



BLUES NEWS

A Message from our New President...

Happy New Year!

Time flies. For the BSCP, this means new officers. As your new president for 2015, I have some large shoes to fill after the excellent leadership of Rocky Rothrock. Our treasury for the last many years, has been very capably handled by Bob Emrich. Bob is stepping down and turning the books over to Rocky. Moving into the Vice President spot will be George Carver. As of this writing, Bob Hodgson will continue as Secretary, as his schedule allows. I anticipate the Board membership will remain pretty much the same. That being said, we can always use help. We always seem to get help at events, but it would be great to get some more volunteers for leadership positions. None of us are getting any younger.



The plan is to continue moving in the direction we have been. Our list of events is pretty well set. Treasurer's Picnic in May, Dauphin County Wine & Music Fest in June, Mississippi Railroad Picnic in July, and the Christmas Party in December. These events are basically set. Plus, we are always on the lookout for shows we can put together for our members and the community at large (with some already in the works). Oh yeah, the jam will remain under Rocky's leadership (both the regular Thursday night jam at Champions and the acoustic jam at River City).

BSCP is a unique organization, run by volunteers with no outside funding. We do it all ourselves. We have been around for 16 years, or so, and with close to 400 dues paying members, we are a significant force in the music community.

I would like to get the history of BSCP down for posterity...maybe have a designated historian. Not sure of the logistics of this project, but I would more than welcome anybody's memories. Many of you have been around since the beginning, and memories fade with time. I encourage all of you to jot down your memories and forward them to me or any other Board Member. And if you're interested in trying to put this together, let me or any Board Member know.

Long live the blues!

Buster

A Message from our Past President...

As another year draws to a close, I think back on all the activities that the Blues Society has pulled off in 2014. Starting with 51 Thursday jam sessions (we took Christmas off), the Treasurer's Picnic, Music & Wine Festival, Mississippi Railroad, several blues shows, starting up the acoustic jam again and, finally the Christmas Party. It is truly an amazing amount of stuff for an all-volunteer organization to get done. So, my hat's off to all who stepped forward to help and congratulations on another outstanding year!

In addition, we have added lots of new merchandise, thanks to Betty Fenicle and Dave Yeagley, and have been making that available to blues fans at more venues. We have also released a new CD of the Center Stage show by WITF-FM with Terry "Harmonica" Bean, which includes many tunes that feature our local jammers, as well as the Cornlickers. The two-CD set includes interviews with Terry and 11 songs, mostly recorded at our 2013 Mississippi Railroad event.

Looking ahead, 2015 promises to be another great year. We have nearly completed the lineup for the Dauphin County Music and Wine Festival and it is a great one (more details to come), so mark your calendars for June 13th and 14th. We are working on bringing more touring artists to Harrisburg, starting with Joe Louis Walker on Sunday, January 18th, at the River City Blues Club - admission \$15. BSCP is sponsoring this effort and would like to do this kind of event regularly if we can break even on the cost. We have reserved the Shellsville Picnic Grounds for May 24th for our Treasurer's Picnic and for July 12th for the Mississippi Railroad. We made great progress last year in reducing the burden on our volunteers for these events, but we will still need many folks to step up and help, as they have done in the past. We usually have as much fun preparing for these events as we do attending them, so don't be shy, join in the fun!

I will be stepping down as President as of January 1st, and assuming the office of Treasurer. I look forward to working with Buster Grubb, our new President, one of our founding members and long-time Board Member and Vice President. Buster brings a vast amount of knowledge and experience to the job and I know he will do well. And want to especially thank Bob Emrich, our outgoing Treasurer, for his many years of service to the Blues Society. Bob has left the treasury in great shape so we have the means to continue to enjoy and promote the blues.

I also want to thank all the BSCP members who have been so supportive of me as President and Jam Chairman. Your support and friendship means more to me than I can express. Thank you.

