



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

October - December 2014

BLUES NEWS

From your President...

It was 1998. A small group of blues fans and musicians decided to start a Blues Society and they met at a little bar known as the Lochiel Hotel, on the other side of the tracks, by the old canal. The gathering of so many musicians led to the obvious question to the owner and barkeep, Sonny.

"You mind if we play a little music together?" Sonny didn't mind and pretty soon it became a weekly gathering, with donated equipment and lots of friends playing and enjoying the blues together. The Blues Society had little money, but the word spread and the crowds grew until the little Lochiel was packed with people every Thursday. Then came the flood of 2004 and a few feet of water in the place, followed by building inspectors, spelled the closing of the beloved Lochiel Hotel.

But the jam would survive, thanks to the help of our intrepid volunteers, led by Tony Formica. They moved the gear to the 40 & 8 Club up on Chambers Hill. A snug clubhouse on 25 acres, a nice front porch, great juke joint feel. And still it grew, until the crowds overflowed onto the porch, and into the parking lot. Word was, like Yogi Berra said, "Nobody goes there anymore, it's too crowded."

So when it was time to leave in 2011, the search for a new home focused on larger venues. We moved the gear again to Liquid 891 and a new era began. There was more space and many new folks began to come out to jam, dance and listen. Our friends at Liquid unfortunately had to close their doors in January 2013. So in February 2013 we moved to our present location at Champions in Highspire, and it is THE BEST EVER! A friendly staff, great food, nice dance floor, outdoor seating, lighted stage and finally a house sound system and professional sound man. And, as always, the music continues!

For 16 years the BSCP Jam has been the training ground for many blues and rock players in Central PA. It is one of the few open jams that exist, strictly volunteers with no house band, and has been the origin of numerous bands in the area. And more importantly, it formed new friendships among musicians and their audience. Along with some pretty snappy dancing by the swing dancers!

Even world travelers, like our friend Bill Hines, say it is the best jam they have ever seen! So please stop by on any Thursday Night, 8 to 11:30 pm, at Champions Sports Bar, 300 Second St, Highspire, PA. No cover charge, though you can put a buck in the donation jar for the Blues Society. And if you play blues, bring your instrument and join us on stage!

Keepin' the Blues Alive!

Rocky





Lisa Chavous And the Philadelphia Blues Messengers

Lisa Chavous' husband, Mike Hayes, has been battling cancer and they are experiencing large medical bills. Therefore, the blues and jazz communities of Philadelphia have come together to organize an All Star Benefit Concert at La Rose Jazz Club as depicted in the poster attached to the email below. The Tony Williams jazz band will be hosting the show, and jazz guitar greats Monette Sudler and

Larry McKenna will be performing. From the blues world Lisa Chavous, The Philadelphia Blues Messengers, Georgie Bonds, Toni Washington, the Blues Messenger horns, and members of the Frank Bey Swing City Blues Band will be on hand. Jazz Bridge has set up the Mike Hayes Fund to which tax deductible contributions may be made. The All Star Jazz Meets Blues Benefit Concert at La Rose Jazz Club in Germantown goes down on **Saturday September 27 from 6 pm to 10 pm.**

Tickets are \$20. The event is supported by Jazz Bridge, Mt. Airy Cultural Center, the Philadelphia Music Alliance, Dr. La Rose and the La Rose Jazz Club, and the Philadelphia Blues Messengers.

For information about tax deductible contributions contact Jazz Bridge. Please help us in this worthy cause.

