

OBScenE-news

MonkeyJunk — #3 at the IBC!

Spring 2009

It's difficult to describe in words the feeling a musician gets when walking down Beale Street. For me, just thinking of all the blues, soul, R&B and rock 'n' roll heroes who walked the same steps down the same street was enough to give me shivers. Then a wave of smokey barbeque wafts into the street and a Muddy Waters tune blasts out of a speaker and the street is painted with the bright neon lights from all the clubs. It was a beautiful assault on the senses.

Just being part of the competition was a thrill. I was proud to represent Ottawa along with my monkey-mates Tony and Matt. The highlight for me was when we found out that we'd moved onto the finals and would have the chance to play at the legendary Orpheum Theatre.

To have finished as strong as we did was not only a success for us, but for all our families and fans who believe in us and support us. We were proud to come home with good news and to have shown the blues world that 3 guys from Ottawa can still kick a little ass.

Steve



an amazing experience to play music in a city so rich in music history that it seeps out of the cracks on the street, much less have (and seize) the opportunity to compete and excel on the level of the best unsigned blues bands in the world . . .

Matt



So when you touch down at Memphis airport and you're greeted by a sign that says "Welcome to Memphis, Home of the blues, Birthplace of rock 'n' roll", well baby, you know you've arrived!

Walking towards Beale Street and seeing the neon lights flashing ... and turning the corner by the Blues City Café (our venue) and you get Lightnin' Hopkins blasting out of them outside speakers by the beer kiosk ... MERCY!

Had the blues playing all day everywhere we went ... in my hotel room, walking down the street and, of course, in all the jook joints and dive bars on Beale ... all you need is a guitar, harp and drums, do it up MonkeyJunk style and you've got yourself a party.

Thank you to all at OBS and my fellow Monkeys.
Tony D



Inside the e-news

IBC

Maple Blues Awards

Blues Summit 2009

Blues in the Schools

Al K's Blues Party

DAWG FM Update

Reviews

News about Blues

Ottawa Bluesfest 2009

Passings

More photos from Memphis
pages 2-4



International Blues Challenge *Memphis TN - February 4-7, 2009* *MonkeyJunk - Semi-final Rounds 1 & 2*



MonkeyJunk - Finals at the Orpheum Theater

*MonkeyJunk
 made the finals!*





International Blues Challenge

Memphis TN - February 4-7, 2009

Canadians

Johnny Max Band



The International Blues Challenge is a 'competition' that is held in Memphis every year in the hopes, I believe, of bringing together, for one weekend, as many Blues players, movers & shakers as can be brought together. Blues takes many forms and this weekend in Memphis was no exception. From Memphis to Chicago to Delta to west coast Blues ... it was all here.

Although I go every year to Memphis & Clarksdale, I had not seen the vibe that was aflutter on Beale Street this weekend. It was a magical, almost mesmerizing feeling. Every place had a musical presence!

The buzz, from my end was the fact that people, on the street and in the bars were talking about "the Canadian bands" and how good they were. Not that we were any better, as that is debatable, whether one can be better than another in an arts circle. But there was a definite buzz around the likes of Steve Strongman, MonkeyJunk, Keith Hallett (and I'd like to think The Johnny Max Band)....

From all walks of life and all parts of the world, from all styles and types of Blues & R&B, from beginners to professionals it was a fantastic experience ...

Johnny Max

Keith Hallett Trio



Steve Strongman Band



Racine





International Blues Challenge

Memphis TN - February 4-7, 2009

Memphis Sightseeing



The Blues Music Awards honor those professional artists and recordings that stand out within the eligibility period, which runs from November 1 through October 31 of each year. In addition to the awards for the past year's top recordings, additional categories honor individual, actively touring artists for their overall excellence and accomplishment in that year.

The 30th Blues Music Awards will take place Thursday, May 7, 2009 at the Cook Convention Center in Memphis TN. More than 65 nominees attend and the night is filled with their appearances and performances in a dinner table setting in the Convention Center's ballroom.

The event brings together Blues performers, industry representatives and fans from all over the world to celebrate the best in Blues recordings and performances from the previous year. The Blues Music Awards are universally recognized as the highest honor given to Blues artists. As always, a pre-party will immediately precede the Awards.

Ticket info <https://www.blues.org/tickets/bma.php>

More on Event Schedule <http://www.blues.org/bluesmusicawards/schedule.php>

More on Travel & Lodging <http://www.blues.org/bluesmusicawards/travel.php>

List of nominees <http://www.blues.org/bluesmusicawards/nominees.php4>



Are you a member of the Blues Foundation?

The Ottawa Blues Society is a Blues Foundation Affiliate!

