


**BRAD VICKERS**  
**& His VESTAPOLITANS**

Blues/Jump/  
 Roots'n'Roll  
**ALWAYS**  
 a great time!

Book NOW at  
[www.BradVickers.com](http://www.BradVickers.com)

MAN HAT TONE



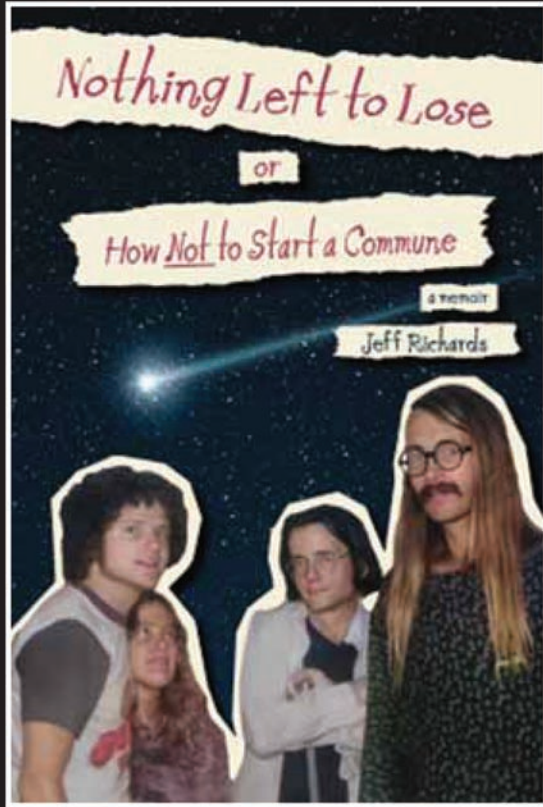
*Always looking for interesting projects*

**BluesNYC**

Blues TV Show and NYC Based Blues Band  
**Guy Powell**  
 Producer/Drummer/Writer  
 917-825-2400  
[gtp130@gmail.com](mailto:gtp130@gmail.com) [www.BluesNYC.com](http://www.BluesNYC.com)



*Nothing Left to Lose*  
 or  
*How Not to Start a Commune*  
 a memoir  
 Jeff Richards



Available on Amazon!

## Birthday Blues

### "Big Daddy" Lester Kinsey

(March 18, 1927, Pleasant Grove, MS - April 3, 2001, Gary, IN)

Big Daddy Kinsey began singing at a young age in the church where his father, who was the preacher, did not like him singing blues. In 1944, at age 17, Lester moved north to Gary, Indiana to work in the steel mills. He married Christine McNeal in 1946. After serving in the military, he returned to the steel mills to support his growing family. Big Daddy began to play music again and picked up the guitar in the late 60's while performing on harmonica with The Soul Brothers. Big Daddy started a family band with his three very talented sons: Donald Kinsey-guitar (5/12/1953 - 2/6/2004), Ralph Kinsey-drums (4/26/1952 - 1/17/2024) and Kenneth Kinsey-bass (1/21/63). Donald and Ralph were only 12 and 13 when they joined Big Daddy Kinsey & His Fabulous Sons. Later Donald played and toured with Albert King and then Bob Marley but returned to Gary IN in 1984 to form The Kinsey Report with Pinetop Perkins on piano. Big Daddy also ran a bus charter company, Kenites Coach Lines, that took groups to casinos in the south.



**Big Daddy & The Kinsey Report**

## Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18:

2/4/54 - Curtis Salgado, Everett, WA  
 2/5/1898 - Will Shade, Memphis, TN  
 2/6/44 - Willie Tee, New Orleans, LA  
 2/7/34 - Earl King, New Orleans, LA  
 2/7/34 - King Curtis, Fort Worth, TX  
 2/8/1899 - Lonnie Johnson, New Orleans, LA  
 2/8/29 - Floyd Dixon, Marshall, TX  
 2/9/62 - Catfish Keith, East Chicago, IL  
 2/11/27 - Josh White, Greenville, SC  
 2/11/28 - Aaron, Moore, Greenwood, MS  
 2/11/37 - Phillip Walker, Welsh, LA  
 2/11/40 - Big Bad Smitty, Vicksburg, MS  
 2/11/43 - Little Johnny Taylor, Memphis, TN  
 2/12/1900 - Pink Anderson, Laurens, SC  
 2/13/49 - Chicago Beau, Chicago, IL  
 2/14/37 - Sam Maggett, Grenada, MS  
 2/15/1901 - Kokomo Arnold, Lovejoy, GA  
 2/16/16 - Bill Doggett, Philadelphia, PA  
 2/16/63 - Chris Duarte, San Antonio, TX  
 2/17/26 - Noble Watts, Deland, FL  
 2/17/54 - Lou Ann Barton, Austin, TX  
 2/18/41 - Irma Thomas, Ponchatoula, LA

## Pisces

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20:

2/19/36 - Sam Myers, Laurel, MS  
 2/19/37 - Robert "Bilbo" Walker, near Clarksdale, MS  
 2/20/37 - Nancy Wilson, Chillicothe, OH  
 2/20/46 - J. Geils, New York City, NY  
 2/21/1903 - Scrapper Blackwell, Syracuse, SC  
 2/22/1908 - Claude "Fiddler" Williams, Muskogee, OK  
 2/22/28 - Texas Johnny Brown, Choctaw County, MS  
 2/22/33 - T-Bone Walker, Royse City, TX  
 2/22/36 - Ernie K-Doe, New Orleans, LA  
 2/24/28 - Antoine "Fats" Domino, New Orleans, LA  
 2/24/36 - Willie Kent, Sunflower, MS  
 2/24/53 - Carl Weathersby, Jackson, MS  
 2/26/45 - Mitch Ryder, Hamtramck, MI  
 2/26/47 - Paul Oscher, Brooklyn, NY  
 2/27/43 - Jimmy Burns, Dublin, MS  
 2/28/42 - Bobby Foster, Tchula, MS  
 3/1/12 - Walter Davis, Grenada, MS  
 3/2/21 - Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, New York City, NY  
 3/2/24 - "Papa George" Lightfoot, Natchez, MS  
 3/3/27 - Little Junior Parker, Clarksdale, MS  
 3/3/46 - John Primer, Camden, MS  
 3/4/09 - Howard Armstrong, La Follette, TN  
 3/4/44 - Bobby Womack, Cleveland, OH  
 3/5/29 - J. B. Lenoir, Monticello, MS

3/5/60 - Rico McFarland, Chicago, IL  
 3/6/1893 - Furry Lewis, Greenwood, MS  
 3/6/44 - Mary Wilson, Greenville, MS  
 3/10/03 - Bix Beiderbecke, Davenport, IA  
 3/10/15 - Guitar Slim, Greenwood, MS  
 3/9/33 - Lloyd Price, Kenner, LA  
 3/10/38 - Omar Sheriff, Shreveport, LA  
 3/10/50 - David Maxwell, Waltham, MA  
 3/10/53 - Ronnie Earl, New York City, NY  
 3/11/1900 - Charley Hicks, Lithonia, GA  
 3/12/17 - Leonard Chess, Motelle, Poland  
 3/13/13 - Lightnin' Slim, St. Louis, MO  
 3/13/59 - Melvin Taylor, Jackson, MS  
 3/15/12 - Lightnin' Hopkins, Centerville, TX  
 3/15/1905 - Bertha "Chippie" Hill, Charleston, SC  
 3/18/27 - Big Daddy Kinsey, Pleasant Grove, MS  
 3/18/41 - Wilson Pickett, Prattville, AL  
 3/19/37 - Clarence "Frogman" Henry, New Orleans, LA  
 3/20/35 - Sam Lay, Birmingham, AL  
 3/20/37 - Eddie Shaw, Stringtown, MS  
 3/20/48 - Marva Wright, New Orleans, LA  
 3/20/49 - Marcia Ball, Orange, TX  
 3/20/51 - Jimmie Vaughan, Dallas, TX  
 3/21/1893 - Bo Carter, Bolton, MS  
 3/21/1902 - Son House, Riverton, MS  
 3/21/30 - Otis Spann, Jackson, MS  
 3/21/44 - Gaye Adegbalola, Fredericksburg, VA  
 3/21/37 - Huckleberry Hound, Greenwood, MS

## Aries

Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

3/22/32 - Juke Boy Bonner, Bellville, TX  
 3/22/46 - Melvin Sparks, Houston, TX  
 3/23/26 - Louisiana Red, Vicksburg, MS  
 3/23/51 - Lee McBee, Kansas City, MO  
 3/24/22 - King Pleasure, Oakdale, TN  
 3/24/46 - Lee Oskar, Copenhagen, Denmark  
 3/25/1904 - Pete Johnson, Kansas City, MO  
 3/25/1906 - Curly Weaver, Covington, GA  
 3/25/42 - Aretha Franklin, Memphis, TN  
 3/26/17 - Rufus Thomas, Cayce, MS  
 3/27/1905 - Leroy Carr, Nashville, TN  
 3/27/15 - Robert Lockwood, Jr., Marvel, AR  
 3/27/32 - Junior Parker, West Memphis, AR  
 3/27/37 - Johnny Copeland, Haynesville, LA  
 3/29/51 - William Clarke, Ingleswood, CA  
 3/29/68 - Sue Foley, Ottawa, ON, Canada  
 3/30/14 - Sonny Boy Williamson I, Jackson, TN  
 3/30/45 - Eric Clapton, Ripley, Surrey, England  
 3/30/48 - Dave Hole, Cheshire, England  
 3/30/63 - Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges, New Orleans, LA  
 3/31/13 - Etta Baker, Caldwell County, NC  
 3/31/21 - Lowell Fulson, Tulsa, OK



# MAKE YOUR DEAL AT THE CROSSROADS



*Joni Mitchell - print only*



*Dr John*



*Kingfish*



*Samantha Fish*



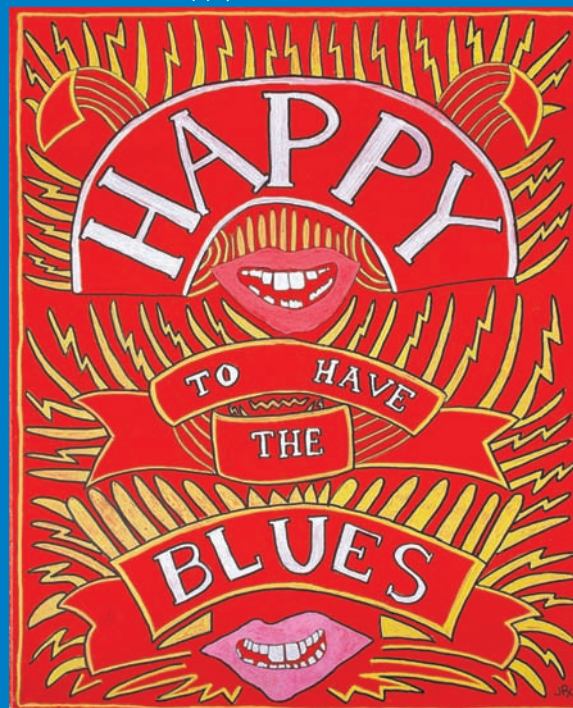
*John Lee Hooker - print only*

**ARTWORK BY  
ROBERT JR WHITALL**

Originals and Prints are available.

