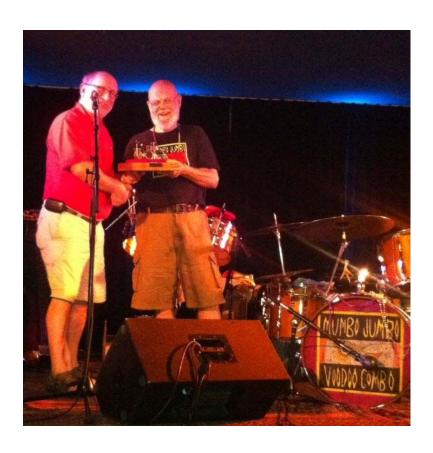


Summer 2012

# 2011 Blues Heart Award Steve Lund



#### In this issue:

OBS News	3
DAWG FM	5
Blues Camp	6
Blues Festivals 2012	8
Blues Heart Award	9
OBS Road to Memphis	11
Postcards From The Road	12
Calabogie Blues & Ribfest	14
Corporate Directory	16

#### In this issue ...

... an introduction to our Blues Heart 2011 Award winner, Steve Lund; dates and information on the Band component of the *Road to Memphis* local blues challenge coming up in September; late summer/fall festival information; photos from MonkeyJunk's first US festival appearance; and a 'first person' report from Montreal Jazzfest's Blues Camp.

# 2

#### **OBS CONTACTS**

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#### ADVERTISING RATES

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10% discount for four issues paid in advance.

#### **OBScene Deadlines**

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#### From the Editor ...

The Blues World has suffered significant losses this year, among them Johnny Otis, Etta James, Levon Helm, Michael Burks, Donald 'Duck' Dunn, Lou Pride and Johnnie Bassett. Although most of these were 'elder statesmen/women' of the genre, and we have their legacy of recorded music to enjoy, our community is nonetheless diminished by their passing.

The sudden passing of Michael 'Iron Man' Burks was a shock to all his friends and fans; only 56 years old, his star was rising and we anticipated many years of opportunities to see him in clubs and at festivals. His work ethic was legendary - the miles on the road (often with Michael at the wheel of the van) and the intense, hours-long shows when they reached their destination. Michael had completed what is now his final recording before leaving for shows in Europe. "Show of Strength" will be released August 21 and, like earlier 2012 Alligator Records releases, it is a stellar recording. Most poignant is the final track, Charlie Rich's 'Feel Like Going Home'.

If there's a lesson in these losses, it's that we can't take a chance to catch a favourite performer for granted. Don't miss opportunities, at festivals and in clubs, to see your blues faves - be they old, young, veterans or rookies.

Liz Sykes

lizblues@rogers.com

#### **OBS Mission**

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

#### **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.

# **OBS News**

# **OBS membership DOES have privileges**

Show your OBS card for the following:

- **\$2 off** cover charge at the Rainbow
- \$5 off cover charge at Virée Blues Boréale
- 10% off food order at Irene's Pub
- 15% off blues purchases at Compact Music

### 2012 OBS member ticket giveaways

A Night of Blues @ the Rainbow—Tom Morris
Ross Neilsen Band @ Irene's—Vickie Paradis
Keith Hallett/Garrett Mason @ Irene's—Chris Waite
24th Street Wailers @ Irene's—Sylvie Tessier
Terry Gillespie Trio @ Irene's—Kinexxa Cross, Sue Gahrns
Jeff Rogers CD release @ Carleton—Alison Edgar

JW-Jones CD release @ the Rainbow—\$5 discount on cover charge for **ALL OBS members!** 

and more to come!

#### 2012 OBS member promos on DAWG FM

2 tickets to B.B. King @ the NAC - Keith Martin and 2 tickets to George Thorogood @ the CE Centre - Linda Waite; Weekend passes to Class Axe Guitars Calabogie Blues & Ribfest—Nancy Erhardt, Pierre Brisson, Andrew MacLeod, Gord White,& Sylvie Tessier

#### OBS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please consider how you might help to: "Foster appreciation, promotion, preservation and enjoyment of the blues in all its forms" through supporting your Ottawa Blues Society as a volunteer.

