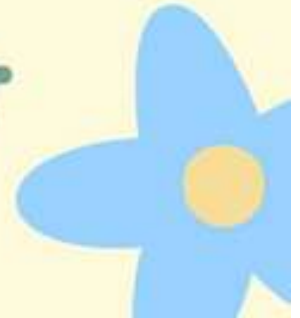




# March Bluesletter

March 2023



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## MAC ARNOLD & PLATE FULL O' BLUES TO HEADLINE 30TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW **CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY**

The Charlotte Blues Society is delighted to celebrate our 30th Anniversary with Mac Arnold & Plate Full O' Blues!

When we formed in 1993, Mac was already a blues powerhouse.

Join us for an evening of amazing Live Blues from this Blues legend!

Show will be at Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts in Charlotte, NC beginning with a Youth Showcase at 5:30PM, followed by Mac Arnold 7:30-10:30.

Advance Tickets on sale at Eventbrite. Blues Society Members, Students, Veterans and Minors receive discount with ID. Free parking, food for purchase.

### CONTACT AND FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org](http://www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org)  
[CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com](mailto:CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com)  
 PO Box 32752  
 Charlotte, NC 28232-2752  
[@cltbluessociety](https://www.instagram.com/cltbluessociety)  
[www.macarnold.com](http://www.macarnold.com)  
[www.heistbrewery.com](http://www.heistbrewery.com) (Woodward Ave.)



*Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!*

Blues Jam Guidelines are posted to the [www.charlottebluessociety.org](http://www.charlottebluessociety.org) downloads page.

Sign-up is required at the show. While there is no pre-registration, Sign-up when you arrive!

Jam on March 5 will be at Neighborhood Theatre.

*Originals Encouraged*

*Song list - Key:*

**Hoochie Coochie Man – G**

**Tore Down – D**

**Sweet Home Chicago – E**

**One Way Out – A**

**Roadhouse Blues – E**

**Never Make Your Move Too Soon – F**

**Love Me Like a Man – E**

**The Thrill is Gone – Bm**

**Keep Your hands To Yourself – A**

**Little Queenie – A**

**Big Legged Woman – C**

**Mean Old World – E**

**Further On Up The Road – G**

**Stormy Monday – G**

We will be asking you for your favorite songs to hear and perform.

## BLUES SUNDAYS AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE

Blues Jam with leader  
Howlin' Johnny and the NightShift  
Sunday March. 5,  
Doors at 6:30, Show at 7  
Neighborhood Theatre, Charlotte,  
NC



Tickets available in advance  
from [Maxxmusic.com](http://Maxxmusic.com)

Member discount code emailed  
Feb 2023.

\$5 Members (card required)

\$10 General Public (Advance)

\$15 Day of Show



[www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE'S TOP SELECTIONS FOR 2023!**

**BAND DIVISION**

Winner: Mathias Lattin

2nd Place Band: The Cinelli Brothers

3rd Place Band: Dick Earl's Electric Witness

**SOLO/DUO DIVISION**

Winner: Frank Sultana

2nd Place: The Sugar Thieves

**BEST GUITAR AWARD ( BEST BAND GUITARIST)**

Winner: Mathias Lattin

**MEMPHIS CIGAR BOX GUITAR AWARD (BEST SOLO/DUO GUITARIST)**

Winner: Adam Karch

**LEE OSKAR HARMONICA AWARD (BEST HARMONICA PLAYER)**

Winner: Deuce 'n a Quarter

**BEST SELF-PRODUCED CD**

Winner: Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal – *Green Light*

*Our Representatives had a great experience!*

*Here is some of their sentiments....*



## Aaron Woody Wood

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



Well I didn't make it to the Finals so I'm not competing today but here's a [vid](#) of my last performance.

I am unable to iterate the level of blessing and gratitude that is giving me chills at this moment still.

Everyone and I mean EVERY one i met , WE met was so sincere and friendly and loving and it's such a welcoming and friendly environment.

Everyone was supportive of each other and I know we are all here because of our love for this musick.

And I gotta send the shout outs of shoutouts to all my Musical Ancestors without whom I would have never made it here to Memphis ( Home of my Heroes ) and I mean to say without them and this music they have left for us all , ole Aaron Woody Wood ain't nowhere

Thank you to The Charlotte Blues Charlotte Blues Society a/k/a CBS for your love and support and the support of all my CBS peeps who came out to support me last night. It was empty up til 10 minutes before I went on and they had to call back the staff to serve the food and drink for all the many folks who came to lift me up and King's Palace last night. Y'all ROCK !! And y'all certainly did lift me up high. I thank you all and I love you all.

With all gratitude and love in my Soul,

Your Cosmic Appalachian Soul Piedmont Blues Buddy ,

Aaron Woody Wood

Oh yeah, I LOVE me some Memphis TN !!!



# BLUES deLuxe band

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



On Jan. 28, 2023: Well it's the end of the road for BLUES deluxe band in Memphis but what a great ride! It's such an honor to compete here, hearing some great musicians and making new friends! Many thanks to the Charlotte Blues Society for allowing us to represent them this year. I would also like to thank our fans and family members who made the journey from Canada and South Carolina. Many thanks to Randy Woodson, Raye Woodson, Stephanie and Steve Wise, Lori Larsen , Bob Larson, Jim May Pop and family, Rick Kite and the members of Charlotte Blues Society as well as all the messages from all of our supporters. We are overwhelmed with the love and support that we have received. Thanks again Memphis, we will see you again!

**John Hartness: Guitars and Vocals Blythewood, South Carolina**

**DJ May: Harmonica and Vocals Ontario, Canada**

**Rick Ramsey: Bass Guitar Irmo, South Carolina**

**James Bubba Casey: Percussion Columbia, South Carolina**



## We have a new At-Large Board Member to introduce:

Understanding we need to focus on encouraging young people to love the Blues as much as we do, the Board is excited to introduce Jack Slater as our Youth representative.

