

### THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY

"....to preserve, promote and perpetuate the blues tradition."

Louisville, Kentucky

August 2017

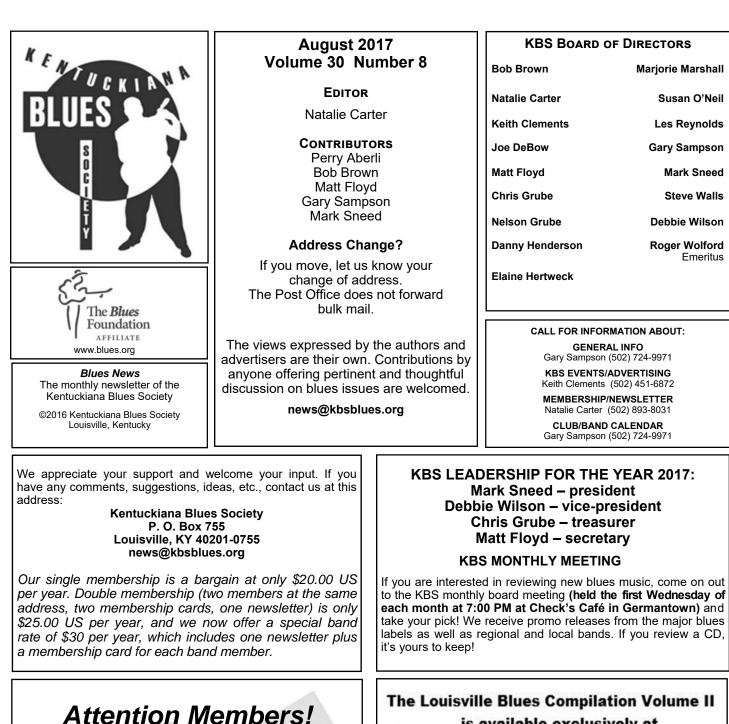
**Incorporated 1989** 



Local favorite Delbert McClinton will make no less than three trips to our area during the months of August and September. The Lubbock, TX native was schooled by the best when he was a teenager and playing in Texas bands that backed blues legends like Jimmy Reed, Howlin' Wolf, Freddie King, Albert Collins, and Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. During his sixty plus years in music, he has been nominated for seven Grammys and won three. He was inducted into the Texas Heritage Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2011.

Delbert will be headlining the 16th annual Ribberfest in Madison, IN on Friday, August 18. He will be at the Historic State Theater in Elizabethtown, KY the next night on Saturday, August 19. He then returns for a show at the Renfro Valley Entertainment Center in Mount Vernon, KY on Saturday, September 9. For more information on these shows or additional Delbert details, check out his website at https://www.delbert.com/.

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### Attention Members! Do We Have Your E-mail Address?

From time to time, the Kentuckiana Blues Society gets special offers which we are excited to share with our members. Be sure you get the information in time to take advantage of these discounts, last minute show announcements and other members-only perks.

Please send your current email address to

membership@kbsblues.org

The Louisville Blues Compilation Volume II is available exclusively at



August 2017





**KBS President Mark Sneed** 

#### Greetings, Blues Fans!

I hope you were able to join us for the Louisville Blues, Brews and BBQ Festival in July. You can't beat the cost and location, with it being free to KBS members and right here in our backyard. We have some great festivals coming up in August, too, beginning with the Cincy Blues Festival on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Some of the scheduled performers are Davina & The Vagabonds and Albert Cummings on Friday, and The Joe Tellman Band and The Bits Band on Saturday. Tickets are \$25.00 per night or \$45.00 for a weekend pass. You can find out more information by going to http://cincyblues.org.

The next festival is the Madison Ribberfest in Madison, IN on August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Patrons can purchase a wristband for \$30.00 and attend both nights. I noted the performance of Delbert McClinton in last month's Prez Letter because he is headlining Friday night. On Saturday, the headliners are Ana Popovic and Los Lobos. Los Lobos was scheduled to play last year, but got rained out, so they were asked back this year. The Ribberfest webpage can be found at <a href="http://madisonribberfest.com/">http://madisonribberfest.com/</a>.

The next event is the Bean Blossom Blues Festival on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Some of the performers scheduled to play are Samantha Fish, Matthew Skoller and the one and only Charlie Musselwhite. It has been awhile since I got to see him live. I have not made it to the Bean Blossom festival before, but Charlie Musselwhite could change that for me. Also featured are Jay Jesse Johnson and The Eric Lindell band. More information can be found at <a href="http://beanblossomfestival.com/">http://beanblossomfestival.com/</a>.

