

Happy New Year!

JAN 2011



Cool Issue 198 The Publication of the Linn County Blues Society - lcbs.org January 2011

Linn County Blues Society
PO Box 2672
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 - 11 PM -midnight - The Melting Pot
 - Midnight Blues CD

**The Magnetos
at O'Malley's**



Bob Dorr and Ralph Stevens (right) along with the Blue Band at Gatherings in Cedar Rapids for a New Bo fund raiser.

"two old guys rubbin' it"



In this January 2011 issue —

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- 2011 Chili Challenge, Sunday, February 27
- Big Mo's CD review: Reverend Raven & TCSAB
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scan for LCBS web info

PJ is 50!

Will you still need me, will you still feed me...?

Frank Wilson

PJ Harrington, proprietor of Checkers Tavern & Eatery, celebrated his 50th birthday on November 26, by hosting a Birthday Bash. He had Dennis "Daddy-O" McMurrin, Skeeter Lewis, Dan DJ Johnson and Eric Douglas on hand to crank up the festivities. A couple guest musicians also sat in for few numbers.



Skeeter Lewis serenades Pam & PJ at Checkers Tavern on PJ's 50th birthday. One of those "precious" moments! Break out the tissues.

December 30, 2010
Shake Your Boogie
8-11PM

NEW! RELEASE REVEREND RAVEN
AND THE Chain Smokin' Altar Boys
SHAKE YOUR BOOGIE
Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys
Check it out and get it at CDBaby.com or ReverendRaven.com

"They are very, very good. That's why I keep having them back."
- Buddy Guy

"Strong vocals and incredible guitar playing, along with swaggering sax or hot harp, and a rhythm section that locks it all together into mighty grooves, this is how today's Chicago-style blues should sound!"
- Don "T-Bone" Erickson
Founding Editor, BluesWax

Mark your calendars for **December 30** as Checkers Tavern & Eatery will be hosting **Reverend Raven and The Chain Smokin' Altar Boys** for their CD release party! His new CD is **Shake Your Boogie**. You don't want to miss this show! If you remember, Reverend Ric and the Altar Boys really did smoke at 2010 Bluesmore. Plan to attend! PJ will be wearing his new, pink bunny slippers he got for Christmas! He's so proud of them.



The Linn County Blues Society is a way cool, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Blues music in Eastern Iowa as well as to provide charitable contributions to other community organizations. LCBS is an Affiliated Organization in the Blues Foundation's international network. The **BLUESPAPER** is a monthly publication of the LCBS. Website: lcbs.org

LCBS Officers

President - Frank Wilson
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Membership

To learn more about the Linn County Blues Society or to join, see the membership form in this Bluespaper or the LCBS website. Your membership includes;

- Discount admissions to many local Blues activities.
- Monthly LCBS Bluespaper.
- Voting rights in the LCBS elections.
- Being a part of the groove!

Bluespaper Contact information

Send news, band or club live entertainment listings or advertising to:
Evan Vulich at: evulich@mchsi.com.

Bluespaper Ad Rates

\$15.00 - Business card size - 2" x 3.5"
\$25.00 - Quarter page ad - 3.5" x 4.75"
\$50.00 - Half page ad - 4.75" x 7.25"
\$100.00 - Full page - 7.5" x 10"

Submission Requirements- All ads, photos or scanned images, either color or black/white, need to be 300ppi. Native Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, JPG, TIFF, EPS, PDF, BMP accepted. Ads created in Word may cause dementia, severe cramping and diarrhea. **Deadline for submissions is the 19th of the month.**

Moving? Send your new address to; LCBS, PO Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672 so you won't miss a single issue of your Bluespaper.

Rev. Wilson blasphemes LCBS wants you!

Rev. Frank Wilson, President of the LCBS



If YOU are one of our local blues musicians (or a reasonably close relative), LCBS wants YOUR gigs on our calendar. We publish our calendar every month in the world renowned LCBS Bluespaper; every week in our equally renowned BluesBlast e-mail, and it is always on our web site at lcbs.org. If you are not already getting a request for your upcoming schedules from our Bluespaper Editor and Chief Bottleswasher, Evan Vulich, send him a note at evulich@mchsi.com and he'll hook you up.

If YOU book live music of the blues persuasion, we want YOUR events on our calendar. The local bars and clubs are the lifeblood of live music in our area. If we don't have your events on our calendar, send them to Evan.

If YOU like live music, use our calendar to find a show and go support our local musicians and club owners. We are blessed in our area to have a number of gifted and talented musicians, and they all love to perform for interested listeners. And tell the club you knew about the event from the LCBS Bluespaper calendar.