Many of you have seen Jack perform at our jam sessions. His amazing guitar licks are hard to forget. Folks keep asking, "Who was that kid?" See his videos at [Jack Slater \(@guitar\\_slater\\_official\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)



Jack Slater is a 17-year-old blues guitarist who this year celebrates his ninth year playing the instrument. An old soul, he has an affinity for blues, funk, soul, and rock. Jack cites Jimi Hendrix, John Mayer, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, and Chris Buck as his favorite guitarists. Beginning his guitar journey in Atlanta, Georgia, he was a regular at the city's many stages. Some of the most notable venues he's played include the Coca Cola Roxy, the Hard Rock Cafe, and Madlife Stage and Studios. In 2023, Jack looks forward to playing the Star-Spangled Banner at a Charlotte Knights Game and the Charlotte Blues Society monthly jams. You can follow Jack on Instagram at [@guitar\\_slater\\_official](#).

Be sure to come out to our jams and the Mac Arnold show on April 2 to see Jack perform live.

**Memberships fuel the music. Please renew or join NOW. Makes a great gift!**

New Merchandise now available. Polos, Tees, Ballcaps and more. Check out our store on-line or at the Merch table at our shows.

So many ways to listen to the Blues... Do you know about these regional radio shows?

- WNCW 88.7 Spindale, NC
- WNRN Virginia Fresh Roots & New Blues Saturday 6 to 8PM
- WSGE 91.7 Dallas NC Monday- Thursday 7 to 10 PM
- WYTX 98.5 Rock Hill SC Sunday 8 to 10 PM
- WSNC 90.5 Winston-Salem, NC Sunday 1 to 5AM.

Who did we miss? Send us your personal favorite to [cltbluessociety@gmail.com](mailto:cltbluessociety@gmail.com)

## Logo Contest 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CBS Results are IN!

Voting was conducted at the Feb 5 show. We had 16 entries.  
Everyone did a great job. The top 3 got 50% of the votes.  
Your vote counted



Ilyse Zincone

Ilyse has been a graphic designer for 25+ years. From working at a major vitamin company, followed by 13 years at a private university, in their marketing department to currently working for a school district on Long Island, NY., she has designed endless pieces over the years from newsletters, label designs, brochures, in-store point of purchase displays, logos, t-shirts, flyers, and so much more!

As a freelance graphic designer, Ilyse helped many companies by designing logos, brochures, postcard and t-shirts to help with their marketing needs in this ever-changing world!







**MORE LOCAL SHOWS AND FESTIVALS**



Have shows to contribute?  
 Send a PM or email to  
[CLTbluessociety@gmail.com](mailto:CLTbluessociety@gmail.com)  
 Be sure to join our Charlotte  
 Blues Society  
[Group page on Facebook.](#)

VFW Post 1160 and Guitars 4  
 Vets host the Charlotte Blues  
 Jam  
 Last Sunday of the Month  
 2/26 & 3/36



Old Town Public House  
 Blues Jam  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 1-4 PM  
 21314 Catawba Ave.  
 Cornelius, NC 28031



**TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC**  
*The Evening Muse*  
 Wed. March 1



**Joe Bonamassa**  
 Ovens Auditorium  
 Charlotte, NC  
 Friday March 3, 2023

<https://www.boplex.com/events/joe-bonamassa>

Festival season has started!. Check  
 out the latest.

**Blues Sunday Jam at Neighborhood Theatre**  
**March 5, show at 7:00**  
**Howlin' Johnny & the NightShift band will lead**  
**the Jam.**



Quinn Sullivan & Veronica  
 Neighborhood Theatre  
 Charlotte, NC  
 Thursday March 9, 2023

**Idlewild South at  
 Roosters  
 Gastonia  
 Friday March 10,  
 2023**

**Red Dress Amy  
 Old Town Public  
 House  
 Cornelius  
 Friday  
 March 10, 2023**



**Popa Chubby**  
 Neighborhood Theatre  
 Charlotte, NC  
 Tuesday March 21, 2023

**BUDDY GUY  
 WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
 KINGFISH  
 OVENS AUDITORIUM  
 CHARLOTTE,  
 NC  
 MARCH 22,**



BLOOD BROTHERS  
 FEATURING  
 MIKE ZITO & ALBERT  
 CASTIGLIA  
 NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE  
 CHARLOTTE, NC  
 WEDNESDAY MARCH 29, 2023



Tosco Music Party  
 Knight Theater  
 Sat. April 1, 2023

**Charlotte Blues Society 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party**

**Sunday April 2, 2023**

**Doors at 5**



**Charlotte Blues Society**

30th anniversary show  
 1993 to 2023

**Mac Arnold &  
 Plate Full O' Blues**

82 APRIL, 2023  
 CHARLOTTE, NC  
 WWW.CHARLOTTEBLUESOCIETY.ORG

<p><b>TOMMY CASTRO &amp; THE PAINKILLERS</b></p> <p><b>CHARLOTTE, NC NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE</b></p> <p><b>MONDAY, APR 10, 2023</b></p> 	<p><b>North Mississippi AllStars</b></p> <p><b>Charlotte, NC</b></p> <p><b>Neighborhood theatre</b></p> <p><b>Thursday, Apr 20, 2023</b></p>	 <p><b>TuckFest</b></p> <p><b>April 21-23</b></p> <p><b>Tuck Fest is a multi-day festival that celebrates the outdoor lifestyle through competitions, exhibitions, demos, and live music.</b></p>
<p><b>RED DRESS AMY</b></p> <p><b>LIVE ALBUM RECORDING</b></p> <p><b>EVENING MUSE</b></p> <p><b>SATURDAY APRIL 22</b></p>	<p><b>Daniele Nicole</b></p> <p><b>Charlotte, NC</b></p> <p><b>Neighborhood theatre</b></p> <p><b>Sunday, Apr 23, 2023</b></p>	 <p><b>Blues Sunday</b></p> <p><b>May 7, 2023</b></p> <p><b>Red Dirt Revalators</b></p> <p><b>Heist Brewery &amp; Barrel Arts</b></p>

We have purchased a Brick in Memphis for Bill Buck. It will take a while for it to be installed. We will let you know where to find it once in place.

The inscription reads

**Bill Buck founder  
Charlotte Blues  
Society a generous  
genius, educator  
entertainer and  
friend**

We are crushed by the recent passing of our long time friend Mark Federal after his battle with cancer.

