

Tuesday Night Blues 2016

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 2 will be held at Phoenix Park.

- May 31 Nick Foytik Band**
NickFoytik.com
- June 7 Tommy Bentz Band**
TommyBentz.com
- June 14 The Lucky Losers**
TheLuckyLosers.com
- June 21 Code Blue w/ Catya & Sue**
Catya.net
- June 28 Joyann Parker and Sweet Tea**
JoyannParker.com
- July 5 Mojo**
MojoLemon.com
- July 12 Left Wing Bourbon**
LeftWingBourbon.com
- July 19 Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max**
HowardLuedtke.com
- July 26 Charlie Parr**
CharlieParr.com
- August 2 Crooked Dice**
CrookedDice.org
- August 9 Rockin' Johnny Burgin**
RockinJohnnyBand.com
- August 16 The Blues of the Grateful Dead**
facebook.com/RhythmPosse
- August 23 Armadillo Jump**
ArmadilloJump.com
- August 30 Sue Orfield Band**
SueOrfieldBand.com

Many of Freddie's songwriting credits were shared with Sonny Thompson. They'd have marathon sessions of 16 hrs and more. The first 45 release: side A "Have You Ever Loved A Woman", side B "Hide Away". Both sides were big hits on the R&B charts. Hide Away became a crossover hit on Pop charts reaching # 29. The first blues artist registering a hit on the Pop chart. Young whites were digging Freddie's blues style. Nathan quickly capitalized, insisting Freddie and Sonny concentrate on instrumentals. Freddie sold more albums during this period (1961-63) than any other blues artist including B.B. King.

"His biggest year was 1961, when he placed six singles on Billboard's R&B chart, including four that entered the Top 10.

"His instrumentals tended to be rollicking and uptempo, while his vocal numbers, such as "Have You Ever Loved a Woman" and "Love Her With a Feeling," were often soulfully sung slow blues. Copyright 2015. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

King would soon wake up the young British music community to the Freddie King groove. "King had numerous disciples in the rock world, including British guitarists Eric Clapton, Peter Green, Mick Taylor, and Stan Webb. In 1966, Eric Clapton covered "Hide Away" on Blues Breakers, his lone album with John Mayall."

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Tuesday Night Bluesletter

August 9, 2016 at Owen Park

Rockin' Johnny Burgin



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A Little About the Blues

Freddie King was born in Gilmer Texas on September 3, 1934 to Ella Mae King and J.T. Christian. His grandmother and her brother Leon played the guitar. Freddie's mother recognized early her son's interest in music. She and her brother Leon began teaching him to play rural country blues at the age of six. His early music heroes were Sam Lightnin Hopkins (who he credits his proficiency of the down home thumb-finger picken style) and Louis Jordan. He play Jordan's record over and over again until he could match his horn, note for note. This discipline would have a major impact on his phrasing.

The family left for Chicago in the fall of 1949. By 1952 Freddie married a Texas girl, Jessie Burnett. She proved to be the foundation and maturity he needed. She also would be the inspiration and co-contributor to some of his compositions. He worked in the steel mill during the day and gigged at night. He would occasionally work as a sideman in recording sessions. He and buddies Jimmy Rogers and Eddie Taylor were young, fresh and eager to venture out in search of something new and different. The south side of Chicago served up its blues with the big blues band sound, but the westside of Chicago with its small taverns, eagerly embraced these young blues maverick and their blues sound that consisted of a electrifying lead guitarist who usually doubled as the lead vocalist, a bassman, and drummer. Freddie and two other young guys, guitarist Jimmy Lee Robinson and drummer Sonny Scott formed his first band, "The Every Hour Blues Boys".

In 1953 Freddie cut several sides for the Parrot Label. It was not until 1956 that Freddie recorded a 45 with a local label El-Bee. Side A, a duet with Margaret Whitfield "Country Boy" and side B was a fast tempo blues, "Thats What You Think". Robert Lockwood Jr. added guitar licks. Chess Records was one of the biggest blues labels at that time, located in Chicago. Many big name Chicago blues artists were signed, Muddy Waters, Howlin Wolf and Little Walter, just to name a few. Freddie auditioned several times with no success. He would later say that Chess rejection was a blessing in disguise, it forced him to develop his own vocal style.

