

NEW LONDON COUNTY - WINDHAM - HARTFORD - MYSTIC - RHODE ISLAND

Sound Waves

Volume 16
Issue 8
May 2006

**CLUB LISTINGS
RESTAURANTS
CONCERT INFO
BAND LISTINGS
REVIEWS & MORE**

**An
Interview
with**

THE BACON BROTHERS

**Southern New England's
Leading Entertainment & Dining Guide**



STASH'S CAFE

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STASH'S IS THE HOUSE THAT ROCKS!

Tue	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 JENNIFER TAYLOR	4 Serving Lunch & Dinner 7 Days A Week	5 THE SUGAR DADDY BAND	6 LICK
9 SUGAR FREE	11 TAYLOR MADE	12 FAT BETTY	13 DOUBLE FISTED
16 T-RAY	18 BASEBALL NASCAR SPORTS	19 THE UNDAUNTED PROFESSOR HARP	20 MELAENA
23 TIME BETWEEN US	25 BRANDON DAVIS	26 CAPITAL PUNISHMENT FACE FIRST	27 CAPITAL CITY SHOWCASE Original Bands
30 LOVE HANDLES	SHOWTIMES: Tue. 8:30-11:30 Thurs 9pm Fri. & Sat. 10pm	1 JEFF PITCHELL & TEXAS FLOOD	2 GREEN TEA

Mondays KARAOKE ~ DJ DANCE PARTY w/Mike Mrazik 9pm

Complimentary Beverages to Designated Drivers

Check out our Late Night Menu - HAPPY HOUR BUFFET Every Thursday & Friday

SATURDAY 13th

DOUBLE FISTED

FRIDAY 19th

THE UNDAUNTED PROFESSOR HARP

FRIDAY 26th



FRIDAY JUNE 1st

JEFF PITCHELL & TEXAS FLOOD

31st PAPPY'S DAY ~ SUNDAY ~ MAY 28th

STASH'S IS THE ORIGINAL & OFFICIAL PAPPY'S DAY PARTY!

PARTY AT STASH'S

FREE PIG ROAST - No Cover

Live Music ~ Day & Night

CUCUMBER JONES & ALTER EGO

"Let Those Who Ride Decide!"



INSIDE THE WAVE

Concert Dates	pg. 7
Music Notes	pg. 11
Band Dates	pg. 12
Cover Story	pg. 18
Hearing Aid	pg. 20,21
Record Review	
Going for a Cruise	pg. 22
Classifieds	pg. 26



MAILBAG



Dear Readers,

Winter is over! Well I hope it is, this is New England and one can never be sure. This month's issue was a hard one to do. I was sitting at the computer all weekend designing ads and putting the issue together. Meanwhile it was the best weekend weather wise since the winter season ended. At least I had the windows open. So enjoy this month's issue and support the magazine by saying you say their ad in these pages.

With the warmer weather here, people will be traveling to enjoy everything this area has to offer. One big set back is the rise of the gas prices. It cost as much as a dinner for two just to fill up your tank! And they say prices will go even higher! Something has to be done about this. The companies are making their biggest profits in decades and we are suffering. One idea that makes sense is circulating the internet. The "not buy gas on Tuesdays" was a joke, but the newest idea is not to buy gas from one distributor. This might make the target reduce prices to get buyers back. It makes sense. If everyone told their friends and they told theirs, then it could number in the 10's of thousands if not more. So the plan is to boycott **Exxon/Mobil/Chevron**. Let's give it a try! Their CEO was just given a retirement package that if he worked 10 more years it would come to \$100 a minute! So something should be done. Are you going to just complain at the rising prices or are you going to act on it?

Till Next Month
David L. Pottie
editor/publisher

Sound Waves

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It happens at the Hilton.®

Karaoke

May 4 • 7:00 PM

Mystic Horns

May 5, 12, 19, 26 • 9 PM

Black and White

50s & 60s Rock & Roll Trio

May 11 • 7:00 PM

Skinny Mulligan

Rock & Roll

May 18 • 7:00 PM

Ron Drago

Acoustic Rock Trio

May 25 • 7:00 PM

Karaoke

June 1 • 7:00 PM

And don't miss
DJ Entertainment
on weekends

Drink Specials
every Thursday

Half Price Appetizers
Monday - Friday
4pm - 7pm



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Welcome All Bikers!

Be sure to pick up your free copy
of Trantolo & Trantolo
Biker Event Schedule

MONDAY - Open at 3
Free Pool All Night Long

TUESDAYS

LINE DANCING with Dr. J 8pm

Wed. - Beginners Dance Lessons 6:30
8pm Free Pool ~ \$3 Captain Morgan

THURSDAYS - KARAOKE
with Dr. J ~ Free Pool

FRIDAY NIGHT
DJ or Live Entertainment

Saturdays Always Live Music!

Sat. 6th - **KURT VOLAND BAND**

Sat. 13th - **BROKEN JONES**

Sat. 20th - **SMOKEHOUSE**

Saturday 27th - **RED LIGHT
DISTRICT**

Sat. June 3rd - **HARD KNOXX**

NASCAR SUNDAYS

A FREE Buffet on Sundays!
2pm (except May 7th)

Kitchen is closed from May 3 - May 9th



Graham Nash

BERLIN **BLUES** FESTIVAL

SAT. JUNE 3, 2006



11:00 AM - 10:00 PM

BERLIN FAIRGROUNDS - EAST BERLIN, CT

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| * SAVOY BROWN | \$18 ADVANCE |
| * JOANNA CONNOR BAND | \$22 GATE |
| * BRIAN TEMPLETON BAND | KIDS 15 & UNDER |
| * BRUCE KATZ BAND | FREE W/PARENT |
| * DAN STEVENS | FOOD |
| * PETE SCHEIPS BAND | BEER |
| * JOHNNY AND THE EAST COAST ROCKERS | KIDS GAMES |
| * JR. KRAUSS AND THE SHAKES | BIKE SHOW for |
| * TL AND THE ALL-STARS | Peter Lavery |
| * CHILLI BLUES BAND | Scholarship Fund |



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www.berlinmusicfest.com OR CALL (877) 828-0063

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"Biker Owned & Biker Friendly!"

