.e. live blues music for the great B.S. O. fans.

Sincerely, Paul Scott Hoagbin Elmer Ellefson Michael Nabity Hi Ric.

We met at the 21st amendment the other night.

We would like to get our "Back to the Country" Wine & Music Festival in the newsletter if possible.

Our focus at Silver Hills Vineyards & Winery is to produce a 100% Nebraska wine as well as supporting Nebraska and local business & entrepreneurs. Our festival will be Sat, June 25th from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. We will have 3 live bands as well as food, local artists and vendors and demos.

The bands will be Swampboy Blues, Fever & the Funkhouse and Son of 76 and the Watchmen.

I'm hoping you can help us get the word out. Thanks for your help and let me know if you need further info.

June

June & Phil Simpson • Silver Hills Vineyards and Winery 3130 County Road M • Tekamah, NE 68061 402-374-1602 • 402-870-0083 • www.silverhillswinery.com

I recently retired from my profession as a therapist. 30 years of that was enough. Anyway, I'm looking to fill up my time and pick up a little cash with musical endeavors.

The Blues Orchestra has a pretty full schedule but because several band members play in more that one band, we always end up with some weekends open.

I'd like to find a band or a couple of bands that could use a guitar player who can also play harp (and keyboard after a bit of time to practice to get my chops back) either on a regular basis or a fill-in player. So if you have the opportunity to get the word out, I'd much appreciate it.

The other thing I'm looking for are some venues that do solo (or duo for me and Honeyboy) acoustic music. Any idea who's doing this in Omaha these days?

The third thing I'm doing (mostly just as an FYI) is teaching guitar. So as always, any help you can give me on this stuff in getting the word out would be muchly appreciated.

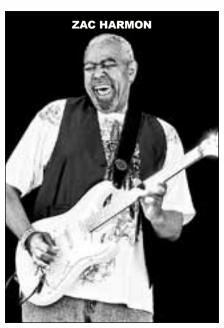
Harvey

Contact can be either e-mail: harve@jukehouse.com or phone 402 802-3975 P.S. Three weeks until The Chicago Blues Festival

DERAILED E-MAILS

Our membership database is plagued by missing and invalid e-mail addresses, which we use only to contact you if your newsletter is returned as undeliverable or to notify you with reminders of your membership expiration (saving the cost of postage). Please take a moment today to send your current e-mail with your name to nwalsh6@cox.net. Even though your e-mail has not changed, we may not have gotten it right the first time. Some of the handwritten membership applications are hard to decipher—especially if completed at a show after imbibing a bit! And, you would be wrong to assume that the e-mail in the membership database is correct just because you are receiving our President's weekly e-blasts. Those are generated by an entirely different source of data. Thanks for your help in keeping your contact information up to date. Please understand if we ask for your current e-mail each time you renew.







June 10, 11 & 12, 2011 Downtown Omaha 10th to 15th on Farnam Street

ARTISTS' MARKET

Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.—8 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m.—5 p.m.

WORLD MUSIC PAVILION STAGE

Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.—11 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m.—5 p.m.

