

Issue 291

The Publication of the Linn County Blues Society - Icbs.org

December 2018



Inside this December 2018 issue —

- 19th Annual Blues N' Buffett Chili Challenge
- Bill Graham reviews: Joe Louis Walker, Bruce Katz and Giles Robson
- Diane Durrett Peter "Blewzzman" Lauro
- The LCBS celebrates the Blues at Cedar Ridge Winery & Distillery!
- Local music schedules
- HAPPY NEW YEAR!

19th Annual Chili Challenge

Sunday, February 10

Steve Springer

on't be long now! The 19th annual Blues 'N' Buffett Chili Challenge is just around the corner. The date is Sunday, February 10, from 1 to 4 PM at the Cedar Rapids Marriott, 1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids.

Taste over 20 chili recipes which includes at least 6 professional entries along with another great silent auction. There will be celebrity judges, including local television and radio personalities and blues musicians who will taste and vote on the Overall Best Chili as well as Best Chili in one of four categories. (Understand, however, there are no "losers". All the competitors from both clubs are real winners and the committee appreciates their loyalty, dedication and support). Tickets are available on line. Just "Google" Blues and Buffett Chili Challenge.

A big part of the Chili Challenge has always been the terrific silent auction. We have been able to accumulate many unique and one of a kind items which has helped boost donations to our charities. All proceeds go to the HD Youth Center and the Eastern Iowa Arts Academy. The first year for this event was 2001 and that year the profit divided between the charities was \$537. To date, this event has donated over \$104,000. Please attend and help us make this another record year. Again, all profits go to the charities that located right here in Cedar Rapids. Please attend the event and help us support our community.

HD Youth Center: A non-profit organization on Mt. Vernon Road in Cedar Rapids, designed to get young people off the street by encouraging a positive attitude, academic progress and promote a drug-free environment. It was founded by Henry Davison in 1997.

The Eastern Iowa Arts Academy's mission is to deliver inspiring arts experiences to adults, children and special needs students. Their primary focus has always been to make it possible for children to explore and develop an appreciation for the visual and performing arts, encouraging expression in a safe, supportive and healthy environment. The programs at the Eastern Iowa Arts Academy provide an outlet for creative expression in the area schools with our After School Enrichment Program, helping kids build self-esteem and a general sense of well being. Since its inception in 2007, the Academy's outreach has grown to include programs for individuals with a wide variety of special needs, residents of senior living communities, partnerships with local service agencies, and fine arts opportunities for all ages at their on-campus facility, the Music and Arts Studios. See you at the event!

LCBS Members: If you are currently having the Bluespaper mailed to you and you would like to help LCBS save some money with printing and postal costs, you can receive a full-color email version of the Bluespaper each month by contacting LCBS at klcutsf@gmail.com or president@lcbs.org. Now that's cool!

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: Icbs.org

LCBS Officers

President - David Antin Vice President - Ric Holmquest Secretary - Jeff Craft Treasurer - Bill Graham Social Media - Phil Smith

Directors at Large

Bob DeForest, Steve Miller

Committee Chairs

Education: John 'Big Mo' Heim **Entertainment - Greg West** Membership - John Lane Merchandise - Anita Skelton

The Bluespaper & LCBS folks

Bluespaper Editor - Evan Vulich Director of Development - Mark Rowell Web Administrator: Kerry Cutsforth Photographers - see bylines Staff Writers - see bylines Distribution - Kevin Cutsforth

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

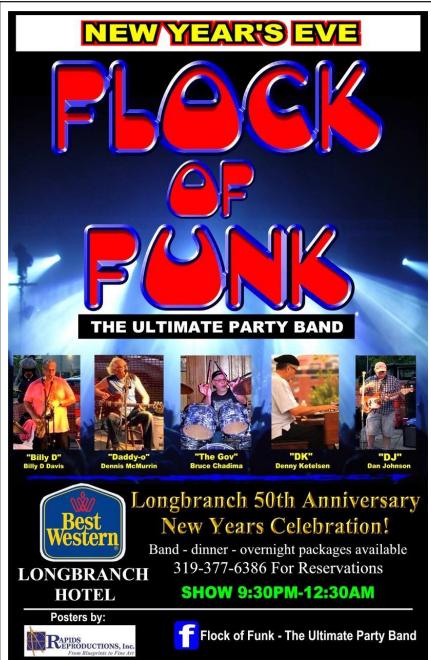
Send news, band or club live entertainment schedules, advertising, donuts, Oreos®, or Bailey's® to: Evan Vulich at: evulich@mchsi.com.

