



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

July 2012

Friday Night at the Orpheum By Sandy Hannum

PCBS enjoyed a lively crowd at the Orpheum Theater for our family programming on Friday night of the Blues, Brews and BBQs Festival. The theater was surprisingly comfortable, in spite of the intensely high temperature outside and the lack of AC inside. We had a large fan going in each corner, and two water coolers, thanks to David Adcock. We definitely beat the heat.



Girls making instruments

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Kids were immediately drawn to the “make your own instruments” table. Lorri Coey had been stockpiling stuff for weeks that could potentially be made into an instrument, and I added a bunch of junk too. She had two homemade instruments to show the kids that were of a very high caliber: a diddly bow and an utterbot. The diddly bow, built by Bob Paleczny, was amplified. It could be played with a slide and a drumstick. Quite a few people tried playing it. The utterbot was made by Lorri from a glass bottle with the bottom cut off and a rubber glove filled with water attached to the bottom.



Ashley Howard helping at the instrument table

Photo courtesy of Jim Hannum

The kids came up with some amazingly creative instruments, some of which took a great deal of effort. They made rainsticks and shakers of all types, and a few “stringed” instruments with rubber bands. I was blown away by one girl who made several tiny shakers from two bottlecaps taped together with beads in the middle. Then she created a whole string of the tiny shakers. Wow.

Before our musical presentation started, I was amazed to see Jacob Barton make a surprise appearance. He just happens to be the only known virtuoso of the utterbot. (See YouTube) He is also the guy who showed Lorri how to make hers. He literally stopped everyone in their tracks with a stunning rendition of “Summertime” on the utterbot. Ashley Howard made the comment that she now felt as if the utterbot was the perfect instrument for that song. It sounded so “swampy” and down home.

At this point in the evening Rich got up and introduced himself and the PCBS, and got the official program started. The Garden Hills Strummers took the stage, with their teacher, Abby Heras. Ashley Howard introduced the various songs. The children performed four blues songs,

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mostly with guitar chording. In one song four of the Strummers finger picked a blues progression. There were also singers in the group who took turns soloing. The GH Strummers were amazingly poised and put on a great show for all of us.



Abby Heras & The Garden Hills Strummers

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

And then, for something completely different, recorded blues music started playing, and cool dancing started happening in the front of the theater. BluesCentral was getting ready to do their thing, and was getting other people interested too. When they had a critical mass, they stopped and said, “Hey, do you want to learn some Blues dancing?” Those of us who joined in on the lesson loved it. It is a good way to add another dimension to your enjoyment of the Blues. If you’re like me, and find it hard to sit still, this is just the ticket.

Thanks to David Adcock and Lorri Coey for making the arrangements for the Friday night programming. The variety in the program was terrific, and I think everyone had a wonderful time! Ashley Howard was a great help with the kids, and PCBS is grateful for her fabulous work in the Blues in the Schools program. We appreciate Abby Heras coming out here with her students, and we are looking forward to working with her in the coming year.

The Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQs Festival: Words from Blues Lovers on the Street by Sandy Hannum

This column contains a mix of comments gathered from PCBS members who were randomly polled at the Blues Fest at different points in time.

About John Nemeth, Lorri Coey said, “I love this guy. The band is high energy, and gets the crowd involved. They are playing Blues!” She also mentioned that she knows

that Josh Spence likes this band. In fact, it is very easy to see a similarity in style between The Sugar Prophets and John Nemeth.



John Nemeth

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

When Jim Hendricks was asked to mention what music he had enjoyed most so far, he also mentioned John Nemeth. He noted, “They have good energy and are uptempo. I like that kind of rockin’ blues.” Jim’s quirky sense of humor came out when he told me what he really likes about this blues festival – “the lemon shakeup booth!” “It stands out because you know exactly what it is and what they’re selling.”

Other bands that were cited by this informal poll were Alex Jenkins & the Bombers by Greg Altstetter, and Moreland and Arbuckle, mentioned by both Tony Odendahl and Greg. According to Greg, Moreland and Arbuckle have a “Missouri blues” style that he likes. David Adcock joked that on Friday night The Steepwater Band had literally “knocked him out.” That is, he actually passed out during their performance after becoming dangerously dehydrated! No doubt, David was not the only casualty of the extreme heat on Friday. Those water misters were a great addition.

