



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

December 2013

Back Pack Jones and Benny Jenkins Bloodline IBC Celebration By Lorri Coey

You've heard the terms share the wealth and help a brother out, right? Well on January 11, 2014 you have the chance to help a whole bunch of blues musicians out. We are holding our annual celebration/fundraiser for The Blues Foundation competition at Memphis on Main in Champaign that night. The music starts at 8 pm. Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is proud to be sending Back Pack Jones to the 30th edition of the International Blues Challenge in January. Back Pack Jones is a band packed with talent and passion and we couldn't be more proud to have them as our representatives.



Back Pack Jones – Our IBC Winners

Photo from Back Pack Jones Facebook page

Each year PCBS has been able to give our winning band a prize package that covers two hotel rooms for the duration of the competition. That doesn't begin to cover the costs for any band but, hey, it helps. And that's one of the reasons we always hold a celebration/fundraiser, to send our bands off with our good wishes and to help

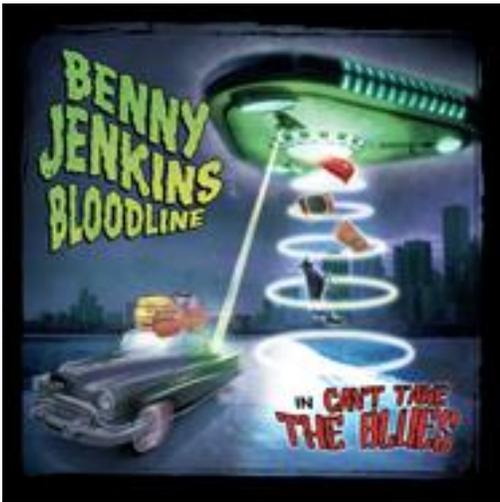
them a bit dollar-wise. If you saw Back Pack Jones at our challenge back in October, you'll know why two hotel rooms is just a drop in the bucket this year. Back Pack Jones is a big band – ten members. They barely fit on the stage at Memphis on Main and I'm pretty certain they won't fit in two hotel rooms. So this year we'd really love to pack the house and send them on their way with a little more cash.

But that's only one reason for you to put the celebration/fundraiser on your calendar. That ten-member band puts on a show you won't want to miss. Their energy levels are infectious and the band is tight. They opened for none other than B.B. King in November, that's pretty good company. You can check out a sample of their recently released CD, "Betsy's Kitchen" on our web site or on their Facebook page. "Betsy's Kitchen" includes nine original tunes, "delivering all 'shades of blues' to anticipating listeners. Blues is about life's challenges, trials and twists, joys and frustrations. Back Pack Jones brings all of these emotions in an incredible musical package."

And speaking of CDs, also on the bill January 11 is Benny Jenkins Bloodline, the winner of our best self-produced CD contest. Rex Bartholomew, a music reviewer for Blues Blast Magazine, had this to say about "Can't Take the Blues" in the Nov. 21 issue:

"This album is well-recorded and mixed, and flows smoothly from one song to the next. Benny Jenkins Bloodline's Can't Take the Blues is a solid effort and they deliver the goods on every track. From the energy they show on this CD, I can only imagine that their live show would be a hoot to see."

(Continued on next page)



Benny Jenkins Bloodline – Best Self-Produced CD

And from being in the audience a time or two, I can tell you Rex is right. This band is fun, from the lyrics, to the west coast swing, jump blues and rockabilly influences, to the great chemistry among the band members. If you want to sample “Can’t Take the Blues” check our web site for Bring Back the Blues to My Radio and their web site for a few more songs.

We’re hoping to have some prizes and a 50-50 fundraiser for the event. But we know for certain we’ll be having a whole lot of fun and partying with two great blues bands from central Illinois. I sure hope you’ll join us.

- Links:
prairiecrossroadsblues.org
facebook.com/BackPackJones
bennyjenkinsbloodline.com
thebluesblast.com

Folk and Roots Festival Exceeds Expectations
 By Sandy Hannum

Many of you saw the note from Jeff Zolitor from the Folk & Roots organization noting that the November 1 and 2, 2013 5th annual festival had topped their expectations. They had over 1300 attendees, 91 events, and several new venues, and even exceeded their fundraising projections. For those of us who were there, it was difficult to choose which events to attend. The variety of offerings was absolutely mind-boggling.

