



Inclusive - a newsletter for the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

September 2011

Still a Thrill By Sandy Hannum

I hope you were at the Virginia Theater on the evening of August 23 for the B.B. King show, because it was something very special.

The opening act was pretty terrific in itself. The Mississippi Heat did a great job of warming up the packed audience. The band, led by harmonica player Pierre Lacocque, played a full range of blues, from gritty traditional style to blues-rock. The powerful vocals of Inetta Visor were clearly the focus of the act throughout. My particular favorite was a steamy hot rendition of "Footprints on the Ceiling." It would have been fun to hear more from Mississippi Heat, but the main attraction was yet to come!

When B.B. King walked out on the stage, the entire audience roared to its feet. Throughout the show a palpable feeling of affection flowed from the audience to the master blues man on stage, and also from B.B. himself to the audience. He asked to have the house lights turned up so he could see all the beautiful people. B.B. maintained a witty patter between all the songs, and was unfazed when the sound system temporarily stopped working. He played a sampling of some of his well-known songs, such as "Every Day I Have the Blues," "I Need You So," "Rock Me Baby," and "The Thrill is Gone." He mentioned that he will be 86 on September 16, which is hard to believe. His voice is still strong, and he still has that distinctive guitar style that is uniquely his own.

I believe that everyone who was there felt privileged to be seeing B.B. King live. However, there were four of us who had an even greater thrill. Thanks to Rich making the proper arrangements, Rich, Sherry, Bob and I were allowed to go onto B.B. King's bus and meet him face-to-face before the show. He was in the back room of his bus watching an old black-and-white movie when we went in. He was very kind and gracious in allowing us to meet with him for a few minutes. Rich made him an honorary member of the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society and Sherry presented him with a plaque and a hat. He was humble and soft-spoken – somewhat different from the stage persona which is more of a fireball! We were all thrilled to be able to shake his hand.

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B.B. King, Honorary Member of the PCBS

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Meanwhile, we had quite a few visitors to the PCBS table at the theater. In addition to our new honorary member, we have two new family memberships, and several people picked up information about the society. It was a good night for the blues!

Through These Eyes By Rich Cibelli

They say the best way to cool off from the summer's heat is to find a nice cool place out of the sun. On Sunday July 31st I found that place in the Champaign Public Library and the music of "Bruiser and the Virtues."

This five-piece jump blues band fronted by Bruce "Bruiser" Rummenie on guitar and vocals was joined this day by Neal Robinson on piano, Jeff Magby on drums, Ed Shaller on stand up electric bass and Peter Rubal on sax. Take it from me, these guys really put on a great show. I could listen to them 24 hours a day.

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Bruiser and the Virtues at the Champaign Library

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

From the start of their one hour show Bruiser and the Virtues really showed me why they are one of the hottest bands in the twin cities by showcasing several original songs including "I Don't Like You." The place really got jumping when some swing dancers decided to join in the fun and perform too.

The Champaign Public Library was hopping, but don't just take my word for it -- make it a point to go out and catch this band as soon as you can. In the meantime you can check out some of their music at www.reverbNation.com/brucebruiserrummenie. Rummenie is an accomplished singer, songwriter and guitarist who plays in several local bands including The Impalas, featuring Dawna Nelson, The Freak Brothers, and The Javelinas, but that's just part of his story.

You see besides playing his custom built big body John Grey Guitar, Rummenie's expanded resume includes the ability to speak a little French. He gave those in attendance a small taste of the vernacular while performing "Cajun Girl." Just as impressive was the drum solo by Jeff Magby. Rummenie says he wrote the song while he was living down in New Orleans.

Originally from Quincy, Illinois, Rummenie now calls Urbana his home and even teaches English at Urbana Middle School. Along the way he earned a PhD at the University of Illinois and got married, while continuing to play his unique style of jump blues.