Last but not least, I'd like to mention Ken Lakes Hot August Blues Festival in western Kentucky. The dates for Hot August Blues are the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$30.00 to \$40.00 for both days and \$20.00 for Friday and \$25.00 for Saturday's admission. Some of the performers scheduled to play there are the Street Corner Blues Band, The Little Boy Blues Band and Alonzo Pennington. The Beat Daddys and Louisville's own Laurie Jane & the 45s are also scheduled to perform. More information is available at <u>kenlakeblues.com</u>.

The festivals I mentioned are out of town, but all within driving distance. I have attended the Madison Ribberfest on Friday, driven home the same night, and returned Saturday because the show doesn't start until the afternoon. The Cincy Blues Festival can also be a one day trip. Ken Lake is an overnighter; it's a good 3 ½ hour's drive. I have never attended the Bean Blossom Blues Festival, which might require spending the night. For Hot August, Kenlake Resort Park offers relaxed rooms & cottages in a lakeside resort, with a restaurant, a pool & outdoor activities. There is also a campground nearby. I'd recommend making reservations as soon as possible! A friend of mine goes every year and loves the atmosphere. I hope you have the opportunity to see one of these upcoming blues festivals this month.

Mark



### Upcoming Events Tim Faulkner Gallery

Thursday, July 27 - Staple Singers tribute concert with Sheryl Rouse, Tyrone Cotton, Blues and Greys, and Karter Louis. Benefits River City Drum Corps (also performing) and Hungry for Music, which donates musical instruments to kids, teachers and groups such as Instrumental Partners and Blues for Kids. Instruments will be collected at the show. \$10 suggested donation, cash at the door. https://hungryformusic.org



# THURSDAY AUG 24

FREE!! BEGINS AT 6:00PM ADAM & THE H-BOMBS SCALEHOUND

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FRIDAY AUG 25 GATES OPEN AT 3PM RIP LEE PRYOR

2 YEARS WASTED

IVAS JOHN Lew Je**tton** & 61 South

SPONSORED IN PART BY:

Kaylee's farmhouse restaurant





## SATURDAY AUG 26 GATES OPEN AT 10AM

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RAIN OR SHINE

REGGIE MAY AL HILL STREET CORNER BLUE LITTLE BOYS BLUE

LAURIE JANE & THE 45'S BEAT DADDYS BIG MIKE GRIFFIN ALONZO PENNINGTON BAND

FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION:

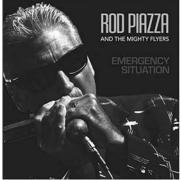
KENLAKEBLUES.COM

STRICKLAND'S SEAFOOD

NO PET

KENTUCKY STATE PARKS





#### Emergency Situation Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers Blind Pig Records

This one has 11 songs and, I will be honest, I have not listened to a Piazza record since his "Tough and Tender", which is a great listen. I like the start with "Neighbor, Neighbor", it illustrates quickly that Rod Piazza tone that everyone loves. The title track has some really nice horns blended with true blues guitar solos while Rod displays his much entertaining vocal riffs. "Milk and Water" showcases Miss Honey on piano and she is an essential ingredient in the Mighty Flyers recipe.

I really like "Frankenbop"; jump blues, no vocals, in-your-face, the entire band, instruments well placed. Next, the group is spot-on with "Bad Weather Blues", highlighting

some really beautiful guitar by Henry Carvajal.

We get typical Piazza, piano, horns, groovy pace with "Gambling Woman", nothing wrong here. The cover of Sam Myer's "Sleeping in the Ground" is a treat and definitely one of my favorites; this is some special harp playing here.

The later part of the record starts to give you that awesome 50s dance feel that Piazza and the Mighty Flyers do so well. "Tricky Woman" gives you a jump up and dance feeling and "The Clock" brings it down to slow dance level and definitely reminds me of 50s music. We keep it up with a cover of "Ya-Ya" and end up with "Colored Salt". This last song has some tremendous amp'ed chromatic that Piazza's tone is most associated with. (This is special and has that perfect jazzy swing with no lyrics needed).

Summarized, Rod Piazza has always been one of the best harp-blues-singer-players out there, representing the West Coast blues, and if you do not own any of his records yet, this is one I would recommend.