PCBS was a Community Sponsor of the Folk & Roots Festival, and also specifically supported the performances and workshops of Del Rey and Keith Harden. Excellent choices!

I caught Del Rey at the IMC Friday night, and was blown away by her skills on the resonator guitar. It was hard to believe all that sound was coming from one instrument. Del Rey is warm and funny and full of good stories. She was terrific performing old classic Blues songs, ragtime, and also some of her own compositions. After several guitar tunes, she switched to the uke, and produced a sound that I had never heard before from that instrument. Del Rey is a virtuoso, and a true original. I saw her again on Saturday in her Memphis Minnie workshop at the Urbana Free Library. She was full of interesting historical tidbits and personal stories about Minnie’s life and music. Every couple of minutes Del would play another Memphis Minnie song. I loved the Grandma and Grandpa song, about the oldsters who don’t realize they’re old. I learned a lot, and didn’t want it to end. Kathy Harden, a great Memphis Minnie fan herself, told Del that she was “OUTSTANDING.” I just couldn’t get enough Del Rey, so I went to her Iron Post performance on Saturday night. Like any other great performer, she seemed to be having just as much fun as the audience. Once again she knocked our socks off with her virtuosity. She had an almost completely new set for us, and it was all great. All I can say is, I was very proud that PCBS helped sponsor her.



Del Rey at the Iron Post
 Photo from the Folk & Roots Facebook Page

I spent the rest of my Folk & Roots Festival time watching the great Keith Harden at work! First I caught the Guitar Fingerpicking & Songwriting workshop at C4A. It was packed, and I was probably the only non-guitar player there. We all know what a great guitarist, songwriter, and singer Keith is. It was really fun to find out that he is also an excellent teacher. The people in the class were all (Continued on next page)

adults, although he had expected mostly kids. Some were already quite advanced, while others were closer to beginners. However, he made everyone feel comfortable. He demonstrated various techniques, and they all tried them. During the songwriting part of the workshop, people were invited to perform their own songs, which many did. He gave them constructive comments, and so did others from the class. It was really fun. Directly afterwards, it was time for the Blues Jam in Lincoln Square. I noticed that many of the same people who had attended the workshop were there for the jam as well. Besides guitars, there was a fiddle, harmonica, and recorder in attendance. At one point Kathy Harden joined in and got some singing going. She did a fabulous rendition of a Memphis Minnie song, just as Del Rey was walking through. Everyone had a blast! This is the kind of thing that makes the Folk & Roots Festival so unique and wonderful. Not only is there a terrific amount of variety, there is also lots of very enthusiastic audience participation.



Keith Harden's Blues Jam

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

PCBS is delighted to be associated with the Folk & Roots organization, and we thank them for putting on another terrific event. We are already looking forward to next year.

Blues in the Schools Update

By Sandy Hannum

Our big news now is that we received a small grant from the Orange Krush Foundation for \$350, for the purpose of putting on short Blues workshops for kids this spring. We are already talking to the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club about doing one there. If funds remain afterwards, we will put on another one, at a venue to be determined.

Our Blues in the Schools program at Thomas Paine is completed, and was deemed a success by music teacher Brandon T. Washington. He Really appreciated the work of instructors, Josh Spence (harmonica) and Gus Wood (history). He noted that the students were somewhat familiar with Blues music before this program started, because he teaches some basics in his regular music classes. Josh said he could tell that the students had started out with basic knowledge of the Blues, which was helpful. Brandon Washington said that the students were quite struck by what they learned from our Blues historian, Gus Wood about the roots and history behind the Blues, since this part of history is not taught until later years in public school. Both Josh and Gus did a great job of getting the kids involved and interested in the material. We may want to consider lengthening our standard program, because Josh said that six weeks seems awfully short, especially for teaching harmonica. He found it easier to accomplish what he wanted with the students in the 8-week program at Garden Hills.