If YOU see a live show that the rest of us should know about, we want YOUR write up in the Bluespaper. Or if you find a venue we should know about, write about that. You get to see your name in print and you can show it to your mom. You know she will be proud of you. Send your stories to us. Take a few photos and send those, too. Remember to get close enough and use enough light to make a good photo. (Editor's note: Don't be like the Rev, read the camera instructions. It is always helpful.) Remember to say hi to the Rev when you see him.

Tomaso's Pizza

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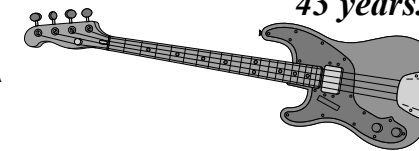


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Annual Membership Dues - \$20

Blues Booster/Corporate Sponsor - \$100

Check below if you would like to share your talents with the LCBS in one or more of these areas:

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Please mail application and check to: Linn County Blues Society, PO Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672.
Contact us on the web at lcbs.org. Thank you for helping to keep the Blues Alive!

Local Music 2011

January Calendar

Sat. 1	Fire House	Skeeter Lewis jams with friends, 4-8PM
Sun. 2 ★	Parlor City Pub	Guitar Shootout! Bryce, BillyLee & Daddy-O!
Tue. 4	Parlor City Pub	Gibby's Lab Jam, 8-11PM
Wed. 5	Parlor City Pub	McMurrin & Johnson, 8-11PM
Thur. 6	J.M. O'Malley's Cooter's	Bryce Janey Group, 9PM Mike & Rob Show, 8-11PM
Fri. 7	The Muddy Waters Cherokee Jazz Fest City Beat Ernie's	John Resch & the Detroit Blues, Bettendorf, IA The Blue Band, VFW Hall, 9PM Cherokee, IA Mike & Rob Show, 8-12 McMurrin & Johnson, 6-10PM
Sat. 8	Fire House Cornerstone Cherokee Jazz Fest Big Daddies, CR Gilligan's, CR	Skeeter Lewis jams with friends, 4-8PM Johnny Kilowatt, 8-12 Galena, IL The Blue Band, Cherokee Bowl, 10-1 Mike & Rob Show, 4-7PM Mike & Rob Show, 9-1
Sun. 9	Parlor City Pub ★	Mercury Brothers
Tue. 11	Parlor City Pub	Gibby's Lab Jam, 8-11PM
Wed. 12	Sammy's	Mike & Rob Show, 8-12
Thur.13	J.M. O'Malley's Leo's Gen. Lounge Checkers Tavern	Gibby jams with friends 9PM Bruce Bearinger, 6PM Oelwein McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM
Fri.14 ★	Sammy's, CR Checkers Tavern Lincoln Wine Bar The Hub, Cedar Falls Scooters, Anamosa	Mike & Rob Show, 8-12 Bryce Janey Group, 9PM Blue Midnight Trio, 7-9:30PM, Mt. Vernon The Blue Band, Bob's birthday 6-9:45PM Mike & Rob Show, 8-12
Sat. 15	Fire House Pitchers Dumas', Marion The Frog	Skeeter Lewis jams with friends, 4-8PM Open mic, Bryce Janey, 8:30PM Mike & Rob Show, 9-1 McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM
Sun. 16	Parlor City Pub ★	David Zollo & The Body Electric
Mon. 17	George's Buffet, IC	CannonSaul, Kilowatt & the White Tornado 8-11PM
Tue. 18	Parlor City Pub	Gibby's Lab Jam, 8-11PM
Thur. 20	J.M. O'Malley's Cooter's	Gibby jams with friends 9PM Mike & Rob Show, 8-11PM
Fri. 21	Leo's Gen. Lounge	Kevin Burt, 8PM Oelwein
Sat. 22	Fire House Parlor City Pub The 503 Nightclub	Skeeter Lewis jams with friends, 4-8PM EMC, 8-12 The Blue Band, 9-12 Iowa Falls
Sun. 23	Parlor City Pub Mahoney's	Tiffany Christopher Skeeter Lewis All-Stars, 6-10PM
Tue. 25	Parlor City Pub ★	Mike Williams B-Day Jam, 8-11PM
Thur. 27	J.M. O'Malley's	Charlie Morgan, 9PM
Fri. 28	Leo's Gen. Lounge Ernie's	Lojo Russo, 8PM Oelwein Bruner & Johnson, 6-9PM
Sat. 29	Fire House Winn's Alley Jerseys	Skeeter Lewis jams with friends, 4-8PM Bryce Janey & friends, 8PM, Walker, IA 4Box0Rocks, 9PM
Sun.30	Cooter's	Mike & Rob Show, 5-8PM