#### Matt Floyd



#### Right Place Right Time Monster Mike Welch & Mike Ledbetter Delta Groove Music

This is another great release on the Delta Groove label for Monster Mike Welch. The accomplished guitarist has played with many big-name groups including Duke Robillard, Nick Moss, Johnny Winter, Darrell Nulisch and others. When Darrell Nulisch was last in Louisville a couple of years ago, Welch had just released his own solo CD, but was backing Nulisch and was very impressive.

Mike Ledbetter is an accomplished vocalist and has spent the better part of a decade on the Chicago Opera stage. In June 2016, Welch and Ledbetter were on stage together at the Chicago Blues Festival in a tribute to Otis Rush. The chemistry was obvious and the crowd and Delta Groove wanted more. The duo assembled some other great musicians in

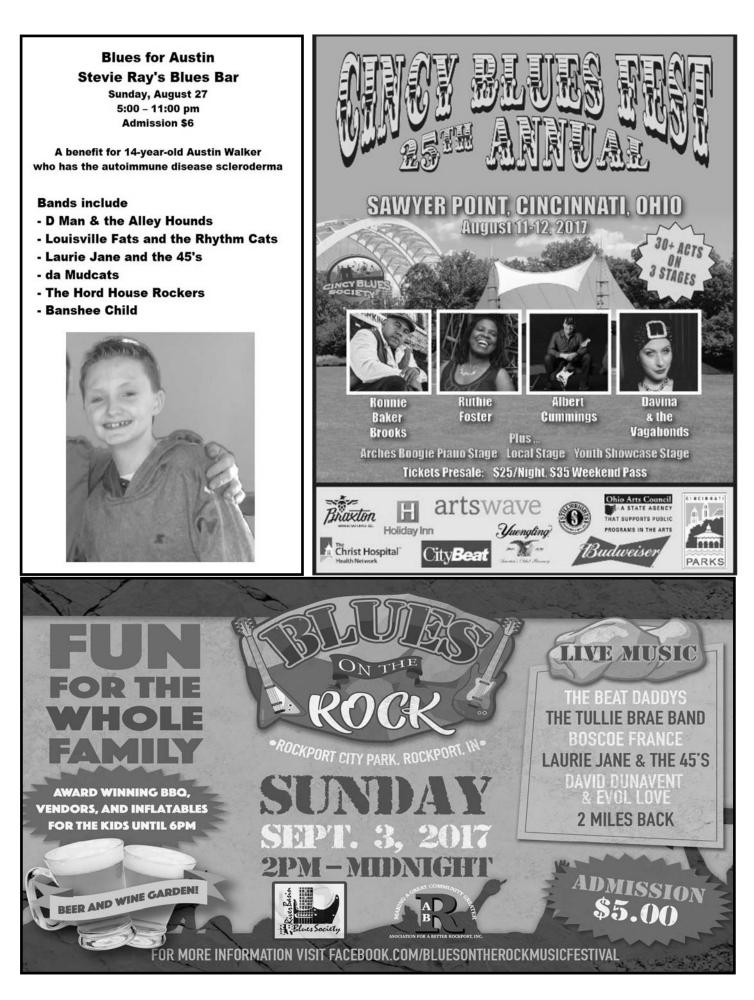
Anthony Gerracci on piano and organ, Ronnie James Weber on bass, and Marty Richards on drums.

The result is this CD, composed of 12 songs, 5 of which are originals, and the other ones, covers, are great renditions of the originals. The covers, such as Willie Dixon's "I can't Stop Baby", and Elmore James' "Goodbye Baby" are certainly recognizable, but with a difference that only Welch and Ledbetter can deliver. Some covers done by even great artists feel like they are "filler" for CDs. Not so with these guys. The guitar is typical Welch perfection, but added to that are vocals that are over the top. The high notes, range and "feel" of Ledbetter are remarkable-and memorable. He really puts his heart into the music. It is easy to see why the crowd in Chicago wanted more.

This recording is exceptional. Welch's guitar is spot-on throughout and bluesy in every way. Ledbetter's distinctive vocals are bluesy with a range not seen in most blues bands. Though his most recent work of note is operatic, he fits in perfectly in this genre.

I recommend this CD as your next purchase. And keep an eye out for these two guys. Find more at <u>www.monstermikewelch.com</u>.

