



BLUE INK

www.BLUSD.org

MARCH 2012

Vol 14 - Issue 3

Spring Harp Fest XIII is free & fun

Yes, the Spring Harp Fest XIII is free, fun... and it's for everyone! Their mission is to promote understanding and appreciation of the harmonica and pass on the love of the harmonica to the next generation.

The 13th annual Spring Harp Fest will be held Saturday, April 7th, from noon to 6 p.m. in picturesque Harry Griffen Park (a short walk from the Amaya Street Trolley Station), in beautiful La Mesa, near Grossmont High School.

Every Easter weekend some of the world's finest harmonica players perform at this family-friendly outdoor musical event. Be sure to pack up sunscreen, lawn chairs and a few good friends and join us for a good old-fashioned concert in the park.

One of the audience's favorite parts of SHF is the "Unknown Players' Jam." Any harp slinger in attendance has the opportunity to get up and play 12 bars with great back-up band. The audience decides on the best jammer, who then receives a trophy and a fabulous prize.

Spring Harp Fest XIII will once again benefit the BLUSD, Blues in the Schools program. BLUSD presents interactive



blues concerts in local schools and include hands-on student participation.

The Spring Harp Fest is a totally non-profit effort, produced by a hardworking group of volunteer organizers and musicians dedicated to keeping the appreciation of the harmonica alive for our next generation. During these times of school deficits, we are very proud to support American music in our schools.

Spring Harp Fest raises funds through donations from local individuals and businesses and at the event itself from freewill donations of food, soft drinks, T-shirts, CD's and prizes for drawings. All profits go to support the Blues in the Schools musical outreach program sponsored by BLUSD.

Want to help? You can donate or volunteer through our website at www.springharpfest.org or contact Budd Willis, 619-252-1844 or buddlite@cox.net.

Schedule (subject to change)

12:00 Jon Gindick solo
12:30 Chet and the Committee with Art Faxas
1:00 Harmonica John Frazer with

The Bayou Brothers

1:30 Dane Terry with Cadillac Wreckers
2:00 Billy Watson's Intl Silver String
Submarine Band

2:30 Unknown Players Jam
3:00 Jason Ricci (National touring artist)
4:00 Rob Paparozzi with Bernard Purdie
5:00 Gary Sipperly with Blue Dawg
5:30 All Star Jam
6:00 Farewell and see you next year!

Spring Harp Fest = Musicians standing together to make a difference
www.springharpfest.org ■



Star-studded Candye Kane benefit

Some of the biggest names in blues and roots music will converge on the Belly Up Tavern on April 30 for Big Love, a benefit for cancer-stricken singer Candye Kane. Tommy Castro, Janiva Magness, Dave Alvin & the Guilty Ones and the reunited Beat Farmers will perform. In addition, Rick Estrin & the Nightcats, Anson Funderburgh, Earl Thomas, Debbie Davies and past and present members of the Candye Kane Band will also perform.

"The only way an event like this come together is because of the respect and love these musicians have for Candye Kane," said producer Michael Kinsman (our former BLUSD prez). "It's unlikely we will see a lineup of all these stars again anytime soon."

Kane, 50, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer for the second time in late January. She has begun treatment and expects to be unable to perform at times over the next couple of months as she awaits surgery.

Kane has recorded 11 albums under her name and has been nominated for seven Blues Music Awards in recent years. This year, Kane has been nominated as Best Contemporary Female Artist and as the B.B. King Entertainer of the Year, the highest honor bestowed by The Blues Foundation. The BMA award show will be held May 10 in Memphis. ...continued page 3



BLUES LOVERS UNITED OF SAN DIEGO

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Deadlines for monthly newsletter:

Articles/Events info should be submitted by the 20th &
Calendar by the 23th 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
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BLUES IN THE SCHOOLS

*Live, interactive blues musical presentations
available to share, inform and entertain!*

Contact: BITS@BLUSD.org



BLUSD TABLE GIG

Janiva Magness

CD Release Party

Saturday, Mar 16, 9 p.m. (\$12 cover)

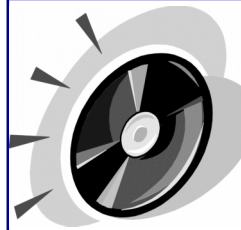
Humphrey's Backstage

www.humphreysbackstagelive.com

2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92101 619-224-3577



Janiva Magness is nominated in the *Contemporary Blues Female Artist Of The Year* category for the 2012 Blues Music Awards.



