

VolumeOne CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT IN THE CHIPPEWA VALLEY





Tuesday Night Blues 2019

Shows begin at 6:30 In case of inclement weather, Tuesday Night Blues is held at the Stones Throw, 304 Eau Claire St.

May 28: Stefan Geisinger Band

June 4: Armadillo Jump

June 11: Paul Tweed Band

June 18: Mojo Lemon Blues Band

June 25: Bridget Kelly

July 2: Nick Foytik & Friends featuring Faith Ulwelling

July 9: Brian Naughton

July 16: Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max

July 23: Code Blue

July 30: Dee Miller Band

August 6: Mark Cameron (@ Phoenix Park) with a special after-show by Dave Arcari

August 13: Sue Orfield Band August 20: Joyann Parker August 27: Tommy Bentz Band

Find out more about the bands and listen to samples at **TuesdayNightBlues.com**







Tuesday Night Bluesletter

July 16, 2019 at Owen Park

Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max





oward 'Guitar' Luedtke and Blue Max has been playing the Blues since 1982. With 40+ years of playing guitar in the Midwest and on international stages, Luedtke is a Blues icon..

"I grew up with the Beatles, Hendrix, and the Stones," says Luedtke. "Then in '69 or '70, I was first exposed to the classic Blues and was fascinated by it." Howard played in a variety of Blues, rock and country bands in the Wisconsin area during the early seventies, including Black Cat Bone Band in 1974.

Rounding out the band are Howard's wife, **Deb Klossner**, on bass, and a talented selection of drummers. Originally from New Ulm, MN, Klossner had been performing since 1983. After four years of performing with several rock bands in Southern Minnesota, Klossner joined Blue Max in 1987.

When Luedtke was first learning guitar, he fell in love with the playing of Travis Wammack and two of his instrumentals: "Fire Fly" and "Scratchy." "I just loved the guitar picking on 'Fire Fly." Luedtke knew little of Wammack until Klossner discovered the artist had 13 CDs and a book in 2013, and offered all of them up to Luedtke for his birthday. Soon after, Luedtke contacted Wammack and arranged a meeting and recording session at the legendary Muscle Shoals studio. "We went down there, and I walked up to him for the first time and I said, 'Sir, I've been looking for you for 50 years," Luedtke said.

Over the years Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max have opened for the likes of Long John Baldrey, Sugar Blue, Lonnie Brooks, Clarence 'Gatemouth' Brown, Lil' Ed and the Blues Imperials, Debbie Davies, Tinsley Ellis, Jeff Healey, Jimmy Johnson, Kenny Neal, A.C. Reed, Eddie Shaw and the Wolfgang, James Solberg, Hubert Sumlin, Koko Taylor, George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Joe Louis Walker and Howard's guitar idol, Johnny Winter.

Luedtke's guitar playing and larger-than-life presence has earned him a place in the hearts of fans. He can be heard performing solo, as a duo with his wife Deb on bass, or with the Blue Max Band, performing an average of 150 nights per year.



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Official Rain Venue of **Tuesday Niaht Blues**





Silver Dome

silverdomeballroom.net





The City of Eau Claire asks that no one park on the bike path. If you are disabled see us at the tent and we will make arrangements for a permit. Motorcycles are permitted to park on the grass across from the restrooms. The bike path needs to remain clear for use by emergency vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. Thank you.



Next Week (July 23) **Code Blue featuring Catya & Sue**

Code Blue has been playing clubs, restaurants, and Blues festivals since Spring, 2006. Code Blue features: Catya (singer/songwriter, guitarist); Sue Orfield (tenor saxophonist, composer); Lucas Fischer (lead guitar, vocals); Randy Sinz (basses, vocals); and John LeBrun (drums). Primarily a Blues band with an smphasis on original and traditional music of the genre, Code Blue also mixes in some classic and original R&B and swing. Catch Code Blue - It's a killer band!



Contributing Members (donations of \$100 or more)

Roy & Toni Janssen, John Evans



A Little About the Blues

essie Smith (born 1894) earned the title of "Empress of the Blues" by virtue of her forceful vocal delivery and command of the genre. Her singing displayed a soulfully phrased, boldly delivered and nearly definitive grasp of the blues. She was an all-around entertainer who danced, acted and performed comedy routines with her touring company. She was the highest-paid black performer of her day and arguably reached a level of success greater than that of any African-American entertainer before her.

Like many of her generation, she dreamed of escaping a life of poverty via show business. As a teenager she joined a traveling minstrel show, the Moss Stokes Company. Her brother Clarence was a comedian with the troupe, and Smith befriended another member, Gertrude "Ma" Rainey (a.k.a. the "Mother of the Blues"), who served as something of a blues mentor. After a decade, she was signed to Columbia Records in 1923. Her first recording—"Down Hearted Blues" b/w "Gulf Coast Blues"—sold an estimated 800,000 copies. Smith sang raw, uncut country blues inspired by life in the South, in which everyday experiences were related in plainspoken language—not unlike the rap music that would emerge more than half a century later. She was ahead of her time in another sense as well. In the words of biographer Chris Albertson, "Bessie had a wonderful way of turning adversity into triumph, and many of her songs are the tales of liberated

Some of her better-known sides from the Twenties include "Backwater Blues," "Taint Nobody's Bizness If I Do," "St. Louis Blues" (recorded with Louis Armstrong) and "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out." The Depression dealt her career a blow, but Smith changed with the times by adopting a more up-to-date look and revised repertoire that incorporated Tin Pan Alley tunes like "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." On the verge of the Swing Era, Smith died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident outside Clarksdale, Mississippi in September 1937. She left behind a rich, influential legacy of one hundred sixty recordings cut between 1923 and 1933. Some of the great vocal divas who owe a debt to Smith include Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, and Aretha Franklin. In Janis Joplin's own words of tribute, "She showed me the air and taught me how to fill it."

In 1989 Smith was awarded a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, and in 1994 the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative Bessie Smith postage stamp. Smith's song "Downhearted Blues" has also received numerous awards. In 2001 it was named one of the Songs of the Century by the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2002 it was placed on the National Recording Preservation Board by the Library of Congress, and in 2006 it was placed in the Grammy Hall of Fame. (Adapted from rock-hall.com)





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