- The OBScene is looking for a new EDITOR! Other newsletter positions include layout and production, writing & research.
- ✓ WANT TO VOLUNTEER for the "Road to Memphis" events? We're looking for outgoing, energetic & friendly OBS members to help promote raffle sales during each evening of the competitions. (cover charge at R2M events is optional for volunteers)

For further information on volunteer opportunities contact the Ottawa Blues Society by email at <a href="mailto:ottawabluessociety@gmail.com">ottawabluessociety@gmail.com</a>

# Where's Blues in Ottawa ...

For the latest news of who's on at the venues

- Tune in to 101.9 DAWG FM
- Tune in to CKCU 93.1 blues & jazz radio shows for listings, Sunday 9 pm with John Tackaberry & Wednesday 9 pm with Ron Sweetman
- Check for live regular and special events at the OBS web site: http://www.OttawaBluesSociety.com
- Check the going-out guides & venue ads : Saturdays in the Ottawa Citizen Wednesdays & Fridays in the Ottawa Sun
- Contact ottawablues@rogers.com to subscribe to Ottawa Blues This Week, an e-mail summary of local blues events or check the blog at <a href="http://ottawablues.blogspot.com/">http://ottawablues.blogspot.com/</a>
- Subscribe to Jazz Happenings at http://www.jazzworkscanada.com/html/program.html
- Check the Ottawa Blues & Jazz Guide for Jim Roy's on-line calendar of monthly and weekly events at www.ottawabluesjazz.ca

4



## OTTAWA CLUBS

Rainbow Bistro, 76 Murray St

www.therainbow.ca

Irene's, 855 Bank St

www.irenespub.ca

Elmdale Tavern, 1084 Wellington St

www.elmdaletavern.com

Black Sheep Inn, Wakefield QC

www.theblacksheepinn.com

Atomic Rooster, 303 Bank St

www.atomicrooster.ca

Cajun Attic, 349 Dalhousie

www.thecajunattic.com

Bass Line Station, 2557 Baseline Rd

www.basslinestation.com

Heart & Crown, 353B Preston St

www.irishvillage.ca/preston.aspx

D'Arcy McGee's Pub

44 Sparks St

http://ottawa.darcymcgees.com/

655 Terry Fox Dr, Kanata

http://kanata.darcymcgees.com/

360 Moodie Dr, Bells Corners

http://nepean.darcymcgees.com/

Greenfield's Pub, 900 Greenbank Rd

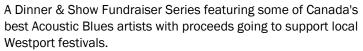
www.greenfieldspub.ca

Louisiannie's, 1518 Main St, Stittsville

www.louisiannies.com

# **Acoustic Blue Sunday**

The Cove Inn, Westport ON



All shows - 6-10 pm.

Buffet dinner & show \$45; advance reservations required.

August 26 - Michael Jerome Browne September 9 - Treasa Levasseur with David Baxter

Visit www.choosetheblues.ca for more information

James Doran, Choose The Blues Productions

### **Great Sunday Blues on DAWG FM**

Sunday evening presents local blues programming where you'll hear the very best blues.

#### Sunday, 7-8 pm Inside The Blues with James Doran

The Show that brings you the best in Blues with interesting backgrounder information on the artists and a strong focus on Canadian talent.

Recent shows have featured artists appearing at the Kitchener Blues Festival, Ottawa Bluesfest, Mt Tremblant Blues Festival and themed shows like 'Blues With Brass' (all about horns!), a show dedicated to the late Long John Baldry and a show about Blues Shouters.

#### Sunday 8-9 pm OBS DAWG'ON BLUES

OBS-member hosts share their favourite blues, showcase local, regional, national & international blues artists and give listeners heads-up on upcoming 'don't miss' shows.

Recent shows have featured recent blues releases, artists appearing at upcoming festivals (Ottawa Jazzfest, Mt. Tremblant Blues Fest, Calabogie Blues & Ribfest), Canada Day, Manitoba Blues Women, 2012 Blues Music Awards (in Memphis TN) and themed shows such as 'Blues Had A Baby', 'Occupy Blues' and 'Girls' Night Out'.





### **News from the DAWG house**

#### DAWG's 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Party

On Wednesday, June 27, 101.9 DAWG FM hosted a party to celebrate the station's 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary. The event was held at Tail Gators with music provided by the Jesse Greene Band. See photos of the festivities at the top of the page (courtesy of Barry McIntyre, 54mods).



# OBS DAWG'ON BLUES, Sundays, 8-9 pm, 101.9 DAWG FM

Listen live online: www.dawgfm.com

DAWG'ON BLUES continues to keep listeners up to date on the Ottawa area blues scene, while playing great blues and showcasing local, regional, Canadian and international talent. Our grassroots, weekly show has been on air since August 2010 and now boasts six fabulous hosts: Liz Sykes, Brent Diab, Dan Shipley, new recruits Brent (Buck) Tingley & Steve Lund and me. We welcome your feedback, suggestions and comments at any time – send to <a href="mailto:ottawabluessociety@gmail.com">ottawabluessociety@gmail.com</a> Special thanks to our friends at DAWG FM, especially to Jeff Provencal (Production) & Yves Trottier (Operations Manager) for their ongoing support.

