



# Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

**March 2012**

## **First Friday Blues By Sandy Hannum**

After a brief break for members to attend the IBCs in Memphis, the PCBS First Friday Blues series is back!

On March 2 we will be featuring Danny & the Devils, a popular blues trio from Chicago. The musicians are Danny Baron, guitar and vocals; Mark Bonasara, drums and percussion; and Mike Kramer, bass and vocals. They have a sound that ranges from mellow blues-rock to heavy, gritty Chicago blues. Danny and the Devils have opened for Lonnie Brooks, Bernard Allison, and Leon Russell.



**Danny and the Devils Playing in Chicago  
Photo by David Madlener**

Danny and the Devils have a self-titled CD on the Electro Glide label. You can check them out on ReverbNation:  
<http://www.reverbNation.com/dannyandthedevils>

You can hear their live show on WEFT March 2 starting shortly after 8:00 pm.

(Continued in next column)

Meanwhile, Full Throttle will be warming up the crowd at Memphis on Main, starting around 8:00 pm. Full Throttle is a local blues band that plays both originals and covers of Blues classics drawn from icons such as B.B. King, the Rolling Stones, and Eric Clapton.



**Full Throttle  
Photo from Full Throttle Website**

After Full Throttle has the folks all revved up and happy, Danny and the Devils will arrive at Memphis on Main around 10:00 to perform their live show. Don't miss it!

## **Through These Eyes By Rich Cibelli**

You know, doctors often recommend Tylenol, Motrin, Excedrin and several other over the counter medications for minor aches and pains. But I've got a prescription for what ails you, so listen up carefully.

Go out and get yourself a copy of the Painkillers new CD "Done Me Wrong." Then find yourself a comfortable chair to sit in and start the music. I guarantee you'll start feeling a whole lot better right away.

(Continued on next page)

On the other hand, if you happened to be at The Iron Post on Saturday February 11 for the Painkillers CD release party then you already know what I'm talking about.

A standing room only crowd was treated to an evening of great blues music, and even got to take part in the celebration by sharing a piece of the "Done Me Wrong," cake. Now that's doing it right!



**"Done Me Wrong" Cake at Painkillers' CD Release Party**  
Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

I know I speak for all members of PCBS when I congratulate The Painkillers on their new release and also for being one of our many supporting bands. We are very fortunate to have such talented musicians in our area. Fronting The Painkillers Blues Band is David Adcock who does a great job on harmonica and also shares the vocal duties with Carolyn Johnson. The rest of the band includes Steve Errede and David Wilson on bass and guitar. David Hertzog takes care of drums and percussion, while Matt Stewart contributes on slide guitar and guitar. The band's current live performances also feature Jack Brighton on guitar and Kevin Colravy on drums.

As for the new CD, well I leave that up to you to decide what you think. What I can tell you is "Done Me Wrong," is packed with 15 great blues songs including three originals like "I'm a Woman," the CD's title track, "Done Me Wrong," and "Peaches in My Garden."

You'll also hear a great rendition of Willie Dixon's "300 pounds of Heavenly Joy," a few Charlie Musselwhite covers as well as a nice job on "Four Day Creep," by Ida Cox, plus many more.

Recorded and Mixed at Pogo Studios in Champaign, "Done Me Wrong," will make a great addition to your (Continued in next column)

blues CD library, so do yourself a favor and pick up a copy and help support our local musicians.



**The Painkillers at the Iron Post for CD Release Party**  
Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

While I'm on the subject of great blues music I'd like to say congratulations to The Blues Foundation and the city of Memphis, Tennessee for hosting the 2012 International Blues Challenge. This is a one-of-a-kind event that brings blues musicians together from all over the world to share the love of the blues and all there is about it.

Our own Prairie Crossroads Blues Society was well-represented again this year, and even though neither Hurricane Ruth nor the Sugar Prophets wound up winning the competition, they will always be winners to all of us. Thank you for your continued support.

However, in my opinion there is more to just watching the bands compete that makes the IBC a great event to attend. That's why I always make it a point to attend the many workshops that are offered.

