



Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania  
[www.bscpblues.com](http://www.bscpblues.com)

# BLUES NEWS

Apr - Jun 2023

## ★ ANNUAL MOM I PICNIC ★

BSCP 25th Anniversary 1998–2023  
Sunday May 28, 2023



*Food and beverages included in price*

Advance **\$20** Door **\$25**

Mechanicsburg Club Picnic Grounds, 199 Glendale Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA

*Desserts and snacks appreciated*

# CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR

300 2nd Street Highspire, PA 17034

The Blues Society of Central Pa

## ★ SPRING SHOW ★

### SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2023



FAST EDDIE & THE SLOWPOKES



BLUES BIZNESS

# ★ PETER VETESKA ★ ★ and BLUES TRAIN ★



\$20 Advance \$25 Door  
Doors open 1:00 Show 1:30



Poster design by Jay McElroy

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# From your President...

Time to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania! According to recollections of early members and written records, the first meeting of the Central Pennsylvania Blues Society was held on June 6, 1998, at 3:00 pm at the Best Western Courtyard, in Harrisburg.

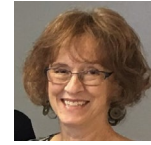
Officers for the first year were elected at another meeting held shortly after in a private club in Steelton called The Home Association: President Dave Snyder, Vice-President Mike Easton, Secretary Cecilia "Beulah Mae" Jankura and Treasurer Kathy Robinson. Other original members include Gary Harrington, Tony Formica, Carrie Baker, Beverly McCormick, Dot Mowers Grubb, Jimmy "Jimmoe" Mulholland, Mitch Ivanoff, Dale Wise and Bill Wasch.

Thanks to the work of these pioneer BSCP members and those to follow, for 25 years blues lovers in Central PA have been able to go to weekly jams, blues concerts, holiday

parties, picnics, and festivals. BSCP members have embraced the blues and all are a vital part of keeping the blues alive. We celebrate the vision of the originators and the faithfulness of blues members along the way.

Join BSCP at the Mom I picnic 25th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, May 28, 2023, with six bands playing and lots of good food from noon to 7 pm (see cover).

Happy 25th Anniversary!



Kathryn Gregoire  
[bluesmunga@gmail.com](mailto:bluesmunga@gmail.com)

## 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.

# 25th Anniversary!



The 03/16/23 jam tear down crew celebrates 25 years of BSCP and the blues jam.  
Gary "Rocky" Rothrock, Gordy Keeney, John Stover, Jimmy Speck, Don Intrieri

# In Memoriam

by Jackson Fogel



## Willie J. Campbell

06-10-57 / 12-19-22

Willie Campbell had an amazing career as a bass player with The James Harmon Band, The Thunderbirds, The Mannish Boys, and his new band, The Proven Ones. He was a Blues Foundation nominee for Instrumentalist, Band, Album, and Record of the Year Blues Music Awards. Suffering from ALS the past two years, he asks his fans to "Please live fully in the moment. Enjoy everyone and everything that you can, while you can."



## Walter "Wolfman" Washington

12-20-43 / 12-22-22

New Orleans singer and guitarist legend Walter "Wolfman" Washington and his Roadmasters was the quintessential New Orleans bar band. In a 2005 New Orleans music documentary "Make It Funky!," Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards bows down to Washington in tribute. His most recent album in 2018 "My Future is My Past" earned Washington some of the best reviews of his career. In his early career, he played for 16 years with Johnny "The Tan Canary" Adams, his friend and mentor.



## Frederick Martin Roulette

05-03-39 / 12-24-22

American electric blues lap steel guitarist and singer, Freddie Roulette, is credited with bringing his unique Hawaiian sound into blues, rock, and funk. His tenure with the Daphne Blue Band is chronicled in a YouTube documentary. He played with notables such as Earl Hooker, Pinetop Perkins, Charlie Musselwhite, Luther Tucker, and John Lee Hooker, Johnny Walker, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Harvey Mandel, Don "Sugarcane" Harris, and Steve Kimock and contributed to 12 albums from 1970-1992.



## Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson

04-11-39 / 12-25-22

Born in Mississippi, Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson moved at age 16 to Chicago, where he performed with Magic Sam and Muddy Waters in the 60's and 70's. In 1980 he backed John Lee Hooker as a member of the Legendary Blues band in the movie, *The Blues Brothers*. He won a Grammy Award in 1985 for Best Traditional Blues Album *Blues Explosion*. He recorded 9 albums from 1975 – 2001 and performed with the Nighthawks on 3 albums.



## Steve James

07-15-50 / 01-06-23

Steve James is a self-taught guitarist, songwriter, luthier and teacher. With a reputation for being one of the best modern bottleneck slide players, he has played and recorded with the likes of Bo Diddley, John Hammond, Furry Lewis, Howard Armstrong and James McMurtry. He shares his guitar and mandolin expertise with books, DVDs and on-line tutorials and has appeared on syndicated broadcasts world-wide, such as *Austin City Limits Live*. He has decades of touring in North and South America, Europe, and Australia.



## Felix Nathaniel McClairen

07-27-53 / 01-10-23

President of The DC Blues Society (2005-2010) (2012-2017), Felix McClairen was a major supporter of international touring performers and local musicians. He first joined the board in 2003 and was an active member until he relocated to Jacksonville, FL, where he continued to be involved with the American Legion and increasing the presence of blues in the area. He created many lasting memories for DCBS members and his impact will be long felt.



## Levi Lloyd

Date Unknown / 02-01-23

Blues guitarist and vocalist Levi Lloyd played with the greats, like B. B. King and John Lee Hooker, and toured worldwide as the longtime guitarist for the legendary Joe Louis Walker. Eventually Lloyd set up his own long running band in northern California, Levi Lloyd and The 501 Band, which won the North Bay Music Award for Best Blues/R&B Band in 2012. Fellow musician and friend, Johnny Otis, came up with the name, a takeoff on Levi's 501 Jeans.

# BSCP Spring 2023 Show

By Kathryn Gregoire

BSCP is bringing three outstanding blues bands to Champions on Sunday, April 23, 2023, at 1:30 pm.

**Peter Veteska and Blues Train.** The last time Peter Veteska and Blues Train came through Central PA, it was to help BSCP greet the 2022 New Year on our virtual blues show. Time before that was for the 2021 New Year. The Blues Train played a big part in getting us through those quarantined holidays. Veteska also entertained us in March 2021 with a solo performance from his home and he made a special trip soon after the jam first returned to Champions to join us for a Thursday evening.

Now you are going to have a first-hand opportunity to hear the smooth-as-silk Peter Veteska and his fabulous Blues Train band members in person, face-to-face, on the BSCP stage for the Spring Show. We couldn't be more excited!

