



# BLUES NOTES

[www.omahablues.com](http://www.omahablues.com)

VOLUME FOURTEEN, NUMBER ELEVEN • NOVEMBER 2010



Please mark your calendar for The BSO Holiday Party and Toy Drive for the Children of The Pine Ridge Reservation on Sunday 12/5. Headlining will be one of the biggest blues stars still playing clubs today:

**COCO MONTOYA!**

Due to the cost of bringing in CoCo, this year there will be a \$15 cover charge. We hope that BSO'ers are generous as always and will also donate new unwrapped toys, in addition to paying the cover. Don't forget the always amazing Holiday Pot Luck dinner!

*Congratulations to the  
2010 Omaha Entertainment Award  
nominees in the Blues category*

**KRIS LAGER BAND**

**BLUE HOUSE**

**LEVI WILLIAM**

**LIL' SLIM**

**MATT COX**

**Live Blues at 5:30pm**

**THE NEW LIFT LOUNGE • 4737 S. 96TH**

*Welcome home to Omaha Brad Cordle and Hector Anchondo as  
they return with two fabulous bands this month at The Lift!*

TH 11/4 5:30pm ..... Josh Garrett & The Bottomline  
TH 11/11 5:30pm ..... Sarah & The Tallboys  
TH 11/18 5:30pm ..... John Crews & Bucky McCann, 7pm Brad Cordle's Latest Blues Band  
Wed. 11/24 5pm ..... Lil' Slim Band w/ Magic Slim with special guests  
Hector Anchondo's Chicago Blues Band  
TH 12/2 5:30pm ..... Trampled Under Foot  
TH 12/9 5:30pm ..... Joe Crown Trio

## CHICAGO BLUES REUNION

Thursday, November 4, 2010 7:30 PM

Scott Recital Hall

Price: \$30.00

*Don't miss this all-star line-up of  
trail-blazing blues legends:*

Barry Goldberg (organ)

Nick "The Greek" Gravenites (vocals/guitar)

Corky Siegel, - harmonica/vocals

Harvey "The Snake" Mandel (guitar)

Rick Reed (bass)

*and*

Gary Mallabar (drums).

[www.ticketomaha.com](http://www.ticketomaha.com)



BRAD CORDLE



HECTOR ANCHONDO

## ***Why donate to The Blues Society of Omaha?***

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

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

### **Other Donor Benefits:**

- Free monthly subscription to "Blues Notes" – our monthly newsletter that will keep you abreast of Blues events in the area, Blues CD reviews and other articles of interest to Blues connoisseurs!
- Weekly e-blasts with late-breaking Blues news
- Free Family Blues Festival every summer (Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010) – Omaha's premier family music event
- 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.**



## **BLUES 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](http://kiwrblues.podOmatic.com/entry/2010-02-03T11_00_49-08_00)

Lincoln's KZUM Radio - Nebraska's only community radio, has 19 hours of blues every week and you can listen to it on the web at KZUM.org.

**Monday – 3:00-6:00 Tail-Waggin' Blues**

**Tuesday – 10am-Noon The X, Rock & Blues from Jim Petersen • 3:00-6:00 Highway Blues**

**Wednesday – 12am - 2am Phil Steele - Flashback Blues • 3:00-6:00 My Deja Blues**

**Thursday- 3:00-6:00 Trigger Meal Blues**

**Friday – 1:00-3:00 Women's Blues and Boogie • Friday – 3:00-4:30 Hudson Blues**

**Friday – 4:30-6:00 Blues Oasis**

**Saturday – 6:00am-8am Blues at Sunrise**



## OMAHA ENTERTAINMENT AND ARTS AWARDS

### FALL NOMINEE SHOWCASE – NOVEMBER 5, 2010

The Fifth Annual Omaha Entertainment & Art's Awards show is just around the corner this January. Every fall the list of nominees in the music academies are announced, and we hold a celebration of these talents at The OEAA Fall Nominee Showcase. This years showcase is on November 5th and will take place at four music venues, The Waiting Room Lounge, The Barley Street Tavern, The PS Collective, and The Sydney. Thirty nominated bands and artists will take the stages on these nights, and \$10.00 will get you in to see all of it. For a full list of nominees visit [www.oea-awards.com](http://www.oea-awards.com).



The Academy Of Rock is sending a youth band to Memphis this year to represent the BSO and Nebraska.

