



Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania
<http://www.bscpblues.org>

Jan. - Mar. 2020

BLUES NEWS



THE NIGHTHAWKS PAGES 4-6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From your President	2
In Memoriam	3
The Nighthawks	4
Spotlight	7
Blues Band Beat	9
Road Trippin'	11
In Case You Missed It	12
Save the Date	14
Upcoming Gigs	15

**BSCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Kathy Gregoire - Chair, ByLaws Committee

Vice President: Mike Knott – Chair, Events Committee

Secretary: Andy Kehe – Chair, Public Relations Committee

Treasurer: Gary “Rocky” Rothrock – Chair, Jam Committee, Finance Committee

Buster Grubb – Chair, Archive Committee

John Rignani – Chair, Merchandise Committee

Sherman Smith – Chair, Membership Committee

Nina Vacante – Chair, Newsletter Committee, Webmaster

Dot Grubb – Member-at-Large

Greg Hogg – Member-at-Large

Hannah Sherman – Member-at-Large

Rocky Woodling – Member-at-Large

Virginia Ivanoff - Board Member Emeritus

Mission Statement

The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation, promotion, support and enjoyment of the truly original American art form, the blues.

From your President...

Back in the '70s when I was living and working in San Francisco, I had a friend, John, who had his own unique response when asked the question: “How are you doing?” John would cheerfully nod and reply: “Better and better”. Have to admit, at the time his repeated use of this phrase was annoying. Now, though, a smile comes to my face when it pops into my head. I resonate with it as I prepare the BSCP end-of-the-year report which can be found on www.BSCPblues.org.

Just to be clear, “better and better” isn’t an assessment of the status of BSCP, but rather it is a commentary on how I am doing. And I attribute my being “better and better” to my experiences with BSCP and getting to know its members better and better.

A great place to get to know people and to enjoy the essence of BSCP is at the weekly Thursday night jams at Champions where blues lovers can be found dancing and listening to talented musicians of all ages creating magical experiences. Another place is at our annual events.

BSCP started off 2019 with Frank Bey and Gabe Stillman at the Spring show, followed by Mom I’s picnic featuring the BSCP CD “Backyard Blues” Release Party. Next was Johnny Rawls and The Cornlickers at the hottest Mississippi Railroad Project on record. Then Sugar Ray & The Bluetones with opening band Blues on the Loose performing at the Fall show. And to top it off, BSCP had Tas Cru and Band of Tortured Souls at the Christmas Party. What a great line-up in 2019 and how much fun to meet new people and get together with old friends.

But, of course, getting to know and enjoy people isn’t just done at the events and jam; it also happens when working together. As I write the report, it is clear that BSCP exists through the contributions of its generous, talented, caring, and dedicated volunteers whom you will find everywhere - fixing food in the kitchen, selling merchandise, setting up and tearing down the jam equipment. Working together to keep the blues alive is a strong bonding experience.

So now with 2020 upon us, we have many new opportunities to play and work together and to celebrate our good fortune in sharing the blues. This winter we have a bonus with BSCP bringing the Nighthawks to Champions January 26. Those members headed to Memphis for the International Blues Challenge January 28 will be able to see two wonderful bands from our area Blues on the Loose and Benjamin Vo competing there. Another winter event we can look forward to is Frank Bey’s CD Release Party, February 21, at The Barn in Lancaster. I am so looking forward to 2020, knowing that life is just getting “better and better”.

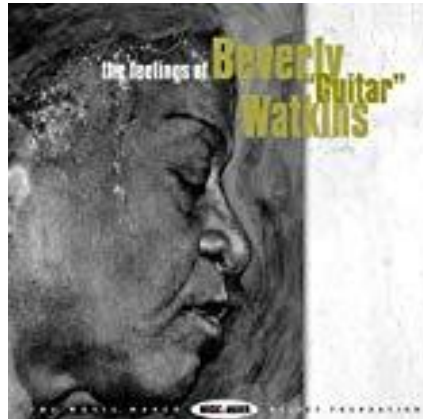
As 2020 approaches, Nina Simone’s lyrics are running through my mind... “It’s a new dawn... It’s a new day... It’s a new life, for me. And I’m feeling good.”

Keepin’ the Blues alive!

Kathy Gregoire

bluesmunga@gmail.com

In Memoriam



Beverly "Guitar" Watkins

April 6, 1939 – October 1, 2019

By the time she was 20, Beverly Watkins was introduced to Piano Red and soon joined his band, Piano Red & the Houserockers, which toured nationally. She later became a member of Eddie Tigner & the Ink Spots. Based in the Atlanta area for many years, she was a well known fixture at the famed Underground Atlanta. By 1998 she became a part of the Music Makers Relief Foundation and toured with their All-Star Women of the Blues, Hot Mamas tour along with Koko Taylor and Rory Block. Her 1999 debut CD "Back in Business" earned a W.C. Handy Award nomination in 2000.