We want to be able to continue to offer Blues in the Schools to other elementary schools in C-U, but this will take more funding. The Education Committee continues to seek and apply for grants, but it is difficult. We have the continued support of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, which has been funding our Blues History teachers. For this we are most grateful.

This holiday season we are sending out a letter asking you to consider a tax-deductible donation to Blues in the Schools so that we may continue this program which is a crucial part of the mission of PCBS. We really enjoy creating new Blues enthusiasts, and well-informed ones at that. Thank you in advance.

Consider making a
tax-deductible donation
to the PCBS
Blues in the Schools Fund
this Holiday Season

www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/education

The Birth of Blues at Bentley's
By Dennis Wismer

With the proximity to large urban areas in all directions, and access to the crossroads of 74 and 57 it is not surprising that there are many great Blues bands passing through our area. With the amount of venues and bars, it is a bit surprising at how many shows are missed by us. Of course the tremendous amount of local talent available to be booked may be a factor.

Fortunately this blend is starting to work together to bring about a few more shows for the Blues aficionados locally. One of the great local talents is the band Upshot. Another is Kilborn Alley and a couple of ascending talents are Susan Williams Band and Kevin Cory. While on the subject of the wide array of local talent I want to mention a Blues fan and bar manager of Bentley's, Angela Jordan-Moubry, and the musician bartenders, Brendan Gamble and Sarah Hall.

This recollection starts with me becoming aware of Upshot. I had heard about them and met Sarah Hall before getting the chance to see a performance. Finally making it on time to an early Bentley's show, I was immediately captivated by this versatile and phenomenally talented band. They played an interesting mix of originals and covers with great gusto and virtuosity. Within several weeks I had witnessed at least six performances to the point I had to skip shows to keep them fresh for me. While they played around town they had a regular Tuesday evening show at Bentley's which

worked well with my schedule. What this allowed to steep was conversations with bar manager Angela and Sarah. This gave me the insight that they were willing to support a wide variety of music and take a few risks to promote live music.

One Tuesday I was enjoying an Upshot show at Bentley's and received a call from Andrew Duncanson of Kilborn Alley. He invited me over to talk and visit with him and the lovely Lillie Buck. Feeling in the mood to prolong the evening I acquiesced... What was born of that evening turned into the first Blues at Bentley's. Andrew told me that R. J. Mischo was touring and needed a show booked in town. We discussed several venues. And since I had previously talked with Angela I knew she was willing to support and provide band fees and necessary provisions. After a bit more discussion a decision was made to go for it. R. J. was called. It was on three calendars.

The result of that meeting was an exhilarating performance in front of a full Bentley's as Kilborn Alley performed two driving sets and supported R.J. Mischo and his incredible talent. Another resulting benefit was Angela's and Bentley's willingness to give another go at hosting a Blues show. This is the point at which a Delta festival and musicians entered the discussion. While Bill and Shy Perry were arriving for a Robert Lockwood stage performance during the 2013 King Biscuit Blues festival. I was introduced to Carol Marble, Bill Perry's manager and booking agent. She mentioned they were driving to Champaign, IL for a radio interview and performance at WEFT without having a paying show. They were going to have foot the expense and drive from Clarksdale, MS and back probably the same day. I mentioned I might be able to arrange a show and we exchanged numbers. The timetable was short and I enlisted Bob Paleczny PCBS president to rally the troops and he managed to arrange hotel rooms for the band. I contacted Angela at Bentley's and she agreed to again help bring tremendous talent to her venue on a very short time frame.

Once again Champaign Urbana Blues fans were rewarded as Bill and Shy Perry accompanied by Josh Spence on harmonica and Aaron Wilson on drums brought some true Delta Blues to the North Neil St. venue. Bill Perry's well crafted songs, excellent musicianship and folksy story telling abilities enamored himself with the nice crowd and especially with Angela who was visibly instilled with the Delta spirit brought by Bill and Shy. Many PCBS (Continued on next page)

Looking Forward

By Bob Paleczny

members enjoyed the show but there was plenty of room for those of you who didn't take advantage of this opportunity. The good news is Bill and Shy will be in the area near the end of the year and the possibility of a return show at Bentley's is strong.