—Ric Cowger

**Drums – Casey Hodgkin**

**Bass/Vocals – Josh Bargar**

**Bass – Maddie Sanders**

**Guitar – Caleb Long**

**Guitar – Michael Solberg**

**Guitar – Calvin Sheldon**

**Guitar – Ben Curran**

**Vocals – Emily Schiltz**

JERRY W. KATSKEE  
PARTNER

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## PONCA SMOKE SIGNALS

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We carry "Native American Products"

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\$3.00 pack \$25.00 cartons

#2

## BSO CORPORATE SPONSORS

### BLUE CLUB

Harvey Brindell  
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The New Lift Lounge (fka  
Murphy's)

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# BluesEd News

There is no question that the BluesEd program is one of the premier youth artist development programs in the country. The program, initiated in 2001 by Doug Backer and sponsored by the Blues Society of Omaha, has grown exponentially in the last five years—thanks to the leadership and direction provided by Executive Directors Peggy Pierson and Karen Porter. In October 2010, Karen and Peggy announced they would be stepping down from their positions effective immediately in order to spend more time with their families. As they bid all of us farewell and turn over their duties to our new Executive Directors Jeff and Patti Fries and Marcus and Melissa Torrez, Karen and Peggy share their favorite memories and how they first became involved with the program.



Peggy initially heard about the BluesEd program in 2001 through their neighbors Patti and Leon Schneider, who happened to be BSO members. Her son Matt, who was ten at the time, started in the program within a few months of receiving his first guitar. Meanwhile, Karen Porter's nine-year-old son Tyler was just learning about the program through Matt. At the first workshop, Tyler and Matt met Eva Gouveia and their group was born—and eventually became "The Side Effects". Back in those days, workshops were held at the Mars music store, then Maggie McCalls, Craig Balderston's basement, Russo's Guitar Center, and finally the Bemis Art Center.

In 2001, there were just two groups in the program—a senior group consisting of six high school kids and a junior group with three students. Workshops were held more often (usually every two weeks), but performance opportunities were limited. Today, the BluesEd program has five bands with thirty-two participants who perform often in and around Omaha and a group of clinicians and volunteers who dedi-

cate themselves to ensuring all the students have a wonderful experience in the program.

In 2005, Karen and Peggy stepped into the director roles and haven't looked back since. When asked her favorite part of the program, Karen answered, "I love watching the students develop their talents and skills and really enjoy seeing them demonstrate their growth on stage, whether it is development of their individual instrument, stage presence, or adding a new instrument to their skill set." Peggy also enjoys "watching the workshops, learning so much about music and perform-

ing, seeing the excitement of the kids in the learning process, and then witnessing their talent grow and shine on stage."

Karen's fondest memory was watching each group perform for the first time at Playing with Fire. Peggy truly enjoyed the first fundraiser at Slattery Estates in 2008 when she looked around and realized that the BluesEd program had brought all the kids and families in attendance together.

Today, both Karen and Peggy's sons have graduated from BluesEd and are attending UNO. It is clear that these two energetic and selfless volunteers who have spent countless hours building this program still nurture a clear vision for its future. Karen would love to see a relationship develop between UNO and BluesEd where internships could be offered to BluesEd alumni who want to give back to the program. She'd also like to see the program continue to grow for students who are interested in lighting, songwriting, sound engineering, recording, band management, and public relations. Peggy's vision is simple—she just wants BluesEd to continue its successful run while providing as many students as possible with the opportunity to participate in the program.

Words can never express our gratitude to Peggy and Karen for all they have done for the youth in Omaha. It is because of their commitment to youth and love for music that our students are able to learn, grow, and build their own fond memories of a time in their lives when they stood on a professional stage, looked out on to an audience, and realized they were living their dream.

— Vicky DeCoster,  
Marketing Coordinator

## Groove and Move to the Blues.



More free beginning blues dance lessons coming up in November!  
Lesson will be held on the band break during the following shows:

Thursday 11/4 5:30pm - Lift Lounge - Josh Garrett & The Bottomline

Thursday 11/11 5:30pm - Lift Lounge - Sarah & The Tallboys

Thursday 11/18 5:30pm - Lift Lounge - Brad Cordle Blues Band

Questions?? - Contact [merinda@jitterbugs.org](mailto:merinda@jitterbugs.org)



When Tab's coming to town for the matinee you better get out of work early or you're gonna have to stand for your Gumbo... most all of the tables were snapped up today at 4:00 pm for the 5:30 show the only disappointment was that Tab was all sold out of his latest release before he got to Omaha.

Tab is one of the acts out there that has you scanning the upcoming schedules and planning your glide path early because I learned long ago that a Tab Benoit show is not to be missed, and tonight was no exception.

