



Inclusive - a newsletter for the
Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

June 2015 Edition

VIEWS

Written by: PCBS President Dennis Wismer

Another interesting month for Prairie Crossroads Blues Society. It is a transitional stage as old friends go on different paths and new friends assume roles within our entity. One thing constant is the music, musicians and fans of Blues music. We are fortunate in Champaign –Urbana and nearby communities like Danville, Rantoul and Monticello to name a few to have an incredible array of musicians with diverse musical talents. Our location also makes it easy for national touring acts to bring even more quality blues music to local venues.

Recently Bentleys hosted a Blues Jam with a little help from PCBS. Andrew Duncanson, of Kilborn Alley, Susan Williams of the Susan Williams Band and Aaron “A- Plus” Wilson also a member of Kilborn Alley hosted the event. If I had to guess 30 musicians filled Bentleys Beer Garden with music while a packed house enjoyed a beautiful night of music.

Bentley’s has been instrumental in bringing great music to fans of blues and new music In general. Manager Angela Moubry and staff have always been welcoming and willing to offer a variety of artists a chance to perform.

Another event Bentleys hosts is a night of music sponsored by our friends at C.U. Bands and Fans. It is a monthly showcase and features new artists giving fans and musicians an opportunity to perform and hear new live music. C.U. Bands and Fans does a great job of providing information on musicians and shows with a strong marketing presence and positive and helpful website and Facebook page.

Terry Miller and Zack Widup in particular have been incredibly helpful to PCBS in getting the word out on our events and they are a constant sight in the local music scene. Their photography and sharing of information enriches the music and Blues scene and it is always comforting to know their support will be there.

PCBS is looking forward to another Blues Jam tentatively scheduled for June 24th, the Blues Brews and BBQ’s festival June 26 and 27, and a few more events still being put together. Please check our calendar, website and Facebook page to stay updated.

Consider joining or volunteering as we have many opportunities for Blues Fans to be a part in our society. Information is always available online or at our events.

I am going to wrap this up and wish you all a Great Summer filled with Fun, Friends and Music. Hey Hey The Blues is Alright.

 **We need your help!** 

The Prairie Crossroads Blues Society has been serving the community for more than four and a half years promoting live Blues music, preserving the heritage of Blues, and educating our young people about the Blues. Perhaps you have stayed on the margins of these efforts and do not realize how satisfying and fun it is to be directly involved. If so, it is time for you to find out!

Several of our board members are stepping down in June and we need some of you to step forward to help run the society. Don’t be shy! Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is a great group of people to work with and an interesting way to get to know the various Blues musicians in this area. The positions that will be open are listed below. Can you commit some of your time to take over one of these jobs for the next year? Those who are leaving positions will be glad to provide some orientation to new volunteers.

Open positions:

Education Committee Chair: Makes arrangements to provide Blues in the Schools programs to local schools, and Blues workshops for children in libraries, Boys and Girls Club, etc.

Marketing Chair: Publicizes upcoming events for the society through a variety of media outlets, and promotes the mission of PCBS in general

Web maintenance Chair: Keeps the PCBS website up to date by posting the calendar, meeting minutes, special events, articles of interest, and information about member bands. May also use Facebook for interaction with members.

If you are interested in helping to lead Prairie Crossroads Blues Society, please send your name to Greg Altstetter (galtstet@yahoo.com) along with a note about the position you would be willing to take on. Thank you for considering joining us in serving PCBS!!



CD Reviews and News

Written by James "Skyy Dobro" Walker

Joakim Tinderholt and His Band – *You Gotta Do More*

Big H Records



www.facebook.com/joakimtinderholt

11 tracks; 30:02 minutes; suggested

Styles: 1950s Styled R&B and Blues; Rock and Roll; Electric Blues Guitar-West Coast style

In the year 2000, Atlanta's Sean Costello, at age 20, broke nationally with an extraordinary album, *Cuttin' In*. It featured a young man playing guitar and singing in 1950s retro-style R&B and Rock and Roll. Costello was not the only artist in 2000 playing these styles; he was just the most inventive, most creative, and most exciting with his singing and his guitar runs, especially the up-tempo ones.

