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# BIG CITY Rhythm & BLUES



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from Mississippi  
to Atlanta



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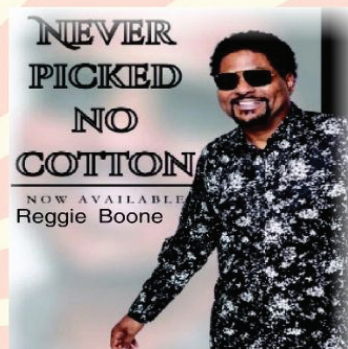
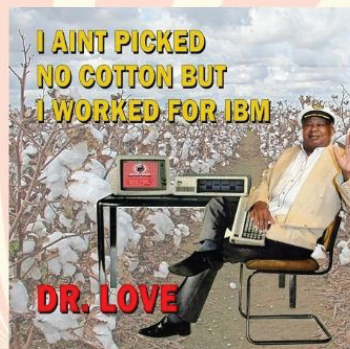
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# BIG CITY RHYTHM & BLUES VIEWS

## Celebrating 30 years of Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine!

*“The secret to life is to have a task, something you devote your entire life to, something you bring everything to, every minute of the day for your whole life. And the most important thing is — it must be something you cannot possibly do!” —Henry Moore*

It always seems impossible to me when I begin working on publishing another Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine issue. It is so all encompassing as I network and connect and put all the pieces together from scratch. Thanks to Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine’s graphic designer **Charlie Auringer** who beautifully lays out each issue and makes it look easy. And big thanks to **Guy Powell, Bob Monteleone, Eric Harabadian** and all the Big City Blues Krewe of contributing writers! Great job!

Now is the time to support and visit your favorite Blues Festival. There have been several blues festival changes, and a big one is the cancellation of **The Blues On The Fox** in Aurora, IL! We hope it will reorganize and return next year. As we go to press the only details that we have received so far about the **King Biscuit Blues Festival** is that due to their federal grants being on hold, the board is now working on plans to have only one stage, reduce the days of the festival to Friday and Saturday with a possible jam on Thursday. See their FB



Photo/Shirley Mae Owens

**Under the big Blues Tent, Sugar & Sierra Green taking care of business! New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Fest, 5/1/25**

**Tom O'Connor's crawfish boil outside the gates of New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Fest! 5/4/25**



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**On the cover:** Photo by Shirley Mae Owens



**Bob-O, Sugar & C-Note selling Big City Rhythm & Blues subscriptions at the Tampa Bay Blues Fest.**

page for updates.  
 As the saying goes, "One door closes, many open up!" The East Coast is buzzing with Blues Fests - Mardi Gras On The Boardwalk, Mitchfest, Briggs Farm, The Quantum Leap Music Fest and White Mountain Boogie N' Blues Fest! There are a lot of choices out there from coast to coast as well as on the high seas so get out there and support live music!  
 Between issues Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine will be working on its #37 CD Sampler, Celebrating the 30th Anniversary. It is a great way to get your music heard and is a favorite bonus for our subscribers who do have CD players and look forward to every sampler. To get your song spot reserved and for more details

please email blues@bigcitybluesmag.com.  
 Speaking of subscribers, I would like to thank all the new and renewed subscribers! So many subscribers often tell me how much they love the magazine or they have renewed because they have missed reading a real magazine. It is easy to subscribe at www.bigcitybluesmag.com or call 248-582-1544. Plus, when you subscribe you will receive a bonus - such as with a two subscription you can have a free, bona fide Crossroads t-shirt. Or, with a two subscription you can add a year or send a year to a friend...!  
 Finally, over the past 25 years I have been hosting a get together - **Sugar Mae's Blues Camp** (7/18 & 19, 25), Up

Photos/Shirley Mae Owens



**Sugar & Big Llou, Blues Music Awards, 5/8/25**

North at the beautiful **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**. It is always a very relaxed, laid back family-like getaway from the hustle of the big city - to do what you want, like enjoy a bonfire and have some fun - beautiful water, beaches, hiking the dunes, listening to blues by our historical writer **Capt. Dirk** and others. RSVP & more information at blues@bigcitybluesmag.com.

Take the high road, when you get to a crossroads, take it, may the river be with you, may the wind be at your back. Surf's up, mahola, aloha and don't forget to boogie!

Hope, peace & happiness,  
 Best,  
 Shirley Mae Owens aka  
 Sugar

**Top 11 Songs on Junior's Jukebox**

1. Tab Benoit - I Hear Thunder
2. John Primer - Grown in Mississippi
3. Brandon Santini - Which Way Do We Go?
4. DK Harrell - Talkin' Heavy
5. Tas Cru Band - All Natural Cage Free & Fan Fed
6. Kid Ramos - Strange Things Happening
7. Christopher Wyze & The Tellers - Live In Clarksdale
8. Carolyn Wonderland - Love Is
9. The Boneshakers - Live To Be This
10. Alexis P. Suter Band - Just Stay High
11. Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine's CD Sampler #36-Imagine

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