For info on Membership Incentives, Membership Levels and more

<https://www.blues.org/members/index.php>



The Blues Hall of Fame is a historical record of those who have made the Blues timeless through performance, documentation, and recording. Since its inception in 1980, The Blues Foundation has inducted new members annually into the Blues Hall of Fame for their historical contribution, impact and overall influence on the Blues. Members are inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in five categories: Performers, Non-Performers, Classics of Blues Literature, Classics of Blues Recordings (Songs), Classics of Blues Recordings (Albums). Accordingly, individuals, recordings and literature are included. There is no submission or nomination process for induction. Rather, each year in the fall, a distinguished panel of blues scholars begins the process of discussing who they believe should be given consideration for induction into the Blues Hall of Fame. They then vote in each of the five categories. The number of nominees in a year may vary.

Inductees for the Blues Hall of Fame in 2009 include "Soul Queen of New Orleans" **Irma Thomas** and multiple GRAMMY Award winner **Taj Mahal**, as well as late Chicago bluesman **Son Seals** and the **Reverend Gary Davis**.

Austin club owner **Clifford Antone**, discographer **Mike Leadbitter** and radio programmer and producer **Bob Porter** will be the non-performers inducted this year. The book *I Hear You Knockin'* by **Jeff Hannusch** was selected as a Classics of Blues Literature.

The induction ceremony will be held at The Blues Foundation's Charter Member Dinner on Wednesday, May 6, at the Memphis Marriott Downtown in Memphis, Tennessee, the night before the 30th Blues Music Awards. Taj Mahal and Irma Thomas will both attend the induction ceremony.

The following singles or album tracks will be inducted during the ceremony: "Boom Boom" by **John Lee Hooker**; "Caldonia" by **Louis Jordan**; and "Sitting on Top of the World" by the **Mississippi Sheiks**. These albums were also chosen for induction: *Amtrak Blues* by **Alberta Hunter**; *T-Bone Blues* by **T-Bone Walker**; and the 2 CD set *Blues With a Feeling (Newport Folk Festival Classics)* by Various Artists.

For more info <http://www.blues.org/halloffame/inductees.php4?YearId=30>



The much beloved musician Jeff Healey, who died last March, was remembered by the blues community with no less than seven awards at the Maple Blues Awards, held in Toronto's Phoenix Theatre, Monday January 19, 2009. Healey won awards for Entertainer of the Year, Electric Artist of the Year and Guitarist of the Year. His final blues recording, "Mess of Blues" (produced by Healey and bassist Alec Fraser) was voted Recording of the Year.

Jeff's awards were accepted by his wife, Cristie, and his father Bud Healey, who thanked the blues community – in Canada and around the world – for their support, and cited the guitarist's passion for all kinds of music.

Three of the trusted sidemen with whom Healey toured until his death, Alec Fraser, Al Webster and Dave Murphy, won awards, respectively, as Bassist, Drummer, and Keyboard Player of the Year.

Another Stony Plain recording artist, guitarist Amos Garrett, won the Maple Blues Lifetime Achievement prize, the Blues with a Feeling Award. Accepting the prize, the Alberta-based musician – who has recorded with everyone from Maria Muldaur to Bonnie Raitt, Stevie Wonder and even Anne Murray – jokingly told the audience that now that he was receiving Government of Canada pension cheques he might be able to indulge an ambition to play jazz on a more regular basis.

Other winners included Harry Manx (Acoustic Artist of the Year), Fathead's John Mays (Male Vocalist of the Year), Suzie Vinnick (Female Vocalist of the Year) while the New Artist of the Year (and one of the evening's most interesting categories) was awarded to Kitchener's Daddy Long Legs, although Alberta's Marshall Lawrence, New Brunswick's Keith Hallett, Ottawa's MonkeyJunk and Vancouver's Sojourners would each benefit from the added exposure. Additional award-winners in their categories included Steve Marriner (Harmonica), Pat Carey (Horn), Paul Reddick (Songwriter) while musicologist and educator, Rob Bowman earned Blues Booster of the Year and Taj Mahal won for International Artist of the Year.

Another measure of the scale of Canadian blues talent being recognized at this event was the found in the caliber of special presenters, including such international luminaries as Jay Sieleman, Executive Director of The Blues Foundation, Jostein Forsberg (Notodden Bluesfest, Norway), Chip Eagle (Publisher, Blues Revue/ BluesWax), Jean Guillermo (Festival Blues sur Seine, France) and Jacques Noel (FestiBlues Internationale de Montréal).

Yet the crowning glory of the evening came, as always, from the stage as musical performances ruled the night. It'll be a long time before anyone forgets the power found within the tiny frame that is Treasa Levasseur, backed by the sensationally soulful Sojourners (who, alone, tore up the stage) in a blistering performance of "Stuck in Soulsville". Or, the combination of Ray Bonneville and Amos Garrett with a roots-rich performance that highlighted a more mellow yet, nonetheless, no less moving approach. The sultry Shakura S'Aida took sass and style to new heights as she caught fire on-stage, decked out in red leather and fur, for a sexually-charged reminder of why she's taking the world by storm, yet proud to be a homegirl. Harrison Kennedy's honest, authentic blues shone forth in his solo showcase while JW-Jones served notice to everyone that he's a performer who's barely begun to tap his potential. An after-party featuring Winnipeg's The Perpetrators, held in an adjoining room, served to end one part of the evening and begin another, as people filed out of the main room.

