



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

August 2012

Vote for Your Music! By Sandy Hannum

It is that time of year when Blues Blast Magazine gets ready to present several prestigious awards to Blues musicians, and all of us have the opportunity to choose the winners. Please note that there are two PCBS member bands among the nominees for 2012 Blues Blast Music Awards.



The Kilborn Alley Blues Band

Photo from the Kilborn Alley website

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band has been nominated for Blues Band of the Year 2012. These guys are not new to being singled out for honors by Blues Blast. They have long been admired and appreciated by their huge fan base. They won Band of the Year in 2008 and 2009, and the Sean Costello Rising Star in 2009. In 2010 Kilborn Alley's song "Better Off Now" won Song of the Year.

As you well know, their fans are now found all across the country and in Europe. We are very lucky to call them our home boys.

Matthew Curry & The Fury has been nominated for three different awards this year: the Sean Costello Rising Star Award; Song of the Year; and New Artist Debut Recording.



Matthew Curry & The Fury

Photo from the Matthew Curry & The Fury website

As you may know, Sean Costello was a Blues guitarist and singer who was incredibly gifted but died tragically at the age of 28. His memory is honored with this award given to young artists who exhibit great promise. Matthew Curry certainly fits that description. He is so masterful on the guitar that it is hard to believe how young he really is.

Matthew Curry & the Fury's song entitled "Blinded By the Darkness" has been nominated for Song of the Year. Their CD, "If I Don't Got You" has been nominated to win an award in the category of best New Artist Debut Recording. Let's give these guys some recognition for their fabulous work.

Voting continues through this month, but all votes must be in by August 31. If you know exactly who you want to select in every category, go directly to the voting page at: <http://www.thebluesblast.com/bbma/2012/12bbmavote.php>
If you want to hear some of the music before casting your votes, go to the following website and scroll down to the voting section: <http://www.illinoisblues.com/bbnow.htm>

Don't miss your chance to vote!

2nd Annual IBC Challenge By Bob Paleczny



Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is proud to announce our 2nd Annual local IBC Challenge. With the help of our friends at Memphis on Main we'll hold this year's competition on Saturday October 20. We'll have an impartial panel of 5 judges who'll pick one band to represent us at the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge which takes place Wednesday January 30 thru February 2, 2013. We'll follow the scoring system suggested by the Blues Foundation http://blues.org/#ref=ibc_scoring. Once again this year we will hold our competition only in the band category. We hope to add the solo/duo category in future years.

The competition is open to Illinois-based blues bands. At least one member must be an Illinois resident. The Blues Foundation has a couple of other rules: an act is eligible as long as it has never been nominated for a BMA, Blues Music Award; and an act may not advance to Memphis three years in a row.

Last year our challenge attracted seven strong bands, and Hurricane Ruth won the event on both the judge's scorecards and our unofficial fan vote. Ruth and the band did an outstanding job representing us at the IBC on historic Beale Street in Memphis earlier this year. We're so proud of their accomplishments.

The winning band will receive a prize package worth a minimum of \$1000.

Thanks to a generous donation from Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop they will provide a drum kit for all the bands to use at our competition. This will enable us to get the bands quickly on and off the stage. We'd also like to thank Memphis on Main, 55 E. Main St. in Champaign and their entire staff for providing us a great venue.

Get all the details on our website;
http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/ibc_challenge13.html
Bands can sign up here;
http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/ibc_challenge13.html

Hope to see you folks out there. This is always one of our most exciting events of the year!

Donna Herula returns to Champaign-Urbana By Bob Paleczny



Donna Herula
Photo from Donna Herula's website

Donna Herula was a huge hit at last year's CU Folk & Roots Fest. Now she returns this August for a slide guitar workshop and series of appearances. Donna is a singer and slide guitar player who plays Delta, country as well as other blues styles. Her performances feature songs by many of the great early blues women as well as Robert Nighthawk, Muddy Waters and Robert Johnson.