#### DAWG'ON BLUES LOGO

Our Radio Show needs a logo and we're seeking your help! OBS invites you to submit your interpretation of what you believe would make a great DAWG'ON BLUES Logo. Get creative, then share your submission(s) for a chance to win a one-year free membership and enjoy seeing your graphic work included on all future OBS DAWG'ON BLUES promotions!

- Contest open to OBS members and non-members
- Logo must include the words: DAWG'ON BLUES
- Logo must include the OBS Logo or the wording, "Ottawa Blues Society"
- Graphics must be clear, crisp and legible for small print format
- Final graphic must be jpg format

Send entries to <a href="mailto:ottawabluessociety@gmail.com">ottawabluessociety@gmail.com</a> Subject: DAWG'ON BLUES Logo

To get those creative juices flowing, take a look at the current listing of Radio Show logos found on DAWG's website today.

http://www.dawgfm.com/shows-hosts/shows.aspx

Thanks for your support! Debra Thornington, Director Chair & Host, DAWG'ON BLUES



## BLUES RADIO in OTTAWA

CIDG DAWG-FM 101.9 www.dawgfm.com Blues 24/7 Sundays:

7-8 pm Inside the Blues8-9 pm OBS DAWG'ON BLUES

CKCU-FM 93.1
www.ckcufm.com
Sundays: 9-11 pm
Black and Blues
with John Tackaberry
Wednesdays: 9-11 pm
In A Mellow Tone
with Ron Sweetman

CBC Radio One 91.5 FM Saturdays: 9 -11 pm Saturday Night Blues with Holger Petersen

CJHR 98.7 Valley Heritage Radio Thursdays: 8-10 pm Got the Blues With Pat Watters

CHEZ106 FM Sundays: 6-7 pm House of Blues Hour hosted by Dan Aykroyd (AKA Elwood Blues) 5

Michael Kavchak is a 13 year old student at Ottawa's French Lycée Claudel school where he will be entering grade eight in September 2012. Michael started playing the electric bass guitar and playing in coached bands at the Shine Music Academy when he was 10, and started playing the standup bass when he was 12. He has been a member of the Ottawa Junior Jazz Band for the past year. Michael's musical interests include jazz and blues. His favourite musicians are Jaco Pastorius, Ray Brown, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Johnny Winter and the three Kings (B.B., Albert and Freddie).



6

# Montreal International Jazz Festival's

What do jazz and blues have in common? Enough to make it worthwhile for Montreal's International Jazz Festival to host a blues camp for teenagers aged 13 to 17 and give them an opportunity to perform in front of 5,000 people. I attended this year's 7th edition of the camp from June 30 to July 6, 2012, and had a blast. Other music students who are interested in delving into the blues and enjoy performing for big crowds should definitely consider applying to this camp.

I first found out about the "Camp de Blues" when doing some research on Google. I found their website (campdeblues.com) to be very informative and was interested in what they were offering. My father was also quite interested because the camp is free, thanks in large part to a sponsorship from TD. I have been to a number of music camps in the past (school band, rock, jazz) and enjoyed them all, but this one was different and special. In fact, they even get inquiries from Europe.

The registration process this year began with a twostep audition. For a full day in April a few hundred candidates took over a high school in Montreal and demonstrated their playing abilities for the evaluators. The website gives some tips on how to prepare and what they are looking for. I found the experience quite exciting. The gym was full of kids warming up and some were obviously better musicians than others, just as some had more of a musician's "look" than others. All of them were young, budding artists who shared a love of music and wished to perform. While the guitar was the most popular instrument, there was the usual assortment of instruments such as drums, keyboard, bass, saxophone, trumpet, trombone as well as harmonica and even violin. And don't forget the singers!

Step one involved the kids being called one by one to a room to play their instruments. Some returned with smiles, and others with...the blues. There are no limits

to how many times a child could audition, so an unsuccessful attempt at age 13 could be followed by a successful one at 14 or 15 if they keep practicing! Those who emerged from the auditions with smiles proceeded to step two, which involved an interview to determine the interest and maturity level of the candidate. Since the camp is free, one can only attend the camp once. However, it is possible to attend the camp a second time on a different instrument.

Shortly after the auditions approximately 50 candidates were notified that they were successful and accepted to the camp. The camp administrator then sent the participants detailed and informative information packages about all aspects of the camp. The only thing that the campers have to bring is their lunch and instruments (except the keyboard and drum players).

