



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

October 2013

PCBS 3rd Annual IBC Challenge

By Bob Paleczny



The bands have entered, the judges are lined up, we have an outstanding venue and some delicious BBQ coming, so it promises to be an outstanding event when Prairie Crossroads Blues Society hosts its 3rd Annual IBC challenge. Come out to Memphis on Main on Saturday Oct. 5th, located at 55 E. Main Street in downtown Champaign for all the fun and excitement. The doors open at 3:45 and the buzz will start before the first band kicks it off at 4:15 and will last through the announcement of the winning band at 9:00 pm.

Seven bands have signed up to compete for the opportunity to represent PCBS in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge, which takes place on historic Beale Street in Memphis, TN in January 2014. The competing bands are listed below in the order of appearance.

Jimmy Nick & Don't Tell Mama – Jimmy Nick is an old fashioned, guitar-slinging blues prodigy who was developing his chops in famous Chicago clubs when he was only sixteen. Jimmy Nick combines his massive talent and stage theatrics with high-energy blues and rock and roll for one of the best live shows around.

The James Jones Trio – The James Jones Trio plays traditional blues with a young approach and feel. Being a group for a very short time, their debut has been in the making for years. With all members under the age of

twenty-five, they play with the maturity of well-seasoned veterans.

Susan Williams Band – Susan got her start singing professionally over twenty years ago, when she was approached by her church organist in Urbana, Illinois about auditioning for a variety band that he had. Susan first started singing the blues when she moved to Chicago in the 90's, she's been influenced by Bonnie Raitt, Koko Taylor and Janis Joplin

Benny Jenkins Bloodline – Benny Jenkins Bloodline plays postwar Chicago style blues / West Coast jump swing influenced music with a rockabilly energy. The missing link between blues and rockabilly: "Bluesbilly." They're influenced by Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Albert King, Paul Butterfield, and Sonny Boy Williamson

Kicked To The Curb – Kicked to the Curb began in 2004, when Jon Clausing and Jeff Boston formed a band to express their shared mutual interest in and love for the Blues. Since then the band has gigged around central Illinois, mostly in small bars, usually as a trio but sometimes with five or six members, before settling in to their current five-piece lineup.

Lizzi Neal Band – If you are looking for something new that doesn't sound like anything else, The Lizzi Neal Band is the real deal. They have such a dynamic style and have a way of making each person feel that they are playing just for them. Formed in 2003 LNB brings together years of experience.

Back Pack Jones – Back Pack Jones was formed in 2012 and is comprised of Springfield, Illinois area musicians, each with a long musical history. The common thread of a love for the blues and a desire to share blues music with others has brought this talented group together.

You'll find all the details of the event, complete band bios and link to their pages on our website;

http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/ibc_challenge2013.html

Each band will have 25 minutes to impress the panel of five judges. The first band will take the stage at 4:15, the
(Continued on next page)

last band will finish playing at 8:40 and the winners will be announced at 9:00. The headlining band that evening, Decade Late is a 90's cover band who'll take the stage shortly after 9:00.

Bands are scored in five categories: Blues Content, Vocal Skills, Instrumental Skills, Originality, and Stage Presence. Each category is scored on a 10 point scale and multiplied by a weighting factor. Blues Content is the most heavily weighted being multiplied by 4, Vocal and Instrumental Skills are multiplied by 3, and Originality and Stage Presence are multiplied by 2. Bands are penalized for exceeding the 25 minute time allotted and can be penalized for excessive load-in times. We suggest bands and interested fans check the Blues Foundation's scoring criteria; https://blues.org/#ref=ibc_scoring

The intent of the competition is to find a band that's ready to take the next step with their careers. The winning band receives a \$1000 prize package to help them with their travels to the IBC in Memphis.

We want to thank our friends at Memphis on Main for the great venue. Their friendly staff and excellent stage and sound system provide the perfect place to host the event. A huge thanks goes to Steve Lemke and Eric who are extraordinary soundmen. Thanks to Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop who has provided us with a drum set every year since our first challenge. We also want to thank Po' Boys for supplying the food. They'll be on hand with delicious BBQ and side dishes for sale throughout the day.