Mark's love for music began at a young age working with local music venues and then managing his brothers' band the Federal Bureau of Rock'n'Roll. His passion for live music was a constant in his life and was such a driving force behind so many friendships.

“Mark had a perpetual smile. He was always so warm and welcoming when you crossed paths with him. One of the most interesting, talented, and giving family, he seemed to tie the family together.”

~Flynn Wolfe, board member

**Yearend giving on your to do list?**

**Can't make it to a show?**

**Consider donating to your favorite Non-Profit.  
(Hint, the initials are CBS)**



(paypal)

Your support goes directly to Keeping the Blues Alive in Charlotte.

**In memory of Jeff Beck..**

**May he rest in peace.**

**June 24, 1944 – Jan. 10, 2023**







## Jeff Beck & the Blues

By Michael Ingmire

*"The Blues had a baby and they named it Rock and Roll"-Muddy Waters*

There would be no nineteen sixties British musical invasion on the shores of America without the Blues records that Sailors, American and other nationalities, brought to various British ports in the 1950's. Because of those shared records; American Blues became the lifeblood of a lot of British musicians. One who was especially smitten was Jeff Beck. With the recent passing of Jeff, I found myself reflective on the influence of the Blues on him. I recently wrote a piece about Beck for *Politichicks.com* "**Jeff Beck (1944-2023), published on January 26, 2023.** That article is a historical profile of Jeff. From the womb to the tomb. For the purposes of this article, and the organization it is written for, this article is about Jeff Beck and the Blues.

Jeff Beck became enamored of the guitar when he and his Mother were listening to Les Paul and Mary Ford play and sing the classic, "How High the Moon." Jeff was six. Hearing the sound of Les's guitar, Jeff asked his Mother, "What instrument is that?" His Mother's response was, "That is an electric guitar." Beck replied,

"That's for me!"

Early in his musical development, Jeff Beck was influenced by Les Paul, B.B. King, Steve Cropper, Cliff Gallup (who played guitar for Gene Vincent) and Lonnie Mack, among many. Later on, Steve Cropper produced the immortal 1972 "Jeff Beck Group" album with the great version of the Don Nix classic, "Going Down," on it.

Jeff Beck was exposed to the Blues by Rolling Stones co-founder and Pianist, Ian Stewart. Stewart loaned Beck an album titled "American Folk Festival of the Blues." This album included two tracks by Buddy Guy. Buddy Guy was a huge influence and inspiration on Jeff Beck's guitar work. The Folk Festival of the Blues album was part of a yearly festival that would include European tours featuring musicians like Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Willie Dixon and Buddy Guy, among others.

As a guitarist, I considered Jeff Beck to be very similar to Buddy Guy and Hubert Sumlin. These two musicians were both frenetic and graceful, like the best of Deep Blues. Unlike Eric Clapton or boyhood friend, Jimmy Page, Beck went for the quirky side of the Blues. Deeply influenced by Guy and Sumlin. Jeff Beck became possessed by the Blues. In 1965, when Beck was 21 and Eric Clapton was 20, they spent the night in a van so they could get early seats to a Buddy Guy concert in London.

Clapton was inspired by Guy's use of a three piece line-up which directly influenced Clapton's approach in his future power trio, Cream. With Jeff Beck, Guy's playing directly influenced his approach to guitar player, both in technique and sonic dexterity. The Blues, and other musical forms, helped to lead Beck to become a sonic warrior with the guitar.

When Jimi Hendrix first came to England in 1966, the two people that he first wanted to meet were Jeff Beck and Eric Clapton. Without the early innovations of Jeff Beck, his use of the Stratocaster tremolo arm for deep bends and harmonic feedback, it would be difficult to imagine some of the more interesting innovations of Hendrix.

Whenever Jeff Beck would jam with someone like SRV, Buddy Guy, B.B. King, Albert Collins or any great Bluesman, there was almost a childhood-like change in his demeanor.

The lines disappeared from his face and Beck became almost like an enthusiastic teenager. In the aftermath of Beck's passing, I found myself watching his performances with the aforementioned Bluesmen and Eric Clapton, among many. What I liked about Jeff Beck's Blues playing was that he was unabashedly free. Unlike many of his contemporaries, Beck was not as concerned about getting the tradition of the Blues down as he was about pursuing the freedom and innovation of the best Blues playing.

I profoundly regret never being able to see Jeff Beck live in person. Either I was gigging or I was broke. Yet, as a guitarist, he remains a profound influence. Interestingly enough, Beck himself has credited Beatles Producer, George Martin, as the one person who gave him a career. Martin was the Producer for the best selling Jeff Beck album, "Blow by Blow." That experience helped Jeff become free as an artist. The Blues remained part of his artists forte. Yet, he pursued many different idioms throughout his career.

Without a doubt, Jeff Beck will not be replaced, in this lifetime or the next.

Michael Ingmire is a Blues Musician and Historian of over 55 years of experience. He has appeared on bills or shared stages with Dr. John, Johnny Copeland, Tinsley Ellis, Kenny Neal, Albert King, John Lee Hooker, Allen Ginsberg, Wilson Pickett, Clarence Carter, Bob Margolin, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith and Dr. Mac Arnold, among many. He has been involved with the Charlotte Blues Society since 2005. He currently sings and plays guitar with Spicy Jane Lane. Michael has written for several outlets in the past decade plus. He currently writes about Music, Politics and Social Issues for Politichicks.com

# Charlotte *Blues* Society

**2022-23 Guitar Raffle \$10 per ticket**

Drawing to be held April 2023 at the 30th anniversary show.

Limited number of Tickets available online

and at our Blues Sundays

Signatures include:

- Eddie Turner
- Christone "Kingfish" Ingram
- Vanessa Collier
- Laura Chavez
- Samantha Fish
- Jamie McLean
- Albert Cummings
- Robert Finley
- Tinsley Ellis
- Luke Winslow-King
- Joanne Shaw Taylor
- Joey Spina
- Tab Benoit
- Corey Duplechin



- Roberto Luti
- Diane Durrett
- Albert Castiglia
- Damon Fowler
- Tommy Castro
- Danielle Nicole
- Davy Knowles
- Southern Avenue's
- Ori Naftaly
- Robert Finley
- GA-20
- Jackson Stokes
- plenty more to come...