I dare say that not many other 3 piece bands



can get as much accomplished musically that Tab, Corey Dupleehin on bass and a youngster on drums (that sorry to report I did not catch his name) do during their show.

Plus Tab Benoit is not just another pretty face with a slide guitar; he is deeply involved with his environment in Louisiana with the loss of costal wetlands, Katrina, and now the oil spill in the gulf.

Live and local... if ya like it, ya gotta live it, or you're gonna lose it!

*Conrad Good*



**The Boulder Outlook Hotel presents:  
Our 3rd Annual Ship-less Blues Cruise**

(the most carefully pronounced blues festival ever)

**February 18-20, 2011**

**Friday, February 18 8:00 pm—midnight**

**Gina Sicilia with Dave Gross and Steady Rollin' Bob Margolin**

**Saturday, February 19 3:30 pm—1:00 am**

**Delta Sonics, Tempa and the Tantrums, Ron Thompson,  
Bob Margolin, Matt Hill, Gina Sicilia, Dave Gross**

**Sunday, February 20 7:00 pm—10:00 pm**

**Blues Jam with The Heavy Cats and special guests:  
Ron Thompson and Matt Hill**

**\$350 per couple includes all shows, continental breakfast, and a room for three nights**

[www.BoulderOutlook.com](http://www.BoulderOutlook.com) 1-800-542-0304

The Boulder Outlook Hotel, 800 28th Street, Boulder, CO 80303







**LIBRARY PUB**

5142 N. 90TH STREET  
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**BLUES  
NIGHT!**

**EVERY  
WEDNESDAY**

\$4.50 DOMESTIC PITCHERS OF TILL 7PM  
\$5.50 DOMESTIC PITCHERS OF AFTER 7PM

*omahanightlife.com* **BUD LIGHT**

# INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE

Hello Affiliates,

The International Blues Challenge (IBC) is just around the corner!

## FAST FACTS!

**Information regarding special hotel rates will be posted on the IBC pages September 1.**

**Tickets go on sale October 1.**

**Act Registration will open mid September.**

**Keeping the Blues Alive nominations (6 copies) submitted to The Blues Foundation's offices before September 30, 2010.**

**Act Registration will end on November 24, 2010.**

**Raffle Tickets MUST be received in the office by January 22, 2011.**

**Volunteers are needed for IBC.**

**Watch the IBC page on our website [blues.org](http://blues.org) for more information,**

**The dates for the 2011 International Blues Challenge will be February 1-5.**

IBC will move to a five night, four day format. We will begin the week with the FedEx International Showcase Tuesday night (Feb 1). This new format will include 2 nights of quarter finals (Feb 2-3), one night of semi-finals (Feb 4) and concluding with finals in the beautiful Orpheum Theatre (Feb 5). The Youth Showcase will take place Friday (Feb 4) before the semi-finals. The Keeping the Blues Alive ceremony will be presented Saturday (Feb 5).

Hotel information will be posted under the "Travel and Lodging" section of the IBC page; the link is located on the left of the page on September 1. We will have a list of hotels, mostly within walking distance of Beale Street. Only individual members of The Blues Foundation (membership number required) will be able to book rooms at the host hotels.

Tickets will open on October 1 under the "Tickets" section of the IBC page. This years ticket prices will be:

\$100 baby blue – includes access to all showcases (including FedEx International Showcase) quarter and semi finals as well as finals at the Orpheum Theatre.

\$175 – Big Blue – includes access to all showcases (including International Showcase) quarter and semi finals as well as finals at the Orpheum Theatre **PLUS the Keynote Luncheon and the Keeping the Blues Alive Awards!!**

Musicians will be issued passes that are equal to the baby blue pass and may include programming geared toward the business side of the music.

Affiliates that have renewed have been sent description, guitar image and raffle tickets. Raffle tickets MUST be received in the Blues Foundation office by January 22, 2011. PLEASE do not bring them with you to Memphis, they could get lost or not get in the drawing box!!!

Affiliates that have renewed will receive codes and instruc-

tions around mid September to register acts on our website. Remember, it is up to the affiliate to MAKE SURE the act is registered on time. That means it is the responsibility of the affiliate to oversee registration, it does not mean that a representative MUST fill out the registration form, it is your job to make sure your act has the resources and ability to complete this process. We find that some musicians are not computer savvy or may not even own a computer. Acts will need a 300 dpi photo, 600 character bio and an email address so we can communicate with the act. Act Registration will end on November 24, 2010.

## Watch the IBC page on our website for more information

Affiliated organizations, past KBA recipients and members of The Blues Foundation's Board of Directors are eligible to submit nominations. Submit 6 copies of your printed nomination and documentation supporting your nominations to The Blues Foundation's offices before September 30, 2010.

