On Friday and Saturday, June 2 and June 3, the eighth annual Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival takes place at the corner of Hickory St and Burnett Ave next to Check’s Cafe. This year’s acts include (clockwise from upper left) the Walnut Street Blues Band, Jimmy Davis, D Man & The Alley Hounds, The Blue Crawdads, Mississippi Adam Riggle and Laurie Jane and the 45’s. The music starts both nights at 6:30 pm, admission is free and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Home of the Innocents. For more information, check out the Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival Facebook page and the blues society website at http://kbsblues.org/
We appreciate your support and welcome your input. If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas, etc., contact us at this address:

Kentuckiana Blues Society
P. O. Box 755
Louisville, KY 40201-0755
news@kbsblues.org

Our single membership is a bargain at only $20.00 US per year. Double membership (two members at the same address, two membership cards, one newsletter) is only $25.00 US per year, and we now offer a special band rate of $30 per year, which includes one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member.

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KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY
PO BOX 755
LOUISVILLE, KY  40201-0755

We have several exciting events and programs planned for this year. Be sure to check out our website for more information. We welcome all blues lovers to join us and enjoy the music and camaraderie of the KBS.

KBS LEADERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2017:
Mark Sneed – president
Debbie Wilson – vice-president
Chris Grube – treasurer
Matt Floyd – secretary

KBS MONTHLY MEETING
If you are interested in reviewing new blues music, come on out to the KBS monthly board meeting (held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Check’s Café in Germantown) and take your pick! We receive promo releases from the major blues labels as well as regional and local bands. If you review a CD, it’s yours to keep!

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The Louisville Blues Compilation Volume II is available exclusively at

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456-2394
Greetings, Blues Fans!

The festivals are here and we have a great opportunity to go to some fantastic concerts in the near future. The first is the Germantown-Schnitzelburg Blues Festival. It’s already been advertised, but it’s June 2/3 at Check’s Café. The music starts Friday night at 6:30, but to get a strategically placed chair, you want to show up by 5:30/6:00. I’ve been fortunate enough to make this festival since it started and I really enjoy the atmosphere, the music and the food. Part of the proceeds will go to the Home of the Innocents, a non-profit pediatric shelter and convalescent center here in Louisville. The event is FREE, so come on out and hear some great music and support an awesome organization.

The next one I’d like to mention is the W.C. Handy Festival in Henderson, KY. The dates for this festival are June 14th through the 17th. I’ve made it there the last three years and this one is not to be missed. The festival is located in a beautiful park in the heart of Henderson, where shade trees supply relief from the summer sun. Guess what! This one is FREE too! A dedicated fan can avoid the expense of a hotel and enjoy a full day of music and still return home the same day. Some of the performers at this year’s festival are CoCo Montoya, Wet Willie, Samantha Fish, Lil’ Ed and the Blues Imperials and Tab Benoit. Regional favorites The Beat Daddys are also on the bill. If you want more information, go to www.handyblues.org. The website also includes links for area hotels and provides some history and basic information about the festival.

I went to Headliners May 13th to see a band called OTIS and The Greg Foresman Band. I had previously purchased OTIS’ CD called “Tough Times - A Tribute to John Brim” and really enjoyed the album. I hadn’t been exposed to John Brim and had never heard of OTIS until I got their album. John Brim was a blues performer from Hopkinsville, Kentucky. He was under-recorded and under-appreciated, and never made it as big as he should have. The band OTIS comes out of Glasgow, KY, and they have been together for 6 years. I have been interested in seeing them perform ever since I heard this album. They put on a great show with a bluesy/southern rock sound, which I like. The tribute album is currently their only album, but they have a new album coming out in the next year, and they’re coming back to perform at the Garvin Gate Blues Festival in October.

I had never heard of the Greg Foresman Band but I’m happy I was able to see them perform at Headliners. He’s an excellent guitarist and singer who really enjoys playing, and it showed throughout the whole show. He was born in Louisville, KY and was playing in clubs right out of high school. His show consisted of a lot of blues/rock music and his guitar skills were a sight to see. He played a lot of slide guitar during this show. I was told he played at Stevie Ray’s back in the day and was also in a band called The Hammerheads. That band produced one live album. He has been in the band with Martina McBride since 1997. Friday night was one of those nights when I knew I was seeing something real special. It put a smile on my face and helped remind me of how much I really love great music. I’ve just got to get out of my comfort zone and venture out more. Hope to see you out and about.

Mark
“a way a lone a last a loved a long the...river runs, past Eve and Adams, from swerve of shore to bend of bay...” That’s how James Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake* ends and begins. The book is supposed to be like life; and life is understood as the meanderings of a river that flows away from us only to have its waters return again to the same “swerve of shore to bend of bay.”

I was reminded of that in these past few weeks as I binge watched CMT’s Sun Records. The series is a lot of fun with a good deal of accurate history and a lot of fictional histrionics. One would expect that the emphasis in the show would be on the “country” artists Sam Phillips recorded and on that point one would be right. The powerful impact of Blues upon Phillips is barely touched upon – we see Ike Turner, Jackie Brenston, BB King, and the Prisonaires – but they are not the focus, even though the roots of Sun were deep in the fertile Blues of the Delta.

In a typical moment of wanting to verify the historicity of a scene in the series, I went to my boxed set of Sun material to check. And, when I did, out fell a full program “script” for my radio show, Back To The Blues, titled: Program XIV: Blues At Sunrise. I didn’t date the “script,” but from its number, I would guess that I aired it in mid-1985. It was honestly a surprise for me to find it since I kept most of my program “script/logs” in notebooks and had completely forgotten about typing this one. However, I do remember getting my first computer around this time with a clunky version of Word Perfect on 5.25” floppy disks that had to be inserted and removed continually during the process of creating a document. Ah, the good old days of ms-dos! Anyway, finding it also demonstrated again to me the recursive nature of the Blues – although 32 years is a long time for the loop to take to return to its starting point. Now that it has, here are the remarks and records I made and played on that program so long ago.
So, that’s it. By the way, the title of this show was the first time that I used the phrase, “Back To The Blues.” I would later use it for a series of cable access programs for the Society and, ultimately, this column.

Thanks for letting me take you again...Back To The Blues.

Perry Aberli

Got a blues-related event, recording or item to promote? Advertise in the Blues News!

Business card $15  
Quarter page $30  
Half page $60  
Full page $110

Email news@kbsblues.org or call 502-893-8031

Need more blues news? Check out www.kbsblues.org and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KBSBlues. Also don’t forget the KBS monthly feature, “I’ve Got a Mind To Ramble”, online at www.louisvillemusicnews.net. And, for your listening pleasure, check out the Kentuckiana Blues Radio Show with your host Gary Sampson Fridays at 8:00 PM on Crescent Hill Radio at WCHR 100.9 FM or online at www.crescenthillradio.com. And, check out Blues Highway with host Mike Sutters at WXOX 97.1 FM or online at www.artxfm.com from 8:00 AM -10:00 AM Sundays.
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A list of venues featuring local and regional blues acts can be found at www.kbsblues.org. Show dates/times are always subject to change. It’s a good idea to check in with the club before hitting the road!
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 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 coupon above and send with your payment to:

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Louisville, KY 40201-0755

I would be willing to help out at KBS events

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YES! I WANT TO JOIN THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY TODAY!