Please visit: The ArtRoom at  
[www.bigcitybluesmag.com](http://www.bigcitybluesmag.com) or email  
[blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com) or call 248-582-1544

*Happy to Have the Blues*



*John Lennon - print only*



*SRV - print only*



*Janis*



*Bonnie*



# 30th Anniversary Double CDs

## Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine Sampler #37- 2025

**Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's** 30th Pearl Anniversary CD Sampler features 37 songs as a special bonus gift for our loyal subscribers! Big thanks to all - subscribers, record labels, musicians, advertisers, writers and founders-the late great Robert Jr. Whitall and Charlie Auringer. **Producers:** Sugar Mae Owens, Charlie Auringer & Bob Monteleone. Contact: blues@bigcitybluesmag.com 248-582-1544  
**For promotional use only; not for sale.** See artist social media/websites for more information.

### Disc 1



**1. BETTYE LAVETTE**  
"Plan B" (3:44) LaVette!  
@jayveerecords Bettye LaVette may not have a "Plan B" but she is in very good company with producer/drummer Steve Jordan and songwriter Randall Bramblett.



**2. JOHN PRIMER**  
"Born in Mississippi" (3:32)  
Grown In Mississippi  
BluesHouseProductions.com  
John Primer brings us back to his Mississippi roots collaborating with Blues all-stars



**3. CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE**  
"Storm Warning" (4:04)  
Look Out Highway  
FortyBelowRecords.com  
Get on the road with Musselwhite, dance, shake and watch out, you will not want to stop!

**4. TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS**  
"Crazy Woman Blues" (5:25)  
Closer To The Bone  
Alligator.com  
Castro knows Blues and he grabs your attention with this gut-wrenching song.



**8. BOBBY CHRISTINA'S CARAVAN**  
"Evil" (3:42)  
True Blues Brother-the Legacy of Matt "Guitar" Murphy  
Nola-Blue.com  
Bobby Christina's all star tribute to his friend Matt "Guitar" Murphy is a masterpiece!



**5. KENNY NEAL & MICAH WILLIS**  
"Devil's In The Delta" (4:28)  
VerdictMusic.com  
Father and son, Kenny Neal and Micah Willis unite their talents to bring us deep, soulful swampy Blues.



**6. LITTLE FREDDIE KING**  
"Coming Home To Jesus" (2:44)  
Going Upstairs Newwelle-Records.com New Orleans' reigning Blues monarch, Little Freddie King is the real deal!



**7. VASTI JACKSON**  
"Voodoo Boogie" (3:07)  
Royal American Blues  
VastiJackson.com  
High energy, hard working, non-stop international Blues touring, Vasti Jackson is everywhere!



**9. RARE UNION**  
"Blues Be Strong" (3:27)  
Times They Always Change  
RareUnionBand.com  
Percussion-based Rare Union keeps the Blues flame lit and burning.



**10. BRANDON SANTINI**  
"Which Way Do We Go?" (4:11)  
Which Way Do We Go?  
MoJoRecords.com  
Memphis-based Santini has been going everywhere with his harp driven songs, touring non-stop.



**11. CHRISTOPHER WYZE & THE TELLERS**  
"Cotton Ain't King" (4:36)  
Stuck In The Mud  
BigRadioRecords.com  
Wyze is an amazing songwriter who has exploded on the Blues scene with this authentic music.



**12. CHRIS VINCENT & THE RAW DEAL**  
"Midnight After All" (2:59)  
Good Crook  
ChrisVincentNewOrleans.com  
Vincent's talents has it all and what it takes to break out in the abundant New Orleans music scene.



**13. GOPHER BROKE**  
"Cloud Up and Rain" (5:30)  
It's About Damn Time!!  
GopherBroke.org  
Yes it is "Damn Time!" and the fun begins with Gopher Broke—boogie-based Blues.  
**14. REGGIE BOONE**  
"Never Picked No Cotton" (3:36)  
Never Picked No Cotton  
LoveInternetRecords.com  
Boone remixes Atlanta's favorite



DJ - Dr. Love's "I Ain't Picked No Cotton..." and makes it his own.



**15. OC SOUL & THE SOUL PATROL BAND**  
"It Don't Take All Night" (4:30)  
OCSoulBand.com  
Southern Soul is in the house, roll up the rugs, get down and groove with OC!



**16. CLEVELAND'S BACKSTREET BLUES BAND**  
"Ice Cold" (5:03)  
BackstreetBluesBand.com  
You will not feel "Ice Cold" after you jump up to this driving Blues beat song.  
**17. ALLISON AUGUST**  
"Afraid of Love" (3:14)



August Moon  
MoJoRecords.com  
What's not to like? Allison August has arrived and you will love what you hear!



**18. REDD VELVET**  
"Fish and Light Bread (The Juke Joint Song)" (4:03)  
ReddVelvet.com  
Simply delicious - Redd Velvet keeps you hungry for more tasteful tunes!



**19. LIZ PENNOCK & DR. BLUES**  
"Christmas Eve Present" (5:00)  
Christmas Eve Present  
LizPennock.com  
It's never too early to start shopping but to get you into the spirit, here's a "Christmas Present" just for you!

