

BLUSD

NEWSLETTER



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This newsletter is meant to serve the community of blues lovers both musicians & those who just love to listen. As a part of that community, and in order to better serve you, whether you are a current, paid up member of BLUSD or not (though you should be) may I request that you share this newsletter with anyone you know that may consider joining and supporting this long standing organization which provides so many events and opportunities for both musicians and audiences.

I also invite you to submit your own articles for consideration to be included in future issues. You might have some great ideas for articles that we have not yet tapped into. I don't mean writing an article about how great your own band is, but perhaps writing of your experiences attending a blues event you went to, or perhaps what led you to find that blues hit an emotional chord within you. Maybe you might want to write about the first time you got up on stage at one of the local jams around San Diego, or your experiences both positive and negative about being in a band, struggling to get gigs, working with club owners, fellow musicians or whatever might be relevant. An article about the great musical round-a-bout you took to Chicago, New Orleans or Tuscon is just another idea Including a few good photos may also

enhance your article.

If your submission is a bit controversial, that's okay too, as long as is written in a valid, thoughtful and respectful manner. You don't need to name names. Heck, you might just have a question or observation to make that would be thought provoking. Not to worry if you find yourself a poor speller or weak in the areas of punctuation or grammar. That's what editors are for.

Feel free to submit an article or contact me via Facebook if this invitation appeals to you....and I hope it does. --Steve Douglas

The BLUES MUSIC AWARDS



BLUSD in da house! Heine Andersen, Sandy Cordell, Barbara Kabes, Missy Andersen, Hollie Alcocer and Missy Andersen making her BMA debut

BLUSD

NEWSLETTER

The Blues Music Awards are presented by the Blues Foundation in Memphis every year during the month of May. Nominations are made by a confidential nationwide group of about 125 industry professionals, then voted on by the Blues Foundation members. The spectacular awards ceremony took place on May 7th this year. It started with a pre-show reception at 5:30 featuring Best Debut Artist nominees Austin Walkin' Cane from

Cleveland and Annika Chambers from Houston, followed by a three-course meal served as the first awards were announced. It continued with performances by many of the nominated artists until past midnight. This even offers a rare chance for the creme de la creme of the blues world to spend time together, and the atmosphere is one of camaraderie and conviviality. Everyone is decked-out to the nines, and photo ops abound!



2015 made history as the first show to sell out all of the tables. It also marked the BMA debut of San Diego's own Missy Andersen, nominated for Soul/Blues Female Artist of the Year. Missy stated "It was exciting to celebrate with so many people I

already knew and some I just met. There were so many memorable moments, but Billy Boy Arnold calling me Sassy Mae is probably at the top of the list." Although that award went to the late, great, Sista Monica Parker, it does not detract from the honor of being nominated. I like what guitarist Charlie Baty, formerly of Little Charlie and the Night Cats,

had to say about the awards “ "I do find it somewhat objectionable that one person or record is singled out in a category and declared the winner - sort of implying that the other nominees are losers. But what I have witnessed so far has shown me that this ceremony brings a large part of our blues community together for a few days and gives us all not only the chance to visit and exchange stories, but also imparts a sense of legitimacy to the blues field - a musical genre largely ignored by the Grammys. It is fun to attend a sort of convention of both fans and peers, and run into them both on the streets and in restaurants and hotels. It is provocative to consider all of the blues that emanated from this city and area and to see how the music has created a tourist microclimate here."

In addition to the awards ceremony, the clubs on Beale Street feature many of the nominated artists throughout the week, resulting in some amazing collaborations unlikely to be witnesses anywhere else. So if you have been considering a trip to the BMAs, I encourage

you to make it happen. I know I don't plan to miss them from here on



Elvin Bishop: Band of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year



Current and former BLUSD presidents Janine Harty and Michael Kinsman

don't any of out!