With the help of our friends from the Champaign-Urbana Folk & Roots Fest, PCBS will co-sponsor Donna's appearances that weekend.

One of the highlights of Donna's visit will be a slide guitar workshop on Saturday August 18 at Corson's Music Guitar Store in Urbana from 2:00 till 3:30. Have you wanted to learn to play slide guitar but just didn't know where to begin? Some of the topics covered will be types of slides, guitar set up and slide guitar techniques will be reviewed in the open tunings of G and D. Bring your guitar. Slides will be provided. There is a very reasonable \$10 fee for this workshop.

Later that evening Donna will perform a show at The Iron Post, 120 South Race St. from 6:00 to 9:00pm. This will be a great chance to see Donna up close in the intimate setting of The Iron Post. Donna will be performing songs from her latest CD "The Moon Is Rising: Songs of Robert Nighthawk". Gloria Roubal will open the show for Donna.

Donna is also scheduled to perform as part of Friday Night Live in downtown Champaign on Friday August 17. There are also plans for Donna to make a couple of radio appearances on local stations WILL and WEFT FM on Friday.

It promises to be a great weekend of blues guitar by an outstanding performer.

Out & About! By Rich Cibelli

Summer is in full swing and that means it's festival time with great blues music and plenty of new sites to explore. For my wife Sherry and I, Kalamazoo, Michigan would be our destination on this trip out and about.

Located just over three or so hours via Interstates 57, 80 and 94, the 19th annual Kalamazoo Blues Festival takes place at the beautiful Arcadia Festival Site. This nice city park includes a covered stage as well plenty of space for children and adults to enjoy themselves.

This year's festival was slated for three days July 12-14 and included two stages and 22 acts including many from and around the Kalamazoo area. From what I witnessed the folks in Kalamazoo really like their blues as they did a great job of coming out in support.

One band in particular that I'll give special mention to is Boscoe Gee featuring Martila Sanders. This seven-piece band performed a set of originals and blues standards including a nice cover of "Whipping Post" (Allman Brothers). However, it was the vocals of Martila Sanders that really stood out during the show. She is a real talent with a great future ahead of her.

Another interesting local band who performed was Crossroads The Resurrection. This five-piece band played everything from jump blues to soul and even threw in their own cover of "Sweet Home Chicago." While it was heavy on the tenor sax and much different from anything I had ever heard it got the crowd up on its feet.

Rounding out day one was the always entertaining Stacy Mitchhart and his band featuring some outstanding sax and trumpet work by Jules Caldarera and Cory Distefano. In fact the just mentioned band members got things rolling right from the get go with outstanding solos on "Grazing in the Grass." This instrumental was first recorded back in 1968 by Hugh Masekela.



Stacy Mitchhart at Kalamazoo Blues Festival

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

From that point on it was all Mitchhart who for the next hour and a half played everything from blues standards to his own material and well-known crowd favorites, from Led Zeppelin and everything in between. This guy really knows how to steal the show.

Anthony Gomes was the hit on day two and even received a proclamation as an official resident of Kalamazoo. In response Gomes thanked the crowd and asked the mayor if this would help him with a "few parking tickets."

In his set Gomes played several titles of his latest release "Up 2 Zero," and wowed the crowd with his outstanding guitar work. On "Darkest Before the Dawn," Gomes originally from Toronto, Canada, dedicated the song to his Mom and sang the second half in his native tongue of French to the delight of the crowd.

Joining Gomes on tour and handling bass duties is Scott Sutherland who held down the same job with The Tommy Castro Band while Roger Femai rounded out this blues rock trio and handled drums.



Anthony Gomes at Kalamazoo Blues Festival

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

It has to be mentioned again, but in my opinion this year's Kalamazoo Blues festival had an outstanding line-up including both Kelley Hunt and Shaun Murphy. These fine vocalists really added a nice touch to the vast variety of music at the event.

In particular Hunt was a real hit as she showcased her outstanding piano and guitar playing. The Kansas City native's set included several songs in her show with a New Orleans influence. Murphy on the other hand also had a nice and well-versed show featuring her incredible vocal range.

