

BLUES

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NEWS

THE BLUES SOCIETY OF TULSA

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www.bluesocietyoftulsa.com

May/June 2016

Summertime Blues Showcase

*Johnny Paul, Dylan Whitney, Blue Dawgs are
Primed for 5th Annual Event*



(Left to right) Johnny Paul, Dylan Whitney, Blue Dawgs: Bobby Brewer, Terry Kirkland

The 5th Annual Summertime Blues Showcase will feature some of Tulsa's younger and finer blues musicians at the Blues Society's Home of the Blues, The Cimarron Bar, 2609 S. Memorial in east Tulsa. The music starts at 8 p.m.

Headlining the event will be 35-year-old **Johnny Paul Adams** leading his blues/rock oriented **Johnny Paul Band**. The first band of the evening features 18-year-old up-and-comer **Dylan Whitney** with his **Dylan Whitney Band**. Kicking off the evening is the **Blue Dawdogs**, a blues/country/jazz duo comprised of **Bobby Brewer** and **Terry Kirkland**.

The Blues Society and Cimarron Bar team up for this showcase to highlight blues acts that have had limited exposure in Tulsa and are ready to break out and display their talents to a bigger audience of music lovers.

A slogan on Johnny Paul's face book page reads: "Don't die with your song still inside you." The guitar/vocalist is following that advice and is in the process of recording a new album that includes original material.

In high school Dylan won the All State Guitarist competition for

large schools and is now dividing his time between attending college while keeping his live music performances in tact. He's shared the stage with **Joe Luis Walker**, among other greats.

Bobby and Terry, collectively performing as the Blue Dawgs, have acted like they've broke out of a cage since performing in the 2014 Tulsa Blues Challenge solo/duo competition. Terry's retired and loving it, while Bobby continues to teach jazz guitar and perform.

Call for Entries:

2016 Blues Challenges

SOLO/DUO COMPETITION: September 10th in the Centennial Lounge at VFW Post 577, 1109 E. 6th St., Tulsa. Entry Deadline: August 23rd, 6 p.m. Entry fee: \$25. Winner goes to the IBC in Memphis. Deadline allows time for any interested non winners at the band blues challenge to enter.

BAND COMPETITION: August 20th at Cain's Ballroom, 423 N. Main, Tulsa. Entry Deadline: July 20th, 6 p.m. Entry Fee: \$50.

Here's your chance to play on the same stage that has been graced by everyone from **Howlin' Wolf** to **Stevie Ray!** Winner goes to the IBC in Memphis to be held Jan. 31 – Feb. 4, 2017.

Entry forms are available at www.bluesocietyoftulsa.com or at 918.288.7574. Our rules are very similar to those of the Blues Foundation and you can read those rules at: www.blues.org.

INSIDE:

Bixby BBQ and Blues Festival, Patti Taylor, Tullie Brae, Johnny Rawls, Charlie Musselwhite, Diane Durrett, Tommy Z, Blind Willie Johnson, Toronzo Cannon, Van Wilks, Teresa Price Benefit Collage, and more!

Welcome Our New Members!

Kevin Osborn, Broken Arrow; Andrew Mikus, Tulsa.

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LOCAL BIRTHDAYS

May 1 – Bill Raffensperger (2010), 2 – Susan Herndon
4 – Jim Strader (2009), 6 – Steve Munson (1990), Barney Kessel (2004), D.C. Minner (2009), 11 – Ernie Fields (1997), 13 – Perry Thomas, 15 – Pete Marriott, 16 -- James Groves, 22 – Doug Wehmeyer, 24 Frank McPeters (2009), 26 Rocky Frisco (2015), 29 – John Mabry, 30 -- Dustin Pittsley, Carl Radle (1980), **June 1** – Ronnie Dunn, 2 – Donnie Wood, 5 – Scott Musick, 6 – Dwight Twilley, Dale Shipman, 9 – Glenn Sears (2015), 13 – Scott Ellison, 17 – Annie Walser, Glenn R. Townsend, Alan Thompson, Flash Terry (2004), 18 – Carl Radle (1980), Buddy Jones (2011), 20 – Dylan Whitney, 28 – Kent Swepston, Earl Clark (2010) 29 – Gary Busey, 22 -- Jesse Ed Davis (1988), 23 -- Kenny Cheek (2011)

BST MONTHLY MEETINGS

are held the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. The May 9th and the June 13th meetings will both be held at the Cimarron Bar, 26th Street and South Memorial. Nonmembers are always welcome! It's a fun and informative gathering of music lovers!



The Patti Taylor Band will be entertaining after the May 9th BST meeting at the Cimarron Bar.

PHOTO CREDIT: The photograph of Christina Jude in the March/April Blues News, page 3, was taken by Anthony Earl.

BILLY'S BLUES

As I write this country music legend Merle Haggard, 79, passed away earlier today. I first saw it on face book as numerous Tulsa blues artists were posting words of sympathy and sorrow. Many of Tulsa's best known musicians ranging from David Skinner to Mike Winebrenner and Dane Trout expressed their sadness.