Fifteen years later, another young man (still in his 20s) is playing guitar and singing 1950s, retro-style R&B and Rock and Roll. Norway's Joakim Tinderholt is not the only artist in 2015 playing these styles, but he is just one of the most inventive, most creative, and most exciting in his singing and his guitar runs, especially the up-tempo ones (think Hollywood Fats). Considered one of Norway's finest performers, Oslo's best Blues shouter is a force that is kicking tail in the garnering-attention department.

According to Håkon Høye of Big H Records in an email to me, "Joakim has always been an admirer of Sean Costello and his music." Indeed, one will find three cover songs on *You Gotta Do More* that also appeared as covers on Costello's *Cuttin' In* album. Høye reported, "The cover songs you mention have been part of Joakim's live show for years...." As it turns out, Tinderholt has been influenced by many of the masters. Høye continued, "He's [Joakim] also a big fan of T-Bone [Walker], B.B. and Freddie King + the whole West Coast scene with Lynwood Slim, Hollywood Fats Band, Kid Ramos, etc. ... and Rock n Roll: Nick Curran, Nikki Hill, etc. He [Joakim] is Chris 'Kid' Andersen's [younger] cousin, and I (Håkon) and Kid used to play and hang out together before he [Kid] left for the States with Terry Hanck."

While this debut CD only clocks at 30 minutes, the from-the-gut-and-heart excitement is undeniable. There are 11 songs; only one is more than three minutes long, which was a 1950s standard. Tinderholt does not copy, but instead translates, the music that was created before even his mother was born. The songs are a mix of originals and obscure cover favorites from his live set. There are inspirations from the Rock & Roll of Little Richard to the Blues of Otis

Rush and to the beats of Bo Diddley. In the liner notes written by Kid Andersen, he says, "I'll put him and his band, and this record, up against anything going on in the Blues world today."

Performing at high standards in expressing a foreign musical language that they obviously treasure are: William "Bill" Troiani – bass and back-up vocals, Håkon Høye – producer, second guitars, back-up vocals, Robert Alexander Pettersen – drums and percussion, and Kjell Magne Lauritzen – piano.

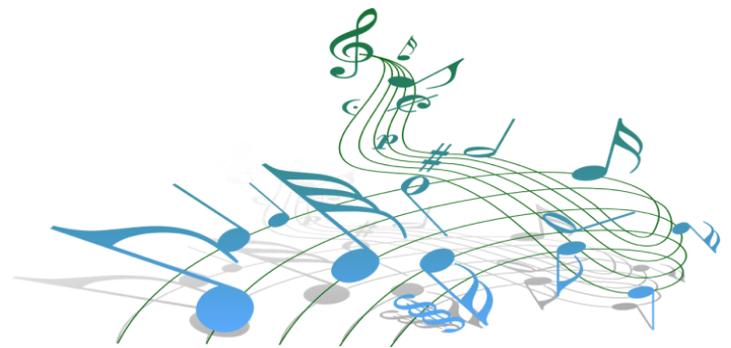
The album kicks off wisely with an original song, "Stumblin' & Fumblin'," which joyously informs listeners to the direction of the album. Tinderholt's wonderful vocals lament how he (the protagonist) has fallen on hard times. Guest sax player Kasper Skullerud Vaernes helps create a full supporting sound. Joakim gets bursts of a stinging-shimmer-tremolo sound from his guitar that is a highlight for this fanatic of the instrument.