Rocky

President: Buster Grubb

Vice President: George Carver

Secretary: Bob Hodgson

Treasurer: Gary "Rocky" Rothrock – (Chair, Jam Committee and Bylaws Committee)

Dot Grubb – Chair, Membership Committee

Nina Vacante – Chair, Newsletter Committee, and Webmaster

Greg Hogg – Chair, IBC Committee

Betty Fenicle and Dave Yeagley – Co-Chairs, Merchandise Committee

Rocky Woodling - Chair, Public Relations Committee

Virginia "Mom" Ivanoff – Member-at-Large

Hannah Sherman – Member-at-Large

Dale Roat - Member-at-Large

BSCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CD REVIEW

STEVE CRASE

"Buckle Up"

by Greg Hogg

John in Houston PR is an online friend of mine and he does public relations work for many great blues artists. From time to time he sends new CD releases of the artists he represents to me for CD reviews. Lucky me! I get the chance to hear lots of new music ...and that's always a good thing!

The most recent CD that John sent to me is Steve Krase's latest disc, "Buckle Up". A little background of Steve Krase (rhymes with ace). Steve was born in Brooklyn, New York, before moving to Ohio, California and Louisiana before settling in Houston, Texas 20 years ago. Steve worked for several

prominent Houston based bands as a harmonica sideman before forming his own band, Steve Krase and the In Crowd. Steve and his band were local blues society IBC winners in 2004 and 2005, and they advanced into the finals at The Blues Foundations International Blues Challenge in Memphis both of those years.

"Buckle Up", released in 2014 on the Connor Ray Music label, is a 10-song project and each song features dynamic blues harp and powerful vocals by Steve backed by premiere Houston based blues musicians. So, fish those seatbelts out from alongside of the seat and buckle up as we ride through this CD!

"Joline" gets this CD started with fast early rock & roll styled boogie featuring rollicking piano and soaring harmonica. Glad we "buckled up" for this burner!

Whew! We'll slow the pace a bit with a slide guitar and harmonica smooth groove for 'Daddy's Got A Cadillac (Mama Rides A Mule)".

Steve Krase is joined in track three by Houston's blues diva, Trudy Lynn to belt out Willie Dixon's "I Just Want To Make Love To You". Trudy Lynn and Steve are no strangers to one another as Steve was a prominent player in Trudy Lynn's "Royal Oaks Café" CD which I reviewed in a previous BSCP newsletter. A little tip here...you can catch both Steve and Trudy Lynn in February at the Lancaster Roots and Blues Festival!

"Misery" is another fast number with lots of punch and plenty of Steve's vocals and harp!

We'll slow this thing down now with a smoky "Night Train (From Oakland)"...nice, relaxed and great for that slow dance with your sweetheart!

Track six, "Blueshound", is a song of a tragic highway accident with a fatality and references to the Grim Reaper. Lyrically, I didn't care much for this tune....a bit too morbid for me.

"I Like Them All" picks up the pace again with wailing harmonica and slashing slide guitar, while Steve sings of his interest in women!

"Buckle Up", the title track, speaks of the rough ride out of a failed relationship. Any of us that have been around the block a time or two can identify with this!

"Big Bad Woman" is a quick moving story type song and is the last speedster track on this disc.

Steve Krase ends this CD with a soothing tune featuring lots of harmonica and conga drum rhythms. Nice way to wrap this thing up!

One last reminder...Steve Krase and Trudy Lynn, both Houston, Texas powerhouses of blues music, will be here in Central Pennsylvania on February 6th & 7th for the Lancaster Roots and Blues Festival. For more details go to: <http://lancasterrootsandblues.com>.

"Billy Got Slide" Billy Pierce

BILLY PIERCE BAND'S 2014 Take Off !