### Disc 2



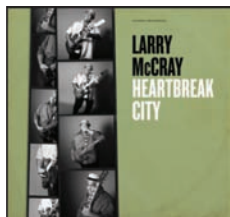
**1. BIG CHIEF MONK BOUDREAUX & SPY BOY JWAN BOUDREAUX**  
THE GOLDEN EAGLES  
"Slip Don't Fall" (2:57)  
Slip Don't Fall  
WildHeartRecords.com



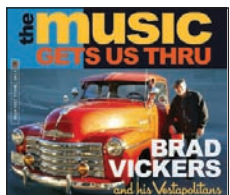
# Get the 2025 Big City Blues Sampler CD #37

## 30th Anniversary Double CDs FREE when you subscribe (or renew) plus more bonus deals available!

The Golden Eagles' Big Chief and his Spy Boy grandson captures the Mardi Gras Indian spirit.



**2. LARRY MCCRAY**  
"Heartbreak City" (7:23)  
Heartbreak City  
KTBARecords.com  
McCray's guitar and vocals merge effortlessly with a moody organ and horn accents to give you his Blues!



**3. BRAD VICKERS & HIS VESTOPOLITANS**  
"Dumb Like A Fox" (1:59) The Music Gets UsThru  
BradVickers.com Veteran Bluesman Vickers brings together a little rockabilly and 12 bar Blues.



**4. MARC STONE WSG George Porter, Jr.**  
"Love Is Everything" (5:21)  
MarcStonePresents.com  
It is a good thing as Stone celebrates his musical passion with The George Porter, Jr. Trio and Joy Clark!  
**5. GARRETT COLLINS PROJECT**  
"Better Days" (4:24)  
BlackhatBlues.com  
This southern funky Blues Rock trio will take you there!



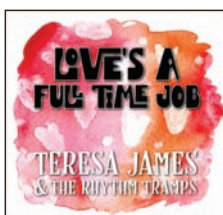
**6. CANNONBALL RED**  
"Put My Blues On You" (6:14)  
BlackhatBlues.com  
Multi-instrumentalist, singer songwriter, Cannonball blends modern Blues with his Gospel roots.



**7. BROOKS MILGATE**  
"I Should've Known" (5:03)  
Roll With the Punches  
MoMojoRecords.com  
Here is an expert keyboardist, singer and songwriter as Milgate channels his hero - Jimmy Reed.



**8. CANDICE IVORY**  
"Lookin' For My Baby" (4:14)  
New Southern Vintage  
Nola-Blue.com  
Look no further, you have the accomplished Ivory to sing the Blues for you.  
**9. MAX HIGHTOWER**  
"Double Bubble" (3:42)  
Nothin' But The Truth  
MoMojoRecords.com  
With growing vocals and a super harp, Hightower knows how to deliver.



**10. TERESA JAMES**  
"Love's A Full Time Job" (3:08)  
MoMojoRecords.com  
It's always a pleasure to listen to James, a gifted songwriter, singer and keyboardist.



**11. THE ALEXIS P. SUTER BAND**  
"God Gave Me The Blues" (3:48)  
Just Stay High  
Nola-Blue.com  
A mighty Blues shouter, Suter will capture your soul.



**12. THE BC COMBO FEAT. BEV CONKLIN**  
"Hooked On A Long Chain" (2:22)  
Glass Half Full  
MoMojoRecords.com  
BC aka Bev Conklin's rich and sultry vocals will get you hooked on her Blues.  
**13. ROBBIN KAPSALIS WSG JOE LOUIS WALKER**  
"The Blues Is In The House" (3:48)  
The Blues Is In The House  
BluesHouseProductions.com  
Newly signed to John Primer's label, Kapsalis' vocals soar with grit and spirit!



**14. D.K. HARRELL**  
"Liquor Stores and Legs" (3:28)  
Talkin' Heavy  
Alligator.com  
Need a break? Go out Bluesin' with D.K. and you will feel better!



O'Leary's soulful voice, clever lyrics with his talented harp makes the Blues jump!



**16. THE STUMBLING MICE**  
"Know You Rider" (7:17)  
The Stumbling Mice  
HanzieRecords.com  
The Stumbling Mice mix their modern Blues Rock with a popular traditional Folk song.



**17. CHRIS CAIN**  
"Fear Is My Roommate" (3:33)  
Good Intentions Gone Bad  
Alligator.com  
With his powerful vocals and guitar, Chris Cain always delivers.



**18. TORONZO CANNON**  
"Can't Fix The World" (4:15)  
Shut Up & Play!  
Alligator.com  
Toronzo tells the truth with his timely lyrics and stellar guitar work!

To sign up for participation on our samplers contact Shirley Mae Owens at [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com)

**Subscription Order Form is on next page**

## Bonus Big City Blues Sampler CDs!

Limited quantity get them while supplies last.



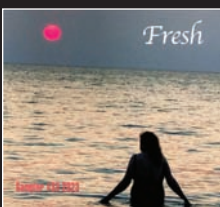
Imagine  
# 36 2024



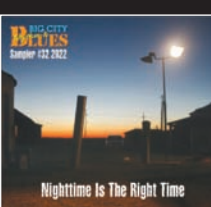
Got Mojo?  
# 35 2024



Thw Raven Speaks Sampler  
# 34 2023



Fresh  
Sampler # 33 2023



Night Time Is Right Time  
Sampler # 32 2022



Goin Up The Country  
Sampler # 31 2022

More bonus samplers available, see list in subscription order form on page 59.

