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SACRAMENTO



BLUE NOTES!

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Bluesman



President's Column

Signs of the Times By Sally Katen



I miss the music, I miss being able to meet up with friends and enjoy a cocktail and catch up! I am sure everyone feels the same about this; isolation can affect everyone. Being in the 65+ age group with several pre-existing conditions, and charged with the care of my elderly mom, I am kept busy, but it is the loss of contact with my peers that makes me feel isolated. I worry that my life will not be the same for a long time to come, if ever, and I hope a vaccine will soon be developed, as that will give us a fighting chance against this virus. These are weighty concerns, and I know we're all sharing some of the same anxiety.

On top of the pandemic and its effects on us, then we're confronted by racism rearing its ugly head yet again. When the current movement started, my son asked me what I thought about all the protesting and the riots. I told him it reminded me of the 60's with the Martin Luther King protest walks and the Black Panthers rising to challenge police brutality. I hate that some people react with rioting and looting, and believe that the rioters aren't the same folks who peacefully protest. But, I support Black Lives Matter and agree that, as Sam Cooke so eloquently sang in 1964, "A Change Is Gonna Come". It's about darn time!

As the Sac Blues Society has said in our statement of support, the arts have always been outlets to express the plight of the oppressed and to sound the call for change; and the African-American experience is the very foundation of the Blues, which we celebrate and love.

And speaking of music, there is light and hope. I love the fact that our musicians and friends have found new outlets for performances on the Internet. Can'tStoptheBlues.com and other blues pages have

popped up on Facebook, and shows are proliferating on YouTube. Even local bars have been doing events on Facebook. You can hear some great music and even donate to the musicians. While I know it still isn't the same as going to a club or venue to see your favorite band, it's at least a way to get a dose of the blues!! Let's support the musicians as best we can and remember, when you see the information about donating to the musicians, you would normally be going to a venue and paying a cover charge to hear and see this event! Support our musician, venue and promoter friends!

I hope we can someday soon resume our wonderful blues events, such as our canceled Hall of Fame induction ceremony, and in the meantime, I hope everyone stays safe!

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Blues in the Schools - Lisa Phenix

Hall of Fame - Sally Katen

Events - Mindy Giles

Membership - Linda McShane

Sponsorships/Fundraising - Doug Pringle

Public Relations & Social Media - Mindy Giles

Volunteer Coordinator - Lisa Phenix, Deanna Myerson

Donor Gifts - Sally Katen

Blue Notes Newsletter - Cari Chenkin & Jan Kelley

IBC Competition - MariLu Onweller

Webmaster - Dave Baldwin

Help keep the Blues alive - Contact a Chair or Board Member to volunteer for the Board or a Committee!

The Sacramento Blues Society (SBS) is one of the oldest blues societies in California, founded in 1979. SBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to preserve and promote blues music as an art form. SBS has kept the blues tradition alive in the Sacramento area by promoting the local blues music scene, bringing internationally renowned artists to the region, acknowledging our local blues artists, providing a musicians' Crisis Fund and publishing the "Blue Notes" six times a year. SBS is an affiliate member of The Blues Foundation (which honored us with a 2015 Keeping the Blues Alive Award) which provides educational opportunities for young people with The Blues Foundation's "Blues in The Schools" Program.

Board of Directors Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of each Month, 7:00 p.m.

All SBS Members in good standing are invited to attend.

For more details, including meeting location, check: www.sacblues.com/who-we-are/

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Sacramento Blues Society Publications

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Blues In The Schools (BITS)

Blues in the School Inspires and Expands

By Mitch Ward, SBS member band **Crossing 49**,



(Check them out at <http://www.sacblues.com/bands/> and <http://crossing49.com/>)

Introduction by Lisa Phenix, BITS Chairperson

Mitch Ward of SBS member band **Crossing 49** joined SBS last year. Mitch and a bandmate came out to the SBS BITS 2019 showcase and donated on the Big Day of Giving, which inspired him to start a BITS program in the Grass Valley area. Here's their story. Thanks so much, Mitch Ward and Crossing 49!