This year for example my wife Sherry and I took time out to go and hear long time Blues in the Schools (BITS) presenter Dan Treanor from The Colorado Blues Society. Treanor, has more than 40 years in the field and his program was filled with many useful ideas and suggestions.

Additionally, we attended a workshop hosted by the Western New York Blues Society. The organization shared information about many non-music related events they have been a part of. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to talk with Arleen Reifschneider, the society's current President as well as musician and educator Tas Cru. (Continued on next page)

Sherry and I also took time to visit the new home of the Blues Foundation and visit with Board Member Joey C. Sighting about the future plans for the newly acquired building. I can't wait to get back to Memphis so I can check out the progress.

Moreover, I hope we get back soon as I yearn for the sounds of great music and the chance to visit some of our favorite restaurants in Memphis, the place we call our second home.



**Kilborn Alley 4**  
**Reviewed by Dennis Wismer**

Andrew Duncanson, Josh Stimmel, Chris Breen and Ed O'Hara have released a great new album of Blues and Soul music that further enhances their growing local, national and international legacy. The album, Kilborn Alley 4, is a Blue Bella release and includes Gerry Hundt on harmonica for three tracks, Travis Reed on organ and piano on five tracks, Vince Salerno on saxophone on two tracks and the amazing Nick Moss producing.

This band through the years has undergone several changes in personnel, and regularly performs with a diverse array of artists, so the addition of musicians on this album is a very organic development for the Champaign-Urbana based blues quartet. And the quality of the performers and tastefulness of their contributions nicely complement the songs.

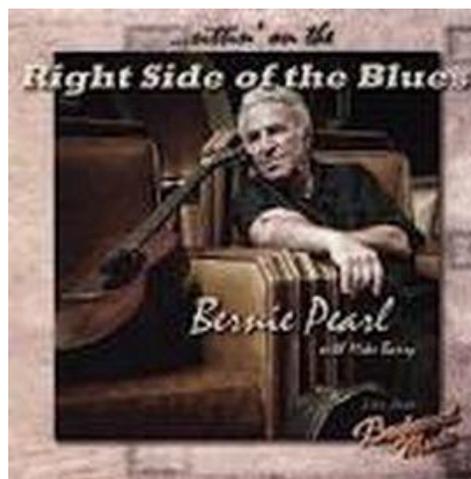
Their music creates a bond with their fans, as the Kilborn Alley Blues Band clearly enjoys performing as much as their audience enjoys being entertained by the soulful ballads, rousing romps and escapist frolics spun by master songsmith Duncanson and the band.

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"4" is a good example of this bond. The songs on this album move the listeners to interact with the music and relate to the different stages of life's successes, excesses and struggles that may parallel those of the protagonists. The growth of the band shines through in musicianship and content ranging from soulful laments about staying out late, making amends only to do it all again and to raucous tales of dressing up and messing up and having a great time doing it.

The harmonica returned to Kilborn Alley on this CD as multi-instrumentalist Gerry Hundt accompanied the band blowing harp. This was unusual yet familiar since for the first 9 years or so they employed several virtuoso harmonica players in their lineup to augment the guitars of Duncanson and Stimmel, Breen's bass lines and the bottom of several drummers the latest and greatest the stylish, sophisticated playing of O'Hara. It is only in the last couple of years that they have stripped down to a quartet.

It is hard to decide my favorite song on this album but I finally figured it out. It is the one I am listening to at the moment as the tapestry of songs blend into a great album with highs and lows that can carry you along or deliver you to a destination. Not really an answer, is it. Well I guess I will just have to listen to "4" again... and again... and again. And that is the beauty of a great album.



**Sittin' on the Right Side of the Blues**  
**By Bernie Pearl**  
**Reviewed by Rich Cibelli**

I have to admit, the first time I heard the name Bernie Pearl was a few years ago while surfing the web for blues guitar players. Little did I know back then what I know now -- Pearl is truly one of the best around. He's proving (Continued on next page)

it once again with his new release “Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues,” distributed by Major Label Recordings.

“Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues” was recorded live in concert back in early February 2011 at Boulevard Music in Culver City, California. This 15 track disc was done exclusively with Pearl on acoustic guitar and long-time friend Michael Berry on upright bass. The CD is packed full of music and times out at just over 65 minutes.

“Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues,” starts out with “Jailhouse Blues,” originally recorded by Lightnin’ Hopkins. The late great blues icon was someone Pearl got to see play, pick up a few tips from and also perform with. There were others too!

It turns out Bernie’s brother Ed, was the owner of the Ash Club, a well known blues club out in California that often featured the biggest names in blues music. Pearl got to meet and spend time with many of the performers and is known to tell a story or two about them during his performances.

Learning from other blues greats like Fred MacDowell, Son House and Lightnin’ Hopkins, gave Bernie Pearl the inspiration as well as the opportunity to develop his own style of performing. In my opinion, “Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues,” is an adventure back to the days of stripped down blues music.

I particularly like Pearl’s rendition of Muddy Waters’ “Can’t Be Satisfied,” as well as “Night Time Is the Right Time,” originally penned by Mance Lipscomb. Each features Pearl’s great guitar and vocal work as only he can do.

Pearl was born in Los Angeles in 1939 and began playing guitar back in 1950. Along his lengthy career he has performed at many major festivals in the United States and Europe and clubs everywhere. His love of blues eventually landed him a job at KPPC-FM, where in 1968 he wound up being the first all blues DJ on the Los Angeles radio station.

Then in 1984 the blues guitarist from Southern California took time to put together The Bernie Pearl Blues Band which eventually welcomed the legendary Harvey “Harmonica Fats” Blackston, to its line-up. That band wound up recording “Live at Café Lido” and got the chance to open

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many shows for such performers as B.B. King, Willie Dixon, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and Big Joe Williams, just to name a few.

Pearl and “Harmonica Fats,” wound up becoming great friends and the two decided to form a duo performing acoustic music. Pearl and Fats, recorded a few CD’s including “Blow Fat Daddy Blow,” in 1995 which was dedicated to both Civil Rights Leader Johnnie Tillman and the memory of “Harmonica Fats” wife.

A few years ago I had the privilege of attending a workshop hosted by Pearl. It was there that I got to witness this truly remarkable guitar player up close and personal. I learned in talking with Pearl that he developed his own unique style of playing guitar using a thumb pick. He even tried to teach me to play the same way. I have to admit I’m still working on it.

Pearl demonstrates this technique throughout “Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues,” but especially on his own selections including “Outside Boogie,” as well as “Flat-Footed,” and “You Can Break My Heart.”

On “I Ain’t Hurt,” Pearl demonstrates an incredible three finger picking style that he instructs his audience is played in the key of G. He credits Mississippi John Hurt with the idea for the song. But it’s Pearl who once again steals the show with his stellar guitar playing.

“Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues,” ends with Pearl’s own rendition of “Shake’em Down,” which was recorded by the great Fred MacDowell back in the late 1950’s. It’s another one of those great blues songs you could listen to all day. Just like the rest of this CD.

But don’t just take my word for it folks, go out and listen to “Sittin’ on the Right Side of the Blues.” I’m sure you’ll come to the same conclusion as I have. Bernie Pearl is one talented performer and his latest work is just a small testament to his place in blues music.

You can find out more about Bernie Pearl at his web site, [www.BerniePearl.com](http://www.BerniePearl.com).

## 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**  
**Slumberland Furniture**  
**SuperValu**

## Band Memberships

**Alex Jenkins & the Bombers** are playing at Crash McClain's in Crawfordsville, Indiana on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**The Diva and the Dude** are playing at Boomerang in Urbana on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Hurricane Ruth** is a new member band, and is playing at Goodfella's in Pekin on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Crows Mill Pub in Springfield on the 24<sup>th</sup>, and at Laurie's Place in Edwardsville on the 31<sup>st</sup>. We welcome them to the PCBS!

**The Kilborn Alley Blues Band** has been doing lots of traveling around the states. Catch them while they're home at D.R. Digger's on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Their new CD "Four" is a big hit. Be sure to get your own copy!

