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## **Welcome VBS members! July 2021 Newsletter**

# **Blues Jams Are Back!**

### **Blues Jams Are Back!**

Live music is back with a vengeance and so are those killer blues jams! Regional blues jams are returning with an opportunity for musicians of all abilities to sign up and play. A fun time for both musicians and audience, one thing is certain- expect the unexpected! Check out the blues news and acknowledgements in this edition, as well as info about some of the recurring blues jams.

### **Ways To Support VBS As Live Music Returns**

Blues fans and musicians can support VBS and learn about music events and resources by joining or renewing their membership at <https://www.vermontbluessociety.org/join.html>.

While you are visiting the VBS website don't forget to check out Charlie's Top 25 picks of music, and the event calendar.

### **HOW TO POST YOUR GIGS**

Please note that VBS Facebook and website calendar events must be submitted separately to appear on the desired page.

#### **1) How To Post on the VBS Calendar Page**

Summer is in full swing and now is the perfect time for blues musicians who are Vermont Blues Society (VBS) members to submit their gigs to the Vermont Blues Society (VBS) Website calendar. Please submit info with date, time, and place at <https://www.vermontbluessociety.org/calendar.html>

Please note the events must be 'approved'. If you don't see your event

posted within a few days please also send an email to [office@vermontbluessociety.org](mailto:office@vermontbluessociety.org).

If you have a recurring event (like a weekly jam) please notify VBS by email with the info and they will create the recurring event for you.

## **2) How to Post Gigs On VBS Facebook\***

There are two ways for musicians to post an event on the VBS Facebook page: 1) You can do it yourself with help from Sal DeFrancesco if needed, or 2) In some cases you can submit the details of your event to Sal and he will post.

a) You create the event on your Facebook Page and then either add Vermont Blues Society as a Co-Host, or “add to page” naming Vermont Blues Society

Please note an important next step is to make sure you check the like button on the Vermont Blues Society Page after the event is created before you can list VBS as a co-host.

If you are not sure how to do this you can contact Sal at 802-363-0963 and he will walk you through the process.

## **b) Posting Events with Sal’s Help**

If you are unable to create the event on your own contact Sal. He will need the following info emailed to him at [booking@cooiesings.com](mailto:booking@cooiesings.com) in order to post on the VBS Facebook page:

- A picture for the event as a jpg file that is at least 650 pixels wide. Higher resolution is better.
- What: Event name
- When: date and time of the event, duration
- Where: Name and address of venue

Write-up of about 1 or 2 paragraphs about the band and/or describing the event

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**A Big Thank You to Bob Stannard**



The VBS Board wholeheartedly thanks Bob Stannard for choosing VBS as the organization for his Facebook 70th Birthday Fundraiser. \$1,313 was raised thanks to Bob's thoughtfulness and dedication to keeping the blues alive in Vermont.

Speaking of Bob, don't miss his farewell concert as Bob Stannard And Those Dangerous Blues Men fill the Vergennes Opera House on Saturday, November 6. The Opera house aptly describes the event:

“The Friends of the Vergennes Opera House are pleased to welcome back Downtown Bob Stannard as he returns to our stage for what will be his final performance as he retires from stage productions.

Like a circus ringmaster, Bob creates an atmosphere of fun and surprises, and with the help of the wickedly talented Dangerous Bluesmen, delivers an unforgettable night of amazing Vermont-style blues. “

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### 2021 Blues Music award Winners/Nominees With Vermont Connections



Anthony Geraci

Congratulations to Anthony Geraci, formerly of Vermont, winner of Best

Instrumentalist For Piano in the 42nd Annual Blues Music Awards. Anthony has also received nominations in two categories in Blues Blast Magazine Awards-Traditional Blues Album-Daydreams In Blue, and with his band-Anthony Geraci and the Boston Blues All-Stars...We keep Rockin'!. To vote for Anthony in the Blues Magazine awards follow this easy and free link:<https://www.bluesblastmagazine.com/vote/>

For almost 40-years pianist, Hammond organist and composer Anthony Geraci has played behind some of the most influential blues musicians of the 20th century. He is an original member of both Sugar Ray & the Bluetones and Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters, and has been recognized for his contributions on numerous albums by nominations from both the Blues Foundation's Blues Music Awards and the Grammys. VBS applauds Anthony for this well deserved recognition of his talent and contribution to the blues world. Anthony's daughter Mikayla still lives in Vermont and is an active member of the VBS.

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Dave Keller



Local blues/soul musician Dave Keller does it again with two nominations: the Blues Blast Magazine awards-Best Male Blues Artist, and Best Soul/Blues Recording for You Get What You Glve. The latter nomination is a benefit album for racial justice and equity. To vote for Dave follow this free and easy link: <https://www.bluesblastmagazine.com/vote/> Dave also received 3 nominations for the 2021 Independent Blues Awards earlier this year. VBS congratulates Dave for all the well deserved recognition he is

receiving this year.