Jager Beach Party BBQ

May 21st Noon - 6pm

All Drafts \$2.25,
Domestic Bottles \$2.25,
\$3.00 Well Drinks

Wear a
Jagermeister T-shirt
and get a Jager shot token.

Spring Special ~ 6pm to close
Every Friday Night til June
\$1.50 Bud & Bud Light Pints
\$2 Domestic Bottles

CJ's Events **SINGERS NEEDED!!! ~ KARAOKE CONTEST!!**

Every Saturday Night 9pm-1am

Cash Prizes for 1st & 2nd Place

Winners determined by audience, so bring your
friends to cheer you on. No Entry Fee.

Choose from hundreds of songs, choose the
right two and you could be going home with a
prize! \$20 ~ 1st place \$10 ~ 2nd place

Sunday 7th - Scotch Dbls 1pm

Sunday 21st - APA 9-Ball Tourney 1pm

Every Thursday & Friday - Pool Tourney 8pm

CONCERT DATES

ALBERT CUMMINGS

18 - Theodore's, Springfield, MA

THE BACON BROTHERS

23,24 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

CHARLIE DANIELS BAND

21 - Chevrolet Theatre, Wallingford, CT

CHRIS DUARTE GROUP

24 - Hungry Tiger, Manchester, CT

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA

24 - Lupo's At The Strand, Providence, RI

DICKEY BETTS

27 - Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, CT

FALL OUT BOY

5 - Harbor Yard, Bridgeport, CT

FOGHAT

16 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

GEORGE THOROGOOD

18 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

GRETCHEN WILSON

11 - Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, CT

JIM WEIDER

18,20 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

JOHNNY WINTER

18 - Theodore's, Springfield, MA

LITTLE CHARLIE & THE NIGHTCATS

19 - Chan's, Woonsocket, RI

THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND

26 - Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, CT

PEARL JAM

13 - Dodge Music Center, Hartford, CT

STEEL PULSE

26 - Toad's Place, New Haven, CT

28 - Foxwoods Casino, Mashantucket, CT

STEVE TYRELL

19 - Community College, Manchester, CT

SUZANNE VEGA

31 - Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, CT

WILLIE NELSON

26 - Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, CT

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FLOWERS & KANE**

Saturday 6th - **RUN FOR COVER**

Friday 12th - **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

Saturday 13th - **LUCKY TUBBS
THE PAUL BROCKETT SHOW**

Friday 19th - **LIZ LARSONS
THE CAVITIES
w/Darren Decide**

Saturday 20th - **GAMMA RAYS**

Friday 26th - **DOUBLE FISTED**

Saturday 27th - **FLIC & GUESTS**

Friday June 2nd - **WANDA JACKSON**
opening act **THE LUSTRE KINGS**

Sat. June 3rd - **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

WEDNESDAY BIKE NIGHT

5pm to close ~ \$1.50 Domestic Drafts
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EVERY THURSDAY 5 BANDS \$5

3 Pool Tables - Big Screen TV - 6 Dart Boards

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Mon thru Fri - **HAPPY HOUR**
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BASEBALL ~ GOLF**

EVERY MONDAY

\$1 Drafts \$2 Well Drinks

**EVERY TUESDAY
KARAOKE**

with SEAN 9:30-1

Thursdays is Thirsty Thursdays!
with \$2 Pints & LIVE Music with

4th - **T-RAY**

11th & 25th - **CHRIS SIMONDS**

18th - **CHRISTOPHER JOHN**

Saturday ~ May 13th

DJ SEAN

Saturday ~ May 27th

FRANK & JERRY

*Check out our
NEW INTERNET JUKEBOX!
Any Song That's On-Line!*

CINCO De MAYO PARTY ~ May 5th

FREE POOL on Sundays

2 Pool Tables ~ Big Screen TV
Golden Tee ~ Darts



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Ribs, Rock-N-Roll & More

Cafe

Live Bands

Fri	Sat
5 VALENTINO BAND	6 TBA
12 CHRIS LEIGH BAND	13 LUX RADIO
19 NEVER ENOUFF	20 ALTER EGO
26 Ms. MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS	27 LEFT OF CENTER

Steak Night

Every Monday

\$12.99 6:30-10

12oz Rib Eye

Salad ~ Potato

Free Beverage ~ Draft

LADIES

All Male Review

Every Wednesday

No Cover Before 9

\$1 Drinks 8-10:30

Karaoke Party

Thursday Night

w/ DJ DAVE 9 to close

NEW! LINE DANCING

6-9

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Fri. 5th - Cinco De Mayo Party

ENNY CORNER

Saturday 6th & Saturday 20th

SOUND FACTORY

All Ages ~ 15 Bands ~ 2pm to close

Fri. 12th - **ROUTE 2**

Sat. 13th & Fri. 26th - **STU ECHARD**

Fri. 19th & Sat. 27th - **OPEN MIC NITE**

Sun. 28th - **PAPPY'S RUN PARTY**
LIVE MUSIC

Sun. 14th - **Mother's Day Run**

KARAOKE TUESDAYS w/ DJ BEV

Full Menu All Day Long



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Grab a Burger, Philly Cheesesteak or Nachos
Great Food Served Until Midnight Daily

GREAT BANDS EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

6th - **Ms. MARCI & The Lovesick Hounds**

13th - **GREEN TEA**

20th - **GARY GUITAR & The Grinders**

27th - **KGB BAND**

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Season Kick-Off Party with **VALENTINO**

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Fri

Sat

Sun

26 **THE SUGAR DADDY BAND**

One Nation under a groove

27 **WICKED PEACH**

The area's hottest cover band!

28 **BADFISH**

Sublime Tribute Band with "Roots Down Below" & "Operation Ivy"

Monday May 29th
MEMORIAL DAY BASH

Sunny DJ Deck Parties

Friday ~ Saturday ~ Sunday ~ Monday 1-5

MUSIC NOTES

By Mark T. Gould

You Never Forget Your First Time

Do you remember your first time?

I do. May 26, 1970. Keaney Gymnasium at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston. About 8 p.m., right side upper balcony. It was incredible.