B.B. King Entertainer of the Year
Bobby Rush



NEW BLUES MUSIC MENTOR PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND-submitted by Janet Blair

The Musician Mentor Program at Madison High School has been very well received. Danny BassCat Perez, who plays with the Award Winning San Diego Band, The Bayou Brothers, has been working side by side with Jesse Rogers to educate the Madison High School Jazz Band about the Blues.

Danny says, "Musically, we have been able to implement blues progressions and chords, the understanding of harmony and how to approach soloing in blues progressions in all keys. Jesse has allowed me the freedom to work with individual ensembles, the rhythm section, drums, bass, keyboards, guitar and the various horn sections as well." He states how rewarding it is to be able to encourage the students and witness their confidence levels improve in their approach to their individual instruments.

This is a new program for Blues In The Schools, BITS, and an important part of the strengthening of our relationship with the Clairemont Mesa cluster of schools. This cluster has 19 schools and we have been focusing on becoming community partners through the Clairemont Mesa Education Foundation. This year we will hold, for the second time, our Annual Blues Music Summer Camp for teenagers at Madison High School.

NEW Releases on CD



Sco-Mule

Gov't Mule
Evil Teen Records

In 1999, jazz guitarist John Scofield joined the three members of Gov't Mule (guitarist Warren Haynes, bass player Allen Woody and drummer Matt Abts), onstage for the first time together for two shows in Georgia. With the addition of jazz keyboardist Dr. Dan Matrazzo, the collaboration was legendary - jazzy, funky, bluesy and rocking. They jammed into the stratosphere together, cooking all

night.

Mule fans have been waiting fifteen years for the release of the live recordings made during those amazing performances. The project had been shelved when Gov't Mule's beloved bass player, Allen Woody, passed away before the production of the album was completed. Just now released in 2015 as a two CD set (with a additional third CD, if bought online at the mulenet website), *Sco-Mule* is a jaw-dropper.

Though well-recognized as a jazz star, Scofield's guitar and pedal mastery extends into the blues and rock world, while Haynes' experience with the Allman Brothers Band and the experimental side project, Gov't Mule, frequently led him into jazz territory. With the incomparable Allen Woody and Matt Abts driving the amazing grooves that arose when Scofield and Haynes connected, the results were magical.

Among the eleven extraordinary tracks, one of the standouts is "Kind of Bird," the 1991 Allman Brothers Band instrumental written by Dickey Betts and Warren Haynes as a tribute to Charlie Parker, which appears on both discs. The 18 minute alternate version, on the bonus disc, is an absolute trip, an experience, rather than just a performance captured by the recorder. The electrifying interaction among the musicians, who are clearly having the time of their lives throughout the recordings, still charges the air during playback fifteen years later. You can't help but envisioning the band grinning with joy as they trade licks back and forth.

DM





The Kentucky Headhunters with Johnnie Johnson

alligator.com

Review by Steve Douglas

This latest release, which can be bought directly from the Alligator.com website, Amazon or iTunes, is guaranteed to bring a smile with its rollicking mix of swing, rock, blues and Southern charm. Highlighting a bouillabaisse of tunes is the amazing keyboard master, Johnnie Johnson whose past CD releases I have enjoyed tremendously. Shortly after performing with the Rolling Stones during their rendition of 'Honky Tonk Woman' in 2003, Johnny Johnson flew down to Kentucky to join his friends, The Kentucky Headhunters, to lay some tracks for their 'Soul' CD. Apparently, things went so well that they just kept the tapes running. Though Johnnie passed away in 2005, the unreleased tapes were not forgotten which brings us this CD release of unissued performances. It's a good thing that those tapes were kept in mind as Mr. Johnson elevates some already fine tunes by the Kentucky Headhunters. 'Meet Me in Bluesland' counters Johnnie Johnson's keyboard work with the soulful lead guitar of the Headhunter's Greg Martin and though recorded in the studio, makes you feel as if it were played directly in front of your seat at the local

club.