CHILDREN'S FAIR & FAMILY STAGE

Saturday 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

Friday, June 10

12 noon Omaha Musicians Association Jazz All Stars

Local - Jazz

5:00 p.m. All Young Girls Are Machine Guns

Local - Jazz/Easy Listening

7:00 p.m. Zac Harmon - Contemporary Blues

9:00 p.m. Red Baraat - Bhangra Funk

Saturday, June 11

11:00 a.m. Griffen Alexander - Singer/Songwriter

12:30 p.m. The Jazz Explosion - Local - Jazz

2:00 p.m. The Uff-Da Band - Traditional Polka

3:30 p.m. Colerick Corbett Band - Classic Americana

5:00 p.m. Lipbone Redding Soulful Voice - Instrumentalist

7:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time - Bluegrass Fusion

9:00 p.m. Lil' Brian & The Travelers - Zydeco Funk

Sunday, June 12

11:30 a.m. Crossfire Local - Popular Country

1:00 p.m. Luigi, Inc. Local - Jazz

3:00 p.m. Orquesta Alto Maiz - Latin Salsa

OBS BAND DIRECTORY

Band	Contact	Phone #
COUNCIL BLUFFS		
Dave Barger and the Jam Masters		
Chasing Daylight		
The Johnsen Brothers	Neil Johnsen	545-3564
The Joe Lidgett Blues Band	Joe Lidgett	712-813-1572
Tommy K & The OK Blues Band	Thomas Kriegshauser	712-520-1678
KEARNEY The OK Sisters	Mark Weinand	308-236-8844
LINCOLN		
Blues from the Five		
Blues Messengers		
The Blues Orchestra		
Charlie Burton and the Dorothy Lynch Mob		
Jared and the Blues Teachers		
Jr. Stephens Blues Project		
The Mezcal Brothers		
The Tijuana Gigolos		
John Walker and the Nightcrawlers		
Levi William		
ОМАНА		
112 North Duck		
2 Guyz and the Bluez Rendezvouz		
Accoustic Groove		
Backer's Blues	Jeff Kangas	402-650-8580
The Big Boys	Patrick Peters	402-544-1746
Blind Dog Fulton	Devon Fulton	402-312-4884
Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns		
Blue Kazoo	Kazoo Tate	402-215-4027
The Blues Explosion		
Blue Venue		
Burgundy and Gray	Regina Spellman	hurgundvandgrav@vahoo.com
Chuck Brown and the Basement Devils	Chuck Brown	402-610-1522
The Confidentials	Stan Spurgeon	402-738-9225
John Crews Blues		
Lou DeLuca and the R & M Blues Band	Lou DeLuca	402-677-7156
Drew and the No Name Blues Band	Brent Saltzman	402-676-6671
Drunken Intentions		
Elroy and The Namedroppers	Ric Cowger	402-572-1817
Elwin James and the Way Outs		
Just Plain Trouble		
Little Joe and Big Trouble		
Luther James Band		
The Matt Gagne Blues Experience		
Stephen Monroe	Stephen Monroe	402-699-5905
Jorge Nila and the Jazz Ninjas		
Not the Hornets		
The Omaha Blues Society All-Stars		
Paul Anderson Trio		
The Prairie Gators	Steve Kunasek	402-734-6975
Repent House	Bob Zurek	402-733-1706
Rhythm Collective Reggae		
Sarah Benck		
The Side Effects		
Soulfinger		
Spike Nelson Trio		
Stovall		
Swampboy Tres Equis/St. Elvis		
Susan Thorne Group		
Matt Wallace		
George Walker		
0		



CD Reviews



Etta James · Essential Modern Records Collection

Few would argue that Etta James is less than one of the most significant singers in the blues idiom. Her litany of

hits include some of the blues best melody lines including; 'At Last,' 'A Sunday Kind of Love' and 'Fool That I Am.' Within the classic rock format legendary Beaumont belter Janis Joplin includes James' hit, 'Tell Mama' in her repertoire. Born in 1938 in Los Angles to a 14 year old mother and a mix raced couple, Jamesetta Hawkins would begin her career when 'race records' or rhythm & blues was giving way to 'rock n' roll.' In 1954 James, as a member of a female singing trio, would respond to the hit, 'Work with Me Annie' by

Hank Ballard & the Midnighter's with the track, and subsequent career launching hit, 'Roll with Me, Henry' (which was later re-titled, 'The Wallflower' in order to "tone down" an overt sexual connotation that "rock and roll" originally referred to.)

On this package, "The Essential Modern Records Collection" predates James Chess Records blues period. Instead, "Miss Peaches" is heard singing rhythm & blues

for the Modern Records label; indicating a clear road map of a sound that would become rock n' roll. Her embracement of strong melody lines would follow James throughout her career. In many ways this package is an insight that "today's blues legends" were perhaps more interest in a viable career than the proliferation of the artform we revere today.

This is a wonderful historical package that may exist outside of the interest of most traditional blues fans; however, musicologists

will derive great pleasure by hearing the sound that first brought Etta James to the attention of the music listening audience. The track, 'Tough Lover' includes the obligator "woooooo" made famous by then label-mate Richard Penniman a/k/a Little Richard. 'Good Rockin' Daddy' is a classic track based upon a post-War jump-blues derivative sound that fellow L.A. based musicians such as Louis Jordan were recording. 'The Pick Up' is a track screaming out to be covered in a modern setting. Long known as an instrument that closely resembles the human voice, James interplays with the saxophone stands out as a short recording trend in the mid-50's. Programmers might want to use the song, 'Market Place' for airplay. Like Chuck Berry's 'Havana Moon, ' 'Market Place' experiments with a Cuban or Samba beat that evolves into a rock n' roll song including a blistering guitar solo.