No, not that first time. I'm talking about my first concert. It was Joe Cocker, Mad Dogs & Englishmen. I was 14 years old, and, now, thanks to the good people at Hip-O Select, a specialty, on-line, record company, I've finally got a great sounding memento of the tour, albeit not that specific show.

The passage of time, heck, it's been 36 years, dulls my memory about how I learned about the concert. An educated guess would be an advertisement with tour dates in Rolling Stone magazine, which I had subscribed to for over a year at that point, and where was getting much of my early musical education. I do recall, though, bugging my parents to drive me to the show, which was about half an hour or so from our home in Mystic. I remember being pleasantly shocked when they agreed to take me to the concert.

As much I'm embarrassed to admit it, I do, unfortunately, recall how I dressed for the show. Remember now that, at age 14 in early 1970, I was kind of caught between how my parents wanted me to dress, and being exposed to the bell bottom blue jeans, fringe and boots of the up and coming hippie movement.

For that night, I choose, looking back on it, just about the ugliest red and black striped bellbottoms you can possibly imagine. Yep, you read that right. Red and black striped. As a nod to my folks, I wore an off-white, button-down dress shirt, but I managed to sneak a blue-ish fur vest over it. I topped it off with a pair of leather boots I got from Keat's Krafts in Mystic.

Giorgio Armani, I was not. Man, I wasn't even Giorgio, er, George Harrison.

Anyway, my mother got the driving duty, since my father was, ironically, driving his local bus route that evening. We took off in her Volkswagen Beetle (see, I could be a bit cool...), arriving at the show about an hour before it started. For some reason, I still get to concerts early to this day. I got out of the car, memorizing where she was parked and walked into the show, alone. Again, I will still go solo to some concerts today. Some things never change. My mother, God bless her, sat in the car, smoking (cigarettes, of course) and reading a book by the dashboard light for the few hours that I was inside.

I showed my ticket at the door, and I remember walking into the gym, where there were a number of rows of fold-

ing seats on the floor. For some reason, it seemed a little too tight in there for me, so I scurried up to the aforementioned balcony, literally hanging over the stage. To this day, I still try to sit in the section above and right next to the stage.

From that vantage point, I could see this was going to be an extravaganza. Liner notes on the forthcoming live discs from the tour, as well as Hip-O's new release (which I'll get to in a minute) said there were four drummers, three guitarists, two keyboard players, a full horn section and a choir of background singers. From where I sat, mesmerized, I couldn't believe how much equipment was on the stage before the show.

Within a few minutes, the floor, and the balcony around me, began to fill up. Soon, I noticed a weird aroma in the air, one I had not smelled before. Nervous and bit shy, I didn't look around or talk to anyone, so I didn't know what was up.

After a while, someone behind me tapped me on the shoulder. I turned, and a friendly-looking fellow, a bit older than me, was trying to hand me what appeared to be a cigarette. Being an earnest athlete at the time, I had sworn to never smoke cigarettes, so I politely declined.

Stupid me, right?

About half an hour after the scheduled starting time (some things never change), the lights when down, and the musicians, led by Leon Russell and Chris Stainton, the two keyboard players, ambled onto the stage. I really didn't know that much about them in those days, but what a band it was, featuring saxophonist Bobby Keys, drummers Jim Keltner and Jim Gordon, bass player Carl Radle, singers Rita Coolidge and Claudia Lennear, and a bunch of others.

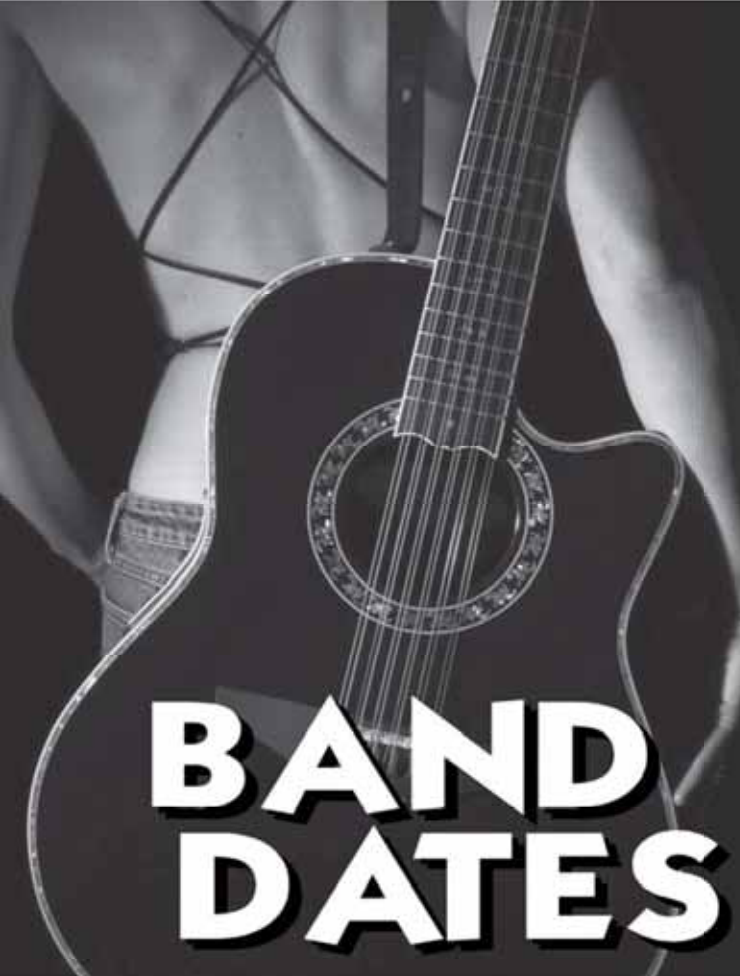
And, then, there was Joe Cocker. I'd actually been a fan of his before the show, but this was something else. The man absolutely channeled Ray Charles, with his covers of "Sticks and Stones," and "Let's Get Stoned," and added his elegant touch to rock classics like "Honky Tonk Women," "The Weight," "Something," "Feelin' Alright," and, of course, the grand finale, "With a Little Help From My Friends," which blew me away.

I've never been able to find an audio or video copy of the Rhode Island show, but Hip-O Select's new release "The Complete Fillmore Concerts," brought back these memories. Covering all four sets over two nights at the Fillmore East, just a couple of weeks before the Rhode Island show, it floods me with memories of that glorious night.