Yesterday on TV I watched Dan Rather interviewing another country music legend, Willie Nelson, 82. It's amazing all of the artists from other genres Willie has teamed up with over the years, including Ray Charles.

Oklahoma's own beloved Leon Russell, whose stellar career fusing country, blues and gospel with rock n' roll had three highly acclaimed country albums under the Hank Wilson moniker.

I keep seeing items stating the Rolling Stones are now planning a blues album. (They're doing it because they need the money, right?)

As Muddy Waters wrote and sang, *The Blues Had a Baby and They Named It Rock n' Roll*. I think there's also some other "siblings" in there named country, jazz, gospel, etc.

I was visiting today with someone at the *Blues Foundation* who expressed satisfaction with so many new, young blues acts, who are giving the older artists a run for their money.

Tulsa is already recognized by many as the cultural center of Oklahoma, and the contributions from local musicians, including those in the blues and rock arena are contributing to this.

On the venue level, hats off to the *Cimarron Bar* for all their support of live music, including their Sunday afternoon jam that is now in its 11th year and counting!

Since the Blues Society doesn't have a real home, the Cimarron has kind of adopted us. Nearly all of our monthly meetings are held there and just like any good ole hound dog, we'll keep coming back as long as they provide a roof over our heads and feed us!

This also will be the 5th consecutive year the Cimarron has hosted the *Blues Society's Summertime Blues Showcase* (see page 1).

Tulsa has a thriving live music scene and much of this popularity can be attributed to the evolution of blues and musicians who incorporate other genres of music.
– Bill Martin



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CD REVIEWS



Johnny Rawls:

TIGER IN A CAGE

(Cat Food Records)

Johnny Rawl's newest effort has a dozen tracks on *Tiger In a Cage* including nine original songs, plus his scintillating takes on Sam Cooke's *Having a Party*, Jackie Wilson's *Your Love Is Lifting Me (Higher and Higher)*, and The Rolling Stones' *Beast of Burden*. Rawls also does a funky re-working of *Red Cadillac*, the title track from his 2009 album.

While known for his irresistible "old school" soul party tunes, which are well-represented on his new CD, the album's title song is a serious track about a 19 year-old black man being sent to prison; a life thrown away, being over before it has begun.

The album is produced by multi-Grammy-winning producer Jim Gaines. Joining as special guest is Eden Brent, who duets with Rawls on the sexy, soulful tune, *Southern Honey*.

Johnhny's last five albums have all charted top 10 on blues charts with *Red Cadillac* reaching #1 on the Living Blues Radio Play Chart. *Ace of Spades* hit the #4 spot.

Tiger in a Cage is good as anything Johnny's released during his illustrious career, and that's saying something. – Bill Martin



Charlie Musselwhite:

I AIN'T LYIN'...

(Henrietta Records)

For 50 years Charlie Musselwhite has been recording, producing and entertaining music lovers worldwide.

It would take all day to list his many awards, credits and accomplishments. He has shared the stage or recorded with music legends all across the music spectrum, such as Mick Jagger, Cyndi Lauper, The Grateful Dead, Cat Stevens, Tulsa's own Junior Markham, and many, many more. Smooth, once again is the word in Musselwhite's latest CD. A great band, well produced, songs, all of which comes as no surprise. Cuts of note are *Good Blues Tonight*, *Good Blues Tonight (unedited)*, *If I Should Have Bad Luck*, and *Long Leg Woman*. I have to give the *Blues News Editor* Bill Martin kudos for giving me a chance to hear some of the best music, first in the area. Hey music lovers, get you some Charlie! – Freddie Morrow



Diane Durrett:

SOUL SUGA'

(Blooming Tunes Music)

Diane Durrett's latest CD *Soul Suga'*, literally swept me off my feet.

(Continued on page 5)

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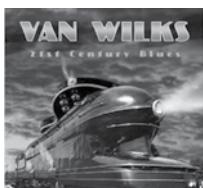




CD REVIEWS

(Continued from page 4)

Discovery is always so cool; something different; something exciting; cruzin' music deluxe. Good music starts with great talent, songs, lyrics, engineering and smooth production. *Soul Suga'* has all these things in spades. Diane's vocals are as smooth as a baby's behind. She has great help on this wonderful CD from her Atlanta, GA friends such as Yonrico Scott, June Bug Massey, Randall Bramblett and Tinsely Ellis. Songs of note are numerous, and plentiful such as *Show Up Sexy*, *All is Well*, *Be Somebody's Angel*, *Push the Push Back* and my favorite track, *WooHoo* (I got a little woohoo in my hooahoo; I need a little woohoo from you), which was nominated for a Grammy. Some may blush at the sexiness, and the cheekiness of these blues shuffling numbers, but it sweetens' my cup of tea. God, I love my job! - Freddie Morrow



Van Wilks: *21ST CENTURY BLUES*

(Texas '51 Records)

Here's a big rockin', guitar driven, ZZ Top sounding, collection of new blues from the multi-award winning

Austin guitar slinger, singer and songwriter Van Wilks. With special guests; Billy Gibbons, Christopher Cross, and Storyville's Malford Milligan. Awesome guitar, great songs, and an excellent listening experience This one is a winner! - Curt Fillmore (CurtsList.Com)



