

SACRAMENTO

A bi-monthly publication of the Sacramento Blues Society



BLUE NOTES!

MAY-JUNE
2024
ISSUE 45
VOL. 3



President's Column

By Barbara Katen



Spring has sprung and I am so happy to have the rainy winter season over. The winter months took their toll and I'm looking forward to getting outside, soaking up some sun, hitting venues and listening to great music!

Who's with me? Keep your eyes peeled for the *SBS Blues Blast* and *Jan's Jams* e-newsletter for the latest update on where to see and hear live music.

In the first four months of my presidency, I have been busy behind the scenes working feverishly to maintain the status quo. We are working towards creating a system that will take stress off future SBS Officers and Directors.

I owe a heap of thanks to SBS Board members and Officers, Rex Smith, our Parliamentarian and Renee Erickson-Sullivan, our VP and current acting Treasurer. It's always great to know you have a solid team working with you. Our current Board of Directors is exactly that and I am so grateful.

You may have noticed that I have turned over the "Casual Conversation with...." column to Daryl Hawkins. This was to be temporary while I serve a term as SBS President, but Daryl knows everybody, has the contacts and is doing such a great job that I'm thinking this gig is right up his alley.

I'm often surprised at the small attendance at music events here for internationally and nationally known artists. Many of these artists sell out auditoriums and arenas when they perform elsewhere. I confess, I'm as guilty as I can be in not attending more shows and as a representative of SBS, I should be at as many shows as possible. I'm going to try and do better. Swear.

Now, this segues into the subject of volunteering for the Sacramento Blues Society. Volunteerism is the life blood of the Blues

Society and without volunteers we would not be celebrating our 45th Anniversary this year. SBS is the third oldest Blues Society in the Country, and our longevity is due to the volunteers that have kept the SBS alive all these years.

We have a list of members who have expressed an interest in volunteering, but it's often the same people volunteering repeatedly. Constantly calling on the same people when volunteers are required and needed can cause burn out. I and others have experienced this first-hand. Are you aware that by volunteering to work at the SBS table, you get into the event free? I have been able to attend many shows by volunteering that I wouldn't have been able to attend otherwise. So, if the cost of admission can be an issue for you, as it has sometimes been for me, volunteer! SBS Board member

2024 Committee Chairs

Hall of Fame - Sally Katen

Events - Mindy Giles

Membership - Linda McShane

Sponsorships/Fundraising - Open

Public Relations & Social Media - Mindy Giles

Volunteer Coordinator - Lynette Shumway

Blues in the Schools, Big Day of Giving - Rick Snyder

Merchandise - Lynette Shumway

Blue Notes Newsletter - Cari Chenkin & Jan Kelley

IBC Competition - Renee Erickson Sullivan

Webmaster - Mindy Giles

Board of Directors Development - Open

Help keep the blues alive - Contact a Chair or Board Member to volunteer for the Board or a Committee!

The Sacramento Blues Society (SBS) is one of the oldest blues societies in California, founded in 1979. SBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to preserve and promote blues music as an art form. SBS has kept the blues tradition alive in the Sacramento area by promoting the local blues music scene, bringing internationally renowned artists to the region, educating students with "Blues in the Schools", acknowledging our local blues artists, providing a Musicians' Crisis Fund and publishing the **Blue Notes** six times a year. SBS is an affiliate member of The Blues Foundation (which honored us with a 2015 Keeping the Blues Alive Award) which provides educational opportunities for young people with The Blues Foundation's "Blues in The Schools" Program.

Board of Directors Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of each Month, 7:00 p.m.

All SBS Members in good standing are invited to attend.

Meetings are held via Zoom; to request an invitation, email: president@sacblues.org

2024 Board of Directors

Barbara Katen, President
Renee Erickson Sullivan, Vice President
Rex Smith, Parliamentarian
Shirley McCoy, Secretary
Cari Chenkin
Rick Snyder
Lynette Shumway
Sally Katen
Julio Covington
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Sacramento Blues Society Publications

Blue Notes, Bi-Monthly Newsletter -
Cari Chenkin & Jan Kelley, Co-Editors

Layout - **Cari Chenkin**

Cover Design: **Bob Cosman**

Cover Photo of Stan Alves - **Courtesy of Loretta Bruce**

Printing & Mailing by: **Premier Print & Mail**

Blues Notes Ad Rates:

www.sacblues.org/advertising-rates

Weekly e-newsletter: Jan's Jams - Jan Kelley

Website: www.sacblues.org

Facebook: facebook.com/sacblues/
Instagram: instagram.com/sacramentobluessociety/
Twitter: [@SacBluesSociety](https://twitter.com/SacBluesSociety)

Lynette Shumway, has taken on the responsibility of Volunteer Chairperson, and has done an exceptional job in this capacity. Last year, SBS held an Information reception for volunteers, and we may hold another later this year. Please reach out to Lynette (shumwaylynette@yahoo.com) and let her know if you are interested in volunteering or you can contact me directly.

And with that being said, I say, "Ask not what SBS can do for you, but what you can do for SBS!" Yeah, I stole that from the 35th President of the United States, but it fits!

See you at the music.

Blues in the Schools Nurturing Creativity and Community

By Rick Snyder,
Chair, Blues in the Schools

Greetings blues enthusiasts! As we embark on another exciting journey through the realm of blues music, we are thrilled to share some inspiring updates from the heart of our Sacramento Blues Society.