I babbled about the show to my mother all the way back to Mystic. 36 years and hundreds of concerts later, you can see that I'm still babbling about my first time.

I'll never forget it.

****Editor's Note:** Mark Gould has been looking for a good quality audio or video of his "first time," Joe Cocker, Mad Dogs & Englishmen at the University of Rhode Island in May 1970, for many, many years now. If you have one, and are willing to part with a copy in trade, please contact him at the e-mail address on this site. He will be forever grateful.



BAND DATES

DAN STEVENS

12 - Perks & Corks, Westerly, RI 8:00
 17 - Red Lion, Stockbridge, MA 8:00
 18 - Town Library, Woodbridge, CT 7:00
 19 - Penny Lane, Old Saybrook, CT 7:30
 26 - Maritime Grille, Guilford, CT 7-11
 27 - Angel Ride, Ashford, CT 4-6
 27 - G. W. Tavern, Washington Depot, CT

DAVE LOUDON BAND

5,6 - Lakeside Cafe, Coventry, CT
 13 - Billy Wilson's, Norwich, CT
 18 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT
 20 - Country Lounge, Wales, MA 7:30

DOUBLE FISTED

12 - Sneekers, Groton, CT
 13 - Stash's, New London, CT
 26 - Bank St. Cafe, New London, CT

1800

12 - Whiskey Pub, Manchester, CT
 13 - Sweet Janes, Hartford, CT
 19 - Cioppinos, Ellington, CT
 20 - Grumpy's Pub, Plainville, CT
 28 - Burke's Tavern, Niantic, CT

FAT BETTY

6 - Sunset Ribs, Niantic, CT
 12 - Stash's, New London, CT
 19 - Ocean Beach, New London, CT

GOPHERBROKE

5 - School Street Bistro, Westfield, MA 7-11
 11,25 - Riverwalk Rest., Mystic, CT 8-11
 12 - Tuscany Grill, Middletown, CT 8:30
 18 - Elizur's Pub, Holyoke, MA
 19 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
 20 - Ivory Pub, Deep River, CT

12 SOUND WAVES

26 - Doody's, Branford, CT

GREEN TEA

13 - C.C. O'Briens, Pawcatuck, CT

JAMES HARRIS

3,10,17,24,31 - Daniel Packer, Mystic, CT
 9,16,23 - Harp & Hound, Mystic, CT
 12,26 - Riverwalk, Mystic, CT 8pm
 30 - Stash's, New London, CT 8pm

KICK

5 - Murphy & Scarlettis, Farmington, CT
 6 - Black Bear Saloon, S. Norwalk, CT
 12 - Club Vibe, Foxboro, MA
 13 - Rookies, Cromwell, CT
 17 - Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, MA
 20 - Geraldines, W. Springfield, MA

KURT VOLAND BAND

6 - Music Lady, Plainfield, CT

MASS-CONN FUSION

5-11 - Atrium Lounge, Mashantucket, CT
 19 - Whiskey Pub, Manchester, CT
 20 - Iron Chef, Essex, CT
 27,28 - Captain's Club, Dennis, MA

MATTHIAS STEELE

5 - Concert Connections, Norwich, CT
 12 - Bank St. Cafe, Norwich, CT

MELAENA

6 - Burkes Tavern, Niantic, CT
 20 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT

MIKE SAVINO / THE SONS

4,13,18 - Ivoryton Tavern, Ivoryton, CT
 5 - Old Corner Cafe, Naugatuck, CT 8:30pm
 6,26 - Black Seal Grille, Essex, CT
 12 - Olivers Taverne, Essex, CT 8pm
 14,28 - Driftwood Cafe, Clinton, CT 8pm
 19 - Sullivans Cafe, Naugatuck, CT
 27 - J-Roos Restaurant, N. Haven, CT

Ms MARCI & THE LOVESICK HOUNDS

7 - St. Mary's Church, Putnam, CT 1-3pm
 10 - AS220, Providence, RI
 26 - Christopher's Cafe, Groton, CT

STU ECHARD

5,12,19,26 - Benidicts, Norwich, CT 5-7
 13,26 - Crossroads, Oakdale, CT

SUGAR DADDY BAND

5 - Stash's Cafe, New London, CT
 6 - Fat Cats, Colchester, CT
 12 - Newport Blues Cafe, Newport, RI
 19 - Iron Chef, Essex, CT
 21 - Sunset Ribs, Waterford, CT
 26 - Paddy's, Misquamicut, RI

2 CAT ZOO

17 - Voodoo Grille, Mystic, CT

WAR PIGS

12 - Bank Street Cafe, New London, CT

WICKED PEACH

5 - One Pelham East, Newport, RI
 6 - Iron Chef, Essex, CT
 19 - Hard Rock Cafe, Foxwoods, CT
 20 - Gillaries, Bristol, RI
 27 - Paddy's, Misquamicut, RI

WORLD'S SMALLEST QUARTET

5 - Ceili's Irish Pub, Guilford, CT
 6,19 - Oliver's Taverne, Essex, CT
 11,25 - Chowder Pot, Branford, CT
 12 - Main St. Tavern, Old Saybrook, CT
 13,27 - Glock Grill, Higganum, CT
 26 - Bidwell Tavern, Coventry, CT
 29 - Elks, E. Hartford, CT 1pm

Any bands wishing to be listed for the month, **MUST** have their dates into **SOUND WAVES** by the **LAST FRIDAY** of every month. **NO** listings will be taken over the telephone. These listings are **FREE!** Mail Listings to the magazine or

FAX them to:

(860) 572 - 5738

E-MAIL: Editor@swaves.com

Also send along your **E-mail & Web Site Address** so they can be used as links at **Our Web Site!**



Musicians can get two free articles that show them how to eliminate any chance of ever getting cheated out of gig payments.