**Bob Brown** 







Perry Aberli

For too long the Blues – and Blues artists – labored in obscurity. Only the most dedicated, or fanatical, knew the names of Skip James, Tommy Johnson, Sylvester Weaver, Barbecue Bob, Peetie Wheatstraw, or even Robert Nighthawk. Boston Blackie, Lazy Bill Lucas, Good Rockin' Charles, and many, many others had curious nicknames but that was about it. Then, the Brits "discovered" the Blues. The Beatles would sing about "mojo," while the Stones recorded, "You Got to Move," and Canned Heat would channel Henry Thomas.

Americans would then look into their own cities and regions and begin to "rediscover" the Blues, even though it had been there all along in plain sight. Field research was renewed. Independent labels would make their bones by recording Blues acts; some would even explode onto the national scene: Sun, Atlantic, Stax, and Chess are examples. Magazines were started, societies established, and festivals dedicated to

the Blues were staged. Gradually the Blues began to gain recognition. Delmark and Alligator were voices in the wilderness that began to be heard.

By the '70's the Blues had once again – as in the 20's – become what today we would call a cultural meme. The "modern" Bluesman was presented as a slick, pomaded caricature of itself, marinated in whiskey with a touch of weed or cocaine. That was what the Blues was all about – or so that's what you were led to believe. The truth, of course, was, more often than not, quite different. And, while the Blues wannabees donned cowboy hats and alcohol and drug habits, playing dazzling guitar solos, the Blues, again, began to recede in the face of these false faced imposters. And, the authentic Blues artists once again began to languish in obscurity

How does this happen? There is a theory, but that's all that it is, suggested by O.B. Hardison in his book, "Disappearing Through The Skylight: Culture and Technology in the Twentieth Century. It goes something like this: often when a new, exciting element is introduced into our culture it becomes the "flavor of the day." After a while it is appearing everywhere, whether it be art, architecture, music, or mores. And, at that point it disappears. Oh, it is still there, it has just become so pervasive and to be no longer noticeable. And, in that process, the genius and originality are also diluted to the point of invisibility.

And, now, finally, to the point that prompted this. In the Friday, July 7 edition of the Florence Morning News (my city's version of the Mayberry Gazette) there was a Dear Abby column headlined: "Bluesman's Wife Feels Unloved By Him After Festival Incident." However, upon reading the column you find out that the only connection between the musician and the Blues is the sad recognition by his wife that, "I will always come second to his first love – the Blues." That's it. And, if you read the account of the incident you may come to the conclusion that the musician actually loved his guitar more than his wife – the Blues has nothing to do with it.

Two pages later, on the comics page, "Zits" has an elderly woman playing drums, lecturing the main characters of the strip by saying that, "I was a session drummer in the sixties. I recorded with Bukka White, Koko Taylor, Magic Sam..." Unfortunately this fabrication probably left most of the strip's readers confused: they either did not know the names, or, they knew that the claim was not only false but ridiculous.

In both cases the Blues is used and abused. That may sound harsh, but, if as a society one of our missions is to preserve the Blues, we need to protect it from those elements that continue to erode it. We need to bring the Blues back to the forefront of our culture's consciousness, not perpetuate the memes and stereotypes and encourage the wannabees. We need to lead the way Back to the Blues.

#### Perry W. Aberli

## KBS Band Contest Sunday, September 10

Stevie Ray's Blues Bar

# Winner Receives \$1,500

(Intended for IBC Expenses)

**Do We Have Your Attention Now?** 

Winning band will also receive recording time at Al Fresco's Place Recording Studio and will represent the KBS next January at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

## **KBS Solo/Duo Contest**

Sunday, September 17 Location to be Determined

# Winner Receives \$750

(Intended for IBC Expenses)

## Not a Bad Chunk of Change!

Winning solo/duo act will also receive recording time at Al Fresco's Place Recording Studio and will represent the KBS next January at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