Call 248-582-1544 or email [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com)  
Store open now at [www.bigcitybluesmag.com](http://www.bigcitybluesmag.com)



# Love Blues?

## Big Bonus subscription deals:

Order online at [www.bigcitybluesmag.com](http://www.bigcitybluesmag.com)

### • 1 Year Subscription

• (6 issues) @ \$45 and get the new Sampler #37 CD 30th Anniversary

• **2 Year Subscription** (12 issues) @ \$80 and get the new Sampler #37 30th Anniv. plus your choice of ONE of these bonus extras:

- 1 more Sampler CD or
- a BCB 61/49 T-shirt or
- Send a one year subscription to a friend or
- Add one more year to subscription
- NEW- 8x10 art print (see p. 59 or Art Room on [bigcitybluesmag.com](http://bigcitybluesmag.com))

### • 3 Year Subscription

(18 issues) @ \$120 and get the new Sampler #37 CD 30th Anniv. plus your choice of ONE bonus extra:

- 2 more sampler CDs or • 1 more sampler CD & BCB 61/49 T-shirt or
- a BCB Island Shirt or • a BCB Workshirt
- NEW- 8x10 art print (see p. 59 or Art Room on [bigcitybluesmag.com](http://bigcitybluesmag.com))

### • 5 Year Subscription

(30 issues) @ \$175 and get every new Sampler CD released (twice a year or more) and BCB 61/49 T-shirt or • a BCB Island Shirt or • a BCB Workshirt

• **Special Lifetime Subscription** @ \$550 Get all Big City Blues Samplers, a BCB 61/49 T-shirt, BCB Island Shirt, BCB Workshirt. USA ONLY

Email for details to [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com)

## Subscription by Mail Order Form

Don't miss these bonus deals by sending check, money order or credit cards to:  
Big City Blues, P.O. Box 1805, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1805

☐ SUBSCRIBE FOR ONE YEAR (6 issues) @ \$45 and get the new Sampler CD #37  
☐ SUBSCRIBE FOR TWO YEARS (12 issues) @ \$80 and get the new Sampler CD #37 plus your choice of ONE of these extra bonuses:

- ☐ 1 more sampler CD (choose CDs from list below) or Get a T-shirt
- ☐ BCB 61/49 T-shirt - circle color/size Black White M L XL XXL XXXL
- ☐ Or send a one year subscription to a friend. (Include their name and address)
- ☐ Or add one more year to your subscription without a bonus
- ☐ Or 8x10 art print (See page 59 indicate choice or go to Art Room on [bigcitybluesmag.com](http://bigcitybluesmag.com))

☐ SUBSCRIBE FOR THREE YEARS (18 issues) @ \$120 and get the new Sampler CD #37 plus choice of ONE of these extra bonuses:

- ☐ 1 more sampler CD and a BCB 61/49 T-shirt (Indicate choice, color and size above)
- ☐ Or 2 more sampler CDs
- ☐ Or a BCB Island Shirt or a BCB Workshirt Circle size M L XL XXL
- ☐ Or 8x10 art print (See page 59 indicate choice or go to Art Room on [bigcitybluesmag.com](http://bigcitybluesmag.com))
- ☐ NEW! SUBSCRIBE FOR FIVE YEARS (30 issues) @ \$175 and get all the new Big City Blues Samplers as they are released (twice a year) and ☐ BCB T-shirt or ☐ BCB Island Shirt or ☐ a BCB Workshirt (Indicate colors and sizes above)
- ☐ LIFETIME SUBSCRIPTION @ \$550 Get Big City Blues Samplers, BCB T-shirt, BCB Island Shirt, BCB Workshirt. USA ONLY


For details email [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com)

All subscriptions, bonus CDs & Blues Gear are mailed First Class in protective envelope and handling charges included. Sampler details at [www.bigcitybluesmag.com](http://www.bigcitybluesmag.com). Choose your CDs from these Sampler CDs for 2 & 3 year subscriptions.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #36 Imagine                | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #34 The Raven Speaks             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #35 Got Mojo?              | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #32 Night Time Is The Right Time |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #33 Fresh                  | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #30 Mojo Hand                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #31 Goin' Up The Country   | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #28 Happy to Have the Blues      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #29 California Dreaming    | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #26 What Would Junior Do?        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #27 I Like It Like That    | <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #24 Finger Lickin' Good          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CD Sampler #25 On the Road to Nowhere |  |

(add \$50 USD per year outside USA) (add \$10 USD per year for Canada)  
(Credit Card surcharge will be added) Total amount \_\_\_\_\_

name \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

 Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## Blues Wear! Subscribe or buy!

2 or 3 Year  
subscriptions  
can get a t-shirt  
or are available  
for sale below!



Harmonica Shah sez, "I got my Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's Island Shirt!" Get yours free when you subscribe!



NEW! Free Robert Jr signed 8x10 Art Prints with Subscriptions  
Free w/ 2 yr subscription  
Free w/ 3 yr subscription  
See ad facing page (63) for selections  
email: [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com)



Terrance Simien  
High Noon at  
the Crossroads



Dr John  
Midnight at the  
Crossroads

61/49 T-shirt black  
or white \$30

6149 JEWELRY Sterling Silver  
necklace or pin ON SALE \$100

Visit our Roadhouse Store at

[www.bigcitybluesmag.com](http://www.bigcitybluesmag.com)

to see more bonus selections and to order online and use Credit Cards with PayPal. Or use this order form below by mail or email your order with your choices, colors and size to [blues@bigcitybluesmag.com](mailto:blues@bigcitybluesmag.com) to pay by PayPal Invoice.