To receive them, they simply send email requests to:

1. stiffproof@getresponse.com
2. stiffproof2@getresponse.com

Also, to ***GREATLY*** increase their local and regional gigs by letting more people learn about them through area print media, they should check out the link on our website titled, **"Solve Your Gig Promotion Problems Now!"**

- Kenny Love

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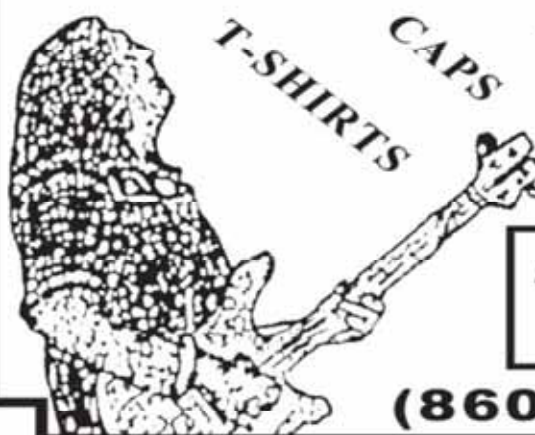
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MUSICSUBMIT.COM EXPANDED SERVICES

MusicSUBMIT, a music promotion service that connects independent artists with Internet music resources, has expanded their existing services. In addition to their standard electronic artist submission packages, MusicSUBMIT will now offer flash player-enhanced submissions, upgraded account management features and an ecommerce affiliate program that allows MusicSUBMIT resources to sell artist CDs.

MusicSUBMIT's primary objective is to help independent artists gain exposure by submitting them to targeted, genre-specific Internet radio stations, online music magazines, online music directories, blogs, podcasts and other electronic music media. Submissions consist of background information on the artist, pictures, bio, one press release and an embedded flashplayer. The new system allows online music resources to include any artists flashplayer directly on their site, along with a "Buy Now" link for selling the artists CD's.

MusicSUBMIT Marketing Director Mike Corcoran explains, "This will make it easier for bands to get their music out to people who want it. Plus, the online music resources get a shot at making some money, too." In the price structure of the sale, the music resource gets \$3, MusicSUBMIT receives a transaction fee of \$1 and the artist gets the rest. "This also gives the radio station an incentive to open artist submissions —there might be a potential moneymaker in their email. Everyone benefits from the deal," says Corcoran, a die-hard independent music supporter, with confidence.

MusicSUBMIT was founded in January, 2003, by company president Trevor Lyman. A musician himself, Lyman spent endless hours researching potential outlets for his music and realized that there was a world full of musicians scouring the Internet doing the exact same thing — duplicating each others work over and over again. "I created MusicSUBMIT to help musicians get back to doing what they love to do most... create their music!" explains Lyman. "After all, no one ever picked up a guitar, or sat down at a piano or banged out a kickin' drum beat with the hopes and aspirations of one day being able to spend 40 hours a week promoting themselves on the Internet."

Three years later, MusicSUBMIT has helped over 3,000 independent artists connect with over 6,000 Internet music resources all over the world.

For further information about MusicSUBMIT, please visit www.musicsubmit.com



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THE BACON BROTHERS

By Bill Harriman

One of the interesting things about the Bacon Brothers Band, besides the great music that they play, is how all of the band members are involved in other areas of the arts and entertainment business. Take drummer Frank Vilardi for example. A graduate of the Hartt College of music at the University of Hartford, Frank has had a hand in jingles, film, television, and producing. Also, when he's not playing with the Bacons, he's toured the world with acts like Bobby McFerrin, Shawn Colvin, Suzanne Vega, Celine Dion, Jewel, Judy Collins and many others.

Then there's lead guitarist Ira Siegel. Ira has been playing professionally for over 35 years now. If you check out his website, www.irasiegel.com, you'll see that he's played on countless albums through the years along with a variety of movie and television soundtracks. This summer, while the Bacon Brothers are off the road, Ira will be touring with Donny Osmond.

Next up is Paul Guzzone, the band's bass player and back-up singer. Paul is a composer, songwriter, teacher, and record producer. He's also the owner of Triple Z Music in Manhattan which is a company that specializes in composing and producing original songs for live productions and multi-media shows. Of course that just scratches the surface of what Triple Z is all about and the website, www.triplezmusic.com, will tell you much more.

Big brother Michael Bacon plays both the acoustic guitar and cello when performing with the band. He's also blessed with an outstanding voice. Michael is a classically trained musician who is skilled in composition and orchestration. In the seventies he made a name for himself with a folk/rock band called Good News. In the eighties he moved to NYC to compose music for film and television even winning an Emmy Award in 1993 for his score of the documentary "The Kennedy's." To date he has scored over three dozen assorted films, television shows, and mini-series.

Little brother Kevin Bacon sings lead and plays acoustic guitar. He also plays the harmonica and assorted percussion instruments. Kevin, an in-demand actor, has appeared in over fifty feature films. He's been on a creative run lately with intriguing parts in movies such as "Mystic River," "The Woodsman," and "Where The Truth Lies." His upcoming

projects include "Loverboy," a movie he directed that stars his leading lady Kyra Sedgwick along with such notable actors as Matt Dillon, Marisa Tomei, Campbell Scott, and Sandra Bullock. In addition there's the highly anticipated "The Air I Breathe," which Kevin will star in along with Andy Garcia, Brendan Fraser, Forest Whitaker, and Sarah Michelle Geller among others.

The Bacon Brothers are touring in support of their new studio CD called "White Knuckles." They will be appearing in Connecticut on May 23rd and May 24th for two free shows at Club BB inside the Foxwoods Casino. I spoke with the Bacon Brothers by phone on March 22nd.

BH – Michael, it's hard to believe that the "Forosoco" CD is almost ten years old now. How do you think your music has evolved over the past decade?

MB – "I think we've gotten better and better as both recording musicians and live musicians. And I think in a lot of ways that's one of the things I'm most proud of is how far Kevin's gone and also myself because there are things I do now that I couldn't dream of doing back then. And I think we've gotten our studio recording to a very simplified, mean and lean, concept that really works for us. You know our last record we really did all the recording in a week and 'Forosoco,' god, we were just recording for months. I just think overall it's been a really good road and it's been an up and down thing but if you draw a line through all the curves it's definitely a rising line."

BH – Kevin, did you have a theme or an idea of what you wanted the songs to sound like on this record?