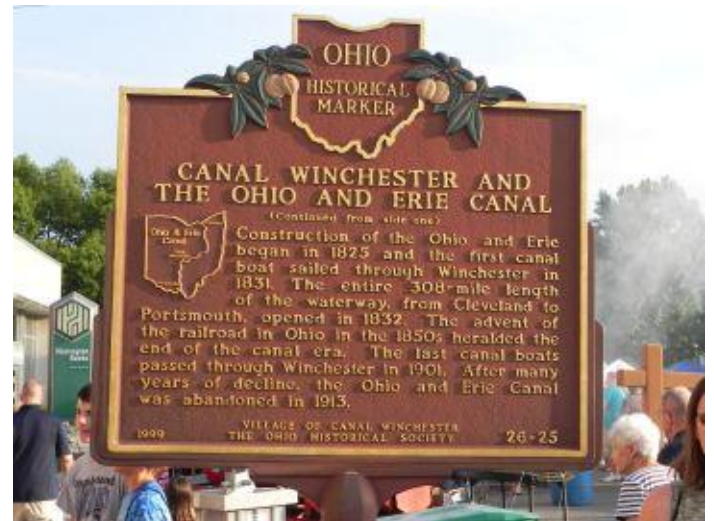
A few years ago, Bruiser and his band at the time won a trip down to Memphis to compete in the International Blues Challenge, representing the Illinois Central Blues Club from the Springfield area. Two years ago they got an opening spot at the Urbana Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival. It seems that things just haven't slowed down since then.

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I want to take a minute to commend the Champaign Public Library for giving the public an opportunity to see some of the talented musicians that we have in our community, and also suggest they continue their "In Concert" program again next year.

Nevertheless, while there is plenty of great music to go out and see in our community, my wife Sherry and I decided it was time to take a short road trip east. We decided to check out the Canal Winchester Blues & Ribfest just outside Columbus, Ohio. This is the second year for the festival that includes two stages for entertainment. We found ample seating right at the corner of Waterloo and High streets just in front of the town's city hall and main stage.

On a very warm Friday in August this small community was bustling with the familiar smells of ribs and chicken being smoked at several locations by pit masters who happily adorned their respective areas with plenty of awards.



Ohio Historical Marker at the Fest

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

However, at this festival one could easily find something else to munch on like corn dogs and deep fried twinkles and snickers bars instead of BBQ. But enough about food for now, we didn't drive all this way just to eat, we wanted to hear some blues music Ohio style.

Rob Thompson opened the 2011 version of the Canal Winchester Blues & Ribfest with an impressive set of blues music. This was the first time in the states for Thompson who hails from South Africa and he dazed the crowd with his renditions of several classic blues songs including a few by Jimi Hendrix, Little Walter and some Muddy Waters and B.B. King too!

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Rob Thompson Playing Slide Guitar in His Own Way

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

In between sets we headed over to the Stradley Place Stage to catch some softer acoustic blues and we were really impressed with Ben Bachert and also The Wotherspoon-Hart Duo and some outstanding delta blues guitar playing by Austin "Walkin' Cane."

After a quick bite to eat at Shades on Canal we headed back to the main stage just in time to catch The Shaun Booker band. If this name sounds familiar then you must have attended this year's IBC down in Memphis. Booker and her band from Columbus were there as well.



Shaun Booker and a Young Fan

Photo courtesy of Rich Cibelli

Another Columbus favorite is Ray Fuller & The Bluesrockers who closed out the night's entertainment with their own brand of blues. Fuller and his band have been playing the Columbus area for several years now and have gained a healthy following of fans and the blessing of the Columbus Blues Alliance as well. (Continued in next column)

It was great to see the folks from Canal Winchester and their small community come together and put on such a nice festival. But unfortunately we could stay for only one night as we had other places to see on our short trip east, including the much talked about Dublin Irish Festival and a trip to the Ohio State Fair.