Get your CD Reviewed

Have you produced a CD recently?
If so, Blue Ink wants to review it.

Please send submissions to:

Blue Ink Editor / BLUSD
P.O. Box 34077, San Diego, CA 92163



www.BLUES.org

The Blues Foundation

AFFILIATE

Blues Lovers United of San Diego is a 501(c)3 non profit, membership driven corporation affiliated with The Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN, an umbrella organization for Blues Societies worldwide.



I feel honored to be able to take on the responsibility as the BITS Coordinator. Rand and his team have done a fantastic job building up this Program. I come from a music and education background with extensive experience in sales and marketing. Over the last 30 years my passion and work in education has been developing programs that integrate the arts into the school curriculum. I thought when I left Australia to marry Stoney B two years ago that I had left that behind me but apparently not. It seems I am destined to be involved in this valuable area of contribution to our young people. To be of service in this capacity is truly a blessing for me.

I have found a team of willing people to assist in the continued growth of the BITS Program. We are fortunate to have a collective of people whose talents and experience combine to cover all the aspects that require attention. Soon we will be scheduling some BITS Assemblies with our main provider Harmonium. The plans for not one but possibly three Blues Summer Camps are underway.

We have a new Workshop for Teachers, initiated by Rand, planned for March 24th. This is targeted to have Music and History Teachers collaborate and create a Lesson Plan for Grades 6 – 8 using the blues as the core of the integrated Lesson Plan. Cathy Hammond and I are looking to develop a Research Study out of this area to measure the effectiveness of our BITS presentations in the context of an integrated arts curriculum. The recent results publicized from the DREAM project demonstrate what a valuable part the Arts play in improving our young people's academic performance.

I would like to thank Janine Harty, Michele Lundeen, Ric Lee, Cathy Hammond, Shann Miner and Scottie Blinn for being part of the Team and also Rand and Deb Mech for their ongoing roles as mentors and advisors. In advance I would also like to thank all the Musicians who have dedicated their time to being involved in this outstanding Program.

It's on.... Janet Blair/ BITS Director ■

Candye's benefit ...continued on page 1

Kane also has been an outspoken activist for women's rights and human rights issues. She is the co-founder of United By Music, a Dutch-based organization that teaches music performance skills to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Kane suffered her first bout of pancreatic cancer in April 2008 and was able to battle through it. She also has overcome numerous hardships during her tumultuous life prior to her emergence as a rockabilly and blues singer. She has written and performed a number of sensitive songs about social issues as well as some ribald and bawdy songs. Her 2000 recording "The Toughest Girl Alive" became her moniker and her 2010 autobiographical musical stage play was titled that.

"This event is payback for all the courageous stands has taken in her life," Kinsman said. "She clearly has won the hearts of these musicians who were eager to donate their time and talent to her benefit."

Tickets for the event are available for \$30 at the Belly Up Tavern, or through www.bellyup.com. A limited number of VIP/Donor tickets are available for \$100 through BLUSD at www.blusd.org. VIP/Donors will get preferred reserved seating as well as gift bag of blues. Tax-free donations may also be made through BLUSD.

San Felipe Blues & Arts Fiesta

2012 marks the 6th year for the San Felipe Blues & Arts Fiesta. In the past two years rock music seemed to prevail but the blues, soul and swing are back. San Diego and Baja musicians will perform at the picturesque El Cortez Hotel in the friendly, colorful, seaside village of San Felipe, Baja, Mexico located on the brilliant Sea of Cortez. Fine artists will also show their various original works.

The music lineup features Baja band, Coyote Mike and The Wetbacks, San Diego based artists Billy Watson & His International Silver String Submarine Band, Nathan James, Backwater Blues Band with special guests, Bayou Brothers, the Mercedes Moore Band, Chet Cannon, and young soul/R&B act, Inspired and The Sleep... plus an all star Jam finale. Don't forget the pre (Fri Mar 23) and post (Sun Mar 25) festival event shows.