**King's Highway** is playing at Memphis on Main on the 16<sup>th</sup> and at the Elbo Room in Chicago on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Matthew Curry & The Fury** is a new member band, with several gigs coming up this spring. We welcome them to the PCBS!

**The Painkillers** are playing at the Iron Post on the 10<sup>th</sup>, and Memphis on Main on the 17<sup>th</sup>. They are playing a Blues in the Schools gig at Wiley Elementary on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Sorry, but it is not open to the public! Their new CD, "Done Me Wrong" has been released. Be sure to get a copy!

**The Sugar Prophets** have an extremely busy schedule, so check the list. Note that they will be touring through several Midwestern states, so be sure to see them while they are in town!

**The Sweet Wood Band** is one of our newer member bands. Check them out on the web!

**Timmy D & Blind Justice** are playing in Urbana at Boomerang on the 10<sup>th</sup>, in Champaign at Memphis on Main on the 16<sup>th</sup> and at Cowboy Monkey on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and in Danville at Gino's Place on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Prairie Crossroads Board of Directors

President	Rich Cibelli
Vice President	Steve Stoerger
Treasurer	Teri Stoerger
Secretary	Greg Altstetter
At-large Members	Sandy Hannum
	Tony Odendahl

## PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on March 21 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 March 28. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to [smhannum@gmail.com](mailto:smhannum@gmail.com).

## Inclusive Staff

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**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



Yo, Muddy. These First Friday Blues events are gettin' real popular.

That's right, Sonny! And the great thing is, even old guys like us can remember when it is goin' on.

Heh heh.

## EVENTS

**Mar 1** – The Sugar Prophets – Cowboy Monkey – Blues Jam – Champaign – 9:30 pm

**Mar 2** – The Blues Deacons – The Travel Lodge – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

Danny & the Devils w/ Full Throttle – PCBS First Friday – WEFT and Memphis on Main – Champaign – 8:30  
The Sugar Prophets – Uncle Buck's Sports Bar & Grill – Mahomet, IL – 9 pm

**Mar 3** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm

The Sugar Prophets – The Lucky Monkey – Bement, IL – 9 pm

**Mar 4** – Blues dancing w/ bluesCENTRAL – Emerald City Lounge – Champaign – 7 pm

**Mar 5** – Deak Harp – Krannert Center for the Performing Arts – Urbana – 5 pm

Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Mar 6** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm

**Mar 7** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Champaign – 9 pm

**Mar 8** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

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

**Mar 9** – The Sugar Prophets – Trouser Mouse Bar & Grill – Kansas City, MO - 9 pm

**Mar 10** – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm  
Little Ed & the Blues Imperials w/ Tombstone Bullet – Knights of Columbus – 7:30 pm

Timmy D. & Blind Justice w/Cocobutter Kids – Boomerang – Urbana – 8 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Uncle Bo's at Ramada Inn – Topeka, KS – 9 pm

**Mar 11** – Billy Galt – Paco's Sol Bistro – Decatur, IL – 3 pm  
Surreal Deal – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8:30 pm

The Sugar Prophets – The Urban Lounge – St. Louis, MO – 9 pm

**Mar 12** – Blues dancing w/ bluesCENTRAL – Emerald City Lounge – Champaign – 7 pm

Todd Wolfe – The Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Mar 13** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

**Mar 14** – Surreal Deal – D.R. Digger's – Champaign – 9 pm

**Mar 16** – Timmy D. & Blind Justice w/King's Highway – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 8:30 pm

Tombstone Bullet – South Side Pub – Springfield, IL – 9 pm

**Mar 17** – Triple Shot – Bourbon Barrel – Decatur, IL – 4 pm

Billy Galt – The Berg – Arthur, IL – 7 pm

The Painkillers – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 7 pm

Alex Jenkins & the Bombers – Crash McClain's – Crawfordsville, IN – 8 pm

Timmy D. & Blind Justice w/Lou Dibello Band – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 8 pm