It's that time of year again. Award season 2023 is ramping up.



## Congratulations to the 2023 Blues Music Award Nominations!!!! 44th Blues Music Award Nominees

### B.B. King Entertainer of the Year:

- Sugaray Rayford
- Tommy Castro
- Eric Gales
- Bobby Rush
- Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)

### Band of the Year

- Anthony Geraci & The Boton Blues Allstars
- John Németh and the Blue Dreamers
- Rick Estrin and the Nightcats
- Southern Avenue
- Tedeschi Trucks Band

### Song of the Year:

- Altered Five Blues Band "Great Minds Drink Alike" (Jeff Schroedl)
- Buddy Guy "The Blues Don't Lie" (Tom Hambridge)
- Eric Gales "I Want My Crown" (Eric Gales, Joe Bonamassa)
- John Németh "The Last Time" (John Németh)
- Shemekia Copeland "Too Far to Be Gone" (John Hahn/Will Kimbrough)

### Best Emerging Artist Album:

- Blue Moon Marquee / Scream, Holler & Howl
- DaShawn Hickman / Drums, Roots & Steel
- Dylan Triplett / Who Is He?
- Jose Ramirez / Major League Blues
- Yates McKendree / Buchanan Lane

### Acoustic Blues Album:

- Charlie Musselwhite / Mississippi Son
- Corey Harris / The Insurrection Blues
- Duwayne Burnside / Acoustic Burnside
- Harrison Kennedy / Thanks for Tomorrow
- Rory Block / Ain't Nobody Worried



## Blues Rock Album:

- Albert Castiglia / I Got Love
- Bernard Allison / Highs & Lows
- Colin James / Open Road
- Eric Gales / Crown
- Tinsley Ellis / Devil May Care

## Contemporary Blues Album:

- Buddy Guy / The Blues Don't Lie
- Diunna Greenleaf / I Ain't Playin'
- Janiva Magness / Hard to Kill
- Larry McCray / Blues Without You
- Shemekia Copeland / Done Come too Far

## Soul Blues Album:

- Kat Riggins / Progeny
- Kirk Fletcher / Heartache by the Pound
- Sugaray Rayford / In Too Deep
- The Love Light Orchestra / Leave the Light On
- Trudy Lynn / Golden Girl

## Traditional Blues Album

- Kenny Neal / Straight From the Heart
- Bob Corritore / Bob Corritore & Friends: You Shocked Me
- Duke Robillard / They Called it Rhythm & Blues
- John Németh / May Be the Last Time
- John Primer / Hard Times

## Acoustic Blues Artist:

- Doug MacLeod
- Guy Davis
- Harrison Kennedy
- Rhiannon Giddens
- Rory Block

## Blues Rock Artist:

- Walter Trout
- Albert Castiglia
- Tommy Castro
- Joanne Shaw Taylor
- Tinsley Ellis

## Contemporary Blues Female Artist:

- **Ruthie Foster**
- **Beth Hart**
- **Janiva Magness**
- **Teresa James**
- **Vanessa Collier**

## Contemporary Blues Male Artist:

- **Selwyn Birchwood**
- **Chris Cain**
- **Christone “Kingfish” Ingram**
- **Ronnie Baker Brooks**
- **Mr. Sipp (Castro Coleman)**

## Soul Blues Female Artist:

- **Annika Chambers**
- **Trudy Lynn**
- **Thornetta Davis**
- **Kat Riggins**
- **Vaneese Thomas**

## Soul Blues Male Artist:

- **John Németh**
- **Johnny Rawls**
- **Curtis Salgado**
- **Don Bryant**
- **Billy Price**

## Traditional Blues Female Artist (Koko Taylor Award):

- **Dietra Farr**
- **Diunna Greenleaf**
- **Rhiannon Giddens**
- **Rory Block**
- **Sue Foley**

## Traditional Blues Male Artist:

- **Billy Branch**
- **Duke Robillard**
- **John Primer**
- **Johnny Burgin**
- **Sugar Ray Norcia**

### Instrumentalist – Bass:

- **Bob Stronger**
- **Danielle Nicole**
- **Larry Fulcher**
- **Michael “Mudcat” Ward**
- **Willie J. Campbell**

### Instrumentalist – Drums:

- **Chris Layton**
- **Cody Dickinson**
- **Derric D’Mar Martin**
- **Kenny “Beedy Eyes” Smith**
- **Tony Braunagel**

### Instrumentalist – Guitar:

- **Chris Cain**
- **Christoffer “Kid” Andersen**
- **Joanna Connor**
- **Kirk Fletcher**
- **Laura Chavez**

### Instrumentalist – Harmonica:

- **Billy Branch**
- **Bob Corritore**
- **Jason Ricci**
- **John Németh**
- **Dennis Gruenling**

### Instrumentalist – Horn:

- **Deanna Bogart**
- **Gregg Piccolo**
- **Jimmy Carpenter**
- **Mark Kaz Kazanoff**
- **Sax Gordon Beadle**

### Instrumentalist – Piano (Pinetop Perkins Piano Player Award):

- **Anthony Geraci**
- **Ben Levin**
- **Dave Keyes**
- **Jim Pugh**
- **Kenny “Blues Boss” Wayne**

## Instrumentalist – Vocals:

- Curtis Salgado
- Danielle Nicole
- Diunna Greenleaf
- John Németh
- Shemekia Copeland

### ***44th Blues Music Awards***

***Thursday, May 11, 2023***

***Renasant Convention Center – 255 N. Main St. Memphis, TN 38103***

***Walk the Blue Carpet: 5:00 pm***

### ***Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony***

***Wednesday, May 10, 2023***

***Halloran Centre – 225 S. Main St. Memphis, TN 38103***

***Reception 5:30 pm***

***Ceremony 7:30 pm***

***MEMBERS OF THE BLUES FOUNDATION: [VOTE HERE FOR THE 44TH BLUES MUSIC AWARDS](#)***



**FUNDRAISING RAFFLE** [www.charlottebluessociety.com](http://www.charlottebluessociety.com)

**CHARLOTTE  
BLUES  
SOCIETY**

**Vintage  
B.B. King  
Playbill**  
from  
April 1, 1995  
State Theatre  
Kalamazoo, MI  
Autographed  
and Framed



Only 100 tickets  
to be sold.  
\$20 each  
Available online  
and at our  
events.  
Need not be  
present to win.