This is a fun, brilliant albeit archival album. It's full fifteen tracks may not be for all listeners; however, this is a credible artist and offers an opportunity to better understand how some come to the blues. The album breaks-up textures, tempos and melody lines that will add to the depth of a wide-reaching radio program.

--Rick Galusha

Elvin Bishop Raisin' Hell Revue

Delta Groove Records



Blues veteran Elvin Bishop has released a live cd with some of his talented friends. The cd chronicles these musicians playing together on the 2010 Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise.

Bishop has been around since the '60's, when he played in the trend setting Paul Butter-

field Blues Band. He has had a successful solo career, and several of the songs he recorded earlier are included here.

Fooled Around and Fell in Love is done exceptionally well, with John Nemeth doing a fine job on vocals. Nemeth is a perfect choice for this hit from the '70's. I also like the uptempo rhythm and blues number Rock My Soul, from his first solo album, a great deal. Other guests include saxophonist Terry Hanck, and one of my favorite guitarists, Kid Andersen.

Bishop's music has been described as barroom boogie. Whatever you call it, it is a lot of fun, and it would have been very enjoyable to have experienced it on this "legendary" cruise.

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#2

CD Reviews



Henry Gray · Lucky Man

HENRY GRAY

Originally released in 1987, Blind Pig Records recently reissued a compact disc by Henry Gray titled Lucky Man. Henry Gray is a great blues piano player, who is talented as other

luminary and contemporary "88 players" of his that you may be familiar with such as Otis Span, Champion Jack Dupree, or Memphis Slim to mention just a very few of the great contributors to that essential component of blues music. Gray's career as a professional musician began when he was a mere teenager in the 1930's. He has played with an astounding array of blues giants, too numerous to name here, and I do mean blues giants, right in the cradle of the growth and development of the electric Chicago blues scene and momentous sound that exploded post-World

War II and ran into the 1960's. From 1954 to 1968 Gray was in a band headlined by a blues icon named Howlin' Wolf, alias Chester Burnett. Howlin'Wolf was a bandleader who suffered no fools, so obviously Gray was proficient at his craft to remain with him for that length of time. In 1968 Gray left the Chicago blues scene and returned to his home state of Louisiana to assist his mother with the family business

upon the death of his father; and thereby to some extent putting his music career on the back burner, although it did continue. Lucky Man has 12 songs, evenly split between 6

covers and 6 originally penned by Gray. Several of the tunes do a little rollicking along, but most are sorrowful, down in the gutter blues. Gray delivers strong, deep vocals with his classic sounding blues piano performances on this CD. There are a couple of songs that strike me as having overly repetitive lyrics. The songs are generally about 3 minutes in length so the entire CD runs for 35 minutes. The liner notes on this CD state in part "the brilliant style of Henry Gray once represented the very best Chicago had to offer." This CD has

the true classic Chicago blues style stamp on it with the piano being accompanied by that traditional and comfortable electric guitar sound being provided by Steve Freund and Willie "Big Eyes" Smith on drums. This is a very nice CD, seemingly worthy of its recently reissued status that can be enjoyed at a leisurely pace.

--Dan Betts

Hadden Sayers · Hard Dollar

In the words of uber-rock band manager Derek Sutton (Styx, Robin Trower), "98% of people listen to music with their eyes." When it comes to music today and slotting a new

release, the targeted audience demographic trumps the music in the grooves. So while this album by Hadden Sayers' may not be strictly "blues," albeit using blues textures and instrumentation, the album is marketed, in part, to the blues-roots audience and THAT makes it a 'blues record.' Now, don't get me wrong, there are blues tracks including a strong contender for any legitimate 'blues duet of the year' list; however, Sayers uses the breadth of styles found in Texas to fully explore his

muse. I suppose a proactive music fans knows that there are two kinds of music; good music and bad music. 'Hard Dollar' is good music.

It's a considerable accolade when the daily newspaper of Texas' live music hub, The Austin Statesman' refers to Hadden Sayers' as, "Houston's best all-round guitarist." But it wasn't always that way. After a stretch of good records culminating is the superb, 'Supersonic,' Sayers' career nose-dived amid a move to Ohio, the death of a family member, record deals gone awry and a dearth in the music industry. However when noted blues artist and fellow Texan Ruthie Foster called looking for a guitarist, it was the spark that Sayers' career

needed. Since that call he has been building momentum.