New York Hall of Famer Peter Veteska played his first (rock and roll) gig at age fifteen in Queens and didn't get properly introduced to the blues until 2009. After taking time to establish his architectural woodworking career while living in New Jersey, he formed his blues band in 2013.



His current extraordinary band lineup includes bassist Chuck Hearne, drummer Alex D'Agnes (an original band member), keyboardist Jeff Levine (toured with Bo Diddley, Wilson Picket and Joe Cocker), saxist Mike Scott, and guitarist/vocalist Jen Barnes. In February 2023, Veteska moved from Yardley, PA, to Allentown, NJ, where he continues to produce beautiful architectural works and heartfelt blues music.

Veteska has produced six albums over a period of seven years, writing most of the songs himself and artfully rearranging the cover songs. The albums just keep doing better and better. The fifth album, *Grass Ain't Greener On The Other Side*, ranked #7 in Roots Music Magazine's Top 200 albums for 2020 and spent 3 months in the top ten on the Australian Blues and Roots Airplay charts.

The sixth album, *So Far So Good*, ranked #4 in Roots Music Magazine's Top 200 albums for 2022. It has been in the top ten on B.B. King's Bluesville on SiriusXM and on the Living Blues chart for top fifty albums and was #1 New Jersey Album on the Roots Music Report chart for 21 weeks in a row. Both self-produced contemporary blues albums were selected to represent Jersey Shore Jazz and Blues Foundation at their respective International Blues Challenges.

Bill Halaszynski's review of *Grass Ain't Greener On The Other Side* is in the BSCP Blues News Jan. - Mar. 2021 issue and his review of *So Far So Good* is in the BSCP Blues News April - June 2022 issue. Veteska's CDs are available on Bandcamp and [www.peterveteskabluestrain.com](http://www.peterveteskabluestrain.com).

**Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes.** Ed Crowley started out in a high school rock'n'roll band in Prince George's County, MD. By his junior year he traded his guitar for a harmonica and became a huge fan of a local blues band, The Nighthawks. Initially, building his career and growing his family took his attention. Crowley has a Masters in Therapeutic Recreation and teaches in Clinton, MD, in the largest adapted physical education department in the U.S. He currently lives in Greenbelt's Belle Point.

In 2011 he formed his own band, Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes, consisting of Ed Crowley (harmonica, vocals), Dave Sherman (guitar, vocals), James "Cookie" Cooke (bass, vocals), Tam Sullivan (keyboards) and Scott Chadwick (drums). They quickly went on to represent DC Blues Society at the 2013 International Blues Challenge in Memphis and again in 2017 when they made it to the semi-finals. They perform in venues ranging from the Blues Cruise on the Susquehanna in Harrisburg PA to the Kennedy

Center in Washington, D.C.

The Slowpokes playlist contains classic blues material from Chicago to West Coast Swing, Motown to Muscle Shoals, and all the rock and roll in between.

<http://www.reverbnation.com/fasteddietheslowpokes>

Blue Bizness is a four member band from Berwyn, PA, a Philadelphia main line suburb. The band includes Don "Zig" Zeller (vocals, guitars, harmonica), Michael Sproat (guitars, vocals songwriter), Dick Donovan (bass) and Dave Marabella (drums). All four are passionate blues musicians who met up in 2004, started jamming and are still having a great time making music together nearly two decades later!

[www.myspace.com/Facebook.com/bluebizness](http://www.myspace.com/Facebook.com/bluebizness)

[www.reverbnation.com/bluebizness](http://www.reverbnation.com/bluebizness)

## SAVE THE DATES

By Mike Knott

Spring Show - Sunday April 23

Peter Veteska & Blues Train, Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes, Blues Bizness

25th Anniversary Celebration (Mom I Picnic) - Sunday May 28

The Humblers, Slaughterhouse Blues Band, Blue Elephant, Blues on the Loose, Krypton City Blues Revue Tribute Band, Dane Paul Russell

Mississippi Railroad - Sunday July 9

R.L. Boyce w/ the Cornlickers

Fall Show - Sunday October 1

Dave Keyes Band w/very special guest Benny Turner, Switch Fu

Christmas Party - Sunday December 10  
TBA

Please visit our website @  
<http://www.bscpb Blues.com/news&events.html> for updates.

# Jammin' with JD - Heading South

By John 'JD' Drudul



Continuing down the east coast, I looked for some more blues jams to attend. I couldn't find any in the Savannah, GA area. It seems they had a Blues Society there at one time, but it has since been dissolved.

My next stop was Charleston, SC. Our BSCP friend Chicago Bob Irving was following my Facebook posts and said to wave as I was passing by. I didn't realize Bob lived in Charleston and he immediately recommended a cool blues jam in west Charleston at Southern Roots BBQ hosted by the Low Country Blues Connection Club.

So on blues day, I gathered up my gear and I rolled over to the other side of town. I cruised in guitar in hand and grabbed a table. I spoke to the host to get the jam sign up information and permission to video record the jam. No problem recording, so I proceeded to set up my cameras, putting the main front camera on a booth divider and the two GoPros positioned on each side of the stage. They didn't fare too well, being blocked and knocked over during the night. I signed the jam sheet and got a drink.

Musicians began to come in and sign up. This was the first jam of the New Year and a good variety of musicians showed up. One awesome singer was visiting the area from Colorado. The host band played their set, then I was called up for the second set and also a later set that night. Thanks to all the musicians in Charleston for a memorable night. The Low Country jam has since moved from Southern Roots to Pub 61. Check out the jam video and Low Country sites here:

<http://lowcountrybluesclub.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/LowcountryBluesClub/>  
<https://youtu.be/vBXJ2II0uPE>

My next stop was Pensacola FL. The Blues Society of Northwest Florida hosts a weekly jam at Seville Quarter in downtown Pensacola. Seville Quarter is a sprawling complex of seven rooms, bars, restaurants, and courtyards, each with its own unique theme and atmosphere. The blues jam is held at Lili Marlene's World War I Aviators Pub (<https://sevillequarter.com/rooms/lili-marlenes/>).

I strolled in and located a table on the left side near the stage. I introduced myself to Jim Richmond, VP of the Blues Society, who was the MC for the night. He recommended a recording spot in the rear of the room on a window sill. I also had a camera set up on my table.

I then spoke with Scott Riggs, president of the Blues Society. This is the jam that had a digital sign behind the stage advertising Blues Society messages and events and is where the idea came from for our message board at Champions. Scott also liked the idea of our newsletter and was thinking of developing one for their society.

This jam is setup with a band performing before the jam begins. Scott Riggs started off with a great set of Delta Blues tunes on his acoustic. Tyler Mac was the entertainment for the night before the jam started at 9:00. Jim Richmond called me up for the first jam set. His band, Cat Daddy Blues Band, attended the International Blues Competition in Memphis this year. The blues is alive in Pensacola and you should check out the jam if you are in the area.

Here are some links for you.