The first day of the camp was a Saturday. We met in the lobby of a college in downtown Montreal, which was fully equipped with rehearsal rooms and a performance room with stage. While most camps generally last five days, one of the bonus features of this camp is that it lasts a full seven days. Each day lasted from nine to five. The extra two days really make a difference. On the first day the camp director, Vincent Beaulne, and the dozen instructors divided the 50 kids into six groups (combos). Each combo had a singer, a rhythm section, a horn section, and a variety of toppings such as harmonica or violin.

The typical day at the camp involved sectional and combo sessions, and clinics with special guests. We also listened to some blues and analyzed the sound. In the sectional sessions all the players of specific instruments would work with an instructor on that instrument. Daniel Bonin was the bass teacher and, like all the other teachers at the camp, was knowledgeable, experienced, and enthusiastic. Those who were at first nervous or intimidated soon shared

#### @ Montreal Jazzfest

Michael appears at the end of this official Montreal International Jazz Festival clip

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgcDUzAyye0

and on the big screen in the photo



# "Camp de Blues" for Young Musicians

of the action.

In the combo sessions the kids were all told that during the week we would be working on one cover of a blues classic, and the development of one original song. Each group would get to perform both tunes on the last day of the camp on the TD stage at the festival site.

At the end of the first day we all walked the few blocks to the festival site to see a concert put on by the teachers. If there were any doubts about their qualifications, these were very quickly dismissed, as Vincent Beaulne and his Blues Delight team entertained several thousand blues enthusiasts with originals and extended covers like Chuck Berry's Nadine. This was a taste of what the kids would be doing in just seven days. We could hardly wait for the next day!

Several guest clinicians and bands provided for added learning and entertainment opportunities throughout the week. The second day of the camp closed off with a visit by the Stephen Barry Blues Band. The band was the house band in a local watering hole for over a decade and developed their stage performance to perfection. Stephen Barry told the participants about how he had played with John Lee Hooker, Bo Diddley, Big Mama Thornton, and others. Lucky guys! After the performance, Mr. Barry let me play his antique 1962 Fender jazz bass. The feel and setup were completely different from my own 2010 model. After 50 years all the paint had been worn off, the bridge and other metal pieces were rusting, and the strings were flat from not having been changed in over a decade. But somehow he managed to make it sound just right.

By Monday morning several combos, including mine, were able to start off day three of the camp with a performance of our cover tunes. This was part of the

in the excitement and desire to participate and be part advantage of the extra two days. While other camps are typically just getting started, our group was already playing the B.B. King's classic The Thrill is Gone and rehearsing for the big show!

> On the fourth day of the camp we were treated to a pizza dinner team-building session followed by attendance at a Bessie Smith tribute show from NYC at the Place Des Arts. It was a long and memorable day which made us all feel lucky to be there.

On the second last day we were treated to a jam session with harmonica whiz, Jim Zeller. He worked with each combo and helped each player to develop "instant improvisation" on the fly in such a way that after a few songs with the master we all felt we could play blues anytime, anywhere. This camp was not just teaching us how to play our instruments, but also how to play with others. In the process, we were learning about the blues, respect, and team work. We were also making new friends!

The highlight of the week occurred at the end of the last day. During the evening of Friday, July 6, the six combos of the Camp de Blues hit the TD stage at the jazz festival site. The space between De Maisonneuve Boulevard and Ste. Catherine Street was packed with thousands of festival goers who provided their loud endorsement of the camp's final product. Each combo played their two songs with soloists being projected on the two big screens on each side of the stage. My fingers never looked so big!

I thank the sponsors, organizers and instructors at the camp for the wonderful experience. I would certainly encourage young musicians to check out the YouTube videos of previous concerts and audition for future editions of the camp. You'll love it!

> Michael Kavchak Bass Player, Ottawa July 9, 2012

Photos courtesy of Kakoli Bandyopadhyay

# Late Summer & Fall Blues Festivals 2012

8

#### **AUGUST**

Calabogie Blues & Ribfest Calabogie Peaks Resort, Calabogie ON August 17-19

#### calabogieblues.com

Winnipeg BBQ and Blues Festival Red River Exhibition Park, Winnipeg MB August 17-19

#### winnipegbbqandblues.ca

Salmon Arm Roots & Blues Festival Salmon Arm BC August 17-19

#### www.rootsandblues.ca

Underground Railroad Music Festival Centennial Park, Drayton ON August 18

www.braithwaiteandwhiteley.com/ music-festival.html Limestone City Blues Festival Confederation Park & Downtown Kingston, Kingston ON August 23-26