Dennis Wismer was looking forward to hearing Lightnin’ Malcolm and the Nick Moss grand finale. “Malcolm is one of the best guitarists to be found in any musical genre at this time. The level of energy of his ‘jook duos’ is simply amazing. Nick Moss has also assembled a veritable feast of musicians to share the main stage and close out the fest with him.” Comments texted in late on Saturday from roving reporter, Dennis Wismer – “Seen in the crowd for Malcolm – Tom Duncanson, Mary Clark, Michael Ledbetter from Nick Moss band, Deak Harp, Bob, Lorri and moi. Malcolm blues in the joynt Mississippi style with J.J. Wilburn. Great tributes to Junior Kimbrough
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and Jack Johnson. Tom Roberts of Terre Haute said “better this year due to more space.”



Nick Moss & Friends in Finale

Photo courtesy of Bob Paleczny

Perry Davidson told Bob Paleczny that he was pleased that attendance was just as heavy this year as last, although it seemed less crowded. The people were just more spread out. Bob enjoyed meeting and talking with all the people who came here from out of town, especially those from other radio stations. One of these was Mark Pieczynski, a Blues DJ from KNON in Dallas. Mark spent quite a bit of time hanging out at the PCBS tent. He happens to be a big fan of Kilborn Alley and the Sugar Prophets.

Regarding the venue, Both Bob Paleczny and Greg mentioned that they like the arrangement of the vendor booths better in Champaign. Bob likes the fact that the vendors can hear the music better in this set up. Greg says that although he thought the CIB stage was too close to the Main stage, in general Champaign was probably a better venue than Urbana. One thing in particular which is an improvement is that the vendors are spread out well. In Urbana there was a problem when all the craft beers were sold only inside 88 Broadway. It just didn't work well. Greg believes that more people are tasting the craft beers now that they are more readily available. Greg also likes the placement of the PCBS tent. If there had been a few more information vendors on our row it would have attracted more attention to our society.

Even though I live in Urbana, I have to admit that Champaign seems to be a better venue for the Blues, Brews and BBQs Festival. There was so much more open space, and a more interesting arrangement of stages, booths, etc. than was possible in previous years. The PCBS tent was well situated facing the main stage, and

close to our own venue in the Orpheum Children's Museum. I really enjoyed the time I spent in the Orpheum seeing our PCBS programming. I just missed The Diva & The Dude, and heard the last bit of their last song as I was coming out of the Orpheum. Damn! Bob got a good picture though.



The Diva & The Dude

Photo by Bob Paleczny

The bands I did see and loved were the Chicago Rhythm & Blues Kings, with awesome guest guitar player Rob Blaine, and the always amazing and passionate Hurricane Ruth!



Hurricane Ruth

Photo by Bob Paleczny

Thanks to all the PCBS members who commented on the Fest for this article or sent photos.

Out & About! By Rich Cibelli

When I found out that Alex Jenkins and The Bombers were going to appearing as part of the Downtown Danville Summer Sounds Concert Series, and the weather on this Friday night was perfect for a night of music, my wife Sherry and I hopped in the car and headed east on Interstate 74.

Located at Temple Plaza in Downtown Danville, and sponsored by the Danville, Inc and the area AMBUCS, the concert series has been going on for several years now featuring local bands of all genres. This night however was geared towards rhythm and blues.

Alex Jenkins and The Bombers, a PCBS supporting band, was a three-piece band for this show. They performed a variety of their own music and several blues standards during their three hour show, for the pleasure of several hundred in attendance.



Alex Jenkins & The Bombers in Danville

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

The band features Alex Jenkins on guitar and vocals with brother Tim Jenkins on drums and vocals and Mike Crisp on bass. Sometimes the band is joined by a sax player,

but not this time around. If you stay up with what's happening musically, you'll see that this band has been getting some much deserved attention around East Central Illinois.

With a brand new release and an appearance at the year's Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQ festival under their belt, plus an upcoming appearance at this year Illinois State Fair, hard work and determination are starting to pay off for this band.