Thoroughly enjoyable is the Kentucky Headhunters switching vocalists from song to song providing different voicing throughout the album. A great cover of the classic 'Little Queenie' adds some special sauce to the rest of the CD's all original tunes from the opening number 'Stumbling' which serves as the invite to the party. 'Fast Train', the album's solo instrumental number features Johnnie Johnson just ripping away on the keys most ably supported by a solid rhythm section and great guitar work. The vocals on almost every number are placed nicely upfront in the mix without having the instruments buried in a mux of sound. I can't say I have a favorite number as they all contribute to that fine bouillabaisse I mentioned, however, for me, Johnnie Johnson just brings everything to a totally new level.

UPCOMING BLUES EVENTS

6/5 & 6/6: San Marcos Rock, Blues & BBQ Festival

6/6: Art Around Adams

6/6: The Butterfly Effect Live Music Benefit at Tio Leo's

6/6: Big Jon's Summer Guitar Blues Bash at Proud Mary's

6/13: Candye Kane, Casey Hensley and Nathan James at Brooks Sunshine Theater in Oceanside

6/13: Soul to Soul Stevie Ray Vaughan Tribute at Pala Casino

6/18: George Thorogood & the Destroyers w/ Brian Setzer at Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay

6/20: Julian Blues Bash

6/27: OB Street Fair & Chili Cook-off

Here is the music line-up for the upcoming 2015 Ocean Beach Street Fair and chili cook-off Sat June 27. We are once again a proud sponsor of this amazing annual community event.

92107 Stage (OB Music)

10-10:40a - Kris Wott

11-11:40a - Soul Ablaze

12-1:00 pm - Rebecca Jade and the Cold Facts

1:30-2:30 - Jefferson Jay Band

3:00-4:00 - The Stolen Hubcaps

4:30-5:30 - Bad Science Fiction

6:00-7:00 - Superunloader

Bacon Stage (Americana, Alternative)

10-10:40a - Millionaire Beach Bums

11-11:40a - Temple of the Dad

12-1:00 - RDG

1:30-2:30 - The Sickstring Outlaws

3:00-4:00 - The Shambles

4:30-5:30 - Falling Doves

6:00-7:00 - The Fooks

Artist's Alley Stage (Blues, Traditional)

10-10:40a - Travis Oliver

11-11:40a - The Homesick Hitchers

12-1:00 - Rhythm and the Method

1:30-2:30 - The Bi-Polar Express

3:00-4:00 - Ass Pocket Whiskey Fellas

4:30-5:30 - Quel Bordel

6:00-7:00 - The Shifty Eyed Dogs

Wonderland Stage (Acoustic, Rock)

10-10:45 - Annie Rettic Trio

11:00-11:45 - Tribute to Chelsea Flor

12-12:45 - Peter Hall

1:00 - 1:45 - John Miller

2:00 – 3:00 - John Tafolla

3:30 - 4:30 - Dave Gilbert

5:00-6:00 - The Santana Bros

6/27: Rick Estrin & the Night Cats at Ramona Mainstage

7/2: John Mayall at the Belly Up Tavern

7/12 & 7/13: Keb Mo at the Belly Up Tavern

7/27/-7/31: BLUSD Summer Camp at Madison HS

What is like for a musician to be playing at their first major music festival? Gator by the Bay would certainly count as one, so I asked Rhythm Rose to write of her experience.

OUR FIRST TIME- RAIN & SHINE

My experience performing at Gator by the Bay
By Rhythm Rose

“We’re playing Gator by the Bay,” I nonchalantly mentioned to my Dad, Papa Shawn (who’s also one of my guitar players). I jokingly hid my excitement and awaited his response.

“No sh*t!?!?” he spouted, wide-eyed and smiling. I broke down and chuckled, almost in disbelief.

“Yeah!” I replied. “THEY actually called US!”