(Richard Flohil, press release and Eric Thom, CanadianBlues.ca)

<http://www.canadianblues.ca/event-reviews/twelfth-annual-maple-blues-awards-4.html>)

OTTAWA WINNER

HARMONICA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Steve Marriner



OTHER OTTAWA NOMINEES

NEW ARTIST/GROUP OF THE YEAR

MonkeyJunk



GUITARIST OF THE YEAR & ELECTRIC ACT OF THE YEAR

JW-Jones





Presenters and Award Winners



Performers

Closing Jam

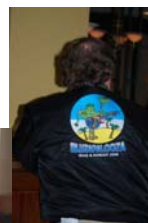


the Blues Summit

Blues Summit IV
Toronto ON
January 17-19, 2009



Summit Showcases





Blues in the Schools 2009

Bluesfest delivers music program to thousands of Ottawa area students

The Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest presented the 11th edition of their long-standing Blues in the Schools program in March. In this two-week residency program, professional artists/educators visited 17 area schools this year.

The program began with a series of assembly-like presentations. A variety of musicians visit two schools per day, performing a total of 66 presentations over the course of four days.

The following phase involved classroom-size core groups, with students enjoying a more formal workshop approach that typically includes song writing, singing, and exploring various instruments.

The workshop phase culminated with students performing for their families, teachers and peers. Ultimately these students are offered an opportunity to perform at the Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest, during Blues in the Schools Day.

Initiated in two Ottawa-area schools in 1999, Blues in the Schools has seen tremendous growth. This year, visiting artists/educators and local musicians will deliver the program to more than

7,000 students in Ottawa-area schools.

"The intent of the program," says Bluesfest executive director, Mark Monahan, "is to expose students from all backgrounds to music and to encourage them to use music as a positive outlet in dealing with the world around them."

The 2nd Annual Blues in the Schools Artists' Showcase took place on Wednesday, March 11 at the Bronson Centre Auditorium. This event, hosted by T.J. Wheeler, featured Reverend Billy C. Wirtz, Rick Fines, Sharon Riley, Michael Jerome Browne, John Allaire, Ana Muira and other special guests from the 29 members of the faculty of the Ottawa Bluesfest 'Blues in the Schools' program. The free show provided an opportunity for parents, students, teachers and members of the community to witness the incredible talent that is recruited to deliver Bluesfest's annual two-week music education program.

Andre (AJ) Sauve
Director of Communications &
Community Relations
Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest



Left-Rick Fines
Below-John Allaire



Left-T.J. Wheeler



Above-Michael Jerome Browne
Left-Sharon Riley
(all photos-Liz Sykes)

Blues in the Schools is a charitable undertaking, which is financially supported by the not-for-profit Ottawa Bluesfest organization, with essential support from its private-sector partners: Holiday Inn® Hotel & Suites; Chevrolet; Subway; Steve's Music Store; and the Ottawa Citizen.



Al K's All Day Blues Party

A Musical Tribute to Al Kirkcaldy

Al Kirkcaldy, a friend to all things Blues, passed on February 12th due to complications resulting from his battle with cancer. Al championed the Blues - whether it was introducing a new local artist or promoting an established international star - and he did both with equal verve. For Al, all roads led to the Blues.

Al hosted "blue in the face" on CFFF (92.7 FM) in Peterborough, wrote a regular Blues column in The Examiner, booked the Peterborough Holiday Inn Summer Blues Series, and was on the nominating committee for both the Blues Music Awards and the Maple Blues Awards. He had impeccable musical taste and his engaging manner when conducting interviews provided an opportunity to display the wit that characterized him.

A wonderful musical tribute and celebration of Al's life took place the afternoon and evening of Sunday, April 5th at Market Hall, Peterborough, organized by Rico Ferrara and Phil Marshall.

Two time W.C. Handy/Blues Music Award nominee Darrell Nulisch, one of the most soulful singers and harp players in the business, joined the All-Star line-up. The afternoon show included the Rick Fines Trio, Paul Reddick, Roxanne Potvin, Teddy Leonard, Jack de Keyzer, John Mays, Omar Tunnoch and Bucky Berger of Fathead, Dennis O'Toole, the Steady Band, Wylie Harold, Dave Mowat and the Johnny Max Band.

For the evening show, Buzz Thompson led the house band, and performers included David Rotundo, Howard Ross, Lance Anderson, Erin McCallum, Jerome Godboo, Jimmy Bowskill and others.