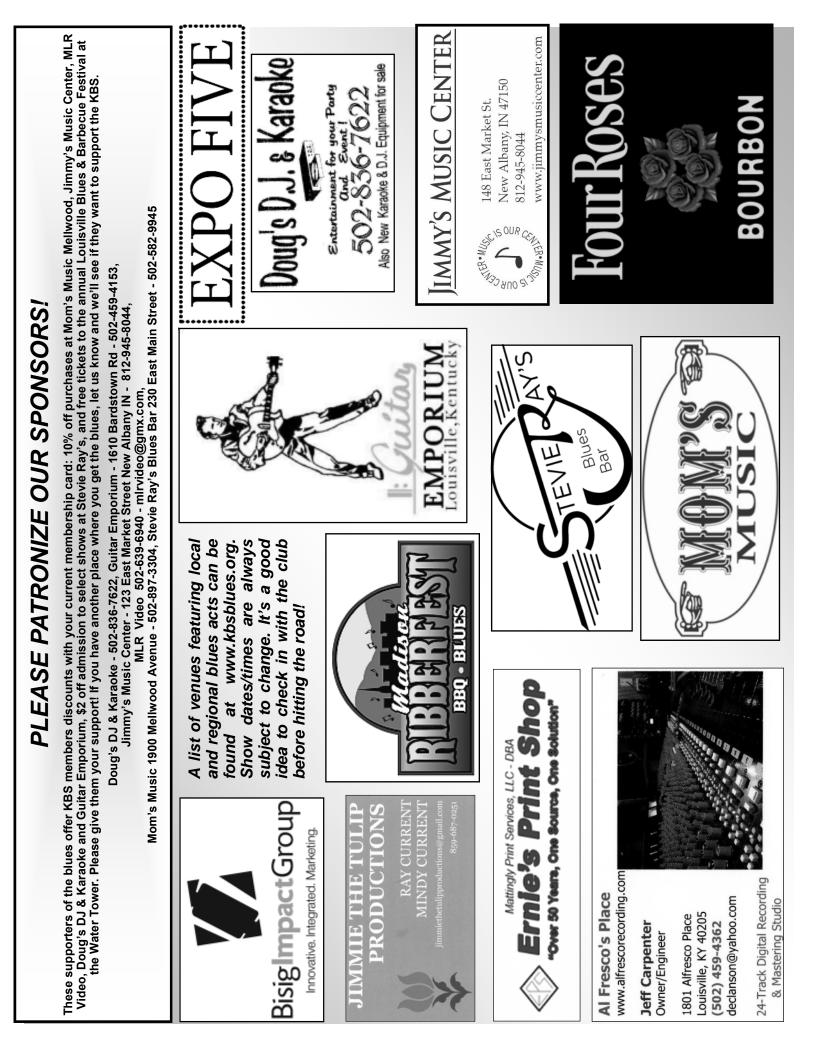
If we do not have enough applicants to hold two separate competitions, both band and solo/duo contests will be held at Stevie Ray's on 9/10/17. Deadline for application on both contests is Thursday, August 31.

More details and application forms are available at kbsblues.org or by calling 502/724-9971