"I Need a Woman ('Cause I'm a Man)" showcases Joakim's finest West Coast style electric guitar as he picks and bends single notes, over chording. The song swings with tinkling piano plus solid bass and drums. The highlight is Tinderholt's singing. His plea is convincing without being corny. His vocal power is intense but, uniquely, not loud. And, his range is incredible – even shifting into slight falsetto in the final line. Another original where upbeat and swing rhythm is dominant is found in "Another Rainy Day."

Fat toned harp courtesy of studio guest Arne Rasmussen highlight the set's 1961 Bo Diddley cover, "You Don't Love Me." "Gold Top" is a popping, guitar-led instrumental composed by Tinderholt. The title track, "You Gotta Do More," is good old Rock and Roll written by Høye and Troiani. Baritone sax from KS Vaernes highlights C. Sheffield's "It's Your Voodoo Working" - a track full double edged sword misery and pleasure. Willie Dixon's 1954 song, "I Don't Care Who Knows" is given a delightful full-ensemble treatment with tinkling piano, crashing cymbals, pocket bass, tenor saxophone, and Håkon Høye shows off on lead guitar while Joakim exclaims vocals of declarative love.

The final three tracks are the aforementioned covers done also by Sean Costello. As with the rest of the CD, there is inspiration without imitation as Tinderholt makes each song his own. "Those Lonely, Lonely Nights" from Earl King and Johnny Vincent is a get your baby in your arms on the dancefloor kind of arrangement. Otis Rush's misery-filled "Double Trouble" is played slightly faster than most versions but with all the original passion and more stinging-shimmer-tremolo guitar. Costello's influence can be felt most strongly in "Little" Bob Camille's "I Got Loaded" from 1964 Louisiana. It was a hit party song for Camille, and the Norwegian's version should fare the same.

Joakim Tinderholt and His Band are already big in Norway; bet on this being a breakout record on the American scene!



8th Annual Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival



The 8th annual Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival is coming up later this month and this year the festival is featuring all female lead singers. You'll be able to catch local bands, West Coast, Detroit, Chicago and Texas-based groups as well as national and award-winning touring acts. It all takes place in downtown Champaign on Friday, **June 26** and Saturday, **June 27**.



Be sure to stop by our booth at the Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival. We'll have another gift basket to raffle off this year with some great stuff inside!!

Here's a rundown of the current Blues, Brews and BBQ schedule and a little bio information to get you started.

Friday, June 26

No Solid State - 4:30-5:30

No Solid State is new group from right here in Champaign, a side project of Kayla Brown and mad man guitarist Luke Wilson.

No Solid State plays dark moody blues that haunt.

reverbnation.com/kaylabrown

Upshot - 5:50-7:20



Local band Upshot describes their musical style as a touch of rock, a dash of blues, a pinch of soul, n' a heap o' funk. This genre-defying band released their second CD, *Bring Bourbon*, in March of this year, which is a long way to come for a band that started out as college friends just jamming. But they've been putting their time in since 2007 and are heading to Chicago for a 4th of July performance on Navy Pier.

This high energy group includes Sara Hall (Vocals/Guitar), Matt Zimmerman (Lead Guitar/Vocals), Jared Manker (Bass/Guitar), Seth Anders (Sax/Vocals) and Peety Thomas (Drums).

upshotrock.com

Adrianna Marie - 7:45-8:15

Adrianna Marie and Her Groovecutters are a West Coast-based band whose latest work has covered post World War II hits such as "I Want A Tall Skinny Papa" and "Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby."

The Groovecutters include L.A. Jones (guitar), Dave DeForest (upright bass), Ron Felton (drums), Lee Thornberg (trumpet and trombone), Ron Dziubla (sax) and Larry "Big House" David (keys and harmonica).

Adrianna got started young, singing professionally at age 10, and says she fell in love with music the old-fashioned way, sneaking into New York City clubs in her teens.