<https://sevillequarter.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/BluesSocietyNWFL?mibextid=ZbWKwL>  
<https://youtu.be/LUH3AieHMhg>

After Pensacola I headed west to Texas for a month. I attended a few jams around Austin and Dallas which I'll highlight in the next newsletter. I then headed for the Juke Joint Festival in Clarksdale, Mississippi. I jammed a set with Luscious Spiller at Reds and hung out there quite often. The Juke Fest was amazing, with blues players on every street.

The next jam I found was at the Ground Zero Blues Club with Bill Abel hosting. Bill had no issues with recording, so I set up my cameras and put my food and drink order in. Bill was playing the first set with Lee Williams on drums. Lee is a fixture around Clarksdale, and was seen playing at various venues with other musicians at the festival. He gives lessons at the Delta Blues Museum and is a tour guide there. Lee played a drum solo at the jam with a one hand snare roll that blew me away. Bill was also playing around the festival with a few different musicians, such as Deak Harp and "Cadillac" John Nolden. Bill has been featured at our BSCP Mississippi Railroad shows.

Bill called me up for the first jam set. Lee switched to bass guitar and another jammer took over the drum throne. It was great jamming with Bill and trying to follow his style. Next up was a new bass player. Bill let me stay on for another set.

A few other jammers then took over for a set. Bill let me jam again for the final set. Thanks, Bill, for an awesome jam! The Juke Joint Festival is a must for any blues lover.

<https://www.billabelmusic.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/lee.a.williams.33?mibextid=ZbWKwL>  
<https://www.jukejointfestival.com/>  
<https://youtu.be/oTHO31LO66E>

You can view other blues jam videos at my YouTube channel.

<https://youtube.com/@rvblues1>

# Blues Bands Beat

by Jack Roberts



OK, it's time to catch up on what new is happening in the Central Pennsylvania blues scene. So let's jump right in with some good news from **Dave Mo**.

Dave - or Dr. Mo, if you prefer - will be performing with Mike Easton and Danny Kreiger as **The Susquehanna Blues Allstars** at Hell in A Bucket Brewery at 338 Front Street in Wrightsville on Saturday, April 1st. And yes, we know that's April Fool's day, but we ain't kidding you: it's a show, and that's the time and place.

Dave and Danny have played together in quite a few electric bands over the years, including, but not limited to, Blind Joe Death and Dr. Mo and The Cousins.

"Mike was also in The Humblers, and we've played together in other situations," Dave said in a recent email, noting that this is an acoustic gig, so he'll be playing guitar rather than bass.

"The lineup is Mike on harmonica and vocals, Danny on six- and 12-string guitars," Dave noted. "I'm on six-string guitar and resonator guitar." And that makes this a somewhat different gig for them. "This is our first time playing at this - or any venue - in this configuration," Dave noted.

Elsewhere, word is in from **Shakey Joe Kambic** that he'll be playing at this year's Launch Music Conference and Festival in Lancaster, three days of music by solo acts and bands in venues in Lancaster, starting on April 14th. Bands need to apply for spots there, and obviously Joe's application impressed the LAUNCH folks.

More specifically, he'll be playing

on the ISAAC'S ACOUSTIC STAGE on Saturday, April 15th from 7:30-8 p.m. Other performers that evening include Emaylia from 6-6:30, Trenton Antill from 6:45-7:15, Ali Murphy from 8:15-8:45; and Chris Scheler from 9-9:30. To get the full schedule, simply go to [launchmusicconference.com](http://launchmusicconference.com).

And then there's news from Benjamin Vo, whose group, **The Benjamin Vo Band**, of course, just released their latest album, *Poor Sam*, in December. That's not news, of course, but the album is now available on Bandcamp for download and on CDs that you can buy at the band's shows. That is news. And if that doesn't work for you, the band is planning to eventually get their recording on streaming platforms including YouTube, iTunes, and Spotify. Yes, I know. We haven't given you the group's Bandcamp address yet. It's <http://benjaminvo.bandcamp.com/album/poor-sam>. You can take it from there.

And, of course, what Blues News You Can Use column wouldn't include word from the Lancaster-based band **Blues on the Loose**. From what we hear or have read, actually, it sounds like Blues on the Loose is planning to move in a slightly different direction. "BOTL is working on new songs to enhance our repertoire focusing on a mellow mood," Blues on the Loose front man and harmonica player Lewis Bechtold said in a recent email.

"Having more time at rehearsals to 'jam out' on blues themes has helped us enjoy our music and spurred creativity. Currently, we do not have a heavy schedule of events to report." But the band is hoping to hear back from inquiries they've made, and they do have at least one new venue to promote. BOTL will be performing at **Sun Valley Campgrounds** near Bowmansville on Saturday, May 20th. According to Lewis. They were recommended there by a Lancaster funk band.

Beyond that, they don't have much lined up now besides their return to The Bluebird Inn in Cornwall on Friday, May 26th, from 7-10 p.m. and the BSCP Mom

l's Annual Picnic at the Mechanicsburg Picnic Grounds. But you already knew all about that, right?

And how about that **Nate Myers** and his band? They just had a release party for their new CD, *Speakeasy Prophet*, on March 3rd at the Grotto Pub in Enola, and sales are going well, he said. But that's just the beginning. Nate and company have already started recording their next project, which will be either a CD or a vinyl record. "We're hoping to get it done by early summer," said Nate, who noted that it will be all originals written by the guys in the group including Nate, of course.

And finally, the news you've all been waiting for: Yes, **The East Petersburg Blues Festival** will be back this year - for the 12th time. Sounds like an even dozen, dozen it?

Randy Bucksner, of Mystic Alpacas fame, recently emailed us the lineup, which includes, in order of appearance, Randy's band, **The Mystic Alpacas**, featuring their new drummer, Tom Mowery; Phillie blues band **Bluestime**, with Philadelphia blues artist Andy Orliner on guitar and vocals; 14-year-old guitar wizard Alex Warner from Harrisburg; **Muddy Ruckus**, a duo from Portland, Maine, featuring Ryan Flaherty on guitar and Erika Stahl on bass; **Greg Sover**; and, if all goes as planned, a sixth act, for which Randy is still waiting on confirmation.

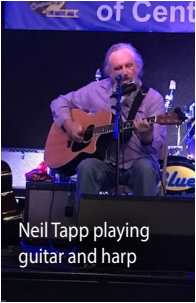
And there's more good news: this year's festival will feature an expanded beer garden and more food vendors. Six hours of blues, more beer, and more food. What more can you ask for? Oh, yes, the date and time: Saturday, September 2nd, from 1-7 p.m.

Well, that's it for this session. Will catch up with you again in another three months. In the meantime, keep reading - and writing - and singing' the blues.

Got Blues News we can use? Email me at [ragtime\\_willi@hotmail.com](mailto:ragtime_willi@hotmail.com) or message me on Facebook at Jack Roberts. It would be great to hear from you.