For Murphy, many years on the road singing background vocals for the likes of Bob Seger, Eric Clapton and most recently with Little Feat have helped this singer move to the top of her game. Now based in Nashville and backed by a four piece road band Murphy put on a nice show featuring several blues standards and also titles from her current release "Live at Callahan's." (Continued on next page)

Rounding out day two of the festival was none other than Popa Chubby. Born Ted Horowitz back in the 60's in the Bronx, New York area, this multi-talented guitar slinger is a man on a mission who plays his heart out at every show.

Having toured non-stop in both the United States and Europe, Chubby put on a blistering 90-minute show filled with the likes of several fan favorites including "Hey Joe," (Hendrix). However the loudest ovation occurred after the guitarist played an instrumental version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" - Chubby style.

I first heard the name Popa Chubby several years ago when he and his band visited downtown Champaign to play a show at a place called Periscope Records. I knew this guy was an amazing performer then, and still is one of the best players around - hands down.



Popa Chubby at Kalamazoo Blues Festival

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Some scattered thunderstorms put a slight damper on the final day of the festival and even caused headliner Tommy Castro to adjust his show's starting time. However, the music did not stop and another local group called The Bryan Michael Fischer Band or BMF for short moved a few pieces of equipment on stage and filled in.

This truly high-powered five-piece band got the crowd up on their feet by opening their show with two nicely done Allman Brothers tunes: "Statesboro Blues," and "Don't Keep Me Wonderin'."

From there the band did a mixture of classic blues numbers and even took time out to do a little jamming on a song by Moe. That alone brought the younger folks in the crowd up on to their feet and got them dancing.

This band of young performers including Bryan Blowers on guitar, Eric Busch on drums, Jon Wegge on bass and Tom Eldred on the Hammond B3 organ blended in perfectly with lead vocals of Bryan Michael Fisher. I was amazed at how tight

these guys are. During one section of their hour set the band each got a chance to showcase their talents and repeatedly thanked the audience for sticking around and the opportunity to play at the festival.

Now, almost midnight and with Tommy Castro and his band suffering from a long day of delays, the members of BMF closed their show with the classic Ray Charles number "Let's Get Stoned."

You would never have known that Tommy Castro and The Painkillers had performed in Albuquerque, New Mexico the night before. Now just after midnight eastern time, the band finally began their set. From start to finish Castro and band were superb featuring longtime friend Randy McDonald on bass, Bryan Cage on drums and James Pace on piano and organ. Each one followed their leader without missing a beat.



Tommy Castro at Kalamazoo Blues Festival

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Castro it seems was on a mission this night as he went from side to side on the large stage making sure the folks who waited long hours to see him got their chance. At one point during the band's last song Castro jumped down off the stage to get closer to the large crowd that had waited long into the night to see him perform.

Several minutes later the 19th Annual Kalamazoo Blues Festival had ended. All that was left were stage hands dismantling equipment and fans waiting to meet Castro and Band. I want to thank KVBA President Ralph Yingling and his entire staff for the great hospitality and all the performers who made it to The 411 Club for the great after hours jam. Sherry and I will remember this trip to your event for some time to come. Job well done!

Looking Forward By Bob Paleczny

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society recently passed its second anniversary. I wanted to pause for a minute and recall some of our amazing accomplishments.

In a short period of time we've met many of our primary goals. One was to become an affiliate of the Blues Foundation based in Memphis, TN, and, it didn't take long for this to become a reality. A second goal was met when our Society held a local qualifier and selected a great band, Hurricane Ruth, to represent us in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge in Memphis earlier this year. A third major goal was met when our Education Committee put together an after-school program at Wiley School in Urbana to teach 3rd and 4th graders blues history, harmonica and composition skills. And our First Friday series of shows brought new blues performers to the Champaign-Urbana area.

We plan to build on these accomplishments and go on to even greater heights. We have an outstanding monthly newsletter, *Inclusive*, to keep our members informed of what's happening. We have a great web presence with a superb website www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org and Facebook page. Our online calendar is often mentioned as a great resource for blues and music performances throughout the Illinois area.