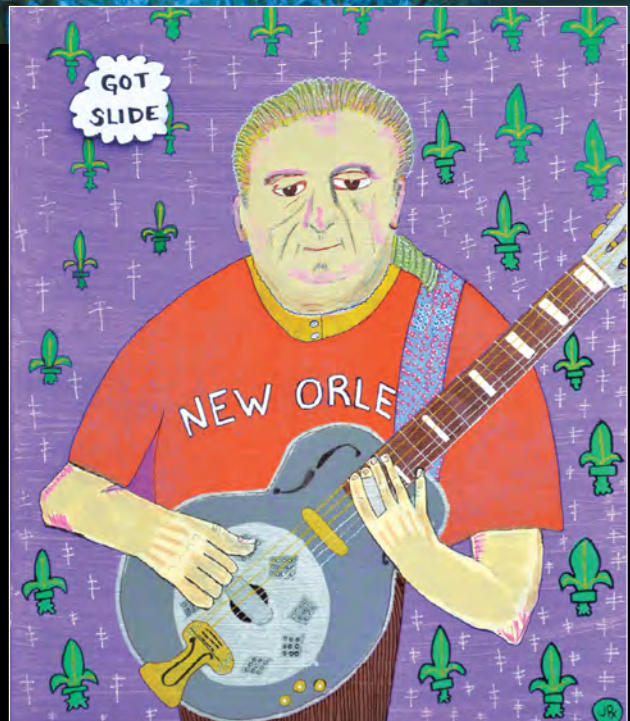
By Greg Hogg of the
Blues Society of Central PA

Billy Pierce of Newark, DE and I became friends about 7-8 years ago. Billy, having played guitar in many Delaware bands over the years, was working sound at J. B. McGinnis Pub & Grille in New Castle at Diamond State Blues Society shows when we met. During the time that I've know Billy he was charmed by a pretty girl that loved the music of Louisiana - and his life was changed. The blues, jazz, funk of New Orleans and the bayou's swamp pop, and especially the slide guitar playing of Billy's friend and mentor, Sonny Landreth,

swept over him like the storm surge ahead of an approaching hurricane.

After many trips to Louisiana and rarely missing the opportunity to see the Louisiana musicians as they toured through the Mid-Atlantic area, Billy and his sweetheart, Bluesgirl Kelli Tome [www.FullMoonBlues.com] became very good friends with these great musicians. The songs that Billy began writing had distinct Louisiana flavor and his "Take Me Back To The Delta" CD project featuring many of these friends was released in early 2014.

2014. What a year for The Billy Pierce Band ! On October 24th, "Take Me Back To The Delta" was sponsored by the Central Delaware



One Of The Many Amazing Stars Who Attended The 20th Anniversary Show At The Stanhope House for "THE HAPPY TO HAVE THE BLUES" show!

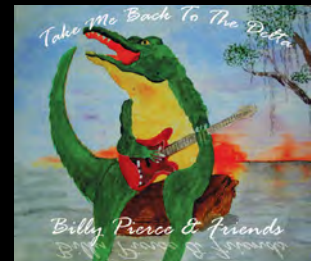


Blues Society as their entry in The Blues Foundations IBC BSPCD contest. Also in October, Billy Pierce was invited to travel to New Orleans to perform 3 songs in the Bayou Rum Blues Jam Contest at the Mid-Town Lanes Rock n Bowl. On November 21st The Billy Pierce Band won Phoenixville, PA's Steel City Blues Society's IBC contest to be their representative band in Memphis in January.

Tracks from Billy Pierce Band's "Take Me Back To The Delta" has been getting regular airplay on Sirius/XM's Bluesville and other blues radio nationwide and this fine CD has been marketed and sold internationally.