First and foremost, let's dive into the vibrant tapestry of our Blues in the School initiative. This year, we've been fortunate to witness the transformative power of blues music within the halls of Rosemont High School and West Campus, thanks to our dedicated artist-in-residence programs led by the talented Steve Boettner and Lew Fratis respectively. These programs not only enrich the musical landscape but also foster a sense of camaraderie and expression among students.

Mark your calendars for May 2 as we gear up for our annual fundraiser showcase at Brookside Restaurant and Bar, from 5 to 9 pm. It promises to be an unforgettable evening featuring performances by bands from Rosemont and West Campus, with the electrifying Ryder Green Band headlining the event. Your generous \$10 donation will support our ongoing efforts to bring blues education to the forefront.

But our mission doesn't end there. We've recently joined forces with the Veterans Administration to provide entertainment for homeless vets, National Guard, and reserve members. The Tim Noxon Blues Band is the first to volunteer their time in this endeavor. This collaboration underscores our commitment to serving the community through the universal language of music.

In the spirit of unity, we extend our deepest gratitude to the kind souls from San Luis Obispo who generously donated \$700 to Blues in the Schools. Your contributions fuel our endeavors and inspire us to reach even greater heights.

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Blues in the Schools at the Sacramento Blues Society, we invite you to join us on this momentous journey. Together with Mick Martin, we have something special in store, so stay tuned for updates!

Our May 2 Showcase serves as a testament to our unwavering dedication to supporting music education. Every donation, every ticket purchase, and every moment spent enjoying the music helps us empower the next generation of blues artists.

In closing, let us remember the profound impact of music education on our youth. Beyond stimulating creativity, it nurtures essential skills in math, social interaction, and beyond. Join us in spreading

the joy of blues music and shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support, and remember, no amount is too small to make a difference. Together, we can make music education accessible to all.

Keep the blues alive!

Aki and Johnny – Oh My!

By Shirley McCoy

One of my favorites in today's blues scene, Aki Kumar, teamed up this time with very special guest Johnny Burgin, a legend in his own right. Appearing in Grass Valley at the Wild Eye Pub on Saturday, March 9, some of you probably caught them together the night before at the Torch Club in Sacramento. If you haven't been to the Wild Eye, it's a great little venue! It was my first time there and the manager Beth and her staff were all exceptionally friendly and helpful to both the attendees and the band.



I was not sure how the crowd would be, since it was a dinner show crowd, but luckily, Aki and the band (Rome Yamilov on lead guitar, drummer



June Core, and bassist Randy Bermudes) had them captivated from the moment they first hit the stage. They got the crowd perfectly roused up for Johnny with a few of their originals like "Going Back to Bombay" and "Baar Baar Dekho." Then Aki stepped right off

the stage to get intimate with the crowd as he blew that harp and got those blues right out in a mighty version of Lonesome Sundown's "My Home is a Prison."

Johnny joined the band on stage to add his classic direct-from-Chicago guitar flair starting off with Junior Wells' "Little by Little." My God, Johnny and Aki joining together on that chorus "Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh-oh..." ... perfection! Their harmonies were beautiful.

And what a treat to have both Johnny and Rome on stage together trading licks. Two different styles blending together perfectly. Not many people were left sitting in their seats, but instead were up and shaking their booties. How

could you not? Johnny then played and took the lead singing a few classic blues favorites like Jimmy Reed's "High and Lonesome" and Joe Liggins' "Pink Champagne" accompanied by Aki's masterful

blowing, before treating the crowd to a few of his original songs like

"I Did the Best I Could" and "Gotta Find Me a Woman."

Johnny's fiery guitar picking and Aki's smooth melodic blowing along with June's backing



"ting ting ting ting" in the back was beautiful! June is by far one of the best drummers I've seen. Oftentimes I was finding myself just mesmerized by his on-point groove... a good drummer really is the backbone of a band, and June provides a hell of a backbone for the machine! The first set ended with Aki's "Ruxaana".

Don't ever miss a chance to see Johnny and Aki together. They are simply amazing and the true epitome and embodiment of the true down-low Chicago blues! Bolly-Chicago-wood blues at it's best!

What's on your Playlist?

By Barbara Katen

What's burning up the airwaves on your personal playlist as the weather heats up? As I put this list together, it is March and "International Women's Month" so in this issue you are reading a special women's only "What's on Your Playlist". And in addition, for this issue only we asked the ladies for an additional Bonus Track!

Take it away Ladies!

Dana Moret

"Feels So Good" – Chuck Mangione

"Voodoo Child" – Tom Morello

"Negroni Summer" – Donny Benet

"Sunrise" – Simply Red

"Hold Music in Purgatory" – Jacob Mann

*BONUS TRACK "That's How the Good Lord Works – Sunday Service Choir

Pinkie Rideau

"Crystal Blue Persuasion" – Tommy James

"Everything I Do" – Bryan Adams

"Plug Me Into Something" – Henry Gross

"Nessum Dorma" – Aretha Franklin

*BONUS TRACK "Even Flow" - Pearl Jam

Cindy Larsen

"Constant Craving" – k.d. Laing

"Lady Blue" – Leon Russell

"Tennessee Whiskey" – Chris Stapleton

"Harvest Moon" – Neil Young

"Seven Spanish Angels" – Ray Charles & Willie Nelson

*BONUS TRACK "Summertime" – Janis Joplin

Marie Martinez

"Pride and Joy" – Stevie Ray Vaughan

"Let the Good Times Roll" – B.B. King

"Eyesight to the Blind" – Sonny Boy Williamson/Kyle Rowland

"I'm a Man" – Lazy Lester

"Night Train" – Terry Hanck

*BONUS TRACK "Sweet Home Chicago" – Eric Clapton & B.B. King

Shirley Boomgarden

"Nothing Takes the Place of You" – Tab Benoit (Back off Shirley... HE'S MINE!)