# In Case You Missed It!

## BSCP WINTER SHOW at Champions Sports Bar & Grill Sunday, February 19, 2023 - Photos by Mike Knott



Neil Tapp playing guitar and harp



Nate Myers and the Aces



Charlie Owen and Pocket Change with Saxophonist Terry Hanck

## BSCP 10th Anniversary Jam at Champions Thursday, March 2, 2023 - Photos by Angela Episale



Adriano, Chris, Jeremy, Rob, George, Drew



Drew and George



Rob



Sean



Chris



Adriano, Colin, Bill, Rick, Warren, Tom



# BSCP Celebrates 10th Anniversary of Jammin' at Champions Sports Bar and Grill

Photos by Kathryn Gregoire



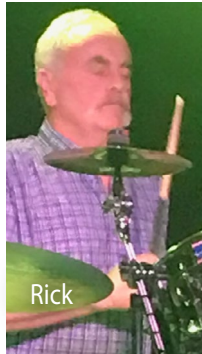
Jesse and Lewy



Chris H.



Colin



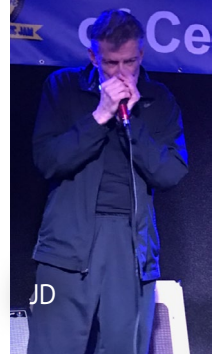
Rick



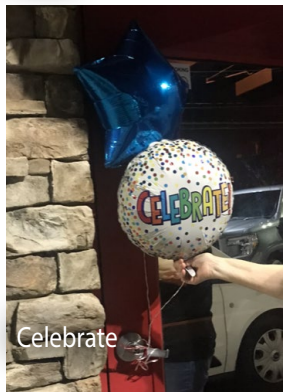
Jaime



John S.



JD



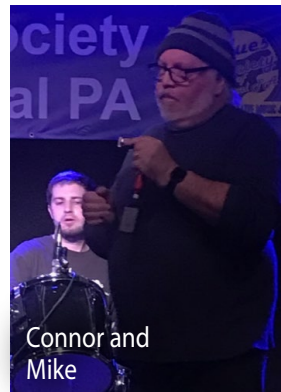
Celebrate



Sean



Tom and Fred



Connor and Mike



Jam Audience



Dane



Keith



Roland  
Adriano



JD and George



John D.



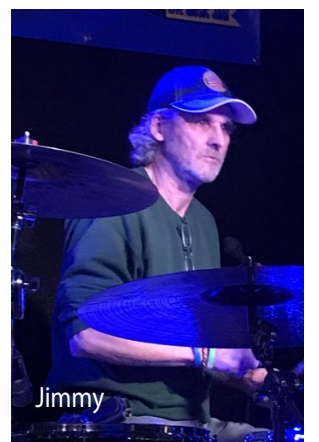
Marianna



Greg

Jam Board

Host	1	2	3	4	5	6
VOCALS	Chris	George	Sean	Greg	Rocky	Bill
GUITAR	Robbie	George	Sean	Greg	Rocky	Bill
GUITAR	Drew	JD	Martin	John	Chris	Colin
BASS	George	Marianna	Warren	Marianna	Jesse	Warren
DRUMS	Jeremy	Jimmy	Conor	Janie	Gordy	RickT
KEYS	Adriano	Fred	Abrams	Tom		
HARP		JD	Mike	Dane	Lewy	
HORN					KK	



Jimmy

# BSCP Celebrates 10th Anniversary of Jammin' at Champions Sports Bar and Grill

By Kathryn Gregoire Photo by Robert Naeye



Gary Rothrock presents plaque to Jason Naugle (left) at Champions Sports Bar & Grill in Highspire

The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania (BSCP) celebrated ten years of Thursday Evening Blues Jam at Champions Sports Bar and Grill in Highspire on March 2, 2023, with a full house of blues music lovers and musicians. The enthusiasm was heartfelt and the boundless energy of the musicians on stage was infectious. There were so many musicians that the jam had six sets instead of the usual five.

BSCP board member and Jam Coordinator, Gary "Rocky" Rothrock,

presented Champions manager, Jason Naugle, with a plaque in appreciation of Champions Sports Bar and Grille on the 10th anniversary of the BSCP jam being held there. Board member Valerie McCaffrey's son, Parker McCaffrey, made a painting for Champions and a large card for Champions that attendees signed. The jam tip jar, designated for Champions staff, raised twice as much as usual. Everyone was glad for a chance to express their gratitude to Champions for giving us such a good home on Thursday evenings to enjoy the blues.

During set breaks Gary Rothrock and Kathryn Gregoire held door prize drawings for five BSCP gift certificates to be used at Champions Sports Bar and Grill, three BSCP Backyard Blues CDs and three Blues Heart Records and Blind Racoon Collection Vol. 4 CDs. There was a dessert table abundant with cupcakes and other goodies made by

BSCP members. Balloons decorated the tables. JD Drudul made a special slide for the BSCP Message Board celebrating the 10th Year Anniversary for BSCP and Champions.

This event was the first time Angela Episale and Adriano Sico attended the jam. Adriano played both the keyboard and the organ. The next day Angela bought BSCP memberships online and commented on Facebook: "Well, that's probably the fastest I have ever decided to become a member of an organization! Thank you for the great time last night. Adriano and I will be back soon!" I am happy to report that they were back the next week!

Please join BSCP every Thursday evening for the blues jam from 7-10 pm at Champions Sports Bar and Grill at 300 N. Second Street, Highspire, PA.

## BSCP Congratulates Central PA Music Awards Winners



Bobby Gentilo

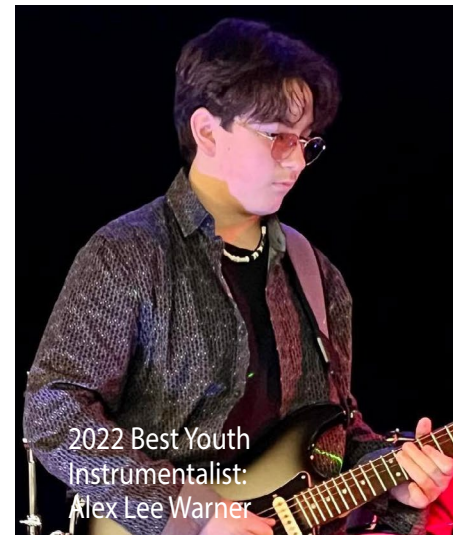
BSCP congratulates all CPMA winners. In the Blues categories, Bobby Gentilo band won the Best Blues band. Gentilo also won the Best NEW Band/Artist. The Soul Miners Union won Best Blues Rock Band. Long time BSCP member Dale Wise won Best Instrumentalist Shop for Dale's Drum Shop. Other nominees for Best Blues Band included Nate Myers & the Aces, Gabe Stillman, Switch Fu, and Benjamin Vo. Other nominees for Best Blues Rock Band included Skyla Burrell Band, Drew Cooke, and Dustin Douglas & the Electric Gentlemen. Cheers for all these outstanding musicians.