The Billy Pierce Band, with Billy on slide guitar and vocals, Chris Miller on bass guitar and John Thomas Whiteley III on drums has taken off ! 2014 has definitely been their year!

www.bilypierce.com



Booking & Music:
www.bilypierce.com
(302) 351-4610
Booking@BillyPierce.com
[@BillySlide](https://twitter.com/BillySlide)



Billy's CD available from his website, CD Baby, Amazon.com and LA Music Factory
www.facebook.com/bilypierce.77

In Memoriam
David Collman

by Gary "Rocky" Rothrock



Our brother, David Collman, passed away on November 20, 2014, after a short but brutal bout with cancer. Dave was a friend of the blues jam and played there many times. Dave was a kind and caring gentleman who was willing to step forward and help us by hosting the jam, which is many times a trying and thankless task. He loved to play, and so was a true brother in the blues to all the other players and fans. We will miss him very much and remember him always.

Many of our members probably did not know Dave, since he was a quiet guy who came and played but did not make a big show of it - another reason we liked him so much. But his contributions were significant and very much appreciated. May he rest in peace.

IBC UPDATE

by Greg Hogg, BSCP IBC Chair

The Blues Society of Central PA proudly announces that our representative IBC acts are registered and ready to make their pilgrimage to Beale St, Memphis, TN for The Blues Foundation's annual International Blues Challenge being held January 20-24, 2015.

R-Way Unplugged..... Blair Mitchell Tree, guitar and Kristen Gonzalez, vocals from Williamsport, PA are our Duo representatives. James Day & The Fish Fry from Media, PA are our band representative act. Central PA blues fans have had several chances lately to see these great acts perform. Both acts appeared at our BSCP Last Blast of Summer show and at our great 2014 BSCP Christmas Party.

James Day & The Fish Fry's new CD, "Southland" has also been sponsored by the BSCP for The Blues Foundation's IBC Best Self Produced CD contest.

Speaking for the BSCP Board & membership, I wish safe travels, great Memphis food, new contacts and friends, lots of fun adventures and kind judges for R-Way Unplugged and James Day & The Fish Fry! We'll be anxiously awaiting news of your Memphis IBC!



◀ James Day & The Fish Fry

R-Way Unplugged ▶



FOR SALE NOW!!

Center Stage Terry "Harmonica" Bean and Friends



Featuring
The Cornlickers
BSCP Jammers
Available at all BSCP events
2 CD Set - Just \$15

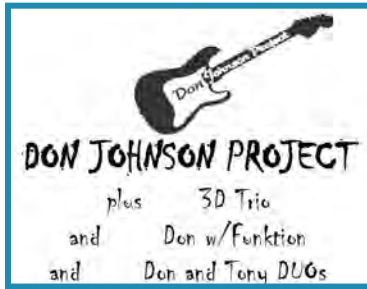
RIVER CITY BLUES CLUB

Schedule - January/February 2015



Thu	1/1/15	8:00pm – 1:00am	The Martini Bros. W/ Nate Myers & The Aces
		All day	New Year's Day
		8:00pm – 11:00pm	Jam W/Mark Santanna
Fri	1/2/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	Acoustic Stew
Sat	1/3/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	The Back Rhodes
Wed	1/7/15	7:00pm – 10:00pm	BSCP Acoustic Jam w/Rocky Rothrock
Thu	1/8/15	8:00pm – 11:00pm	Jam W/Mark Santanna
Fri	1/9/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	Shawan & The Wonton
Sat	1/10/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	TBA
Wed	1/14/15	7:00pm – 10:00pm	Blue Elephant jam
Thu	1/15/15	8:00pm – 11:00pm	Jam W/Mark Santanna
Fri	1/16/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	New Rotics
Sat	1/17/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	Don Johnson Project
Sun	1/18/15	8:00pm – 10:00pm	Joe Louis Walker
Mon	1/19/15	All day	Martin Luther King Day
Wed	1/21/15	7:00pm – 10:00pm	BSCP Acoustic Jam w/ Nate Myers
Thu	1/22/15	8:00pm – 11:00pm	Jam W/Mark Santanna
Fri	1/23/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	TBA
Sat	1/24/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	Robert Frahm Band
Wed	1/28/15	7:00am – 11:00am	Jam w/ Shawan and the Wonton
Thu	1/29/15	8:00pm – 11:00pm	Jam W/Mark Santanna
Fri	2/13/15	9:00pm – 12:00am	Marrisa Elise & The Groove
Sat	2/14/15	All day	Valentine's Day
Mon	2/16/15	All day	Presidents' Day (Washington's Birthday)
Fri	2/20/15	All day	Millenium

Please check the BSCP website (www.bscplblues.org) or the River City website (www.Rivercityhbg.com) for updates.



