



Keeping Classic R&B Alive

Rhode Island Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society

Affiliate Member of the National Blues Foundation

www.bluespreservationsociety.org | 12 Kipling Street, Providence, RI 02907 | 401.461.0012

RHYTHM & BLUES NEWS of NOTE

Newsletter Editor: Sylvia Whiting

April – June 2019

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President Cleveland Kurtz

From the President's Desk

“...with a little help from my friends”

Some years ago the Beatles wrote a song entitled “I get by with a little help from my friends”. The Rhode Island Rhythm & Blues Preservation Society thrives when our ‘friends’ provide support and encouragement for our efforts. We are a 501c3 non-profit membership organization that strives to fulfill our goals of preserving and promoting R&B music through a variety of programming and other means.

After a difficult and relatively inactive winter, event wise, we enter this time of year working hard to bring a variety of programs and services to the community at large. Planning is underway for our 11th **Annual R&B Heritage Month Festival and Heritage Day** celebration. We are also planning our 5th **Annual Meet & Greet** celebration in the fall with a student focused concert. As you will read in the section below introducing our new member to our Board of Directors, Paul Williams, there are a number of activities being proposed.

As we enter a new fiscal year we are again asking for your support. Membership dues and donations are just one way that you can support us. But we now also need a little of your time. I assure you that the **Rhode Island Rhythm and Blues Preservation Society** is a community group worth your consideration. We make a lasting and positive contribution to the musical scene of this great state.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Cleveland Kurtz
Vice President: Max Whiting
Sec/Treasurer: Sylvia Whiting

Instruments Program Director

Tom Colantonio

Board Members

Barbara Bardsley
Tom Colantonio
Mike ‘Spike’ Katz
Paul Williams

Honorary Board Members

Richard & Donna Pena
Lynn & Elizabeth Pegg
Sylvia Ann Soares

R&B Heritage Month Festival

SAVE the DATE

Friday, August 9, 2019, 7PM until. . .

CV Club, E. Providence, Details to follow.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Application on Page 5

Vice President / Music Director – Max Whiting



We are extremely pleased with the addition of Paul Williams to the Board of Directors (see 🎵 of Interest below). The organization is currently at a critical time whereby Cleveland took over under difficult circumstances and has provided much needed leadership and support. Many of the original members have left and it's now time for new support. Cleveland and I will be focusing our efforts on 1) identifying organizations and individuals around Providence who might be able

to provide support; and 2) conducting a needs assessment. We will begin planning for the **Annual R&B Heritage Month Festival** in August and look forward to student performers for the **Annual Meet & Greet in November**.

I also plan to expand the Master Classes implemented at TAPA and continue these on a regular schedule. We are also in the process of updating the website due to major changes in technology necessitating these updates. We hope to go public with the new site within the next few weeks.

**Max Whiting
& Blues Artist Dave Keller**



Secretary/Treasurer - Sylvia Whiting

It is again **Membership Renewal** time for RIRBPS. The dues are only \$15 for individuals, students only \$5. Through your support we continue to grow our Instruments for Children Program with over 250 instruments donated this past year. Many require repair and cleaning, pick-up and delivery. Your donation is well spent. We also continue to offer the **Annual Meet & Greet**, a free event for members featuring student musicians from TAPA. The Membership Form is attached to the Newsletter.

At the suggestion of the Board of Directors this edition of the **News of Note Newsletter** includes a **Member Survey** (page 6). We are seeking input on how to involve our supporters and friends more directly in programming, focus, direction and support. The Membership Application identifies a number of areas where you may be more involved. The **Survey** offers you the opportunity to express your ideas. We ask that you take a few minutes, fill out the survey and return it to us either by mail or email. Thank you for your ideas and suggestions. All membership fees are tax deductible. For information, volunteer opportunities, musician listings, programming and donations please visit us at www.bluespreservationsociety.org.

OUR PROGRAMS *Director, Instruments for Children Program, Tom Colantonio*

Since the start of school in September, the Instruments for Children Program brought instruments into the hands of children at Woonsocket Middle School, TAPA, Lincoln Middle School, Times 2 Academy, the Anthony Carnevale Elementary School, and the Martin Luther King Community Center. The RIRBPS donated over 57 instruments to these institutions since September. Thanks goes out to the following who year after year check out and refurbish the donated instruments into playable condition; Rob, Teri & Bart at Roberts Music, Art at Musicians Corner, Tom Pasquarelli, Joel Greene and Anthony of Village Drum.