"Shot Gun Blues" – Blues Brothers

"Mannish Boy" – Muddy Waters

"One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer" – John Lee Hooker

"Georgia Blues" – Jimi Hendrix

*BONUS TRACK "Lie to Me" – Jonny Lang

All SBS members are invited to share their top 5 playlist songs with other Blues Society members. Just email me your top 5 Playlist songs to bkaten2@gmail.com and please put "Top 5 Playlist" in the subject line.

Hall of Fame Update

By Sally Katen

As you know, an annual SBS event anticipated by our members is our Hall of Fame induction ceremony and afterparty. But plans for this event start way before September.



Did you know that anyone can nominate someone they think is deserving for the honor of being inducted? That's right! Nominations are being sought right now, so if you know of someone who fits the criteria and should be honored, you may nominate them. Nominations are open through June 5, 2024.

To nominate someone, visit our website, www.sacblues.org, select the "What We Do" tab, select "Hall of Fame" and scroll down to the "Nominations and Guidelines" section. Just below that, you'll see a fillable form to use to nominate someone. Fill in the information, hit "Submit" and your nomination will be recorded and made available to the HOF Committee. The committee will meet in June to select the 2024 class of inductees.

And meanwhile, please mark your calendars for the events listed below. See you there!

JOHNNY "GUITAR" KNOX MEMORIAL PRO JAM

Sunday, June 23, 2024, Torch Club 3 pm – 7 pm
\$10.00 donation at the door.

Our new emcee for the jam this year is Greg Roberts, and he has gathered a great lineup of musicians to celebrate Johnny! It will be a fantastic event and I hope to see you there. All monies made at the door will go to fund the SBS Hall of Fame, which was special and very near and dear to Johnny.

SAVE THE DATE!

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY

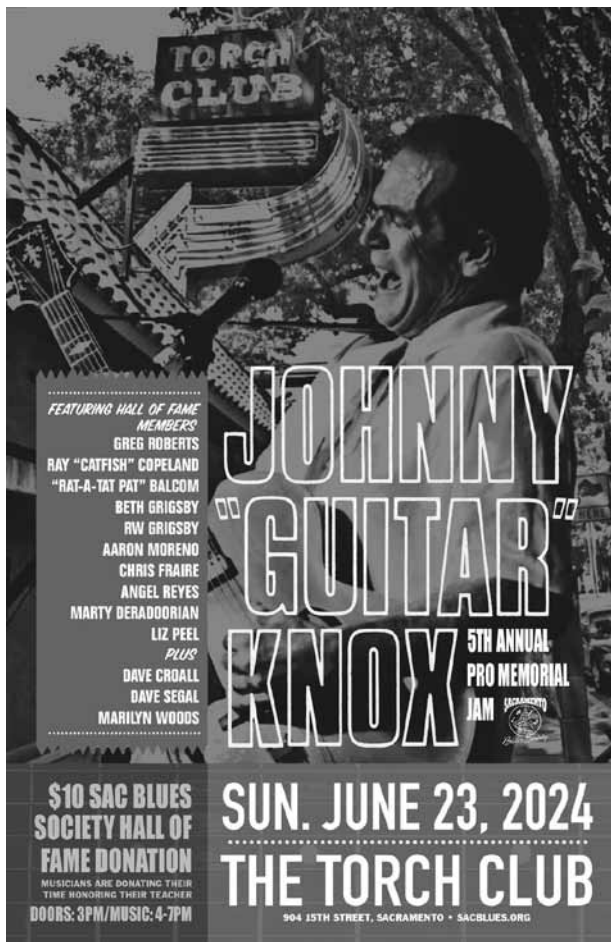
Hall of Fame Update, Con't. from P. 4

Sunday, September 29, 2024, Harlow's 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Ticket costs and sales information to come later.

TORCH CLUB AFTER PARTY 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

There is still time to donate for this year's Hall of Fame so please go to: <https://gofund.me/56d2abb0> to donate.



Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra with Willy Jordan

Almost Famous Wine Company, March 9, 2024

Photos by Bob Cosman

Oh, what a night! It was a new experience for us at the Almost Famous Wine Company, but it was long-standing favorite, the Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra (APSO) that made it like home.

By Jan Kelley



The winery's entertainment area was adjoining the wine tasting area in a separate building so that those there for a performance would go in one direction while wine tasters went in another. The performance area had a rather small stage with reserved seating at tables with four wooden chairs each, a railing behind them where general admission audience members could sit, then a couple of rows of high stools at the back of the room. The establishment's policy allows reserving tables of four, no more, no less.

Anthony is a virtual magician musician. Weaving a spell with his original songs, singing and guitar playing, he leads his orchestra into a melodic journey away from reality every time, making an indelible impression with his unassuming manner and talent.

On this night soul man Willy Jordan, a relative newcomer with the band but veteran from the Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, delighted the audience with his boisterous, engaging personality.



Soon everyone was enjoying the patter that accompanied his singing.

A couple of familiar songs Willy sang, "After A While" in particular, brought to mind memories of another soul man named Willie, but this was Mr. Jordan's rendition, and he did it just fine. Other songs performed were "Just Like You", "Can't Get The Time of the Day" and a fresh new one "No Tofu", penned by Anthony and his wife Christine Vitale, sung

by Anthony and band members. Pretty cute and catchy tune even I could sing!