DON JOHNSON PROJECT

Schedule - January thru March 2015

Fri.	1/2/15	9 PM	Funktion @ Hollywood Casino, Grantville
Wed.	1/7/15	7 PM	3D TRIO @ Dukes - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri.	1/9/15	9 PM	DJP @ Chick's Tavern - 120 W. 2nd St., Hummelstown
Sat.	1/17/15	9 PM	DJP - River City Blues Club - 819 S. Cameron St., HBG
Thurs.	1/22/15	8:30	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill - 61 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri.	1/23/15	8 PM	DJP @ Big Woody's - 4425 N. Front St., Harrisburg
Wed.	1/28/15	7 PM	DJP @ Dukes - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Wed.	2/4/15	7 PM	3D TRIO @ Dukes - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri.	2/6/15	7 PM	DJP - Elks Club - George Street, York
Fri.	2/13/15	7 PM	Funktion - Allenberry - Boiling Springs
Sat.	2/14/15	8 PM	DJP - VALENTINES DAY - HERSHEY ITALIAN LODGE 128 Hillcrest Rd., Hershey
Thurs.	2/19/15	8:30	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill - 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri.	2/20/15	9 PM	DJP - Roosevelt Tavern, 50 N. Penn St., York
Wed.	2/25/15	7 PM	DJP @ Duke's - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri.	2/27/15	9 PM	Funktion @ New Cumberland Legion
Wed.	3/4/15	7 PM	3D TRIO @ Dukes - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri.	3/13/15	8 PM	DJP @ Big Woody's - 4425 N. Front St., Harrisburg
Thurs.	3/19/15	8:30	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill - 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Sat.	3/21/15	9 PM	TRIO @ Union Canal House - 107 S. Hanover St., Hershey
Wed.	3/29/15	7 PM	DJP @ Duke's - Chocolate Ave., Hershey

Band Bookings: Email KAREN at donjohnsonproject@verizon.net

Visit Don Johnson on Facebook for up-to-date events.

NOTE: Schedule always subject to change.



BSCP Annual Christmas Party



WOW, WHAT A PARTY!



by Hannah Sherman

"It was just the usual Blues Society of Central Pa, event. Massive amounts of excellent food, the incredible volunteer staff for whom this outstanding event would not be possible. I love and appreciate all of them. I can comfortably say all the fans who attended were just as thrilled and appreciative as I. Seeing good friends and like fans who are there for the same common interest, fueled first by the acoustic duo of R Way then followed by James Day & the Fish Fry, who happened to

take ownership of the place was positive proof the mission was accomplished. Yep, just the usual BSCP throw down, I'd say. Thanks everyone, have a great and safe holiday season!" - *Mike Knott*

Thank you, Mike, and everyone who came to the Christmas Party. It also wouldn't be possible to have these events without the blues fans. So while I have your attention, I would like to remind everyone that we have several annual events that are alike in many ways but there are also differences.

At every event, someone always says, "I thought you had food here." or "You don't have drinks." So if you haven't seen a poster or flyer at the jam, or read about it on the website or in the newsletter, please ask a Board Member. OK, here are the main events:

- **TREASURER'S PICNIC** - \$20 in advance/\$25 door (prices subject to change). Food, soft drinks, coffee, water and draft beer are included. Food contributions are encouraged. Live music is provided all day.
- **MISSISSIPPI RAILROAD PICNIC** – Free to Blues Society members. Bring your own food and drinks. We have had food for sale but it is not guaranteed. A blues act from Mississippi backed by the Cornlickers is provided.
- **CHRISTMAS PARTY** – Free to Blues Society members. Food is provided. Coffee and water are available. Bring whatever else you like to drink. Food contributions are encouraged.

