

# Tuesday Night Blues 2017

Owen Park, Eau Claire

Shows begin at 6:30 except July 4

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

\*August 1 will be held at Phoenix Park.

**May 30 Code Blue w/ Catya & Sue**

Catya.net

**June 6 Charlie Parr**

CharlieParr.com

**June 13 Left Wing Bourbon**

LeftWingBourbon.com

**June 20 SouthFarwell**

facebook.com/SouthFarwell

**June 27 Nick Foytik Band**

NickFoytik.com

**July 4 Red, White & Blues w/ Kingsnakes & the Mark Cameron Band** (begins at 5:00)

facebook.com/KingsnakesEC

MarkCameronMusic.com

**July 11 Deep Water Reunion**

**July 18 Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max**

HowardLuedtke.com

**July 25 Mojo**

**August 1 Tommy Bentz Band**

TommyBentz.com

**August 8 Armadillo Jump**

ArmadilloJump.com

**August 15 The Lucky Losers**

TheLuckyLosers.com

**August 22 Sue Orfield Band**

SueOrfieldBand.com

**August 29 Joyann Parker Band**

JoyannParker.com

commissioned a headstone that was paid for by musician Bonnie Raitt. The large granite memorial, engraved with Johnson's portrait, was not placed on his grave for several years afterward, however, because of a dispute between Johnson's family (led by his niece, Vera Johnson Collins), the owners of farm property encircling the cemetery, and the Copley County Board of Supervisors over a deteriorated road to the burial site. The dispute was resolved in 2012, it was erected on October 26. The headstone had been on public display since being unveiled in 2001. The Tommy Johnson Blues Festival is held annually in Crystal Springs on the third weekend in October. The inaugural festival was held in J2006.

In the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (2000), a character named Tommy Johnson, played by Chris Thomas King, describes selling his soul to the devil to play guitar. The Tommy Johnson character in the film plays a number of songs originally recorded by the blues musician Skip James and accompanies the Soggy Bottom Boys, a band consisting of the film's three main protagonists plus Johnson, on "Man of Constant Sorrow". The story of Johnson's selling his soul to the devil was first told by his brother, LaDell Johnson, and reported by David Evans in his 1971 biography of Johnson. This legend was subsequently attributed to the blues musician Robert Johnson.  
-Wikipedia

# Tuesday Night Bluesletter

July 18, 2017 at Owen Park

## Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max



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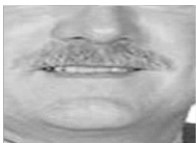
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## A Little About the Blues

**Tommy Johnson** was an American Delta blues musician who recorded in the late 1920s was known for his eerie falsetto voice and intricate guitar playing. He was unrelated to the blues musician Robert Johnson. Johnson was born near Terry, Mississippi, and moved around 1910 to Crystal Springs, where he lived for most of his life. He learned to play the guitar and, by 1914, was supplementing his income by playing at local parties with his brothers Major and LeDell. In 1916 he married and moved to Webb Jennings' plantation near Drew, Mississippi, close to the Dockery Plantation. There he met other musicians, including Charlie Patton and Willie Brown.

By 1920 Johnson was an alcoholic and an itinerant musician, based in Crystal Springs but travelling widely around the South, sometimes accompanied by Papa Charlie McCoy. In 1928 he made his first recordings, with McCoy, for Victor Records, including "Canned Heat Blues". The blues group Canned Heat took their name from this song. Johnson's "Big Road Blues" inspired Canned Heat's song "On the Road Again". A significantly different version of the song appears as "Canned Heat" on the album Big Road Blues by K. C. Douglas.

Johnson recorded two further sessions, for Victor in August 1928 and for Paramount Records in December 1929. He did not record again, mistakenly believing that he had signed away his right to record. Some suggest he had been intentionally given this misimpression by people at Paramount Records. This resulted in a legal settlement with the Mississippi Sheiks, who had used the melody of Johnson's "Big Road Blues" in their successful "Stop and Listen". Johnson was party to the copyright settlement.

Johnson's recordings established him as the premier Delta blues vocalist of his day, with a powerful voice that could go from a growl to a falsetto. He was an accomplished guitarist. He performed tricks with his guitar, playing it between his legs and behind his head and throwing it in the air while playing. His style influenced later blues singers, such as Robert Nighthawk and Howlin' Wolf (whose song "I Asked for Water [She Brought Me Gasoline]" was based on Johnson's "Cool Water Blues"), and the country singer Hank Williams. Johnson was a talented composer, blending fragments of folk poetry and personalized lyrics into set guitar accompaniments to craft striking blues compositions such as "Maggie Campbell".