## New fundraiser

Get your tickets while they last! Only 100 to be sold.  
This is an authentic, vintage play bill from April 1, 1995;  
Signed by BB King.  
Framed and ready to hang on your Music memorabilia wall.

# RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

## JOE LOUIS WALKER - *WEIGHT OF THE WORLD*

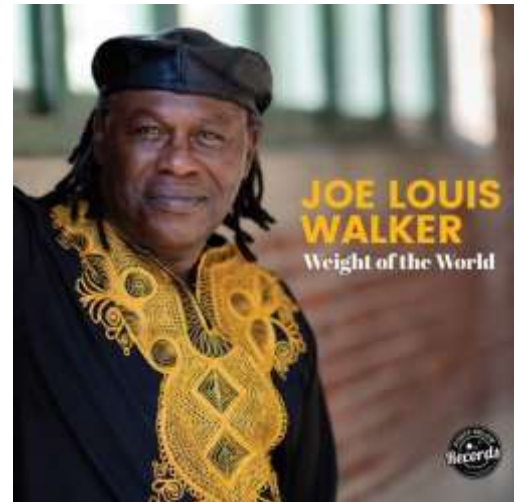
FORTY BELOW RECORDS FBR 030

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

San Francisco native Joe Louis Walker has released plenty of outstanding albums in his 50-year career, but he outdoes himself on his latest effort, a deeply personal, all-original effort that bears his soul and touches on problems that all of us endure while living in a post-COVID world.

Produced by BMA nominee/tunesmith Eric Corne at The Building in Marlboro, N.Y., not far from Joe's adopted home in the Hudson River Valley, Walker alternates between electric, slide and nylon-string guitars and harp as he delivers one of the most emotionally charged sets you'll hear this year.

An album with no flaws, some of the high points include "The Weight of the World," "Is It a Matter of Time?," "Hello, It's the Blues," "Waking Up the Dead," "Don't Walk Out That Door," "Count Your Chickens," "Bed of Roses" and "You Got Me Whipped." A must listen!



## THE CASH BOX KINGS - *OSCAR'S MOTEL*

ALLIGATOR RECORDS

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

Founded in Madison, Wis., in 2001 by harp player Joe Nosek, The Cash Box Kings boast one of the best lineups in the blues today and produce a sound that would have fit comfortably in the golden age of Chicago blues in the '50s and '60s. They simply sizzle from the start of this deep-in-the-pocket set, which includes nine originals and two well-crafted covers.

Oscar "Mr. 43rd Street" Wilson's vocals and Nosek's runs on the reeds cut like a knife throughout with backing from guitar ace Billy Flynn, percussionist Kenny "Beedy Eyes" Smith and keyboard player Lee Kanehara. Guest stars include Deitra Farr and John Németh on mic, Shoji Naito (Eddy Clearwater) and Jon McDonald (Magic Slim & the Teardrops) on six-string, The C-Note Horns and a host of others.

The hits come fast and furious. Don't miss "Oscar's Motel," "Down at the South Side," "I Can't Stand You" featuring Deitra, "Hot Little Mess," "Nobody Called It the Blues," "Trying So Hard," "She Dropped the Axe on Me," "I Want What Chaz Has" featuring Németh and "Ride Santa Ride."



## SAVOY BROWN - *BLUES ALL AROUND*

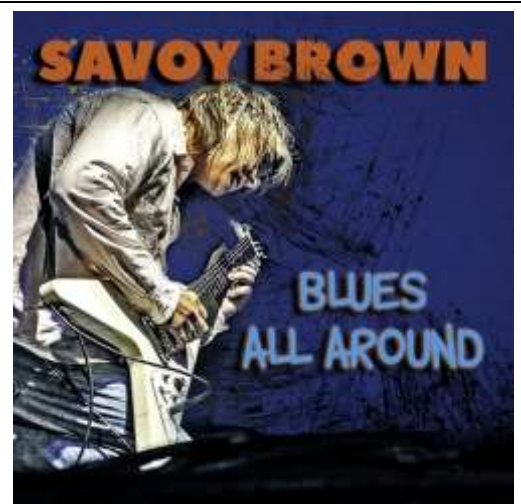
QUARTO VALLEY RECORDS QVR 0165

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

When Savoy Brown released their critically acclaimed *Ain't Done Yet* CD last year, they offered up a ray of hope for beloved front man Kim Simmons, who'd recently been diagnosed with cancer. Sadly, he left us after a valiant battle last December - but not before putting the finishing touches on this album, a loving, farewell to fans who've been supporting him since founding the band in London in 1965.

Medical issues forced Kim to switch to slide guitar, so Savoy's familiar sound is somewhat different. But the notes he delivers on six-string, organ and harp are rich and powerful aided by top-notch backing from bassist Pat DeSalvo and percussionist Garnet Grimm throughout.

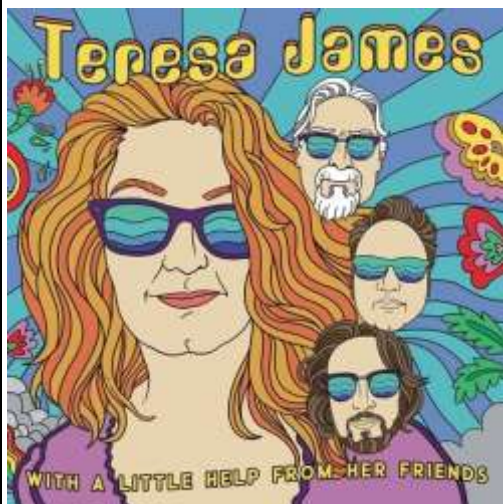
An unhurried, deeply passionate set, you'll enjoy "Falling Through," "Black Heart," "Gypsy Healer," "Blues All Around," "Texas Love," "Winning Hand," "Can't Go Back to My Hometown," "California Days Gone By," "My Baby" and "Falling Through the Cracks."





**RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS**

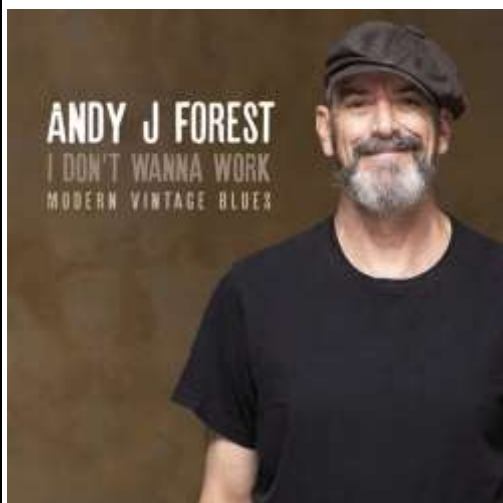
by Marty Gunther

**TERESA JAMES - WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HER FRIENDS**

BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 041

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

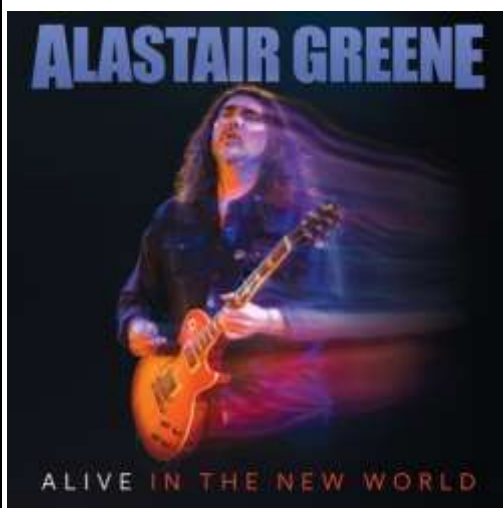
Possessing one of the sweetest voices in the blues, Texas-born, L.A.-based Teresa James is a 2023 BMA nominee for contemporary female vocalist of the year, and she shows why on this interesting disc, which - as its title implies -- puts a thoroughly azure spin on ten hits culled from the Beatles' catalog. The all-star lineup includes Nashville stalwarts Kevin and Yates McKendree and is anchored by percussionist Richard Millsap of Band of Heathens on percussion and bassist/hubby Terry Wilson, a longtime fixture in the Eric Burdon Band. Recorded in California and Tennessee, Kevin and Terry co-produced. As familiar as the Fab Four's catalog may be, all of the songs here sound brand new. Dial in "Ticket to Ride," "Tax Man," "Don't Let Me Down," "Oh Darlin'," "You've Got to Hide Your Love Away," "Everybody's Got Something to Hide," "You Won't See Me" and "Think for Yourself."

**ANDY J. FOREST - I DON'T WANNA WORK: MODERN VINTAGE BLUES**

APPALOOSA RECORDS AP 252-2

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

A Washington State native now based in New Orleans after years in Italy as both a musician and actor, Andy J. Forest is a prolific harp player who returns to the studio after a seven-year break with this disc, which delivers a catchy collection of contemporary tunes with traditional feel. Recorded with musicians on both sides of the Atlantic and the 21st album in his 40-year career, Andy's joined by Gulf Coast keyboard players Jon Gros Tom Worrell and Italian guitarists/longtime touring companions Roberto Luti and Heggy Vezzano for eight originals with propulsive grooves and a single cover. Give a listen to "Determination," "I Don't Wanna Work," "Startin' All Over," "Fradys' One Stop Store," "High Times Low Life," "Voodoo Lips" and "Piety Street Strut."

**ALASTAIR GREENE - ALIVE IN THE NEW WORLD**

WHISKEY BAYOU RECORDS WSK008

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

An artist who's balanced a 25-year solo career with membership in both the Alan Parsons Project and the Sugaray Rayford Band, Californian Alastair Greene's a fiery guitarist who earned a 2021 Blues Blast Music Awards nomination for his live album, *The New World Blues*, and he's set himself for more honors with this blazing set disc. Now based out of Austin and someone who appears regularly in Billboard Top 10 charts, Alastair recorded this one in power-trio format during a six-night residency at the City Winery in Chicago with new label mates, Tab Benoit and Corey Duplechin holding down drums and bass. A treat for fans of blues-rock, give a spin to "Back at the Poor House," "Lies and Fear," "When You Don't Know What to Do," "Wontcha Tell Me," "Find Your Way Back Home," "Living Today," "Bayou Mile" and "The New World Blues."

# RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

## TAS CRU - RIFFIN' THE BLUE

SUBCAT RECORDS

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

A musical chameleon who serves up something different each subsequent CD, Upstate New Yorker Tas Cru turns his focus to songs with strong guitar hooks on his latest album after paying tribute to New Orleans and Memphis and delivering acoustic and children's records in recent years, too.

Both superstar keyboard player Bruce Katz and guitar god Mike Zito are in the star-laden lineup, which was recorded and engineered by Ron Keck at Subcat Studios in Syracuse. Never boring, always interesting, the 11 original tracks range from rock-steady shuffles to blues-rock, country blues and funk.

Zito's featured on "Riffin' the Blue" to open before Tas takes the lead for the rest of the set. The pleasers include "Brown Liquor Woman," "Stand Up!," "Throw It All Away," "Heal My Misery," "House of the Blues," "Miss This Man" and "Memphis Gone."



## JIMI 'PRIMETIME' SMITH & BOB CORRITORE - WORLD IN A JUG

VIZZTONE/SOUTHWEST MUSIC ARTS FOUNDATION VT-SWMAF-24

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

A pair of native Chicagoans who've been working together in Arizona for the past seven years, guitarist Jimi "Primetime" Smith - the son of Jimmy Reed's female drummer Johnnie Mae Dunston -- and harp player Bob Corritore hit all the right notes and deliver plenty of Windy City appeal in this collection that intersperses six originals with five covers.