Inspired by SBS's Blues in the Schools program, our band Crossing 49, located in Grass Valley, started a BITS program in our area. The school board directed us to our local continuation school, Silver Springs High. These music students turned out to be an unforeseen blessing for me and my band.

We were lucky with a great Principal and Vice Principal at Silver Springs. They go to great lengths to keep the students engaged and in school. Both were enthusiastic and very supportive of our Blues Music program.

Our blues-interested students had no previous music instruction, so we started from scratch. Most of these kids, from low income families, didn't have instruments, so we set about gathering instruments for them. Armed with a few instruments to be shared during class, we set about our mission. Our students varied in aptitude and many had some learning issues, but music was just what they needed! All were terrified to perform in front of anyone, even their classmates.

We expected that to change and to a small degree, it did. Crossing 49's keyboard player David started teaching beginning blues keys to interested students. Our guitarists Gregg and Randy did the same with their students, and I taught drums. Before we knew it, Christmas break was upon us! When we returned from break, we had a couple of surprises. Most of the students had been practicing over the break! One student, Hans, even got a guitar for Christmas. He progressed a lot and inspired us all.

Another guitar student was really talented, but limited by not having an instrument to take home for practice. On an impulse, I bought one of those starter kits from Fender with the Squire guitar and amp. He was thrilled. I do not think he had received many gifts before. He started living with that guitar and took to scales like wildfire. In the next class he was playing songs! Our shy introverted students have been playing music in the hallways during breaks at school!

George, one of my drum students was the same way, but very shy. Although our sessions were simple, at the end of each class we would play a blues standard and all of the students would play along, performing their parts.

We were scheduled to play at our local fair as a showcase but the plans were short-circuited by COVID-19. I know our students now look to music as an outlet and will continue to learn their craft

They've learned to work together to learn, create and make music. They've built skills, confidence and communication skills. Equally important, blues music has given them an outlet for self-expression. Teaching these kids Blues has been one of the most rewarding

experiences for our band. We can't wait for fall semester!

2020 Hall Of Fame Induction Canceled!

By Jan Kelley and Sally Katen



This probably comes as no surprise, but the SBS Hall of Fame Committee and the Board of Directors have reluctantly voted to cancel the 2020 Hall of Fame Induction and Ceremony. Considering the Covid-19 virus has not gone away and there is no viable vaccine at this time, we believe the safety and protection of our members and audience are more important.

An alternative for next year will be discussed in the meantime, including placing a plaque on the HOF Wall at the Torch Club that indicates the absence of inductees for 2020. We're considering CORONA 2020!

As always, you can continue to submit any nominee you believe meets the criteria and deserves to be inducted. This information can be found on our website www.sacblues.com under the Hall Of Fame tab.

Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time. WE WON'T GIVE UP!

SBS Board of Directors Wants to Know!

Upcoming Member Survey Going Out Soon

While we're all in a period of forced inactivity due to the COVID-19 quarantine, your Board of Directors is putting the "down time" to good use. We've created a survey designed to get member feedback on one of our most important annual events, our Annual Membership Meeting/Holiday Party. While we're not sure of the exact timing of the survey, sometime soon you'll all receive an email with a link to it, and we'll greatly appreciate your taking the time to complete it.

This information will be helpful to us in guiding how we plan future Holiday Parties, and maybe other events as well. We know many of you have opinions on how we do things, and this is your chance to make them known! Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Capital Public Radio Reduces Length of "Mick Martin's Blues Party" Radio Show

Sacramento Blues Society Sends Protest Letter, Starts Online Petition

Blues lovers everywhere will be dismayed to hear that Capital Public Radio, long-time home of SBS Hall of Fame member Mick Martin's four-hour radio show, has cut Mick's show from four to two hours! Naturally, when informed of this decision, your SBS Board of Directors decided to take action. On June 10, we sent a letter and an email to the responsible parties at Capital Public Radio, asking them to rescind that decision and restore the four-hour format for Mick's show.

We believe that it's vitally important to our mission of promoting blues music to have as much of it as possible available over the airwaves. It's our opinion that the loss of half the length of Mick's show, and other restrictions imposed by Capital Public Radio do a great disservice to the blues. If you agree, we encourage you to share our petition on your social media accounts. You'll find our petition at: <https://bit.ly/31o004a>. Please sign it, share it and help us bring back four hours of totally awesome blues programming! And thanks.