Just a short drive north on Interstate 270 you'll find the city that grows every day. Yes, I'm talking about Dublin, Ohio and the home of the second biggest Irish Fest in the United States. I can tell you they weren't kidding. I'm told that Milwaukee hosts one that is bigger.

And even though we didn't find any blues music to enjoy at this massive party in the park, we did find the Young Dubliners as well as several local Celtic bands. I have to say it again these folks know how to have a good time.

We had a great time so far on our journey to Ohio, but we still had one more place to check out -- The Ohio State Fair and our chance to see Shirley King. However, our luck of good weather went south when a line of thunderstorms moved into the area and caused problems for many outdoor activities.

We did finally make it to the fairgrounds, but the nasty weather forced Shirley King to shorten her show. That didn't stop her from singing her heart out to the small crowd that decided to show up. Shirley King put on a great show in the time allowed, showcasing a wide range of classic blues songs and even one of her Dad's best in "The Thrill is Gone."

So ended our short but interesting trip to Ohio. We hope to go back again soon to see a lot more of the Columbus area. However, for now all I can say is I've had enough of hotel rooms. It's so good to be sleeping in my bed again!



Judging an International Blues Challenge Competition
By Bob Paleczny

So what is a judge looking for at an IBC challenge? Prairie Crossroads Blues Society will use the scoring criteria specified by the Blues Foundation and used at the International Blues Challenge finals competition in Memphis Jan 31 to Feb 4, 2012. http://www.blues.org/#ref=ibc_scoring

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An act is judged in five categories:

1. Blues Content - Blues range from traditional blues to soul blues to rockin' blues and each judge will have their own interpretation of what is truly blues. Judges are typically not impressed with song selections that are uninspired. The Blues Foundation's scoring refers to this as the "no Mustang Sally" rule.
2. Talent – Instrumental Ability
3. Vocal Ability
4. Originality - While a band can certainly do covers, judges frown on note for note covers and generally reward bands that play original material.
5. Stage Presence – Typically a band of seasoned professionals knows they are not simply playing music – they are putting on a show.

Judges score each act in all five categories. Scores of 1-3 are typical of a beginning blues band. Whereas scores of 6-7 are typical of an advanced local band but not yet ready to headline a major blues club. Top scores of 10 are typical of those who play the main stage at major festivals such as Chicago or King Biscuit Blues Festivals.

Each category is weighted, Blues Content is given the most weight and is multiplied by 4. Vocals and Instrumentation are multiplied by 3 and Originality and Stage Presence are multiplied by 2. Thus each act is scored on a 140 point scale. A band is penalized one point for each 10 seconds that it plays beyond its 25-minute time limit, there is no penalty for using less than the allotted time. At the venue coordinator's discretion a penalty for excessive time loading in or loading out may be applied.

After all acts have been judged and each act's net weighted score for each judge calculated, each act will then be ranked for each judge based on that judge's scores, with the act receiving the judge's highest net weighted score being given a ranking of 1, and so on for that judge. So, in a competition with five acts, for example, each judge ends up with the acts ranked 1 - 5 based on each judge's personal scoring habits. This results in the act's final ranking for each judge.

Next, the scorer totals the final ranking from all judges for each act to determine the gross act ranking. That figure is averaged (divided by the total number of judges) to achieve the aggregate act ranking. The act with the best Aggregate Act Ranking is the top finisher.

PCBS will have a panel of 5 esteemed judges, from radio and other media outlets, musicians, and board members from other Blues Societies. With an independent panel of judges, we're sure the winning band will be well-qualified to represent us at the IBC in Memphis in 2012.



Honeyboy Edwards

Goodbye to David “Honeyboy” Edwards By Sandy Hannum

David “Honeyboy” Edwards died on Monday August 29 of congestive heart failure. Mr. Edwards was born in Shaw, Mississippi on June 18, 1915. He learned to play guitar from his father, a guitarist a violinist who played in country juke joints. Honeyboy's father bought him a guitar from a sharecropper for \$8. When he was 14, Edwards left home to travel with harmonica player Big Joe Williams as an itinerant musician. He traveled the south throughout the 30s and 40s all the way to Memphis, and played blues with many of the well-known delta musicians, including the iconic Robert Johnson.