Bluespaper Ad Rates

\$15.00 - Business card size - 2" x 3.5" \$35.00 - Quarter page ad - 3.5" x 4.75" \$60.00 - Half page ad - 4.75" x 7.25" \$75.00 - 2 colums (2/3) - 4.75" x 9.75" \$100.00 - Full page - 7.5" x 9.75""

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 MS Word may cause dimentia, severe cramping or diarrhea. Deadline for submissions is the 20th 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.



The blues are the roots and the other musics are the fruits. It's better keeping the roots alive, because it means better fruits from now on. The blues are the roots of all American music. As long as American music the blues. so will t



The Limestoner's
Thursday night jam is now at
Lark's Restaurant & Brewery
in Cedar Falls!



Support your local, live music venues!

We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.



Joe Louis Walker, Bruce Katz and Giles Robson

Journeys To The Heart of The Blues

Alligator Records 2018

Alligator Records has released several acoustic Roots/Blues albums featuring their cast of well-known artists in the last few months. Journeys to the Heart of the Blues is the most recent addition to this collection. This is a piece of music for all fans of the blues. It's a delight to listen to this music in its original stripped-down, back porch, style. The blend of Walker (guitar and vocals), Robson (harmonica), and Katz (piano) allows each of them to show off their considerable individual musical skills.

Each of these blues front men complements the other, while becoming one unit, the talent of all three artists shines through. There is an excellent interplay between vocals, guitar, piano and harmonica on this old school blues album.

Anything with Joe Louis Walker on guitar is bound to be a winner, add Bruce Katz and harp player, Giles Robson, to the mix and you have an album that is solidly anchored in the tradition of Blues/R&B. The 11 tracks include mainly old standards like; "Mean Old Train", "Hell Ain't But a Mile and a Quarter", where Katz' piano really shines, and "Chicago Breakdown" where Walker takes over.

Robson's harp has flashes of Little Walter and Sonny Boy Williamson; he shows why the harp is such an important instrument in the blues genre. Katz is capable of rocking it up when needed and then slip in some soulful syncopation supporting the others at other times. This is clearly collaboration between three masters who know exactly what it takes to work together. Despite the temptation to excel when three musicians of the caliber are playing, each chooses to play as a band.

This recording is about the respect that these musicians have for the blues artists that came before them as well as exploring the core of the songs. Each one bringing something fresh to the table, while never losing sight of the strength of ensemble playing that is the blues. This is an excellent recording of old-school Blues/R&B and is something every fan of music should check out.

- by Bill Graham

Diane Durrett & Soul Suga "Live"

Blooming Tunes Music

Peter "Blewzzman" Lauro

could paraphrase Rick J Bowen's opening paragraph on the one sheet but, since he did such a perfect introduction of the artist and the album I'm just using it word for word: "Delivering an evening of music and stories is the commission of a troubadour and the life chosen by Atlanta Soul Blues singersongwriter Diane Durrett. Her eighth album and second with backing band Soul Sugatitled "Diane Durrett & Soul Suga Live" captures Durrett in her element; on stage with songs and stories of life, love, redemption, and celebration. All her skills are on display on this 25 track set captured at two shows at Eddie's Attic in Decatur, GA in July of 2017". Well said, Rick, thanks!

Of the twenty-five track listings, twelve are actually songs, with eleven of them being Diane's originals and the other thirteen are various types of interesting and heartwarming interludes, vignettes and stories.