We have some great things planned to build off of this momentum. We're happy to announce our 2nd Annual local IBC Challenge will take place on October 20 at Memphis on Main and you'll find the preliminary details in an article elsewhere in this newsletter. Working with our friends from CU Folk & Roots Festival, we're bringing Donna Herula back in August for a slide guitar workshop and show in Urbana. We plan to continue our BITS, Blues in the Schools program, working with local artists to bring blues education to grade schools in the upcoming year. We're also working towards restarting a Friday series of blues shows in the fall.

Most of all we want to have fun, and we could use your help. We want our society to reflect what our members want. We're looking for your input. Let us know what you'd like to do. Have some ideas? Feel free to email us at prairiecrossroadsblues@gmail.com. And if you have some talents and a few spare minutes, by all means get involved, and we'll all have fun together.

Fascinating Blues History By Rich Cibelli

It's not every day a great documentary comes to your town and you get to meet the principals involved. But that's exactly what happened the first day of July when Champaign's Art Theater hosted "Music from the BIG HOUSE," featuring Rita Chiarelli, a renowned blues singer from Canada.

Filmed in and around Angola Prison in Louisiana, this project tells the unique story of life behind the walls of the place known as one of the worst prisons in the United States. For historians the name Huddie Leadbelly may come to mind as this blues pioneer spent time in this same institution.

Chiarelli through many visits to Angola was able to gain access and build relationships with a selected group of prisoners, many serving life sentences who use their gift of music and performance to express themselves.

We were very fortunate to get to see this film as it makes its way to more than 60 cities. On this day the program included a post film performance and Q & A with Chiarelli. To learn more about this very important film I urge you to take time and visit www.MusicFromTheBigHouse.com

While I'm on the subject of recommendations I'd also like to mention a few books that I think you might enjoy as we wind through the summer months and head into fall.

(1) If the names Hal Blain, Carol Kaye, Glen Campbell, Leon Russell and Phil Spector sound somewhat familiar to you then you'll want to read "*The Wrecking Crew: The Inside Story of Rock and Roll's Best Kept Secret*" by Kent Hartman. I think you'll be amazed at this incredible story taking place during the 60's & 70's. You can also view a clip from a movie that's been produced about the very subject <http://wreckingcrew.tv/trailer.html>

(2) As a founding member of the Allman Brothers Band, Rock Icon and Hall of Fame Member Gregg Allman has lived a life that few if any of us could ever imagine. Now 65 years of age and dealing with several life threatening events he's written "*My Cross to Bear*." If you're a fan of this band, this is a must read.

(3) A few months back Tim Jenkins of Alex Jenkins & The Bombers recommended "*The Chitlin' Circuit And The Road To Rock 'N' Roll*," by Preston Lauterbach. The book takes you back in the early history of blues, R&B, and rock and describes the way of life for many black entertainers and the underhanded way promoters made their living. Tim, thanks for the tip.

(4) "*Rage To Survive, The Etta James Story*" by Etta James and David Ritz is another book I'll recommend. Remembered as a great voice for so many wonderfully songs, James lived life to the fullest and sometimes not in her best interest.

(5) From picking cotton as a child to performing around the world, blues legend Buddy Guy has teamed up with author David Ritz to publish "*When I Left Home: My Story*." The book is full of stories about Guy's life and the things he sometimes had to do to get to where he is today.

(6) Another great blues and folk music pioneer who wrote "*Key To The Highway*," and many more popular classics was Big Bill Broonzy. Moreover, while many unanswered questions still (Continued on next page)

remain about his life *"I Feel So Good: The Life and Times of Big Bill Broonzy,"* by Bob Riesman is a great book for those, who like me may be unfamiliar with this performer's story.