**Bassist
Tom Colantonio**



It is also gratifying to see the efforts of the teachers from the above schools as they go above and beyond to promote music education. We look forward to the continued success of the Instruments for Children as instruments continue to be donated by Rhode Island and Massachusetts residents.

Anyone with a musical instrument to donate or information on a school or program in need of our assistance, please contact Tom at 401.793.1281 or Cleveland at 401.461.0012. We will arrange to pick up the instruments, if necessary.

Musical Instruments Needed
Violins, Violas, Trumpets, Flutes,
Trombones, Clarinets, Saxophones
Call Tom @ 401.793.1281

🎵 OF INTEREST

Paul Williams, Guitarist/Instructor **Appointed to RIRBPS Board**

It is with great pleasure that we announce the addition of Paul Alexander Williams, local guitarist, vocalist and successful guitar instructor, to the Board of the Directors of RIRBPS. Paul brings a vast amount of experience performing blues, jazz, R&B, gospel and other genres of music. He also has theatrical and acting experience.

As a band leader and contractor, he offers a number of options to meet all of your entertainment needs, ranging in size from solo performances to dance bands. His performing and band leading experience will add a new dimension to the Board around educational programming, the local R&B scene and student mentoring.

Paul is currently the Guitarist for “Steppin Out featuring New Image”, the Music Coordinator at the Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, the Guitarist with RPM Voices of RI, Vocalist & Guitarist of the Sweet P Blues Band, a guitarist with The Lois Vaughn Jazz Band and a Solo Performance Artist.



Some areas that Paul may positively impact our programming include event promotion, creating events that focus on the Mission Statement; utilize existing resources to promote RIRBPS; use the Board as historians to tell our story through local libraries or other venues; expand the educational mandate of RIRBPS by expanding programming for children and adults utilizing local venues (e.g. libraries, community centers, churches, SSCRI, etc.) and expand the membership as a base of support.

Paul has also been the featured performer at many RIRBPS venues, R&B Heritage Month Festivals, and R&B events. We welcome Paul to the Board and look forward to his support and involvement at many levels.

MUSICIANS CORNER

Tish Adams Jazz Trio

Meanwhile, on the radio... Join Tish for her "**VOCALISTS & LOCALISTS**" show, Thursday mornings, 8-10 AM, 90.3 FM, WRIU Kingston...a COMMERCIAL-FREE broadcast service from the University of Rhode Island, staffed by VOLUNTEERS!!!

Becky Bass

EVERY WEDNESDAY, Caribbean Soul Duo featuring Becky Bass & Jhony Keys, 6-9 PM. Rooftop, Providence G (Restaurant/Bar), 100 Dorrance St, Providence RI, No cover, Complimentary Valet Parking

Tom Colantonio

Friday, July 14, American Legend Post #85, 870 River Street, Woonsocket RI

Thursday, August 15, 6-8PM W. Warwick Summer Concert Series, Arctic Gazebo, Main Street, W Warwick, RI.

Saturday, August 17, The Joint, 9-12:30PM, 1150 Oaklawn Avenue, Cranston RI, Rockin Blues.

August 24, McT's Tavern, 8:30-12:00, 940 Mendon Road, Cumberland RI.

Max Whiting

Saturday, June 15, 3-6PM. Winthrop Historical Society, Strawberry Festival. Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop, MA.

Thursday, June 20, Noon-2PM. Post Office Square, Jazz on a Sunny Afternoon. Post Office Square, Boston, MA.

Monday, July 1, 11-12:30AM. Marblehead Jewish Community Center, Marblehead, MA.

Paul Williams

Steppin Out, Saturday, June 29, featuring New Image, 39 West Restaurant & Lounge, 39 Pheonix Ave, Cranston, RI
First Show is at 9PM.

Steppin Out, Saturday, July 6, featuring New Image, Brockton Fair, 600 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA
8 PM to Midnight.

WHERE IT'S AT - - - Where music lovers may go to satisfy a healthy R&B craving !!!

133 Club, Sunday, 29 Warren Ave., East Providence 401.438.1330 - Mac Odom Band. Motown R&B - NO COVER

ASKEW, 150 Chestnut St., Providence, 774-526-9736. Tuesday evenings, Funky Autocrats, Wednesday Jam.