Big Day of Giving a Huge Success for

SBS! *By Doug Pringle*

We are extremely grateful to the donors who made 100 contributions totaling \$7582 during our Big Day of Giving Campaign on May 7. We MORE THAN DOUBLED the amount we raised during last year's Big DOG, and exceeded our stated goal of raising \$5,000! This is truly remarkable, considering that folks are struggling due to the pandemic, and we're so thankful for your generosity.

We know some of you weren't able to contribute this year; when the economy improves and we're all back at work, we hope you'll consider donating during 2021's Big Day of Giving. Just think, if the rest of our members could donate just \$10 next year, it would increase the amount we raise in support of our mission by at least 50%! The monies raised during this year's Big DOG will go toward another year of BITS programs, our Gene Chambers Musician's Crisis Fund and will permit us to put on some great programs for our members and the community, once we're able to host and attend events in the future.

The Board of Directors wants to thank Mindy Giles for her hard work on the campaign. We especially thank Roger and Judi Patterson for their generous matching contribution and all these people who supported us (9 people chose to be anonymous):

Amy Price	Jeffrey Parkin	Philip Hildenbrand
Darci Phenix	Amanda Johnson	Felicita Fields
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Sheri Pringle	Gigi Nickas	Cari Chenkin

SACRAMENTO BLUES SOCIETY STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH #BLACKLIVESMATTER

We mourn the loss of George Floyd, the latest in a too-long list of Black lives lost to fear and systemic racism in our society.

The arts have always been outlets to express the plight of the oppressed, and to sound the call for change, and the African-American experience is the very foundation of the Blues, which we celebrate and love.

As an arts-focused organization, we're proud to take a stand in support of racial equality and to serve as allies in the struggle for justice and an end to white supremacy.

We pledge, as individuals and as a group, to work for peaceful, positive change within the community and to influence those with whom we interact to do the same.

Thanks and Good Luck, Willie Brown

By Cari Chenkin

Many of you look forward to receiving the weekly Blues News email every Monday, as I do. This has been the brainchild of former SBS president Willie Brown, who has graciously undertaken the task of informing the Blues community about the various events in and around our area for many years. Sadly, Willie has given us notice that it's time for him to move on and he will no longer send out the weekly email.

We're sorry to see him go, and thank him most sincerely for the service he's so faithfully performed for so long. We'll all miss seeing his weekly email. As always, once we're cleared to be out and about and events start happening again, the Blue Notes will present its list of upcoming events. You'll also be able to check with various venues such as the Torch Club, Powerhouse Pub, Stoney's Rockin' Rodeo and the Harris Center to find out about their events.

Renee Erickson Sullivan Update

As of press time for this issue, the good news is that our SBS Board member Renee Erickson Sullivan, who had successful double lung transplant surgery at the end of April, has been released from the hospital and is recovering in San Francisco! We're so happy to see her on the road to recovery, and able to begin participation in our Board of Directors' activities. Please check out her GoFundMe page: <https://bit.ly/3cAePTK>, if you'd like to make a donation.

Get Your Red, White and BLUES on for 4th of July!

Sacramento's K-ZAP Birthday Celebration Fundraiser Streams Multi-Platform on July 4th; Exclusive & Rare Performances!



Sacramento's K-ZAP, 93.3 on the FM dial and online worldwide at k-zap.org, is alive, thriving and celebrating five years on the air, online and on apps on July 4th. The free virtual streaming video concert fundraiser will be airing twice on Saturday- at 2pm PST and an encore at 7pm PST. It will air on the station's Facebook and YouTube Channel.

Exclusive or rare performances for this first-time event will include: Hometown favorite **Jackie Greene** headlines and will be performing a full set. PLUS: **Elvin Bishop, Tommy Castro, Dramarama, Davis, Jocelyn & Chris Arndt, Sammy Hagar, Cherie Currie** (The Runaways), **Katie Knipp** and **The Zach Waters Band**

The two hour event will be hosted by beloved station rascals, Bill Prescott and Scott Forrington. (Prescott is on M-F noon-3pm and Forrington raves on weekends-3pm-7pm Saturdays and 4pm-8pm Sundays.)