In addition to the music, there were prize draws, and a highlight - a onetime screening of a DVD highlighting Al's unique role in the Blues world by Mako Funasaka of Talkin' Blues.

Proceeds of the event to be donated in support of Blues In The Schools programs.

Photos below are from the afternoon show.



Photos—Liz Sykes

Update on

The re-hearing of the DAWG 101.9FM application adjourned April 2 until June 12th 2009. At that time the Commission will hear evidence about the feasibility of the use of 94.5 FM in the Ottawa market.

What does this mean? Let me give you the short history. We were awarded the licence on August 26th 2008, after an exhaustive process. The Decision included our ALL BLUES licence on 101.9FM and a licence to Astral Media for an ADULT CONTEMPORARY licence on 99.7.

An appeal was launched by a Franco-Ontario group that suggested that they should have been licensed. The appeal was granted by Cabinet and the decision was referred back to the CRTC.

We took a proactive, positive approach to this; at great expense, we found another frequency on which the CRTC could licence another French Language station if it desired to do so. That frequency is 94.5FM.

The CRTC is going to study that frequency to see if it can be used and all of the applicants will get a chance to make comments at the new hearing on June 12.

We think this is very positive for the Blues. We had the best engineers in Canada find this frequency; further, we had it verified by two more engineers; lastly, two of the other applicants said it would work ... so we know it works ... period.

The sticky point here is that Astral Media must consent to the use of the 94.5 frequency or use it themselves instead of 99.7.

Bob Walsh, Quebec Blues Legend, Alexandre Petit, from Virée Blues Boreale and Ottawa City Councillor Eli El-Chantiry came to the hearing to address the CRTC and were awesome in support of our application, our thanks to them and to everyone - over 3000 people who have supported DAWG FM.

Ed Torres, 3 April 2009

A balanced and factual article ran in the Ottawa Citizen 14 April 2009. Following the article is an interactive spot where readers can post their comments which, to date, have been overwhelmingly in support of DAWG FM. <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/News/Language+card+played+radio+spot+dial/1493386/story.html>

DAWG is beginning to test their playlist and you can listen by going to <http://www.bluesincanada.com> and clicking on 'We stream the blues'. A link is provided to give feedback on what you're hearing to DAWG's Program Director. You can also use the link to get your MP3 to DAWG.



Blues Radio in Ottawa

CBC Radio One 91.5 FM
Saturdays: 11 pm-1 am
Saturday Night Blues with Holger Petersen
CHEZ106 FM
Sundays: 6-7 pm
House of Blues Hour hosted by Dan Aykroyd
(AKA Elwood Blues)

CJHR 98.7 Valley Heritage Radio
Thursdays: 8-10 pm
Got The Blues with Pat Watters
CKCU-FM 93.1 <http://www.ckcufm.com>
Sundays: 9-11 pm
Black and Blues with John Tackaberry
Wednesdays: 9-11 pm
In A Mellow Tone with Ron Sweetman

Show Review: JW-Jones Band at the Nepean Sailing Club February 27, 2009

The Nepean Sailing Club is one of my favourite venues for live music, and being a member there has its privileges! Club Manager, Gene Bruce, and the Club staff introduced Friday night buffet dinners followed by live entertainment six years ago. It's like having a concert in your living room at home. This is where I first heard Roxanne Potvin when she played with the Johnny Russell band in January 2003. Over the years the music has been a good mixture of Folk, Rock, Jazz, and of course, Blues - always high quality. Some of the other Blues artists I have enjoyed there are: Tony D, Trevor Finlay, Al Tambay, Suzie Vinnick, Rick Fines, Drew Nelson, Guy del Villano, and Roxanne a few times before she moved to Toronto in 2006.

It was a special treat for me to see and hear JW-Jones and band mates, Jeff Asselin on drums, and Martin Régimbald on bass, play there for the first time on February 27th. The band started at the civilized time of 8 pm and played two sets until about 11 pm. They played a good mix of cover songs and a good number of JW's originals from most of his CDs. Some of my favourites of the evening were 'Can't Play A Playboy' and 'Double Eyed Whammy' from his latest CD, "Blue Listed", 'Lets Have A Ball' from "My Kind of Evil", and the instrumental, 'Flatline' from "Bogart's Bounce".

They played great covers of Junior Wells' 'Snatch It Back and Hold It'; 'Gangster Of Love' from Johnny 'Guitar' Watson, and JW inserted a blistering version of Freddie King's 'Hide Away' (one of my favourite Blues instrumentals) into 'Rock With Me'. They also did a great Bluesy arrangement of Bryan Adams' 'Cuts Like A Knife'.