A booming baritone, Jimi handles all the vocals on this one. He and Bob are backed by an all-star lineup that includes bassist Bob Stroger, keyboard players Henry Gray and Fred Kaplan and other top talent from both the East and West Coasts.

Johnnie Mae's "I Got the World in a Jug" kicks things off. You'll also enjoy "Love Her with a Feeling," "You for Me," "Blinded," "In a Spin," "Soul Food," "Walkin'," "We Got to Stick Together," "Southbound" and "Fire and Ice."



## FRANCK L. GOLDWASSER - WHO NEEDS THIS MESS!??

CROSSCUT RECORDS

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

A One of the best guitarists in the world, Franck L. Goldwasser has been splitting his time between the West Coast and his native France for more than 40 years, and he joins forces with Charlie Musselwhite, Sugaray Rayford and several other top talents for this beefy collection of 15 deep-in-the-pocket originals loaded with classical sensibilities.

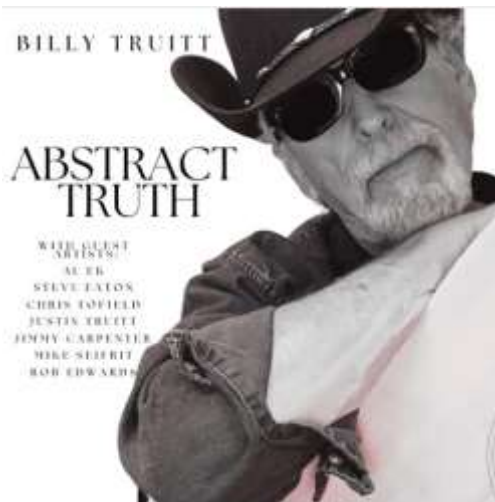
The all-star roster includes Kirk Fletcher, Jim Pugh, Alastair Greene, Tony Coleman, bassist/co-producer Ralph Carter - who co-wrote some of tracks -- and more. Like the title suggests, this 58-minute production is loaded with wry observations and pithy complaints about life in modern times. A Paris-trained artist, Goldwasser's handiwork graces the accompanying 20-page booklet. You'll dig "Don't Give Up on Me Baby," "I Don't Want Your Love (I Just Want Your Lovin')," "What Am I to Do," "I Had a Dream," "Paris Woman," "Who Needs This Mess!??," "If I Could Holler," "Dumb and Dangerous," "Sweet Cream," "Raggmazazz" and "Bleedin' Heart."





# RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther



## BILLY TRUITT - *ABSTRACT TRUTH*

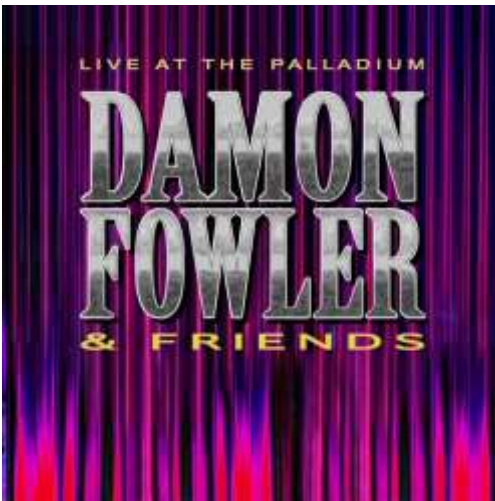
GUTBUCKET RECORDS

[www.vegasstripkings.com/abstracttruth](http://www.vegasstripkings.com/abstracttruth)

An Idaho native who toured with Jay Ely of The Kingsmen before a career in honkytonk, country and rockabilly, Las Vegas-based multi-instrumentalist Billy Truitt will have you grooving and dancing with unique set, which incorporates zydeco, Western swing and rockabilly but always true blue.

Only the second solo album in his 50-year career, Truitt's a triple threat on keys, accordion and guitar. He's backed by his regular Sin City unit, the Vegas Strip Kings, which includes BMA horn player of the year Jimmy Carpenter, an ensemble that struck gold with their *Jackpot* CD three years ago.

Highly entertaining throughout, Billy penned eight of the ten tracks. Give a listen to "Who's Been Trying," "No Lights Blues," "Truth Come Home," "Salvation or Hell and Famous Potatoes," "Life Like Art," "Preacher Stole My Angel" and "Ragtime Eastern Cowboy '22."



## DAMON FOWLER & FRIENDS - *LIVE AT THE PALLADIUM*

LANDSLIDE RECORDS

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

A master guitarist and stellar tunesmith, North Floridian Damon Fowler received rave reviews for *Alpha Moon*, an album that was in the final running for blues-rock album of the year in the 2021 BMAs. And he keeps the momentum going with this disc, which was captured in front of an enthusiastic audience at the Palladium Theater in St. Petersburg, Fla.

An ex-member of both the Dickey Betts Band and Butch Trucks' Freight Train who also partners with Victor Wainwright and JP Soars in Southern Hospitality, Fowler and his tight three-piece unit are joined by harp giant Jason Ricci, guitarist Eddie Wright and keyboard player Dan Signor for a hard-driving set of swampy blues with jam-band and reggae overtones.

Choice cuts include "It Came Out of Nowhere," "The Guitar," "Some Things Change," "Don't Feel Like Going There Today," "Tax Man," "Fruit Stand Lady," "Old Fools, Barstools and Me" and "Sugar Shack."

## TOMISLAV GOLUBAN - 20 YEARS ON THE ROAD

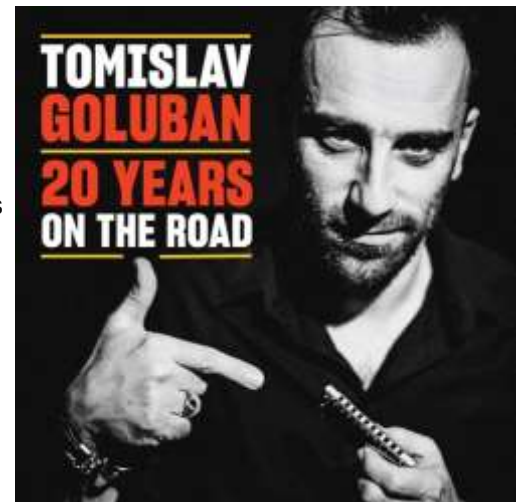
BLUE HEART RECORDS BHR 035

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

One of the hardest working contemporary harmonica players in Europe, Croatian Tomislav "Little Pigeon" Goluban celebrates his second decade as a touring professional by joining forces with eight vocalists from the U.S. and Britain for this powerful CD, which grooves from the jump.