Another element of the Bill and Shy Perry performance I would be remiss to ignore is the opening set by local singer guitarist Kevin Cory. He has been growing on the local scene performing with local artists such as The Sugar Prophets, Kilborn Alley and Upshot. His creativity was apparent this evening as he opened up the show with a solo performance that furthered the opportunity to see varied acts at Bentley's.

Susan Williams attended a late summer show which was being held in the Bentley's beer garden and was invited to perform with the band. Sarah and the band invited Susan to sing and play bass during their set. The crowd and manager Angela were so impressed that it was determined The Susan Williams Band would be given the opportunity to perform their show at Bentley's. Although days earlier the area was beset with horrific and damaging storms, a hearty crowd showed up at Bentley's to support strong voiced Susan and her band. The show was spiced up with originals and covers by bands as diverse as Buddy Guy, Bonnie Raitt and Janis Joplin. In a heart warming moment after Susan communicated from the bandstand that her guitarist Gary Jones had lost his home in the storms earlier in the week Angela took up a collection for him immediately and the crowd generously gave some donations to help with his hardship.

There are several possibilities for future Blues at Bentleys as artist's traverse the area. As previously stated, the Perrys will be back in the area. Connections have been made with Chicago-based performer Liz Mandeville. Clarksdale, MS bluesman David Dunavent will be in the area for a performance in March and is interested in a show.

So as Blues fans, please continue to support live music and venues willing to provide entertainment. That is how we can all do our part to keep the heritage of the Blues alive and our area involved with the progress and history of the Blues.

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society has a lot to be thankful for. First and foremost we want to thank all the blues fans and PCBS members who love the blues, attend local shows and make the blues such a vibrant and living art form. We also want to thank all the bands, sponsors, promoters and venues who make the Champaign-Urbana area a thriving blues community. We are lucky to have so much talent available that we can enjoy blues almost every night of the week. Personally I'd also like to thank all the PCBS volunteers who contribute their time and efforts to make Prairie Crossroads such a successful and fun group to be involved with.

The folks at Fluid Events have brought our community first the Urbana and now the Champaign Blues Brews & BBQ Fests the last 5 years. They have transformed the old Hundman Lumber location into the brand new Fluid Events Center. Located at 601 N. Country Fair Dr. it is one of the largest performance spaces in downstate Illinois. They will unveil their new location to blues fans on Friday December 13 when Shane Shane Dwight returns to the area to headline the evening. Local blues-rockers Timmy D & Blind Justice open the show. If you caught Shane Dwight at this summer's Blues & BBQ Fest you know he's a dynamic performer, a great singer, songwriter and an outstanding guitar slinger.

We hear that Friday December 13 will also be Kilborn Alley Blues Band's triumphant return from their tour of Europe and run of shows in London. Stay tuned for more details about where they'll be playing. And be sure to catch them at the end of the December for their annual Abraham Johnson birthday party.

PCBS Honorary Member Keith Harden also returns to our area in the month of December. Keith grew up in Tolono and typically returns to his Champaign-Urbana roots several times a year. Most recently he returned to participate in the CU Folk & Roots Fest. Check out Sandy Hannum's great article about his participation at this year's Fest elsewhere in this newsletter. Prairie Crossroads is proud to have sponsored Keith hosting the blues jam at the Fest. Keith will be performing a series of shows at a variety of venues in the week leading up to Christmas.

(Continued on next page)

Prairie Crossroads would like to invite all our members and area blues fans to join us for our December monthly meeting and Holiday Party. We'll concentrate on the party and keep the meeting to a minimum. The event is planned in conjunction with Keith Harden's performance at the Clark Bar on Wednesday December 18. Our meeting starts at 6:00 and the party will kick off before Keith begins playing at 6:30. It should be a lot of fun and remember we always hold a drawing for a free CD given to one of our members at all our monthly meetings.