It promises to be an exciting competition with outstanding bands. We hope to see you there!

Blues in the Schools Update **By Sandy Hannum & Greg Altstetter**

We had a great time at Louie's Dixie Kitchen & BBQ on Monday September 23 putting on our Blues in the Schools fundraiser! Thanks to owners Leah Petit and Dirk Bodine for their generosity in sharing their proceeds for the day with us, and also for opening on a day that they would usually be closed. We recognize that they put in a whole lot of extra work on our behalf, and we appreciate it! And a big thank you to Josh Spence who provided live entertainment during the dinner hours in his solo act as Jiggy and the Source. We also enjoyed Andy Duncanson joining in on a couple of songs. The place was full and as busy as they could handle. We handed out BITS flyers to

everyone, including those who were getting takeout food. Thanks to all who participated in the event.

On Friday September 27 The Sugar Prophets put on a kick-off concert at Thomas Paine school. The gym was packed with kids and teachers who really got into the blues.



The Sugar Prophets at Thomas Paine School
Photo courtesy of Greg Altstetter

Performing were Josh Spence on harp and lead vocals, Chuck Applebee on bass, Petey Thomas on drums, and AJ Williams on guitar. The Prophets played ten numbers, including Mustang Sally with a call and response from the audience on the chorus. The kids sang out "Ride, Sally Ride" with great enthusiasm.



Josh Spence interacts with the kids at Thomas Paine
Photo courtesy of Greg Altstetter

Greg enjoyed being there, and delivered the harmonicas for the program. The school is primed and ready for the Blues in the Schools program to begin on Wednesday October 9.

THANKS!
By David Adcock

On behalf of The Painkillers and the family of Carolyn Johnson, I am writing to thank everyone who participated in the Celebration of Life/fundraiser for Carolyn on August 18 at Memphis on Main. We all enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of great music, tasty cupcakes, and lots of fun. Through the donations and raffles, we were able to help the family with \$1530.28 toward Carolyn's funeral expenses.

Special thanks go out to the following groups and individuals who provided a variety of support for the event:

- Memphis on Main for hosting us
- The following bands that played: The Impalas, Kilborn Alley, The Painkillers, The Sugar Prophets, and Matt & Tom Turino with Claire Johnson— what a GREAT afternoon of music!!!



Andy, Josh, Abraham, Chris, and Joe at the Event
Photo courtesy of Zack Widup

- Candy Foster, Kathy Harden, Susan Williams, Bob Watson, Tony Juodis, and Tom Cullop who performed with the bands
- Eric at Memphis on Main for assisting with set-up of the bands and running sound
- The Prairie Crossroads Blues Society for their support in organizing the event and collecting donations. Special thanks to Bob Paleczny for his great communications about the event and promoting it on WEFT, to Dennis Wismer for his communications with the bands, and to Lorri Coey for designing and distributing the posters.
- Skins 'N Tins for loaning a drum kit for the bands to use

- Analog Outfitters for loaning two of their AO Sarge amps for the bands to use
- Kathi Cullop and Mary Anne Wilson for donating a quilt and two cool baskets of goodies for the raffles
- Martin Fuentes and Brian Ennis for donating gift certificates to El Toro Loco and Hickory River Bar-B-Que for the raffles
- And last, but not least, to everyone who attended and added to the great sense of family, celebration, and community.



The Painkillers at Carolyn's Event
Photo courtesy of Zack Widup

We're all lucky to live in a community with such a vibrant local music scene. Thanks to you all who continue to make it happen!

**Evolution of a Nickname:
Did a clerical error change history?**
By James "Skyy Dobro" Walker

"Name McKinley Morganfield, nickname Muddy Water, Stovall's famous guitar picker," Muddy clearly said in his first ever recording session, August 1941. McKinley "Muddy Water" Morganfield, of course, is the most famous Blues musician ever, the father of modern Chicago Blues, and the only household Blues name - along with B.B. King. Note that "Water" is singular, and the beauty here is that one can hear him say it for himself / herself.