International affiliates can and should begin to collect the necessary travel documents as soon as possible. The Blues Foundation is prepared to assist with this. The Blues Foundation staff will contact international acts concerning participating in the FedEx International Showcase once registration ENDS.

We now have 2011 IBC promo ads on our website at [http://blues.org/#ref=about\\_promoimages](http://blues.org/#ref=about_promoimages)

Please feel free to use these images to promote your challenge, place on your website and in your news letters.

With the extended IBC schedule, we will need more volunteers! We encourage all affiliates to send volunteers to this event. Not only to help us with this huge undertaking, but to learn more about IBC from the inside out. Presidents of local affiliates can be found year after year running venues on Beale Street and helping with other important IBC duties. They come from the Cascade Blues Association (**Greg Johnson**), Phoenix Blues Society (**Kyle Deibler**), Spa City Blues Society (**David Hughes**), Blues Society of Western New York (**Arleen Reifschneider**), West Virginia Blues Society (**Jack Rice**) and Blues Lovers United of San Diego (**Michael Kinsman**), Ozark Blues Society of North West Arkansas (**Liz Lottmann**) to name a few. That is not counting the other affiliate volunteers, their (our) "significant others", friends, festival producers and even touring musicians that give their time to assist us with IBC. We are a tight group that works together as a team for one common goal! We have fun, work hard and play even harder! Just ask one of the folks named above!

Volunteers will be issued passes equal to the baby blue package with a minimum number of volunteer hours. It really does take an army of great volunteers to keep this event running on time, please have all (serious) volunteers email me at [joe@blues.org](mailto:joe@blues.org).

Please watch your email and the IBC for much more information! If you have any IBC or affiliate questions, please email me at [joe@blues.org](mailto:joe@blues.org).

**Joe Whitmer**

**Deputy Director • The Blues Foundation  
49 Union Ave • Memphis, TN 38103  
901-527-2583 ext. 11**

## — O.B.S. MAILBAG —

*Hello Burgundy and Gray family,*

Sorry it has been awhile but we are slowly reviving ourselves. We are checking with some of the newer clubs in town and hopefully you will be able to spend a lot more time with us, especially during the holidays. We will be performing at McKenna's Booze, Blues, and BBQ on Friday Nov. 5th 7425 Pacific Street from 9pm to 1am. Hope to see you all there!

SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC

*Regina--Burgundy and Gray*



[mamaspizzawest.com](http://mamaspizzawest.com)

15615 Pacific St  
933-5090



# BLUES IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

[Mon 11/1]

Darryl White w/the Matt Wallace Quintet (Rick's Cafe Boatyard)  
Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone)  
Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 11/2]

Darryl White w/the Matt Wallace Quintet (Rick's Cafe Boatyard)  
The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Tim Koehn (Louis Bar and Grill)

[Wed 11/3]

Josh Garrett and The Bottomline (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 11/4]

Chicago Blues Reunion (07:30pm) (Scott Recital Hall, Holland  
Performing Arts)  
Josh Garrett & The Bottomline (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge  
(fka Murphy's))  
Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Swamp Jam (Perry's Place)

[Fri 11/5]

Burgundy and Gray (McKennas)  
Cherry Poppin' Daddies (Holland Performing Arts Center)  
Levi William (Roadhouse)  
Swampboy Blues (Our Place, Ashland)

[Sun 11/7]

Swampboy Blues Band (03:00pm) (Millard VFW)

[Mon 11/8]

Omaha Big Band (Ozone)  
Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 11/9]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Tim Koehn (Louis Bar and Grill)

[Thu 11/11]

Billy Bacon and his Porkestra (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Reverend Horton Heat w/ Legendary Shack Shakers (Slowdown)  
Sarah & The Tallboys (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka  
Murphy's))  
Son of 76 SOLO SET (Zens Lounge)  
Swamp Jam (Perry's Place)  
Yonder Mountain String Band (Sokol Auditorium)

[Fri 11/12]

Billy Bacon and his Porkestra (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Blues Orchestra (Ding A Ling Bar, Raymond)  
John Walker (Bagels and Joe)  
Levi William (McKennas)  
Rockin Jake (18th St Bar & Grill-Scottsbluff, NE)  
Tijuana Gigolos (06:30pm) (Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th  
St., 402-477-3513)

[Sat 11/13]

Billy Bacon and his Porkestra (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Matt Cox w/guests (Barley St. Tavern, 62nd & Maple)  
Swampboy Blues (Corning Center in Corning IA)

