

Tuesday Night Blues 2014

Owen Park, Eau Claire

All shows begin at 6:30

In case of inclement weather, Tuesday Night Blues is held at the House of Rock, 422 Water Street.

*August 5 will be held at Phoenix Park.

- May 27 Davey J & the Jones Tones**
AMBlues.com
- June 3 The Sue Orfield Band**
SueOrfield.com
- June 10 Sparky & Friends**
Featuring Paul Hinz
- June 17 Mojo Lemon**
MojoLemon.com
- June 24 Charlie Parr**
CharlieParr.com
- July 1 Left Wing Bourbon**
LeftWingBourbon.com
- July 8 The Dave Rogers Band**
DavesGuitar.com
- July 15 Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max**
HowardLuedtke.com
- July 22 The Swamp Kings**
theswampkings.com
- July 29 The Kingsnakes**
facebook.com/KingsnakesEC
- August 5 Dave Arcari***
DaveArcari.com
- August 12 Code Blue w/ Catya & Sue**
Catya.net
- August 19 Tommy Bentz**
TommyBentz.com
- August 26 The Rhythm Posse**
facebook.com/RhythmPosse

Street, which added a sax to Thackery's music in 2000. After leaving Blind Pig, Thackery has released and produced two of his own records, We Got It and True Stories, on Telarc and two collaborations on Telarc with Tab Benoit, Whiskey Store and Whiskey Store Live. And there was the critically acclaimed reunion with his old friend David Raitt on Blue Rock II"

All this has lead to a new Jimmy Thackery. Because every record is more about originals than covers, Jimmy traveled to Nashville to work out his songs with some of the best, not a Jimmy Thackery goes country, but Jimmy Thackery rocks the blues. "I went to Nashville to work with Gary Nicholson. I wanted to see how the guys in Nashville go about writing songs. We wrote this from the ground up. What you do with Gary Nicholson is throw out a hook or line and take off from there and you don't leave that garage until you're done with a song."

To make the best record possible, Jimmy hired some of the best musicians Nashville had to offer. It's no coincidence that many of these names also work with fellow blues rocker, Delbert McClinton. Jimmy notes that even though it has a Delbert feel, it still has all of his integrity. Between constant road work with his own band, producing the latest record by his Arkansas friends, the Cate Brothers, recording Whiskey Store with Tab Benoit and touring in support and playing various Nighthawks reunions, Thackery's plate is overflowing, and that's exactly how Thackery likes life – Overflowing
Taken from jimmythackery.com

Tuesday Night Bluesletter

July 29, 2014 at Owen Park

The Kingsnakes



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A Little About the Blues

Whether Jimmy Thackery headlines a festival in South Dakota or jams for hours in one of numerous blues bars that dot the musical landscape, he'll always unleash an intense volley of rockin' blues guitar guaranteed to leave crowds emotionally spent. His double edged guitar dynamics allow him to fire off tracer missiles, bend a note so it will fit under a limbo bar, run off dive bomber riffs, and find space within the trembling of one stinging note. "I put all my senses on hold and find the zone and follow what's inside. There's an electricity from your mind to your heart to your fingers. You just try and remember to breathe."

It was Thackery's time on stage with Muddy Waters that is branded deep within his musical soul. "Muddy was one of those guys who was constantly encouraging. He never told you what to do, but he always told you what you were doing wrong. He never minced words about that. "The first time on stage with Muddy, I was in such awe of him that I just kept my eyes and ears open and just picked up on everything he did."

Thackery left the Nighthawks in 1987 because he wanted the opportunity to write and put newer material into the sets. First he formed a six piece R&B band, the Assassins, an all-star R&B, funk band from the DC area, and recorded three albums with them. Then, in 1992, Thackery put together his three piece band called the Drivers to highlight his explosive guitar and hit the blues highway.



"The 1990's were a fabulous time. We were working our butts off doing" close to 300 shows a year. The irony is that was one of the reasons I'd left the Nighthawks, " When you're out on your own, you'd better rise to the occasion. So I found myself back in the 300 night niche. What made that satisfying is that it was my ship and I was the captain of it." Whenever Thackery plays live, a guitar stand props up four guitars and Thackery will announce to the audience, I'm gonna use all of them tonight!"

His recordings are no different. In that time, he's recorded eight discs for Blind Pig. His first record, Empty Arms Motel, was released in 1992. "That one still seems to be the favorite of a lot of people. I went into Kingsnake Records and rattled off some covers and originals. Halfway through, Bob Greenlee called Jerry Del Guidance at Blind Pig about the sessions." From that session, Thackery began his years with Blind Pig.

In 1993 he followed up with Sideways In Paradise, a down home, laid back acoustic duet with John Mooney. Then, in 1994 Jimmy recorded Trouble Man, with Memphis producer Jim Gaines. That began their five record association. Wild Night Out, a 1995 live recording, Drive To Survive in 1996, Switching Gears in 1998, and Sinner (continued on back)

The mid-90's represented a fruitful time for the blues scene in the Chippewa Valley. One of the most energetic bands of that era was the Kingsnakes. Founded by UW Eau Claire students Ryan Harrington (guitar) Nick Pettis (bass) and Aaron Bray (drums). After numerous unsuccessful tryouts, the group eventually found a diamond in the rough in Adrian Klenz (vocals) and eventually added keyboardist Jason Hedrington. They started making music and after just a few months in existence the band found themselves as a regular fixture (and eventually house band) at Houligans, famous for their three hour, marathon sets.

The group was heavily influenced by Texas Blues, like the Vaughan Brothers, the Memphis sound of BB King and the Kansas City groove ala T-Bone Walker and Albert King. Lyle Lovett and Tom Waits also played a large role. The many influences began to mesh into one, cohesive sound, the Kingsnakes' sound, which can still be heard today. During the band's residency at Houligans, the band began working with horn players regularly and the sound grew even bigger.

The Kingsnakes called Eau Claire home but were often found playing throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin. At the height of their popularity, they were playing 150 shows a year. In 2000, The Kingsnakes released their first and only album "Foolin Yourself." The album was received with great fanfare in the Eau Claire music scene. During the initial 6 year run of the Kingsnakes, they opened for national acts like Bobby "Blue," Bland, Howard and the White Boys, and Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson. They were also featured twice on the main stage at First Avenue in Minneapolis.

In 2001, The Kingsnakes took a break. A career move relocated Ryan to Germany in 2006 and the band continued to play at a much lower frequency. Then in December of 2012, a holiday visit to the States prompted a reunion of the Kingsnakes. That reunion happened again in 2013 at which time the members decided to commit to a string of shows in Summer of 2014.

Proof that the blues can't be put down, The Kingsnakes decided to begin working on new material in the hopes of recording a new album sometime in the near future. The band is also in the process of planning a European tour in 2015 and hope to play as often as possible when Ryan is back from Germany.

The Kingsnakes reflect on a time when live music was based on raw talent and not computers. Every member of the band brings a dedication and passion to their instrument. This almost nostalgic feeling is transferred to crowds who frequent the shows to be charmed by the veteran Kingsnakes. The Kingsnakes are back and bringing rockin' blues back to The Chippewa Valley.

Next Week (August 5) Dave Arcari

Slide guitarist & songwriter Dave Arcari's alt.blues sounds owe as much to trash country, punk and rockabilly as they do pre-war Delta blues and have been showcased via eight internationally-acclaimed solo CD releases. His hard-hitting gravel-laden vocals and slashing bottleneck steel guitar make for an aggressive, dynamic blues-based sound that owes as much to punk, rockabilly and trash country as pre-war Delta blues. (Show will be at Phoenix Park)

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