



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

January 2014

IBC Fundraiser Back Pack Jones and Benny Jenkins bloodline By Bob Paleczny

and help put a few dollars in their pockets to defray some of the cost of their travels.

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

Presents

Back Pack Jones

Benny Jenkins bloodline opens the show
Saturday January 11, 2014
8:00 pm—12:30 am

Memphis on Main, 55 E. Main St. Champaign

IBC Fundraiser

Help raise money to send the band to Memphis!
Raffle! Giveaways! Fun!



Back Pack Jones



Benny Jenkins bloodline—8:00 to 9:00

Benny Jenkins bloodline won our CD contest

Back Pack Jones 9:30 to 12:30

Back Pack Jones won our IBC Challenge



The PCBS mission is to Preserve, Promote and Educate about the Blues

Memphis on Main - 55 E. Main St. - Champaign, IL

\$5 Admission

www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org www.facebook.com/PrairieCrossroadsBlues



Benny Jenkins bloodline
“Can’t Take The Blues”

Benny Jenkins bloodline’s CD “Cant Take The Blues” won our Best Self-Produced CD contest and we sent their CD to the Blues Foundation as part of their BSPCD competition, where it advanced to the Semi-Finals. Benny’s band combines jump blues, west coast swing and rockabilly and their good times music will have the fans dancing in the aisles. Based out of Danville, IL the band is true to its name as Benny is joined by two family members and a stand-up bass player, together they put on an up tempo swingin’ show. Benny Jenkins bloodline plays from 8:00 to 9:00 and will entertain the crowd with their stage presence and great sense of humor. We know they’ll have copies of the outstanding CD for sale as well.

Back Pack Jones should take the stage about 9:30. They’ve shared the stage with Jimmy Thackery and recently opened for the legendary B. B. King at the Sangamon Auditorium in Springfield, IL. Their brand new CD “Betsy’s Kitchen” was released at the end of November. Come out and show your support of the band, pick up your own copy of this great CD and put a few dollars in their pockets. Like Prairie Crossroads Blues Society they are big supporters of the Blues In The Schools programs.

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is having a Party, and while we’re at it we’re hoping to raise some money for some of our favorite people ... blues musicians. We’re sending Back Pack Jones to represent us at the Blues Foundation’s International Blues Challenge in Memphis and we’re hosting a party to send them on their way. Saturday January 11 starting at 8:00 pm we’ll be at Memphis on Main at 55 E. Main St. in Champaign enjoying some awesome blues music and raising money to help the band with their travels. We’re fortunate to have two great bands signed up to play that night as Benny Jenkins bloodline will open the show.

Back Pack Jones is a horn-driven band from Springfield, IL that features great vocals and combines traditional blues with some R&B grooves. They won our IBC Challenge in October, and literally blew away the competition. PCBS always helps our winning band with some hotel rooms during the four days of the IBC competition, Jan. 22 thru Jan. 25 in Memphis, TN but that’s only a part of the cost for this 10 piece band. We’re asking blues fans throughout Central IL to show up in support of the band

Check out our webpage
<http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/> for samples of
(continued on next page)

both these bands great music. It promises to be a full night of blues entertainment and excitement. We'll hold a 50/50 raffle to help raise money for Back Pack Jones travel expenses. There will also be giveaways and other fun throughout the night. This is a great chance to see some fantastic blues music and have a great time while you show your support for the band and help raise money for a group of hard-working musicians.

PCBS can always use a few volunteers to help at the door, or help selling the bands merchandise or raffle tickets. We have a Doodle sign up page; <http://doodle.com/g2fhe3imhy6awntg> so you can help out an hour or two and be part of the fun at the same time.

PCBS Holiday Party Rocks By Sandy Hannum

There was a great turnout at the Clark Bar on December 18 for the PCBS holiday party. Lots of members we hadn't seen for quite a while were there, and a good time was had by all. I loved Keith's Facebook note announcing the show: "Koko & Keiku at the Klark Bar on Wed Dec 18th! gonna be festive!"

It was all that and more. Keith and Kathy Harden put on a terrific show of Blues and Christmas songs, and also made use of the many other talents in the audience. During the evening they called up Josh Spence to play some hot blues harp along with Keith. Candy Foster joined both Keith and Kathy on the all-time favorite, "Down Home Blues." And Susan Williams sang a sizzling number while Kathy took a break. Andy Duncanson was there for a short while too, but couldn't stay long enough to perform. It is wonderful to realize that all these talented folks are part of the PCBS. OH YEAH!!

Since this was a holiday party, the giveaways were very special. Keith Harden, Benny Jenkins, and Back Pack Jones all donated some of their new CDs and download cards to give away. I was lucky enough to win one of Keith's brand new CD's "Sky Songs." I love it!