Overall the guys put on a great show. JW's guitar work was amazing throughout the evening (as usual - and yes, I'm biased!) To spice things up a bit during one song, Martin played rhythm on the low strings of JW's guitar while JW played lead on the high strings. During another song JW played drums, Martin played guitar and Jeff played bass, just to make things interesting.

Judging by the applause, the audience really enjoyed the band, and the band really seemed to have fun playing for them. I hope to see the JW-Jones Blues band back at the NSC again soon, perhaps during one of the many regattas held at the club during the sailing season.

Ken Fraser

Editor's Note: Although Ken didn't take any photos of JW's show at the Nepean Sailing Club, we have some great shots to share with you — the 'suit' photos were taken when JW performed at the Mapleblues Awards ceremony in Toronto in January; those where he's dressed in more casual attire were taken at Alfred's in Memphis TN in February, when JW joined Johnny Max and other IBC participants, including members of MonkeyJunk at an after-competition jam session. JW was a judge at this year's IBC.



Photos—Liz Sykes

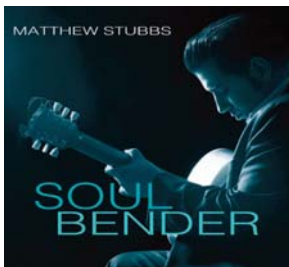
CD Reviews

We welcome CD submissions for review but cannot guarantee to review all CDs received. We give priority to local CDs, but also try to present a variety of different styles and labels, as well as independently-produced CDs, in each issue of the OBScene.

We do guarantee that, once listened to and considered, each CD we receive is passed along, via raffles, prizes or giveaways to our members and friends, thus sharing your music with a wider audience.

For further info on CD reviews, please contact the Editor.

“Soul Bender” Matthew Stubbs



VizzTone Label
<http://www.vizztone.com>
<http://www.matthewstubbs.net>
Reviewed by Denis Paquin

Released in 2008, this is a guitar-driven groove instrumental CD - nice short melodic songs reminiscent of Freddie King and Lonnie Mack.

“Soul Bender” is a collection of original instrumentals featuring Matthew Stubbs' expressive electric guitar. Matthew's wordless songs evoke your own memories and feelings. Stubbs has earned a reputation for his ability to write catchy instrumentals. As found in this debut album, the songs which he composes are a cocktail of Memphis Soul, Blues, R&B, Surf, Rock 'n' Roll and Groove, all perfectly mixed together. His real knack is being able to blend all of these styles like he was born in 1950s.

Twenty-five year old Matthew Stubbs had great success leading his own band in New England, winning the Boston Blues Society's Blues Challenge in 2003 and placing third in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Matthews' guitar sings Blues stories over his band's tight, snappy Memphis R&B featuring 'Sax' Gordon. Rare and refreshing, “Soul Bender” sets Matthew Stubbs apart from most of his peers.

Stubbs did time with John Nemeth and also spent a year and a half touring North America with Janiva Magness. Currently, Matthew Stubbs is performing with The Charlie Musselwhite Band. Stubbs can also be found doing select tours/shows with Lynwood Slim, Junior Watson, Sax Gordon and many other top acts.

“Live! At the Firefly!” The Bruce Katz Band



VizzTone Label
<http://www.vizztone.com>
<http://www.brucekatzband.com>
Reviewed by Denis Paquin

This is the Bruce Katz Band's best and most exciting CD yet - which makes sense because it is a 'live' CD recorded over two nights at the Firefly Club in Ann Arbor, Michigan in April 2008. It's all instrumental and it doesn't need lyrics to say what it wants to say. From Bruce's solo piano piece ('Southern Route') to absolutely killer Hammond B3 shuffle grooves, funky soul jazz and deep slow blues tunes, this CD will blow you away.

Bruce plays his blues with a jazzy edge. His guitarist is Chris Vitarello and Bruce gives him plenty of space to strut his stuff on this CD and the rhythm section really knows how to groove. For listeners out there, you should be accustomed to an all instrumental album. If not, this makes for one hell of an instrumental album for working at home or reading the newspaper on a sunny Saturday afternoon at the Bluesfest if you need some music in the background.

He has backed many blues acts such as Gregg Allman, Brian Lee and Ronnie Earl and was nominated in 2008, and again in 2009, for the Blues Music Award for 'Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year', selected by the Blues Foundation.



about BLUES

Congratulations to Electro-Fi Recording Artist **Julian Fauth** whose CD "Ramblin' Son" is the winner of the **2009 Juno Award for Blues Album of the Year**.

Electro-Fi is distributed in Canada by Outside Music. Many Thanks to CARAS for recognizing Julian Fauth for the unique and talented artist that he is.