For credit card over the phone 248-582-1544

Send check, money order or credit card information to:

Big City Blues, P.O. Box 1805, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1805 check & circle choices

- ☐ 6149 Sterling Silver Necklace \$100 ☐ 6149 Sterling Silver Pin \$100
- ☐ 61/49 T-shirt \$30 Blk or Wht - M L XL XXL XXXL
- ☐ Island shirt \$50 M L XL XXL ☐ Workshirt \$50 M L XL XXL

S & H for USA/Canada included. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. While supplies last.  
(Outside USA & Canada plus Shipping & Handling) (Mich. residents add 6% sales tax)  
(Credit Card surcharge will be added) Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_







# BACKYARD BLUES, BBQ & BREWS FESTIVAL

Save The Date: August 8, 2026

Thornetta Davis



The  
Fabulous  
Horndogs

Brendon  
Linsley  
Band



August 7, 2026

Sugar Mae's Blues Camp

Meet & Greet & Blues with Capt. Dirk  
around the fire for for Backyard Blues,  
BBQ & Brews Campers & VIP  
and sponsors!



Lively Acres Campground

3805 W. Empire Highway Empire, MI 49630  
231-994-9339 • Two Night Campers - \$30  
Backyard Fest ticket Non-campers:  
\$35 advance or \$40 at the gate  
Reserve your campsite now at:  
[livelyacrescampground.com](http://livelyacrescampground.com)



# BIG CITY Rhythm & Blues SUGAR MAE

All photos by Shirley Mae Owens unless otherwise credited



**"Da Bones Man" with Sugar at the Shack Up Inn's Juke Joint Chapel, Clarksdale, MS 1/17/26**

## And I Ain't Lyin'!

Sugar left Up North's nonstop snow and arctic cold behind as she drove south to Memphis, TN for 5 days of Blues at the **Blues Foundation's 41st IBC's - International Blues Challenge** where over 20 clubs hosted Blues Society Blues Bands competing against each other on Beale St. The first order of business was for Sugar to go straight to Schwab's where she was looking for a John de Conqueror root mojo bag but upgraded and got the "everything" mojo bag that seemed to start working immediately! Congratulations to the first place IBC band winner: **Derrick Dove & the Peacekeepers** and Derrick Dove also won Best Blues Guitarist! For the first place IBC solo/duo was **The Weary Ramblers**. Sugar also enjoyed attending the **KBA's - Keeping the Blues Alive** luncheon where she sat at the **NOLA Blue** records table with **Benny Turner** and **Sallie Bengtson** who was honored with a KBA. Afterwards Sugar attended one of the many workshops: the Youth Workshop with hostess **Danielle Nicole Schnebelen-Miller** joined by her husband **Brandon Miller**, plus **Jim Pugh** and **Kevin Burt**.

Next stop was Clarksdale's **Shack Up Inn** (that is for sale!) where she met

**Randy Sepalla** aka "**Da Bones Man**" who lives nearby until May 1st when he moves back to the UP. Playing rhythm bones is one of the oldest African and Irish traditional instruments that have been handed down over the generations. Also, the Da Bones Man makes custom wearable washboards. Sugar saw **Keith Robinson** at Clarksdale's **Ground Zero**, who she saw on tour with **Morgan Freeman's Symphonic Blues** last August in NYC's Central Park. From Macon, **Cash's Juke Joint - Angel "Cash" Ocasio, Jr.**, who was a top 10 finalist for the **2026 Best Self-Produced CD** was at **Bluesberry Cafe** for the 3rd Annual IBC After Party Jam that he hosted.

Sugar left at dawn from the Shack Up to continue down Highway 49 - **The Emmett Till Memorial Highway** that was dedicated in 2005 to the 14-year-old who was lynched in 1955. Today the KKK continues to vandalize memorial signs especially ones near the Tallahatchie River where Emmett Till's body was found. **The Emmett Till Interpretive Center** has replaced the signs many times.

Speaking about the KKK and their continued hate crimes, Sugar went deep into the woods to find **Mississippi John**



**Cash's Juke Joint, Bluesberry Cafe, Clarksdale, MS 1/18/26**

**Hurt's** home that was converted to a museum but was burned down in 2024 and two memorial markers were shot at, torn down and stolen. Due to generous donations the **Mississippi John Hurt**

Foundation is rebuilding the museum and both memorial markers have been recovered. For more information visit [www.msjohnhurtfoundation.org](http://www.msjohnhurtfoundation.org).

Sugar made it to Pensacola Beach

**"The Prince of the Delta Blues," Keith Johnson at Clarksdale's Ground Zero, 1/17/26**







**Barbara Blue** hosted the "Shake Off Your Jet Lag IBC Welcome Party" at Silky O'Sullivan's, 1/14/26.

where she stopped by the **Paradise Bar & Grill** to see **Renee Mack** who had a beautiful festive Mardi Gras tree with a rack of Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazines on display. Thank you, Renee!



**Brian Mitchell** with **The Weight**, **Ponte Vedra Concert Hall**, **Ponte Vedra Beach, FL** 1/21/26

The following evening Sugar got a last-minute 4th row seat for **The Weight** at the **Ponte Vedra Concert Hall**, a beautifully-refurbished venue and well attended by Floridians and snowbirds



**Brendon Linsley & Kenny Neal**, **Alfred's On Beale**, 1/15/26

alike. Sugar also did a drive by at nearby **Cafe 11** in St. Augustine Beach that is also popular on the Blues circuit.