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**King Solomon Hicks**



**Congratulations to King Solomon Hicks, winner of the 42nd Annual Blues Award for Best Emerging Artist with his album Harlem. VBS was fortunate to have this gifted 25 year old guitarist, blues, jazz singer, and composer play at our 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting and Concert. King Solomon Hicks made his mark on the music world at age 13, when he started playing as the lead guitarist at the legendary Cotton Club in Harlem. At 14 he recorded his first CD entitled Embryonic with the Cotton Club All-Star Band. VBS is heartened to see younger musicians embrace the blues genre, and watch as King Solomon’s star rises.**

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**Here are a few recurring blues jams. If you know of any other blues jams that you would like to see included in the VBS Website Calendar please submit info with date, time and location to <https://www.vermontbluessociety.org/calendar.html> for approval. If you would like the blues jam to appear on the VBS Facebook page please see info about creating the event, sharing, and requesting help if needed, in the above section of this newsletter.**

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## The Bristol Blues Jam



**HERE WE GO FOLKS!** The blues jam in Bristol will be returning at South Mountain Tavern, the new venue now occupying the old Hatch 31 location.

The first jam will be on July 14th, but from August onwards it'll return to the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of the month just like before. Everyone is welcome to play. Just bring your instruments. If you plan on singing please bring your own mics. That is the only change post-COVID! The house band will consist of Tom Caswell, Scott Totten, Sam Hershenhorn, Brad Sourdiffe and John Wallace.

**Please spread the word far and wide. 8-10pm as before. Sign up sheet upon arrival, put your name down and get ready to play the blues! SEE YOU ALL ON JULY 14TH!**

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## Dave Mitchell Weekly Blues Revue Jam at Red Square (Burlington)



**It's Happnin!, It's Shakin!, We're Sneakin back up the Red Square ally to shiver some timber! The Dave Mitchell Blues Revue returns weekly Friday from 2 to 5 pm to put you back into that Blues jam drivers seat! C-Mon down have some fun, see old/new friends, sign-up, play some blues with us, support and help us to bring back the magic! BE THERE @ the**

**SQUARE!!**

**BLUES JAM**  
LIVE AT TWIGGS  
EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
7PM

802-524-1405 | 24 North Main Street, Albans City, VT 05478

The logo features the text 'BLUES JAM LIVE AT TWIGGS' in a blue and black font. Below the text, it says 'EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH 7PM'. To the right is a circular logo for 'TWIGGS' with a stylized globe and the text 'ST. ALBANS CITY, VERMONT'. At the bottom of the logo area, there is a dark blue bar with the contact information '802-524-1405 | 24 North Main Street, Albans City, VT 05478'.

**On August 11th, The Blues Jam at Twiggs in St Albans returns. It will be held on the second Wednesday of the month from 7-9:30 pm. Come on down, sign up and play!**

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**Left Eye Jump Residency**



**Cooie guest sings with Left Eye Jump. Photo credit Sal DeFrancesco**

**Although not a blues jam, Left Eye Jump has a residency at Red Square on Saturdays 2-5 pm and usually has special guest musicians join them each week. The alleyway where the stage is set up is usually jumping with the authentic sounds of Chicago, Texas, New Orleans, California, and the Delta of the 1940's, 50's, and 60's. From gritty and haunting Delta slide guitar journeys to T-Bone Walker inspired jump-swing romps, this band delivers on the promise that the Blues speak to the very core of all people, and are at the root of all modern music**

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## The Big Barn Blues Jam (past event)

To quote the title of the Little Feat Song “Old Folks Boogie” was happening down at the Farm on June 26. Organized by Dave Mitchell and featuring the Dave Mitchell Revue and The Lebowsky Trio, it was a well attended event with many musicians signed up to play. A blast for both the musicians and the audience, it was a most memorable evening for blues lovers







Photo credits Dick Brunelle

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August 11-14, 2021  
Brandon, Vermont

## Vermont Blues Retreat

*An authentic, hands-on blues  
experience for all musicians*

HandsOnVT@gmail.com  
802 247-2700  
[www.VermontBluesRetreat.com](http://www.VermontBluesRetreat.com)

 

Activities include solo and band instruction, time for practicing, rehearsals, master classes, coached jam sessions, round table discussions and evening public performances. All events take place at the Compass Music and Arts Center and Brandon Music.

The Vermont Blues Retreat welcomes vocalists, guitarists, bassists, pianists and keyboardists, harpists (harmonica players), saxophonists and other wind players,

**trumpeters and other brass players, drummers and percussionists, and just about any other instrumentalists, as long as you feel comfortable playing the blues on your instrument.**

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