Tuesday Night Blues 2011

Owen Park, Eau Claire

All shows begin at 6:30

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

*August 3 will be held at Phoenix Park.

May 31 Lucas K & the Cool Hand Saints
Facebook.com/LucasAndTheSaints

June 7 The Jonestones

AMBlues.com

June 14 Howard 'Guitar' Luedtke & Blue Max

HowardLuedtke.com

June 21 Left Wing Bourbon

LeftWingBourbon.yolasite.com

June 28 Sparky & Friends
Facebook.com/SparkyAndTheWipers

July 5 Jayson Collins Group

MySpace.com/JaysonCollins

July 12 Code Blue with Catya & Sue Catya.net

July 19 The Steve Meyer Band
MySpace.com/SteveMeyerAndTheBluesDogs

July 26 Deep Water ReunionMySpace.com/DWReunion

Aug 2 *Pete Neuman and the Real Deal PeteNeuman.com

Aug 9 The Love Buzzards LoveBuzzards.com

Aug 16 The Sue Orfield Band
SueOrfield.com

Aug 23 Ross William Perry
RossWilliamPerry.com/

Aug 30 Mojo Lemon Mojo Lemon.com Luckily for McTell and generations of listeners after him, there was a brief revival of interest in acoustic country-blues after World War II that brought him back into the studio. Amazingly enough, the newly founded Atlantic Records -- which was more noted for its recordings of jazz and R&B -- took an interest in McTell and cut 15 songs with him in Atlanta during 1949. The one single released from these sessions, however, didn't sell, and most of those recordings remained unheard for more than 20 years after they were made. A year later, however, he was back in the studio, this time with his longtime partner Curley Weaver, cutting songs for the Regal label. He was rediscovered in 1956, just in time to get one more historic session down on tape. He left music soon after, to become a pastor of a local church, and he died of a brain hemorrhage in 1959.

Blind Willie McTell was one of the giants of the blues, as a guitarist and as a singer and a brilliant improvisor on the guitar, as is evident from his records. McTell always gave an excellent account of himself, even in his final years of performing and recording.

by Bruce Eder

Friends of the Blues

(Thank you for your donations)
The Timber Lane Toms, Quigly and Schultz.

If you'd like to sponsor Tuesday Night Blues, just talk to one of the CV Blues members at the park.







Tuesday Night Bluesletter

August 30, 2011 at Owen Park





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A Little About the Blues

Willie Samuel McTell was one of the blues' greatest guitarists, and also one of the finest singers ever to work in blues. A major figure with a local following in Atlanta from the 1920s onward, he recorded dozens of sides throughout the '30s under a multitude of names -- all the better to juggle "exclusive" relationships with many different record labels at once -- including Blind Willie, Blind Sammie, Hot Shot Willie, and Georgia Bill, as a backup musician to Ruth Mary Willis. And those may not have been all of his pseudonyms -- we don't even know what he chose to call himself, although "Blind Willie" was his preferred choice among friends. Much of what we do know about him was learned only years after his death. His family name was unclear. What is clear is that he was born into a family filled with musicians -- his mother and his father both played quitar, as did one of his uncles, and he was also related to Georgia Tom Dorsey, who later became the Rev. Thomas Dorsev.

McTell was born in Thomson, Georgia, near Augusta, and raised near Statesboro. He was probably born blind. His blindness never became a major impediment, and it was said that his sense of hearing and touch were extraordinary. His first instruments were the harmonica and the accordion, but soon he he took up the auitar and showed immediate aptitude on the new instrument. He played a standard six-string acoustic until the mid-'20s, and never entirely abandoned the instrument, but from the beginning of his recording career, he used a 12-string acoustic in the studio. McTell's technique on the 12-string instrument was unique. Unlike virtually every other bluesman who used one, he relied not on its resonances as a rhythm instrument, but, instead, displayed a nimble, elegant slide and finger-picking style that made it sound like more than one guitar at any given moment. He worked medicine shows, carnivals, and other outdoor venues, and was a popular attraction, owing to his dexterity and a voice that could sound either pleasant or mournful, and incorporated some of the characteristics normally associated with white hillbilly singers.