In the early 1950s Honeyboy Edwards moved to Chicago and fell in with a whole new cohort of blues musicians. He loved to fool around with timing and rhythm, and was a real audience pleaser. He continued an active performing life right up through his nineties.

Rick Sherry of the Sanctified Grumblers noted that Mr. Edwards was scheduled to play with them at this year's Chicago Blues Festival, but he had to cancel due to illness. According to Sherry, “When you played with Honeyboy you were in the millisecond of the moment. You never knew where he went. Every song was 12 bars. It was never 12 bars. He'd hold that note, look in the audience and kick his leg. Playing with him was this amazing Zen thing I'm going to miss.”

Honeyboy Edwards was widely recognized as the last of the original Mississippi delta blues men, and carried a wealth of that history in his head. Fortunately for us, many of those vivid and heart-wrenching stories were written down in his autobiography, “The World Don't Owe Me Nothing.” He was recognized with a Grammy award for best traditional blues (Continued on next page)

album in 2008 for "Last of the Great Mississippi Bluesmen: Live in Dallas." In 2010 he was honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Of course, in 2010 he was also made an honorary member of the Prairie Crossroads Blues Society. It is great that we had the opportunity to reach out to him while he was here, and make him part of the family. He will be missed.



Time Slips On By
Reviewed by Rich Cibelli

What do you get when you match two outstanding blues musicians from Houston, Texas? The answer is The Rich Del Grosso/ Jonn Del Toro Richardson Band. Moreover, the result is one heck of a great blues collaboration called "Time Slips On By," released on the Mandolin Blues Label. This CD includes 14 tracks and times out at just over 63 minutes. From the outset of "Time Slips On By," you'll be amazed at the versatility that each of these musicians brings to this project.

A perfect example is "Baby Do Wrong." The CD's first track blends a nice Texas Blues shuffle with Del Grosso as the featured soloist, who besides being a master mandolin player can also handle his own on bottleneck slide guitar.

Not to be outdone, Richardson shows his great vocal ability and lead guitar work on the project's title track. What really impressed me about "Time Slips On By," is the addition of several others who also contributed to this release including The Texas Horns, Nick Connolly on Keyboards, Sonny Boy Terry on Harmonica and Fiona Boyes who earned credit for her background vocals on "A Gig Is A Gig."

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On "Mandolin Man," Del Grosso takes time to pay homage to his hero Charlie McCoy who many years ago helped to establish the genre of mandolin blues. While "Shotgun Blues," is credited to the music of James "Yank" Rachell, another of Del Grosso's influences.

Simply put, this CD features just about everything you'd want in a blues project. There's a little shuffle, some slower ballads and traditional sounds. This band even saved some time to rock out on "A Gig Is a Gig. "

It's no wonder that "Time Slips On By," is up for a 2011 Blues Blast Magazine Award under the heading of Traditional Blues CD and is featured in many music industry publications. You'll want to listen to this CD again and again, just as I did.

"Time Slips On By," offers the listener the opportunity to hear a true master mandolin player in Del Grosso, who in addition to his many years of playing and teaching is an accomplished writer who always finds time to participate in numerous blues mandolin workshops. Make sure you stop by his website at <http://www.mandolinblues.com/newmandoindex.html> to learn much more.

Jonn Del Toro Richardson, the other part of this duo, is best known for his guitar playing with Diunna Greenleaf & Blue Mercy Blues Band. The band won the 2005 International Blues Challenge. Meanwhile, Richardson was named the winner of the Albert King Award for most promising blues guitarist at the same event, and has appeared on several more blues projects since. You can read the whole story at <http://deltoroblues.wordpress.com/about/>.