Wikipedia reports: "In the summer of 1941, Alan Lomax went to Stovall Plantation, Mississippi [looking for Robert Johnson - by then deceased], on behalf of the Library of Congress, to record various Country Blues musicians [including Morganfield]. Lomax came back in July 1942 to record Muddy again. Both sessions were eventually released as *Down On Stovall's Plantation* on the (Continued on next page)

Testament label. The complete recordings were re-issued on CD as *Muddy Waters: The Complete Plantation Recordings. The historic 1941-42 Library of Congress field recordings* by Chess Records in 1993, and re-mastered in 1997."

I own the 1993 CD release, and the opening quote in this article is heard in the sixth track, "Interview #3 – previously unissued." Used copies of this CD with its landmark recordings can be found on Amazon.com for as little as \$3.25, plus shipping and handling. It is a complete knockout to hear not only his 1941 voice but also the first song he ever recorded!

Morganfield's grandmother Della, who raised him after his mother Berta was swept away by flood waters, nicknamed him "Muddy." According to author Robert Gordon in 2002's book *Can't Be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters*, Della "renamed him Muddy..." when McKinley "took to playing in the dangerous waters that were everywhere around Jug's Corner...."

Muddy started playing music on harmonica, but by age 17 he switched to guitar and played at house parties. His style was influenced by earlier recording artists Son House and Robert Johnson. At some point, once he was becoming established in the community as a good musician, his friends added the name "Water" to his nickname and performing name, and as one can hear, he called himself "Muddy Water."

So, how and when did the "s" get added to Water? The surprising answer is found in a book titled *Lost Delta Found – Rediscovering the Fisk University – Library of Congress Coahoma County Study, 1941-1942* by John W. Work, Lewis Wade Jones, and Samuel C. Adams, Jr. The editors are Robert Gordon and Bruce Nemerov. The editors first point out further proof of the singular "Water" in a footnote on page 51. It's in the form of handwriting by Work on a 1943 photograph of Muddy and his mentor Son Sims, "The photo of Muddy and Son Sims is labeled in John Work's hand, 'Muddy Water.'" The photograph is shown with labeling on page 119.

It seems a clerical error by Alan Lomax himself added the "s" to "Water." Again quoting from the page 51 footnote: "Lomax refers to Morganfield as 'Muddy Waters' (and repeatedly misspells 'Sims' as 'Simms'). The first published misidentification occurs in Lomax's liner notes that accompany the 1942 Library of Congress album *Afro-American Blues and Game Songs*."

By the time Muddy was in Chicago, it seems he went with the flow and accepted his third nickname to be the euphonious appellation by which he is known to recorded history, "Muddy Waters."

Looking Forward

By Bob Paleczny

Some of October's featured shows start off Wednesday October 2 with the Kilborn Alley Blues Band playing at the World Famous D.R. Diggers. It's always fun to see these guys play and especially when they play at one of their home venues. You can usually expect some outstanding guests to show up and help them entertain during the evening.

The Susan Williams Band kicks off a busy weekend of performing with a show at Fuzzy's Bar in Danville on Friday night October 4. They then play three shows on Saturday October 5, earning them the hardest working band moniker for the weekend. They play at noon at the Pink House in Ogden and at 8:00 at Huber's in Champaign. In between they're competing in the PCBS 3rd Annual IBC Challenge at Memphis on Main.

PCBS is really excited about our IBC Challenge. It's a chance for blues fans to see seven quality bands for only \$5. We're thrilled with the bands that entered our challenge, any one of which would be a worthwhile representative in the Blues Foundation's IBC Challenge in Memphis coming up in January 2014. We have a superb panel of five knowledgeable judges who'll make the decision for us. Read the entire article about the challenge elsewhere in this newsletter. We invite all the local blues fans to come out and enjoy themselves. We can't wait!