The night of beautiful music, friendly audience and warm feelings made the drive from Sacramento to Livermore and back well worth it.

The Band:

Anthony Paule - lead guitar, vocals

Tony Lufrano - keys

Endre Tarczy - bass & vocals

Kevin Hayes - drums

Charles McNeal - tenor sax

Derek James - trombone

Steffen Kuehn - trumpet

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So, if you find yourself in a bind, remember this name: Ed Smith. AutoAccident.com: Where the blues meets a helping hand and great results are just a song away. Call 916-921-6400.

In Memoriam

Stan Alves

By John Noxon

Stan Alves didn't just play music, he made music happen. His life's joy was to share that music with others whenever and however he could. And he did so much more by enabling other musicians with his time, talents and his heart of gold. In addition to singing and playing guitar, Stan afforded other musicians that joy by doing the "grunt" stuff. He hauled P/A systems to gigs; provided instrument/amp backlines; transported other musicians; did stage management; organized talent; and conducted many other strategies for making the "music-magic" happen.

Stan served the Sacramento Blues Society (SBS) for 10 years creating scores of musical events, as well as a stint as President. He was involved in the SBS Blues-in-the-Schools (BITS) programs, along with funding and sending musicians to represent SBS at the International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis, TN. These IBC talents included The Lara Price Band, The Delta Wires, SuMac's Soul Heaven, and Pinkie Rideau. Stan helped organize and raise funds for the SBS Gene Chambers Musicians Crisis Fund.

Stan helped direct stage management of Mike Balma's Heritage Festival. He supported and encouraged aspiring musicians like Kyle Rowland and Dana Moret by bringing them up always said his favorite gigs were playing for the which he did for nearly 30 years running. He 1970s including: The LuniTones, Badd JuJu, Park Orchestra, and the Dear Friends Band. He Vega's in Old Town Sacramento and was active for Sacramento school programs. Stan opened Bishop, Daniel Castro, Maria Muldaur, Guitar

It's often said that "A man is defined by those many great memories — musicians and fans alive is the goal." Stan certainly contributed and



on stage to perform in their younger years. Stan homeless at the Sacramento Loaves and Fishes, played in numerous bands starting in the early Equinox, Bone Jeli, The Goodtimes Friendship hosted a long-running and successful jam at in the annual Chalk It Up Festival, raising funds for many well-known musicians including Elvin Shorty, Coco Montoya, and many others.

who remember who they were." Stan left us with alike. Mick Martin once said. "Keeping the blues made that goal a reality in so many ways.

Tributes from Musicians and Friends:

Daniel Castro: "Stan was a good man with a kind heart - always a smile on his face - I will miss you, my Brother." ...**Jan Kelley:** "My man Stan!! Another member just joined God's orchestra!" ...**Marta Gee:** "He helped me out in a big way a few times!! Good people!" ...**Derek S. Washington:** "Stan was a good dude to play the blues with." ...**Sister Libby Fernandez:** "God bless Stan. What a great man with passionate care." ...**Jerry Thomas:** "Stan was passionate about his music — he was dedicated beyond the point of normality!" ...**Tim Looper:** "I really enjoyed knowing him. Great supporter of Sacramento blues and always willing to join in on any projects or on stage to bring some fun to the event" ...**Dave Segal:** "He was such a sweetheart of a guy and so down to earth every time I saw him." ...**Nedra Russ:** "Stan and I ran the open mic jam in Volcano for 2 years...play on with the greats in the sky." ...**Angel Reyes:** "I've knew Stan going way back, possibly to the late Sixties. Rest in Power my friend." ...**Cody Jackson:** "...Stan did so much for the community and was a fixture of the local music scene. He was the first person ever to invite me on stage to jam." ...**Jimmy Bagshaw:** "Stan was one great guy! Very involved with the blues scene in Sacramento." ...**Obie Dee:** "A true friend and bandmate on many projects." ...**Bruce Pressley:** "Stan the man." ...**Mick Martin:** "Hero!"

Countdown to Memphis: IBC 2025

By Liz Walker

It's that time again! The Sacramento Blues Society is happy to sponsor a local band or solo/duo act for the 2025 International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis. We're proud that our 2024 entrant, Kyle Rowland, made it to the semifinals of the competition. Who's going to be the next to make us proud? Could it be YOU?

In order to have an entry from Sacramento we must hold a local challenge. If you or your band are interested in competing you can go to The Blues Foundation's website (blues.org) and read the guidelines and rules. Our local challenge is open to all SBS member bands/solo/duo acts in good standing. We are able to hold a combination challenge as the scoring criteria is exactly the same for both.

Our local challenge will be held on Saturday, July 13th, 2024 at Louie's Cocktail Lounge in Rancho Cordova. The challenge is open to the first ten applicants with a \$40 entrance fee (non-refundable.) The local winning entrant will receive support from SBS in

the form of a \$1000 gift, a GoFundMe account and a fundraiser later in the year.

If you're interested in participating please inform Renee Sullivan (renee.sacblues@gmail.com) or Liz Walker (lizwalker53@yahoo.com) of your intention. We'll be glad to send you the application and instructions. All applications MUST be received by June 30. Good luck!

Walter Trout Tears It Up (Again!)