I had the privilege of seeing Del Grosso and Richardson at this year's Mississippi Valley Blues Festival during both a small workshop and concert setting. I really enjoyed the opportunity to hear them talk about their individual styles and techniques. However, I must admit that I was most surprised by someone actually playing blues on a mandolin. It's truly amazing to see what sounds come out of an instrument with 8 strings.

In my opinion, "Time Slips On By" is one of those rare CD's that comes along these days that leaves the listener in awe. I think it will do the same to you, so make sure you make this one a part of your collection. You'll be glad you did.

Corporate Sponsorships

We greatly appreciate our Corporate Sponsors for supporting the PCBS with both their funds and their missions.

Memphis on Main regularly brings impressive Blues talent to Champaign.

Fluid Events brings the Urbana Blues, Brews, and BBQs festival to town every summer, along with other Blues music events throughout the year.

Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop is providing a drum set for use in the Prairie Crossroads Society IBC challenge on October 22.

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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Prairie Crossroads Blues Society is always looking for volunteers to help out our various committees. Do you have some talents you'd like to share? We're looking for folks to help with the Newsletter, and also on the Marketing, Education and Entertainment Committees. Let our Membership chair know what you'd like to do at: prairiecrossroadsblues@gmail.com

Band Memberships

Alex Jenkins & the Bombers are working on a CD, and we are all looking forward to hearing it. They have several gigs coming up in Danville, and other points east.

The Kilborn Alley Blues Band has been traveling all over the Midwest – Kentucky, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Missouri, Michigan, and even Illinois once in a while! Catch up with them on their website. They play a regular gig at D.R. Digger's the first Wednesday of every month.

King's Highway has just released a 5-song CD called "A Harder Blues." Check it out!

The Sugar Prophets have been traveling around the midwest quite a bit this summer too, and keep a very busy schedule. They host regular open blues jams at Ko Fusion on the fourth Thursday of every month. Come out and join in.

The Painkillers are working on a CD which will come out sometime this fall. They often play at the Iron Post. Go out and get a good start to your weekend by listening to some great blues.

PCBS is still looking for bands to compete in our IBC Challenge on October 22. The deadline for bands to sign up is September 20. Get in touch with our Entertainment Committee at: entertainment@prairiecrossroadsblues.org

Prairie Crossroads Blues Society

1st Annual Blues Band Challenge Memphis on Main

Oct 22, 2011

Winners will represent **PCBS**
at the
28th Annual
International Blues Challenge

January 31, 2012 –February 4, 2012
on
Beale Street
Memphis, Tennessee

Winners will receive \$1000. in travel assistance.

- Applicants must have a member that is a resident of IL.
- Applicants will need to submit a band photo, biography, and a tape or CD of the band's music (Pic/Recording quality is not a factor)
- Drum kit provided by Skins-N-Tins Drum Shop
- Bands can sell their CD's at the event.