Soul Miners Union: Joe Shattls, Liam Galiano, Ben Brandt

At 14, Alex Lee Warner has won his first CPMA Award from the Central PA Music Hall of Fame for 2022 Best Youth Instrumentalist and has been recognized as one of Central PA's Top 10 youth artists since 2021. He is taught and mentored by two of today's top guitarists, Quentin Jones and Trey Alexander. Warner and his parents are active members of BSCP and Alex joins in at the Thursday blues jam when his tight schedule allows him. He is looking forward to showcasing his talents in his own band, Alex Warner & Soul Sunrise, at the Rock Hill Music Festival May 13th.

The 4th Annual Central Pennsylvania Music Awards, an annual red carpet event designed to recognize the best of the year in music in Central PA and the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, was held at Hershey Theatre in Hershey, PA, on Thursday, March 30, 2023. All awards are listed on their website and Facebook.



2022 Best Youth Instrumentalist: Alex Lee Warner

# In the Spotlight...

## George Bressler

By Hannah Sherman



George Washington Bressler was born on an island in Sunbury, PA, and moved to Mechanicsburg when he was eleven. About a year later he asked for a guitar for Christmas and must have been a good boy because he received a Harmony guitar and matching amp. His brother got a nice drum set at the same time, so a little later they were able to join bands with older guys and played at high school dances and by 1970 played at the first Harrisburg Arts Festival.

He and his friends fell in love with a local band called the Elvis Davis band. George learned to read music in elementary school and played the trumpet (which his dad played) and his music teacher got him interested in the baritone horn. In high school he didn't want to be in the marching band so he went out for football.

George went motorcycle crazy when he turned 18 and raced until 2000. Then he raced mountain bikes for 3 years. Mountain bikes need to be replaced every year and he had saved up to buy one but bought a 335 Gibson guitar instead. His wife, Mari, had found the blues show on WXPB and his whole life changed. He decided he wanted to play the blues, even though he hadn't played guitar for 30 years. A bunch of guys were hanging out at a race and one mentioned that his son played at a jam in Steelton. George had been on the bike trail behind the Lochiel the previous summer with his grandsons and they called it the haunted house so he recognized it when he arrived in January 2004.

His first night there he heard Don Johnson play "Red House" and he remembers, "I lost my mind. I'll never forget that night!" The next week he introduced himself to Rocky.

The third week he saw Rocky play and George was determined to play guitar. There was also an acoustic jam on Mondays so George joined in. By September of that year Jason Suter told him to bring his electric guitar to the Lochiel and Jason signed him up. George was a nervous wreck, so upset he couldn't swallow, but he managed to swallow his nerves, played a solo and, "They clapped!!"

After Hurricane Ivan in September 2004, the Lochiel flooded. When the water went down after a couple of weeks, George pulled the boiler out of the muck and fixed it. He said he "got famous" for that; everyone knew him after that. The BSCP was down to 49 members at that time with an interim president, Sonne got shut down because of code problems even though George and others tried to help with exit signs, etc., Tony Formica got us into the 40 & 8, George became president, the first Backyard CD came out, and the first IBC happened. George met Dale Wise a week or so after becoming president and the first Mississippi Railroad was organized with Cadillac John Nolden and Bill Abel. Tables were removed and chairs line up concert style. There was so much traffic parked on the road the cops came.

After a few minutes of thought, George named Dale Wise as his biggest influence as he then got into the Delta and Hill Country Blues sounds and Jason Suter as his biggest help in getting up to play. He remembers being the first to show up at the Lochiel and Jason showed up with RL Burnside booming out of Jason's cd mix of Burnside and Kimbrough. He says, "My world changed when I first heard Don Johnson and then again when I heard Hill Country Music.

Jason gave me that CD and later I was fixing a boiler on a job and there was a Russian upstairs doing tile work who did not speak English. I was blaring "BB King Live at the Regal" when he came downstairs and through hand gestures showed that he was loving it. I gave him the CD and paid Jason forward."

Possible unknowns about George: He has been East Coast Champion in two different classes of motorcycle racing, was undefeated for two years racing mountain bikes, and placed 4th in the United States for hydroplane boat racing. His border collie, Moxie, went to every boat race. In 2019 he beat the national champion and was determined to win in 2020, but then covid hit.

"All those years racing I never forgot about the blues. All those years I would hear that shuffle and I never forgot. In 1990 I went into Triple R. Guitar, wanted to buy a Telecaster, but there was a guy in there wailing away and I got discouraged. BSCP provided me a way to get back to guitar and be able to play and make music again at the jam. I owe the Blues Society too much; I will always be a member."

Hannah Sherman: "My favorite thing about George is his gorgeous border collie, Moxie. She lives up to her name and is the sweetest and most intelligent animal I've ever met. I credit George with a lot of that even though he sometimes kiddingly threatens "to beat her ass."

Greg Hoover: "In my early days of coming to the jam, there were two George's..... "Drummer" George and "Crazy" George! Well, you take a guess which one was George Bressler! Fast forward to post-Covid jams and George and I became fast friends. Something I learned about George, besides his love of blues, is if it's got a motor, George will race it! From boats to motorcycles, George has done it. I also learned that he drove his motorcycle across the country several times.

I have really seen an improvement in George's playing over the last year, which is a credit to his commitment to improve. My friendship with George is yet another thing that I am thankful to the blues society for. George is an all-around great guy! He is one of the most supportive and generous people at the jam."

Kathryn Gregoire: "George is a welcoming jam host and a dependable member of the jam crew. He regularly comes in early to set up. My favorite (bowling) shirt he wears has "El Presidente" written on it. Classic - just like George!"

# Meet Your Board Members: John Rignani

By Hannah Sherman



Born in the Harrisburg area, John graduated from Cumberland Valley High School in the 70's and as a child of the 60's listened to the Beatles, Rolling Stones, and really got hooked on Motown. The blues came later (after listening to the blues influenced rock and roll including Cream and Beck). There were no family influences except what he heard from his vinyl records. His first classic blues influences were Robert Johnson and John Lee Hooker. Memorable early concerts were in Tulsa, Oklahoma, with B.B. King in the 80's and Bonnie Raitt in the 90's. While in Kansas City with his family at a small bar, they just happened on Roomful of Blues which were memorable for their horns.

John remembers, "In 2016 a friend told me about a blues show in Shellsville. I had never heard of the Blues Society of Central PA and found it to be a most enjoyable group of people, many of whom were talented musicians. A BSCP newsletter that year advertised for help on their Merchandise

Committee and I volunteered to be the chair. What a great time this is to be BSCP Merch Chair as the Society celebrates its 25th year of existence in 2023!