Growing up in and around the Chicago area, brothers Alex and Tim Jenkins were exposed to music early on in their lives and have made it a point to keep it in their family to this day.

For Alex, it was the sounds of musicians performing on the famous Maxwell Street that got him hooked. During his years of performing and perfecting his guitar playing he's had the opportunity to play a bunch of shows down in Nashville and even out in Los Angeles.

Meanwhile younger brother Tim was listening to the sounds of rhythm and blues on some of Chicago's biggest radio stations as a teenager and decided he wanted to be part of the action too. So he started playing drums and just like his brother has performed in bands locally and played in a band that toured down in Nashville and the Memphis area as well.

Several years ago the band even took part and competed in the International Blues Challenge. To read more about the history of the band and to see where they might play next go to

<http://www.reverbNation.com/alexjenkinsthebombers>.

In the meantime, make some time in your schedule to go hear Alex Jenkins and The Bombers some time soon. This is one up and coming band with a whole lot of talent and a great appreciation of rhythm and blues music.

Through These Eyes By Rich Cibelli

Two years ago a small group gathered at a local restaurant to discuss the idea of forming a blues society. At the time, we didn't know what to expect. However, the results of our actions that day became the foundation for what is now The Prairie Crossroads Blues Society. Now some two years later and with much success under our wings I have decided that it's time for me to step down as president and let others lead. This change will take effect on July 1, 2012. You should know that this is not an easy decision, but one that I know in my heart is right.

I plan to continue to support our society and will do so by assuming the role of general board member and marketing chair. That said, I want to thank each and every one of you for the opportunity to serve with you in this organization, for there is no greater reward than working alongside others who share the same vision. You should

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be aware that our treasurer and vice president have also decided to step down after serving for the last two years.

In keeping with the goal of moving forward, decisions were made at our last meeting to create new officers of the board on an interim basis, and the following members agreed to step up and take on the additional responsibilities. I am proud to announce that Bob Paleczny, who is our Entertainment Chair and part of our web team, has agreed to serve as interim President. Greg Altstetter, who has been serving as our PCBS Secretary, will step in as our interim Vice President. Sherry Cibelli, our Membership Chair, has agreed to take on the responsibility of interim Treasurer. Lorri Coey, who is part of our web team, will step into the position of interim Secretary.

We are in the process of forming a Search Committee which will take the lead on filling these critical positions in our organization. I want to congratulate each new member of the Executive Board and wish you the best in your new positions.

It is with much sadness that I also inform you that our Education Chair David Adcock also announced that he is stepping down from his position. Adcock was just appointed to a new position in the education community that will demand much of his time.

I know it seems that we are making a lot of changes. However, you should not be worried that they will somehow derail our efforts as we move into our third year of operation. We are delighted with our interim officers and are ready to continue building toward our vision. There are good days ahead for PCBS and there is much more work to be accomplished. Therefore it's important that you continue to bring your energy and ideas to our events as well as monthly meetings.

In the months ahead our organization will need your help to make sure our events and activities run smoothly and successfully. Once again you will be asked to volunteer your time. I know when the time comes you'll step up just like you have in the past two years.

Some time ago I read something on Facebook that really got my attention. It was written by a long-time friend who I had the pleasure of helping at The American Cancer Society. His words read something like this "It's not the event, but instead the effort you put into it."

If we all think about it, those words will go a long way in moving our blues society ahead and beyond. I hope you agree.



A Note of Thanks By Sandy Hannum

This is a note of thanks to our departing officers. Hard work and dedication always pay off, and you can see that in where the PCBS is in just two short years.

Rich! You have been the face of PCBS and have done a great job of getting our name out there in all forms of media. People know who we are. We have a network of alliances and supporters all over the surrounding area because of your good work. We are a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation, and are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. You even forged an ongoing connection with Alligator records. The PCBS has been able to get honorary members Honeyboy Edwards, Hubert Sumlin, B.B. King, and our own local greats Keith Harden and Candy Foster. It is not easy being the first President of an organization – everything has to be created from scratch. You put a lot of passion and energy into your work and made lots of good things happen. Thank you for all of this!

