

JAZZ & BLUES

F L O R I D A

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES



HOW ARE
FLORIDA
JAZZ & BLUES
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS
DOING?



As we move forward through these uncertain times to an uncertain future, we need to keep in mind that we are not alone.

This month we turn to a cross section of our community to share their stories to remind us of this.



ROB RICHARDSON, *President*
NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA BLUES SOCIETY

Under normal circumstances, we at the North Central Florida Blues Society would be planning our Women in Blues Showcase and putting a lot of effort into promoting it. But these are not normal circumstances. Almost everyone is staying home. There are no in-person concerts.

And there is much uncertainty. Obviously everyone wants to know when will things be safe again. But there are other questions as well: When will people feel safe again? When will the economy bounce back? Will our jobs be safe? Will our favorite restaurants and live music venues be able to survive financially?

We know that the State of Florida and cities within will reduce restrictions on businesses and gatherings. But even when that happens, there are many people that will understandably still be worried about their health and the health of their families.

The NCFBS loves to get our members together in a room and watch live music or talk about our love of the music and the musicians that make it. But we know it's going to be a while before that happens again.

So now we do what we can remotely: Our annual membership meeting/members' appreciation party will be done by online survey as our Board of Directors are elected this week (May 2-9). We ask our member musicians if they are doing online concerts, so that we can promote them and they can at least make some tips. At this time, it's all we are able to do for our community. We wish we could be doing more. We have no idea when we can book some touring acts or if we will have the funding to do so.

But we hope to see everyone when we are all healthy and feeling secure. That day will come, and when it does, we certainly won't take it for granted!

"I THINK I'LL GO DOWN IN GAINESVILLE JUST TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE..."
- MUDDY WATERS
'DEEP DOWN IN FLORIDA,'

Check for updates at ncfblues.org

EVENTS ARE FUNDED IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. FUNDED IN PART BY VISIT GAINESVILLE-ALACHUA COUNTY.

Gainesville, FL
150th ANNIVERSARY
GAINESVILLE
FLORIDA COUNTY, FL



KATHY SALEM, *Managing Director*

NIGHT IS ALIVE

Night is Alive and I have been keeping busy even during these hard times. I call each of my musicians every week to check in and see how they are doing. In person is always better, but these days you do what you have to. All of the guys are staying very active musically, teaching online and composing. This has actually been a really great opportunity for them to compose – they are usually so busy, it can be hard to make time. One of our musicians, tenor saxophonist Ralph Moore, will be releasing a new CD later this year with many original tunes... we are looking forward to that!

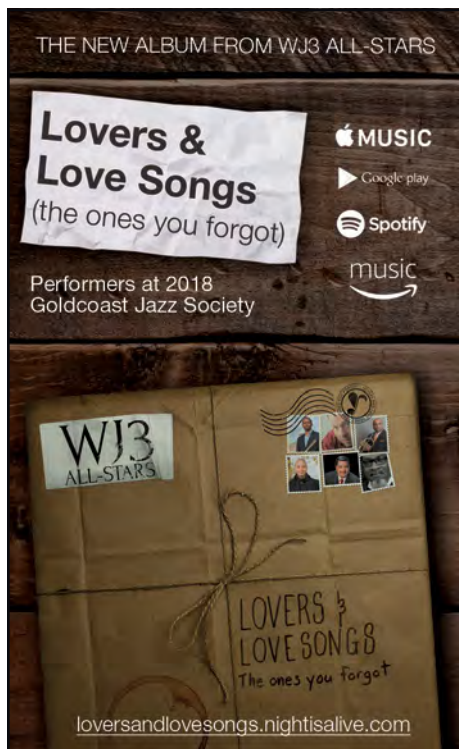
We recently produced a new album, *Colors of Jazz*, with the Lorca Hart Trio and Ralph Moore. We want to promote feelings of happiness, vibrant colors, rainbows, and the like. Similarly, we're calling attention to our Christmas albums and encouraging people to remember the joy associated with the holidays. It is our hope that people will reach for happier times with great jazz music. Our albums are available for download on www.nightisalive.com/store and all major online music platforms.

We also have a special quarantine gift basket raffle going on! Over a \$250 value, it features a limited edition vinyl of *Lovers and Love Songs*, which we released last year. Full details can be found on our website. The winner will be announced during the last week of May.

I have been doing a lot of cooking, baking, and gardening myself. It's important to stay busy and active during times like this. It's not nearly as bad as it could be – I remember the polio epidemic, being completely isolated with only a landline phone and no one to call. We had to find ways to entertain ourselves. It's very different now with technology to keep us connected. That's why Night is Alive is working so hard to

continue making and sharing music. The worst part for me is being high-risk because of my age and realizing I'm not going to be able to visit New York City anytime soon. I would go there every month to hit up the jazz clubs and hear everyone play. But that won't be possible for a long time.