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<u>Bearno's by the Bridge</u> – Open Jam Retired Servicemen's Club -	<u>Tee Dee's Blues &amp;</u> Jazz Club (Lexinaton)	Henry Clay's House (Lexington) -	Bourbon on Main (Frankfort) - Open Jam 6:00	Henry Clay's House (Lexington) - Nick Stump Band 8:00	<u>Belterra Casino</u> (Florence IN) – Chuck Brisbin & Cold Tuna 8:00	Backstretch B&G (Lexington) – Ronn Crowder and Friends 7:30
Mr. Wonderful Production Band 8:00	Tee Dee Young Band	Northside Sheiks 8:00	Check's Cafe – KBS Board	Mick's Lounge (Jeffersonville IN)	Drifters Bar & Grill (New Pekin IN) –	Belterra Casino (Florence IN) – Chuck
Goodfellas Distillery (Lexington) -	& Friends	Off Broadway	Meeting 7:00	Open Mic 8:00	Spoilers3 9:00	Brisbin & Cold Tuna 8:00
Johnny Roy & The RubTones 4:00		(Madison IN) Jam 8:00	Linda's Log Cabin (Vernon IN)	Stevie Ray's – TNT Open Jam 9:00	<u>Stevie Ray's</u> – Moondogs / Toad	Chateau Thomas Winery (Nashville IN)
Kubbles Southside G&B - Open Jam		STEVIE Kay's -		Lavern in the Garden (E lown) -	strangler	Gary Applegate 7:00
Shamrock B&G (Lexington) - Open Jam		blues Jam 9:00	Sidebar Grill (Lexington) - Willie		Center (Description American Heritage	Gerstie's Place - Soul Circus 10:00
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						& the Sidewinders 9:00
						Stevie Ray's – One Shot Johnny / Sheryl
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Arts in the Parks (Nashville, IN) -	Tee Dee's Blues &	Henry Clay's House	Kroger (Euclid Ave – Lexington)	Henry Clay's House (Lexington) -	Cincy Blues Festival (Cincinnati, OH)	Backstretch B&G (Lexington) – Ronn
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Mr. Wonderful Production Band 8:00		Blues Jam 9:00		Stevie Rav's – TNT Open Jam 9:00	Ribberfest (Madison, IN)	Big Poppa Stamplev 5:30
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Shamrock B&G (Lexington) - Open Jam			2	Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo	Black Cadillac	(Elizabethtown, KY) – Delbert McClinton
Stevie Ray's - Hippie Reunion with The						MOM's Music (Mellwood Ave) - Open Jam
Moondogs, The Saints, Another Mule and						Ribberfest (Madison, IN)
Marjorie Marshall 5:00			c			Seasons Lodge (Nashville IN) – Fistful
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						Stevie Ray's – Duck & Cover / TBA
						19 <sup>th</sup> Green (Jeffersonville, IN) – Boogie Men
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Bearno's by the Bridge - Open Jam	Tee Dee's Blues &	Henry Clay's House	Kroger (Tates Creek – Lexington)	Bean Blossom Blues Festival	Bean Blossom Blues Festival	Backstretch B&G (Lexington) – Ronn
Player's Pub (Bloomington, IN) -	Jazz Club (Lexington)	(Lexington) -	Open Jam 4:00	(Bean Blossom, IN)	(Bean Blossom, IN)	Crowder and Friends 7:30
South Central Indiana Blues Society	Tee Dee Young Band	Northside Sheiks 8:00	Linda's Log Cabin (Vernon IN)	Henry Clay's House (Lexington) -	Champions Bar & Grill (Richmond)	Bean Blossom Blues Festival
Blues Challenge 1:00	& Friends	Off Broadway	Open Jam 7:00	Nick Stump Band 8:00	Five Below Band 9:00	(Bean Blossom, IN)
Retired Servicemen's Club -		(Madison IN) Jam 8:00	Sidebar Grill (Lexington) – Willie	Hot August Blues Fest (Hardin, KY)	Hot August Blues Fest (Hardin, KY)	<b>Capital City Blues and River Festival</b>
Mr. Wonderful Production Band 8:00		Stevie Ray's -	Eames 6:00	Mick's Lounge (Jeffersonville IN)	Levee at the River House - Soul Circus	(Frankfort) – Robbie Bartlett / T.D. Young
Rubbies Southside G&B - Open Jam		Blues Jam 9:00	Stevie Ray's – TBA	Open Mic 8:00	Stevie Ray's – Jenny & the Jets / Nick	Champions Bar & Grill (Richmond)
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Rubbies Southside G&B - Open Jam		Off Broadway	Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo	VFW Post (Madison IN) – Open Jam		Circus
Shamrock B&G (Lexington) - Open Jam		(Madison IN) Jam 8:00		Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo 7:00		
Stevie Rays - Blues for Austin Benefit		Stevie Kay's - Blues Jam 9:00				
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August 2017



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	CITY/ST/ZIP	I would be willing to help out at KBS events	-		
		COMPANY MEMBERSHIP (\$150 ENCLOSED)	-		
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		DOUBLE MEMBERSHIP (\$25 ENCLOSED)	-		
	(S)3MAN	ZINGLE MEMBERSHIP (\$20 ENCLOSED)	-		
YES! I WANT TO JOIN THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY TODAY!					

### GET THE BLUES AND FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT!

Join the Kentuckiana Blues Society today! Single membership is only \$20 per year. As a member, you will receive the Blues News by mail and discounts at our sponsors and at selected KBS events. Dual membership (two people at the same address, two membership cards and one newsletter) is \$25 per year, and we offer a special band rate of \$30 per year, which includes one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member. We have also added a company membership for \$150, with up to 5 membership cards and one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member. We have also added a company membership for \$150, with up to 5 membership cards and one newsletter plus your company logo featured in the Blues News and on our website, www.kbsblues.org. All KBS members who provide an email address will also receive the KBS Blues News weekly update email so you'll always know the latest developments. Support the BLUES by joining the KBS today! Join online at www.kbsblues.org, or fill out the coumail so you'll always know the latest developments. Support the BLUES by joining the KBS today! Join online at www.kbsblues.org, or fill out the coupon above and send with your payment to:

KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY Attn: Membership Director P.O. Box 755 Louisville, KY 40201-0755



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