Henry "Gip" Gipson

January 6, 1920 – October 8, 2019

Avid blues fan and part-time musician, Henry Gipson was the owner of the legendary, Gip's Place in Bessemer, Alabama. What started out as "Gip" hosting back yard BBQ's grew into a small enclosure in his back yard with a stage and tin roof that held a packed house of 50 people. Gip's Place became a must stop for many major blues artists traveling the Southeast. In January of 2018, Gip still performed at his world famous juke joint.

BSCP PROUDLY PRESENTS THE NIGHTHAWKS

January 26th

by **ANDREW KEHE**

Interesting that The Nighthawks went with 'All You Gotta Do' as the title of its 2017 and latest album release.

The title implies that success in just about anything is reachable, uncomplicated. Maybe just one thing is needed to reverse fortunes or to keep things on track.

"C'mon man, all you gotta do is this."

We've all heard it. We've all heard it said to us.

Now in its 45th year of performing, The Nighthawks, fronted by vocalist/harmonicist Mark Wenner – the only one remaining among the original quartet -- prides itself in its versatility, its ability to reinvent itself, to do that thing that you gotta do maybe a little differently than the last time you did what you thought you had to do.

The Nighthawks roll into Highspire on Jan. 26 as guests of the Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania for a 2 p.m. show at Champions. Opening for Nighthawks will be another highly sought after mid-Atlantic region band Roger Girke & The Wandering Souls.

Cost at the door is \$20.

"While every Nighthawks album in their storied history nods at least once to Muddy (Waters), we've seen the band become widely eclectic," says Elmore Magazine in a review of 'All You Gotta Do.' "Now they are equally comfortable with doo wop, soul, rockabilly, and, of course rock'n'roll. All four members share vocals and the harmonies are quite good."

At the 32nd Blues Music Awards ceremony in 2011, The Nighthawks won Acoustic Album of the Year for "Last Train to Bluesville."

In Eric Feber's review of the Nighthawks' 2014 release "444" he writes: "The four flip, flop and fly through a set of finger-shakin', hip-wigglin' roots grooves enlivened by gospel, country blues and soul touches. All four add vocals and backing harmonies while offering uncluttered musical arrangements all in service to the almighty blues groove."

In various configurations The Nighthawks have been finding their way since 1974, never shy to source material from everywhere and anywhere. To say it's been as easy or uncomplicated journey on the way to a Blues Music Award and it's earned reputation as the Baltimore/DC area's most sought



after blues, blues/rock band would be doing the band a disservice.

Guitarist Jimmy Thackery was the original front and when he left in 1986 his departure was thought to be a huge loss. A solid core that also included Jan Zukowski on bass and Pete Ragusa on drums had established a strong foothold in the D.C. region. Moreover, they were opening for some of the greats in multiple genres, including Muddy Waters, James Cotton, Carl Perkins, and recorded with John Hammond.

But the band, due to Wenner's pursuit of equally fine and musically versatile replacements, found Danny Morris to replace Thackery, but he left to pursue a surf guitar career. His replacement Pete Kanaras played for nine years before leaving along with



Photo credit: Chip Py



Mark Pucci Media
770.804.9555
markpuccimedia.com



Zukowski. Ragusa was the last to leave in 2010.

Versatile and well respected musicians Paul Bell and Johnny Castle have come and gone, leaving the current quartet of Wenner, Paul Piscillotta on bass, Dan Hovey on guitar, and drummer/vocalist Mark Stutso who spent two decades with former Nighthawk Jimmy Thackery.

No matter what the makeup, the band has always stuck to its original premise --- keep 'em guessing, keep it fresh with a wide range of sounds and harmonies, all of which either touch on early rock and roll

sounds, Muddy Waters or Chicago Blues, with occasional twinges of doo-wop mixed in.

And with a nod to Sheryl Crow, all the Nighthawks really gotta do to bring the house down is have some fun.

And that they do.

Guitarist Roger Girke has performed in more than 4,000 live shows and with his current Wandering Souls and previous Roger Girke Band has released five CDs. Among the performers he has played and recorded with are Garry Allegetto, Sam Cockrell and Jimmy Pritchard.



Mark Pucci Media
770.804.9555
markpuccimedia.com



Want to write for Blues News?

Editors of Blues News would like to hear from you if you'd like to be a contributor to the quarterly newsletter.

Editors are seeking compelling, accurate blues CD reviews, festival and show reviews, venue food and atmosphere reviews, playing tips, letters to the editor, short features or anything else you think Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania members would like to read. Photographs will also be considered.

Adhering to deadlines is very important. Contributors will be told well ahead of time what their deadline is. Final approval of all contributions is up to Blues News editors.

Please contact BSCP President Kathryn Gregoire with your idea. She comes to most Thursday night jams or can be reached by email at bluesmunga@gmail.com.