La Rose Jazz Club
5531 Germantown Avenue
presents

**All Star Jazz
Meets Blues
Benefit Concert**

Saturday, September 27, 2014
6pm - 10pm

Special Surprise Guest
All Star Musicians

Masters of Ceremony
**Tony Williams &
Verna Edwards**

Supported By
La Rose Jazz Club
Jazz Bridge
Mount Airy Cultural Center
Philadelphia Blues Messengers
Philadelphia Music Alliance

Jazz
Tony Williams Band
Tony Williams
Aaron Graves
Mike Boone
Craig McIVER
Monette Sudler

Jimmy Odell
Charles Beasley
Bill Schenk
Bob Tonkonitz
Kenny Taylor
Terry Lawson
Donald William

Blues
Georgie Bonds
Toni Washington
Philadelphia Blues
Messengers

**For
information:** **Verna Edwards**
215.248.4415 **Larry Hambrecht**
215.205.6436 **Donation \$20**

JAZZ BRIDGE PRESS RELEASE

BLUES VOCALIST LISA CHAVOUS SINGING TO HELP HUSBAND WITH CANCER

On Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 6 pm - 10 pm, La Rose Jazz Club, 5531 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia will be hosting an **All Star Jazz Meets Blues Benefit Concert for Mike Hayes**, the husband of vocal and recording artist, **Lisa Chavous**. He is battling late stage cancer and many of Philadelphia's top jazz and blues musicians are donating their time and talents to help raise funds for the medical family's medical expenses.

Some of the **jazz musicians** appearing that night are **saxophonists Tony Williams and Bill Schenk, pianist, Aaron Graves, drummer, Craig McIver, guitarists, Monette Sudler, Larry McKenna, and Jimmy Odell, bassists, Charles Beasley and Mike Boone, and many others, including, Bob Tokonitz, Kenny Taylor, and Donald Williams.**

Also, **Georgie Bonds, Toni Washington, and the Philadelphia Blues Messengers** will be bringing their blues talents into the mix. Momentum is growing, and more special surprise artists from the jazz and blues world are being added every day.

Jazz Bridge, a 501C3 charity that assists jazz and blues musicians and their families when they are in crisis, has also set up the **Michael Hayes Fund** for those who wish to donate to the family. **All donations are tax deductible.** Please make checks payable to Jazz Bridge (put "Michael Hayes Fund" on the memo line) and send to 3008 Limekiln Pike, Glenside, PA, 19038 or donate online with a credit card at:

<http://www.jazzbridge.org/ways-to-help/donate>

(put "Michael Hayes Fund" in online memo).

This benefit is supported by LaRose Jazz Club, Philadelphia Music Alliance, the Mt. Airy Cultural Center, and the Philadelphia Blues Messengers.

President: Gary "Rocky" Rothrock - Chair, Jam Committee and Bylaws Committee

Vice President: Buster Grubb

Secretary: Bob Hodgson

Treasurer: Bob Emrich

Dot Grubb – Chair, Membership Committee

Nina Vacante – Chair, Newsletter Committee, and Webmaster

Greg Hogg – Chair, IBC Committee

Betty Fenicle – Co-Chair, Merchandise Committee

Dave Yeagley – Co-Chair, Merchandise Committee

Rocky Woodling - Chair, Public Relations Committee

Virginia "Mom" Ivanoff – Member-at-Large

Hannah Sherman – Member-at-Large

Dale Roat - Member-at-Large

George Carver - Member-at-Large

BSCP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CD REVIEW

JANIVA MAGNESS

"Original"

by Greg Hogg

Recently I had the pleasure of seeing and hearing Janiva Magness and her band perform at Bldg 24 Live in Wyomissing, PA. Promoting Janiva's 2014 chart topping release "Original" they performed all 11 songs for us. Wow! Powerful stuff!

A bit of background information about Janiva...

She was born in Detroit, MI 57 years ago. Before her teen years she lost both her parents to suicide and was then bounced from one foster home to another multiple times. At age 17 Janiva became pregnant and gave her baby up for adoption. One of Janiva's many foster mothers encouraged her to pursue singing as a career. She was drawn toward blues music from music that she had heard her parents listening to and the deal was sealed after she attended an Otis Rush concert. As a young woman, Janiva worked her music career in Minnesota, then off to Arizona before she headed on west to live and work in California in 1986. She released the 1st of her 10 CDs in 1997. Her 1st four CDs were independent releases followed by 2 CDs on the NorthernBlues Music label and then 3 CDs on Alligator Records. "Original" Janiva's 10th release was recorded on her own label, Fathead Records and she wrote 7 of the 11 songs on it. Janiva has been nominated and won 6 Blues Music Awards, 4 of them for being the "Best Female Contemporary Artist of the Year". She has also won the 2013 Song of the Year Award for "I Won't Cry". In 2009 Janiva won the big one....the BB King Entertainer of the Year Award!