Crest Theater, Sacramento, March 14, 2024

By Frank Farmer & Barbara Katen

Photos by Frank Farmer & Barbara Katen

Walter Trout and his great touring band paid a marvelous visit to Sacramento's Crest Theatre on March 14. He brought with him a fabulous young guitarist and



vocalist named Jackson Taylor Lee, along with Max Cabello, Jr., an outstanding opening band.

Walter Trout is a survivor in every respect. It's a privilege to see him perform and to hear his story. On stage with Walter were Mike Leasure (drums), Richard T. Bear (keys,



vocals), John Avila (bass, vocals), and young Jackson Taylor Lee (guitar, vocals). Each of Walter's band members have a storied past which Walter shared with the audience. Jackson's grandfather actually

taught Walter how to play guitar!



Highlights of the show included Walter making an emotional call to be an organ donor, as he shared

his story of near death and being blessed to be the recipient of a liver transfer 10 years ago.

Walter also enthusiastically shared that his new album *Broken* had, upon release, hit the Number One spot on the Billboard Blues Chart. The show ended with the song "Going Down", as it often does after Walter called the audience down to join him and the band in front of the stage.



Casual Conversation with Willy Jordan

By Daryl Hawkins

Photo by Tina Abbaszadeh

Willy Jordan is a superb vocalist and percussionist from the Bay Area. I've known Willy and thoroughly enjoyed every band that he's performed in for about 17 years. I especially like his band called "Case of the Willys". When Willy was living in Cotati, this band was incredibly popular. I remember seeing them frequently at the Tradewinds, which used to be the local jam spot back in the day.

Blue Notes (BN): How did your musical journey begin and why the blues?

Willy Jordan (WJ): I sang lead in church when I was seven years old. Blues music is nothing new to me. It was played in my home

and in my relatives and friends homes. It is my heritage. I got to play with some heavy cats in jazz when I was young, and I am a child of Herbie Hancock and James Brown. The fact that I listened to a lot of records and now I get to play with some of those artists that made the records is a blessing and an honor.



BN: Who or what inspired you to play music?

WJ: My inspiration was just to play music in 1984. I went to some open mics and played some. I had kids, so full time was out of the question. I played with a guy from Louisiana named Richie Domique. We started a group called "Gator Beat" in Sonoma, California that I was in for eight years. I learned a lot about running a band from him. I left that situation and continued to play all over Sonoma County. A whole lot of good music was there and good players too that played in Marin and San Francisco. I lived in Cotati and those were some wild times.

I got a chance to be on Elvin Bishop's album *Ace in the Hole*, and I got a few gigs on drums with him. He offered me the drum chair, but I had a commitment at the time, so Bobby Cochran got the gig.

In 1997 I got a gig in Alaska with John Lee Hooker's bass player and he and Elvin got me a permanent gig with John Lee. I had that gig for two years and played big stages for the first time. I then got a chance to play with Joe Louis Walker. That was a wild ride!

I kept in touch with Elvin throughout that time and eventually, I worked on another CD, *Can't Even Do Wrong Right* with him.

Another few years went by, and Elvin had another project in mind, so I brought over a cajon to work out some ideas. Bob Welch showed up and we played together and liked the sound right away. I messed around and sang "Fooled Around" with just the three of us and Elvin put me in the band right away. He liked the stripped-down version of the blues, and to my surprise he wanted to record it. The Big Fun Trio was born!

We did it twice and got a Grammy nomination for "Best Traditional Blues Album". I can now say that I lost to the Rolling Stones and Buddy Guy! We are still doing the Big Fun Trio and now I get a chance to work, create and perform with The Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra. I can say that I've been pretty lucky.

BN: Who were your biggest musical influences?

WJ: Luther Tucker, James Cotton, Elvin Bishop, Joe Louis Walker, Earl Thomas, Stu Blank, and a whole lot of monster side cats who were around.

BN: How has music changed your life?

WJ: I have played with icons that have made it possible to go places I could have never been to on my own, and learned about my craft, and got to hang with brilliant and crazy people. There is no one moment that stands out, the ride so far has been incredible. If I am blessed with another day on earth, I'm gonna find a gig and show out! What are YOU waiting for? You Ain't Old Till You're Cold!

BLUES & BOURBON WEDNESDAYS AT THE STARLET

IN MIDTOWN (ABOVE HARLOW'S) (2708 J ST. SACRAMENTO)




MAY 2024 SCHEDULE

MAY 15TH:
HOWELDEVINE
 \$22: GA / \$20: SBS MEMBERS

MAY 15TH:
QUIQUE GOMEZ
 (DIRECT FROM SPAIN!)
 \$20: GA / \$18: SBS MEMBERS

MAY 22ND:
MIKE ZITO
 "LIFE IS HARD" RECORD RELEASE PARTY
 \$28: GA / \$25: SBS MEMBERS

MAY 29TH:
CARMEN RATTI BAND
 FEATURING JILL DINEEN
 \$14: GA / \$12: SBS MEMBERS

UPTOWN & LOWDOWN. 2 SETS OF BLUES, DRINKS/FOOD & DANCE FLOOR. 5:30PM DOORS / 6:30PM SHOW



tos and set lists, and almost all of the Rick Estrin collection is located on that drive" says Miller, a longtime friend of Baty.

There are four linear feet of materials in four archival boxes, one large archival folder, and one external hard drive dating from 1970 to 2023, with more to be added.

Miller's abstract states, "The collection contains a selection of photographs, flyers and handbills, blues music publications, personal and professional correspondence, posters, band calendars and itineraries, newspaper clippings, and recordings documenting the life and career of Sacramento based blues musician Charles "Little Charlie" Baty."