More on Julian at <http://www.julianfauth.com/>

More on Electro-Fi at <http://www.electrofi.com/>

The International Songwriting Competition (ISC) 2008 Blues semi-finalists include one Ottawa musician and two other Canadians:

Looking the World Straight In The Eye

JW-Jones (J. Wynne-Jones) - Ottawa, ON, Canada

My Blues Keep Bringin' Me Home

Dalannah Gail Bowen, Michael Creber - Vancouver, BC, Canada

Somebody Else's But Mine

Bob Tunnoch (Fathead) - Toronto, ON, Canada

For all semi-finalists in all categories:

<http://www.songwritingcompetition.com/winners.htm>

Bob Dylan on his new CD "Together Through Life":

A lot of this album feels like a Chess record from the fifties. Did you have that sound in your head going in or did it come up as you played? *Well some of the things do have that feel. It's mostly in the way the instruments were played.*

You like that sound? *Oh yeah, very much so. . . the old Chess records, the Sun records. . . I think that's my favorite sound for a record.*

What do you like about that sound? *I like the mood of those records - the intensity. The sound is uncluttered. There's power and suspense. The whole vibration feels like it could be coming from inside your mind. It's alive. It's right there. Kind of sticks in your head like a toothache.*

Do you think the Chess brothers knew what they were doing? *Oh sure, how could they not? I don't think they thought they were making history though.*

Did you ever meet Howlin' Wolf? Muddy Waters? *I saw Wolf perform a few times but never met him. Muddy I knew a little bit.*

For more, go here

<http://www.bobdylan.com/#/conversation>

SIRIUS XM Radio has launched a special three-part edition of 'You and Me with B.B. King' featuring legendary blues guitarist Buddy Guy. Buddy Guy visited B.B. King to share unique stories few living bluesmen can tell, taking SIRIUS XM listeners back in time as they muse about their early careers through today. B.B. and Buddy swap anecdotes about the musical icons they met throughout their long careers.

Listen to Sirius/XM B.B. King's Bluesville channel 74:

Part 1 of the special debuted April 17 with encore presentations on April 18, April 20 and April 22.

Part 2 debuted on Friday, April 24, with encore presentations on April 25; Monday, April 27 at 12 am ET; and Wednesday, April 29 at 12 pm ET.

Part 3 will debut on Friday, May 1 at 6 pm ET, with encore presentations broadcast on Saturday, May 2 at 2 pm ET; Monday, May 4 at 12 am ET; and Wednesday, April 6 at 12 pm ET.

<http://www.xmradio.com/onxm/channelguide.xmc?ch=74>

At the 51st Grammy Awards, **B.B. King** won his 15th Grammy, **Best Traditional Blues Album** for "One Kind Favor" while **Dr. John** won the **Best Contemporary Blues Album** Category for "City That Care Forgot". The **Blind Boys of Alabama** took home a **Lifetime Achievement Award**.

More info here http://www.grammy.com/grammy_awards/51st_show/list.aspx

American First Lady Michelle Obama recently presented France's First Lady, Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, with a Gibson Hummingbird acoustic guitar "as a sign of friendship". The two first ladies met for the first time when President Barack Obama and his wife visited French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his wife at French Palace Rohan in Strasbourg, France.

For pictures, check out <http://www.gibson.com/en-us/Lifestyle/News/Michelle-Obama-French-406/>

CanadianBlues.ca is looking for roving blues reporters to blog on the site and would love to hear from avid blues fans. They are seeking stories, pictures, reviews, and pretty much whatever about Canadian blues. Please contact Warren Dallin, the new Managing Editor of www.canadianblues.ca at editor@canadianblues.ca

The Toronto Blues Society has set up an account to help support the estate of the late blues legend Mel Brown. Donations can be deposited directly at any TD Canada Trust to the Mel Brown Memorial Trust, Account 1952-6290076 or cheques payable to "Mel Brown Memorial Trust" can be mailed to the TBS, 910 Queen St. W., Suite B04, Toronto, ON M6J 1G6



The Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest will celebrate in 2009 with a spectacular explosion of blues, gospel, roots, world and popular music. The festival will span 12 days, from July 8 to July 19 and feature multiple stages in a number of locations at LeBreton Flats Park and the Canadian War Museum. The Bluesfest site will again feature two main stages on the NCC grounds in front of the Canadian War Museum, with three other outdoor stages bordered by the Ottawa River and the War Museum. Additional performances will also be staged in the Barney Danson Theatre inside the War Museum.

2009 BLUESFEST STAGES

The Bank of America Stage will be located in the heart of the festival site at LeBreton Flats and feature internationally renowned headliners.

The Rogers Stage will be located on the south side of the Canadian War Museum, within view of the Bank of America Stage. Both stages will share a capacity of 30,000. Performances on this stage by will alternate with the acts being presented on the Bank of America Stage.

The Blacksheep Stage - Offering an eclectic combination of regional, national and international artists.

The Barney Danson Theatre is a state-of-the-art 231-seat facility that allows the Bluesfest programming team to feature some of the best acoustic acts available, in an air conditioned soft-seat setting.