W.C. Handy sees a "ragged loose-jointed black" playing the guitar in a Tutwiler, Mississippi railroad station. The unknown guitarist used a knife as a slide to play the guitar. Handy remarked "The event was unforgettable. His song, too, struck me instantly. Goin' where the Southern cross the Dog. March 1903

EVERY

Sat. - The Firehouse- Jam with various players 4-8PM
Sun. - Mahoney's - Various artists-Never a Cover, 6pm
Sun. - Parlor City Rocks New Bohemia District!
Tue. - Gibby's Lab Jam, Parlor City, 8-11PM
Thur. -J.M.O'Malley's-T-Bone Giblin Jam Fest

The LCBS now meets on the 1st Monday of each month effective January 1. See you at the Longbranch on January 3, 6:30PM for the LCBS general meeting. Guests are welcome!
90 Twixt Town Rd., Marion • 377-6386.

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A very special THANK YOU to these businesses who have signed up to help us Keep the Blues Alive!

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- The Longbranch
- Dudley Bros. Co.
- Ron Schantz Const.
- J.M. O'Malley's, 9-1
- 16th Avenue Prod.
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- Checkers Tavern
- Home Town Restyling
- Next Door
- Tomaso's Pizza
- Mahoney's Irish Pub

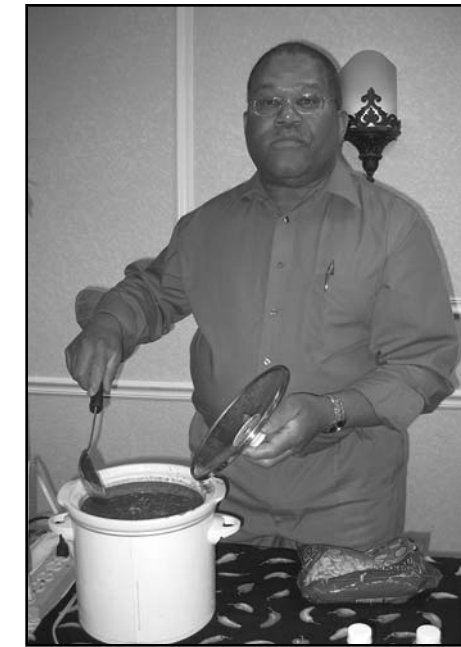
lcbs.org

2011 Chili Challenge Sunday, February 27 is getting closer!

by Steve Springer

The Big Day is Getting Closer!! Contestants are signing up and the loyal cookers from the Blues Society is checking in for this year's challenge. LCBS's crew of loyal cookers is off to a really good start with 9 lined up so far. Those are Dave Antin, Rich Lyle, Allene Pease, Marcy Pease, Robin Level, Mike Williams, Harlen Yoder, Ethel Turner and Thomas Jones. They need your support, so mark the calendar.

However, we anticipate another record crowd and record donation to the HD Youth Center and need volunteers to help with the event. Please contact Steve Springer at 319-395-9516 or email at steves@mchsi.com and we will put you on the list.



Thomas Jones



Lots of great stuff to bid on during the silent auction.



Ethel Turner (left) and Bob and Deb Erger (right) were contestants from the 2009 Chili Challenge. You'll probably see many of the same faces from last year's cook-off. This is because they have way too much fun every year in this great competition between the Iowa Isle of Parrotheads and the Linn County Blues Society. Mark your calendars!



Reverend Raven
Shake Your Boogie
Nevermore Records
Release date Oct. 12, 2010

Shakin' with The Rev

Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys (one of the coolest band names ever) are rockin' my world with their new release 'Shake Your Boogie'. The CD jacket quotes Reverend Raven: "Recorded live on stage at The Miramar Theater, Milwaukee WI with a minimum of overdubs in two different sessions with two of my favorite line ups." The biggest difference in the two line-ups (without typing 9 names) is Madison Slim/harmonica on four tracks and tenorman Big Al Groth on the other nine both playing strong solos and foil to The Rev's fabulous guitar. Both rhythm sections are tighter than the bark on a tree and the Rev keeps things stirred up with some smokin' hot solos. It looks like seven treatments of blues classics like "She's Murder" & "Bricks In My Pillow" along with new material from The Reverend, Gerry Hundt & the rest of the band. The production, recording, mix and package are first rate. Reverend Raven and the Chain Smokin' Altar Boys "Shake Your Boogie" is \$25.94 in a CD but the download is \$8.99 on Amazon. They'll put some shake in your butt!