Cady's Tavern, 2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI, 401.568.4102. Blues Jam, Sunday afternoon at 3-7PM.

<http://www.cadystavern.com/#!ricks-roadhouse-blues>, no cover.

Fifth Element, 111 Broadway, Newport 401.619.2552 - Jazz in bar - Sat., Sun., Mon.

Knickerbocker Café 35 Railroad Avenue, Westerly, RI. 401.315.5070. **Events featured every night.** Open Mike every Thursday, 8-11PM, classic blues, R&B, Rock, Oldies, Pop. <http://www.theknickerbockercafe.com>. No cover.

Murphy's Law 2 George Street, Pawtucket, RI. 401.724.5522. Blues jam Sundays, 7:30 PM. No Cover.

<http://murphyslawri.com/events>.

Sardella's Italian Restaurant, 30 Memorial Blvd., Newport 401.849.6312 Wednesday, 7-10 PM Live Jazz.

Tarragon Bar, 311 Westminster St., Providence RI, Blues and jazz Sundays, 7:30 PM. No cover.

The Pub on Park, 661 Park Ave., Cranston RI - Vintage R&B Ensemble, Wednesdays, 8:00-10:00 PM

The Revolution, 2190 Broad Street, Cranston, RI, 401.780.8700. "Excellent Food + Good Music = Fun", Check their schedule for Blues Greats.

Volunteer Opportunities

Your support is valuable to us in many areas. Here are some ways you may help:

- Promotion and advertising
- Bookkeeping and banking
- Social media coordination (website, twitter, etc.)
- Producing and staging shows
- Coordinating and compiling our history projects

Our needs have grown along with our organization and we could really use your help. We are easy to work with; we have a lot of fun; and we serve our community. Now, you can't beat that. Please contact me at your earliest convenience.

RIRBPS Membership / Sponsor Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Company/Organization/Instrument Played: _____

Membership Types / Dues	Payable to RIRBPS & mail to:
Student: \$ 5/year	Sylvia Whiting, Treasurer
Individual: \$15/year	125 Cliff Avenue, Winthrop, MA 02152
Couple: \$25/year	617.539.3951 / sylmax99@yahoo.com
Non Profit: \$50/year	or Payable on-line @ www.bluespreservationsociety.org.
Venue/Club \$75/year	
Corporation \$100/year	Membership renewal year runs from June 1 to May 31.
Advertising Prices for Newsletter &/or Website: Business Card \$25 (2x3.5) ¼ Page \$50 (4.5 x 5.5) Half Page \$75 (5x8) Full Page \$150 (8x11). All Ads require camera ready jpeg file.	
Sponsor Flyers: Members only, 1 st time free – You Print – We Attach (inserted if mailed).	

Voluntary Donation \$ _____ \$ _____

Total \$ _____ \$ _____

Volunteer Information (optional):

In addition to supporting RIRBPS with my Membership, I would like to volunteer in the following way:

**Rhode Island Rhythm & Blues Preservation Society
2018 Member Survey**

1) What was your primary reason for joining the Rhode Island Rhythm & Blues Preservation Society?

2) Do you understand the *Mission Statement* of RIRBPS? Yes No

3) What Programs of RIRBPS are you familiar with?

<input type="checkbox"/> Instruments Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Oral History Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation Hall Band
<input type="checkbox"/> R&B Education	<input type="checkbox"/> International Blues Challenge	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Performer Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Last Chord	<input type="checkbox"/> Members Discounts/Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter

3) Where do you see the greatest need for improvement in RIRBPS?

4a) Would you like to become more involved in RIRBPS? Yes No

4b) If yes, in what areas of RIRBPS would like to become more involved?

<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Programming
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Finances	<input type="checkbox"/> R&B Band	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Website/Facebook	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other areas of support _____			

5) Have you attended a RIRBPS function this year?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
In the Past two years?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Have you ever attended a RIRBPS function?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If not, please explain why you were not able to attend our functions.

6) What event/function would you like to see the RIRBPS hold/sponsor?

7) Is our Membership Dues structure adequate? Yes No

8) Non-Members: Would you consider joining RIRBPS? Yes No
If not, why?

Thank you for completing the RIRBPS 2018 Survey. We seek to improve and expand our programming and support for R&B in Rhode Island. Your feedback is invaluable to this effort.

Return to: RIRBPS 12 Kipling Street, Providence, RI 02907 Email to: rirbps@gmail.com / 401.461.0012