Ace harmonica player R.J. Mischo is coming to town to play a show with Kilborn Alley at 7:00 pm on Wednesday October 16 at Bentley's in Champaign. R.J. grew up in Minneapolis moved to San Francisco for a while and now lives with his wife in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Kilborn Alley will be the perfect band to back up his wonderful harp work. Both R.J. and the guys in Kilborn are excited to play this show together. It's also a chance to expand the local blues scene into a new venue.

We wanted to remind members about our Blues In The Schools programs. This fall the PCBS program is offering an after-school program at Thomas Paine School in Urbana. It was kicked off on Friday September 27 with an (Continued on next page)

all-school assembly that featured a concert by local blues band The Sugar Prophets. Josh Spence on vocals and harp fronts the band and is also the harmonica instructor in this BITS program. The program also teaches kids blues history and song composition . Josh also entertained the folks during the dinner hour at the BITS Fundraiser we recently held at Louie's Dixie Kitchen & BBQ. Read Sandy and Greg's entire article on our BITS program elsewhere in this newsletter.

The CU Folk & Roots Fest is coming to a variety of venues throughout downtown Urbana on Friday and Saturday November 1 and 2 and will have some outstanding blues acts involved. The fest will be headlined by Del Rey. She plays guitar and ukulele and her playing contains influences of rhythmic country blues, stride piano and hillbilly boogie. The fest also features the Ivas John Blues Band currently playing out of the Cape Girardeau Missouri area. A couple of solo performers also highlight the blues genre in their performances. PCBS member, David Berchtold will be at the fest to display his finger pickin' guitar style. Keith Harden who is an Honorary PCBS Member returns to town and the singer-songwriter will feature his folk-blues-american talents.

As always there's plenty of great blues around town, we hope to see you out at a show!

**Prairie Crossroads Blues Society
3rd Annual IBC Challenge
Saturday Oct. 5
Memphis on Main**

4:15 - 4:40 Jimmy Nick & Don't Tell Mama
4:55 - 5:20 James Jones Trio
5:35 - 6:00 Susan Williams Band
6:15 - 6:40 Benny Jenkins bloodline
6:55 - 7:20 Kicked To The Curb
7:35 - 8:00 Lizzi Neal Band
8:15 - 8:40 Back Pack Jones

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
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President	Bob Paleczny
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PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 24 at a location TBA. 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 October 28. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

Editor: Sandy Hannum

Writers for This Issue: David Adcock
Greg Altstetter
Sandy Hannum
Bob Paleczny
James "Skyy Dobro" Walker

Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & The Bombers will be playing at the Shady Nook Pub in Saybrook on October 5.

Back Pack Jones is our newest member band. We welcome them to the PCBS. They will be opening for BB King at the Sangamon Auditorium in Springfield, IL on November 17. Before that, you can see them perform at our IBC on October 5.

Benny Jenkins Bloodline will be playing at the Shady Nook Pub in Saybrook on November 9. They will be competing in our IBC on October 5. They have recently released a CD.

Black Magic Johnson will be playing at Celtic Mist in Springfield on November 2, and at the Wild Dog Saloon in Decatur on November 9.

The Diva and The Dude are pretty darn spontaneous. Check their Facebook page for current gigs. You can often find them at the Clark Bar.

Full Throttle Band is one of our newer member bands.

Hurricane Ruth will be playing at the Walker's Bluff Winery in Carterville on December 31.

The James Jones Trio will be playing in the Fall Music Festival in Danville on October 19. They will be competing in our IBC on October 5. They have recently released a CD.

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

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band will be playing this month at D.R. Digger's in Champaign on the 2nd, at Bentley's in Champaign on the 16th, and at the Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club in Bourbonnais on the 22nd. They are planning another European tour for later this fall. Stay tuned!

Matthew Curry & The Fury will be playing at the Iron & Arts Festival 2013 in Bloomington on October 12, and at Live @ The 5 Spot in Peoria on December 6.

The Mudwinders will be playing at the Shady Nook Pub in Saybrook on October 26, and at the RoadRunner Lounge in Monticello on November 2.

The Painkillers are one of our three original member bands. Thanks to them for the wonderful celebration of Carolyn Johnson's life that brought the whole community together for great Blues. Check out their Facebook page and their CD.