"Original" features very personal songs written over the past several years...tough years once again in Janiva's life. Her long marriage ended in divorce, she lost 8 close friends and family members to death and had neck surgery that left her unable to sing for a while.

"Let Me Breathe" the opening track speaks of the overwhelming feeling of despair of the losses in her life. 'Just let me breathe for a moment'.

"Twice As Strong" is an anthem type song to women about rising from the abyss of depression. 'You're twice as strong as you need to be, Sister!'

"When You Were My King", is a slow ballad of the heartbreak of a painful divorce. "When we were lovers, you were my king."

"I Need A Man" is an upbeat song about realizing the need to get back on with her life and find happiness with a new man.

"Everything Is Alright" is little song about coping...and finding a friend to help with it.

"With Love" is a beautiful duet song sung along with Janiva's keyboard player, Jim Alfredson. "You can sing your song, with love."

"Mountain" is a plea in ballad form to the ex about honesty to attain some closure in the divorce. "Please let me walk down the mountain....before the mountain comes down."

"Who Am I" a song about facing Karma. 'I don't understand what you mean, say it again, a little less bitchy please'





"Badass" ... lose your cocky attitude. "You think you're badass, you think I'm waiting around, but I'm not."

"The Hardway" a slow soulful ballad about lessons learned the hard way and how friends can help each other through tough times.

"Standing" is the final track on this CD. It is a slower yet and even more soulful ballad about facing an unsure future and what it holds for you. "I'm standin' and my heart's still beating."

"Original" was recorded on Janiva's own label, Fathead Records and she is backed both in the studio and on the road by her fabulous band, Zack Zunis – guitar, Matt Tecu – drums, Gary Davenport – bass and Jim Alfredson – piano and Hammond organ. All 4 of these guys add the backing vocals for Janiva.

This CD is among my top favorites. Test drive a few tracks and consider adding it to your collection!



BSCP ACOUSTIC JAM!!!

We are starting up the BSCP acoustic jam again, at the hippest new night spot in the area, the River City Blues Club in Harrisburg. Our first jam will be held on this coming Wednesday, October 1 from 7:30 to 9:30, so please bring your instruments and join us.

Who: Blues Society of Central PA

What: Acoustic Jam - The theme is blues, but we are a bit more flexible than the Thursday jam on song selection. We have a sound system so bring your instrument cables if you want to plug in. We also have a guitar pickup if you need one.

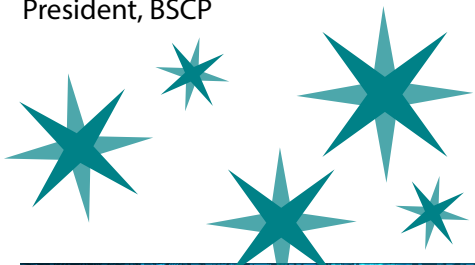
When: 1st Wednesday of the month 7pm to 10pm - hosted by BSCP
3rd Wednesday of the month 7pm to 10pm - hosted by Nate Myers Trio

Where: The River City Blues Club, 819 S. Cameron Street, Harrisburg. This is two doors down from the Sutliff Chevrolet Truck center on Cameron Street in Harrisburg, near the corner of Paxton and Cameron. There is plenty of free parking.

Visit their website at rivercityhbg.com.

Please stop by this Wednesday for some fun and acoustic music. And remember to bring your instrument! Hope to see you there!

Gary "Rocky" Rothrock
President, BSCP



BSCP Annual Christmas Party



WHEN: Sunday, December 7, 2014
2 pm until ?

WHERE: Hummlestown Fire House
249 East Main Street
Hummlestown, PA



PERFORMERS:
R Way Unplugged from Williamsport, PA
and
James Day and The Fish Fry from Southeastern PA



BYOB! No alcohol will be provided by BSCP at this event.