We are introducing a 25th Anniversary hat with the stylized Jam drum head produced by Mister Bobbin Embroidery. I have to give lots of credit to Rocky Woodling, a local artist extraordinaire, former BSCP Board member and blues harp wailer. He produced much of our poster art and website art design over the years and is the creator of the Lochiel Hotel sign graphic featured on the back of our new T-shirt."

John is a good fit for the Merchandise chair as he was in purchasing for 30 years. He very ably takes care of business with his friend, Kent Seidel. They often go to Sellersville to see mostly blues shows including Guitar Shorty and he enjoys all of our shows as he states, "It's a good excuse to get out." Stop by to see him at all our shows.

"People don't know a lot about me but the most important thing is that I'm a grandfather twice: two boys, one 13 and one 4. We enjoy going to baseball games, movies and playing catch. It's cool, I like it. Other than that, I lead a very dull life and rightfully so." John's favorite thing about the BSCP, as I've heard repeatedly, is the people. "They're a fun bunch and I like hanging out with them."

Kent Seidel: "I've known John since high

school and at this point that is quite a while. In the early eighties he moved to Oklahoma and returned in the mid-nineties. That is when I came to realize he was a blues enthusiast. Years later after attending numerous Society events, John heard about the opening of the Merch Chair position and he volunteered.

After helping him out at the merch table, I gained a real appreciation for all the work that not only John, but everyone involved with all the aspects of the organization contribute to making the Blues Society the success that it is."

Gary "Rocky" Rothrock: "John has long experience in marketing and has been a valuable addition to our board. With his help we have expanded our line of merchandise and online sales."

Kathryn Gregoire: "Putting the interest and well-being of BSCP members first, John works hard to meet their merchandizing needs, taking a lot of initiative. He carefully gathers information, analyses situations and puts a lot of thought into decision-making on the board. Very dependable and willing to help in any way he can, you can always find John at the merchandize table at events with a variety of goods he has transported there and a cheerful, welcoming smile. He also mails out the products to people who order through the BSCP website, including membership cards and welcome packets. BSCP is so fortunate John chose to bring his wealth of experience and his calm disposition to our blues society."

## MUSIC INSTRUMENTS/GEAR

Interested in buying, swapping, or selling musical instruments and/or gear?

Send info to Ian Blynn at [iblynn111@msn.com](mailto:iblynn111@msn.com)

For Sale: Fully tested RCA ribbon mic with case from the 1940s \$700

For Sale: 1930s Harmony mandolin \$135

For Sale: 1980s Yamaha BB2200 P bass-style, no case \$150

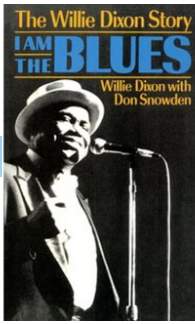
For Sale: 1960s Carvin solid body electric mandolin with Keisel P90-style pickup. Sunburst finish. Tweed case \$700.

Email Tom Cook @ [tom24cook@gmail.com](mailto:tom24cook@gmail.com).

For Sale: Fender Deluxe Reverb. \$900. Great shape, no problems. Reissue. Had it about 10 years, not sure how old it is.

For more info contact Neil Tapp, Honey Brook, Chester County, [neiltappmusic@hotmail.com](mailto:neiltappmusic@hotmail.com).

For Sale: Fender Blues Junior Guitar Amp - Early (90's) Limited Edition model. Tweed with leather handle. 15-watt tube amp with 12 inch Jensen speaker. Volume and Master Volume controls, Reverb, Bass, Middle and Treble controls plus Fat Switch. Excellent condition with cover. \$400. Contact Rocky, Harrisburg PA [rothr2017@comcast.net](mailto:rothr2017@comcast.net).



# BLUES BOOK CORNER

By Kathryn Gregoire

## I Am the Blues: The Willie Dixon Story by Willie Dixon with Don Snowden

Does the title of Willie Dixon's autobiography, *I Am The Blues* (1986) sound familiar? If yes, it may be because it is also the title of Dixon's sixth Chicago blues album (1970), which was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 1986.

The album features songs written by Dixon but originally performed by Howlin' Wolf, Willie Mabon and Muddy Waters for Chess records and Otis Rush for Cobra records.

While this book and album title may seem a bit inflated, Willie Dixon definitely earned it by writing over 500 beloved and influential blues songs. Readers may not quickly recognize Dixon's name but they will recognize his songs which are the backbone of contemporary blues: "Back Door Man," "Seventh Son," "Spoonful," "(I'm Your) Hoochie Coochie Man," "Wang Dang Doodle," "I Ain't Superstitious," "I Live The Life I Love," "I'm Ready," "My Babe" and "The Red Rooster."

*I Am The Blues* is mostly Dixon telling his own story, peppered with brief interviews with family, friends, and other musicians. He speaks his mind on racial, religious and political issues throughout and Don Snowden concludes the book with several appendices of Dixon's work on records and on film and television.

Willie Dixon gives his take on the blues: "The blues are the roots and the other musics are the fruits." He cautions us – we "have to keep the roots alive."

Each chapter begins with the moving words of one of Willie Dixon's songs. The Introduction begins with the song "I Am The Blues." The first stanza is a theme throughout his life and throughout the book.

"I am the blues  
I am the blues  
The whole world know  
I've been mistreated and misused"

Like many of his blues music friends, William James Dixon came to Chicago (1936) from Mississippi, where he was born in Vicksburg on July 1, 1915. His life story is fascinating. Imprisoned as a teenager

for hoboing on a train, he escaped from a seemingly indeterminate sentence on a prison farm and then headed north. He first took up boxing, winning the Illinois State Golden Gloves Heavyweight Championship (Novice Division) in 1937. He left professional boxing after four fights due to mistreatment and turned to music, playing the bass, singing, writing and publishing songs, producing and promoting.

A conscientious objector, Dixon resisted the draft in 1942 and was sent to prison for 10 months. Returning to his music career after WWII, he eventually signed up with Chess Records in 1950 and went on to work with Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, Etta James, John Lee Hooker, Little Walter, Ike Turner, Memphis Minnie, and Jimmy Rogers, shaping the Chicago Blues sound and serving as an important link to rock and roll.

When Chess studios stopped paying Dixon enough money to be able to feed his seven children and their mother, Elenora, he was forced to quit. He joined Cobra studios and a variety of businesses in the music industry around the country, including starting his own record label companies. Elenora was not interested in being married; he eventually married Marie Booker and they had a daughter, Pat.

In the 60s, he was an integral part of the blues abroad movement in Europe, Israel, and Russia and helped establish the American Folk Blues Festival scene, often traveling with Memphis Slim. Then, after negotiating for better conditions and salary, he went back with Chess Studios until their demise.