Music, art, food, drink surrounds you in the midst of all the love and appreciation that this great little community of San Felipe has to offer. They welcome all to attend and they roll the red carpet for artists and guests.

Helping to put this event together is Gary Dilley and the San Felipe Lion's Club, El Cortez Hotel, John and Rachel Pack of Baja Good Life Club, Tom Stewart of Backwater Blues Band and the community of San Felipe. All proceeds go to local charities. Pro-sound will be provided by engineer Justin Barton of JB Soundscapes, engineer/tech for Dwight Yokum and soundman for the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise.

San Felipe is safe, friendly location to visit. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Proceeds benefit charities via the Lion's. VIP packages and hotel packages are available. More info visit www.bluesandarts.com or www.bajagoodlife.com.

GIG CALENDAR IS ONLINE ONLY at www.blusd.org

BLUES JAMS

Call venue to confirm

SUNDAY:

- **Downtown Cafe** 2:30-6 pm (signup at 2 pm)
182 East Main St., El Cajon (619) 440-5687
Host: Chet and The Committee
- **Mr. Peabody's** "Best Damn Jam" 6 - 10 pm every other Sun
136 Encinitas Blvd, Encinitas, CA 92024 (760) 753-7192
Host: Gomez Blues Project
- **Sky Box** 7-10 pm (858) 273-1226 (starting Feb 12)
Featuring a very Special Guest set 7-8pm
4809 Clairemont Dr., San Diego (Clairemont Square)
Host: Jaz jamtheblues@gmail.com
- **The Kraken** 4 - 9 pm
2531 So. Coast Hwy, Cardiff (760) 634-6865
Host: Blues Brokers (858) 481-6580

MONDAY:

- **Humphrey's Backstage** "Pro Jam" 7 - 11 pm
(occasional Mons / call to confirm)
2241 Shelter Island Dr., Pt. Loma (619) 224-3577
Host: The Committee & Friends
- **Gaslamp Speakeasy** 8 pm - 12 am
708 4th Ave. downtown San Diego (619) 239-9994
Host: Stoney B. Blues
- **The Kraken** 8:30 pm
2531 So. Coast Hwy, Cardiff (760) 634-6865
Host: Doug Allen

TUESDAY:

- **Lacey J's** "Best Damn Jam" 8 - 11 pm
8861 N. Magnolia Ave., Santee, CA 92071 (619) 448-8550
Host: Gomez Blues Project
- **The Kraken** 8:30 pm
2531 So. Coast Hwy, Cardiff (760) 634-6865
Host: Doug Allen
- **Patrick's Gaslamp Pub** "Chicken Wing Jam" 8-11 pm
Gaslamp (619) 233-3077
Host: Walter Gentry (all styles welcomed)

WEDNESDAY:

- **Cafe La Maze** 7 - 10 pm
1441 Highland Ave, National City (619) 474-3222
- **Last Call** 8 pm
4997 El Cajon Blvd, El Cajon (619) 287-9505
Host: Dana Garrett kid_tater@yahoo.com

FRIDAY:

- **Del Cerro Rec** "Slo-Jam" Acoustic 6:30 - 9 pm
(every 3rd Friday)
Host: Walt Richards (619) 589-8177
- **Royal Dive** "Happy Hour Jam" 6 - 9 pm (1st & 3rd Fri)
2939 San Luis Rey Rd., Oceanside (760) 733-1911
Host: "Mark of The Blues" Abbott

Artist Spotlight... By rosalea (rls)

DANA "KID TATER" GARRETT



Saxophone & Vocals

Dana Garrett started playing music in San Diego in 1979 with Buddy Blue. Through the years he has been in, and the leader of several bands. When I asked about his current band, he responded "Going Solo! Solo you can't hear me, ha-ha!"

Rls: I know of bands that have downsized, but going solo is quite a leap. Why did you come to that decision?