Backing up Diane, on vocals, spoken pleasures and guitar are the members of Soul Suga. They include: Melissa Junebug on drums and percussion; Yoel B'nai Yehuda on keyboards; Gregg Shapiro on bass; Markham White on guitar; and Adam McKnight and Deborah Reece on background vocals. For this live performance, they were joined by special guests Wes Funderburk on trombone and Kerren Berz on violin.

On this particular song intro, Diane recalls working on a song while watching the wind blowing on some very dry trees in the midst of a drought. Like people, she wondered if the stress on these trees would cause them to "Bend Or Break".

The song that intro refers to is "Wish It Would Rain" and some of its lyrics were directly inspired by that wind. With the band in a very relaxed and light groove, Diane—with the support of strong back-up help-puts on an absolutely beautiful vocal performance while showcasing her borderless range. Between the vocal presentation and the song's message - about coping with life's curve balls and learning to bend, not break - the song possess-

es a hymnal quality.

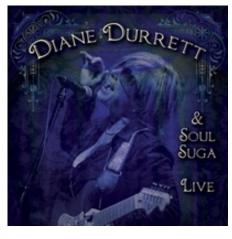
This particular vignette is titled "Dog Rescue" and it's about Diane-who while driving and eating a sandwich - spots a cocker spaniel confusingly running across four lanes of traffic. Assuming a drastic outcome - which she wouldn't stand for-Diane stops her car, gets out of it and stops traffic in both directions. After unsuccessful attempts by her and other motorists to attract the dog, she used the sandwich as bait and of course, it worked. As the story goes on, it turns out the pup escaped from a house where the dog's owner was having her best friends wake. Having already lost a "best friend", Diane prevented it from happening again.

When you write most of the music you perform it's stories like these that inspire songs and "Be Somebody's Angel" was inspired by that lost and hungry cocker spaniel and the people who loved it. With a similar vocal vibe as the previously mentioned song, and lyrics like: "Be somebody's angel, go out of your way. Do something special, why don't you make somebody's day. It don't take wings to lift spirits, feel how good it feels to be somebody's angel"; the song is wonderfully uplifting and inspirational. All that, along with a masterful organ performance by Yoel, and you'll want to say "Amen" at songs end.

During a short story titled "Grandmother Says" Diane emotionally discusses her mother's medical problems and addresses the tough times a mother goes through when she outlives her daughter.

One of grandma's favorite lines - "All Is Well" - is what inspired this song. It's a tear-inducing anthem on which Diane ranges from softly and sincerely singing the songs melancholy lyrics to absolutely belting the heck out of them. Musically, with a moody rhythm going on, the track features beautiful organ and guitar leads by Yoel and Markham.

When you're listening to one amazing vocal presentation after another, by a singer with such precision, such range and such beauty to her voice, is it crazy to call a performance on a particular track her disc's best vocal performance? If so, then call me



crazy. On a song titled "In Between

Times", Diane literally stopped me in my tracks. I stopped typing, hit replay, sat back in my chair and tripped out....four or five times. WOW!

Kudos to Kerren as well, the string work was satisfyingly scintillating. If there was ever a title that said it all it's surely "Junebug's

Percussion Solo". For the better part of two minutes, it features Melissa going nuts on a drum and percussion solo leading into the next track, which is a seven-minute smoker titled "Sassy Larue". You name it and it's going on on this one: You've got percussion poundin'; rhythm rockin'; horns blarin'; guitars flarin'; hands clapping; sassy scattin'; wicked whistlin'; tweetie tweetin'; and even some mildly melodic finger poppin' mouth action. Then, at the end of all the frivolity, Diane coyly asks the howlin' audience "Are ya havin' fun yet?"

Dating back to when I was a kid and hearing the incredible renditions of this song by Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughn, and many other female jazz/blues singers, "Summertime" (G. Gershwin) has always been one of my favorite songs of all time. The common denominators for perfecting this song are two: first of all, you've got to have a sometimes soft and sometimes powerful, but all times sultry voice; and secondly, you've got to be accompanied by a similarly sultry horn performance. On this version, both Diane and Wes are crushing it.