We'd also like to let you know about our IBC Fundraiser. On Saturday January 11 we'll combine two great bands for an outstanding night of entertainment. Back Pack Jones won our IBC Challenge and heads to Memphis to represent us in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge later that month. Benny Jenkins Bloodline won our Best Self-Produced CD contest and we've sent their CD to the Blues Foundation to compete in the international CD competition. Both bands will be playing at Memphis on Main that Saturday night. We'll be raising money to help Back Pack Jones pay some of their expenses for the trip to Memphis. Check out Lorri Coey's excellent article about the fundraiser elsewhere in this newsletter.

Once again Prairie Crossroads was fortunate to receive a small grant from the Orange Krush Foundation this year. This money goes into our Education Fund as part of our Blues In The Schools program and we plan to use this to hold several harmonica workshops for area youths. Last year we held a couple one hour events at the Champaign and Urbana libraries. Plans are to host similar workshops in the next few months in an effort to reach out to the kids in our community. Stay tuned as we'll be asking our members for your help to expand our programs even further. Thanks for everything you do to keep the blues alive.

**Don't miss the PCBS
Holiday Party
Wednesday December 18
6 pm at the Clark Bar
Keith Harden performing !**

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 in the summer, along with other Blues music events throughout the year.

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts supports our Blues in the Schools program with both funding and expertise.

The Pawn Shop in Rantoul has long been a supporter of live blues shows in central Illinois.

Rossville Sound Werx in Rossville, IL manufactures speaker cabinets and hand wired point to point tube amplifiers. They support PCBS with equipment.

Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop has provided a drum set for use in The Prairie Crossroads Blues Society IBC challenges and other events.

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
Louie's Dixie Kitchen & BBQ
Samuel Music
Slumberland Furniture
SuperValu

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President	Bob Paleczny
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PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society holiday party/meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 18 at The Clark Bar, 207 W. Clark St. , Champaign. Join us for a half-hour meeting, then stick around and enjoy Keith Harden's music, and 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 December 27. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

Editor: Sandy Hannum

Writers for This Issue: Lorri Coey
Sandy Hannum
Bob Paleczny
Dennis Wismer

Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers will be playing this month at the Old Country Store in Dewitt on the 7th, and at the Westville American Legion on the 31st. They are working on a new CD which they hope to have out in January.

Back Pack Jones is preparing for the IBC competition in Memphis, TN. On January 11 PCBS is hosting a fundraiser at Memphis on Main in Champaign to help raise money for their trip to to the IBC. Of course, they will be performing!

Benny Jenkins bloodline will be the opening act at the above mentioned fundraiser at Memphis on Main on January 11.

Black Magic Johnson will be playing this month at Willow Ridge winery in Shelbyville on the 1st, at Kuhl Tyme Korner in Jacksonville on the 20th, and at First Night Springfield on the 31st.

The Diva and The Dude are pretty darn spontaneous. Check out their Facebook page for up-to-date information on gigs.

Full Throttle Band will be playing this month at Uncle Buck's in Mahomet on the 21st.

Hurricane Ruth will be playing this month at Chez Marilyn in Alton on the 14th, at the Alamo in Springfield on the 16th, and at Walker's Bluff Winery in Carterville on the 31st.

The James Jones Trio will be playing this month at Gino's Place in Danville on the 31st.

Jerry Lee & The Juju Kings, winners of last year's local IBC challenge, is one of our newer member bands. Check out their website and their CD.

Jimmy Nick & Don't Tell Mama, kicked off our IBC Challenge this year with a rousing set of rockin' blues.

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band will be playing this month at D.R. Digger's in Champaign on the 4th, at the Clark Bar in Champaign on the 21st, at Sophie's in Clinton on the 27th, at Player's Pub in Bloomington, IN on the 28th, at the Iron Post in Urbana on the 29th, and at Adam's Apple & Barb's Place in Decatur on the 31st.

Matthew Curry, expands his fan base playing shows in Alabama, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri and Tennessee.

The Mudwinders is one of our newer member bands. Visit their website and their Facebook page.

The Painkillers have an exciting new female vocalist, Karen Jenkins! They are working on new material and appear regularly at The Iron Post.

The Sugar Prophets are one of the three original bands that helped get Prairie Crossroads off to a strong start.