— John Heim a.k.a. "Big Mo"

The Blue Band at Gatherings

They were dancing at the New Bo fund raiser

Photos by Rev. Frank Wilson



Bob Dorr and Ralph Stephens on washboard

Bob Dorr and The Blue Band (theblueband.com) performed at Gatherings Restaurant and Nightclub in Cedar Rapids on November 26, to help to raise money for the New Bohemia arts organization (newbohemia.org).

The Blue Band also donated some Blue Band collectors items for the silent auction.

Ralph Stephens sat in on washboard for a few numbers, including a couple smokin' hot duets with Bob. You can see a couple videos of the show on Bob Dorr's Facebook Wall.



Pictured here from left to right; Left to right (mostly): Heath Allan on sax, Al Naylor on trumpet, Steve Hayes on the drums, Bob Dorr leading the charge, Ralph Stephens on washboard, Mark Linda on bass guitar and Jeff Petersen on lead guitar.

The Magnetos

O'Malley's was jumpin'

photos by Rev. Frank Wilson

The Magnetos performed at J.M. O'Malley's on November 24. The Magnetos are Joe Nelson on stand up bass, Todd Brown on stand up drums, and on guitar (also standing up.)

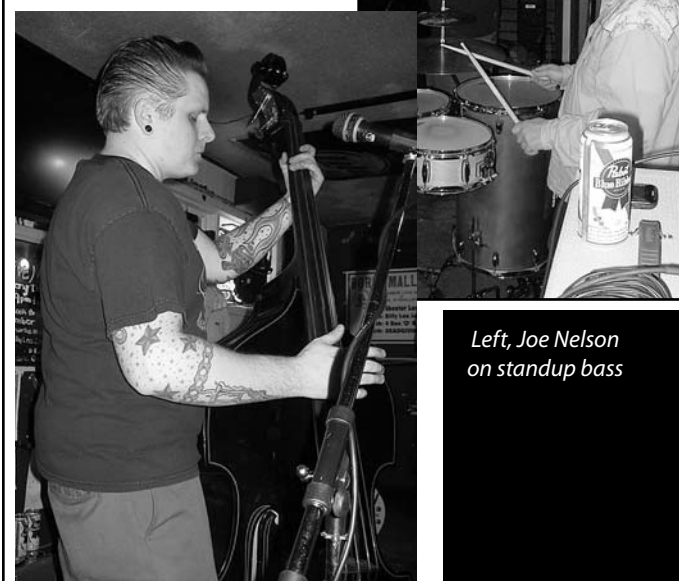
The Magnetos play a variety of roots rock and roll. They have a dedicated group of followers and are enthusiastic dancers. Check them out the next time you can and be forewarned, they are kind of, uh, LOUD!

Proprietors Mike and Julie O'Malley were on hand to keep the crowd's thirst in check.

Remember to check out O'Malley's. They are long time supporters of the blues and live music in general.



Left, Joe Zahorik on guitar and below, Todd Brown on standup drums. These are really standup guys!



Left, Joe Nelson on standup bass

Singer Robin Rogers

1955-2010

Blind Pig Records



It is with great sadness that Blind Pig Records announces the passing of singer Robin Rogers at the age of 55. She died at her home December 17 in Gastonia, North Carolina, where she was being cared for by her husband and

musical partner, Tony.

In August the talented singer and harmonica player was diagnosed with terminal liver cancer. Like most musicians Robin and Tony were without health insurance and depended on touring for their income. For years Robin was always ready to donate her time and performances to a good cause. so it was not surprising that there was an immediate outpouring of love and support from the blues community and her many fans. Benefits and fundraisers were held around the country to raise money for medical bills and living expenses.

Rogers was deeply moved by the support, and was also buoyed by the success and critical acclaim for her new CD, *Back In The Fire*, which debuted at #3 on the Billboard Blues sales chart, where it remains in the top ten.

Blind Pig owner Jerry Del Giudice said, "Robin always struck me as someone who felt she didn't have a moment to spare. She was constantly in motion. I became aware that her artistry and her integrity were two things she would not compromise and how genuinely she cared about others in need. She was diagnosed with terminal cancer shortly before the release of *Back In The Fire*. She told me that although she didn't want to carry this burden, it was hers to carry and she would do the very best she could with every moment she had left.

As we cry we have to remember what a wonderful laugh that was and how sorely it will be missed."

Rogers, winner of the 2009 "Best Female Artist" Blues Blast Award, was announced just this week as a nominee for a Blues Music Award for "Contemporary Blues Female Artist" by the Blues Foundation. And just last weekend Robin was featured on National Public Radio's "Weekend Edition Saturday," where she told host Scott Simon that despite battling cancer and the effects of chemotherapy, she felt "blessed." Rest in peace, Robin.

"I have finally found a way to live just like I never could before. I know that I don't have much to give, but I can open any door"
— Blind Faith