Other tracks on "Live" include: "Bright Side," "Butters In The Skillet,"

"It Is What It Is,", "Love Has A Right to be Wrong," "Don't That Bring You Back," "Woohoo." and several other funny, interesting and inspirational spoken pleasures.

No matter ticket prices, this audience got a bargain. This was one hell of a show.

To find out more about Diane Durrett just go to DianeDurrett.com and if you've not yet received a copy of "Live" for airplay, please contact Betsie Brown at blindraccoon.com. Whomever you contact, please make sure you tell them the Blewzzman sent you.

Blues at the Winery

Parlor City Jam Band

photos & article by Phil Smith

Friday, November 2nd, the Linn County Blues Society and Cedar Ridge Winery and Distillery hosted a stellar evening of blues in Swisher, Iowa. Bob Dorr and Friends (guitarist Jeff Petersen, bassist Dan 'DJ' Johnson, and keyboardist Tom Giblin) brought their Parlor City Jam Band out to play in a totally different setting, at Cedar Ridge Winery to a full house of blues fans.

With Bob behind the drum kit and Jeff Petersen armed with his Gibson Flying V, the band played through crowd favorites such as the Hank Williams classic, "Mind Your Own Business" and Freddie King's, "Have You Ever Loved a Woman". DJ stepped up to the mic and rocked the room with "Shake Rattle and Roll", originally recorded by Big Joe Turner. Keeping the momentum going, Petersen belted out Ike Turner's legendary, "Rocket 88". It sounded great. When "Mustang Sally" rolled around the dance floor quickly filled. DJ paid a wonderful homage to Jimmy Reed's, "Baby What You Want Me to Do?" As the blues jams go, you never know who will appear on stage throughout the show. This particular evening, keyboardist, Jeff Craft and harpist Bob Gleason made an appearance. Craft led the band on a great cover of Muddy Waters', "Got My Mojo Workin" with Gleason wonderfully ripping it up on harmonica. It was very cool. The music was so hot, the time quickly flew by. Before long, the jam came to its end with Bob Dorr's traditional Limestoner Blues Jam closer. Dylan's "Rainy Day Woman # 12 & 35". It was a terrific night, indeed.

From the top: Bob Dorr playing the harp (behind the drum kit) and Jeff Petersen on his Gibson Flying 'V'. Tom "T Bone" Giblin on keyboard, Jeff Craft sitting in on keys while Bob Gleason plays the harp. Bottom photo Gibby, Jeff Petersen, Bob Dorr and Dan Johnson on bass.