#### www.kingstonblues.com

Wasaga Beach Blues Festival Wasaga Beach, ON August 24-26

#### www.wasagabeachblues.com

Edmonton Blues Festival Hawrelak Park, Edmonton AB August 24-26

#### www.bluesinternationalltd.com

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Southside Shuffle
Port Credit ON
September 7-9
www.southsideshuffle.com

Harvest Jazz & Blues Festival Fredericton NB September 11-16 www.harvestjazzandblues.com

For the latest info on blues festivals, check the online version of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Blues Festival Guide www.bluesfestivalguide.com

Or pick up a copy of the print edition from the Ottawa Blues Society.



# New York State Blues Festival, Syracuse NY - July 13-15, 2012

Ottawa's own MonkeyJunk made their US festival debut at the New York State Blues Festival. They also joined Johnnie Sansone at the jam after the show.

The festival got rave reviews from the Ottawa folks who attended ... and a little rain didn't stop the dancers!

Photos courtesty of Leslie K. Joseph, Blues 411 (top right), Juan Junco (bottom right) and Martin Goettsch (far right top & bottom)



# Blues Heart Award

# Ottawa Blues Society Blues Heart Award 2011 Steve Lund



The Ottawa Blues Society Blues Heart Award is presented annually to an individual or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to fostering appreciation and awareness of blues music.

The 2011 recipient has been a mainstay on the Ottawa Blues Scene for many years. A Juno Award winner with the Drew Nelson band on CBC Radio's Holger Petersen's "Saturday Night Blues Project" and a record producer for musicians including Peter Brown and the late Dutch Mason, Steve Lund is the drummer, vocalist and 'head honcho' of Ottawa's guitar-less band, Mumbo Jumbo Voodoo Combo, and also handles drums, frottoir and vocals for Zydeco Loco. Steve also regularly hosts a stage at the Ottawa Bluesfest and participates in the

Bluesfest's Keeping the Blues Alive award-winning Blues in the Schools program and will soon be an on-air host of the OBS radio show, DAWG'ON BLUES.

A relentless promoter of Ottawa talent, Steve founded the Ottawa R&B Festival, held in late fall each year at the Rainbow, in 1988, to illustrate the bountiful talent of this city's R&B / Blues scene.

It had all begun years before with the likes of Heavens Radio, T. W. Lloyd's All-Stars, The Back Ally John Blues Revue, Larry Mootham and D. J. Brian Murphy amongst many others ... and with sporadic blues shows at The Beacon Arms, Barrymore's, The Roxy ... but the Ottawa blues scene really began to blossom in early 1984 after the initiation of the legendary 'Blues Tues' Jam. It was here that Blues-based musicians got more than a toe-hold at the defunct Downstairs Club under Mexicali Rosa's on Rideau Street. Along with the worldwide explosion of the blues genre (Stevie Ray Vaughan, Fabulous Thunderbirds, The Commitments and others) it was at this social and musical evening where connections and friendships were made, and bands formed and, with the opening of The Rainbow, The Penguin, and Tucson's, Ottawa musicians had the venues to play the music they needed for their own soul.

It was in this atmosphere that the Ottawa R&B Festival became a grand get-together for Ottawa area musicians to show-off their talents and for the audience to soak up the vibe. By the time of the 2009 edition of the R&B Fest, the lineup had expanded to include R&B, Blues, Rock 'n' Roll, Reggae, Surf, Swing, Rock-a-billy and Ska ... giving an 'all shades of blue' variety to the festival. The driving force behind the Ottawa R&B Fest was, at the beginning, and remains to the present, Steve Lund!

Thanks, Steve, for your commitment to the Ottawa music scene!

Photo courtesy of Kara-Lee Golota

#### **About the Blues Foundation ...**

The Blues Foundation is Memphis-based, but world-renowned as THE organization dedicated to preserving blues music history, celebrating recording and performance excellence, supporting blues education and ensuring the future of this uniquely American art form. Founded in 1980, The Blues Foundation has 4,100 individual members and 185 affiliated local blues societies representing another 50,000 fans and professionals around the world.

For more information, visit the Blues Foundation website at http://www.blues.org

10





#### Raise the Roof!

#### Capital Campaign for the Blues Hall of Fame

Since 1980, The Blues Foundation has been inducting individuals, recordings and literature into the Blues Hall of Fame, but until now there has not been a physical Blues Hall of Fame. Establishing a Blues Hall of Fame enhances one of the founding programs of The Blues Foundation.