Along with the continuing living legacy of Rick Estrin & the Nightcats as they take their music around the world, and the new Little Charlie Baty Memorial Music Scholarship endowment at Sacramento State University, this Little Charlie Baty Archives collection solidifies an enduring and inspiring tribute. To visit this collection, go to: <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8c2548r/?query=little+charlie+baty>

Little Charlie Baty Archives Opens in Sacramento

By Mindy Giles

Devon Miller Photo Courtesy of Devon Miller

Abundance was the operative word during the final week of March, 2024.

Thursday, March 28 was the date of the most anticipated concert events of the year, the sold-out Third Annual Little Charlie Baty Celebration Concert with Rick Estrin and the Nightcats, plus their special guests Anson Funderburgh, Alabama Mike, Marcel Smith, Quique Gomez and Kyle Rowland.



But just days before, another important milestone was reached, the official opening of the Little Charlie Baty Archives in Sacramento. Diligently curated across the past four years by Sacramento Public Library associate Devon Miller, this meticulous collection of the history and inner workings of guitar genius Charlie Baty (1953 -2020) is significant because it allows a deep dive inside his work ethic, humor and musical vision.

It is now housed in the Sacramento Room at the downtown library for fans and friends of Baty, but it has also been digitally preserved. A number of rare posters from the Collection were on display at Harlow's the night of the Celebration Concert.

The LCB Archive is located at the Sacramento Public Library, 828 I St. in Sacramento, CA 95814. The Sacramento Room is on the second floor, and hours are limited, however, to Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 1pm-6pm. 916-264-2920

"My advice is to start with the external hard drive, as all of the pho-

PRESENTED BY Elk Grove Arts Commission

BLUES IN THE GROVE

Join us for a soulful celebration at Blues in the Grove! Experience the soul-stirring magic of blues music at District56 for a day filled with rhythm, emotion, and unforgettable performances.

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 MARCEL SMITH
 THE ZYDECO FLAMES
 ANNIE SAMPSON BAND
 BOB JONES AND THE CHOSEN FEW
 PAPPA DAY BLUES BAND
 GARY MENDOZA

BLUES, SOUL, ROCK AND ZYDECO

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DISTRICT 56 - 8230 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE SHOW IS INDOORS

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FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

12-6:30 PM DOORS OPEN AT 11am

SCAN CODE TO BUY TICKETS OR VISIT: elkgrovecity.org/bluesinthegrove




The SBS Archives Has Found a Permanent Home

By Mindy Giles

It's kismet. As the Sacramento Blues Society celebrates our 45th year, the Sacramento Main Public Library has accepted the official Archives of the Sacramento Blues Society. Long-time member Jan Kelley has been the keeper of the collection to this point.

Devon Miller, library associate and archivist of the Little Charlie Baty Archives acknowledged that "the Sacramento Public Library recognizes the importance of SBS to the Sacramento music scene, and is excited to house the SBS archive. James Scott, the SPL archivist is excited to add this collection to the Sacramento Room archives."

Editor's Note:

We'd be remiss if we didn't give a big shout-out of thanks to Hall of Fame member and Past President of the Sacramento Blues

Society, **Jan Kelley**, for preserving our archives. Jan has been faithfully collecting and storing literally hundreds of documents, including back issues of the *Blue Notes*, event posters, and more.

Not only has she housed the archives in her personal space, she has also organized, curated and continually updated and added to the collection over the years. Thanks to Jan and her care and hard work, our archives are a welcome addition to the Sacramento Public Library, where they've found their "forever home"!

Blue Sunday Update

By *Cari Chenkin*

Photos by *Cari Chenkin, Julio Covington & Barbara Katen*



Our Blue Sunday events have turned out to be quite the draw, and I'm pleased to say we have almost the entire year of 2024 booked with shows.

Three dates remain for October, November and December, so member bands who haven't yet played a Blue Sunday show, contact me (cariedaway@earthlink.net) if you want to play.

April's Blue Sunday show, featuring the Angel Reyes Band, will have happened too late to include in this issue of *Blue Notes*, so look for that review in the July-August Issue. May's band will be Chrissy O'Dell and the Real Deal (May 26) and duo Chaz and Jess are set to perform at June's show on June 30.

February 25, 2024 – The Herald Sessions Trio

Our February Blue Sunday band was the local favorites The Herald Sessions Trio. Led by Hall of Famer Greg Roberts on guitar and vocals,



the band also included John Kent on drums, Dan Enriquez on stand-up bass and Dave Croall on harmonica and vocals for part of the show.

The guys entertained a good-sized and lively crowd with an eclectic combination of original songs and classic favorites through three sets. They started out with "Blue Suede Shoes", and continued the set with the Fabulous Thunderbirds' "Why Get Up", Nick

Gravenites' "Born in Chicago", Delbert McClinton's "Every Time I Roll the Dice" and more.

Greg's strong vocals and tasty guitar work were ably backed up and complemented by the rest of the band, and I really enjoyed that they used a stand-up bass. The addition of Dave Croall added an extra dimension to the show as well.