[Sun 11/14]

Swampboy Blues Band (03:00pm) (Millard VFW)

[Mon 11/15]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone)  
Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 11/16]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Tim Koehn (Louis Bar and Grill)

[Wed 11/17]

The Great Imposters (Ozone)

[Thu 11/18]

All Nude Blues Jam w/ THC Band (Louis Bar and Grill)  
Brad Cordle Blues Band (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka  
Murphy's))  
Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Swamp Jam (Perry's Place)

[Fri 11/19]

Blue House And The Rent To Own Horns (Brewskys)  
Blues Orchestra (Rococo Theatre)  
Cowboy Dave Band w/ Banjo Loco (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
John Walker (Mojava)  
Levi William (Bob's Tavern)  
Paul Scott Hoagbin Trio (07:00pm) (Crane Coffee, 60th and  
Center)  
Swampboy Blues (Do Rock Inn, Council Bluffs, IA)  
Wheetones Band (Duggans Pub)

[Sat 11/20]

Blind Dog Fulton (Steelhorse Saloon, Nehawka)  
Bluehouse (The Vintage Lounge)  
Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Shamrocks)  
Swampboy Blues (Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen)

[Sun 11/21]

Swampboy Blues Band (03:00pm) (Millard VFW)

[Mon 11/22]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone)  
Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)



## OPEN BLUES JAMS:

TUESDAYS:

Tim Koehn Acoustic Jam at Louis Bar & Grill

THURSDAYS:

Rotating Bands host at Louis Bar & Grill (57th & NW Radial Hwy)

THURSDAYS:

SwampJam at Perry's (97th & Mockingbird)

**Paul Scott Hoagbin Trio is performing  
a Family-Friendly Free  
Acoustic Blues extended set  
at Crane Coffee, 60th and Center  
Friday, November 19, from 7-9:30 PM.  
Come early and enjoy the  
beverages and original blues.**

# BLUES IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

[Tue 11/23]

Swampboy Blues (Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen)  
The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Tim Koehn (Louis Bar and Grill)

[Wed 11/24]

A Night In The Round benefit for Omaha Food Bank w/  
Multi-band (Barley St. Tavern, 62nd & Maple)  
Blind Dog Fulton (Big Ts, Tabor Ia)  
Bluehouse (Grandmother's)  
Hector Anchondo's Chicago Blues Band w/ Lil Slim w/ Magic  
(05:00pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka Murphy's))  
Song Remains the Same (Waiting Room)  
Swampboy Blues (Why Not Bar)

[Thu 11/25]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Fri 11/26]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)  
Levi William (Embassy Suites, Lincoln)  
Swampboy Blues (Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen)

[Sat 11/27]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)

[Sun 11/28]

Swampboy Blues Band (03:00pm) (Millard VFW)

[Mon 11/29]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (Ozone)  
Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 11/30]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Tim Koehn (Louis Bar and Grill)

[Thu 12/2]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Trampled Under Foot (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka  
Murphy's))

[Fri 12/3]

Acoustic Groove (Firewater Grille)  
Matt Cox Band (McKennas)  
Swampboy Blues (Do Rock Inn, Council Bluffs, IA)

[Sat 12/4]

Electric Stomp (Dawg House)  
Swampboy Blues (Do Rock Inn, Council Bluffs, IA)

[Sun 12/5]

Coco Montoya (The New Lift Lounge (fka Murphy's))

[Mon 12/6]

Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 12/7]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 12/9]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
The Joe Krown Trio (05:30pm) (The New Lift Lounge (fka  
Murphy's))

[Fri 12/10]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)  
Blues Orchestra (Our Place Lounge)  
Grand Marquis (09:00pm) (Eagles Ballroom, 24th and Douglas)  
Rhythm Collective (Bones)  
Swampboy Blues (Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen)  
Tijuana Gigolos (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Sat 12/11]

Acoustic Groove (Brazen Head)

[Mon 12/13]

Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Wed 12/15]

Swampboy Blues (Jazz: A Louisiana Kitchen)

[Thu 12/16]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Fri 12/17]

Whiskey Pistols (McKennas)

[Sat 12/18]

Whiskey Pistols (McKennas)

[Mon 12/20]

Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 12/21]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 12/23]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Mon 12/27]

Piano Hour w/ Emily Bass (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)  
Z Jam Open Stage w/ Kris Lager (09:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N.  
14th St. Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Tue 12/28]

The Jazzocracy (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Thu 12/30]

Piano Hour w/ Josh Hoyer (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.  
Lincoln, 402-435-8754)