Blues in the Schools Update By Sandy Hannum

A big thank you to the following people who donated to our Blues in the Schools Holiday Fundraising effort:

David Berchtold
Kathi and Tom Cullop
Steve Errede
Sheldon Foor
Sandy and Jim Hannum
Phil Hult
Jeff Pullen
Barbara Wlenski

We raised a total of \$300. I am sorry if you sent a check but are not listed here. Perhaps yours is still out in the PCBS mailbox. I will mention you next time!

We are also very thankful for the continued support of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, which has been funding our Blues History teachers. Sam Smith, Krannert Center Engagement Director, has also given us a great deal of expert advice and help with our BITS program.

Speaking of expertise, we greatly appreciate the work of David Adcock in getting the BITS program started. Rich Cibelli did a lot of work promoting the program. Lorri Coey and Bob Paleczny have continued promoting it in the past several months. We especially want to thank the stellar teachers in our program, Josh Spence and Gus Wood, and former teachers Doug Schroer, Ashley Howard and Courtney Cain. Last, but not least, thanks to the bands who kicked off the programs: The Painkillers and The Sugar Prophets. All of you have inspired young students and enriched their lives.

The holidays are over, but we welcome donations to Blues in the Schools at any time! It is important that we continue this program, since education is one of the main goals of the PCBS. We really enjoy creating new Blues lovers!

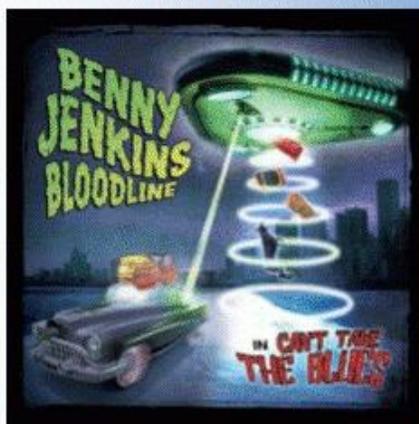
You can volunteer to help at our IBC Fundraiser on January 11 featuring Back Pack Jones and Benny Jenkins bloodline.

<http://doodle.com/g2fhe3imhy6awntg>

BACKPACK JONES 2014 Prairie Crossroads IBC winner

Benny Jenkins bloodline 2014 Self Produced CD winner

Sharing the stage again...On the way to *MEMPHIS*



Saturday January 11, 8pm

Memphis on Main

5 dollar cover, Raffles

Cash donations accepted

This is a Fundraiser to help with expenses
getting The BackPack Jones band to Memphis

brought to you by Prairies Crossroads Blues Society

Looking Forward By Bob Paleczny

Happy New Year to all our members, blues fans and friends. Prairie Crossroads Blues Society has a lot of exciting plans for the upcoming year. We continue to focus on the things we do well, our monthly Newsletter, our Blues in the Schools educational programs and we're making plans to present more blues entertainment to the area. We have an incredible amount of talent locally and want to feature our area bands as well as bring in some outstanding touring musicians. We plan to continue to host shows at your favorite venues around town and hope to expand blues shows into some new and exciting venues.

One of the greatest resources PCBS has is the superb musicians who make up our member bands and play throughout the area. We're hosting our IBC Fundraiser on Saturday January 11 at Memphis on Main and one of our goals is to raise some money for a great group of musicians, our IBC representatives, Back Pack Jones. Let's show our support for this fine group of musicians as they pursue their dreams of winning the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. The night will be a celebration of blues music as Benny Jenkins bloodline opens the show with their rockabilly and swingin' jump blues.

Perhaps you've heard about some of the tornado relief events in the area. The Peoria area held one and recently the Springfield area hosted another such event. A number of musicians joined together with numerous venues to offer music and food in an effort to raise money for victims of the Illinois tornados. Another similar event is coming up Saturday, January 25 for victims of the Gifford tornado. It will be at Gordyville and features 10 bands playing on two stages. Once again it shows that musicians and their fans are some of the most caring and giving people around. Check for the event on Facebook.

Thanks to all the blues lovers who responded to our BITS Fundraising efforts. As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter PCBS was once again fortunate to receive a small grant from the Orange Krush Foundation this year. The combined 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. We think educating the youth of our communities is one of our most important missions.

It's a bit of sad news that I report about the recent senseless murder of Eric "Guitar" Davis on Chicago's south side. Eric was a rising star in the blues world and

performed frequently in Chicago and St. Louis. He had played a show at Sophie's in Clinton about a month ago and had recently been signed to Delmark Records. It touched our hearts to see so many of our friends and fellow blues fans contribute to a fund set up to help his wife and six children. This is another example that the blues community is made up of quality people who come together to help others in need.