The Sugar Prophets just played a kickoff concert for our new Blues in the Schools program at Thomas Paine School. Josh Spence will be teaching harmonica again in the program. The Education Committee is grateful for Josh's passion for this program!

Susan Williams Band will be playing this month at Fuzzy's Bar in Danville 4th, The Pink House in Ogden early on the 5th, Huber's in Champaign late on the 5th, the I & I State Line Tavern in Danville on the 12th, and the Clark Bar in Champaign on the 17th. They will also be competing in our IBC on October 5 between the other two gigs!

Timmy D & Blind Justice will be playing at the Old Orchard Inn in Effingham on October 11.

Tombstone Bullet will be playing at the Corner Pub & Grill in Springfield on November 16.

Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Wolf. I really look forward to the IBC every year!

Yeah, Walter. It's the best way to hear a new band, or to catch up with one that is ready to launch into Memphis!

Heh heh. That's right. We get to hear all kinds of good stuff.

There's nothin' I like better than bein' there for the start of somethin' great!

EVENTS

- Oct 2** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm
- Oct 3** – Too Slim & The Taildraggers – "It's Everybody's Birthday Party" – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – 7 pm
- Oct 4** – Susan Williams Band – Fuzzy's Bar – Danville, IL – 8:30 pm
- Oct 5** – Susan Williams Band – The Pink House – Ogden, IL – noon
- PCBS IBC Challenge** – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 4 pm
- Susan Williams Band – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
- Alex Jenkins & The Bombers – Shady Nook Pub – Saybrook, IL – 8:30 pm
- Oct 11** – Timmy D & Blind Justice – Old Orchard Inn – Effingham, IL – 9 pm
- Oct 12** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Iron & Arts Festival 2013 – Bloomington, IL – 8 pm
- Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9 pm
- Susan Williams Band – I & I State Line Tavern – Danville, IL – 9 pm
- Oct 16** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band w/RJ Mischo – Bentley's – Champaign – 7 pm

- Oct 17** – Susan Williams Band – The Clark Bar – Champaign – 6:30 pm
- Oct 19** – James Jones Trio & John Jansky – Fall Music Festival – Danville, IL – 7 pm
- Oct 22** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Bradley Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club – Bourbonnais, IL – 7 pm
- Oct 26** – The Mudwinders – Shady Nook Pub – Saybrook, IL – 8:30 pm

- Nov 1** – C-U Folk & Roots Festival – Various Venues – Urbana – 4 pm
- Susan Williams Band – VFW Post 630 – Urbana – 7 pm
- Nov 2** – C-U Folk & Roots Festival – Various Venues – Urbana – 12 pm
- Susan Williams Band – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
- The Mudwinders – RoadRunner Lounge – Monticello, IL – 8:30 pm
- Black Magic Johnson – Celtic Mist – Springfield, IL – 9 pm
- Nov 6** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm
- Nov 7** – Terry Quiett Band – Crazy Beaver Grub & Pub – Chebanse, IL – 7 pm
- Nov 8** – Susan Williams Band – The Rose Bowl – Urbana – 8:30 pm
- Nov 9** – Benny Jenkins Bloodline – Shady Nook Pub – Saybrook, IL – 8:30 pm
- Black Magic Johnson – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
- Nov 15** – Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9 pm
- Nov 16** – Tombstone Bullet – Corner Pub & Grill – Springfield, IL – 8 pm
- Nov 17** – BB King w/Back Pack Jones opening – Sangamon Auditorium – Springfield, IL – 6:30 pm
- Nov 27** – Candy Foster & The Shades of Blue – Boomerangs – Urbana – 9 pm
- Dec 4** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger's – Juke Joint Show – Champaign – 9 pm
- Dec 6** – Matthew Curry & The Fury – Live @ The 5 Spot – Peoria, IL – 5:30 pm
- Dec 10** – Ori Naftaly Band – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
- Dec 14** – Susan Williams – Huber's – Champaign – 8 pm
- Dec 31** – Hurricane Ruth – Walker's Bluff Winery – Carterville, IL – 8 pm

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