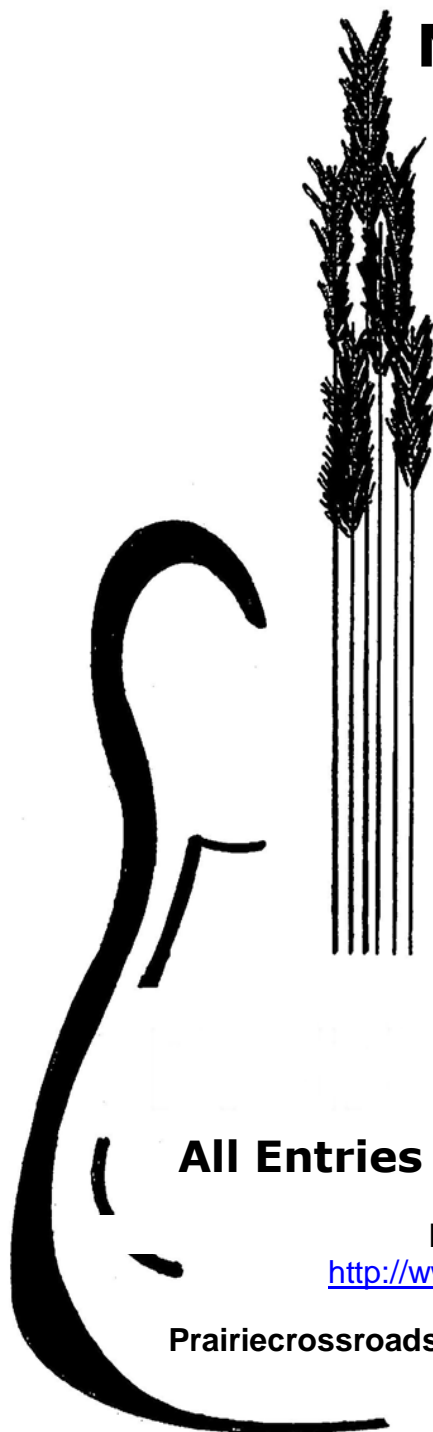
All Entries must be submitted by Sept. 20, 2011

Registration Packet available-

http://www.prairiecrossroadsblues.org/ibc_challenge2012.pdf

Prairiecrossroadsblues.org

www.facebook.com/PrairieCrossroadsBlues



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PCBS Business

The next Prairie Crossroads Blues Society Meeting is scheduled for September 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 September 28. Please submit articles, ideas, or comments to smhannum@gmail.com.

Inclusive Staff

Editor:	Sandy Hannum
Contributing Writers:	Rich Cibelli Bob Paleczny James Walker Dennis Wismer
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.

EVENTS

- Sept 1** – Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – Ansun – 7 pm
The Sugar Prophets – Doherty’s – Decatur, IL – 7:30 pm
- Sept 2** – Illinois Blues Festival – Peoria, IL – 12:00 pm – see schedule at: illinoisbluesfestival.com/schedule
Billy Galt – Jimmy Ryan’s – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Rock Island Resort – Merrill, WI – 8 pm
Beeson Brothers – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 10 pm
- Sept 3** – Illinois Blues Festival – Peoria, IL – 12:00 pm – see schedule at: illinoisbluesfestival.com/schedule
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Marquette Blues Festival – Marquette, MI – 1 pm
Billy Galt – Snappers – Danville, IL – 8 pm
T-Bird Huck & His Blues Band – River Bend Bar & Grill – Kankakee, IL – 8 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Upfront & Company – Marquette, MI – 10 pm
- Sept 4** – The Blues Deacons – Willow Ridge Winery – Shelbyville, IL – 2 pm
Candy Foster & the Shades of Blue – Hessel Park – Champaign – 6:30 pm
- Sept 5** – Andrew “Jr. Boy” Jones – Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8:30
- Sept 6** – Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm
- Sept 7** – Andrew “Jr. Boy” Jones - Goodfella’s Pub & Pizza – Pekin, IL – 7 pm
Billy Galt – Lock, Stock & Barrel – Decatur, IL – 7 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
- Sept 8** – The Sugar Prophets – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – Ansun – Champaign – 7 pm
- Sept 8-11** – Ellnora Guitar Fest – Taj Mahal, Luther Dickinson, Rory Block, Alvin Young, Adrian Belew – Krannert Center for the Performing Arts – Urbana
- Sept 9** – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Rusty’s Clubhouse & Grill – Lincoln, IL – 9 pm
The Blues Deacons – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9 pm
- Sept 10** – The Impalas – Alto Vineyards – Champaign – 7:30 pm
Kilborn Alley Blues Band – The Phoenix – Champaign – 9 pm
The Blues Deacons – Pop’s Place – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
Marty “Big Dog” Mercer CD Release Party – Electro Glide Records – Joliet, IL – 9:30 pm
- Sept 13** – Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – El Toro Bravo – Champaign – 6:30 pm