All of my musicians look forward to seeing everyone once things are safer. We are making plans to tour, have CD release parties, and return to the clubs as soon as possible!



SHELTERING IN PLACE? MISSING THE FLORIDA LIVE JAZZ AND BLUES SCENE?

Jazz & Blues Florida will be providing a regularly-updated calendar of virtual gigs, so you can support and enjoy live local music — without leaving the house! These events take place on a variety of platforms, and we'll provide links when we can. Let's keep Florida jazz and blues alive!

GOT A VIRTUAL GIG TO SUBMIT?

Email the information to charlie@jazzbluesflorida.com

Include a link to where you are streaming



REVEREND RAVEN *Touring blues artist*
REV RAVEN & THE CHAIN SMOKIN' ALTAR BOYS

Our COVID-19 adventure began

on March 15th. We were on our way home from the Bonita Blues Party when the engine on the USS Nevermore blew. Five and a half hours later we pulled up with the tow truck to our Airbnb home in North Port, FL. The owner gave us the door code but forgot to tell us that they had a security system that needed a code. North Port's finest showed up in force at 2am... oops! The next day our agents called and informed me that the rest of our tour was canceled as well as April and May's shows.

The states were shutting down we had to get back home. We arranged for our gear to be shipped, disposed of the van, and flew home on March 19th. Now we're home in Wisconsin on lockdown, writing songs, woodshedding, and putting together a new setlist. No PPP, no unemployment yet either. We did get grants from MusiCares and we are selling CDs and t-shirts at reverendraven.com/merch.

I hope for the best but prepare for the worst. I'm optimistic that the scientists are working 24/7 to beat this and life will slowly return to some semblance of normal. What is sad is there are already fewer venues to play. Clubs run by real blues fans are going too. I hope there is a future for all the touring bands and fans, if not I've had a great run in my Navy afterlife and I'm grateful for that.



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Sertoma Youth Ranch * Brooksville, FL

THE LINEUP*

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Twinkle & Rock Soul Radio * Julie Black Band

Soul2Earth * Souljam

TC Carr & Bolts of Blue * 2pm Band

Bickley Rivera & Island Chill * Yesterdayze

Moonflower * Deb & The Dynamics

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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GARY ANTON, *Proprietor/Owner*

BRADFORDVILLE BLUES CLUB

THE JUKE JOINT UNDER COVID-19

All is quiet—too quiet—on the Bradfordville Blues Club front. Six weeks and counting without live blues, friends, BBC family and musicians. An uncertain future is ahead of all of us but, with patience, persistence and creativity, we'll reemerge. What it'll look like remains to be seen.

We're all in this together—as people, live music fans, customers, bands and musicians. The blues community is a committed family that will adjust to the coming changes. And there will be changes.


The BBC has a diverse group that come to our shows, many of whom are in a higher risk category—older patrons some with underlying medical conditions. Our fans come from three different states—Florida, Georgia and Alabama—and many traveling blues lovers. As the site of the Mississippi to Florida Blues Trail Marker, the BBC attracts customers from all over the world. Our bands, too, route here from all parts of the country, some from distant shores. Those who are familiar with the club know that our confines are cozy and the dance floor is frequently crowded. Not very conducive to social distancing. Hence, we are in a quandary about how to best protect those folks who come through our doors.

Our primary concern is to prevent others from contracting the virus. To that end, we will not resume shows for the foreseeable future. Health officials project that our region will not peak until late May or early June. Thereafter, some undetermined waiting period is in store.

Irrespective of "official" pronouncements, many people will self-select as to whether and when they go out. Hopefully, we'll gain insight into how people respond from experiences elsewhere. We expect attendance to be lower at the outset, despite pent up demand to kick up heels. Folks may be reluctant to socialize. Those that do may not have the disposable income to pay cover charges and bar tabs. Cover charges are essential to our ability to pay bands. Bar sales keep the doors open. Reductions in either will hurt our ability to continue.

We have already cut our expenses to the bone. Lower revenues will impact our ability to pay touring bands what they need to stay on the road. Less expensive local and regional bands will probably fill much of our schedule as we learn what the new reality brings. We'll expand our offerings of acoustic and roots musicians as well as our bonfire stage for music under the stars. And, of course, we'll sanitize, sanitize and sanitize. Masks are OK all year, not just at Halloween!

This, too, will pass and the Bradfordville Blues Club plans to be there when it does. In the meantime, support bands' live music streams, purchase their music and merchandise, stay in contact with your blues friends and, most importantly, be safe. We'll see you around the bonfire!



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CLOSED... BUT...

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Tip Jar proceeds go to our unemployed staff and sound guy. The band is donating their talents.
Note: This event is NOT open to the public.