Big Jack Johnson

Mississippi Blues Trail Marker



▲ Reverse side of Big Jack Johnson Trail Marker

◀ Big Jack Johnson Trail Marker in front of Red's Juke Joint

On August 8, 2014, a Mississippi Blues Trail Marker was unveiled honoring Big Jack Johnson. The dedication ceremony, at 395 Sunflower Avenue, included remarks by the mayor, Bill Luckett, and Red Paden, owner of Red's Juke, where the trail marker is located. Remarks were also made by Big Jack's widow, Angenette Johnson, and the Cornlickers' Dale Wise. The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania is proud to be a sponsor of this beautiful memorial to Big Jack. The ceremony was attended by many family, friends and fans of Big Jack. For more information about the Mississippi Blues Trail Foundation and Commission, go to www.MSBluesTrail.org. For pictures and information about Big Jack's marker, please go to <http://www.msbluestrail.org/blues-trail-markers/big-jack-johnson>.



Pictured, Left to Right:
Ellis (Jack's nephew),
Angenette Jackson,
Red Patton

RIVER CITY BLUES CLUB

Schedule - October 2014

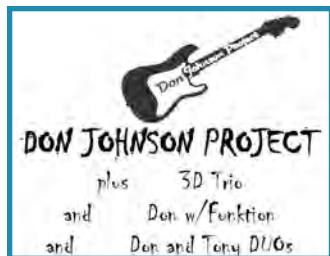


Wed	10/1/14	7-10PM	BSCP Acoustic Jam w/ Rocky Rothrock
Thurs	10/2/14	9PM- 12AM	River City Blues Club Open Mic w/ Kenny Burbon
Friday	10/3/14	9PM- 12AM	(Big A) Anthony Sherrod w/ The Cornlickers (Mississippi Delta)
Sat	10/4/14	9PM- 12AM	Acoustic Stew
Wed	10/8/14	7-10PM	River City Blues Club Open Jam w Jeff Lynch & Ray Santana
Thurs	10/9/14	9PM- 12AM	River City Blues Club Open Mic w/ Kenny Burbon
Friday	10/10/16	9PM- 12AM	Marissa Elise & The Groove
Sat	10/11/14	9PM- 12AM	The Frankadelics Featuring Frank Dinunzio III (Ny/NJ)
Wed	10/15/14	7-10PM	BSCP Acoustic Jam w/ Nate Myers Trio
Thurs	10/16/14	9PM- 12AM	River City Blues Club Open Mic w/ Kenny Burbon
Friday	10/17/14	9PM- 12AM	Robert Frahm Trio (Baltimore)
Sat	10/18/14	9PM- 12AM	R&B Divas
Mon	10/20/14	7-9PM	River City Big Band /w Steve Rudolph (Jazz)
Wed	10/22/14	7-10PM	River City Blues Club Open Jam
Thurs	10/23/14	9PM- 12AM	River City Blues Club Open Mic w/ Kenny Burbon
Friday	10/24/14	9PM- 12AM	To Be Announced
Sat	10/25/14	9PM- 12AM	To Be Announced
Wed	10/29/14	7-10PM	River City Blues Club Open Jam Nate Myers Trio
Thurs	10/30/14	9PM- 12AM	River City Blues Club Open Mic w/ Kenny Burbon
Friday	10/31/14	8-11:30PM	Steve Rudolph w/ JD (Jazz)