Sept 14 – Billy Galt – Lock, Stock & Barrel – Decatur, IL – 7 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9:30 pm
Sept 15 – Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – Ansun – Champaign – 7 pm
Sept 16 – The Sugar Prophets – Samuel Music – Champaign – 6 pm
 Billy Galt – Jimmy Ryan’s – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm
 Kilborn Alley Blues Band – Iron Post – Urbana – 9 pm
Sept 17 – The Sugar Prophets – Savoy Orchard Days – Savoy, IL – 12 pm
 The Blues Deacons – Monticello Celebration – Monticello, IL – 4 pm
 Alex Jenkins & the Bombers – Ike’s Bar – Danville, IL – 8 pm
 Matthew Curry & the Blues Fury – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 8 pm
 Billy Galt and Jeff Kerr – Huber’s – Champaign – 8 pm
Sept 21 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – O’Sullivan’s Italian Pub – Fort Wayne, IN – 9 pm
Sept 22 – The Sugar Prophets – Ko Fusion – Champaign – Open Blues Jam – 10 pm
Sept 23 – The Sugar Prophets – Sliderz – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
 Delta Kings – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9 pm
Sept 24 – Alex Jenkins & the Bombers – Gino’s Bar – Danville, IL – 8 pm
Sept 26 – The Sugar Prophets – Blue Monday at the Alamo – Springfield, IL – 8:30 pm
Sept 29 – Vincent Hayes Project – Legacy Bar & Grill – Bradley, IL – 7 pm
Sept 30 – Billy Galt – Jimmy Ryan’s – Decatur, IL – 6:30 pm

Oct 1 – Alex Jenkins & the Bombers – The Sand Bar – Crawfordsville, IN – 8 pm
Oct 5 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
Oct 11 – Too Slim & the Taildraggers – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Oct 12 – The Sugar Prophets – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 10 pm
Oct 14 – Keith Harden – Bentley’s Pub – Champaign – 8 pm
Oct 15 – Candy Foster & the Shades of Blue – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm
Oct 22 – **Prairie Crossroads Blues Society IBC Challenge – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 6 pm**
 The Blues Deacons – Trading Post Saloon – Springfield, IL – 9 pm
Oct 27 – Blues Blast Music Awards – Buddy Guy’s Legends – Chicago – 5 pm

The Sugar Prophets – Ko Fusion – Champaign – Open Blues Jam – 10 pm
Oct 28 – The Reba Russell Band – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 8 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Sliderz – Decatur, IL – 9 pm
Oct 29 – The Sugar Prophets – Midway Pub & Grub – Effingham, IL – 8 pm

Nov 2 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
Nov 4-5 – C-U Folk & Roots Festival
Nov 10 – Ivas John Band – Venue TBA – 7 pm
Nov 12 – Candy Foster & the Shades of Blue – Cowboy Monkey – Champaign – 9:30 pm
Nov 19 – The Sugar Prophets – Sliderz – Decatur, IL – 4 pm
 The Sugar Prophets – Wild Dog Saloon – Decatur, IL – 9:30 pm
Nov 24 – The Sugar Prophets – Ko Fusion – Open Blues Jam – Champaign – 10 pm

Dec 1 – Dave Herrero – Kankakee Valley Boat Club – Kankakee, IL – 7 pm
Dec 7 – Kilborn Alley Blues Band – D.R. Digger’s – Champaign – 9 pm
Dec 9 – The Sugar Prophets – Memphis on Main – Champaign – 9 pm
Dec 17 – The Sugar Prophets – Midway Pub & Grub – Effingham, IL – 8:30 pm
Dec 22 – The Sugar Prophets – Ko Fusion – Open Blues Jam – Champaign – 10 pm

Mt. Bluesmore



Hey, Wolf. Champaign-Urbana sure was happy to see BB King the other night.

Yeah, that was a regular love fest. I sure do like the way blues folks respect their elders. They also know how to party.