Read a full report of the **#44** **Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise** in

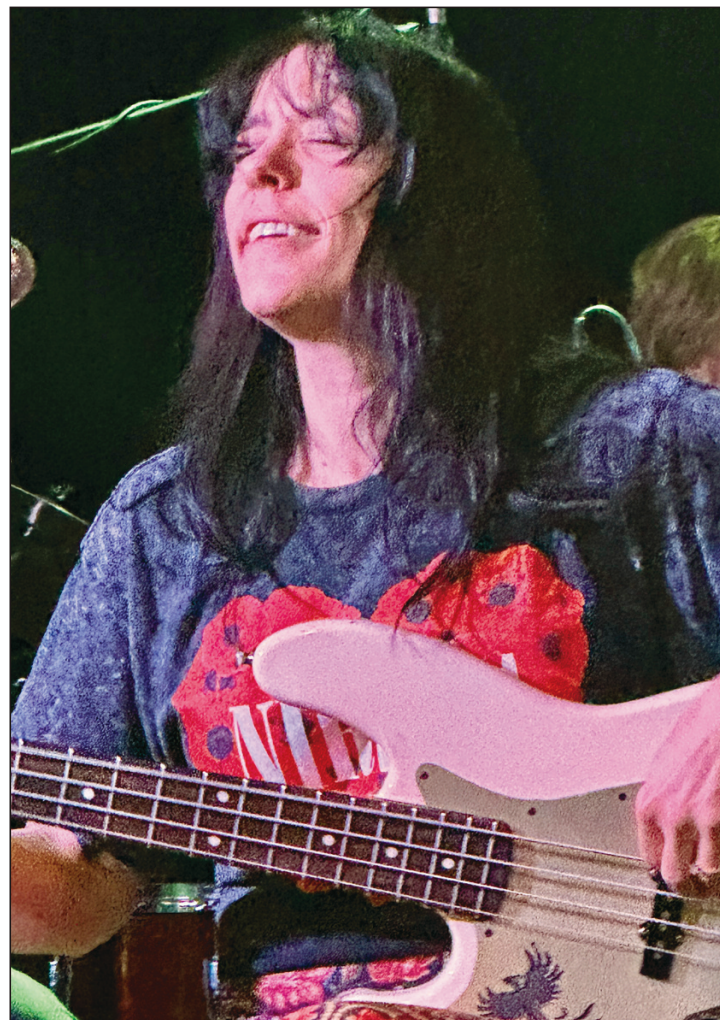
the April/May Big City Rhythm & Blues Cruise.

Love & happiness,  
**Sugar Mae**

**Meeza Joy** performed at the **National Woman In The Blues (WIB) Showcase**, 1/15/26



**Danielle Nicole** led the **Youth Blues Band Showcase** presented by **Pinetop Perkins** and **Generational Blues Foundations**, **Club 152 Beale**, 1/16/26





# On The Road with the Big City Rhythm & Blues SOCIAL & PLEASURE CLUB BLUES TOURS 2026-2027 Festivals & Special Events

- **February 17, 2026**  
**Mardi Gras**  
New Orleans, LA
- **March 6-7, 2026 T-Bois Blues Festival**  
Larose, LA  
tboisblues.com
- **March 28 & Feb. 1, 2026**  
**Clearwater Sea-Blues Festival**  
Clearwater, FL  
FB: Clearwater Sea-Blues Festival
- **April 10 - 12, 2026 Tampa Bay Blues Festival**  
St. Petersburg, FL  
www.tampabaybluesfest.com
- **April 11, 2026 Juke Joint Festival**  
Clarksdale, MS  
www.jukejointfestival.com
- **April 16-19, 2025**  
**French Quarter Festival**  
New Orleans, LA  
www.frenchquarterfest.org
- **April 17-18, 2026**  
**Baton Rouge Blues Festival**  
Baton Rouge, LA www.brblues.org
- **April 23 - May 3, 2026**  
**New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival**  
New Orleans, LA  
www.nojazzfest.com
- **May 6, 2026**  
**Blues Hall Fame Induction Ceremony**  
Memphis, TN  
www.blues.org



Mississippi John Hurt Museum, Avalon, MS

- **May 7, 2026**  
**Blues Music Awards**  
Memphis, TN  
www.blues.org
- **June 4-7, 2026**  
**Chicago Blues Festival**  
www.chicago.gov
- **July 9-11, 2026**  
**Briggs Farm Blues Festival**  
Briggsville, PA  
www.briggsfarm.com
- **August 7 & 8, 2026**  
**Backyard Blues Brews & BBQ & Sugar Mae's Blues Camp**  
Lively Acres Campground  
Empire, MI  
www.livelyacrescampground.com
- **October 3 & 4, 2026 Mississippi John Hurt Homecoming**  
Avalon, MS  
www.msjohnhurtfoundation.org
- **Oct. 31 - Nov. 7, 2026**  
**#45 Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise**  
Mexican Riviera  
bluescruise.com
- **January 16-23, 2027**  
**Big Easy Cruise**  
www.bigeasycruise.com
- **January 31-February 7, 2027**  
**#46 Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise**  
Eastern Caribbean  
www.bluescruise.com

