River City Slims is Grand Rapids Michigan’s latest entry in dining, entertainment and blues. The club’s theme and décor bring way-city’s largest entertainment-dining complex—seating 500 patrons, ranking among our downtown arteries and nearby US-131 off the Wealthy exit. The club is a barrier free establishment, and on site parking is available. Upon entering the club, you are struck by the spaciousness. This is a big club, seating 500 patrons, ranging among our city’s largest entertainment-dining complexes. The club’s theme and décor bring way-down-yonder-in New Orleans ambience. The walls resound with brilliant shop front motifs found on Bourbon and Royal streets in New Orleans and Creole styles along with some highly imaginative selections Handsome round café tables coupled with Bentwood back-supporting chairs gives the floor a real street café feel. The bar is impressive: yards of massive countertop cling about the clubs street café feel. The bar is impressive: yards of massive countertop cling about the clubs. At first glance you think the bar is constructed of polished granite, but cement is the main ingredient. Not only are the bar counters etched and epoxied in concrete, but just about everything is. The main floor is stamped in convincingly true-to-life life courtyard brick, dyed and set in cement. So too are the faux wood floor sections.

A Look at River City Slim’s

River City Slims is Grand Rapids Michigan’s latest entry to the rush of night clubs flourishing in our city. It’s located at 243 Commerce SW, a short distance from downtown GR and can easily be gotten to from main downtown arteries and nearby US-131 off the Wealthy exit. The club is a barrier free establishment, and on site parking is available.

Upon entering the club, you are struck by the spaciousness. This is a big club, seating 500 patrons, ranging among our city’s largest entertainment-dining complexes. The club’s theme and décor bring way-down-yonder-in New Orleans ambience. The walls resound with brilliant shop front motifs found on Bourbon and Royal streets in New Orleans and Creole styles along with some highly imaginative selections Handsome round café tables coupled with Bentwood back-supporting chairs gives the floor a real street café feel. The bar is impressive: yards of massive countertop cling about the clubs south wall. At first glance you think the bar is constructed of polished granite, but cement is the main ingredient. Not only are the bar counters etched and epoxied in concrete, but just about everything is. The main floor is stamped in convincingly true-to-life life courtyard brick, dyed and set in cement. So too are the faux wood floor sections. The dance floor is beautifully refinished in a high dyed gloss etch and bordering the stage wings are two gigantic in-your-face Spanish moss trees pored and formed from cement and topped off with tons of replicat Spanish moss. The stage is roomy enough to house a 10-piece swing band with no crowded elbows.

Presently, River City Slims showcases blues and roots music Friday and Saturday, nights, and hosts a Wednesday, blues jam. Since opening last August, the club has booked dozens of national touring acts and will celebrate its first anniversary celebration with a rare club appearance by Johnny Winter in September. Several Chicago acts make the easy two hour drive to Grand Rapids to perform there, while a number of Detroit performers have found River City Slims a welcome addition to their touring itinerary. Historically, the West Michigan area has ignored Motor City blues acts due to a geographic affinity to Chicago. Slims is changing that, booking Detroit bands on a regular basis.

Keeping the blues alive, Felix Ybarra, President West Michigan Blues Society www.rivercityslims.com