A music educator, festival promoter, excellent singer and deejay, too, Goluban's backed by three bands from his homeland while sharing the mic with Teresa James, Skylar Rogers, Malaya Blue, Kelly Zerbes, Mark Cameron, Crooked Eye Tommy, Ryan Donahue and Gregg Martinez. As he delivers 13 originals and a single cover.

Climb on board for "Express Ride" and tune in to "Blow Junkie Boogie," "Searchin' for My Baby," "Electric Lights," "No Means No," "Disappear for Good," "Speedin' Train," "Gambler's Blues," "Everyday's Fear" and a take on Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee's "I Love You Baby."





# RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

## JOHN LEE HOOKER - BURNIN': 60TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

CRAFT RECORDINGS CR00545

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

From the 1940s through his death in 2001, there were few people in the blues more important than John Lee Hooker and there were few more important LPs than his 1962 release, *Burnin'*, which helped lay the foundation for the modern sounds we enjoy today. Fans too young to remember will understand why with one listen to this lovingly reissued CD.

The king of the boogie, John Lee joined forces with Motown's legendary house band, The Funk Brothers, for this one, including guitarist Larry Veeder, keyboard player Joe Hunter and bassist James Jamerson. Previously issued by Chicago's Vee-Jay label, it includes the original recording of "Boom Boom," one of Hooker's biggest hits ever.

Other choice cuts - all of which appear here in both mono and stereo format along with a previously unreleased alternate take -- include "Lost a Good Girl," "A New Leaf," "Blues Before Sunrise," "Let's Make It," "I Got a Letter," "Drug Store Woman," "Keep Your Hands to Yourself" and "Thelma."



## MIKE ZITO & ALBERT CASTIGLIA - BLOOD BROTHERS

GULF COAST RECORDS

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

Longtime friends who've jammed together frequently, Mike Zito and Albert Castiglia fit like hand in glove and make their formal debut as the Blood Brothers with this rollicking effort. It's a musical partnership that's far more potent than the award-winning talent they display in their solo acts.

Recorded at Dockside Studio in Maurice, La., and co-produced by Joe Bonamassa and Josh Smith -- both of whom add their own guitar skills to the mix, the backing unit is chockful of top-notch talent. Five originals blend perfectly with soulful tunes culled from the catalogs of Tinsley Ellis, Fred James, John Hiatt, Graham Wood Drout and JJ Cale.

You'll enjoy "Hey Sweet Mama," "In My Soul," "Fool Never Learns," the ballad "A Thousand Heartaches" featuring Bonamassa, "You're Gonna Burn," "Bag Me, Tag Me, Take Me Away," "No Good Woman," "Hill Country Jam" featuring Smith and "One Step Ahead of the Blues."



## GEMINIIDRAGON - EQUINOX

NEPOTISM RECORDINGS

[www.geminiidragonmusic.wixsite.com](http://www.geminiidragonmusic.wixsite.com)

Delivering what she describes as "blues on steroids," Thibodeaux, Miss.-based vocalist GeminiDragon - aka Jessica Harper - delivers a mix of blues, rock and Southern soul and makes her recording debut with this CD. It's an eclectic effort that will have even the most hardcore blues fan taking notice because of its unique sound.

Displaying church-honed range, GeminiDragon's heroes include the usual blues gods of the Magnolia State along with '60s and '70s blues-rockers Led Zeppelin, Cream and the Arc Angels, too. She previously released a series of attention-grabbing singles, and co-wrote all of the material here with producer/label owner Christian Simeon.

For something completely different, dial in "Sister Switchblade," "Time," "Ballad of Willie Mae & George," "You Got It Good," "Rusty Gun," "Hands of Time," "Good Thang" and "Bad Rumors."



# RED HOT'n BLUES REVIEWS

by Marty Gunther

A member of the CBS board since 2018, Marty Gunther is no stranger to the area or the Blues. A native Rhode Islander who attended App State, his first exposure to the music came through Muddy Waters at Newport in 1960. His complete baptism into the Blues came in 1966 when Howlin' Wolf was crawling across the Newport stage and singing "Moaning at Midnight." A longtime member of the Chicago blues community, where many international stars were close friends, he was taught by harmonica payer Sugar Blue, and co-founded the Nuclebusters, one of the hardest working bands in South Florida, where he resided previously. In addition to writing the "Red Hot 'n Blues Reviews" column and contributing occasional articles, Marty's an in-demand journalist across the Blues spectrum. Senior writer at Blues Blast Magazine, he's also a contributor to The Groove, the monthly newsletter of the Crossroads (Ill.) Blues Society, and his CBS reviews appear regularly in Chicago Blues Guide.

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## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY (CBS) is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the American Blues tradition through the presentation of concerts, forums, educational programs and support of local musicians in Charlotte and surrounding areas.

## CBS NEEDS YOU !

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR A COMMITTEE, BOARD POSITION, OR EVENT, OR SIMPLY MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION. JUST A FEW HOURS PER YEAR WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Your memberships fund our shows. We are a 501(c)3 organization and count on members to contribute.

Like us on [Facebook](#). Be sure to post blues related articles on the [CBS group page](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#).

Know of an upcoming show? Share the details with us so we can spread the word!

All are welcome to our monthly Board meetings. These are typically the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at a local Charlotte establishment. Next meeting is Tuesday March 21. Location TBD. Please send any agenda items at least one week in advance.

Tell you friends and family, neighbors and co-workers. With your help, we can continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you!

The CBS Board



newsletter edited by Bonnie Spalding