THE BLUES SOCIETY OF CENTRAL PA IS PROUD TO PRESENT

THE NIGHTHAWKS



SUN JANUARY 26TH

2020 AT CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR
WITH SPECIAL GUEST

ROGER GIRKE & THE WANDERING SOULS

DOORS OPEN AT 1 PM

SHOW STARTS AT

2 PM **\$20**

WWW.THENIGHTHAWKS.COM
WWW.ROGERGIRKE.COM
WWW.BSCPBLUES.ORG

BRING A FRIEND!

CHAMPIONS 300 2ND ST, HIGHSPIRE, PA 17034

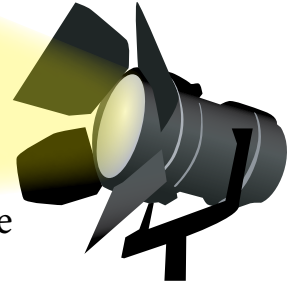




In the Spotlight...

MIKE EASTON

by Andrew Kehe



These days, harmonicist Mike Easton and jack of all things musical Gary Harrington are just two old friends hanging out together.

That's nothing new. These two blues brothers have known each other well dating back to the infancy of the Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania, the safe keeper of local blues the two formed and nurtured, among a few others, 22 years ago.

The way friendships go, they'd occasionally fall out of touch, then reunite, fall out of touch a little again, then reunite again. Usually, blues has been the common thread bringing them together.

They are reunited again, only this time it's different. This time, it's a matter of life or death that they stay together for a while.

Harrington, at 65 a true BSCP treasure, and more than that, a beacon for real blues performing, teaching and preservation, is being kept alive by a Left Ventricular Assist Device or L-VAD after heart surgery and multiple other procedures have failed to mend his ailing heart.

He is on a waiting list for a heart transplant, but it could be a very long wait.



In the meantime, Gary's heart emits no pulse. He has no blood pressure. Just a pump in his chest providing blood to the rest of his body, connected to a battery pack he carries around.

If the L-VAD fails or the batteries fade that keep a pump running inside his chest, Gary will die. Without the surgery to install the pump, Gary would have passed. The surgeon made it clear to Gary and his friends, Mike included, that Gary needed a place to live with proper care provided by a support system or he wouldn't do the operation.

"I had to make the decision on the spot to save my friend's life," Mike said. "So I said 'he will be staying with me. My house number will be his mailing address.'"

Two options had been ruled out -- having someone stay with Gary in his own place, which had been declared condemned while he was in the hospital, or Gary staying with his mother, who will soon be moving into a nursing facility.

"It's been a pretty good experience for both of us," Mike said. "I'm just real happy to see him up and moving around."

The hope was that Gary would be strong enough to play at the Jam with Mike on Dec. 13, when WGAL-TV was scheduled to film the two in conjunction with a feature story. He can go out to lunch, or to the movies – plenty of normal activities. The pump does not let his heart accelerate.

As of this writing in early December, Gary had been at Mike's house for a little over a month, receiving 24-hour care, including monitoring of the L-VAD, receiving proper nutrition and just plain hanging out. The other day, the two were perched on the couch watching a Tower Records documentary, which makes sense, given their shared appreciation of multiple musical genres.

Mike and Christine are not doing it alone. They have assembled a network of volunteers to fill in while they are at work. On one day it might be Rocky Rothrock who swings by to spend some time with Gary, or it might be Carrie Baker, or Kathy Taylor or Kevin Kline - all Blues Society members who have committed to filling time voids left by the Easton's' work schedule.

"I'm truly humbled by the whole thing," Gary said. "What surprises me the most is this - The blues society was founded 22 years ago by me and Mike and Dave Snyder and for me it was mostly a marketing tool to sell my CDs. In those 22 years I've gotten to know so many people and made so many friends and everyone who has come forward to help now is a Blues Society member.

"It's come full circle, man. It's saved my life." "That's karma, man" Mike added. "These are longtime friendships that never would have happened if the Blues Society had never happened."

So, now maybe Mike can add "guardian angel" to his resume that already includes 44 years as a dental technician and dozens of years as a highly sought-after fixer and fine tuner of both diatonic and chromatic harmonicas.

His clients at Fathead Musical Instruments, which he founded in 1998, include some of the best in the blues, jazz and country genres, including Rick Estrin, Steve Guyger, Jayson Ricci, Gary Primich and Dennis Grueling.

Oh, and yes, Mike can blow a little himself, too.

Within a year of opening Fathead and getting the BSCP's Thursday Jam off the ground, Mike's harmonica playing was getting noticed. The first blues bands he played with included Jimmie and the Late Night Boys, Blue Attitude and Mitch Ivanoff's Krypton City Blues Revue.

After a short stint together as a duo, Mike and Bob Wineland joined The Humblers and continued with them for five years.

Even with all that experience, the Thursday Jam still presents a welcome challenge to the 62-year-old.

"It pushes the limits of what I can do," he said. "When I play in a band, I can get bored, with the same melodies and same progressions all the time. The Jam takes me to a different place, musically. I like playing with different people."