Various Artists: *GOD DON'T NEVER CHANGE*

(Alligator Records)

The spiritual songs of Blind Willie Johnson from the 1920's are respectfully re-produced and presented on this album by a variety of different blues artists; Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, Tom Waits, Lucinda Williams, The Blind Boys of Alabama, Luther Dickinson, and even Sinead O'Connor. If you are one that prefers to stay away from secular blues, or likes the historic value of long lost music - faithfully reproduced; this album is made for you! This is some of the music responsible for all of the modern blues we enjoy today. - Curt Fillmore (CurtsList.Com)

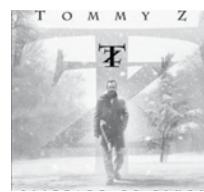


Toranzo Cannon: *THE CHICAGO WAY*

(Alligator Records)

This is Chicago bluesman Toranzo Cannon's Alligator debut; and I have to say it's a darn good one. Chicago bus driver by day, and blues singer, songwriter, and guitar slinger by night; Toranzo has a true-blue, rockin', guitar driven, blues album here. All songs are written and performed by Toranzo and his very talented band

including a horn section on some songs. Excellent! (Ya know; It seems like I almost always write good reviews, but I promise these albums I review are mostly, top notch & well worth the purchase price!) - Curt Fillmore (CurtsList.Com)



Tommy Z: *BLIZZARD OF BLUES*

(South Blossom Records)

Here's another guitar driven, rockin' blues album from New York singer, songwriter, producer and guitar slinger extraordinaire, not to mention; multi-award winning Tommy Z, that has just about every type of blues/rock guitar work represented within. You'll hear sounds of Stevie Ray and his brother Jimmy, Robbin Ford, Eric Johnson, a little Hendrix, Kenny Wayne, and even some Wes Montgomery. He's got a great band, including some very tasty B3 playing. Awesome! Blues guitar slingers will definitely want this one! - Curt Fillmore (CurtsList.Com)

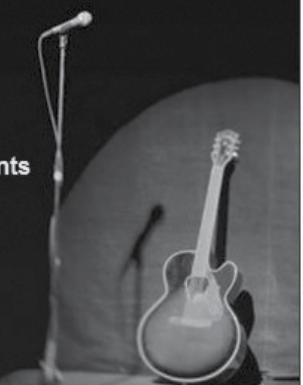
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As it did in March in a benefit that raised \$15K at VFW Post 577 to help Lloyd Price's wife Teresa Price to pay medical expenses in her fight against cancer.



Bixby BBQ and Blues Festival is Ready to Rock May 6-7



Sammy Matthews and Jimmy Ray Taylor of the Dirtboxwailers

Bixby's BBQ & Blues Festival will be celebrating its 15th Anniversary on May 6th and 7th; at Washington Irving Memorial Park, 137th S. Memorial.

"The Rotary Club of Bixby proudly hosts this popular event, our biggest (and only) fundraiser, attracting 10,000 - 15,000 people annually, says Rotary Club President Jim Robinson. "Over 90 competitive BBQ teams set up camp on Friday and offer a sampling (\$10 taster kits) of their delicious cooking on Saturday around the noon hour."

In addition to the great barbecue, festival-goers are treated to some of the best blues music in the region.

Friday: 5:30 pm, **The Vox Squadron;** 7 p.m., **Darell Christopher & the Ingredients;** and 8:30 p.m., **Kalo.**

Saturday: Noon, **Dylan Whitney Band**, 1:30 p.m., **The Dirtboxwailers**, 4 p.m., **James Groves Blues Machine**, 5:30 p.m. **Patti Taylor Band**, 7 p.m., **Dustin Pittsley Band** and 8:30 p.m., **Tullie Brae.**

"In past years, we typically have featured one or two national acts. Because there are so many talented blues bands in the state of Oklahoma we decided to stay local this year with eight Oklahoma bands. The one exception is the headline band Saturday night, **Tulle Brae** from Memphis, TN. I'm really excited about this year's line up. Six of the nine bands are making their first appearance at the festival. At least four of the bands have lead female vocalists," Robinson related.

The Blues Society of Tulsa will once again have a booth with new, cool blues merchandise.

"We're expecting great weather, great crowds, great bbq and great blues music. Fun for everyone! Does it get any better than that? To learn more about this year's festival, visit www.bixbyrotarybbq.com.," Robinson concluded.

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Tullie Brae from Memphis will be headlining the Bixby BBQ and Blues Festival May 7th at Washington Irving Memorial Park, 137th S. Memorial. (see page 7)

Blues Society of Tulsa

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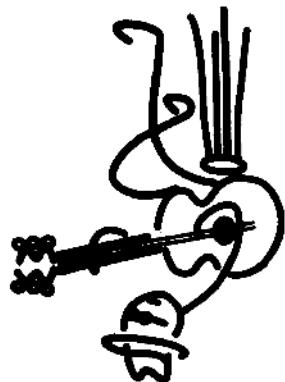
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