(7) When we hear the name Jimi Hendrix, the images of Woodstock and The Band of Gypsies are the most memorable sights and sounds that come to mind. However, Jimi's younger brother Leon witnessed a different side of the performer that few others ever saw. *"Jimi Hendrix: A Brother's Story"* by Leon Hendrix and Adam Michell is a fascinating book that covers the Hendrix brothers younger days living in poverty to the glory days of life on the road with the most popular musician in the world.

So there you have it a few books for you to enjoy. Likewise, if you find something interesting to read and want to pass the information on to our members, please let me know. Enjoy the rest of your summer and happy reading!

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers
"Creeping After Midnight"
Reviewed by Rich Cibelli



When I heard that Alex Jenkins & The Bombers had just released their self-produced "Creeping After Midnight," I had to get my hands on one and listen for myself. I was quite impressed at what I heard.

From the opening title "Let's Stick Together," I found a nicely arranged tune featuring Alex Jenkins on vocals and guitar. I could tell right away this was indeed a band of seasoned musicians who have been working hard to master their craft.

A nice intro by bassist Mike Crisp sets the tempo for "Hometown Boy," the second title featured on this 10-song release that features Alex Jenkins and his desire to get back home where he knows he belongs.

Lending a hand on "Look What the Cat Dragged In," are Dennis Lansing who provides some nice sax, John Henry takes over on drums, and another member of the Jenkins family Ben joins in on rhythm guitar and harmonica. To say this band isn't a family affair would be an understatement.

The next song, "Hey Pretty Baby" has a Freddy King flow to it and is another fine example of this band's versatility. Growing up in and around the Chicago area gave brothers Alex and Tim Jenkins the opportunity to not only hear, but develop an appreciation of both rhythm and blues which is at the forefront of much of the music they love to play.

With several key appearances now on their list of accomplishments, it seems this band is on their way to many better days ahead. Case in point, the band just recently performed at the 2012 Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival as well as at the Ain't Nothin But The Blues Festival and at The Castle Theater in Bloomington. Now they're headed to the Illinois State Fair for a show on August 17 and have several other shows lined-up in and around the area.

As this release moves on Tim Jenkins takes credit for "Good Bye Baby Blues," while Ben Jenkins takes credit for "Mojo Woman." The rest of the titles on this self-produced release are credited to Alex Jenkins.

The project's title track "Creeping After Midnight," features a nice guitar intro by Alex Jenkins. This song, like many on the release, showcases the elder Jenkins' years of hard work honing his guitar playing.

Things slow down with "Over You," a nice minor blues progression with yet another story of heartache and despair, done with just the right amount of flair and energy and a great message.

On "She Wants to Rock," Ben Jenkins is featured with some nice harmonica playing and is joined by Dennis Lansing whose sax playing adds just the right jump. Add in a nice guitar solo and this tune with its steady beat will get you up on your feet wanting more.

"Back In My Arms Again," and "Mojo Woman," round out the release, and like many of the other songs on the project they blend in perfectly with the rhythm and blues theme. But, don't just take my word for it, head out and see this up and coming band play live and in person. I think you'll enjoy what you hear and be amazed at the talent Alex Jenkins & The Bombers bring to the stage.

Our next PCBS monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday Aug. 15 at 6:30 pm at Smoke Que & Brew in Champaign. Join us for dinner and bring your ideas and suggestions.

Rick Estrin and The Nightcats
"One Wrong Turn"
Reviewed by Rich Cibelli



Rick Estrin and The Nightcats have a new release on Alligator Records called "One Wrong Turn." However, after hearing the product I think these guys are actually heading in the right direction.

Known around the blues world as a master harmonica player, Estrin is joined on the release by Chris "Kid" Andersen who handles guitar as well as an occasional bit of keyboards, bass and background vocals.

J. Hansen, who has mastered the technique of playing drums while standing up, and Lorenzo Farrell round out the foursome. Farrell takes care of bass, organ and piano duties. This is indeed a band of seasoned musicians with many years of performance under their belts.

Incidentally, if these names sound familiar to you that's because they were the main ingredients of the quite popular Little Charlie and The Nightcats. Now a few years later they're at it again with Rick Estrin leading the charge.