Once again I'd like to thank all the blues fans and 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 band members, sponsors, promoters and venues who make the Champaign-Urbana area a thriving blues community. Most importantly a huge thank you goes out to all the PCBS members and volunteers who contribute their time and efforts to make Prairie Crossroads a successful and fun group to be involved with.

Thanks for everything you do to keep the blues alive.

The January PCBS monthly meeting will be 6:30 pm on Thursday January 9, at The Esquire, in downtown Champaign!

Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Walter. PCBS is gonna give Back Pack Jones a big party on January 11!

That's right, Muddy. They're gonna win for PCBS in Memphis, and we're gonna party hearty for them in Memphis on Main. Heh heh.

No kiddin'. I think everybody should invest in a big bunch of raffle tickets!! We gotta send them off in style.

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

Prairie Crossroads Board of Directors

President	Bob Paleczny
Vice President	Greg Altstetter
Treasurer	Jim Hannum
Secretary	Lorri Coey
At-large Members	Sandy Hannum Tony Odendahl

PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, January 9 at the Esquire Lounge, 106 N. Walnut, 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 January 27. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

Editor: Sandy Hannum

Writers for This Issue: Sandy Hannum
Bob Paleczny
Dennis Wismer

Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers will be playing at Boomerang's in Urbana on January 11, at the Shady Nook Pub in Saybrook on February 8, and at the Brackins Blues Club in Maryville, TN on March 7. They are working on a new CD which they hope to have out very soon.

Back Pack Jones is preparing for the IBC competition in Memphis, TN. Come and see them at Memphis on Main in Champaign on January 11, and help support their trip to the IBC!

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

Black Magic Johnson has produced a CD entitled "Call Me" which you can download from their website. Check it out.

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 at Memphis on Main in Champaign on January 10, and at the Sidney Saloon in Sidney on January 25.

Hurricane Ruth stays pretty busy in and around Springfield. Keep track of them on Facebook.

The James Jones Trio has a website which allows you to download their music. Check it out.

Jerry Lee & The Juju Kings will be playing at Memphis on Main in Champaign on January 18.

Jimmy Nick & Don't Tell Mama is one of our newest member bands. They have a CD called "Who Ya Kiddin'." Check out their website.

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band continue to play their regular juke joint shows at D.R. Digger's the first Wednesday of every month.

Matthew Curry & The Fury are probably still recovering from New Year's Eve at the Castle. Check out their website for more news.

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 our three original member bands. Leader, Josh Spence also performs solo as Jiggy & The Source.

Susan Williams Band will be playing this month with the Crazy Johnny Band at Genzel's Tap in Buckley on the 4th, at the Urbana VFW on the 10th, and at Winner's Lounge in Bloomington on the 15th. She will be playing with Paul Sabuco at the T&T Tavern in Rantoul on the 14th. And Susan will be playing with her own band at The Pink House in Ogden on the 25th.

Timmy D & Blind Justice is an exciting blues rock band based in Champaign. Check out their website.

Tombstone Bullet has been playing in the Whirlwind Bar Tour for central Illinois tornado relief. Check their Facebook page for further news.

EVENTS

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

Trampled Under Foot – Fat Fish Pub 5th Anniversary Party – Galesburg, IL – 6 pm

Jan 8 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm

Jan 10 – Susan Williams w/ Crazy Johnny Band – Urbana VFW – Urbana – 7 pm

Full Throttle – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9:30 pm

Jan 11 – Alex Jenkins & The Bombers w/The Delta Kings – Boomerang's – Urbana – 8:30 pm

Back Pack Jones w/ Benny Jenkins Bloodline – Memphis on Main – IBC fundraiser – Champaign – 8:00 pm

Jan 14 – Susan Williams w/Paul Sabuco – T&T Tavern – Rantoul, IL – 8 pm

Jan 15 – Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – Winner's Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 8:30 pm

Jan 16 – David Berchtold – Baxter's American Grille – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm

Jan 17 – Bret Bunton Project – Goodfella's Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7:30 pm

Jan 18 – Jerry Lee & The Juju Kings – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9 pm

Jan 25 – Gifford Tornado Relief Benefit Concert – Gordyville – 2205 County Rd 3000 N – Gifford – 12 noon
Susan Williams Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8:30 pm

Full Throttle – Sidney Saloon – Sidney, IL – 9 pm

Feb 2 – Blues Jam – I&I Stateline Tavern – Danville, IL – 2 pm

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

Feb 15 – Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – Winner's Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 8:30 pm

Mar 2 – Blues Jam – I&I Stateline Tavern – Danville, IL – 2 pm

Mar 5 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm

Mar 7 – Susan Williams w/Crazy Johnny Band – Urbana VFW – Urbana – 7 pm

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Brackins Blues Club – Maryville, TN – 9 pm

Mar 22 – Susan Williams Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8 pm

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Sophie's – Clinton, IL – 9 pm