Susan Williams Band will be playing this month at the I&J Stateline Tavern in Danville on the 7th, with the Crazy Johnny band at the VFW Post 630 in Urbana on the 13th, at Huber's in Champaign on the 14th, and with the Crazy Johnny Band at the Sidney Saloon in Sidney on the 21st.

Timmy D & Blind Justice will be opening for Shane Dwight at the new Fluid Events Center in Champaign on December 13.

Tombstone Bullet will be playing this month at Pop's Place in Decatur on the 1st.

Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Muddy. It is great having Keith Harden back in town for a while.

Yeah, Wolf. I sure wouldn't want to miss out on Keithmas. Heh heh.

Mmm hmm. You and all the other musicians in town.

EVENTS

- Dec 1** – Black Magic Johnson – Willow Ridge Winery – Shelbyville, IL – 2 pm
Blues Jam – I&I Stateline Tavern – Danville, IL – 2 pm
Tombstone Bullet – Pop's Place – Decatur, IL – 3 pm
Dec 6 – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Live @ The 5 Spot – Peoria, IL – 5:30 pm
Blues Dancing – Phillips Recreation Center – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Dec 7 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Old Country Store – Dewitt, IL – 7 pm
Susan Williams Band – I&I Stateline Tavern – Danville, IL – 9 pm
Dec 10 – Ori Naftaly Band – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Dec 11 – The Surreal Deal – D.R. Digger's – Champaign – 9 pm
Dec 13 – Susan Williams w/ Crazy Johnny Band – Urbana VFW – Urbana – 7 pm
The Blues Deacons – Dublin O'Neil's – Champaign – 9 pm
Timmy D & Blind Justice open for Shane Dwight - Fluid Events Center – Champaign – 9 pm
Dec 14 – Susan Williams – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Chez Marilyn – Alton, IL – 8 pm
Dec 15 – The Surreal Deal – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8:30 pm
Dec 16 – Hurricane Ruth – Blue Monday@The Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8:30 pm
Dec 18 – Keith Harden – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 6:30 pm

- Dec 19** – Keith Harden – The Shady Nook – Saybrook, IL – 7 pm
Dec 20 – Keith Harden – Silvercreek – Urbana – 5:30 pm
Black Magic Johnson – Kuhl Tyme Korner – Jacksonville, IL – 8 pm
Dec 21 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 6 pm
Full Throttle – Uncle Buck's – Mahomet
Keith Harden – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – Sidney Saloon – Sidney, IL – 8 pm
Dec 23 – KEITHMAS Celebration – The Iron Post – Urbana – 9 pm
Dec 25 – George Faber – The Iron Post – Urbana – 8 pm
Dec 27 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Sophie's – Clinton, IL – 9 pm
Dec 28 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Player's Pub – Bloomington, IN – 8 pm
Dec 29 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – (Abraham's Birthday) – The Iron Post – Urbana – 7 pm
The Surreal Deal – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8:30 pm
Dec 31 – Black Magic Johnson – First Night Springfield – Springfield, IL – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Walker's Bluff Winery – Carterville, IL – 8 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Westville American Legion – Westville, IL – 8:30 pm
James Jones Trio – Gino's Place – Danville, IL – 9 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Adam's Apple & Barb's Place – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
- Jan 1** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm
Jan 4 – Susan Williams w/ Crazy Johnny Band – Genzel's Tap – Buckley, IL – 9 pm
Jan 5 – Blues Jam – I&I Stateline Tavern – Danville, IL – 2 pm
Jan 10 – Susan Williams w/ Crazy Johnny Band – Urbana VFW – Urbana – 7 pm
Full Throttle – Memphis on Main - Champaign
Jan 11 – **Back Pack Jones and Benny Jenkins Bloodline – IBC Fundraiser** – Memphis on Main -Champaign – show starts at 8:00 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers w/The Delta Kings – Boomerang's – Urbana – 8:30 pm
Jan 25 – Full Throttle – Sidney Saloon – Sidney, IL
- Feb 5** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm
Feb 8 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Shady Nook Pub – Saybrook, IL – 8:30 pm