Steve! You created a stunning logo, which we proudly display on shirts and caps. You have been participating in the Entertainment Committee as well. You have helped out with the IBC and other events, and also donated art works as prizes. I know that your work requires you to travel a great deal, and understand your need to step back. Thank you for all you have done for the PCBS!

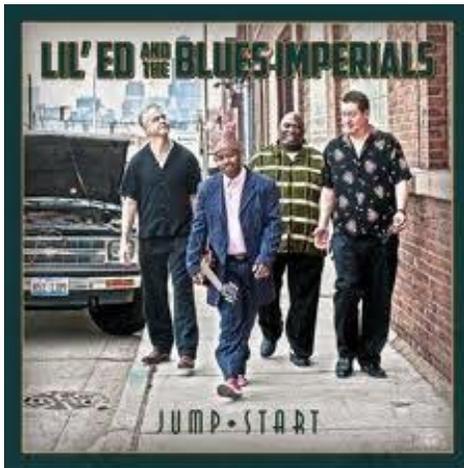
Teri! It has been great to have a CPA as first Treasurer of the organization. You got us going on the right track. I have appreciated your good advice on all things fiscal and otherwise during our meetings. I know that you also work on the Entertainment Committee. Thank you for all your good work!

Needless to say, a great big thank you goes out to those who have stepped up to take the interim Executive Board positions: Bob Paleczny, Greg Altstetter, Sherry Cibelli, and Lorri Coey. As you well know, these four people have already been contributing a tremendous amount of time
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and effort to the PCBS. They have helped us get to where we are today. I think we are in very good hands with them taking the lead.

Meanwhile, if you are a member who has been hanging out on the fringe, I encourage you to get a little bit more involved. It really is much more fun being in the center of things. Don't be shy. Dip your toe in. Sure there is work to be done, but it is FUN work, all revolving around the music you love. Dive right in. The water is fine!

Lil' Ed and The Blues Imperials
"Jump Start"
Reviewed by Rich Cibelli



Get out your boogie shoes and get ready to party the night away with Lil' Ed and The Blues Imperials and their new Alligator Records release "Jump Start."

"If You Were Mine," starts out the ninth release from this Chicago-based blues band and features some impressive slide work from the man of many hats "Lil' Ed Williams." Not to be outdone, Kelly Littleton provides a steady backbeat.

"Musical Mechanical Electrical Man" keeps things moving right along with its shuffle beat and leads right into this release's third track simply titled "Kick Me to the Curb."

"Jump Right In," the seventh track on this release shows how versatile this band can be as it swings right along without missing a beat.

On "Life Is A Journey," the band is joined by Marty Sammon whose perfectly placed work on organ adds a special touch to this easy flowing song about sharing time with someone else.

On "If You Change Your Mind," you can hear what appears to be a Muddy Waters influenced song as Lil' Ed, fires on all cylinders showcasing his excellent slide guitar work.

Rounding out "Jump Start," three more titles are featured that once again showcase this band's ability to change tempo and time signature to fit into any situation. For example, "No Fast Food," is a swinging tune with an appeal to one's food choices.

For those familiar with Lil' Ed And The Blues Imperials, the quality sounds and arrangements on "Jump Start" should not surprise you as this band has been tearing up the blues circuit for several years now. Formed back in the late 80's, Lil' Ed And The Blues Imperials have also seen much success after going from unknowns to playing festivals and clubs around the world and building a reputation for their take no prisoners attitude and all out high energy shows. If you've witnessed the band in person you know what I'm talking about. The band includes James "Pookie" Young on bass, while Michael Garrett handles guitar duties alongside Lil' Ed, and Kelly Littleton on drums. Together these guys put out a sound that is truly one-of-a-kind down to the last note of each song they perform.

But success didn't come easy for the band. In the early days they were playing anywhere and everywhere plus holding down day jobs at the same time. Money wasn't that good either. But the band didn't give up and word starting getting around that there was something special about this group of musicians and their no holds barred shows. The band eventually caught the eye of Alligator Records President, Bruce Iglauer. And as they say, the rest is history. Moreover, add in the debut release of "Roughhousin" back in 1986 and this band was heading in the right direction and gaining mass appeal. Now some years later, plus several more releases and thousands of shows under their belt "Jump Start," serves as a fine recipe with all the right ingredients.

