

Greetings RBS members and blues lovers,

President's Message

What a year we're experiencing. Covid-19 and the economic fallout, social and racial unrest, a presidential election year and we're only a little more than halfway through it. With the recent pullback by Governor Sisolak and closing bars as in Phase 1, live music is again scarce if non-existent. Hopefully Bluesday Tuesdays will still happen in late August through mid-September (just four weeks according to their website, though those could be cancelled, as well).

The Reno Blues Society Board of Directors did vote to use our grant money made from Mardi Gras to give to live music venues to use for paying bands and solo/duo acts at local and area bars at the June meeting. We've approached several bars and once they get the go-ahead from the Governor and Covid-19 abates, we will help support our local music venues and our local musicians.

Due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, we won't be hosting a summer bbq with live music this summer and our annual veteran's benefit dance has been cancelled. We're hopeful we can host Mardi Gras on Saturday, Feb. 13, 2021 (Fat Tuesday is Feb. 16), but I've already seen some early events for next year have been postponed or cancelled. Stay tuned.

Third Thursday Happy Hours July 16, August 13, and September 17

We went to Peavine Taphouse last month and had Buddy Emmer and guests play blues. No music this month but we'll meet at Great Basin's patio on Victorian Avenue July 16, 5pm or so. First one there, get a table for us. In August, we'll meet the 13th (the 2nd Thursday this month) at Bighorn Tavern on W. 7th (a block West of Keystone) and gather on their backyard patio that just opened this summer. Then in September on the 17th, we'll meet on Pub 'n Sub's (10th and Ralston) patio. These socials and catch-up on the blues and other news goes 5-ish to about 6:30pm.

Bluesday Tuesdays at Squaw Valley August 25-September 15

Squaw Valley will only offer four dates this year and will extend a little later in September due to the pandemic. Now in its 12th year, the abbreviated schedule has saxophonist and vocalist Terry Hanck on Aug. 25 ; Rick Estrin & the Nightcats on Sept. 1 bringing their brand of jump blues to the area; Selwyn Birchwood on Sept. 8 and slide guitarist virtuoso Roy Rogers and the Delta Cats on Sept. 15 to close out the season. Music goes from 6-8:30pm. If you can support the businesses in the Village that sponsor this buy buying food and/or drinks or buying your beverages at the liquor store in the Village, it will help keep this event FREE each summer.

Commons Beach Concerts Cancelled; Eldorado's BBQ, Brews and Blues Postponed with New Dates to be Determined

Commons Beach in Tahoe City has cancelled their popular and diverse musical lineup for Sunday afternoons this year due Covid-19. The Eldorado's 25th annual BBQ, Brews and Blues has been postponed from its traditional mid-June dates and we're still waiting to hear what the new dates will be and which artists will take to their two stages on a Friday and Saturday to be determined. This may be cancelled for this year and come back next summer. Stay tuned.

Lazy 5 Music Series

The popular Wednesday music series at Lazy 5 Regional Park on Pyramid Highway has shortened this year due to Covid-19. Dates listed on their website shows Aug. 5 with Nevada 445 (country), Aug. 12 featuring Buddy Emmer Blues Band, Aug. 19 presenting Hot Rod Rebellion (rockabilly), and Aug. 26 showcasing Escalade (Motown and R&B). This free series goes from 6:30-8:30pm with food trucks and a few artisans plus you can bring your own dinner and/or beverages in coolers but cans only, no glass containers.

Artown is Virtual in 2020

One of the best events in the area and the largest arts festival with most of the events for free will be a virtual experience this year. No, it's not the same but kudos to Beth Macmillan and her staff and board of directors for trying to keep the passion for the arts in Reno and northern Nevada going. Go to www.artown.org to see the schedule of events. Grammy winning blues artist Keb Mo was scheduled for one of their headliner ticketed events on Thursday, July 23 at Hawkins Amphitheater but hopefully they will bring him in person for 2021.

Virtual Vibes on 101.5 Truckee Tahoe Radio

Kings Beach is doing their musical lineup virtual this summer and using 101.5 Truckee Tahoe Radio for these Friday night concerts from 6:00-8:30pm. On July 10, they had the local funk band The Sextones featuring Mark Sexton; on July 24, VoKab will play their innovative brand of music; on Aug. 7, they have booked local favorite blues and R&B band The Blues Monsters; and on Aug. 28, Sneaky Creatures will showcase their alternative gypsy sound.

New RBS Logo-Embroidered Blues Fedora Hats

We have a beautifully embroidered blues hat (small-brimmed fedora-style), tan/straw color with matching hatband AND the RBS logo and Reno Blues Society embroidered on the front of the hat!

Really cool looking and we're selling for just a bit over cost to our members for just \$25. They might arrive in time for the July Third Thursday and if so, I'll bring a few and if they aren't here, for sure at the August Thursday social.



MOCK UP IS FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY
NOT TO EXACT SCALE OR EXACT PLACEMENT

Reminder - it's quite easy to be safe in these times. Please wear a mask, social distance and wash your hands. Keepin' the blues alive in Northern Nevada,

Jamie Klund, President

Reno Blues Society