Ironically, dental tech skills have enabled Mike to revolutionize the way harmonicas are repaired or fine-tuned. Some of the same rotary tools he uses in making a crown, for instance, he discovered work beautifully for delicate repair of harmonica reeds.

At the invitation of the 93-year-old inventor of the harmonica rack, Mike is

currently working on the creation of a new and improved hands-free custom chromatic harmonica rack.

That might have to take a back seat for a while. What's critical now is seeing the process through so that Gary can walk out of his house in due time and into a dwelling of his own feeling strong, confident and looking forward to many more years of playing the blues.

(Mike and Christine Easton are seeking more volunteers to join the support team. If you'd like to learn what's involved or want to sign up, call Carrie Baker at 717-856-5510. To learn more about Mike Easton's Fathead Musical Instruments, go to www.harmonicarepair.net.)

Blues Bands Beat

By Jack Roberts

Jack Roberts here with some more blues news you can use. So let's catch up on what's happening - or going to happen - with local blues bands.

It's January - or so we're told - and you know what that means. Bands will be headed south to compete in the International Blues Competition in Memphis. And, as you most likely know, two area bands have qualified for the contest. Still, you might not know some of the backstory.

"Back in September, we were scheduled every week, but we were having issues with member continuity," said Blues on the Loose frontman and harmonica boss Lewis Bechtold. When BOTL opened the show for Sugar Ray and the Bluetones at Champions, for example, they had to work with BSCP member and blues guitarist Dean Lescallete, who filled in for longtime BOTL regular Jay McElroy, and Mike Bitts, who filled in for recovering bassist Doug Porter." The band went into the next month with no gigs on the horizon.

"October looked bleak, as October tends to, with no bookings evident," Bechtold said. But that changed quickly when he saw an advertisement for a new club - one that was advertising an open mic promoted by the Steel City Blues Society of Phoenixville. They made a trip there, where they made the usual contacts, but also discovered that SCBS was hosting an IBC Battle of the Bands in November. "This would present a second opportunity for BOTL to secure a spot during IBC Week in Memphis for 2020," Bechtold said. "So I registered."

BOTL had already shot for a spot in a prior IBC challenge, but had lost it to the Lititz-based Benjamin Vo Blues Band. "So we knew what was expected of the competition, that being original material," Bechtold said. "Over the summer I was inspired and wrote two additional songs: 'Crawfish Fishin,' a bayou tune, and 'And Then It Rained,' which, he said, was based on a Music Friday experience in Lancaster. That was in addition to the BOTL classic 'A Bad Influence,' which appears on BSCP's 2019 Backyard Blues CD."

The band then went on to compete in the SCBS Battle of the Bands at The Soundbank in Phoenixville on Nov. 1st, where they had friend and BSCP club member Gordie Keeney fill in on drums. But it didn't take long for things to go wrong. "We started with 'A Bad Influence,' and as we finished, Gordie's kick pedal broke," Bechtold said. "The interval was an energy buster. However, we persevered and jumped into 'Crawfish Fishin.' " The rest of the evening went well, and BOTL was named the winner. But once again, they had to call on a friend.

"Gordie, who helped us win, cannot go (to Memphis), as he is booked on a two-week cruise during the Memphis event week," Bechtold said. "So we have engaged Tommy Leanza, a well-known accomplished percussionist from Lancaster, to fill the void." And fill the void he will, as anyone who's heard Tommy play knows. But now another void has appeared. "We have been promised money from SCBS, but it is a percentage," Bechtold said. "To be honest, the challenge is physically getting there and supporting yourself as a band." Fortunately, the band's good friend Ian Smithgall has built and launched a Kick Starter site for them. To Kick in, just go to the band's website,

<https://www.bluesontheloose.com>.

"And we are pooling resources from gigs and a benefit on January 4th at The Soundbank" in Phoenixville, Bechtold said. And they'll be back at The Soundbank on March 20th, when they share the bill with the Delaware-based band Lower Case Blues.

Closer to home, this year's BOTL bookings will also include an opening set for a Frank Bey CD release party at The Barn (upstairs) at Stoner Grille on Feb. 21. Why The Barn, you ask? Well, Frank has developed quite a local fan base since he played at The Lancaster Roots and Blues Festival in 2018 and the BSCP fall show, so he decided that this would be the perfect place for his CD release party. And we can't argue with that.

Did someone say Memphis?

If you're a blues fan, you already know that The Benjamin Vo Blues Band also will be heading down to Memphis for the International Blues Competition. But did you know that they, too, are working on raising money for the trip? "We're hosting a fundraiser/sendoff show for us on January 18th at Zoetropolis in Lancaster," Benjamin said in a recent Facebook message. "The husband/wife duo Wile & Smith, from Maryland, is opening for us," he added. "We are also at The Study Bar in Bloomsburg, Jan 25th, right before we head for Memphis."

Can't head down down to Tennessee to cheer them on? Still, you will have a chance to welcome both bands home. "We are playing Tellus on February 8th with BOTL," Benjamin Vo said. "We call it Blues Night. It will be in the front room. BOTL will just have gotten back from Memphis." The show starts at 8 and has a \$5 cover. How could you lose?