[Fri 12/31]

Blue House (Ameristar Casino New Year's Eve)

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of each month. Get calendar updates @ [www.bluesgroup.com](http://www.bluesgroup.com)

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featuring original Christmas tunes coupled with  
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at Crane Coffee, 60th and Center  
on December 17, 2010, 7-9:30 PM.  
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## OCTOBER'S MATINEE HIGHLIGHTS FROM WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT THE ZOO BAR

October 6th brought Too Slim and the Taildraggers ... Ric Cowger calls them one of his favorite bar bands of all times. The



Taildraggers are true road warriors, always on the road to another gig somewhere! The band is Tim

Langeford on Slide Guitar, Polly O'Keary on her kick ass bass, and Tommy Cook bangin' on the skins. These guys just seem to really have a lot of fun while working and play off each other very nicely. I like watching Polly prowling around the stage with her Bass.



October 13th Eddie Shaw and the Wolf Gang... Eddie's career began with Muddy Waters in 1957 and went on thru 1972 when he left "Muddy" to become Bandleader and Manager for "Howlin Wolf" from 1972-1976 when The Wolf died. That's right Muddy and the Wolf! you can probably count on one hand the guys still alive that can actually have that on their



resume. At 73 yrs old Eddie Still plays a mean Alto and Tenor sax, also in the band is his son Eddie Vann Shaw who plays a triple neck guitar that sports 12, 7 and 6 strings, and on drums is Tim Taylor son of legendary guitar player Eddie Taylor. Never pass up a chance to see this much pedigree when they do a drive by in your neighborhood.



October 20th... Michael Burks... Sick as a dog he blisters thru a 2½ hr set at the Zoo, he does not have the nickname of Iron Man for nothing. In talking to Michael before the show I think it's his first show at the Zoo of hopefully more

to come. His band features Chuck "Popcorn" Lowden on drums, and Wayne Sharps on Keyboards also a part time furniture mover for he is one of the few that still lugs a Hammond B-3 on the road with him, and man does that add a unique sound along with Michael's fiery guitar licks.



Oct 27... Janiva Magness. I will miss press date for this letter, but odds are good I get some pictures of this nice lady at her show and will share them next month, until then...

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—Conrad Good

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Chasing Daylight.....	Rick Hillyard.....	712-420-1232
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
<b>KEARNEY</b>		
The OK Sisters.....	Mark Weinand.....	308-236-8844
<b>LINCOLN</b>		
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Jared and the Blues Teachers.....	Jared Alberico.....	402-474-2473
Jr. Stephens Blues Project.....	Lary Lehman.....	1-800-422-1340
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Levi William.....	Cindy Patton.....	402-580-8549
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112 North Duck.....	Michelle.....	402-210-9378
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Matt Wallace.....	Matt Wallace.....	402-551-1610
George Walker.....	George Walker.....	402-493-8243

Please send all new and updated band and contact information to [tsedivy@yahoo.com](mailto:tsedivy@yahoo.com).

# CD Reviews



## Kirsten Thien • *Delicious*

By mandate it seems that every white woman in the blues genre is compared to Bonnie Raitt. While the yardstick is immense, the expectation has become a cliché. On her third album, *Delicious*, Kirsten Thien, another redheaded blues woman, proffers an exceptional album that has immense commercial potential. The production, playing and vocal lines are more suburban than urban but the textures and performances make for a world class blues album. Of the album's eleven tracks, eight are co-written by singer and guitarist Thien. Covers include; Willie Dixon's 'I Ain't Superstitious,' Ida Cox's, 'Wild Women Don't Get the Blues,' and 'Taxi Love' by Charlie Feldman and Jon Tiven. While 'Taxi Love' is the weak link in an otherwise excellent record, the songs 'Ain't That the Truth' and 'A Woman Knows' are brilliant ballads that programmers may want to investigate for broadcast. For a more up tempo romp 'Treat 'Im Like a Man' is a powerful 'morning after' response to the genres abundance of cheating songs. 'Get Outta the Funk, Get into the Groove' is a song that broadens the records



reach. The record's opening track, a horn driven, groove laden "Love That's Made to Shame" is tasty and intelligent as the production and arrangements give the singer room to move amid: legendary Chess Records player Hubert Sumlin provides a guitar solo along with Andy Snitzer on Tenor Sax and the album's producer Erik Boyd on backing vocals.