Set two included, among other songs, "Feelin' All Right" (Dave Mason) and W. C. Clark's "Cold Shot", made famous by Stevie Ray Vaughan. The band paid homage to Jimi Hendrix with their versions



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MAY

FRI 3RD - BILL MYLAR & FRIENDS @ 6PM
SAT 11TH - DANIEL CASTRO BAND @ 9PM
SAT 18TH - MERCY ME! @ 9PM
SUN 26TH - SBS W/ CHRISSY O'DELL & THE REAL DEAL @ 4PM
WED 29TH - LEW FRATIS @ 8:30PM
THU 30TH - DANNY SANDOVAL & HIS AMIGOS @ 9PM

JUNE

SAT 1ST - THE HUCKLEBUCKS @ 6PM
FRI 7TH - BILL MYLAR & FRIENDS @ 6PM
SAT 8TH - DARYL ROWLAND BLUES BAND @ 6PM
SAT 15TH - CROWN CITY BOMBERS/GEOFFREY MILLER @ 9PM
THU 20TH - ADAM BLOCK @ 9PM
SAT 22ND - RED'S BLUES @ 6PM
SUN 23RD - JOHNNY KNOX MEMORIAL JAM @ 4PM
FRI 28TH - DANNY SANDOVAL & HIT AMIGOS - @ 9PM
SAT 29TH - TOO MANY SQUIRRELS @ 6PM
SUN 30TH - SBS W/ CHAZ & JESS @ 4PM

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of "Little Wing" and "Voodoo Child", and the Electric Flag's "Them Changes".



Set three delivered more crowd favorites like "Green River", the B. B. King classic "Bad Case of Love", the Rolling Stones' "Dead Flowers" and Tommy Castro's "Nasty Habits". All in all, a great afternoon of good



blues that rocked!

March 24, 2024 – Pinkie Rideau & Blioux Gumbo

Even though St. Patrick's Day had come and gone a week earlier, SBS Hall of Famer Pinkie and the

band kept the spirit alive with their "wearin' o' the green" attire, sporting green shirts with four leaf clovers and



in Pinkie's case, a bright green dress. Band members included TJ Furtado on bass, Zane Toberer on drums, Brad Evans on

keys and Brandon McCullough on guitar.

Despite two competing events that same day and time, a respectable crowd showed up and had a great time listening and dancing enthusiastically to the band.

Pinkie started off the show with a cover of the Linda Ronstadt hit "Blue Bayou" and then spent the rest of



the set singing some of her original tunes. Her sense of humor pervades many of her songs, with titles like "Bulldogs Don't Eat Peanut Butter", "Hot Cherry Between My Legs", "I'mma Pet Dat Dawg", "Be a Hoe" and "Camel Toe Boogie".

She also covered the classic "Crossroads" and the Marshall Tucker Band's "Can't You See". Pinkie's



arrangements served well to showcase her vocal chops, which are considerable.



Her songs were interspersed with amusing stories and jokes – she's not only a musician/singer, but also a true entertainer with a larger-than-life personality. During the intermission, she held a raffle and gave away some prizes.

The band started off the third set as just Blioux Gumbo, then Pinkie came back onstage to sing. She touchingly played a tune dedicated to the late Daniel Hernandez, a former SBS Board member, called "There Goes That Smile" and another original dedicated to a Canadian keyboard player friend. If any in attendance that day were not Pinkie fans before that, I know they became fans that day – such is the power of Pinkie Rideau!

Third Annual Little Charlie Baty Celebration Concert

By Daryl Hawkins

Photos by Tina Abbaszadeh, Julio Covington, Bob Hakins, Barbara Katen and Paul Luscher

The Little Charlie Baty Celebration Concert, held at Harlow's on March 28, was a poignant and memorable event dedicated to celebrating the life and music of the late guitar legend.





The absence of Little Charlie was profoundly felt throughout the evening, as we gathered to pay tribute to his remarkable talents and honor his legacy.

The night featured a lineup of talented musicians (Christoffer Lund Andersen, Anson Funderburgh, Lorenzo Farrell, D'mar, Quique Gomez, Kyle Rowland, Alabama Mike, Randy Bermudes, Marcel Smith, Steve Kimball, and Ronnie James Webber) who took the stage to ensure that Little Charlie's music would live on. Rick Estrin & the Nightcats delivered a heartfelt and powerful performance that was both soul-stirring and emo-

tionally charged.

Rick Estrin, on lead vocals and harmonica, stepped into the spotlight, pouring his heart and soul into each note. His raw and genuine delivery honored the spirit of Little Charlie Baty and the blues genre as a whole. Estrin's ability to evoke a range of emotions through his skilled harmonica playing was testament to the indelible mark left by Little Charlie.



In addition to Estrin's captivating presence, the Nightcats skillfully provided the foundation for the performance. Anson Funderburgh, who was a close friend of Charlie's for the last fifteen years of his life, also made a major musical contribution to the performance, to the delight of the crowd and the clearly evident enjoyment of the other musicians

onstage.

While the first set was devoted entirely to Rick and the Nightcats, the second set was given over to a rotation of frontmen. Christoffer "Kid" Andersen got things going by playing an instrumental bop at blistering speed, playing on Charlie's own Gretz guitar, on loan to him for the evening. He then called up Quique Gomez, with whom Charlie had recorded a CD of classic tunes in December 2019. Quique's smile and lighthearted clowning around on stage captivated the audience just as much as his soulful singing.

Following Quique's performance, Kid Andersen recalled Anson Funderburgh to the stage, and they ventured on to support the sultry



and poignant singing of Marcel Smith, the energetic stylings of Kyle Rowland on both harmonica and vocals, and the rousing, raucous style of Alabama Mike with equal verve. At one point, Kid turned the guitar duties over to local musician Stephen Kimball, to whom Anson handed his guitar while Kid returned to the stage. The round robin changeup of guitarists went off without a hitch, owing to the professionalism of the artists involved. The finale of the second set featured Alabama Mike's hit "Fat Shame," a song well known to many in the audience, who were invited to sing along. It also featured the return of

Rick Estrin to the stage, whose dance moves elicited roars from the crowd.