The Blues Foundation is currently conducting the Campaign for the Blues Hall of Fame, a \$3.5 million capital campaign to add Hall of Fame exhibits to our offices at 421 South Main. The hall of fame will be the place to: honour inductees year-round; listen to and learn about the music; and enjoy historic mementos of this all-American art form. The new Blues Music Hall of Fame will be the place for serious blues fans, casual visitors, and wide-eyed students. It will facilitate audience development and membership growth. It will expose, enlighten, educate, and entertain.

For more information or to make a pledge to the Raise the Roof campaign, click on the Blues Hall of Fame link: <a href="http://www.blues.org/">http://www.blues.org/</a>



# **International Blues Challenge 2013**

The 2013 International Blues Challenge is set to begin Tuesday, January 29 and conclude on Saturday February 2. The competition will be held in Memphis, TN in the Beale Street entertainment district.

This will be the 29th year of Blues musicians from around the world competing for cash, prizes, and industry recognition. The world's largest gathering of Blues acts represents an international search by The Blues Foundation and its Affiliated Organizations for the Blues Band and Solo/Duo Blues Act ready to take their act to the international stage. In 2012, 119 bands and 86 solo/duo acts entered, filling the clubs up and down Beale Street for the quarter-finals on Wednesday and Thursday, the semi-finals on Friday and the finals at the Orpheum Theater on Saturday. The Foundation expects at least that many entries in 2013.



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



# OBS Road To Memphis Call for Band Entries

11



# Road to Memphis



#### **BANDS 2012**

This year, the Ottawa Blues Society Road to Memphis Band competition will be held in September 2012. The qualifying rounds will take place **Wednesdays**, **September 5**, **12**, **& 19** and the finals are scheduled for Friday, **September 21**, **2012**; all competition will take place at **Greenfield's Pub in Barrhaven**.

Deadline for entries is Friday, August 17, 2012 at 6 pm (Ottawa time).

For the purposes of the IBC, a band is any act with three or more musicians; vocalists are counted as musicians for the purpose of this competition. Both electric and acoustic instruments are allowed. At this local competition, entrants will be judged by the same criteria used for the International competition. Each band will have 20-25 minutes to perform and will be given points based on Blues Content, Vocals, Talent, Originality and Stage Presence. For full details on scoring criteria and official rules, see the Blues Foundation website <a href="https://www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php">www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php</a>

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Band members must be 2012 residents of the Ottawa/Gatineau area (approximately 100 km radius of Ottawa).
- ☐ Entrants must be available for both qualifying rounds and the final round and must be able to travel to the IBC in Memphis, January 29-February 2, 2013.
- f Entrants will play one set; set length will be 20-25 minutes (to be confirmed).
- All songs presented MUST be Blues (electric or acoustic), Rock/ Blues, Jazz/Blues, Country Blues or Rhythm & Blues.

To enter, please download the entry form on the OBS website <a href="www.ottawabluessociety.com">www.ottawabluessociety.com</a>, complete all sections and attach completed form to an email addressed to the Ottawa Blues Society at <a href="ottawabluessociety@gmail.com">ottawabluessociety@gmail.com</a>; please cc your entry to <a href="lizblues@rogers.com">lizblues@rogers.com</a>.

Every effort will be made to accommodate all applications that are received on time and meet the established criteria. However, should it be required for any reason deemed appropriate, the Ottawa Blues Society reserves the right to limit the number of entrants in the competition. Should it be necessary to exercise this right, a prescreening of the applications received will be conducted based on the sample music provided. The results of the pre-screening process are final.

Should there be an insufficient number of entries to run a reasonable competition or for any other reason deemed appropriate, the Ottawa Blues Society also reserves the right to cancel the event. In such a case, all entrants would be given priority should they wish to enter the competition in the following year.

You will be contacted for further information following your submission. Please address any questions to Liz Sykes at <a href="mailto:lizblues@rogers.com">lizblues@rogers.com</a>







12



# You've just 'conquered' more countries ... tell us about your experiences.

We played a club show in northern Italy to a really

enthusiastic listening audience on our last show of our spring tour, but not before enjoying the best lasagna I have ever had! Spain was an absolutely mind-blowing experience. I have never felt so much love and respect from audiences in my entire career. We couldn't walk 100 ft without being stopped for a "congratulations", autograph request, thumbs up, hug, kiss, handshake, and most of all... PHOTOS. I probably posed for 80-100 photos with fans, no exaggeration! I actually felt like "this is what is must be like for someone like Mick Jagger to walk in a big city"! We were in a town, but you get the idea, haha...