"Jump Start," is by all accounts filled with plenty of fantastic music by a seasoned band whose talent really shows. In the days ahead I think it will get plenty of rotation and will stand out as another example of this band's ability to deliver a winner just as they have for so many years.

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 will be playing at Ain't Nothin' But the Blues Festival in Bloomington on July 21st.

Black Magic Johnson will be playing on July 28th at Fat Jack's in Bloomington, IL.

The Diva and The Dude will host an After Party Blues Jam at Memphis on Main at 2am on July 1st after the Champaign Blues, Brews and BBQs.

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

Hurricane Ruth will be playing at Just One More in Decatur on the 1st, Walker's Bluff Winery in Cartersville on the 7th, The Iron Post in Urbana on the 13th, the UCP Music Festival in Springfield on the 15th, Ain't Nothin' But

the Blues Festival in Bloomington on the 20th, and the Chatham Sweetcorn Festival on the 21st.

Jr. & The Blues Rockers is one of our newest member bands. We welcome them to the PCBS!

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band will be playing at Ain't Nothin' But the Blues Festival in Bloomington on July 21st.

King's Highway is playing at Winner's Lounge in Bloomington on July 28.

Matthew Curry & The Fury will be playing a benefit for St. Judes in Bloomington on July 7th. They are also playing at Memphis on Main on the 13th, Kicks in Towanda on the 14th, Live at the 5 Spot in Peoria on the 20th, and the Prairie Dog Blues Festival in Prairie du Chien, WI on the 27th.

The Painkillers will be playing at The Iron Post on July 14, and at the Tuscan Hills Winery in Effingham on the 28th.

The Sugar Prophets play a regular blues jams at Cowboy Monkey on the first Thursday of the month. Other gigs this month include Wild Dog Saloon in Decatur on the 5th, the Tuscola 4th of July Celebration on the 6th, Alto Vineyards in Champaign on the 7th, and Doherty's in Decatur on the 12th. Then the Prophets will travel east and perform in the Magnolia Theater in Eastman, GA on the 28th.

Susan Williams Band is playing at the American Legion in Danville on the 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, at The Pink House in Ogden on the 7th, at Huber's on the 21st, and at Jim & Jo's Bar and Grill in Danville Tolono on the 27th.

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

Timmy D & Blind Justice is playing at the Outdoor Show in Effingham on July 27th.

Tombstone Bullet is playing at the International Friendship Gardens in Michigan City, IN on the 7th, the Long Bridge Golf Course in Springfield on the 13th, Boone's Saloon in Springfield on the 14th, and the Chatham Sweetcorn Festival on the 21st.

Prairie Crossroads Board of Directors

Interim President	Bob Paleczny
Interim Vice President	Greg Altstetter
Interim Treasurer	Sherry Cibelli
Interim Secretary	Lorri Coey
At-large Members	Rich Cibelli Sandy Hannum Tony Odendahl

PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on July 18 in room 215 of the Champaign Public Library.

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 July 27. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

Editor:	Sandy Hannum
Writers for This Issue:	Rich Cibelli Sandy Hannum
Tech Consultant:	Bob Paleczny and BP Computers
Mojo Tech:	Sherry Cibelli

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

Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Wolf! That Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQs Fest was the best ever.

Yeah, Muddy. The rain didn't put a damper on things—it just cooled everybody off.

Uh huh. But the after parties were totally HOT! Heh heh

EVENTS

Jul 1 – The Sugar Prophets – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQs After Party – Cowboy Monkey – 12 am
The Diva & The Dude – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQs After Party Blues Jam – Memphis on Main – 2 am
Matthew Curry & the Fury – Champaign Blues, Brews & BBQs After Party Blues Jam – The High Dive – 2 am
Mississippi Valley Blues Fest – Davenport, IA – 12 pm
Rita Chiarelli and a Blues documentary – Art Theater – Champaign – 1 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Just One More – Decatur, IL – 5 pm
Jul 5 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
Jul 6 – The Sugar Prophets – Tuscola 4th of July Celebration – Tuscola, IL – 12 pm
Big Creek Guitar Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 5 pm
Jul 7 – Matthew Curry & The Fury – St. Jude's Benefit – Tree House Parking Lot – Bloomington, IL – 4 pm
Tombstone Bullet – International Friendship Gardens – Michigan City, IN – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Walker's Bluff Winery – Cartersville, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Susan Williams Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8:30 pm