Stay safe out there...

bradfordvilleblues.com



EDDIE BALZOLA *Touring jazz artist*

DUOS, TRIOS, ORIENTE, AND OTHERS

Today, April 23rd marks the fifth Thursday without performing at my weekly Jazz jam at Le Chat Noir in downtown Miami. My last gig before this emergency was on March 14th in Ft. Lauderdale. Although I am eternally grateful for all of my gigs, and many are super-enjoyable (especially Q-Bar trios with Kilmo Doome, duos with upright bassist Miguel Gomez, and performances with Oriente, among others), some are done exclusively to make the paycheck. In the case of Le Chat Noir, every player is encouraged to play and express themselves with zero restriction. On any given night, many of our world-class players who happen to reside locally show up and throw down with jaw-dropping solos. The vibe of this esthetically beautiful place is nothing less than magical. A true jazz club where you will never see a TV screen or hear recorded music during the breaks that destroys the cool vibe created by the live musicians. Where Alexis Salis and Ezzio Chaviano and their staff treat

every musician like royalty. Looking forward to soon be once again jamming with Mike Wood, Elvis Taylor, Omar Morinaga, Tony Peres, Tal Cohen, Claudens F. Louis, Peter Francis, Felipe Lamoglia, Stuart King, Phoenix Rivera, Javier Espinoza, Lourdes Valentin, Tom McCormick, Tito Arrozito Cruz, Jose Gola, Livan M, Mike Cady, Loye Hawkins, Ted McDermott, Ralph Pritikin, Carlos Tomatti, Manny Echazabal, Antonio Zamora, Rey Monroig, Heriberto Rey Aribu, Eduardo Rodriguez, Roberto Rodriguez, Reynaldo Peña, Julio Montalvo, Hilario Bell, Steve Kornicks, Rudy Infante, Chelo Segui, Magela Herrera, Papo Delgado, Vlad Shvartsman, Lindsey Blair, Miguel Gomez, Angela Uzcategui, Sandy Poltarack, Miguel Cruz, Ivan Palma, Neil Rogers, Richard Padrón, Ariel Dela Portilla, Nicolle Guerra, Abel Pabon, Francesco Guz, and so many others who make those Thursday nights come alive. Hope to see you all soon. QUE VIVA LA MUSICA!

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FLORIDA JAZZ/BLUES FESTS

FESTIVAL	LOCATION	STARTS	TYPE	STATUS
Jim Burge Jazz Fest	Carrollwood	5/15/20	Jazz	C
Earl's Memorial Day Weekend Fest	Sebastian	5/22/20	Music	C
Spirit of Woodstock	Brooksville	8/14/20	Music	Y
Earl's Labor Day Weekend Party	Sebastian	9/4/20	Music	Y
New Smyrna Beach Jazz Fest	New Smyrna Beach	9/24/20	Jazz	P
Amelia Island Jazz Fest	Amelia Island	10/04/20	Jazz	P
Barbados Jazz Excursion	Barbados	10/8/20	Jazz	Y
Camping with the Blues	Brooksville	10/16/20	Blues	Y
Downtown Fest & Art Show	Gainesville	11/7/20	Music	Y
Craft Beer & Blues Fest	Casselberry	11/13/20	Blues	Y
Dunedin Wines the Blues	Dunedin	11/14/20	Blues	Y
Bradenton Blues Fest	Bradenton	12/05/20	Blues	Y
Pigz in the Z'Hills BBQ & Blues	Zephyrhills	1/15/21	Blues	Y
Pat Ramsey Benefit for Big Bend Hospice	Tallahassee	2020 TBA	Music	C
Backyard Blues at Blue Tavern	Tallahassee	2020 TBA	Blues	?
Beachtone Jazz Festival	Miami	2020 TBA	Music	?
Folk in the Springs	High Springs	2020 TBA	Music	?
Coral Head Blues Fest	Marathon	2020 TBA	Blues	?
Florida Harmonica Championships	New Smyrna Beach	2020 TBA	Music	?
Venice Blues Fest	Venice	2020 TBA	Blues	?
Latin Jazz & Art Fest	Casselberry	2020 TBA	Jazz	?
Miami International Jazz Fest	Miami	2021 TBA	Jazz	?
Orlando International Jazz Festival	Apopka	2021 TBA	Jazz	?
Blues Bash at the Ranch	Brooksville	2021 TBA	Blues	
Bonita Blues Festival	Bonita Springs	2021 TBA	Blues	
Spring Jazz and Art Festival	Casselberry	TBA 2021	Jazz	
St Augustine Lions Seafood Fest	St. Augustine	TBA 2021	Music	

STATUS

Y = On C = Cancelled/Postponed
P = Pending ? = Unknown

TYPE

'Blues' is blues. 'Jazz' is jazz. 'Music' contains a substantial element of one or both.

Jazz & Blues Florida clients only.

These and other festivals listed JazzBluesFlorida.com/festivals.

Information was correct at time of posting. To update, email Charlie@JazzBluesFlorida.com.

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