Meeting Robert Cray was very cool. He liked my song "Ain't Gonna Beg" from the CD and asked if I wrote it, which was an unexpected compliment:)

We played for what I am guessing to be 4000+ at the two big shows (except the final jam that was smaller). I sat in with the organizer (Carlos) and his band White Towels, Huckleberry Finn, and Sony recording artist, Virginia Labuat, who I might be working with in the future. At our final jam, we had the pleasure of backing the Chicago bluesmen, Taildragger, Kenny "Beady Eyes" Smith (vocals and drums), Johnny Iguanna, Omar Coleman, Fenton Crews, and Rockin' Johnny.

One of the most surreal moments of my life happened on the 14th. We just played 80-90min to 4000+ on the street, perfect weather, unbelievable

## **Postcards From The Road #25:**

response, and after signing 100 CDs, the sound tech rushed me over to the other stage... literally running through the streets because Carlos' band was

playing the song they wanted me play live with them. The amp was there, so I threw on my guitar, grabbed a cable, plugged in, turned around to the audience, with the bright spotlight shining over thousands of people JUST IN TIME to rip a blues guitar solo. I was so full of confidence at that moment that I stepped to the front of the stage and was just looking right to the back of the audience - people as far as the eye could see... with a smile on my face, and the crowd egging me on. After a brief guitar duel, the song came to an end... I grabbed my stuff, walked off the stage, and it was like I had just been through a tornado. What just happened? I played for thousands

of screaming fans outside, ran to ANOTHER stage a few blocks away to thousands again!?? I took a breath, and shook my head... I was on cloud 9. I have tears coming to my eyes as I write this, feeling how amazing that day, and this whole experience was

I learned that these are BASQUE people in BASQUE COUNTRY, and it's no joke. I said it was our first time in Spain at our first show, and on the streets, people were nice but reminded me, "this is not Spain". This is Basque Country. If you don't know about the history, google it, it's quite interesting. At our big street-concert, I said... "Thank You", "Eskerrik asko" (thank you in Basque), "Merci", "Gracias", whatever language you speak... it doesn't matter, because we are all brought here from one common





13

# **Basque Country, "Seventh Hour" and Fall Tour Plans**

bond, one reason, and one language.... BLUES."

Days later, jet-lagged as hell, I am still on a high from this trip... and all I can say is THANK YOU to everyone that supports me living this dream!

Relatively new for you ... a duo with Rod Williams ... so how is this different from band gigs, in terms of preparation, playlist ... are you enjoying it ... will there be more such gigs for you?

Rod is a great singer, harp player, great guy and we've been playing together on and off for about 4 years. The best part about this gig to me is that it's stress-free and I don't have to worry about how much press we get for it, or how many tickets sell at the door... and I want to keep it that way! We don't use a set list, just play songs we both know, and sometimes songs we don't know!! When I am not on tour, it's a really nice change of pace to play these shows down at D'Arcy McGee's, have a great meal, a beverage, enjoy Sparks Street and play some tunes.





Your latest release, "Seventh Hour" is a departure from previous recordings. No big-name guests, just you and the band ... and a conscious effort to aim the packaging and the PR – the music too perhaps? – at a younger demographic. Tell us about the response you're getting; have you been successful in your quest to get younger folks listening to blues? Are 'kids' (anybody under 30 is definitely a 'kid' in my book!) buying the CD ... coming to the shows?

What makes this record a departure for me is that when I wrote the songs, I didn't let anything hold me back. If it came out sounding a little country, I ran with it and added a steel guitar. If it came out sounding a little rocky, we kicked it up a notch and played with more attack. So far the response is excellent, it's had rave reviews, more copies sold offstage than any of the previous 6 CDs, and the younger audiences are coming out more than ever. It could be our reputation for a high energy live show, it could be the Pin-Up Model Search shows we've been doing, or maybe it's the music itself. Whatever it is, we'll take it!! Oh, and we just launched a music video for "Ain't Gonna Beg", the lead track from the record, and it features Ella Modella and the one and only... Dallas the samoyed! www.youtube.com/watch?v=oqEaMKJIRN4&feature=youtu.be

#### What's coming up for JW-Jones?

We're gearing up for our first full Western Canadian Tour in quite some time. In October we'll be traveling all the way to Vancouver Island and back. Before and after the tour, we're part of Contact East and Ontario Contact showcases which have been an enormous step up for us in the theatre world/hard-ticket sale venues. We have sold out various 1000 seat venues in Ontario and hope to play more of these shows in Eastern Canada. Looks like a quiet end of the year, and then our 3rd Annual USA Tour in January after the Maple Blues Awards.

