



BLUES NEWS

October-December 2009

OFFICIAL RAMBLINGS FROM THE PREZ

Our 3rd Friday Blues at the Treehouse Lounge has been a great success, and there are a lot of people making it a regular occasion. Our membership has steadily increased and best of all, we all are having FUN!! Dave Long is back in Nebraska making a living, but he deserves a shout out!!

It wouldn't work without the dedicated support of our members. Debbie Mehlberg has been doing a great job scheduling the bands and coordinating with the Treehouse. Ed and Pam Moore have been helped by Leonard and Sallie, handling the merchandise and doing anything/everything else that needs to be done. Bob Wills built the attention grabbing guitar pin display, helping generating a nice cash stream.

Did I mention FUN?!?!? It looks to me that the bands are also having fun here in B/N! Meetings are now at the Treehouse on the third Friday of the month at 5:45 pm. OK??
Randy

OFFICERS

President: Randy Hoffman -
rd.hoffman@verizon.net
Vice President: Jeff Augsburger
Treasurer: Deborah Mehlberg
Secretary: Sallie Able
Parliamentarian: Leonard Beach

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Education: Steve Mehlberg
Entertainment: Rick Tull
Marketing: Ed & Pam Moore
Membership: Frank Black
Newsletter Editor: Sue Camp
Webmaster: Deborah Mehlberg

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 Denise & Ron WILLIAMS Monte WALKER Machael P WATSON/Donna TRAXLER
 Roomer & Frog WIEDRICH

Where is all the stuff that was in the Blues News?
IT'S ON OUR WEBSITE!!

www.bluesblowtorch.org/

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McLean County Illinois

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What's Happening? Check our calendar!!

Links?? Yeah we got 'em!!

Contact Us...we want to hear from you!!

Blues News is now Paperless!!

Although I am aware of it, no one else has mentioned the Blues News being way behind schedule. Sue Camp, our Editor, has been swamped at work and her back-up (me) has really fallen down on the job. I could say that it was a test! I have a sneaky suspicion that everyone figured out all the information they need is at our website.

Our BBS website and 'Who's Playing' emails have become the information source for Blues in Central Illinois. Less than 7% of our members don't have their email registered with us, so they have been receiving the *paper* Blues News. A trend in our society is newspapers have been losing circulation to other media based alternatives. The cost of producing a paper product and mailing has become prohibitive.

Now, we've just got to get the rest of our members on line!! So, if you know someone that is wondering why they didn't get a paper Blues News, tell the "Get online!!"

Denise LaSalle to Be Crowned Undisputed Queen of the Blues Saturday, October 24, 2009 by Mississippi Delta Blue Association

The Mississippi Delta Blues Society of Belzoni Mississippi. Will be crowning Soul and Blues diva Denise LaSalle the undisputed “Queen of the Blues” on Saturday, October, 24, 2009. Immediately following her crowning, LaSalle will give live concert at the California club in Belzoni starting at 9 pm. She will perform with the Rhythm& Blues group Blak Ice. LaSalle internationally known for her risqué style and frank lyrics, and is a gifted songwriter. LaSalle’s self-penned “Trapped By A Thing Called Love” and “Now Run And Tell That” both sold over one million copies. Helen Sims President of Miss Delta Blues societies stated that, “The void left by Koko Taylor’s death can only be filled by Denise LaSalle.” LaSalle is the last living major artist of the generation of the Delta Blues singers born in the early 20th century.

Blues Blowtorch Society Members,

I am proud to announce that Steve "The Harp" Mehlberg has been inducted into the **BLUES HALL OF FAME**. His official title will be **BLUES HALL OF FAME® EDUCATION AM-BASSADOR**. He is by the way, the **FIRST** Education Ambassador ever inducted into the BHOFF.

Please join me in extending my congratulations to Steve.

Randy Hoffman
BBS - Prez

Blues Festival Review

Just a brief review...Sue and I traveled the Telluride (Colorado) Blues & Brews Festival in September. The scenery and setting was absolutely beautiful. The cost of the festival and lodging is extravagant, so make sure you are aware of it before you plan on going.

One of the issues is that this festival has a limited number of tickets, usually sold out in April. The positive side is that it won't be overcrowded, but you are buying tickets without knowing who is going to be playing. We found that there was a severe lack of Blues. For example, JP Soars, 2009 IBC winner, opened on Saturday and Buddy Guy closed. That was the extent of the Blues being played that day. Not that the rest of the bands and solo artists weren't playing good music, but it wasn't Blues.

We happened to hit the worst festival rain they have experienced in 16 years of doing this festival. After a downpour on Friday, I expected the park to have, at minimum, the walkways covered in straw. Didn't happen. By Sunday we were slopping around in over two inches of mud, making a trip to the porta-potties a treacherous affair. It was also cold and windy, interrupted by warm bursts of sunshine, then back to rain. We must have put on our jackets and rain gear and took them back off fifteen times on Sunday.

So if you think you'd like to go...be prepared with the proper array of attire and plenty of cash.—Randy