Festival organizers are delighted to welcome two new stage sponsors.

The Subway Stage will feature such an impressive array of performers it could be considered a festival unto itself.

The Hard Rock Cafe Stage will offer a broad range of 'Roots' music performed by world-renowned artists and some of the best Gospel acts on the planet!

CISCO OTTAWA BLUESFEST PRELIMINARY LINE-UP

(Please note, line-up subject to changes)

Festival gates open at 5 pm, Wednesday, July 8; music starts at 6 pm. Local supertrio **MonkeyJunk** play opening night. Over the 12 days, blues fans will see Bob Corritore; Brian Setzer Orchestra; Buckwheat Zydeco; Cedric Burnside & Lightnin' Malcolm; Chris Smither; Colin Linden; Craig Horton; C.R. Avery & the Sojourners; Daddy Mack Blues Band; David Maxwell; Diunna Greenleaf & Bob Margolin; Doyle Bramhall; Drew Nelson; Eden Brent; Eric Lindell; Ernie Hawkins; Freddie Roulette; Henry Butler; Homemade Jamz' Blues Band; Hubert Sumlin; Joe Louis Walker; JW-Jones with Little Charlie Baty; Kaz Kazanoff & The Texas Horns; Larry Garner; Larry McCray; Louisiana Red; Matt Andersen; Moreland and Arbuckle; Pappy Johns Band; Paul Reddick; Reverend Billy Wirtz; Rick Fines; Roomful of Blues; Saffire - The Uppity Blues Women; Shemekia Copeland; Sista Monica; Steve Marriner; Sugar Blue; The Soul of John Black; TJ Wheeler; Treasa Levasseur; Zac Harmon and lots more bluesy roots, soul and rock at this year's Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest.

Check the Bluesfest website regularly for line-up updates <http://www.ottawabluesfest.ca/en/index.php> and info.

OBS @ Bluesfest

The OBS needs you!

Volunteer for a shift at the OBS tent

For further information contact:

Brian Scott, OBS Volunteer Coordinator

bjjscott@rogers.com

ONE VISION

2 NATIONAL BLUES FESTIVALS

18TH ANNUAL POCONO BLUES FESTIVAL

JULY 24, 25, & 26, 2009 AT BIG BOULDER SKI AREA, PA

BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO **JAMES COTTON BAND W/EDDY CLEARWATER**

SHEMEKIA COPELAND **LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS**

BERNARD ALLISON **RUTHIE FOSTER** **MELVIN TAYLOR**

SAFFIRE-THE UPPITY BLUES WOMEN **CHRIS THOMAS KING**

TERRY EVANS **CEDRIC BURNISDE/LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM**

PAUL OSCHER **TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE** **TEXAS JOHNNY BROWN**