Triple Shot – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9 pm

**Mar 18** – King's Highway – Elbo Room – Chicago – 8 pm

**Mar 19** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Mar 20** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

**Mar 22** – Keith Harden – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 6 pm

Billy Galt – Hilton Garden Inn – Champaign – 9 pm

**Mar 23** – Hurricane Ruth – Goodfella's Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7:30 pm

**Mar 24** – The Martini Brothers – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 7 pm

Keith Harden – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

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

**Mar 25** – The Sugar Prophets w/ Trent Romens and Terry Quiett Band – The Stop – Urbana – 3:30 pm

Keith Harden, Kathy Harden & Andy Baylor – Boomerang – Urbana – 6 pm

Surreal Deal – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8:30 pm

**Mar 26** – Blues Clinic – Beat ‘N’ Trash – Danville, IL – 7 pm

Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Mar 27** – Billy Galt & Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

**Mar 28** – Albert Castiglia – Goodfella’s Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7 pm

**Mar 30** – The Painkillers – Wiley Elementary School (BITS) – Urbana – 10 am

Billy Galt – Jimmy Ryan’s – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm

**Mar 31** – The Blues Deacons – The Trading Post – Springfield, IL – 9 pm

Hurricane Ruth – Laurie’s Place – Edwardsville, IL – 9 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9 pm

Timmy D & Blind Justice – Gino’s Place – Danville, IL – 9 pm

**Apr 1** – Blues dancing w/ bluesCENTRAL – Emerald City Lounge – Champaign – 7 pm

**Apr 2** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Apr 4** – The Blues Deacons – The Travel Lodge – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

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

**Apr 5** – Deak Harp – Krannert Uncorked – Krannert Center – Urbana – 5 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Blues Jam – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm

**Apr 6** – Johnny Rawls w/ The Sugar Prophets – PCBS First Friday Blues – WEFT & Memphis on Main – 8 pm

The Blues Deacons – The Travel Lodge – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Apr 7** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Castle Theater – Bloomington, IL – 7 pm

King’s Highway – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 9 pm

**Apr 9** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Apr 11** – Sean Chambers – Goodfella’s Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 8 pm

Deak Harp – Red’s Lounge – Clarksdale, MS – 9 pm

**Apr 13** – Hurricane Ruth – Casey’s Pub – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

The Martini Brothers – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm

**Apr 14** – The Painkillers – The Iron Post – 6 pm

**Apr 15** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Sunday Blues – River Beach Pub – Chillicothe, IL – 2 pm

**Apr 16** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Apr 19** – The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm

**Apr 23** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**Apr 28** – Hurricane Ruth – The Curve Inn – Springfield, IL – 6 pm

The Blues Deacons – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – 8:30 pm

King’s Highway – Traditions Bar – Watseka, IL – 9 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Boomerang – Urbana – 9 pm

**Apr 30** – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**May 2** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm

**May 3** – The Sugar Prophets – Blues Jam – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm

**May 4** – The Blues Deacons – The Travel Lodge – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Uncle Buck’s Sports Bar & Grill – Mahomet, IL – 9 pm

**May 5** – The Sugar Prophets – Mike ‘n’ Molly’s – Champaign – 8 pm

**May 8** – Joe Bonamassa – Sangamon Auditorium UIS – Springfield, IL – 8 pm

**May 11** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Winner’s Lounge – Bloomington, IL – 8 pm

**May 12** – The Sugar Prophets – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 3 pm

The Painkillers – The Iron Post – Urbana – 6 pm

**May 18** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Heyworth Hey Days – Heyworth, IL – 7:30 pm

**May 19** – The Sugar Prophets – Longcreek Vineyards – Decatur, IL – 3 pm

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

**May 20** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Decatur Blues Fest – Decatur, IL – 5:30 pm

**May 24** – The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm

**May 26** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Mackinaw Valley Vineyards – Mackinaw, IL – 8 pm

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

**May 27** – The Diva & the Dude – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 5 pm

**May 28** – The Diva & the Dude – Jeleniz Martini Bar – Mattoon, IL – 8 pm