Did someone say Kick Starter? Oh, yeah. I did.

It seems Blues on The Loose and The Benjamin Vo Band aren't the only area groups trying to raise some money. The Skyla Burrell Band recently returned from a two-week tour of Florida and Alabama. But that's not why they're raising money. It's for their latest recording. "We have been working hard on our new CD, 'BROKEN 45's' for the past year, and are almost at the finish line," Skyla said in a recent email. "Things were on track until late summer when our guitars were stolen. We had to replace them right away, which took every penny (and then some) that we had." All that needs to be done is the final mixing and the master, after which their label will provide the release date. "March should be that month, at the latest April," Skyla said. The recording, their 6th full-length CD of all original blues, was done at Echoes Recording in Sharpsburg, MD, and has already been paid for. "The help we need is with the mastering, replication and distribution costs, which come in right around \$5,000," Burrell said.

And your contributions can get you some perks. For a \$25 contribution will send you the download before it's released. For \$50 contribution the band will send you a signed CD. For \$100 your name will be included in the list of thanks on the CD liner notes." For details on how to help, you can message them on their Facebook page or go to their website, <https://skylaburrell.com>.

Rather hear them live? Well, they've got quite a few shows lined up, both locally and in Maryland and Virginia. You can check out where in the Upcoming Gigs section of this newsletter or on their website. Did someone say CD? Of course, this is a music column.

Also in CD mode locally is Little Buddy Band. "We are recording away on my new CD, my 8th," said Little Buddy Band guitarist/vocalist Mark Kormanik in a recent email. "We are six songs in, and I have three dates booked in studio in January." That's the same studio, Parallel Productions, with Steve Puffer, that they used to record their last CD "Blue Zasu," which was released in November of 2018. Little Buddy Band also features Ken McCoy on sax, Tom Webb on drums, and Anton Marc Clockson on bass. For more info, check out Little Buddy on Facebook or go to <https://littlebuddy.rocks>.

And let's not forget about Octavia, who recorded her latest CD, "Talkin' 'Bout My Baby," earlier this year and is waiting for a remix on it. Octavia noted that she's been off the road for a while. "I don't have any shows until early January," she said in an email last month, "so I've been working on new tunes and booking. I have tons of lyrics I must write music for." Let's hope we'll be talking 'bout "My Baby" soon. In non-CD news, local guitarist/vocalist Albie von Schaaf is still Killin' the Blues - solo, duo, and trio - but he's also working on a new project. The band, which goes by the name Albie/Bitts/Santana, includes Albie with well-known local musicians Mike Bitts on bass and Dave Santana on drums. And they're already booked - for every other month - at The Black Knight Tavern in Landisville for the year, starting in February. Not a bad start, eh?

Moe Blues also has a new project underway, and its musical, but not in the usual Moe way. The MOE Stories Podcast is hosted by Kevin "Moe" Gannon and Steve Courtney and involves interviews with local musicians. The first two interviews, now available online, are with Sarah Fiore, of Indian Summer Jars, and with Andy Mowatt and his keyboard player, Nate. Check them out, if you like, by Googling up MOE Stories Podcast or checking out their Facebook page.

But wait. There's more!

The 2020 East Petersburg Blues Fest is a long way off, but local musician/bandleader Randy Bucksner, of Mystic Alpacas fame, already has lined up three acts for it. One of those is pretty well known, both in East Pete and around much of the rest of the world: Sweet Leda. The others include Deborah Devi, who Bucksner describes as "a real talent guitarist who lives in Jersey City." Want to check her out? She's got no shortage of songs on her Facebook page or at <https://debradevi.com>. We think you'll be pleased.

Also in the lineup is The Greg Sover Band, winner of Hard Rock Philadelphia's 2015 Hard Rock Rising competition and a 2018 semi-finalist at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. You've heard of that, right? You can learn more about Greg Sover - and hear him play on Facebook or at www.gregsover.com. Enjoy!

Finally, in a sad note, Rich Ruoff, the founder of and driving force behind the Lancaster Roots & Blues festival, announced in late November that Roots & Blues has been canceled for 2020, and with good reason: Rich needs to care for his wife, Claudia, who was diagnosed with brain cancer in late 2018. But he did say on the Roots & Blues website that the festival will be back in 2021. In the meantime, let's wish Rich and Claudia the best.

OK, that's it for now. If you've got a blues band or blues venue in Central Pennsylvania and want to get word out on your latest shows or offerings, please drop me a line at ragtime_willi@hotmail.com or message me on Facebook. I'm always happy to get the blues.

Road Trippin'

By Lewy Bechtold

Following the lead of Mike Knott, I thought I would share with you my recent Road Trippin' experience Saturday, October 26, 2019, at the annual Blues Harmonica Spectacular in Levittown, PA. Bucks County Blues Society hosted the event. Donation was \$20.00 at the door. Free parking on the grounds was provided. This venue was a 90 minute drive from Lancaster, east on the Pa. Turnpike, quite near into New Jersey.