Donations from the birthday event will go to the station, and also to two established local music education nonprofit partners: The Sacramento Blues Society "Blues in the Schools" Program (<http://www.sacblues.com/>) and Girls Rock Sacramento. (<http://www.girlsrocksacramento.com/>)

Thank You Donors

Our donors and members are the life blood of our organization. Without you we would be unable to accomplish our mission. Thank you all, and especially these major donors:

Earl Withycombe	Steve and Rosemary Heard
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Cathy Stillwell	Robert and Kristen Fike
Carole Dubbins	Jeffrey Glanville

Please join these major donors by making a tax deductible contribution on our website: www.sacblues.com or by sending a check made out to "The Sacramento Blues Society". Mail to SBS PO Box 60580, Sacramento, CA 95860-0580.

We need your continued support. When you renew your membership, why not add an additional contribution? Every little bit helps!

SBS Guitar Fundraiser Postponed

Thanks to the generosity of member Craig Christensen, we have an



exclusive opportunity to raise money by either raffling or auctioning off a special and unique guitar. Craig has donated his Charvel electric guitar, signed by all the members of the Papa Roach band! When we all get back to attending live SBS events, you'll be able to see the guitar in person, and we'll update you on how YOU can win it!

SBS Board Update

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SBS Board of Directors met via teleconference in April, May and June. We will do the same for the July meeting, and will see how the opening up of the state from Shelter In Place is going, before deciding upon future meetings. Please stay tuned for any further developments! And STAY HOME when you can, wear your masks and stay safe!

Sacramento Blues Society Member Bands

Got an event or an occasion? Need music? Hire an SBS Member Band!

Almost Blue
1rrbass@gmail.com

Blind Lemon Peel
www.blindlemonpeel.com

Crossing 49
www.crossing49.com

Dana Moret
www.mrdecembertheband.com

Dave Croall & The Soothers
www.soothersblues.com

Dr. Rock & The Stuff
www.bookthestuff.com

The Ghost Town Rebellion
www.theghosttownrebellion.com

Guitar Mac
www.guitarmac.net

Hell Bent
www.hellbent.band

The Hucklebucks
www.thehucklebucks.com

Gloria T & The Innervision Band
Zyruszt.wixsite.com/mzgloriat

Jen & the Tonics
jennifer@jjohnsonstudio.com

Jeremy Norris & the Dangerous Mood
www.dangerousblues.com

Joe Lev & Friends
www.facebook.com/joelevand-friends

Julie & the Jukes
www.julieandthejukes.com

The Lisa Phenix Band
www.lisaphenix.com

The Michael Ray Band
https://michaelrayblues.com

Mick Martin Big Band
http://micksbluesrockers.com

The Midtown Creepers
jmcguire@comcast.net

Papa Day Blues Band
www.oldbluesdude.com

The Ray "Catfish" Copeland Band
www.raycatfishcopeland.com

Red's Blues
www.redsbluesband.com

Rick Estrin & the Night Cats
www.rickestrin.com

Rowland & Tumblin'
www.kylerowlandblues.com

Surface Tension
www.surface tensionsacramento.com

Tim Noxon Rockin' Blues Band
www.facebook.com/TimNoxon-RockinBluesBand

Todd Morgan & the Emblems
toddmorganmusic.com

Tony Westlake & the Tuff Times
www.facebook.com/tattblues

Val Starr & The Blues Rocket
www.valstarr.com

The William Mylar Band
www.mylarville.com

Zola Moon
www.zolamoon.com

SBS Face Masks Available Now!

New & Improved Version Shipping Immediately

While we're still impacted by COVID-19, why not share your support of the Sacramento Blues Society by wearing the new SBS Face Mask?! It's made of ultra soft jersey fabric, 52% Cotton / 48% Polyester. One size fits all, and cost is \$15.00. It will ship directly to you Order online at: <https://www.storefrontier.com/sacbluessociety>



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See You When the Quarantine Is Over!

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