This is a very solid, immediately enjoyable album that a wide base of blues fans should readily embrace. Those looking backwards may not connect as readily with this contemporary offering which showcases Thien building a sound upon the genres offerings from the era of Little Feat up until the present. This album is at least six songs deep for radio airplay. If one is able to judge a book by its cover, or in this case a Compact Disc, this is a well thought out, emotionally pure effort that shows the blues in, potentially, its most viable resurgence. Thien is an artist worth watching, closely.

—Rick Galusha

## Mitch Woods • *Gumbo Blues*

On his tribute album to "Smiley Lewis and the pioneers of New Orleans Rhythm & Blues" piano player Mitch Woods employs the formidable talents of a terrific band to highlight a wonderful niche of American music. When we look at the many greats that emerged from the New Orleans market, the line of R n' B piano players is long including; Professor Longhair, James Booker, Art Neville, Dr. John, Fats Domino and Allen Toussaint. It is an area of music that seems to define pure delight by immediately getting fingers and toes tapping. Much like Chuck Berry's form of blues, the New Orleans R&B piano sound is easily digested and continues to lend its vibrancy to many contemporary players including; Bob Malone, Jon Cleary and Mitch Woods. When it comes down to technical definitions, this sound is firmly rooted in the blues BUT defies the form by being inherently danceable and overwhelmingly joyous.

The latest outing by Mitch Woods is clearly focused on this genre. Titled 'Gumbo Blues' Woods and band wheel through some of the genres finest covers including; 'Lil' Liza Jane', 'Blue Monday', 'I Hear You Knockin' and 'Shame, Shame,



Shame:' a veritable songbook of the legendary Dave Bartholomew. This is a terrific album albeit it all covers.

Throughout his career Woods has looked backwards for inspiration. His interpretations and arrangements are delightful but solidly retrospective. Like all of us, Woods and his band needs to eat – so his efforts to pull the artform forward may have earned less overt reward than this caliber of talent deserves. With a deep catalogue of albums out, Woods, like Taj Mahal, has defined himself as a credible progenitor and musicological preservationist of the first caliber. Unfortunately it is a choice that presents a set of challenges including lower levels of recognition and commercial reward. Radio programmers can virtually "drop the needle" on any track and elevate energy levels with sounds and textures that harkens to the very dawn of rock n' roll while remaining true to the blues. If there is a god of music, than surely Mitch Woods will receive radio support if for no other reason than the music does the talking and it speaks well.

—Rick Galusha

# CD Reviews



## Eden Brent - *Ain't Got No Troubles?*

Yellow Dog Records

The first time that I saw Eden Brent was in Holly Ridge, Mississippi while on a 'dead blues guys' grave tour with my sister and brother-in-law, Diane and Steve "the great American" Herman. She played a rollicking good set on a flatbed trailer; nearby was the gravesite of Charley Patton. The second time that I saw her was at Murphy's (the New Lift Lounge). Everything was going fine--her personality and keyboards were on fire! THEN IT HAPPENED! THE WORLD STOPPED! She broke one of my cardinal rules. She played an Eagles song during a blues set! WHAT!?? I was devastated. After months of doctors' help, one physical altercation, two minor arrests and friends telling me that "It's okay," I finally was over it. So through the healing hands of my fine friends at Amazon.com, I ordered her new album, "Ain't Got No Troubles?" (surprisingly my card is still good). The new one is produced by musician Colin Linden, who also plays guitar on it. Eden's piano is front and center, as it should be, and it is a good record though not great like her last one, "Mississippi Number One." I love



her somewhat retro voice and the backing band does a good job! I just wish there was more boogie-woogie on it.

I also realize that "double entendres" are an age old blues tradition and I enjoy a naughty reference just like the next guy but I am somewhat weary of them. Eden includes that type of song on this album called "My Man." My favorite type of an Eden Brent song is when it is just her and her piano. She has a very sensual voice (did I just use the word sensual in my review?)

She closes with a Will Kimbrough song called "Goodnight Moon" which is done wonderfully! I enjoyed this record!

This month's "got to own classic" is Mississippi Fred McDowell's "I Do Not Play No Rock 'N' Roll."

For applications to my nude bowling league contact me at [hogsquat@gmail.com](mailto:hogsquat@gmail.com). Nothing says blues like bowling!

--Hogsquat

## Chris O'Leary Band • *Mr. Used To Be*

After fronting Levon Helm's (drummer, The Band) Barn Burners, Chris O'Leary has ventured out with his own seven piece ensemble. Playing a well versed version of contemporary tavern blues, O'Leary and company deliver the goods that reach across all of the blues audiences many permutations.