To enhance his fame, Johnson cultivated a sinister persona. According to his brother LeDell, he claimed to have sold his soul to the devil at a crossroads in exchange for his mastery of the guitar. This story was later also associated with Robert Johnson, to whom Tommy Johnson was unrelated.

Johnson remained a popular performer in the Jackson area through the 1930s and 1940s, sometimes performing with Ishman Bracey. His influence on local traditions is described by David Evans in Tommy Johnson and Big Road Blues: Tradition and Creativity in the Folk Blues.

Johnson died of a heart attack after playing at a party in 1956. He is buried in the Warm Springs Methodist Church Cemetery, outside Crystal Springs, Mississippi. In 2001 his family

(continued on back)



One of the most versatile band's around, Howard "Guitar" Luedtke & Blue Max is a Western Wisconsin rock blues band, that performs all over Wisconsin and Minnesota. Many who have seen Howard and Blue Max have become fans of Howard's talented slide guitar playing and the band's rockin' electric blues sound.

Howard Luedtke has been playing guitar since the arrival of the Beatles in 1964. After playing with several rock, country and blues bands, Howard formed the Blue Max band in 1982. Joining Howard since 1987 is his wife, Deb Klossner originally from New Ulm, Minnesota on bass, and several talented drummers from all over the region.

Howard and Blue Max have opened up for or played with some of the best in the blues world, including: 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.

Recently, Howard fulfilled a long-tim dream of his, meeting and recording with the legendary Travis Wammack. His latest CD, "The Muscle Schools Sessions" was recorded in Alabama with Travis playing guitar, slide guitar, harmonica and providing background vocals alongside Howard. Also appearing on the album are Wayne Chaney on percussion, "Bad Brad" Guin on saxophone, Jim Whitehead on piano & organ and drummer Roger Clark.

To borrow the closing of a Volume One article written Howard's latest album: "Howard usually doesn't like listening to his own recordings , but he can't stop listening to (this one)."

### Howard Luedtke Upcoming Schedule

- July 22 Trempealeau Hotel, Trempealeau
- August 5 Bent's Camp Resprt, Land O' Lakes
- August 11 Grate Dane Brew Pub, Wausau
- August 12 Roadhouse Saloon, Necedah
- August 13 Sandbar & Grill, Lake Wissota

HowardLuedtke.com

### Next Week (July 25) Mojo

"Mojo" Terry DeMars joins forces with Josh Entzminger on guitar, his father George Entzminger on keys and Dave Shrader on drums for a night of straight-up, rockin' blues. On the 18th anniversary of the founding of Mojo Lemon, Terry & Josh return to their roots to put on a searing performance for Tuesday Night Blues.

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Hello fellow Blues Aficionado! Welcome to the 9th season of Tuesday Night Blues at beautiful Owen Park! It looks like it's going to be a great season! Thank you all for coming out to support The Blues in the Chippewa Valley.

The CVBS depends on active members to make this a great organization! There are lots of ways that you can help promote the Blues in the Chippewa Valley!

- Receive notification and invitation to upcoming CVBS meetings. Come and make your voice heard! As a current member you will be able to vote for electing the executive officers at the annual meeting. The CVBS annual meeting will be coming up soon! Look for more info to come!

- Volunteer opportunities abound! Help out with membership drives and VIP membership program, participate in committees, volunteer to help at Tuesday Night Blues, hang posters and place literature at local businesses, recruit sponsors, be a sponsor!!



Visit us at the Chippewa Valley Blues Society tent on Tuesday night to become a member or renew your membership. It's only \$10 a year for membership... \$15 for a family. Memberships expire a year from renewal. Come be an active part of a great group of Chippewa Valley residents that love the Blues!

Your Blues Society depends on YOU! We hope to see you very soon.

# BLUES ON THE CHIPPEWA

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Memorial Park, Durand. **FREE ADMISSION!**  
 Concessions on site. All ages welcome.  
[bluesonthechippewa.com](http://bluesonthechippewa.com)

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**Tommy Bentz Band, Left Wing Bourbon, Dave Keller Band, Squishy Mud, Mark Cameron Band, Joyann Parker, Alex Wilson Band, Blue Rooster, Norman Jackson Band, Brian Naughton, Erica Brown, Miss Myra & the Moonshiners, John Nemeth, Rev. Raven & Westside Andy, Armadillo Jump, Jimmy Nick, Three Feral Cats, Eric Lindell, Harrison Street, Jon Cleary**



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