KB – "I guess the songs were, most of them I think, were kind of post 9/11 which has certain affect on the record. For me it was sort of an introspective kind of time. And I think it's hard to say that there's any real one kind of theme. I think we just kind of keep going through life and if something feels like it's worthy of writing a song about it just kind of comes out."

BH – Michael I really liked your three originals "Flowers," "John's Song," and "Coffins And Cradles." My question is about "Coffins And Cradles" because I think I remember you telling a story about that song. Does it pre-date the Bacon Brothers?

MB – "Yeah it really does and that's an interesting story because I've written thousands of songs in my life and one of the things I've always prided myself on was that I've never forgot a song. Where if I forgot a song, it wasn't a song I really cared about. And I wrote that song about two months before Neil, my son, was born so that makes it twenty-three years old at least. What was going on was we went to the doctor and there was some kind of bad news about the pregnancy so like anybody we were really kind of nervous. So we were having a checkup and in those days they had this antique device that you put on a woman's stomach and you can hear the heartbeat and that's when I wrote that song. That's what it was about, that heartbeat. Hearing that and realizing everything is going to be ok. Also, we were living in the country at that time and I was

building Neil a cradle. And it's a really crazy thing to do for a musician because if you go into a wood shop you don't really even know what you're doing, it's absolutely lethal. I can't tell you how many times I almost cut my fingers off! But I did successfully build the cradle which kind of looked like a coffin too. And it sounds like it's kind of a morbid song but it's a total song of joy. Anyway, I'm telling you this because I played it for a couple of years and Kevin of course heard it and then I completely forgot that I'd ever even written it. I had no recording of it. I went back through my archives of cassettes and reel to reel tapes and live shows and I realized that I had no recording of it and in fact had forgotten that I wrote it. Kevin reminded me of it and it took me about two years to dredge it out of my subconscious. And finally I got it all and then I wrote an extra verse to it. So it was such a great thing to be able to resurrect out of brain matter and then also the fact that my brother cared about the song enough to remember it and remind me of it who had forgotten it. So it was a great and really interesting process to resurrect it."

BH - Kevin some of your new tunes like "Get Away With It" and especially "Good News" seem to be both tongue-in-cheek and loaded with inside jokes. Is the "Good News" song title a nod to your brother's old band?

MB - "Only you would come up with that one Bill."

KB - "There's a lot of inside jokes in the song but that's not one of them. That's a definite road song. The whole thing was written when we were on the road I'm sure of that. And there was some gig we were supposed to play and the attendance was going to be so light that they just cancelled it. And you know that always a little bit of a hard thing to take. I was just thinking about what it was like to be on the road and the trials and tribulations of having an actor in the band and how a lot of people see that as an obvious upside but there's a lot of downside to it as well. So I kind of took a few different stories from the road and put it in there. And the thing about that kind of song is it's a little bit of a throwback to some of the 'Forosoco' stuff in that it's a song that's based on sort of a serious thing where you're feeling like it's not going well and yet it's pretty lighthearted."

BH - There might have been some initial skepticism with people about an actor fronting a band but don't you think that after four studio records and a double live album that those attitudes are a thing of the past?

KB - "No, I think they're still there. I think it's always going to be there. I think there's always going to be a certain amount of skepticism. And I think that's just kind of built in. But it's better, it's better than it was. I mean there are things that are actually said some times about how we're actually serious about this music."

BH - You know Kevin you have a knack for writing catchy songs. Take me through your songwriting process.

KB - "Well maybe Mike and I are a little bit different I'm not sure but they kind of come together. Usually you get a general idea of what the song is going to be about and it's time spent with the guitar and chords and building a melody around the chord structure. I like to think a lot about

Continued Page 24



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JOE BONAMASSA

"Live at Rockpalast" DVD

Premiere Artists

Joe Bonamassa leads the pack of young blues guitar prodigies that deliver fire from the fingertips. Already a professional as a teenager (Bonamassa opened for B.B. King at the age of 12), a now seasoned Bonamassa displays the chops of a veteran axeman, despite not yet reaching his 30th birthday. "Live At Rockpalast" captures Bonamassa and bandmates Eric Czar (bass) and Kenny Kramme's (drums) performance from last year's first major European tour. "Rockpalast" is actually Bonamassa's second DVD release, following 2002's "A New Day Yesterday Live" DVD which was included as bonus material to accompany his sophomore recording effort "So, It's Like That". The Rockpalast show displays a more musically diverse effort from Bonamassa, captured in a more intimate setting. There are plenty of close up shots of the band and the audience, offered as a crisp recording with DTS and Dolby options. The performance was recorded at the Burg Satzvey in Merchernich, Germany for the legendary German television show Rockpalast. The Satzvey is actually a magnificent 14th-century castle which presents one of the most unique concert settings you will see.

Bonamassa and the boys waste no time is displaying their chops with a terrific introductory jam leading up to "Takin' the Hit" that closes with recognizable ZZ Top and Peter Frampton riffs. As the band next breaks into a blazing cover of Jethro Tull's "A New Day Yesterday", it is evident that you're witnessing something much greater than a run of the mill blues band. The DVD contains only 11 tracks, but most carry about 7 to 10 minutes each and display some terrific jams from all three musicians. The set list is diverse, including a number of tracks from Bonamassa's 2003 "Blues Deluxe" disc including the title track (originally penned by Rod Stewart with the Jeff Beck Group), B.B. King's "You Upset Me Baby", and John Lee Hooker's "Burning Hell". Bonamassa has also found his niche as a seasoned blues vocalist, sounding years ahead of his time.

Blind Faith's "Had To Cry Today" and a fantastic rendition of the "Heart of The

Sunrise" intro followed by the closing half of "Starship Trooper", show that Bonamassa and the band are capable of making even progressive rock sound like their very own (it also takes some guts to cover Yes material, and the band does an outstanding job). A quiet version of "Mountain Time" also works perfectly and changes gears quite nicely amidst nearly 90 minutes of blazing guitar solos. Bonamassa also introduces some outstanding slide guitar work midway through the set that completes a diverse musical offering.