The setlists for the night were thoughtfully constructed, featuring a combination of Little Charlie's cherished blues classics alongside original compositions from the Nightcats. Each song served as a powerful testament to the depth and breadth of the late artist's influence on the blues community.

While Little Charlie's fingers may no



longer grace the strings, his spirit was undeniably present, resonating through the music that filled the room. The performers and the audience enjoyed a shared experience of remembrance and appreciation, creating an atmosphere that celebrated the profound impact Little Charlie had on the blues genre.

Harlow's provided an intimate setting, fostering a personal and meaningful connection between the performers and the audience. The impeccable sound quality ensured that every note and lyric reverberated with clarity, en-

abling the audience to fully immerse themselves in the music and the tribute being paid.

In conclusion, the Little Charlie Baty Celebration Concert was a truly special event that showcased the enduring legacy of a legendary guitarist. Though his presence was deeply missed, the evening was a moving tribute to the unparalleled talent and immeasurable impact of Little Charlie Baty. It was an honor to be a part of this commemorative event, and we remain forever grateful for the indelible mark he left on the blues music community.





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W/ SPECIAL GUEST
\$22: GA /\$20: SBS MEMBERS

UPTOWN & LOWDOWN. 2 SETS OF BLUES, DRINKS/FOOD & DANCE FLOOR. 5:30PM DOORS / 6:30PM SHOW

Your Blues Society Needs YOU!



SBS Urgently Needs a Treasurer

Come on fellow SBS Members, heed our call! We have an opening on our Board of Directors for an "Officer & a Gentleman or Gentlewoman", with experience in bookkeeping and accounting, to serve as our Treasurer.

SBS recently hired a CPA accounting firm to handle most of the bookkeeping and tax filing duties, but we need an individual (you?) to join the Board as Treasurer and act as liaison between the Board and the accounting firm.

The commitment is for the remainder of 2024 and duties include:

- Attendance at our monthly Board meetings - held the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm (eight of our 12 yearly meetings are currently held via Zoom so you can join the meeting from the comfort of your own home, and the other four meetings are held in various home locations and include snacks).
- Make cash and check deposits on behalf of SBS at our bank
- Keep records of costs and expenses from Board and committee members
- Keep membership database manager informed about donations, new memberships and membership renewals
- Issue and distribute checks and credit card payments for normal SBS business
- Communicate with our accounting firm
- Report on our financial status at the monthly Board meetings.

Our current acting Treasurer will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding the duties and the weekly time investment. If you think you might be able to serve the Blues Society in this capacity, we REALLY do need you. Please contact either Barbara at bkat2@gmail.com or Renee at renee.sacblues@gmail.com.

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Sacramento Blues Society Member Bands

Need music for an event or an occasion? Hire an SBS Member Band! And buy their CDs!

Amy Celeste & the Best
amycelestemusic.com

The Angel Reyes Band
m.angelreyes53@gmail.com

The Anthony Arya Band
www.anthonryarya.com

The Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra
www.anthonypaule.com

Big Earl & the Cryin' Shame
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Big-Earl>

The Bluez Houndz
nmurray22@att.net

The Bobby Young Project
www.bobbyyoungproject.com

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www.carmenrattiband.com/

Chaz and Jess
www.chazandjess.com

Chicken & Dumpling
www.chickenanddumpling.net

Chrissie O'Dell & The Real Deal
chrissieodell@gmail.com

The Danny Sandoval Band
<https://dannysandoval.com>

Dave Croall & The Soothers
www.soothersblues.com

The Dave Segal Band
www.davesegalband.com

Dr. Rock & The Stuff
www.bookthestuff.com

Gloria T & The Master Groovers
www.mzgloriat.com

Herald Sessions
goatburglar@gmail.com

The Hucklebucks
www.thehucklebucks.com

Jazz Cowgirl
www.avadupree.com

Jeremy Norris & The Blues Cartel
www.dangerousblues.com

Julie & the Jukes
<http://julieandthejukes.com>

The Katie Knipp Band
katieknipp.com

The LuniTones
info@rickreedpr.com

The Mick Martin Big Blues Band
www.reverbnation.com/mick-martinsbigbluesband

Nedra & Julio NJR Music
www.njrmusic.com

Papa Day Blues Band
www.oldbluesdude.com

Pascal Bokar AfroBlueGrazz Band
www.pascalbokar.com

Pinkie Rideau & Blioux Gumbo
<https://pinkie-rideau-1.ueniweb.com>

The Ray "Catfish" Copeland Band
www.raycatfishcopeland.com

Red's Blues
www.redsbluesband.com

Rick Estrin & The Nightcats
www.rickestrin.com

The Rockin' Souls
<https://www.facebook.com/p/Rockin-Souls-100086431375411>

Rooster
<https://roosterrockandroll.com>

Tim Noxon Rockin' Blues Band
www.facebook.com/TimNoxon-RockinBluesBand

Tony & The Tuff Times
www.facebook.com/tattblues

Val Starr
www.valstarr.com

The West Coast Playboys w. Andy Santana
<https://westcoastplayboys.com>

The William Mylar Band
www.mylarville.com

Zenn Vudu
www.facebook.com/zennvudu/

Zola Moon
www.zolamoon.com



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Blue Notes is the official
bi-monthly newsletter of
the Sacramento Blues
Society.

Editor: Cari Chenkin

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