If you are not a member, it's a mere \$10 a year. If we have an International Blues Competition it is also free to members. If we have a New Year's Eve Party, it is at a reduced price to members. There are local blues societies who charge \$30-\$35 dollars for music and it does not include any food or drink and they get a very good turnout. We are extremely lucky to have such a successful organization that we can hopefully continue to give you an excellent time at a very reasonable cost.

I have had people ask me if our events are catered. The answer is yes, mainly by Virginia Ivanoff and Dot Grubb. Those ladies spend days shopping, storing, chopping and cooking. I'm not going to tell you how old they are, but I know Dot

will tell you her age...she's proud of it! We have a small core group of dedicated volunteers and we have many who will jump in to help for part of the time. We would like to get to know some of you better so please consider volunteering at any or all events.

"A lot of times, and probably most times, people never say anything, myself included, but don't ever think for even a minute that your efforts go unnoticed. I know it's nice to actually hear it once and awhile. Charlie Frank from Baltimore, who came with Mary, made a comment to us about how impressed he is with the events we have. He was talking about the event itself but how nice all the people are as well. He said, "I always have a good time whenever I come up here." So even an outsider (...so to speak...Charlie's a good friend, but doesn't get to all of our events) has seen the effort that is put into making it great. He didn't just say this is the best one he's been to. He was commenting about all the ones he has attended...so yea, he's noticed what goes into to it as well." – *Mike Knott*

"I had a good time – it was great. I loved seeing everybody – the music was great – the people were great – everyone brought something. It was a nice celebration. You can tell them my age...I am just glad I've made it this far. Must be all you kids keeping me young??? I guess I am just lucky to have my wonderful family and my wonderful blues family. Love all of you." – *Virginia Ivanoff*

"We all had a mighty fine time. I liked both of the entertainers – they were really good. Plenty of room to dance, everything was good. I like it – it was a success. Everyone had fun." – *Jacke Buchwald*

"Everything about it was superb." – *Paula Heiman*

"Party on!" – *Dale Roat*

"The facility was phenomenal. For people who cook it was the perfect kitchen. The turn-out was what we had hoped and exceeded our expectations. We greatly appreciated all the side dishes and desserts—it made it a perfect Christmas event. The music brought us all to our feet to round out our BSCP Christmas Party." – *Karen Weaver*

I thought it was the best Christmas Party we ever had. It was so mellow – everything went so smooth. I thought the band was perfect – it was funny when they said, "Turn it down" – I never heard that before." – *Rocky Rothrock*

"People were leaving and they were going out of their way to thank me. I think they thought I had something to do with the Blues Society. I told them it wasn't me – it was Dot and Mom." – *Buster*

"Well, I love James Day. Didn't get to the IBC and was really impressed with the girl's voice. The kitchen was the best we ever had and there's plenty of room for more people." – *Kathie Lorah*

"It was excellent and very well organized – just smooth. More room down the aisles. Music was great and food was wonderful." – *Nowell Smith*

"The BSCP is far and away the finest group of folks that I've ever been involved with and I look forward to every chance I get to spend time with you all." – *Greg Hogg*

"To me, Christmas is about love and joy. I have been involved with many organizations over the years but none of them have ever given me as much joy as the BSCP. Most of my friends are in our amazing blues society and the love I receive from them keeps growing. We keep improving on every aspect of our events and hope to add many shows to our agenda in the coming year. We look forward to our expanding membership and I look forward to much more love and joy." – *Hannah Mae*



Blues Society of Central PA
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