Local Music 2 13

December 2018 Blues Calendar

Sat. 1	Village Market QDogs BBQ Famous Mockingbird	Bob & Jovita Long. 11-2PM Doug Ducey & Dan Johnson , 6-9PMPM Starship Pilgrims, 8PM Marion
Sun. 2	Famous Mockingbird The Shack Tavern	Jonn Wayne & The Pain, 4Pm Marion Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, 3-6PM
Tue. 4	Parlor City Pub	Brook Hoover hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 5	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio w/ EG Madison, 6-9PM Marion
Thur. 6	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark's Restaurant Famous Mockingbird QDogs BBQ	Charlie Morgan, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls Aaron Kamm & The One Drops, 9PM Marion Robert 1 Man Johnson. 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 7	Famous Mockingbird	Danika & The Jeb, 8PM Marion
Sat. 8	Village Market QDogs BBQ Famous Mockingbird	Skeeter Louis & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM Mike Maas & Carlis Faurot, 6-9PM Marion Eddie Piccard Trio. 8PM Marion
Sun. 9	The Shack Tavern	Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, 3-6PM
Tue. 11	Parlor City Pub	Doug Ducey hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 12	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio, 6-9PM Marion
Thur. 13	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub QDogs BBQ Lark's Restaurant	Matt Panek, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM BillyLee Janey, 6-9PM Marion Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls
Fri. 14	Lincoln Wine Bar Spicoli's Famous Mockingbird QDogs BBQ	McMurrin & Johnson, 7-9PM. Mt. Vernon Tim&TheTrutones, 9:30-10:45PM Waterloo Beaker Brothers, 8PM Marion Craig Erickson. 6-9PM Marion
Sat. 15	Village Market QDogs BBQ Franklin St. Brewery White Star Ale House	Doug Ducey & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM McMurrin & Johnson, 6-9PM Mike Maas Trio, 8-11PM. Manchester Jeff Craft, 9:30-12:30.
Sun. 16	Old Neighborhood Pub The Shack Tavern Famous Mockingbird	Daddy-O Trio w/ Bruce Chadima, 5-8PM Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, 3-6PM Jake McVey, 4PM Marion
Tue. 18	Parlor City Pub	Ryan Phelan hosts jam, 7-10PM
Wed. 19	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio w/ EG Madison, 6-9PM Marion
Thur. 20	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub Lark's Restaurant QDogs BBQ	Bryce Janey, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM Limestoner Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls Robert 1 Man Johnson, 6-9PM Marion
Fri. 21	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio. 6-9PM Marion
Sat. 22 ★	Checkers Tavern Village Market Famous Mockingbird Bo Mac's Pizza	Johnny Rawls returns! 4-7PM SPECIAL! One Man Johnson & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM Kris Lager Band, 9PM Marion Jeff Craft, 7-11PM
Sun. 23	The Shack Tavern	Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, 3-6PM
Wed. 26	QDogs BBQ	Skeeter Louis Trio. 6-9PM Marion
Thur. 27	J.M. O'Malley's Parlor City Pub QDogs BBQ Lark's Restaurant	Craig Erickson, 8-midnight McMurrin & Johnson, 7-10PM BillyLee Janey. 6-9PM Marion Limestoners Blues Jam. 7-10PM Cedar Falls
Fri. 28	Market Grill-Hy-Vee QDogs BBQ	Mike Maas Trio, 5:30-8:30PM. Mt. Vernon Rd. Craig Erickson. 6-9PM Marion
Sat. 29	Cedar Ridge Winery Village Market	FunkDaddies, 7-10PM. Tickets at crwine.com Nate Hines & Dan Johnson, 11-2PM
Sun. 30	Riverside Casino Famous Mockingbird	Nate Hines & Dan Johnson, 11AM-2PM Heatbox, New Year's Party! 9PM Marion
Mon. 31 ★	Longbranch Hotel The Shack Tavern Screaming Eagle	Flock of Funk, 9:30-12:30 See this month's ad! Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, 3-6PM Limestoners & Nolan Schroeder. Waterloo

Be sure to CHECK this out!



- Sat. The Village Market w/ Dan Johnson 11-2PM
- Sun. The Rumors Jam, 4-7PM
- Sun. Jeff Craft & Bryce Janey, Shack Tavern 3-6PM
- Tues. The Famous Parlor City Jam. 7-10PM
- Wed. 5th Wednesday B. Dorr, Skeeter & DJ @ QDogs BBQ
- Thur. Lark's Restaurant, Limestoners, 7-10PM
- Thur. J.M.O'Malley's, Tom T-Bone Giblin Jams, 8-midnight
- Thur. CR VFW, Wild Bill & Pony Express, 5-9PM
- Thur. Dennis "Dadddy-O" McMurrin at Parlor City 7-10PM
- Fri. Checkers Tavern & Asian Massage, LIVE MUSIC! 7PM



THE LONGBRANCH

HOTEL

Local favorite for family dining since 1968. Nightly we feature mid western USDA choice steaks, slow cooked & tender prime rib of beef (Friday & Saturday nights), award winning "falling off the bone" Bar-B-Q pork ribs, Gulf shrimp, blackened red snapper, honey mustard chicken breast, king crab legs and many other entrees, salads and pastas to choose from. Most meals include a trip to our deluxe salad bar, a choice of potato, and fresh baked bread.

The LCBS meets on the 1st Monday of each month! See you at the Longbranch on January 7, 6:30PM for the LCBS general meeting. Guests are welcome! 90 Twixt Town Rd., Cedar Rapids • 377-6386.

A very special THANK YOU to these businesses who Keep the Blues Alive!