One day prior I had received the call. My band, **Rhythm and the Method**, was being invited to play the biggest blues-themed festival in San Diego- **Gator by the Bay**. We’d been playing around the local music scene for eight years now, and this was the first time we’d been considered for this well-known event.

Gator takes place over Mother’s Day weekend, and as this year’s date was approaching, my anxiety grew. “*What if they don’t take us seriously as a blues band? What if they don’t like us and we don’t get invited back...?*” I go on in my mind about it.

“It’s supposed to rain this weekend,” Papa raises his eyebrows as if to ask what we’ll do if it does. I paused.

“We play, rain AND shine.”

The day was here. Early on things looked gray and gloomy, but our spirit didn’t. I decided that regardless of the possibility of cancellation, we’d show up and be ready to play. We’ve worked too hard to let this great opportunity wash away with the rain.

I looked down at my phone to see the artist manager from the festival team calling. *Here we go.*

“Your entire stage had to be cancelled due to the rain....” her voice sounded hurried. *Nooooooooo!* I thought to myself briefly. “Buuuuthold on....” Man, the suspense was killing me. “Actually, we can move you to another stage if you’re willing to adjust your set time....Are you in or out?” *In.*

I blurted “In!” and contacted the rest of the crew. We arrived relatively dry, after being rushed by squirrely golf carts across grassy Spanish Landing Park. The stage we ended up performing on was big and beautiful! Although the attendance was likely affected by the weather, the crowd was loving and receptive. All stayed dry and avoided any kind of unintended pyro-technics.



On that note, hope **Rhythm and the Method** gets invited back to Gator next year, and this time, with the sun shining brightly.

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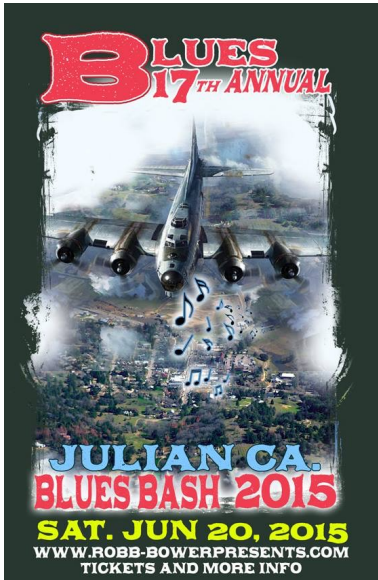
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Guitar Workshop at CSUSM

According to the daily newspaper, this guitar workshop has been held yearly in Canada since 2002. It will now be debuting in the U.S. this month on the Cal State San Marcos campus to be held June 21-26 featuring a faculty of nationally known performers as well as some of San Diego's own musicians, Robin Henkel, Billy Ray and George Svoboda to name but a few. Former Jeff Beck/Prince bassist, Rhonda Smith, and former Joe Satriani/Steve Vai bassist, Stuart Hame will also be joining Canadian guitar virtuoso, Dave Martone and guitarist Paul Gilbert as some of a few of the confirmed instructors.

This first time U.S. June workshop is open to students ages 10 and up with skill levels ranging from amateur to professional. Covering many music genres including rock, jazz, blues, classical and folk, it is sure to be an eye opening experience for all who sign up. All students must provide their own instruments though small amplifiers can be rented. Tuition cost is \$870.00 per student. Room & board costs, should you need them, are \$495., and meal packages for lunch & dinner are available for students who do not stay on campus.

Registration and more information can be done by phone at (905) 567-8000 or online at guitarworkshopplus.com/workshop/us-online-application

B.B. KING Sept 16, 1925-May 14, 2015

What could possibly be a suitable salute to the passing of the great B.B. King? I tried to rack my brain to think of something I could possibly say that would carry weight and meaning and that has not already been said so many times over and over. It then occurred to me to reiterate what you, the reader, felt and said when news of his passing was announced. So here are your own words dedicated to the blues guitarist's guitarist.