"One Wrong Turn," starts out with "D.O.G." and the tale of someone who's been seen hanging around all the wrong places. I really like the cha-cha rhythm the band has arranged for this title. Moreover, Estrin resembles a man on a mission with his trademark sound.

"Lucky You," follows up next as a fine example of this band's ability to use multiple tempos and sound to create this number that once again features the familiar vocals and harp of Estrin.

Much slower, "Calling All Fools" features the fantastic organ work of Lorenzo Farrell and also some great picking by guitarist Chris "Kid" Andersen. I find this title one of the best on the release. But you definitely need to check it out for yourself.

Like many other Alligator Records artists, Rick Estrin and The Nightcats enjoy a relationship formed some years back when the Chicago based company released "Twisted." The year was 2009 and the band back then was heavily focused on a jump, swing blues sound as compared to its current release.

For example, "Moving Slow," is more like a tune produced out of the era of Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper. Enter Estrin's harp solo midway and the background sax work of Jack Sanford and you'll soon be transported to the era of modern day blues.

On "One Wrong Turn," the title track of this release features a real showcase of Estrin and the band's voices coming together to form yet another fine example of production and sound. Special mention is given here to band member Chris "Kid" Andersen whose credits on this project include co-producer and takes the lead role in recording and mixing the release.

"Zonin'" and "The Legend Of Taco Cobbler," the only instrumentals on the release, are just plain amazing. They combine a lot of instruments and once again showcase the immense talents of this group of musicians. In my opinion, Rick Estrin and The Nightcats deserve a lot of credit for putting together such a truly amazing product.

Join PCBS for our 2nd Birthday Celebration

We'll have a party with our friends

Kilborn Alley Blues Band

Wednesday, August 1

D.R Digger's

604 S. Country Fair Dr., Champaign

Free Food, Great Music, Birthday Cake

Food starts at 9:00, Music starts at 9:30

Corporate Sponsorships

We greatly appreciate our Corporate Sponsors for supporting the PCBS with their funds and their missions.

Memphis on Main regularly brings impressive Blues talent to Champaign.

Fluid Events brings the Champaign Blues, Brews, and BBQs festival to town this summer, along with other Blues music events throughout the year.

Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop provided a drum set for use in The Prairie Crossroads Blues Society IBC challenge.

Donors

We are grateful to the following individuals and businesses that have provided donations to support the work of the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society.

Cody Sokolski and Marci Dodds
One Main Development, LLC
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Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers have released a new CD called "Creeping After Midnight." Read the review in this issue of Inclusive. See them live this month on the 11th at Alto Vineyards and on the 17th at the Illinois State Fair.

Black Magic Johnson will be playing at the Downhome Music Festival in Springfield, IL on August 4.

The Diva and The Dude are well-known throughout the area. You can keep up with them through Facebook.

Full Throttle Band is one of our newer member bands. Check them out on Facebook.

Hurricane Ruth will be playing this month at the Illinois State Fair on the 14th, at Old Capitol Blues & BBQs in Springfield, IL on the 25th, and at the Hill Prairie Winery in Oakford, IL on the 26th.

Jr. & The Blues Rockers will be playing at Bentley's Pub in Champaign on August 4.

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band has been nominated for Blues Band of the Year by Blues Blast Magazine. Be sure to get your votes in by August 31! In spite of Chris Breen's hand injury, the band continues to play gigs and has been on an extensive tour.

They will be celebrating the 2nd birthday of the PCBS at D.R. Digger's on August 1. Be there!!

King's Highway is playing this month at Winner's Lounge in Bloomington on the 25th.

Matthew Curry & The Fury has been nominated for three awards by Blues Blast Magazine: Song of the Year; Best Debut CD; Sean Costello Rising Star Award. Be sure to get your votes in by August 31! They will be playing this month at Kicks in Towanda, IL on the 18th.

The Painkillers will be playing at King Park in Urbana on the 8th, and at The Iron Post on the 11th.