In 1957 Freddie is performing with Memphis Slim and Magic Sam Maghett. As a favor Freddie did some uncredited session work for Magic Sam who was signed to the Cobra Label. In 1960 Freddie signed with Syd Nathan's King /Federal Label. Syd Nathan was a total control freak, a smart hard nose businessman who at times could be fairer than most record label owners. His contract artists ranged from James Brown, Albert King, Johnny "Guitar" Watson, Memphis Slim, John Lee Hooker and others, Country & Western, R&B, and other Gospel artists and International artists. All artists recorded at one location in Cincinnati Ohio. Freddie's time with King label was bitter sweet. He was happy to be under contract, but did not like being controlled and manipulated artistically. When Nathan overheard a studio jam session that consisted of some country and western musicians and Freddie doing a blues swing version of "Remington Ride". Nathan quickly had Freddie nail that tune to vinyl. The collaboration of Freddie King and Sonny Thompson on instrumentals such as "The Stumble," "Low Tide," "Wash Out," "Sidetracked," "Onion Rings," "The Sad Nite Owl," and "Hide Away", contains some of the most brilliant and most awesome guitar licks in guitar blues history. (continued on back)

The Rockin' Johnny Band has been one of Chicago's most loved blues bands since 1995. Their music has been played on WXRT's "Local Anaesthetic" and "Blues Breakers" radio shows, the band has often been featured at The Chicago Blues Festival, and they regularly work in Chicagoland's best blues clubs such as Buddy Guy's Legends. Their CDs and live performances have drawn great reviews in Living Blues, The Chicago Sun Times, Pioneer Press, and National Public Radio's "848".

Guitarist Johnny Burgin came to Chicago from South Carolina to attend the University of Chicago, and earned the name "Rockin' Johnny" as a DJ at the college radio station WHPK. Rockin' Johnny began playing in the ghetto clubs of Chicago's West Side with blues singer Taildragger, and then began touring nationally as a sideman with former Howlin' Wolf drummer Sam Lay and blues piano legend Pinetop Perkins.

After learning from the masters, he put his own band together. Things started happening for the Rockin' Johnny Band after they took a Monday night residency at The Smoke Daddy in Chicago's Wicker Park neighborhood. Their original, energetic approach soon made them a strong local draw week after week and year after year, bringing in blues aficionados, every musician in town, and a younger crowd that normally didn't go to hear blues bands. The atmosphere the band generated was so electric, that Delmark Records offered them a contract after hearing just one set. This was especially exciting because the prestigious Chicago label is revered by blues aficionados as the home of Junior Wells and Johnny's idol, Magic Sam!

Since those days, they've regularly toured Europe, played festivals and headlined clubs all over the Midwest. The Rockin' Johnny Band has recorded five CDs including "Grim Reaper", released in April of 2012. A true "musician's musician", Rockin' Johnny has been one of Chicago's most in-demand blues session men since the 90s, contributing his incisive playing to over a dozen CDs by artists such as Billy Boy Arnold, Jimmy Burns, Tail Dragger, Little Arthur Duncan, Paul DeLay and many more.

The Rockin' Johnny Band plays vintage Chicago blues, but also is known for a wide repertoire which ventures into Stax style soul, swing, and lots of originals that are harder to classify. On stage, the band performs with spontaneity and fun, always showcasing fantastic guitar playing. Living Blues states: "top notch ensemble work, with power, drive, and a keen sense of dynamics". The band consists of true veterans: Rick Kreher (rhythm guitar) played rhythm guitar with Muddy Waters for four years; John Sefner (bass) was formerly with Studebaker John and Eddie Kirkland; and Steve Bass (drums) also plays with Chicago blues legend Eddy Clearwater.

Rockin' Johnny Burgin Upcoming Schedule

- August 10 Legends, St Cloud, MN
- August 11 Hollihan's, White Bear Lake, MN
- August 12 Neumann's Bar, St. Paul, MN
- August 14 East Side Club, Madison
- August 15 Champions Sports Bar, Kenosha

RockinJohnnyBand.com

Next Week (August 16) The Blues of the Greatful Dead

Join Joe Thielen, Jeremy Holt (guitar), Eric Thompson (bass) Adam Harder Nussbaum (drums) and Billy Angell (keyboards) for a night of music celebrating the Blues of the Greatful Dead. Focusing on the arrangements of the '72 Europe era, the group presents a show you're sure to enjoy.



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Hello fellow Blues Aficionado! Welcome to the 8th season of Tuesday Night Blues at beautiful Owen Park! So far, it's been 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.

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