McTell's recording career began in late 1927 with two sessions for Victor records, eight sides including "Statesboro Blues." McTell's earliest sides were superb examples of storytelling in music, coupled with dazzling quitar work. All of McTell's music showed extraordinary power, some of it delightfully raucous ragtime, other examples evoking darker, lonelier sides of the blues, and all of it displaying astonishingly rich guitar work.

McTell worked under a variety of names, and with a multitude of partners. Like many bluesmen, he recorded under different names simultaneously, and was even signed to Columbia and Okeh Records, two companies that ended up merged at the end of the '30s, at the same time, under two names. His recording career never gave McTell quite as much success as he had hoped, partly due to the fact that some of his best work appeared during the depths of the Depression. He was uniquely popular in Atlanta, where he continued to live and work throughout most of his career, and, in fact, was the only blues quitarist of any note from the city to remain active in the city until well after World War II.

Library of Congress archivist John Lomax felt compelled to record him in 1940.

(continued on back)

A note from Mike Fischer, chairman of the Tuesday Night Blues committee:

Summer is just about gone again. Soon it will be goblins and ghosts and then turkey and dressing. This issue of the Tuesday Night Bluesletter is the last of the season. When this concert ends it will be the 44th that has been presented at Tuesday Night Blues over three seasons. There have been many outstanding performances by some of the very best musicians in the region and a few from outside the area as well. You, the fans that attend Tuesday Niaht Blues on a regular basis seem always grateful for the opportunity to see these wonderfully talented and entertaining players and have expressed appreciation, to them, and to us, for the chance to see and hear great music for free in the historic and wonderful venue that is Owen Park's band shell. (continued on next page)



Voted "Best Blues Band in the Chippewa Valley" 2008-2010, Mojo Lemon Blues Band has been a staple in the Western Wisconsin music scene for a decade. Although the meaning of the band's name is up for interpretation, there is no question that the fellas in Mojo Lemon are passionate about what they do. Spawned from area bands out of the fountain-o-blues that is the Chippewa Valley, Mojo has won over the hearts and ears of blues and rock fans alike, and on their own terms. The band continues to dabble in the many stylings of blues, funk, rock `roll, even country and has developed a somewhat unique sound. Mojo's in-your-face high-energy shows have become the standard on the local and regional music scene, and the "Mighty Lemon" is not afraid to give til it hurts. Get on the edges of your seats and enjoy America's music, played straight from the heart and soul, the way it was meant to be presented in that unmistakable Mojo sound, since 1999.



Mojo Lemon **Upcoming Schedule**

9/24 Sunset Tayern, Black River Falls 10/15 Snout Saloon, Chippewa Falls

Visit them online:

MojoLemon.com, ReverbNation.com/MojoLemon Facebook.com/MojoLemonBluesBand

It takes a lot of work, time and money to produce these free concerts and without the positive feedback and support that is received on a weekly basis it would not be worthwhile. So, I want to express my appreciation to ALL of the faithful that make it out to Tuesday Night Blues, come rain or shine. THANK

For the first time in our brief history we have had to agaressively seek donations to help us continue this endeavor we have named Tuesday Night Blues. It is not easy to walk through the crowd asking for money, but your enthusiastic response and generous spirit makes it a bit easier. Your vocal expressions of gratitude and encouragement and heartfelt appreciation are so uplifting it is hard not to feel good about our efforts and the event that we, you and us, have all created.

I know that I keep banging the drum, but if you have need of services our sponsors provide, give them a call. They are all good honest folks. We will be looking to gain sponsors for next season, so if you, or someone you know, could or would, please call me at 715-309-9721, or e-mail me mikepfischer@vahoo.com, or leave a email at http://www.chippewavalleyblues.com/contact-thewebmaster/.

We, Mary, Debbie & Dean at the CVBS tent, Dan at the sound controls, EJ, John, Dan, Mark, and I. want to sincerely thank YOU, for being here.

The next Chippewa Valley Blues Society meeting will be at Pizza Plus / Bottle & Barrel Tuesday, Sept. 13th, hope you can make it.

Thanks for lending me an ear! See ya around!



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