THE BONEDOG RECORD REVIEW-TOMMY BROWN GIT SHORTY **STEPHANIE WELLANS**

THE PITTSBURGH GOSPEL LIGHTS **HARRISON KENNEDY & FRUTELAND JACKSON**

EDDIE TURNER **JAMES ARMSTRONG**

FOR TICKET INFO GO TO WWW.JFBB.COM

THE FIRST VERMONT BLUES FESTIVAL

AUGUST 21, 22, & 23, 2009 AT MOUNT SNOW SKI AREA

ELVIN BISHOP **MAVIS STAPLES**

MAGIC SLIM AND THE TEARDROPS

SHEMEKIA COPELAND

LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS

LIL' DAVE THOMPSON

ROSIE LEDET & THE ZYDECO PLAYBOYS

GUY DAVIS **WALLACE COLEMAN**

JOHNNY RAWLS **MISSISSIPPI HEAT**

SAMUEL JAMES **STUDEBAKER JOHN**

FOR TICKET INFO GO TO
WWW.MOUNTSNOW.COM



Passings — January-March 2009

Ray Topping	January 10, 1943 - January 3, 2009 http://www.acerecords.co.uk/content.php?page_id=1555
Willa Mae Dorsey	July 2, 1933 - January 5, 2009 http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/01/veteran_gospel_singer_willa_ma.html
Sam Taylor	October 24, 1935 - January 5, 2009 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_Taylor_(blues_musician)
Claude Jeter	October 26, 1914 - January 6, 2009 http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/11/arts/music/11jeter.html
Macavine Hayes	June 3, 1943 - January 12, 2009 http://www.musicmaker.org/artists/index.php?bandid=13
Leroy 'Hog' Cooper	August 31, 1928 - January 15, 2009 http://www.allaboutjazz.com/php/news.php?id=28910
David 'Fathead' Newman	February 24, 1933 - January 20, 2009 http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/2009/jan/26/obituary-fathead-newman-david
Jimmy Wozniak	June 22, 1935 - January 22, 2009 http://www.buffalonews.com/obituaries/story/562270.html
Hank Crawford	December 21, 1934 - January 29, 2009 http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/03/arts/music/03crawford.html
Piney Brown	January 20, 1922 - February 5, 2009 http://jukejoint soul.blogspot.com/2009/02/r-pioneer-piney-brown-passes.html
Estelle Bennett	July 22, 1941 - February 11, 2009 http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/ronettes_singer_estelle_bennet.html
Louie Bellson	July 6, 1924 - February 14, 2009 http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/17/arts/music/17bellson.html
Snooks Eaglin	January 21, 1936 - February 18, 2009 http://blog.nola.com/keithspera/2009/02/snooks_eaglin_19372009.html
Dave Glover (Big Daddy G)	October 4, 1962 - February 20, 2009 http://www.bigdaddyg.ca/
Antoinette K-Doe	1943 - February 24, 2009 http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/antoinette_kdoe_dies_on_mardi.html
Mark Sallings	April 11, 1952 - February 25, 2009 http://www.areawidenews.com/blogs/1211/entry/25202/
John Cephas	December 4, 1930 - March 4, 2009 http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/08/arts/music/08cephas.html?_r=2&ref=obituaries
Willie King	March 8, 1943 - March 8, 2009 http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/11/arts/music/11king.html
Hank Locklin	February 15, 1918 - March 8, 2009 http://dekerivers.wordpress.com/2009/03/09/grand-ole-opry-star-hank-locklin-dies/
Rich Schneider	1944 - March 11, 2009 http://www.wnyblues.org/news.php?id=673
Lester 'Mad Dog' Davenport	January 16, 1932 - March 17, 2009 http://www.suntimes.com/news/obituaries/1494248,CST-NWS-xdaven25a.article
Ed Dye	1937 - March 18, 2009 http://www.highway61radio.com/?p=1480
Eddie Bo	September 20, 1930 - March 18, 2009 http://blog.nola.com/keithspera/2009/03/eclectic_new_orleans_pianist_e.html
Mel Brown	October 7, 1939 - March 20, 2009 http://www.cbc.ca/arts/music/story/2009/03/22/melbrown-obit-blues.html
Archie Green	June 29, 1917 - March 22, 2009 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archie_Green
Uriel Jones	June 13, 1934 - March 24, 2009 http://www.cbc.ca/arts/music/story/2009/03/25/uriel-jones-obit.html
Ted Jarrett	October 17, 1925 - March 28, 2009 http://www.tennessean.com/article/20090323/TUNEIN/903230343/-1/RSS05

If you are not familiar with the names on this list, please search out info on them online and learn about their contributions to blues, jazz and roots music.

OBS Mission

To foster appreciation, promotion, preservation and enjoyment of the blues in all of its forms



OBS BOARD

President: Liz Sykes

Vice President: Mike Graham

Treasurer: Gary Paradis

Directors : Brent Diab,
Rob Dufresne, Ken Fraser,
Mike Graham, Denis Paquin,
Gary Paradis, Debra Thornington

OBS COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

Corporate Liaison: Ken Fraser

Membership: Rob Dufresne

Merchandise: Denis Paquin

Newsletter Editor: Liz Sykes

Promotion: Debra Thornington

Volunteers: Brian Scott

OBS Mandate

To bring together the blues community in Ottawa through participation in blues events and activities.

To work with the blues community in expanding awareness and appreciation of the blues.

To publish a newsletter to inform the blues community of all aspects of the local blues scene and events as well as some highlights of the Canadian and international blues scenes of interest to OBS members. To provide timely blues information to OBS members by a website & e-mail.

To develop, maintain and increase its membership as a means of fostering and supporting blues.

To stage or assist in staging events that will foster appreciation and awareness of the blues.

To present a "Blues Heart" award to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the blues.

OBScene is published quarterly by the Ottawa Blues Society and is available to OBS members. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Ottawa Blues Society. If you have a different opinion, please share it. Visit the OBS website at <http://www.ottawabluesociety.com> and fill out the comments form.

OBS

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Issue	Copy Deadline	Distribution Date
Summer	June 15, 2009	Early July 2009
Fall	September 15, 2009	Online—mid October 2009
Winter	December 15, 2009	Early January 2010

OBS

cene Advertising Rates

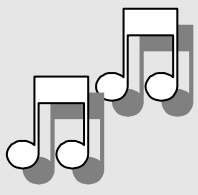
The OBS Board of Directors recently reviewed and revised our newsletter advertising rates.

As in the past, a 10% discount is given for four issues paid in full in advance.

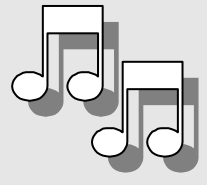
Please note that advertising rates are the same for both the electronic issues (Spring and Fall) and the print issues (Summer and Winter).

The new rates appear below:

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1/3 page	\$ 50.00
1/4 page	\$ 35.00
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