Eskerrik asko, J-Dub

All photos courtesy www.jw-jones.com

#### 2nd Annual Class Axe Calabogie Blues & Ribfest Lineup

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

5 PM - Terry Gillespie

7 PM - Shakura S'Aida

9 PM - Downchild Blues Band

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

12 PM - Rocket Rached & the Fat City 8

2 PM - Bill Durst

4 PM - Bob Walsh 7 PM - Jack de Keyzer

9 PM - Powder Blues Band

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

12 PM - Jeff Rogers

2 PM - Trevor Finlay

4 PM - JW-Jones

6 PM - David Rotundo

# 14

# 2nd Annual Class Axe Calabogie Blues & Ribfest

Canada's premier blues act, and Juno Award-winning Powder Blues Band will headline Calabogie Bluesfest this year. The band has over a dozen Gold, Platinum and Double Platinum records.

On Friday August 17<sup>th</sup>, festival goers can look forward to Terry Gillespie, Shakura S'Aida and the legendary Downchild Blues Band headlining the night. The Juno-nominated Downchild is travelling the country on their Flip Flop & Fly Tour this summer.

Starting on Saturday August 18th is Rocket Rached & the Fat City 8, followed by Bill Durst, Bob Walsh, Jack de Keyzer and headliners, the Powder Blues Band. Leader, Tom Lavin has written many well known blues tracks including "Doin' it Right (On the Wrong Side of Town)" & "Boppin' With the Blues". Flying in from Vancouver exclusively for this bluesfest, Powder Blues is one of Canada's most treasured blues acts.

Finally on Sunday August 19<sup>th</sup>, Jeff Rogers starts the day, followed by Trevor Finlay, JW-Jones and David Rotundo.

The event will take place at Calabogie Peaks resort.



Saturday, August 18 @ 1:30pm: Harmonica with Guy Belanger

Saturday, August 18 @ 3:30pm: Guitar with Jack DeKeyzer

Sunday, August 19 @ 1:30pm: Guitar with JW-Jones

Sunday, August 19 @ 3:30pm: Harmonica with David Rotundo

Spaces are extremely limited so interested blues fans are asked to book ahead (by email to Artistic Director Yves Trottier <a href="mailto:ytrottier@dawgfm.com">ytrottier@dawgfm.com</a>) to avoid disappointment

Aside from the blues stage with live music all weekend long, there will be camping available at the foot of the beautiful Calabogie Mountain. Tents are welcome, as are trailers and RV camping. Last year's official beer sponsor, Steam Whistle Pilsner, will be back as the exclusive beer provider for the festival. In addition to the Steam Whistle Pilsner beer garden, there will be a bigger vendor's area and more ribbers.

Class Axe Guitars Calabogie Blues & Ribfest is pleased to announce the first ever stage sponsor for the festival. Calabogie Motorsports Park has stepped up to be stage sponsor for the big weekend. Now with Calabogie's three major attractions, Calabogie Lodge, Calabogie Peaks Resort and Calabogie Motorsports Park all taking part in the August 17, 18 & 19 festival, the Bluesfest will truly be the largest event in the region. The Calabogie Motorsports crew will be in full force for the weekend and will have a mustang or two on display.

A portion of proceeds from this event will go to local and national charities including the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and Blues in Schools.





The Ottawa Blues Society (OBS), formed in 1997, is a non-profit organization which aims to foster appreciation, promotion, preservation and enjoyment of the blues in all of its forms. OBS issues a quarterly newsletter, *OBScene*, featuring interviews, upcoming events, reviews of blues CDs, DVDs and performances, club listings and info about blues society concerns and projects. Spring & Fall issues are available electronically; Summer & Winter issues are printed and mailed to all members.

Enjoy and support the blues in Ottawa.

Let your voice be heard ... become a member of the Ottawa Blues Society today!

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Please circle your preference for membership	<b>:</b>	one year	two years
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(one newsletter, membership card(s), discounts to OBS evo	ents, other discounts & voting	g rights)	
Please check: RENEWAL	NEW MEMB	ER	
Would you like to be an OBS volunteer?		Yes 🗆	No
If yes, in what area would you like to volunteer (e.g. Board Support / Radio Committee / Road To Mem			 Festivals )

Please mail this form with cheque payable to "Ottawa Blues Society" to: Ottawa Blues Society, P.O. Box 8124, Station T, Ottawa, ON K1G 3H6

For more information about the Ottawa Blues Society, please visit our website at www.ottowobluessociety.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE OTTAWA BLUES SOCIETY!



# Ottawa Blues Society Corporate Affiliates











