Marty Gunther of Blues Blast Magazine, had this to say about Adrianna Marie and Her Groovecutter's 2014 release, *Double Crossing Blues*: "If you're addicted to the sounds of the late '40s and early '50s like I am, you'll absolutely love this disc."

facebook.com/adrianna.marie

Sena Ehrhardt - 8:40-10:10



Sena Ehrhardt has been described as one of the freshest and most dynamic emerging young voices on the blues scene today. "Crooning softly or wailing with the best of them," according to Living Blues, "Sena Ehrhardt has a bright, soulful sound, and she doesn't hold back – she can go from sultry and coaxing to gritty and gutsy in an instant."

Ehrhardt grew up in a blues-soaked environment in Minneapolis courtesy of her parents. A pivotal moment came when she was in the audience for one of Luther Allison's final performances. "His ability to connect through music with every member of that audience, each with their own stories, struggles and victories, was stunning to witness. In that moment the idea of being a singer ceased to be a choice for me and instead became a calling."

Ehrhardt's latest CD, *Live My Life*, includes Sena Ehrhardt (vocals), Cole Allen (guitar and vocals), St. Paul Peterson (bass), Rick Roussell (bass), Michael Bland (drums), Paul Peterson (percussion and drums), Bruce McCabe (piano, Wurlitzer and organ), Jimi "Primetime" Smith (rhythm guitar) and Smokin' Joe Kubek (slide guitar).

senaehrhardt.com/

Carolyn Wonderland - 10:30-Midnight



More than one reviewer mentions Janis Joplin when describing Carolyn Wonderland's vocals, energy and "take-no-prisoners" approach to the stage.

Wonderland is a multi-talented musician playing guitar, trumpet, and piano as well as being able to whistle, yes whistle.

The Austin Chronicle has called her the reigning queen of Austin blues and the band's latest CD, *Live Texas Trio*, was recorded live at Antone's in Austin as well as at clubs in Dallas and Houston.

This Texas-based trio consists of Rob Hooper on drums, Cole El-Saleh on keyboards, and Carolyn Wonderland on guitar and vocals.

carolynwonderland.com/

Saturday, June 27

Laura Rain and the Caesars - 2:40-4:10

Laura Rain and the Caesars have been described as retro, modern soul, reclaiming the Detroit soul music legacy.

Blues Junction's David Mac said their latest CD, *Electrified*, "is a super charged soul shot that generates enough energy to light a small town and ignite a fire under the ass of all of its inhabitants."

Electrified earned Laura Rain and the Caesars six Detroit Music Award nominations this year.

Laura Rain and the Caesars includes George Friend (guitar), Phil Hale (keyboards) and Ron Pangborn (drums) as well as classically trained Laura Rain (vocals).

If you're looking for a soul shot, don't miss this one.

laurarain.net

Joanna Connor - 5:00-6:30

Joanna Connor moved to Chicago in 1985 to pursue her love of Chicago blues and she has since become a staple in the music scene there. Joanna covers the range of modern blues with what has been described as "searing slide guitar work."

"She brings a revved-up rock flavor to the blues with a desire to move the music forward, not just embalm it," according to The Boston Globe.

Joanna has worked with Dion Payton, A.C. Reed, The New Bluebloods and is currently serving as the house band at Kingston Mines. She has released CDs on both Blind Pig and Ruf Records.

joannaconnorband.com/

Janiva Magness - 6:50-8:20



If you haven't heard of Janiva Magness, you haven't been paying attention. She won the Contemporary Blues Female Artist category at the 2015 Blues Music Awards ceremony in May and that was her sixth BMA.

Magness sings from her soul and her songs and voice reflect the sometimes rocky path her life has taken. Magness is master of the lowdown blues who is equally at ease surrounded by funk or soul sounds. She invigorates every song with a brutal honesty," Blues Revue said "a blues interpreter of the highest

rank...punchy and tough...swaggering, incendiary vocal performances.”