DG: Many reasons, the state of the economy for one. It's hard to find venues that pay a decent wage for a band. And it's hard to find good musicians that will learn new material and be willing to work for peanuts.

I have very eclectic taste and the music I play is all over the map. Blues-jazz -rock-country—it's hard to find players that can cover all that ground. The ones that can expect a good wage, I can't afford them. Had a date booked for the band—got a call from club manager—he went over his budget—I pitched the solo act to save him money—he went for it!

So it goes whatcha gonna do! I've gone to state of the art backing tracks and it's a challenge for me. If I make a mistake a good band can cover me, but a backing track has no forgiveness.

Rls: Being solo has got to have changed some of the material that you are playing.

DG: I try to cover all my favorite sax players and there's a ton of them. To name a few: King Curtis Jr., Walker Clarence Clemmons, Kenny G, David Sanborn, Louis Jordan.

Rls: That's a lot of contrast.

DG: And singing songs with great Sax hooks, "Careless Whisper" (George Michael), "Baker St." (Jerry Rafferty), "Turn the Page" (Bob Segar), and the list goes on.

Rls: Sweet! What's the plan for the next 1 to 5 years?

DG: To get out there and work as much as possible. My mission is to entertain.

Gigs:

Dana "Kid Tater" Garrett solo

March 15th. 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

The Regal Bar, 8344 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa

Dana-G.com www.danafrankgarrett.com

CD Reviews *By Janine Harty*



Earl Thomas INTRODUCING THE BLUES AMBASSADORS

Self-produced

Earl Thomas no longer lives in San Diego, but his roots here run deep. It was here that he formed the original Blues Ambassadors, who played most Sunday afternoons at Winston's

for years in the early 90s. Earl has gone on to record with many different lineups in several genres, but this new release is proof that he is a bluesman at heart. The new Blues Ambassadors are Kedar Roy on bass, Robert Sidwell on guitar, Paul Revelli on drums, Bob Welsh on guitar and electric piano, and organist Takeshi Komori. The band swings from beginning to end on this stellar release. Nine of the thirteen songs on the release were written or co-written by Earl, whose writing skills continue to amaze. And no one is better at delivering powerful vocals. You'll be glad you added this one to your collection.

Earl will be at Winston's in San Diego with the Blues Ambassadors on April 8, and will be performing unplugged with guitarist Eddie Angel at Caffè Calabria on April 10.

Beth Hart and Joe Bonamassa DON'T EXPLAIN

J&R Adventures

"Don't Explain" is an awe-inspiring pairing of two artists whose paths might not be expected to cross under normal circumstances. Beth Hart is a formidable singer/songwriter and pianist who first achieved acclaim by winning a "Star Search" competition in the early 90s. Though she is not primarily a blues singer, she has portrayed Janis Joplin in the theatrical production "Love, Janis" and boasts a rabid following, especially in Europe. Simply put, she can wail. Joe Bonamassa is a master of wailing blues-rock guitar with a prolific output. Joe approached Beth about this project, and she accepted without hesitation. The way they play off one another is simply astonishing. Their interpretations of standards such as "I'll Take Care of You," "Ain't No Way," and the title track make them sound like new material. The recent loss of Etta James lends poignancy to covers of "I'd Rather Go Blind" and "Something's Got a Hold on Me." Unexpected treats include Tom Wait's "Chocolate Jesus" and Melody Gardot's, "Your Heart is as Black as Night." This release is a beauty from beginning to end.



- 3/8: Joe Louis Walker CD release party at Humphrey's Backstage Lounge
- 3/10: Mossy Volkswagen 17th Annual Blues Festival at Humphrey's Backstage Lounge
- 3/15: Shane Dwight at Humphrey's Backstage Lounge
- 3/16: Janiva Magness CD release party at Humphrey's Backstage Lounge (BLUSD Table Gig)
- 3/24: 6th Annual San Felipe International Blues & Arts Fiesta

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Name of additional member (couple): _____

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Address: _____

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If yes, name of Artist/Band: _____

Band website: _____

Brief description of your music: _____

***BLUSD has revamped its member benefits and added a band membership category. Check out these new benefits and join or renew your membership at www.blusd.org.**

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

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