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

DON JOHNSON PROJECT

Schedule - October thru December 2014



Wed	10/1/14	7PM	3D TRIO @ Dukes – Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Thurs	10/2/14	7PM	DUO @ Garlic Poet - 148 Sheraton Dr., New Cumberland
Fri	10/3/14	7PM	DJP - Elks Club - George Street, York
Fri	10/10/14	8PM	Funktion @ Progress Fire Home Assn. - 28 Short St., HBG
Fri	10/17/14	9PM	DJP – Roosevelt Tavern - 50 N. Penn St., York
Thurs	10/23/14	8:30PM	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill - 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri	10/24/14	9PM	DUO @ Snapper's - Mechanicsburg
Wed	10/29/14	7PM	DJP @ Duke's - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri	10/31/14	8PM	DJP – Lower Allen VFW - Westport Dr., Camp Hill
Wed	11/5/14	7PM	3D TRIO @ Duke's - Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Thurs	11/20/14	8:30PM	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill – 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri	11/21/14	9PM	DJP @ Chick's Tavern - Hummelstown
Wed	11/26/14	8PM	DJP @ Big Woody's, North Front St., Harrisburg
Fri	11/28/14	9pm	Funktion @ Champion's - Highspire
Sat	11/29/14	9PM	Funktion @ Hollywood Casino, Grantville
Wed	12/3/14	7PM	3D TRIO @ Dukes – Chocolate Ave., Hershey
Fri	12/5/14	8PM	Funktion @ Progress Fire Home Assn. – 28 Short St., HBG
Fri	12/12/14	9PM	DJP – Roosevelt Tavern - 50 N. Penn St., York
Thurs	12/18/14	8:30PM	3D TRIO @ Rock Bass Grill – 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri	12/26/14	8PM	Funktion @ Big Woody's – North Front St., Harrisburg
Wed	12/31/14		Funktion @ Wyndham Gettysburg NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Band Bookings: Email KAREN at donjohnsonproject@verizon.net

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

NOTE: Schedule always subject to change.

BLDG 24 Live

by Greg Hogg

Curious? Have you ever ventured over to 1115 Bern Road, Wyomissing, PA to see any of the great shows presented by Bldg 24 Live? If you have you already know that this premier nightclub offers some of the finest performers that pass through central PA. If not, you owe it to yourself to select an upcoming show that interests you and make your "maiden" visit.

Bldg 24 Live along with 6 other fun filled businesses are housed in a huge early 20th century industrial complex which has undergone a 15 million dollar restoration over the past 10 years. The nightclub seats 200 comfortably. The stage is large and easily seen from any seat in the house. The stage lighting and house PA is state-of-the-art ... the artists look and sound fantastic! This venue is easily accessible from Rt. 222, Rt. 422, Rt.22, the PA Turnpike and it is located in a safe neighborhood with plenty of parking onsite

Featuring live blues, jazz, classic rock and comedy shows, my visits there have all been for the blues genre shows. Shows that I have enjoyed at Bldg 24 Live include: Deanna Bogart Band, Mark Hummel's "Little Walter Tribute" featuring guests Little Ronnie

Owens, Steve Guyger and Little Charley Baty, Poppa Chubby, Jimmy Thackery & The Drivers, Curtis Salgado, Rick Estrin & The Nightcats, Samantha Fish, Coco Montoya and Janiva Magness. Now, that's some good stuff!

As blues fans you might want to load some friends into your car for a roadtrip to catch the following upcoming shows:

- Friday, October 3rd - Clarence Spady Band
- Saturday, October 4th - The Nighthawks
- October Bluesfest:
 - Thursday, October 23rd – Maria Muldaur
 - Friday, October 24th – Marcia Ball
 - Saturday, October 25th – Tommy Castro & The Painkillers
- Thursday, November 6th – Davina and the Vagabonds
- Saturday, November 29th – Craig Thatcher & Mike Dugan
- Saturday, December 13th – James Cotton

With the rare exception of the afternoon Tommy Castro show, all of the Bldg 24 Live shows are 7:30 – 9:30 PM. Nice hours for blues folks as we can enjoy our music, dinner, a few drinks ... all in this beautiful large club and be safely home well before midnight.

Up to date info from Bldg 24 Live is available at <http://bldg24live.com/>.

I hope to share many shows at Bldg 24 Live and our other area live blues venues with BSCP friends. Support live music! Remember... "Use it or lose it!"