Jul 12 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm
Jul 13 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm
Tombstone Bullet – Long Bridge Golf Course – Springfield, IL – 6 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Hurricane Ruth – The Iron Post – Urbana – 8 pm
Jul 14 – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm
Tombstone Bullet – Boone’s Saloon – Springfield, IL – 7 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Kicks – Towanda, IL – 8 pm
Jul 15 – Hurricane Ruth – UCP Music Festival – Springfield, IL – 7 pm
Jul 18 – The Blues Deacons – Crestview Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Jul 19 – Bart Walker Band – Blues in Central Park – Decatur, IL – 7 pm
Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
Jul 20 – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 5 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Live at the 5 Spot! – Peoria, IL – 5:30 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm
Black Magic Johnson – Walnut St. Winery – Rochester, IL – 7 pm
Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
Jul 21 – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 12 pm
Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 12 pm
Tombstone Bullet – Chatham Sweetcorn Festival – Chatham, IL – 12 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band - Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues Festival – Bloomington, IL – 5:30 pm
The Blues Deacons – Baxter’s Bar & Grill – Bloomington, IL – 6 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Chatham Sweetcorn Festival – Chatham, IL – 6 pm
Susan Williams Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
Jul 24 – Laurie Morvan Band – Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen’s Club – Bourbonnais, IL – 7 pm
Jul 25 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Wheatfield Park – Urbana – 6:30 pm
Jul 26 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
Jul 27 – Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 5 pm

Matthew Curry & The Fury – Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 6:30 pm
Susan Williams Band – Jim & Jo’s Bar and Grill – Danville, IL – 8 pm
Timmy D. & Blind Justice – Outdoor Show – Effingham, IL – 8:30 pm
Jul 28 – Prairie Dog Blues Festival – St. Feriole Island – Prairie du Chien, WI – 12 pm
Black Magic Johnson – Fat Jack’s – Bloomington, IL – 3 pm
Matthew Curry & The Fury – Merchant Street Festival – Kankakee, IL – 6:30 pm
The Painkillers – Tuscan Hills Winery – Effingham, IL – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Magnolia Theater – Eastman, GA – 7 pm
King’s Highway – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 9 pm
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
Timmy D. & Blind Justice – Gino’s Place – Danville, IL – 8:30 pm
Aug 4 – The Sugar Prophets – Decatur Celebration – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm
The Blues Deacons – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Aug 8 – The Painkillers – King Park – Urbana – 6 pm
Aug 9 – Susan Williams Band – American Legion – Danville, IL – 7 pm
Aug 10 – 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 14 – The Oakwood Boys – Kickapoo Landing – Oakwood, IL – 5:30 pm
Tombstone Bullet – Illinois State Fair Grounds – Miller Tent – Springfield, IL – 8 pm
Hurricane Ruth – Illinois State Fair Grounds – Miller Tent – Springfield, IL – 9:30 pm
Aug 15 – 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 – Susan Williams Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

Aug 18 – Susan Williams Band – Junkyard Dogs Show – Georgetown, IL – 6 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 – 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 Tomatoe – Urbana Sweetcorn Fest. – 9:15 pm

Aug 25 – Hurricane Ruth – Old Capitol Blues & BBQs – Springfield, 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 – Hurricane Ruth – Hill Prairie Winery – Oakford, IL – 2 pm

Aug 31 – 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 – 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 – Big Creek Guitar Band – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

Sep 15 – Hurricane Ruth – Curve Inn – Springfield, IL – 6 pm

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

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

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

Summer and Fall Blues Festivals in the Midwest

Jul 12-14 – Kalamazoo Blues Fest – Kalamazoo, MI – kvba.org

Jul 20-21 – Ain’t Nothin’ But The Blues – Bloomington, IL
AintNothinButTheBlues.com

Jul 27-28 – Prairie Dog Blues Fest – Prairie du Chien, WI
prairiedogblues.com

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 Tomatoe 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 – West Helena, AR
bluesandheritagefest.com

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

Find more at www.BluesFestivalGuide.com