The band includes Janiva Magness (vocals), Zach Zunis (guitar), Gary Davenport (bass), Jim Alfredson (Hammond B3 and keys) and

Matt Tecu (drums).

janivamagness.com/

Shaun Murphy - 8:40-10:10



Shaun Murphy's musical journey has been an interesting one, filled with many incredible musicians along the way. She started at the first Ann Arbor Blues Fest with a line-up that included Son House, Muddy Waters, BB King, Freddy King, Lightnin' Hopkins, and more. She recorded and toured with icons like Meatloaf, Bob Seger and Eric Clapton. Then, of course, there was Little Feat.

After some 16 years with Little Feat, Murphy decided to get back to where she started and paid homage to Koko Taylor and Etta James on her first solo CD, *Living' The Blues*.

Her latest CD is titled *Loretta* and guitar credits on it include Jack Pearson, (Allman Bros., Greg Allman) Jimi Fiano, (Foghat, Bad Company) and Rob McNelley (Delbert McClinton and Bob Seger). The rest of the line-up is Randy Coleman, (bass and background vocals), George Lilly (drums), Kenneth Michael Cramer (guitar), Mark T. Jordan (keys), Larry Van Loon (keys) and Matt Workman (background vocals).

shaunmurphyband.com/

Ana Popovic - 10:30-Midnight

Ana Popovic is an artist who proves that blues lives and thrives around the world. Popovic was born and raised in Belgrade, listening to her father's blues and soul records and picking up her father's guitar at age 15. Popovic played festivals throughout Europe before coming to Memphis to record her first release for Ruf Records in 2000.

Popovic has been nominated for five Blues Music Awards including Best New Artist of 2003 (the only continental European artist ever nominated in this category).

Blues, powerful vocals, and a hint of jazz. Oh and she plays a mean guitar, too.

Popovic's latest project is a new CD with her father, Milton Popovic, called *Blue Room with Milton Popovic*. The band backing Ana and Milton on this album is Rick Steff (keyboards), Harold Smith (rhythm guitar), Dave Smith (bass) and Steve Potts (drums).

anapopovic.com

THE MAIN STAGE PRESENTED BY COORS LIGHT, U.S. 105.9 & CIB BANK

FRIDAY

4:30-5:30 - No Solid State

5:50-7:20 - Upshot

7:45-8:15 - Adrianna Marie

8:40-10:10 - Sena Ehrhardt

10:30-Midnight - Carolyn Wonderland

SATURDAY

12:50-2:20 - U.S. 105.9 Country Showdown

2:40-4:10 - Laura Rain

4:30-5:00 - Motorcycle Awards Show

5:00-6:30 - Joanna Connor

6:50-8:20 - Janiva Magness

8:40-10:10 - Shaun Murphy

It may be time to renew your PCBS Membership. You can do this on our website using PayPal

www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/member.html

Next meeting of PCBS:

Thursday, June 11, 6:30pm Po'Boys,

202 E University Ave, Urbana, IL 61801

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society



Champaign-Urbana IL

5th Anniversary! Prairie Crossroads Blues Society held its first formational meeting on May 23, 2010 at Jupiter's At The Crossing. In the past five years we've had great fun meeting some awesome blues fans and supporting the blues in East Central Illinois. We're looking forward to even greater things in our next 5 years!!



Executive Board

President - Dennis Wismer

Vice President - Greg Altstetter

Treasurer – Jim Hannum/Zach Widup

Secretary - Lorri Coey

At-Large Board Members

Sandy Hannum - Phil Hult - Tony Odendahl

Committee Chairs

Membership - Phil Hult

Merchandise - Greg Altstetter

Marketing - by Committee

Education - Sandy Hannum

Newsletter Editor - Elaine Schneider

Entertainment - Bob Paleczny

Web Team - Lorri Coey, Bob Paleczny

Corporate Sponsors

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 Eastland Suites

Hohner USA

Louie's Dixie Kitchen & BBQ

Orange Krush Foundation

Samuel Music

Slumberland Furniture

Supervalu

Band Memberships

Back Pack Jones Their CD "Betsy's Kitchen" won our Best Self-Produced CD competition.