With the blues music revival, Dixon's work was adapted by The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, Cream, Buddy Guy, The Grateful Dead, Eric Clapton, Elvis Presley, Stevie Ray Vaughan and The Doors. Dixon was inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1980 and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994 as an early influencer.

Dixon would not stand to be mistreated himself and he continued to fight for justice for other blues musicians, setting up the Blues Heaven Foundation in his later years, noting that "Most blues artists haven't been able to get their rightful dues." The

organization continues to be dedicated to helping musicians regain their copyrights and to collect on misappropriated royalties. Its mission includes educating both adults and children on the history of the Blues and the business of music.

Willie Dixon died of heart failure in Burbank, California, on January 29, 1992. His legacy of the Blues Heaven Foundation lives on. His playing and music can be found on at least 34 albums, four of them nominated for the Grammys and one a Grammy Winner. Considered by many to be the greatest blues songwriter who ever lived, the Songwriters Hall of Fame inducted him in 2015.

A champion of peace to the end, Dixon considered his favorite song he wrote (1984) to be "It Don't Make Sense (You Can't Make Peace)." The first stanza reads

"You have made great planes to scan the skies  
You gave sight to the blind with other men's eyes  
You even made submarines stay submerged for weeks  
But it don't make sense you can't make peace"

Tom Cook, a BSCP Book Club Member, shares his thoughts about Willie Dixon. "Mr. Dixon was a songwriter, producer, arranger, A&R man and bass player of Chicago blues fame and the utility guy for Chess Records. He was a diplomatic individual with personal gravitas who stood up to injustice.

He could really play and sing and continued to play upright double bass in electric bands when his peers had switched to electric bass guitar. This conveys a sense of his commanding presence. He was a big man who deserved more than what fame he had. Listen to his bass playing! And what a great songwriter."

Annunciata Marino comments, "What a joy it was to read this book, well written and engaging--a real page turner."

To join the BSCP Blues Book Club, please email Kathryn at [bluesmunga@gmail.com](mailto:bluesmunga@gmail.com).

### BSCP Blues Library

To borrow a book, please email Kathryn at [bluesmunga@gmail.com](mailto:bluesmunga@gmail.com). Books are distributed at the BSCP jam and events. Book donations accepted.

# BLUES ROADHOUSE BY JIM WHITE

I'm Jim White, the owner, manager, and part-time bartender at the [BluesRoadhouse.com](http://BluesRoadhouse.com). I also book the bands. But mostly, since the Roadhouse is located down at the Crossroads, it's where I write about the blues and other music that's related to this classic American art form.

I've been writing about music for more years than I like to admit, but I don't consider myself a critic – just a very appreciative fan who likes to share his thoughts and opinions with other appreciative fans, and just maybe create some new fans.

I've done most of my writing for newspapers, and an earlier blog, BlueNotes, which was attached to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette web site a few years back. That was in Pittsburgh, of course, a few miles down the Turnpike from your Central Pa. headquarters.

I was once a member of the Blues Society of Western Pa., served as a judge for IBC competitions, and spent countless hours in Burgh-based blues clubs soaking up the music and liquid refreshments. Since then, I've relocated to the Tampa Bay area of Florida, where I now soak up mostly sunshine.

The Blues Roadhouse is my new musical soapbox, where I write about music from blues veterans and blues newcomers, and sometimes just ramble on about musical ideas that float through my head. I hope you'll join me.

A special thanks to the Blues Society of Central PA for giving me this opportunity.

On the very odd chance you want to know even more about me or my writings, here's how I introduced myself for the Roadhouse - What is the Blues Roadhouse, and who is Jim White? – Blues Roadhouse <https://bluesroadhouse.com/2020/08/19/what-is-the-blues-roadhouse-and-who-is-jim-white/>



## Buddy Guy

### *The Blues Don't Lie* (RCA Records)

What can you say about George "Buddy" Guy that hasn't been said many times over? Even saying that he has a fine new album isn't exactly big news. He's created plenty, if you think 50 is plenty.

Except: The living legend turned 86 this year, and he still sounds great at the peak of his blues powers. (Okay, the album was probably recorded when he was a mere 85 or so.)

An abbreviated list of his accomplishments: The recipient of the 2015 Grammy Lifetime achievement Award, Buddy Guy's incredible career spans over 50 years with just as many albums released. Career highlights include 8 Grammy Awards, 38 Blues Music Awards, the most any artist has had, a Kennedy Center Honors, NARM Chairman's Award for Sustained Creative Achievement, Billboard Music Awards' Century Award for distinguished artistic development, Presidential National Medal of Arts, and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, plus, more.

And that doesn't include his status as a major influence; as one of the last of the great bluesmen still standing. And also, this is a magnificent album of 16 songs (yes, that's 16 — finally, someone fills a CD with great new music, thank you very much).

It all kicks off with the rich and powerful sound of "I Let My Guitar Do The Talking," which

probably sums up his entire career. Then the title track continues that thought with the philosophical "Blues Don't Lie" ("Life is gonna happen, whether you're ready or not..."). "The World Needs Love" follows, the only track written by Guy alone; it's a scorcher with a wicked guitar solo and a heartfelt vocal pleading of his case.

The next tracks bring in some of the supporting cast assembled here. "We Go Back" is a haunting reminiscence featuring Mavis Staples; the churning rhythms of "Symptoms of Love" adds Elvis Costello and producer Tom Hambridge (much more on him later) on background vocals, and "Follow the Money" adds James Taylor in a sly critique of dollar daze.

The songs here seem to dig deeper into the blues as they move along. "Well Enough Alone" evokes the mojo hand and a black cat bone smothered in stinging guitar, and "What's Wrong With That" brings in Bobby Rush for a playful look at their good old days: "I like my bacon crispy, my pancakes cooked up right...."

The music takes a topical turn with the plaintive "Gunsmoke Blues," featuring Jason Isbell, in an anthem to a litany of shootings ("A million thoughts and prayers won't bring back anyone...."). Then the mood shifts back to a rocking "House Party" with Wendy Moten joining in the vocals as the band shuffles into a traditional blues groove.

The album closes with a few covers and more tough blues. "Sweet Thing" is classic B.B. King, "I've Got a Feeling" is a bluesy take on the Beatles chestnut, "Backdoor Scratchin'," "Rabbit Blood" and "Last Call" add even more down-home feel, until Buddy closes with a deep blue cover of the Slim Harpo classic, "King Bee."

Put all of that together, and it makes for a truly excellent Buddy Guy outing. The original songs, mostly co-written by the ridiculously talented Tom Hambridge are sharp and incisive, contemporary and timeless, and just plain good blues.

When the songs are topical, they're not oppressive. When they are solid blues, they are the real deal. It's hard enough to write this kind of music, it's even harder to make it feel like it's been dredged from the depths of the blues — and having Guy sing and play guitar doesn't hurt

either.