A high energy crowd was on hand to fill the place. Pizza, salsa and corn chips were offered comp and the bar was cash. The musical menu was focused on blues harmonica which included six of the greater Philadelphia area's top performers. First set featured The Little Red Rooster Band from Doylestown, Pa. Guitarist Kevin McCann wrangled regulars Bob Holden, drums; Flourtown Fats, bass and special guest Marky B on harmonica. They played several earlier originals and numbers from their latest CD "Hide The Liquor." Following that they introduced O.G. Bassist Randy Lippencotte who led the band in an uproarious call and response number called "Sell My Monkey." After Randy's number they welcomed master bluesman Steve Guyger to their stage and they performed several great blues songs together including Steve's rendition of Muddy Waters "She's Into Something." It brought the house down.

Next up was Slim and The Perkolators, a four piece band out of Philadelphia with Derek Matteson, AKA: Harmonica Slim, on lead vocal and harmonica, Tim Perks on guitar, Sean McIntyre on drums and Randall on bass. The fellas started their set with "Telephone Blues" by George "Harmonica" Smith.

As their set went along they introduced seasoned harp player Nick Trill, who came up from South Carolina for the show. Nick brought along renowned guitarist Bob Margolies who shared the spotlight with Tim. Nick made a personal appeal that everyone who could to please support Legendary Bluesman Paul Oscher's Go Fund Me page as he is having serious health problems.

The third and final performance of this All-Star show of harmonica specialists was given by Mikey Jr., who, incidentally, was the ramrod of this event in support of BCBS. Mikey really brings it, a high energy blues show with barely a breath between songs. His band included Jimmy Pritchard, bass; Matthew Daniels, guitar; Scott Stump, drums and Zach Lees, guitar. They performed songs from Mikey Jr.'s many albums including these latest releases: "It Ain't Hard To Tell" and "Traveling South." "Cheapskate" was one of my favorite songs.

Later on he shared personal history of his matriculation of the blues and introduced his mentor, Big Daddy Albert Lamberson. Big Daddy is featured on Jimi Hendrix' style "Red House" blues grinder and later on Stevie Ray Vaughn's "Cold Shot." They wished everybody well and safe driving, inviting all to the gigs of all bands later that evening in various venues throughout the area. Mikey Jr. and band sent all home with a rendition of "Bye Bye Baby, So Long." Keeping it Loose, Lewy Dean

In Case You Missed It

BSCP SPECIAL SHOW



BLUES ON THE LOOSE:
Tom Lowry
Photo by Greg Hogg



BLUES ON THE LOOSE:
Mike Bitts & Dean Lescalette
Photo by Greg Hogg



THE BLUETONES:
Mudcat Ward
Photo by Greg Hogg



THE BLUETONES:
SUGAR RAY GARCIA
Photo by Greg Hogg



THE BLUETONES:
NEIL GOUVIN
Photo by Greg Hogg



BLUES ON THE LOOSE:
Lewis Dean Bechtold
Photo by Greg Hogg



THE BLUETONES:
TROY GONYA
Photo by Greg Hogg



BLUES ON THE LOOSE:
Dave Secunda
Photo by Greg Hogg

BSCP CHRISTMAS PARTY



PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Greg Hogg



PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Larry Fogelson



PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Greg Hogg



BLUES ON THE LOOSE:
LEWY BECHTOLD
Photo by Larry Fogelson



PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Greg Hogg

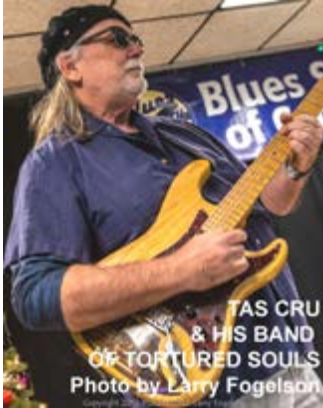


PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Greg Hogg



PARTY ATTENDEES
Photo by Greg Hogg

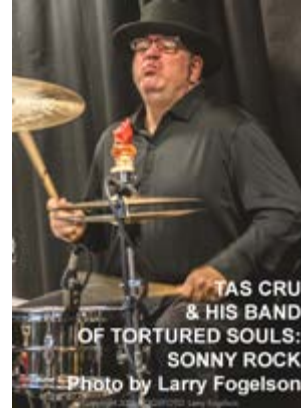
BSCP CHRISTMAS PARTY CONT.