Comparing the two Bonamassa DVD's will demonstrate the band's increased comfort level and introduces an even greater variety of musical chops. Bonamassa has also matured as a singer-songwriter, and has displayed the knack to effectively transition cover material to become his own work. Bassist Eric Czar is also extremely musically talented and creative, and Kenny Kramme's percussion work is outstanding from start to finish. While Bonamassa has since moved on to record with new bandmates, the Rockpalast show is a valued snapshot of how tight this power trio had become.

Besides the slightly short set list, the only disappointment was the lack of any special features or literature accompanying the DVD. But with terrific sound quality and an outstanding performance from the band, these extras were hardly missed. It's refreshing to see young musicians paying tribute to the great rock and blues music of the past, and few are worthy company for Bonamassa. "Live At Rockpalast" effectively captures the raw energy and extreme talent of Joe Bonamassa and the band and will make a fine addition to your musical library.

***** 1/2 - Don Sikorski

PINMONKEY

"Big Shiny Cars"

Back Porch Records

At times, the future of country music, real country music that is, not the recycled tripe of Nashville, worries me. Then, I come across a release as fresh and exciting as Pinmonkey's second album, and I worry no more.

"Big Shiny Cars" carries on the tradition of the group's first album, a smorgasbord of great, catchy tunes, terrific harmonizing, and good production, adding up to one of the best new releases of the year.

Pinmonkey's music has been referred to as "progressive country," and, while that

description is apt, it's really a great stew of a number of positive influences. A little Appalachian, a bit of traditional gospel, and yes, a dose of good old rock and roll, permeates their music. Led by lead singer Michael Reynolds, along with brothers Chad Jeffers, who play guitars, dobro, banjo, and Michael Jeffers, who plays bass, and drummer Michael Crouch, Pinmonkey is one of the solidest outfits playing out of Nashville today.

The new album contains spirited covers of Matraca Berg's "That Train Don't Run," Dolly Parton's "Down," and the title track, along side many great originals, must penned or co-penned by Reynolds. Adding to the mix is a host of great guests, including vocalist Elizabeth Cook and the incomparable pedal steel player Rusty Young of Poco.

There's no need to worry about country music, and even Nashville for that matter, so long as bands as good as Pinmonkey continue to be around.

***** - Mark T. Gould

DUNCAN SHEIK

"White Limousine"

Zoe / Rounder Records

Duncan Sheik's "White Limousine" is comprised of thoughtfully arranged music that is pleasing to the ear and deep in texture. The singer/songwriter's latest effort on Zoe/Rounder Records incorporates melodic compositions rich in meaningful lyrics, ranging from the political title track to stories of lost relationships heard in tracks like "I Wouldn't Mind" and "So Gone". The earthy tones of "Nothing Fades" add a certain drama and depth to the disc, and Sheik delivers a dozen strong compositions in all, with emotions ranging from optimism to darkness all under the same umbrella.

"White Limousine" is Duncan Sheik's fifth recording effort. Best known for his 1996 hit single "Barely Breathing", Sheik continues to churn out thoughtful music that encompasses much more than a simple guitar and vocal. Layered with top shelf production and well-crafted arrangements, "White Limousine" finds Duncan Sheik in fine form. Despite the lack of a standout single set for radio airplay, this effort maintains its strength from start to finish.

The packaging of "White Limousine" is also unique. The CD is subtitled "Mine", while also included is a bonus DVD-Rom titled "Yours" which allows listeners to remix all twelve of the tracks themselves thanks

www.Swaves.com

to a software package called "Live". With the proper equipment, individual instruments can even be minimized or emphasized in each selection, including the ability to add personal guitar parts or even replace Sheik's soothing vocals with your very own. What will technology deliver us next?

Overall, "White Limousine" is Sheik's most thoughtful and diverse musical offering to date. It's refreshing to see an artist of Duncan Sheik's caliber move forward with his musical direction rather than forge a different path away from his strength. What Duncan Sheik does works well, and with "White Limousine", he only improves upon the recipe.

***** - Don Sikorski

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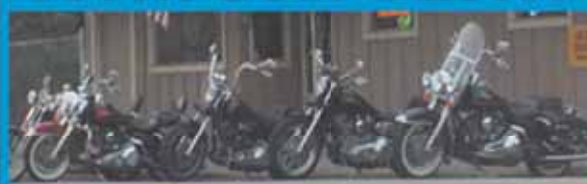
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BLACK VELVET

COVER STORY CONTINUED

the kind of groove and the rhythm and what kind of drums will play on the song just because I'm kind of drum oriented. I often times write with a drum machine. It's kind of helpful to have some sort of a rhythmic vibe. And I'm a total rhythm guitar player and I play my guitar sort of like a drum too. To me it's not so much the actual melodic kind of line as it is sort of singing around a chord progression and a rhythm."

BH - Mike, what's the difference in your mindset between scoring and songwriting? And what comes first? Do you read a script and come up with music that will fit a storyline or do you have things written beforehand that might fit some project?

MB - "Starting on the last part of your question first, I always try not to pre-write too much. I don't think I've ever successfully taken a piece that I've written for some other project that maybe didn't work and brought it over to a completely different project without very bad results. So I always try to wait until I really have a project in my mind before I start writing it. Moving backward through your question, the process of scoring is a completely different one than writing songs because if you're scoring, first of all, the reason that you do it comes from some external place. Like somebody calls you up and says 'this is the project, this is the job, this is the money, this is the schedule.' And then, if you're like me, and most of the people that do what I do, you have a source to write music which is inexhaustible and is always there whenever you need it. So the other thing that's different from writing songs is the architecture of what you're writing comes from the film that you're working on. So one of the big things of writing any kind of composition is form, and the form is going to come from the film and the creative part comes from this instrumental music source. So if you understand both of those things then it's a fairly easy process that you can break down into hours of work in a work day and it's just a process that I'm very used to. On the other hand writing songs takes an enormous amount of discipline because you neither have the inspiration which comes from a job that somebody else has given you when you're writing scores for films and you don't have any architecture that comes from any thing else, from an external source. So you first of all have to plant yourself in a room with your guitar or your piano whatever, and slug through the process of writing a song which is not always the most fun thing to do, it can be very difficult. And it's very easy to walk away from because nobody is going to say 'hey wait a minute you have to deliver that song tomorrow at 11:00' like they to with a picture. It's one of the hardest things for me, to have that discipline. I want to write songs but you really have to give yourself a lot of time and you really have to force yourself to sit in your room and hash through it and try to really figure out a way of sending out to an audience what it is that you're thinking about and what it is that's important to you in that particular mood."