Bldg 24 LIVE **OCTOBER Blues Fest** **BUCKS COUNTY BLUES SOCIETY**

Thursday October 23 • 7:30PM	Friday October 24 • 7:30PM	Saturday October 25 • 2:00PM
Maria Muldaur <i>To the Oasis and Beyond</i> Ticket \$28	Marcia Ball Ticket \$28	Tommy Castro & The Painkillers Ticket \$28
Maria Muldaur chronicles her 50-year musical journey through American roots music, to the Oasis and Beyond during this special multimedia concert.	Marcia Ball has earned worldwide fame for her ability to ignite a full-scale roadhouse rhythm and blues party every time she strolls onto the stage.	Tommy Castro is famed for his signature brand of tough, rocking rhythm and blues, thrilling fans around the world with his incendiary live shows.

SPECIAL \$60 TICKETS IF YOU PRE-PAY FOR ALL 3 SHOWS

BLDG24LIVE.COM
THE WORKS COMPLEX IN WYOMISSING • 610-375-2700

Logos for Google+, Facebook, and Twitter.

Anthony “Big A” Sherrod to return to Harrisburg

Anthony “Big A” Sherrod of Clarksdale, Mississippi, will be back in Harrisburg October 3, 2014, playing with the Cornlickers at the new [River City Blues Club and Dart Room](#). If you haven’t been to this amazing new venue and/or if you haven’t seen this amazing performer, this is your chance. They will also be appearing at the Freeland Event Center in Freeland, PA, on October 4. Following is an article about Sherrod published on the [Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival website](#).



CLARKSDALE – When Anthony Sherrod was five, he became a blues musician recognized by ZZ Top. At 16, he borrowed Buddy Guy’s spotted guitar and joined him on stage for a Delta Blues Museum benefit. Reaching 30, his 25-year career has earned him frontman status with the Big Jack Johnson Band at the Sunflower River Blues Festival Saturday night finale. He credits Big Jack for putting him there: “After playing at Red’s one night, I heard Big Jack talking in the back about my ‘going places,’” says Sherrod. This off-the-cuff assessment by Clarksdale’s internationally renowned musician/songwriter apparently carried weight in the psyche of young Sherrod’s decision to take charge, step up front, sing and shout to the crowd, “Are you ready?” According to Pennsylvanian, Bobby Gentilo, guitarist with the Big Jack Johnson Band, Anthony definitely is ready.

“Before a cheering Saturday night crowd of 4,500 in Harrisburg several weeks ago, Anthony was a gem – a true bluesman,” says Gentilo. “People loved him, and want him back,” he continued. “Many Big Jack fans here are saying Anthony seems to be channeling Jack’s energy,” adds veteran drummer Dale Wise of Harrisburg. Regarded as a child prodigy years ago during Blues in the School and museum educational programs directed by Mr. Johnnie Billington and Big Jack, Sherrod once was shy about singing and seemed more comfortable playing bass than lead guitar. Maturity changed all that, and Sherrod says, “I’ve got it all figured; I’ve got it all together now.”



Sneak previews of this mature, all grown up, and growling blues figure are documented in a brand new CD, recorded in April: “Anthony Sherrod: Red’s Juke Joint Sessions.” A CD release party at Red’s is scheduled Friday night, Aug 8, before his starring role on the Sunflower stage the next evening. Taking the finale stage along with Sherrod will be an impressive lineup of musicians who played with Big Jack or were influenced by him during his 50-year career, says Wise. Two drums sets are needed on stage to accommodate drummers Lee Williams and Wise. Since last Thanksgiving Wise and the other core band members have been approaching the festival tribute and the Blues Trail Marker unveiling as a personal crusade to acquaint the music world about the quintessential might of their boss. Among the believers traveling to Clarksdale to participate in the “Remembering Big Jack Johnson” program under the VIP Tent Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 is Mark Carpentieri, a Big Jack producer and president of M. C. Records. He says, “Big Jack was one of the most dynamic musicians I ever experienced. Not only was he an intense live performer and songwriter, he was always moving forward. “Many blues musicians embrace just the past, not Big Jack. He would write contemporary songs and mix in contemporary music in his blues. He was always experimenting with his sound. “One of the last times I saw him, he was playing the slide on an electric mandolin. Big Jack was gentle, kind, and cared deeply for his family. I miss him in every way,” continues Carpentieri.