TAS CRU
& HIS BAND
OF TORTURED SOULS
Photo by Larry Fogelson



TAS CRU
& HIS BAND OF TORTURED SOULS:
JOHN COGHILL
Photo by Larry Fogelson



TAS CRU
& HIS BAND
OF TORTURED SOULS:
SONNY ROCK
Photo by Larry Fogelson



TAS CRU
& HIS BAND OF TORTURED SOULS:
GERRY LOJACONO
Photo by Larry Fogelson



PARTY ATTENDEES:
BALTIMORE BLUES SOCIETY MEMBERS
Photo by Larry Fogelson

READING BLUES FESTIVAL



VANESSA COLLIER
& LAURA CHAVEZ
Photo by Kirk Hansen



RICK ESTRIN & FRANK BEY
Photo by Larry Fogelson



MINDY ABEAR
& THE BONESHAKERS
Photo by Kirk Hansen



TORONZO CANNON
Photo by Kirk Hansen



DEANA BOGART
Photo by
Bradley Alston



JOHN PRIMER & FLATFOOT SAM
Photo by Larry Fogelson



DENNIS GRUENLING
Photo by Larry Fogelson



CHRISTONE
KINGFISH
INGRAM
Photo by Kirk Hansen



DERRICK MARTIN
Photo by Larry Fogelson

SAVE THE DATES

**Sunday January 26 – THE NIGHTHAWKS
with Roger Girke & the Wandering Souls**

Sunday April 19 – Spring Show TBA

Saturday May 23 – Mom I Picnic

Sunday July 19 – Mississippi Railroad, TBA

Fall Show – TBA

Sunday December 6 – BSCP Christmas Party – TBA

**Please visit our website @ <http://www.bscpblues.org/news&events.html>
for further information as artists and details are confirmed**

Blues News Marketplace

In an effort to provide another benefit to Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania members, the BSCP is now inviting members to advertise their products or services in subsequent Blues News newsletters, free of charge, providing advertisers agree to offer a 10 percent discount to card-carrying BSCP members.

In future quarterly newsletters, business card size ads (2" x 3 ½") will be bundled on the "Marketplace" page, or spread out throughout the newsletter, depending on how many are received.

There's no need to state the discount offer in the ad. However, advertisers who want to offer 15 percent discount or more will need to state so in their ad. Those ads can be up to 3" x 4 ½".

Please mail **art-ready** ads or attach art-ready ads to an email and send to kehe.ja@gmail.com.

The assumption will be that ads will run in every newsletter unless the advertiser states otherwise.

Advertise for free and reach out to your fellow BSCP members!

Upcoming Gigs

Appearances in the coming weeks and months by Harrisburg-Lancaster-York area bands and touring notables who play some or all blues.

JANUARY 2020

- 2—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 3—Switch Fu, Crostwater Distillery, Lewisberry, 7 p.m.
- 3—Blue Voodoo, The Circle, Hanover, 9:30 p.m.
- 3—Octavia Blues Band, York Elks Lodge, York, 8 p.m.
- 4—Blues on The Loose, The Soundbank, Phoenixville, 7 p.m.
- 4—Switch Fu, The Twisted Tail, Philadelphia, 9 p.m.
- 4—Blue Voodoo, 551 West, Lancaster, 9 p.m.
- 7—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 9—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 10—Don Johnson Project, Hershey Italian Lounge, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 11—Pair of Aces, Hat Creek Wine Shop, Carlisle, 6 p.m.
- 11—Switch Fu, Blue Mountain Ski Resort, Palmerton, 4 p.m.
- 11—Blue Voodoo, E-town Legion, Elizabethtown, 8 p.m.
- 11—The Rimshotz Blues Band, The Gettysburger, Gettysburg, 9:30 p.m.
- 11—Skyla Burrell Band, Conewago Inn, Manchester, call.
- 12—Don Johnson Project, Fredrickson Library, Camp Hill, 1:30 p.m.
- 14—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 16—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 17—Acoustic Stew, Downtown Lodge, Lebanon, 8 p.m.
- 17—Switch Fu, Rubicon, Harrisburg, 8 p.m.
- 18—Switch Fu, Burd's Nest, Carlisle, 9-10 p.m. (8 bands – Music starts at 2 p.m.)
- 18—The Rimshotz Blues Band, West Manchester VFW, York, 8 p.m.
- 18—Don Johnson Project, River City Blues Club, Harrisburg, 9 p.m.
- 21—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, 8 p.m.
- 23—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 23—Don Johnson Project, Whitaker Center, Harrisburg, Noon
- 24—Switch Fu, Conewago Inn, Manchester, 8 p.m.
- 24—Don John Project, Chick's Tavern, Hummelstown, 8 p.m.
- 25—Blue Voodoo, Black Knight Tavern, Landisville, 8 p.m.
- 25—Octavia Blues Band, 551 West, Lancaster, 9 p.m.
- 25—Soul Solution, Lawnton Legion, Harrisburg, 7:30 p.m.
- 26—The Nighthawks, Roger Girke & The Wandering Souls, Champions, Highspire, 2 p.m.
- 28—Acoustic Stew, Burd's Nest Brewery, Carlisle, 7 p.m.
- 28—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, 8 p.m.
- 29—Don Johnson Quartet, Duke's, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 30—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 31—Switch Fu, Shy Bear Brewing, Lewistown, 7 p.m.
- 31—Skyla Burrell Band, Monks BBQ, Purcellville, call.
- 31—Pair of Aces, Burd's Nest Brewery, Carlisle, 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2020

