

Hello my fellow Blues Lovers!

I woke up this morning to hot coffee, sunshine, and happily chirping birds! I love these kind of days that tease me of Spring, reinforcing my feelings that better days are ahead. Speaking of looking ahead, now that the vaccines are rolling out, the Smoky Mountain Blues Society will start planning for some shows and programs.

We already have a “Blues In The Schools” video presentation in the works for virtual student’s to enjoy, and maybe catch the “Blues Bug” too! Hopefully we will be able to resume live, in-school presentations in the fall. I believe that getting The Blues to youngsters, and getting them involved, is one of our most important endeavors in helping keep the Blues alive and relevant in today’s musical landscape.

I’d like to sincerely thank all the members who have renewed their dues and continue to support us during these unprecedented times. The membership committee is hard at work planning some exciting special events to show our appreciation to our members. Stay tuned for upcoming details.

And... speaking of shows, we plan on starting our 2021 Blues Cruises in July. The line-up hasn’t been finalized yet, but you can bet it will be our usual great mix of Blues from regional, national, and local bands!

The Blues Foundation has announced that they hope to have a “live” International Blues Challenge in January, 2022, so we will have our local challenge sometime in late summer.

The Sara Jordan Birthday Bash will likely occur in November, and our annual Christmas party concert in December will hopefully occur as well!

I’m also sure the Music Committee will try to book some shows at Bluetick Tavern and The Open Chord. LIVE MUSIC!!! I can’t wait!! Of course, all this is contingent on the vaccine continuing to roll out like it is, and if we can keep everyone safe.

We are also looking at updating our FaceBook presence by adding a google calendar, and shop, where you can actually buy memberships, T Shirts, and merchandise. We are also looking at updating our website.

Please also help me thank our Board of Director’s Tom Hurwitz, Polly Doka, Marilyn Finley, Lee Zimmerman, Alisa Cherry, Herman Long, and Alice Woody for all their continued hard work and dedication to our mission statement.

We really look forward to seeing all of our friends again! It’s not only the music we love, it’s the gathering of friends and family that feeds our souls.

Peace and Love,
Michael James, President
Smoky Mountain Blues Society