The Sugar Prophets are playing this month at the Decatur Celebration on the 4th, at Doherty's in Decatur on the 23rd, at the Sweet Corn Festival in Bloomington-Normal early on the 25th, and at Alto Vineyards later on the 25th.

Susan Williams Band is playing at the American Legion in Danville on the 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd, at Huber's on the 17th, at the Junkyard Dogs Show in Georgetown on the 18th, at Jim & Jo's Bar and Grill in Danville on the 24th, at the Halfway Inn in Danville early on the 25th and at the Pink House in Ogden later on the 25th.

The Sweet Wood Band is one of our newer member bands. Check them out on Facebook.

Timmy D & Blind Justice is playing this month at Gino's Place in Danville on the 3rd, at The Iron Post on the 10th, at the Urbana Sweetcorn Festival on the 24th, and at Memphis on Main on the 31st.

Tombstone Bullet is playing this month at the Walnut St. Winery in Rochester, IL on the 11th, and at the Illinois State Fair on the 14th.

Prairie Crossroads Board of Directors

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PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society Meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on August 15 at Smoke Que & Brew, 2411 Village Green Place, Champaign. Join us for a short meeting, then stick around and enjoy some food and drinks together.

Inclusive, a newsletter of the PCBS, is always looking for new contributors and submissions of finished or unfinished content. Deadline for the next newsletter is August 27. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

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Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Wolf. I hope everybody remembers to vote for the music awards!

Yeah, Muddy. I never miss a chance to vote. I love to express my expert opinion!

As we always say in Chicago, "Vote early and often."

Heh heh. That won't work with Blues Blast 'cuz they actually know what they're doin'.

It may be time to renew your membership in the PCBS! Check the date on your membership card. You can renew online using PayPal.

EVENTS

Aug 1 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Champaign – 9 pm

Aug 2 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Aug 3 – Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm

Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Surreal Deal – Mike 'n' Molly's – Champaign – 8 pm

Timmy D. & Blind Justice – Gino's Place – Danville, IL – 8:30 pm

Aug 4 – Black Magic Johnson – Downhome Music Festival – Springfield, IL – 5 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Decatur Celebration – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm

The Blues Deacons – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm

Jr. & The Blues Rockers – Bentley's Pub – Champaign – 8:30 pm

Aug 6 – Matt Hill – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

Aug 8 – The Painkillers – King Park – Urbana – 6 pm

Chris Beard – Goodfellas – Pekin, IL – 7 pm

Aug 9 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Aug 10 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Timmy D. & Blind Justice – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm

Aug 11 – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7 pm

Tombstone Bullet – Walnut St. Winery – Rochester, IL – 7 pm

Aug 13 – Rockin' Johnny – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

Aug 14 – Hipbone Sam – Illinois State Fair – Springfield, IL – 5 pm

The Mojo Cats – Illinois State Fair – Springfield, IL – 6 pm

The Oakwood Boys – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Illinois State Fair Grounds – Miller Tent – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

Tombstone Bullet – Illinois State Fair Grounds – Miller Tent – Springfield, IL – 9:30 pm

Aug 15 – PCBS Monthly Dinner Meeting – Smoke Que & Brew – Champaign – 6:30 pm

Surreal Deal – Meadowbrook Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm

Aug 16 – Andrew Jr. Boy Jones – Blues in Central Park – Decatur, IL – 7 pm

Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Aug 17 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Illinois State Fair – Springfield, IL – 3 pm

Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Susan Williams Band – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm

Aug 18 – Donna Herula – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

Susan Williams Band – Junkyard Dogs Show – Georgetown, IL – 6 pm

Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm

Matthew Curry & The Fury – Kicks – Towanda, IL – 8 pm

Aug 20 – Deak Harp – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

Aug 22 – Smokin’ Joe Kubek & Bnois King – Kankakee Valley Boat club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm

Aug 23 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm

Aug 24 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Blues Night at Urbana Sweetcorn Festival