With a smattering of various styles, O'Leary stays firmly entrenched in 'traditional blues forms' including the very tasty slow burner, 'Blues is a Woman.' The track, 'Christine' is distinctly drawn from the Muddy Waters lexicon although O'Leary wrote this and most others on the record. 'Walk the Walk' has an early Motown period sound including the strong sax line such as 'Shotgun' by Jr. Walker and



the All Stars. The penned tune, 'Dress Blues' is a tribute to O'Leary's past association with the U. S. Marine Corp including opening and closing march cadence. 'Steady Rollin' Bob Margolin and Bruce Katz guest on the album.

This is a strong release that will easily settle into nearly any radio program. The album is several songs deep for airplay. It is not however likely to see much cross-over appeal and will sell mainly from the stage. Due to the nature of voting within the blues genre, O'Leary's album is a candidate for annual accolades and worthy of voters perusals.

--Rick Galusha

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



# CD Reviews



## Kenny Neal • *Hooked On Your Love*

Blind Pig Records

**Hooked On Your Love** is Kenny Neal's second album since his health forced him out of the touring/recording aspects of the music business for nearly two years. His 2008 album **Let Life Flow** was a multiple award winning triumphant return to the blues scene. It was such a strong return for him that contemplating the follow-up had to be a bit intimidating. But follow it up he did. **Hooked on Your Love** should be another hit for Kenny.

The CD opens with three songs that showcase Kenny's songwriting skills. The opening title track, "Hooked on Your Love," is a soft and lilting ballad, affirmative in both its lyric and sound. The second "Bitter With The Sweet," is similar in its tone but is much more philosophical in its lyric advising that "Life ain't always a bed of roses . . . You've got to take the bitter with the sweet." Both are sung and played in Kenny Neal's smooth and relaxed style and should be part of his live shows for years to come. The third track, "Down By The Swamp," is a complete change of pace. It is pure bayou rhythm and vocal with doses of Kenny's harp playing scattered throughout.

Of the twelve tracks, five are covers. For me, the best of

these is "Old Friends." It is a "lost love" song with a soft, southern soul feel to the background of piano and guitar. Kenny's harp fills and solos top off this tasty version of Spencer Wiggin's classic. Next best is the cover of Bobby Bland's "Ain't Nothing You can Do." It is softened down to Kenny's vocal style rather than trying to copy the powerful rolling vocals of the original.



**Hooked On Your Love** closes as it opened with three original songs. "Tell Me Why" is a soft blues ballad. "Voodoo Mama" steps up the pace. It has a horn backed funky beat and I can just see strings of patrons marching from a bar out into the street. Kenny's slide work is the finishing touch. "You don't love Me" closes out the disk in fine style. This faced paced shuffle continues the use of horns backing up Kenny's Vocal, guitar and harp - a strong finish to a very good album.

This album has a good selection of songs recorded by one of the best in the business - backed by some of the best. Besides Kenny Neal fans, I would recommend this CD for anybody that likes contemporary blues (washed down with a little swamp water).

—Charlie Johnson

## Robert Cray • *Cookin' in Mobile*

In many ways Robert Cray walks the thin dividing line between blues in the credible sense and blues in the popular sense. While he has found commercial success over the years, I have often struggled to appreciate his artistic methodology many times. The allure of his near Sam Cooke voice pulled me in but the redundant lyrical themes wore me out. So it is with mix emotions that I open each release.

In a blues world where the guitar seems to rule, Robert Cray is a tasty but adequate player. His distinction lies not in the fretwork wizardry that so many rely on but, rather, in the way he melds his voice and guitar playing. The rough edges are smoothed out and the precision is precise. His is a mixture of classic soul vocal lines and pop-blues instrumentation. We all recognize the sound but often, for me, the songwriting is the weak link.

On his latest release, a live album entitled, 'Cookin' in

Mobile' Robert Cray has, finally, released the complete album. The band is in the "pocket" and perfectly grooves to Cray's crooning. The song selection is near perfect: as a record store clerk in the very early 1980's I bought a 12" vinyl release of "Phone Booth" which, in many ways, sealed by adoration for the electric blues. Whether it is his cover of 'Sitting on Top of the World' or the up tempo, "That's What Keeps Me Rockin' Cray and band are in fine form on this Vanguard release. Radio hosts might look at either of the songs mentioned as well as the opening track, "Our Last Time" or "Right Next



Door" (a/k/a Strong Persuader). On some level an affection for Robert Cray's music is perhaps a mandate as a contemporary blues fan... but on the other hand I wish he would, 'buy a new book' and sing about something other than, "the back door slam." But then he didn't ask... and his success is surely his own hard earn achievement.

—Rick Galusha



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