- 1—Skyla Burrell Band, 147 North, Winchester, call.
- 4—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 5—Don Johnson Quartet, Duke's, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 6—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 7—Skyla Burrell Band, Conewago Inn, Manchester, call.
- 7—Soul Solution, York Elks, York, 7 p.m.
- 8—Blues on the Loose, Tellus 360, Lancaster, 8 p.m.
- 8—Pair of Aces, Crostwater Distilled Spirits, Lewisberry, 7 p.m.
- 8—The Rimshotz Blues Band, The Gettysburger, Gettysburg, 9:30 p.m.
- 9—Acoustic Moose, McKee's Tavern, Liberty Mountain Resort, 3 p.m.
- 11—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, 8 p.m.
- 13—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.

- 14—Soul Solution, Lancaster Legion, Lancaster, 7 p.m.
- 15—Switch Fu, The Midtown Tavern, Harrisburg, 8 p.m.
- 15—Don Johnson Project, Lawnton Legion, Harrisburg, 7:30 p.m.
- 15—Pair of Aces, The Wetlands, Lebanon, 6 p.m.
- 18—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 20—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 21—Pair of Aces, Downtown Lounge, Lebanon, 8 p.m.
- 21—Switch Fu, Broad Street Market, Harrisburg, 6 p.m.
- 21—Blue Voodoo with Bob and Linda, Lucky Ducks, Elizabethtown, 7 p.m.
- 21—Blues on the Loose, Opening for Frank Bey CD release, venue and time TBD.
- 21—Don Johnson Project, Gary's Bar, Palmyra, 8 p.m.
- 22—Don Johnson Project, Market Cross Pub, Carlisle, 8:30 p.m.
- 25—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 26—Don Johnson Quartet, Duke's, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 27—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 28—Skyla Burrell Band, Stoners on the Square, Mercersburg, call.
- 28—Octavia Blues Band, York Elks Lodge, York, 8 p.m.
- 28—Blue Voodoo, McCleary's Pub, Marietta, 9:30 p.m.
- 29—Soul Solution, Hollywood Casino, Grantville, 8 p.m.

March 2020

- 3—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 4—Don Johnson Quartet, Duke's, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 5—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 6—Switch Fu, Grotto Pub, West Fairview, 10 p.m.
- 7—Switch Fu, Warehouse Tap Room, Hagerstown, MD, 7 p.m.
- 7—Skyla Burrell Band, 147 North, Winchester, call.
- 7—Blue Voodoo, Black Knight Tavern, Landisville, 8 p.m.
- 7—Soul Solution, Lawnton Legion, Harrisburg, 7:30 p.m.
- 10—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 12—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 13—Blue Voodoo, The Circle, Hanover, 9:30 p.m.
- 13—Acoustic Moose, McKee's Tavern, Liberty Mountain Resort, 7 p.m.
- 14—Blues on the Loose, 551 West, Lancaster, 9 p.m.
- 14—Soul Solution, Lancaster AMVET, Lancaster, 7 p.m.
- 15—The Rimshotz Blues Band, The Gettysburger, Gettysburg, 9:30 p.m.
- 17—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 19—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 20—Switch Fu, Shy Bear, Lewistown, 7 p.m. (Acoustic Trio)
- 20—Acoustic Stew, Downtown Lodge, Lebanon, 8 p.m.
- 20—Blues on the Loose, The SoundBank, Phoenixville, 8 p.m.
- 20—Blue Voodoo with Bob and Linda, The Underside at Altlands Ranch, Abbottstown, 7:30 p.m.
- 20—Don Johnson Project, York Elks, York, 7 p.m.
- 24—Nate Myers, Grotto Pub, Enola, 8 p.m.
- 25—Don Johnson Quartet, Duke's, Hershey, 7 p.m.
- 26—BSCP Blues Jam, Champions, Highspire, 7 p.m.
- 27—Switch Fu, Moose Lodge, Selinsgrove, 8 p.m.
- 27—The Rimshotz Blues Band, James A. Danner VFW, Etters, 7:30 p.m.
- 28—Switch Fu, Bare Bones Bar and Grill, Ellicott City, MD, 9 p.m.
- 28—Octavia Blues Duo, Loxley's Restaurant t Heritage Hotel, Lancaster, 7 p.m.

This schedule is subject to change, may not be all-inclusive and may not include gigs out of state or beyond a 100-mile radius of Harrisburg-Lancaster area. All listings are in Pennsylvania unless noted otherwise. It's advised that you check with the venue in advance to confirm. The schedule will be updated on www.BSCPblues.org as needed. To be part of the Upcoming Gigs, please send an email to Andrew Kehe at kehe.ja@gmail.com



P.O. Box 453
Steelton, PA 17113

ELECTRIC JAM EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT AT CHAMPIONS IN HIGHSPIRE PA



STARTS AT 7 PM