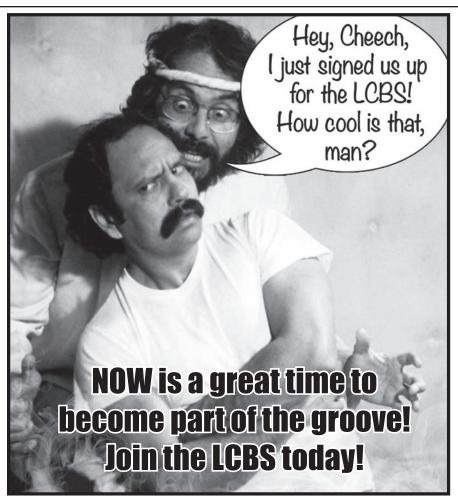
- Chappy's Safari
- The Longbranch
- KCCK 88.3
- Village Meat Market
- · J.M. O'Malley's
- Dudley Bros. Const.
- · Checkers Tavern
- · Home Town Restyling
- Tomaso's Pizza

- · Dr. Ronald W. Miller
- · Ron Schantz Const.
- Susan Novak

Corporate Sponsors

- · Sports Clips
- · Q Dogs BBQ
- Wired Production Group DBA 16th Avenue Music

Notice: Sometimes there just isn't enough room for all the submitted schedules in the Blues Calendar. Please be sure to check the EVERY MONTH box above to see regularly scheduled gigs that are always on for each day of the week. We certainly don't want to exclude anyone from our schedule. Thanks!





2037 North Towne Lane NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 www.wiredproductiongroup.com

The Linn County
Blues Society is a
non-profit organization
dedicated to the preservation, promotion and perpetuation of Blues music in Eastern
lowa, as well as to provide
charitable contributions to other community organizations.
The LCBS is an affiliated
organization in
The Blues Foundation's
international network.
The Bluespaper is a monthly
publication of the LCBS.



★ Linn County Blues Society Membership Application

Email (Please Print Clearly)

Annual Membership Levels

\$20 Member

\$100 Blues Booster/ Corporate Sponsor

\$250 Blues Contributor

\$500 Friend of the Blues

\$1000 Sustaining Member

2018

Please mail form & check to: Linn County Blues Society, P.O. Box 2672, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672. We at the LCBS thank you for pledging your support for LIVE music in the Linn County area.



Linn County Blues Society PO Box 2672 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-2672



Merry Christmas!

Current list of members of the IBHOF

Ellis Kell

Tony Blew

Joanne Jackson

Joe Price

Big Mike Edwards Billylee Janey Bo Ramsey Bob DeForest **Bob Dorr Bob Pace** Bruce McCabe Catfish Keith Chicago Rick Lussie Craig Erickson Darrell Leonard Dartanyan Brown Del Saxman Jones Dennis McMurrin Eddie Haywood Ella Ruth Piggee Elvin Bishop **Ernie Peniston** Eugene Jackson Fred Walk Garv Gibson

Gary Jackson

George Davis

Gilbert Davis

James Kinds

Jim DeKoster

Jimmy Pryor

Grant Townsell

Harlan Thomas

Hawkeye Herman

Mel Harper Patrick Hazell Perry Welsh Richie Hayward Rico Cicalo Ron DeWitte Ron McClain Ronnie Brewer Sam Salomone Scott Cochran Sid Wingfield Speck Redd Stephen Miller Steve George Steve Hayes Tom Giblin Willis Dobbins Dwight Dario Tommy Gordon Robert "One Man" Johnson Philip "Bunky" Marlow Rob Lumbard

Louis McTizic J.C. Anderson "Sonny" Fletcher Lott Rose Marie Webster





Friday Blues-

- 6-10 PM The Big Mo Blues Show
- 10-11 PM Backstage Blues
- 11 PM to midnight KCCK Jams
- Midnight Blues CD Saturday Blues -

• 6-10 PM - Da Blues with Bobby D

- 10-11 PM The Crawfish Circuit
- 11 PM -midnight The Melting Pot
- Midnight Blues CD

Dan 'DJ' Johnson

Andre Mosqueda

Shaun Murphy

Jeff Petersen