Benny Jenkins Bloodline Their CD "Can't Take the Blues" won our PCBS Best Self-Produced CD competition in 2013.

Black Magic Johnson has their new CD, "Walk With You Baby" available from their web site

The Diva and The Dude play regularly throughout the area. Check out their Facebook page for up-to-date information on gigs.

Groove Avenue is one of our newest member bands. They are Joni Dreyer/ Vocals, Bob Watson/ Guitar, Dan Henry/ Bass, Brad Hendricks/ Harmonica, Daniel Casey/ Drums.

Hurricane Ruth released their second CD "Born on the River" in September.

Jackie Scott won a Blues Blast Magazine award in 2010. Check out her website for more on our newest member band jackiescottandthehousewreckers.com

The James Jones Trio recently released their new CD "Tuned In".

Jerry Lee & The Juju Kings were the winners of the PCBS 2012 IBC Band Challenge. Their new CD "Southside of Nowhere" was released in September and is available on their web site.

Jimmy Nick & Don't Tell Mama play frequently throughout the Midwest. They have a CD called "Who Ya Kiddin'."

Kilborn Alley will be played their 15th Anniversary Show on Thursday April 30, 2015 at The Iron Post.

Mary Jo Curry and Tombstone Bullet Tombstone Bullet made a mark during the 2012 International Blues Challenge, being recognized as the fan favorites at their venue and moving forward to the 2012 Beale Street Blues King fan favorite competition.

Matthew Curry and the Fury

<http://www.matthewcurry.com/>

Susan Williams

<http://www.reverbnation.com/susanwilliams>

Upcoming Events

Two PCBS member bands have been selected to play at the **July 17th** Outside at Research Park concert!! The headliner is the ever popular award-winning Kilborn Alley Blues Band. Appearing with Kilborn Alley Blues Band will be Corey Dennison and Gerry Hundt. Kilborn Alley starts at 7:30 p.m.

The opening act for Kilborn Alley Blues Band will be the James Jones Trio. They will start at 6:30 p.m. The free Outside at Research Park concert is in a green area SW of the State Farm Center on First Street in Champaign.

Keith Harden Returns to the Area By Bob Paleczny



Keith Harden is making one of his highly anticipated return visits to the Champaign-Urbana area in June. Keith will play a series of gigs at various venues beginning Tuesday June 16, when he plays with Paul Sabuco at the T'n'T Lounge in Rantoul. The series of gigs culminates Sunday June 21, with the Keith Harden Band Annual Reunion at The Iron Post in Urbana.

Keith was awarded an Honorary PCBS Membership in 2011 for his many years of great blues playing in numerous bands around the Champaign-Urbana area.

In a ceremony at a Keith Harden gig at the Iron Post, Rich Cibelli, PCBS President at that time, awarded Keith a certificate commemorating this lifetime award.

While Keith is in town he'll have copies of a new CD "Keith Harden Band, featuring Billy Galt and Andy Burnett, Live at the Alley Cat Reunion 2009" for sale for a mere \$5. Be sure to pick one up at any of his gigs. Check Keith's website www.keithharden.com for more information.

Tuesday, June 16

8:00pm - Keith Harden & Paul Sabuco - T'n'T Lounge - Rantoul, IL

Wednesday, June 17

6:30pm - Keith Harden - Concert in the Park - Blair Park - Urbana

Friday, June 19

9:00pm - Keith Harden & Paul Sabuco - Lu & Denny's - Tolono, IL

Saturday, June 20

8:00pm - Keith Harden - Huber's - Champaign

Sunday, June 21

7:00pm - Keith Harden Band Reunion - The Iron Post - Urbana

For more upcoming events, visit Prairie Crossroads Blues Society at

www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org

"I merely took the energy it takes to pout and wrote some blues." – Duke Ellington