BH - When I saw you guys in Ridgefield you opened with a song I wasn't familiar with called "I'd Write A Song." Is that a new song and have you fallen into a pattern of

introducing your new songs before a live audience before recording them for a studio release?

MB - "We did two versions of this record, a 13 song version and then later on we decided to expand it to 15 songs. So I think you have the 13 song CD."

KB - "Yeah, 'I'd Write A Song' is on the 15 song disc."

MB - "OK so that song is on 'White Knuckles' just not the version that you got so we'll have to get the new to you. We also put the song 'Playboy' which we just added to our set on there as well. We got a lot of pressure to make the record not more than 12 songs and we pushed it to 13 and then the band was really disappointed that 'Playboy' was not on the record so we started revisiting the idea and thinking 'you know we recorded these songs, we did 15 songs and we like all 15 of them, so once we put the disc out with this new Spinner label, we would expand it to 15. So both 'Playboy' and 'I'd Write A Song' are both on the CD."

BH - Through the years I've seen you guys as a duo, as a five piece band, and as a six piece band. What kind of show will you be bringing to Club BB?

MB - "I'm not exactly sure, it depends kind of on Charlie's availability because what happens to us is we do some gigs with Charlie and then we do some without him and we really miss him. (Charlie Giordano plays piano, organ, and accordion on the 'White Knuckles disc.') And we did this record with him and he was such a big creative part of it that all of the sudden with a five piece it feels like kind of a void. So we're booking him whenever we can but

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he does a lot of road work and he's very busy so I'm not sure whether he's coming to Foxwoods but we'll certainly try to get him there."

BH - Michael talk a little bit about Paul Guzzone. He's immensely popular with Bacon Brother fans and it looks like the two of you are the best of friends.

MB - "It's funny, he's kind of become like a brother and I wouldn't be surprised if people think there may be three brothers just because he's been such a big part of the band from the very first moment. And he's an enormous support system for Kevin and me. He's just one of those one in a million people who pretty much loves music and is not selfish about it. I don't think we could have made it this far without him and he's the one person that's been in from the very beginning. Everybody else who has been in the band has not been in from the beginning. So there's definitely a different relationship that we have with him for that reason and we've just gotten to be really close over the years and he's just an amazing musician, and he loves to play with us, and he'll come up with stuff about the band and ideas about the band that somebody who didn't care as much just really wouldn't do. So I think we're really lucky to have him."

BH - Kevin, I know how much you appreciate a great lead guitarist. Tell me about Ira Siegel and his importance to the band.

KB - "Ira's a phenomenal player. His skill and his ability is almost freakish. He plays great and he plays all different styles. I'm always interested to hear what he's going to play. He's constantly trying new sounds and new guitars. He shows up with a new guitar every gig! He must have hundreds of guitars. And he's always taking it to another level. He can fit in to the hardest stuff and the softest stuff really, really well."

BH - OK Kevin I have to ask you about some upcoming movies. Tell me about "Saving Angelo." I saw it listed on an internet site and I have no idea what it's all about.

KB - "I directed the movie 'Loverboy' and there's a little boy in the movie named Dominic Scott Kay. And he called me up, he was nine years old at the time, and he says he's directing his first movie and would I do a part in it. So I was directed by a nine year old. So that's the story of 'Saving Angelo,' it's about him and a little dog."

BH - When is 'Loverboy' coming out?

KB - "The first week in June."

BH - Do you have a good feeling about "The Air I Breathe."

KB - "Yeah I do. I think it will be an interesting movie. I haven't seen any of it, just a couple of days of my dailies but that's about it. Today I was just thinking I should email the director and see how it's going and how he's liking it. But I haven't seen it but I think it will be cool."

BH - Will it be out by the end of the year?

KB - "It could be. Release patterns are often times less to do with whether a movie is finished and more to do with the right kind of positioning. So they might have it ready for late summer or fall but I'm not sure what they're planning."

BH - Are there any special plans with the band? Will you tour overseas or get back in the studio?

MB - "I think what our usual process is we eventually feather almost all the songs from the new record in and then at the point we start to get bored with that and my brother has written 300 new songs for the new record (laughs), that is kind of the process. I don't think we're quite there yet. I think we're still pretty excited about this record and we still think it's got some legs. So I would think we would start getting back into the studio maybe next winter or next spring about a year from now or maybe a little less."

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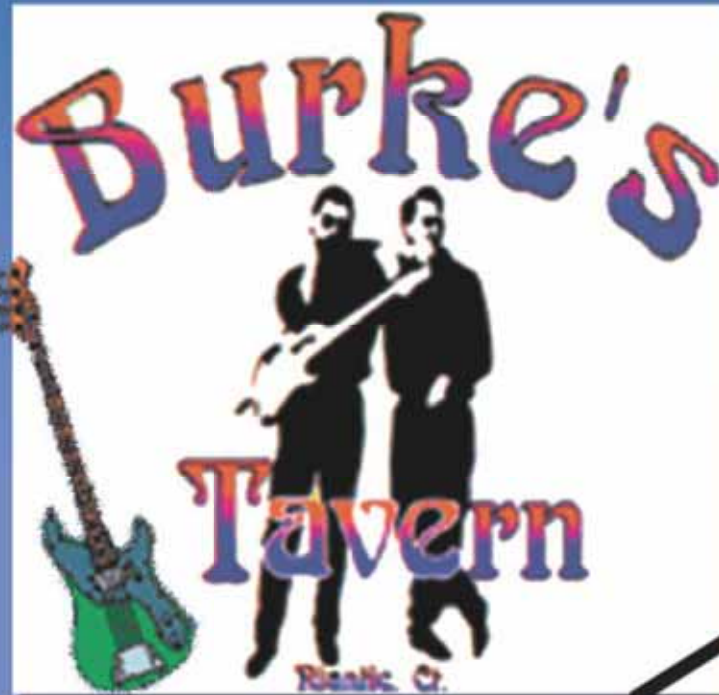
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