"Rest in Peace B.B. King. I had the honor of seeing him play at San Diego Street Scene back in the 90's. What a show."

"As a 15 yr old , one of the first albums I bought was B.B.King live at Cook County Jail. The Beatles were near done and I had been bitten by the blues rock bug via , Clapton , The Allman Bros & Johnny Winter , and figured I needed to see where they learned the blues from."

"Every guitar player owes The King of The Blues a debt of gratitude, even if you don't play blues. That vibrato you use when you bend strings, comes from B.B. King. What an inspiration he was. 89 yrs old and still performing.

Long may your spirit live , Riley Blues Boy King. You were THE MAN . A true gent, who, like Muddy, always had time and showed kindness to his white " sons " (Clapton , Beck , Winter). Rest in peace Maestro. Lucille and guitars all over the world , gently weep today."

“The end of an era...but it all continues on when, like BB, you do what you love and inspire others. Just thinking about all the players BB inspired. What a legacy! RIP”

“I'm glad that I got to know him as a human being. He touched my life in so many different ways. My father used to travel with him, and open up his shows back in the 70's .. The last 2 times that he came to San Diego , I opened for him. I got to talk to him many times, and found out many yrs. ago "what kind of man" he was. I love BB King !”

“I'm glad that the suffering and the indignity of lingering is over. Every time the vibrato of that one note is finessed out a guitar, BB lives on. “

“Thank you for remembering my name 45 years later. The flask that we shared many times at the Roadhouse.”

“Thank you for "making yourself known to me”.

“BB King. To you I am grateful for the music, life's lessons and joy. And to all of you who embraced pushing and squeezing strings.”

“B.B.would surely sing "Let The GoodTimes Roll”.

“My heart is heavy with the passing of the legendary BB King. His musical influence spans all the genres. Whether they acknowledge it or not, I believe all musicians have a bit of BB in their soul.”

“The Thrill' will never be gone, but today the rain seems appropriate “

“Today, we should all be B.B. KingRIP Blues Man.”

“The rain is falling, and I have the blues because B.B. King is dead. Words can't describe so I will just listen today, and play some guitar tonight. Thinking on you B.B. and am thankful for what you have given me. Rest in peace.”

“RIP B.B. King. You will always be a national treasure. We have all loved you and your music. Some of us have even been blessed to perform your songs. I feel as if I have lost a family member.”

“A day for tears....”

“I remember he was the first musician that I ever wanted to listen to all the time. Even did an elementary school project on him and made a cardboard guitar.”

“Man... we've lost some Big Legends the past few years! It's gonna take a little while before

my thrill comes back... but it's definitely gone now.”

“The Thrill is Gone” RIP BB King, legendary Blues guitarist. Goodnight to his famous guitar ‘Lucille.’

RIP B.B. KING



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If yes, name of Artist/Band: _____ Band website: _____

Brief description of your music: _____



Check out member benefits and join or renew your membership at www.blusd.org.

BLUSD is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Dues are tax deductible and also support our Blues In The School program.

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Editor

Steve Douglas

GIG CALENDAR

GigCalendar@BLUSD.org and/or post at www.BLUSD.org
or use Google Calendar
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WEB MASTER

Position Open

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Deadlines for mid-monthly newsletter:

Articles/Events/Ads/Info should be submitted by the 10th
to michelelundeen@live.com in order to ensure inclusion.

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- OUR MISSION -

To preserve and promote awareness of the Blues, America's first musical
art form. To entertain and educate the existing and growing audience and
to be responsive to the music community's needs by presenting and
supporting local and national Blues artists and culture.

BLUES LOVERS UNITED OF SAN DIEGO
P.O. BOX 34077 - SAN DIEGO, CA 92163
Business Line: 619.630.9416
Info@BLUSD.org - www.BLUSD.org



WANTED: Musicians 11-17 years old • All Levels Welcome



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