Sayers' latest album, 'Hard Dollar' opens with a travelogue track ala' the standard, "Route 66" or the Rolling Stones "Rip This Joint." While there is more than

"Rip This Joint." While there is more than six months left in the year, Sayers' duet with Ruthie Foster is a solid contender for any critics "Blues Duet of the Year" lists. This song is brilliant.

This is an album ripe with radio friendly blues tracks including, "Lap of Luxury" which is an excursion into minimalism. "All I Want is You" will 'sell' to a more traditional blues listenership. Sayers' YouTube video of the album's focus track, "Sweet Texas Girl" can be seen at;

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIJNU_-VXmw . (It is so nice to see a video that features real women.) There is also a remake of the track, 'Flat Black Automobile' which debuted acoustically on the 'Supersonic 'album. "Ain't Comin' Round No More" has a Willie Dixon composition feel that will strike a chord between Chicago's Chess Records and contemporary blues. This is a solid comeback album for one of the genre's finest songwriters. This record will appeal to roots music fans and broadminded blues fans as well as trad-rock and Texas-Jimmie Vaughan fans.

CD Reviews



Kilborn Alley Blues Band · Better Off Now

This is the quintessential contemporary blues band; white, Middle-American and offering a wide spectrum of tastes

and talents. The new album by The Kilborn Alley Blues Band, 'Better Off Now' effectively uses historical blues textures, sounds, instruments and themes to deliver a modern blues sound that is familiar, fresh and nearly at once, comfortable.

Nurtured in the traditional a '50's blues environment of Champaign–Urbana, Illinois; KABB cherry picks influences from among the genres finest including; Buddy Guy, B. B. King, Denise LaSalle and others. While the references may not be apparent, what is clear is this band under-

stands the difference between playing a twelve bar and playing some blues. They are seeped and authentic.

While the opening track, "Nothin' Left to Stimulate" will draw nods of approval and a smirk in a country bitten by a downturn in economics and opportunity, programmers will want to wade much deeper into the albums track listing to find gold. The albums title track, "Better Off" has a Stax R n' B sensibility. Eric Michaels organ playing on the track, "Tonight" har-

kens to those halcyon days when blues and R n' B were played side-by-side in jukeboxes and juke joints across the nation. Joe Asselin's harmonica on "Keep Me Hangin'" provides a traditional Chicago blues track to round out an already strong record.

This is an exceptionally tasty album that opens slowly but is worth the wait. Singer Andrew Duncanson uses a straight-forward style with an appropriate hint of rasp that is especially effective in ballads and extended notes. KABB

has been frequently nominated for awards and national recognition; with albums like, 'Better Off' it is apparent why critics, radio hosts and venue are paying close attention.

--Rick Galusha

The Steve Miller Band · Let Your Hair Down

Roadrunner Records

One of the worst album covers that I have ever seen! Steve Miller's voice was suited for a string of tepid but harmless hits in the 70's (except Abracadabra was pure crap).

However, his voice and the blues are nothing close to a match, like the Kardashians sisters and talent! Before I put this album under the wheels of my truck let me say I have been through it 3 times and some good things come from it, such as the late Norton Buffalo plays some fine harmonica, the band seems to be adequate and three songs rise to the top, his covers of Jimmy Reeds "Close Together", Muddy Waters "Can't be Satisfied" and Robert Johnson's "Sweet Home Chicago"

are pretty darn good but the rest is so boring and lacklus-

ter. My beloved Blues does not deserve to be this soulless. Once again it is the voice that renders this record forgetta-

ble. I have advised my dear friends, Dick Allen and Bruce Carlson, that if I ever say I want to try any future products from Mr. Miller, they are to hit me sharply over the head with the nearest thing available. Another recent purchase with very different results for my ears is the new Jeff Beck project called Rock and Roll party honoring Les Paul, not blues but a very fun record.

--Hogsquat

P.S. Listen to a Robert Johnson song today!

Congrats to Lil Slim's Blues Band for winning The Nebraska Blues Challenge. Brad Cordle's Band and Elwin James & The Way-Outs would have also been fine representatives of Nebraska if the judges had chosen either of them. Start planning now to go to Memphis and support Lil Slim's Band next February at The International Blues Challenge.

Terry O'Halloran





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Editor: Terry Sedivy

Contributors:

Dan Betts, AJ Foyt, Vicky DeCoster, Rick Galusha, Vanessa Bauer, Conrad Good, Joe Putjenter, Hogsquat

Send newsletter comments, suggestions and stories to Terry Sedivy at tsedivy@yahoo.com For all other questions, e-mail questions@bluesgroup.com

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