**BSCP 2019 REPORT**

The BSCP mission is carried out by the work of board committees as described in this report.

**Treasurer’s Report by Gary “Rocky” Rothrock**

The Blues Society of Central PA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with four major sources of income - membership dues, the jam jar, the annual picnic and merchandise sales. So where does the money go?

In 2019, BSCP staged five major shows, the Frank Bey show, Mom I Picnic, the Mississippi Railroad event, the Sugar Ray show and the Christmas party. The Mississippi Railroad and Christmas party are free to members and the other events have an admission fee, but we keep ticket prices low and we lose money on nearly every event, except for the Mom I Picnic. We also sponsored the Gypsy Moon Blues Festival and contributed to the Blues Foundation and Music Makers.

In 2019, BSCP produced an excellent CD of original music by regional artists, Backyard Blues. We paid all of the costs of recording, mixing, mastering, artwork and duplication of this CD and have so far had sales of almost $2000, which is far below the over $7000 cost. You can listen to the CD and download or purchase it at bscp.hearnow.com.

**Archives Committee by Buster Grubb**

The archives committee has sorted through existing archival materials and collected archival materials from BSCP members. They have displayed some of these materials at BSCP events and contributed information to the website.

**By-Laws Committee Report by Kathy Gregoire**

The BSCP board reviewed the by-laws and proposed amendments to the articles on Nominations and Elections, Meetings and on Standing Committees. The By-Laws, as amended and approved at the December General Meeting, are posted on the BSCP website.

**Education Committee by Hannah Sherman**

Plans are underway by this newly developed committee to bring educational blues programs to the BSCP regional area.

**Events Committee by Mike Knott**

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 we had 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. Plans are underway for next year’s events, starting off with the Nighthawks opened by Roger Girke and the Wandering Souls, Sunday, January 26.

**Jam Committee Report by Gary “Rocky” Rothrock**

We have operated this organization for another year with completely volunteer work and held 51 Thursday jams, skipping July 4 at the request of Champions. We thank our jam hosts and the jam crew who sets up and tears down weekly. You will see the volunteers wearing new black t-shirts with JAM CREW on the back. Don Intrieri and Cody Smith of My Wife’s Sound Company continue to work the sound system. Our jam is at the heart of BSCP and will be entering our 22nd year in 2020!

**Membership Committee Report by Sherman Smith**

The final total for 2019 Membership is 317. The slight dip in membership is related to lower attendance at our Mississippi Railroad event when we had record breaking heat. MS RR is one of the two events where we get most of our memberships. We created a new membership brochure in November to use at the BSCP membership table at jams, events and festivals.

**Merchandise Committee Report by John Rignani**

As Chairperson for this Committee, I would like to thank the BSCP Board and the BSCP Membership and friends for making this year the most successful revenue production year since 2015. To date, sales are at $2,265. The Committee continues to strive to provide a colorful assortment of BSCP-logo apparel and other high-quality products at a reasonable price, while maintaining a sensible amount of inventory costs. The Committee’s goal is to introduce new products and apparel as the Membership desires.

**Newsletter Committee Report by Nina Vacante**

The Newsletter Committee produced four issues of the Blues News in 2019 which are posted on our website. We email the link to all members, plus we mail hard copies to those members without an email address and distribute them at our jams, events and local festivals. The Blues News now has a photo cover page and has expanded content with new columns such as “Upcoming Gigs” by Andy Kehe, “Blues Bands Beat” by Jack Roberts, and “Road Trippin” by Mike Knott. Greg Hogg is a regular contributor of articles and photographs.

**Public Relations by Andy Kehe**

The Public Relations committee has separated from the Events and Public Relations committee, although they will continue to work closely with each other. BSCP develops posters and flyers for all events; sends emails to members; sets up tables at local festivals; provides information to local newspapers and radios, and posts information on our website, Facebook, and Instagram. While PR continues to use print media, work is being done to further develop our use of social media. PR works with musicians to develop “Upcoming Gigs” which is included in the newsletter and on the website. BSCP recently purchased a large banner to advertise the organization and the jam. The banner is displayed at events and festivals.

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE by Hannah Sherman, Dot Grubb, Greg Hogg, & Rocky Woodling**

Members-at-large provide unique perspectives and service to the members. For example, Hannah contributes to the archival work, promotes events, and heads the kitchen crew at BSCP events. She most recently took on leadership of the Education Committee. Dot Grubb continues to provide overall management of planning, shopping and preparing food for events; assists with membership table at events and organizes the raffles, tip jar, and other fundraising activities. Greg Hogg assists with the membership table at the jams, writes articles for the Blues News, and takes pictures at all events and the jams. He posts his photographs and event posters on social media and is well-known for his creative weekly jam announcements on Facebook. He keeps connected with other regional blues societies and often attends their IBC events. Rocky Woodling provides his professional expertise in the designing and creating of BSCP event posters and flyers, guides the board in the use of Facebook, and plays harp at the jams when he is able to do so.