The public is invited to participate in the Blues Trail Marker unveiling by state Tourism officials at 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8 on the corner of Sunflower and Martin Luther King Blvd, near Red’s Blues Club. “We are urging the public to participate in the free “Remembering Big



Jack Johnson” educational program beneath the Sunflower Festival’s VIP tent at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 9,” says John Sherman, Sunflower chairman. For additional festival information, view www.sunflowerfest.org.

Above Left: Anthony Sherrod

Above Right: Big Jack and M. C. Records president Mark Carpentieri (submitted by Carpentieri)

Left: Photo of young Anthony Sherrod and Lee Williams as youngsters with blues teacher Mr. Johnnie Billington and ZZ Top at the Beale Street Memphis Fest where the rock stars were presented their Walk of Fame marker now positioned outside Carnegie Public Library and the former location of the Delta Blues Museum

Photos by Panny Flautt Mayfield

BSCP LAST BLAST OF SUMMER

September 20, 2014

Submitted by Greg Hogg

With Autumn set to begin in 48 hours, the BSCP Board got busy months earlier to wrap up the summer season with a joint jumpin' Last Blast of Summer show. With Champions Sports Bar's big door opened onto the beautiful courtyard, the lovely late summer weather, the attentive Champions staff seeing that everyone had plenty to eat and drink, and blues music performed from 6:30 – 11:00 PM by 3 fantastic PA blues acts..... What a great party we enjoyed!

With the stage set and the sound check complete, [R-Way Unplugged](#), a duo from Cogan Station, PA near Williamsport kicked off this blues party and got the audience warmed up quickly for the evening ahead. Acoustic guitarist Blair Mitcheltree masterfully picked and strummed as Kristen Gonzalez belted out the tunes. One voice, one guitar...back to the basics blues. The crowd was primed and ready for more!



R-Way Unplugged

And more was on its way! [James Day & The Fish Fry](#) from southeastern PA served up their jump blues and greasy New Orleans grooves and the BSCP partiers eating it up! James sang, played his harmonicas, scratched his rub board, and added whistles, a kazoo and other various small percussion instruments as the Fish Fry sizzled with drums, bass, alto and



James Day & The Fish Fry

baritone sax, accordion and keyboards. With their bellies full and needing a little exercise and a few drinks to loosen their "happy feet" our guests got the dance floor active and everyone loved this tasty show.

Now some big news, the BSCP IBC Committee is proud to announce that R-Way Unplugged will be our Solo/Duo representative act and James Day & The Fish Fry will be our representative Band in January 2015 in Memphis, TN for The Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge. Having enjoyed these acts at the Last Blast of Summer show or missing them thereBSCP members will get another chance to hear these talented performers at the BSCP Members Christmas Party at Hummelstown Fire Hall on Sunday, December 7th. Full details on this will be announced soon. 2015 BSCP memberships and renewals are now on sale. Get 'em while they're hot!

Back to the Last Blast of Summer..... around 9:00 PM our headlining act, [Steve Guyger & The Excellos](#) from Philadelphia PA hit the stage in a big way! Steve Guyger, a world class harmonica player, singer and songwriter and his backing band, The Excellos wowed us with their Chicago style blues. The dance floor was busy and the non-dancers like me bopped in our seats. Steve's great backing band, The Excellos are "Filthy Rich" Macpherson - guitar/vocals, Ritchie Yesscalis - guitar/vocals, Gary Phillips – bass and John F. Kennedy – drums.

As BSCP IBC and special event chair, I would like to thank R-Way Unplugged, James Fay & The Fish Fry, and Steve Guyger & The Excellos for a great show. Thank you to the Champions Sports Bar management and staff for their facility and service. Thank you Don, the soundman for your excellent work with stage, sound and lighting. Lastly, I'd like to thank the hard working BSCP Board members that step up time and time again to make our events wonderful!

Additional photos from this show can be viewed at <https://gregsphotosa.shutterfly.com/pictures/9342>



Steve Guyger & The Excellos

Blues Society of Central PA
P.O. Box 453
Steelton, PA 17113

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