## Junior's Jukes-Big City Rhythm & Blues Clubs

- **Durham, NC**  
The Blue Note Grill
- **Atlanta, GA**  
Northside Tavern  
Darwins  
Blind Willies  
Fat Matt's
- **Ann Arbor**  
The Ark
- **Austin, TX**  
Antones  
The Continental Club  
Skylark Lounge
- **Lockhart, Tx**  
Old Pal Texas Tavern
- **Bay St. Louis, MS**  
100 Men Hall D.B.A.
- **Biloxi, Mississippi**  
Ground Zero Biloxi
- **Chicago, IL**  
Buddy Guy's Legends  
Rosa's Lounge  
Lee's Unleaded Blues  
Reggies  
Space  
Kingston Mines  
Taylor Street Tap
- **Clarksdale, MS**  
Red's Juke Joint  
Ground Zero
- **Detroit, MI**  
Third Man Records  
Raven Lounge  
Berts Marketplace  
Northern Lights  
PJ's Lager House  
El Club  
Token Lounge
- **Florida**



Ponte Vedra Concert Hall,  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

- **Fort Myers, FL**  
Buckingham Blues Bar
- **Indianapolis, IN**  
Slippery Noodle
- **Berwyn, IL**

- **Fitzgerald's**
- **Kansas City, MO**  
Knuckleheads  
BB's Lawnside Blues & BBQ
- **Los Angeles, CA**  
Harvelles Santa Monica  
Maui Sugar Mill Saloon  
Baby Blues BBQ
- **Madison, WI**  
Red Rooster IN
- **Memphis, TN**  
Rum Boogie  
BB Kings  
Wild Bills
- **Milwaukee, WI**  
Mamies
- **Nashville, TN**  
Bourbon Street  
Blues&Boogie  
Third Man Records
- **New Orleans, LA**
- **Tipitinas**  
House Of Blues  
B J's  
Little Gem Theatre  
Kermit's Mother-In -  
Law Lounge  
Maple Leaf Bar  
Broadside Chickie Wah  
Wah Rock N' Bowl
- **New York, NY**  
Terra Blues  
Red Lion
- **Ocean Springs, MS**  
The Shed  
The Julep Room
- **Pensacola Beach**  
Paradise Bar & Grill
- **Ponte Vedra, FL**  
Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
- **San Francisco, CA**

- **Biscuits and Blues**  
The Saloon  
Eli's Mile High Club  
Yoshi's Oakland
- **San Jose, CA**  
Poor House Bistro
- **St. Augustine Beach, FL**  
Cafe 11
- **Pensacola Beach, FL**  
Paradise Bar & Grill
- **St. Louis, MO**  
National Blues Museum  
Broadway Oyster Bar
- **St. Georges, DE**  
St. Georges Country Store
- **Woodstock, NY**  
Colony
- **Zachary, LA**  
Teddy's Juke Joint



**OCCASIONALLY  
IMITATED...**



**NEVER  
REPLICATED!™**

## **LRBC #45 MEXICAN RIVIERA • OCT. 31 ~ NOV. 7, 2026**

**SAN DIEGO TO CABO SAN LUCAS, PUERTO VALLARTA & MAZATLAN • HOLLAND AMERICA KONINGS DAM**

**TAJMO • KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD • BOOKER T'S STAX REVUE**

**THE CALIFORNIA HONEYDROPS • RUTHIE FOSTER • PAUL THORN**

**TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS • RONNIE BAKER BROOKS**

**VANESSA COLLIER • RICK ESTRIN & THE NIGHTCATS • MR. SIPP**

**SUGARAY RAYFORD • DEVON ALLMAN'S BLUES SUMMIT**

**FEAT. THE DEVON ALLMAN PROJECT, LARRY MCCRAY, JIMMY HALL & MORE TBA**

**CURTIS SALGADO • SUE FOLEY BAND & SOLO • D.K. HARRELL**

**KID ANDERSEN'S GREASELAND ALL-STARS • CHRIS CAIN**

**JOHN PRIMER & THE REAL DEAL BLUES BAND • TERRIE ODABI**

**ANTHONY PAULE SOUL ORCHESTRA FEAT. WILLY JORDAN**

**DWAYNE DOPSIE & THE ZYDECO HELLRAISERS • HADDEN SAYERS SOLO & BOOMCHANK**

**2026 IBC SOLO/DUO WINNER**

### **PIANO BAR HOSTS:**

**MITCH WOODS • REV. BILLY C. WIRTZ**

**TARYN DONATH DUO • DARYL DAVIS**

**ROB RIO • DARYL COUTTS**

### **LATE NITE JAM ROOMS:**

**MR. SIPP'S SUGAR SHACK**

**CHUK BARBER'S SOUL LOUNGE**

**PLUS SURPRISE GUESTS TBA!**

## **LRBC #46 EASTERN CARIBBEAN • JAN. 31 ~ FEB. 7, 2027**

**FT. LAUDERDALE TO GRAND TURK (TURKS & CAICOS), SAN JUAN (PUERTO RICO)**

**& SANTO DOMINGO (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC) • HOLLAND AMERICA NIEUW STATENDAM**

**PREBOOK NOW! \$500 PER CABIN DEPOSIT HOLDS YOUR SPOT IN LINE TO BOOK**

**ONCE BANDS ARE ANNOUNCED IN EARLY APRIL ...**

**BluesCruise.com (816) 753-7979**



**@legendarybluescruise**



**@legendaryrhythmb bluescruise**





# THE BLUES. IT'S STILL *P*ED-HOT IN MISSISSIPPI.



VISIT  
**MISSISSIPPI**

BIRTHPLACE of AMERICA'S MUSIC



Jimmy "Duck" Holmes  
Blue Front Cafe | Bentonla