Timmy D. & Blind Justice – Urbana Sweetcorn Fest. – 6 pm

Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Urbana Sweetcorn Fest. – 7:30 pm

Susan Williams Band – Jim & Jo’s Bar and Grill – Danville, IL – 8 pm

Dr. Duke Tumatote – Urbana Sweetcorn Fest. – 9:15 pm

Aug 25 – Hurricane Ruth – Old Capitol Blues & BBQs – Springfield, IL – 1 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Sweet Corn Festival – Bloomington-Normal, IL – 1 pm

Susan Williams Band – Halfway Inn – Danville, IL – 1 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm

Susan Williams Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8:30 pm

King’s Highway – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 9 pm

Aug 26 – The Blues Deacons – Sweet Corn Festival – Bloomington-Normal, IL – 2 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Hill Prairie Winery – Oakford, IL – 2 pm

Aug 31 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Timmy D. & Blind Justice – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 7 pm

Illinois Blues Fest – Riverfront Park – Peoria, IL – 7:30 pm

Sep 1 – Illinois Blues Festival – Riverfront Park – Peoria, IL – 1 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Illinois Blues Festival – Peoria, IL – 1 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Illinois Blues Festival – Peoria, IL – 5 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Illinois Blues Festival – Peoria, IL – 7 pm

The Painkillers – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm

Sep 3 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Julie’s Shooting Star – Westville, IL – 2 pm

Sep 5 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm

Sep 7 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm

Sep 8 – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Crows Mill Pub – Springfield, IL – 8:30 pm

Tombstone Bullet – The Creek Pub – Chatham, IL – 9 pm

Sep 14 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 8:30 pm

Sep 15 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Knights of Columbus – Danville, IL – 11:30 am

Hurricane Ruth – Curve Inn – Springfield, IL – 6 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Savoy Orchard Days – Savoy, IL – 10 pm

Sep 16 – The 44’s – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8 pm

Sep 21 – Friday Night Live – Downtown Champaign – 6 pm

Sep 29 – Highway 61 Blues Festival – Leland, MS – 12 pm

Sep 30 – Holly Ridge Jam – Highway 61 Blues Festival – Leland, MS – 12 pm

Oct 3 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm

Oct 4 – King Biscuit Festival – Helena, AR – 6 pm

Oct 5 – King Biscuit Festival – Helena, AR – 4 pm

Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm

Timmy D & Blind Justice – The Iron Post – Urbana – 9 pm

Oct 6 – King Biscuit – Helena, AR – 1 pm

Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

Oct 12 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm

Oct 13 – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

Oct 20 – Prairie Crossroads Blues Society IBC Challenge – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 4:30 pm

Summer and Fall Blues Festivals in the Midwest

Aug 7-8 – Greater Ozarks Blues Festival – Springfield, MO
greaterozarksbluesfest.com

Aug 10-12 – Sunflower River Blues & Gospel Fest – Clarksdale, MS – sunflowerfest.org

Aug 24 – Urbana Sweetcorn Festival Blues Night – Urbana, IL
Timmy D. & Blind Justice 6-7:15 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band 7:30-8:45 pm
Dr. Duke Tumatote 9:15-10:45 pm
illinoisfestivalguide.com

Aug 31-Sep 1 – Illinois Blues Fest – Peoria, IL
illinoisbluesfestival.com

Sep 1-2 – Big Muddy Blues Festival – St. Louis, MO
bigmuddybluesfestival.com

Sep 29-30 – Highway 61 Blues Festival – Leland, MS
highway61blues.com

Oct 4-6 – King Biscuit Blues Festival – Helena, AR
bluesandheritagefest.com

Oct 12-14 – Crescent City Blues & BBQ Festival – New Orleans, LA – CrescentCityBluesFest.com

Nov 2-3 – C-U Folk & Roots Festival – Urbana, IL
folkandroots.org

Find more at www.BluesFestivalGuide.com

Our next PCBS monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday Aug. 15 at 6:30 pm at Smoke Que & Brew in Champaign. Join us for dinner and bring your ideas and suggestions.