Sure, there are many, many fine Buddy Guy albums that you can listen to. But this is one of the finest — traditional and contemporary, surrounded by choice Buddy licks.

"The Blues Don't Lie" is living proof that the blues still don't lie.

October 5, 2022 Jim White



## Dianna Greenleaf

### *I Ain't Playin'* (Little Village)

You can tell as soon as you see the album cover photo and read the title, that Dianna Greenleaf means what she says. She ain't playin'.

But when you actually hear her powerful voice and feel her commanding presence as the first song, "Never Trust a Man," opens with: "Mama told me, girl don't ever trust no man....," you know that you're listening to the real deal. And she ain't playin'. (Just a sidelight, that song was a fine Koko Taylor staple.)

This is another in a series of fine recordings produced at Christoffer "Kid" Andersen's Greaseland studio, where he seems to bring out the artist's best.

Of this session, and Greenleaf, Andersen says: "Her voice tells you she is free to be herself," Andersen says. "You just don't find many voices like that. I think that's something people will discover just listening to her album for the first time."

Greenleaf's voice is indeed the star here. This

# BLUES ROADHOUSE BY JIM WHITE

only the fifth album for the veteran Houston blues singer. But it's been 11 years since her last, and this session will make you wonder why she waited so long. Her seemingly effortless vocals are deep and rich with the emotional content of the songs, all smartly chosen covers or originals.

There's the rhythmic original "Running With the Red Cross;" there's a full-throated, soaring take on The Staples Singers gospel classic, "I Know I've Been Changed;" a passionate working of Nina Simone's version of "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free;" there's even a plaintive version of Vince Gill's "When I Call Your Name," a rousing duet with Alabama Mike; there's Greenleaf's own snappy "Back Door Man;" a scorching take on Johnny Clyde Copeland's "Let Me Cry," and it's all wrapped up with the prescient "My Turn, My Time." And much, much more.

But that final cut sums up this sparkling renewal of Greenleaf's recording career — it's her turn, her time again, and she's making the most of it with this excellent album.

June 8, 2022 Jim White



## John Németh *May Be The Last Time* (Nola Blue Records)

"I recorded this album before my jaw amputation surgery, which took place in late May. It's called "May Be The Last Time" because I didn't know then and I still don't know, if I will ever sing or play again like I used to. I have to say the magic of this performance is beyond this world and maybe the greatest of my life." — John Németh

John is correct. There is a magic about this album that you can feel in every track. In the passionate vocals, in the sparkling musicality — the joyous spirit of life that infuses the entire session.

It's ironic that all this musical pleasure is rooted deep in the unfortunate circumstance of a medical condition known as ameloblastoma (a

benign but aggressive tumor in the jaw) in John's Jaw, as he's whimsically called it in his GoFundMe campaign to help raise funds for treatment. But that's typical of the blues — music that can turn bad luck into good times.

John makes the opening and title track, "The Last Time," a personal statement. He reworks the classic gospel tune, already handily reworked by the Staple Singers and the Rolling Stones, as an enthusiastic counterpoint to the poignancy of his predicament.

Elvin Bishop is one of John's guests here, and they combine on "Rock Bottom," a Bishop song from 1972. "Sooner or Later" is a Németh original, from his "Memphis Grease" album, and the first taste here of his considerable songwriting skills. "Feeling Good" reaches back to 1966 and J.B. Lenoir with a tough bass line.

Bishop not only contributes another song, 1974's "Stealin' Watermelons," but handles the vocals, perhaps to give John's Jaw a little rest. "I Found a Love" is a stunningly soulful duet with Willy Jordan and a splendid take on Wilson Pickett's 1962 chestnut.

One of my favorite tracks, since it is one of my favorite songs from one of my favorite R&B groups, is the salaciously delicious "Sexy Ways," from Hank Ballard and the Midnighters in 1954.

One of John's earliest influences was Junior Wells, and his rendition of 1960's "Come On in This House" is steamy and soulful, with magical harp work. "Elbows on the Wheel" is another John original from "Memphis Grease." If you listen closely, there's a throwback reference to Junior's "Hoodoo Man."

"Shake Your Hips" is vintage Slim Harpo from 1965, and John gives his voice and harp a workout.

Notice the trend here: John has picked older songs to cover with the classic feel that has been his musical trademark since he stormed out of Boise, Idaho, with his harp and a fine sense of older blues and soul that had been his sweet inspiration.

The closer is "I'll Be Glad," another Bishop song with chunky rhythms and a raucous old-timey feel, and a message appropriate for the motivation behind this excellent album: "I'll be glad when I get my groove back again."

So yes, John is right. This is a great album. Filled with wonderful music, expertly done by John and the Kid Anderson (who also produced) studio band, plus friends. John's vocals are their usual potent self, his harp work razor-sharp. If musicians can be loose and tight at the same time, here's how. It's also filled with the enthusiasm and spirit generated by fine music.

And yes, I love this album. You should, too. It just may be John's greatest.

September 10, 2022 Jim White



## Ladyva *Stomp*

This blogging software I use, WordPress, is wonderful. It's easy to use, and it has a lot of cool features. For example, it tells me how many views each post gets, and what country they come from.

I've been surprised at how many viewers come from all over the world. I'd like to think that's not entirely accidental, so I pay attention. Lately I've noticed an older post that seems to get one or more page views almost every day. So I did some counting.

My June 20, 2021, post about a Swiss boogie-woogie piano pounder who calls herself Ladyva (but born Vanessa Sabrina Gnaegi), has totaled 531 views in about a year. That's a whole bunch more than anyone else I've written about — and I've written about some fairly well-known artists, if I do say so. I hope it's not just one of you viewing every day!

With that in mind, I checked her web site to see what she's been up to lately and found a delicious new (at least to me) single she's released, titled simply, "Stomp." Which it does. Which she does.

Ladyva is simply a great piano player, songwriter, and sometimes, singer. She doesn't seem to have done much on this side of the big pond, but check her bio for an impressive list of accomplishments.

And then listen to some more of her irrepressible music on YouTube Ladyva – Ladyva's Stomp or <https://youtu.be/tyoyjkhL6ZY>

June 6, 2022 Jim White

BSCP welcomes Jim White, who has been writing about blues and other music since the 1960's with dynamic flair and enthusiasm. He has graciously given us permission to reprint a selection of his current CD reviews on the Blues Roadhouse for each newsletter. Thank you to board member Sally Bengtson for introducing us to Jim and establishing this connection.



P. O. Box 60842  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

## Celebrate the 25th Anniversary

of the Blues Society of Central PA with merchandise through our improved on-line Store at [www.bscpb Blues.com](http://www.bscpb Blues.com).

When you click **SHOP** you can order and enjoy our latest gear, become a BSCP Member, or pick up a clearance item that you missed out on from one of our past live events!



# Keepin' the Blues alive in Central PA!