

radio
radio



Experience

Music Art Culture Roundup



September 2019

Volume. 1, Issue 8

22 Sirsy

Melanie and Rich Give us a page from their touring travelogue.

26 Moriah Formica

Having found acclaim, Moriah strikes out to forge her own path.

Also Featuring
Eddie Munoz!

WWW.RADIORADIOX.COM

FREE

THE
LOCAL 217
TAPROOM & KITCHEN

PATIO SEATING

Wednesday
Burger And Beer

Trivia
Every Other
Wednesday

Thursday
.75 cent

FIRST FRIDAY
MUSIC

Wings

HAPPY HOUR
4PM - 7PM

HOURS

Mon, Wed - Sat - Open 4PM

(Tuesday - Closed.)

Sunday - 10AM - 10PM

Sunday Sip + Slide
with Fred
Sunday Brunch

12^{1/2} Delaware Ave, Albany, NY
(518) 462-0050



BE SURE TO LIKE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM



McAddy's Pub
TROY, NEW YORK

HAPPY HOUR
3PM TO 7PM

PATIO

MONDAY
BURGER & BEER
NIGHT

SUNDAY
HIGH LIFE &
A SHOT

WEDNESDAY
TRIVIA

SUNDAY
BRUNCH

FRIDAY
LIVE MUSIC

MON - WED 11:30 - 12AM

THURS, FRI 11:30 - 2AM

SATURDAY 12PM - 2AM

SUNDAY 10AM - 11PM

452 BROADWAY, TROY, NY
(518) 326-0588

SUSIES

OUTDOOR
PATIO

HAPPY HOUR
6PM - 9PM

TRIVIA
TUESDAYS
8PM - 10PM

INDUSTRY FOLK
HIGH LIFE
& A SHOT

\$7

OPEN EVERYDAY
6PM - 4AM

8 DELAWARE AVE,
ALBANY, NY
(518) 449-2988

What Happens On The Way...



■ Katy Cole and Last Daze

Photo provided.

From the halls of music school to the road signs to Muscle Shoals, Katy Cole and Last Daze are woven into the tapestry of hard blues and rock and roll.

By Ralph Renna

In some cases, it takes bands many years to develop a sound or make it to a point of solid recognition. Hard work, touring, recording and giving up your life as you know it is a good start. Sometimes, it means leaving loved ones behind and hitting the road. On tour, moving fast and slow, forgetting which town you're in, all the while trying to stay clear from the demons that may possess your soul, the life can chew you up, spit you out and

forget you. Not to mention other battles, challenges and obstacles will rear their greedy head and you will possibly lose a friend or two in the process. Welcome to the music business.

Katy Cole has survived most and maybe more of the above mentioned. She is still taking her band as seriously as the day she and guitarist Chris Schempp got together. Introducing Last Daze from Upstate N.Y., a harder edged blues, a real rock band with soul and beautiful melodies. Vocals that demand attention at first command.

RRX: Let's start with growing up & music, your story, influences?

KC: My love for music has been lifelong. My mom swears that I was singing James Taylor songs at 13 months old. I used to demand Motley Crue before bedtime at three years old, and pretended I was the lead singer of the Misfits from Gem and the Holograms by four. My dad is a musician, so he taught me guitar at the age of 8, and I was writing songs by the time I was 9. I started playing with JJ Raymond

Continued on Page 4...



FEATURES

Tales from the Door	34
Observations and Ramblings	41
Sassy Says	44
Liar's Almanac	46

when I was 14, and we became Decadence, a female acoustic duo. That was my first taste of really performing for a living. We started in bars and clubs, then eventually decided to write our own stuff and make a go at it.

RRX: Give us a little history of your musical career leading up to Last Daze?

KC: I have had a twisted path. Ha. I started with Decadence, which had a few periods of hiatus. During one of them, I got a music degree, and studied classical vocal pedagogy and music education. I kept playing and writing and recording through all of it, but nothing was serious, or as serious as a lucrative teaching career. Having a classical background made me stronger on stage and off stage. I recorded a

couple of lesser known and not released albums as the Katy Cole Band, where I started playing with Chris Schempp, and that was where the hunger to be an original artist was fed. Decadence went from acoustic duo to full band, doing original music, and we started traveling to places like Nashville and Florida promoting our music. Last Daze happened when Decadence went to LA and essentially parted ways.

RRX: Last Daze was touring and working with Shooter Jennings. How did you connect and where has that led the band?

KC: We met Shooter in Monroe, Louisiana, when Decadence was opening for him and Chase Rice. We had VIP access, so we all were living our best lives haha, and Shooter came off the

bus for promo photos for VIP fans. We jumped in and made jokes with him. He was very chill. Fast forward 6 months and we are looking to record again, and scouting out Spooner Oldham to record at Muscle Shoals, and we got asked, "Who is producing you?" It was a pipe dream and Shooter got brought up. He coincidentally had just been in news for starting a label (fate, right?). We had nothing to lose, so I gambled on an email address reaching out to his manager, Jon Hensley. He got back to me within 15 minutes, gently letting me down that they weren't signing new bands and they were relying on Waylon's catalog, plus projects Shooter was involved in. I came back asking about him producing our record in Muscle Shoals,

thinking there was no chance in hell. But instead, he asked to hear our music. I sent him 4 of our best, and he was immediately excited. He then asked us to come to L.A. instead of Muscle Shoals so he could fit us in between tour legs. It was a dream. I was broke. I mean, dead ass. Rent was late, I was in a dead-end job, and not making ends meet, so I was leaving for 10 days, and flying 3000 miles away from home with less than 200 bucks to my name. Sounds reasonable, right? We had an incredible time with him. I am so proud of the record we made. We never expected it to be a hit, but hoped it would open doors, which it definitely did. Shooter is now in a golden age. He just won a Grammy, and just co-produced Tanya Tucker's new record

EAT IN TAKE OUT DELIVERY



**MUDDADDY
FLATS** QUESADILLARY

49 3rd Street Troy NY 12180

(518) 326-0630



**BLUES
FEST 2019**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
BOOTLEGGERS - 200 BROADWAY, TROY NY
3 PM Until ? - Doors at 2pm

To Benefit Street Soldiers Troy - Helping Feed the Homeless & Less Fortunate

STREET SOLDIERS

5 GREAT BANDS

\$20 Kids Under 16
Per Person **FREE**

Raffle & 50/50 to Benefit Street Soldiers

Food & Drink Available

Silver Chains
Chris Busone Band
George Boone Band
Matt Mirable Band
Brian Kane & The Beginning
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
Luke "Saxophone" McNamee

For More Information, Contact Art Paulsen - (518) 728-1952

with Brandi Carlile. The fact we are even mentioned in a sentence with him seems surreal.

RRX: You recently took some time off to have a child. Congratulations! Will you pass down musical knowledge to your children?

KC: Thank you! Absolutely. I mean, I'm not forcing them in any way, but my daughter is already a force on the stage and she loves musical theater. The baby plays drums all day, every day. Never a dull, or quiet moment in the house. It's the best feeling, connecting with your kids over a song.

RRX: Let's talk about your career motherhood juggling those with being a rock musician.

KC: It certainly isn't easy. I'm not the only one juggling the responsibility. I'm thankful that my family is supportive of

the time I spend working away, whether it be on stage or in the studio. My teaching job is quite demanding of my time, but I'm essentially growing a crop of musicians every day, and the impact I make on the students' lives is so important to me and them. The reward of that is so much more powerful than anything I've felt doing anything else.

RRX: This year Last Daze released "Monsters in the River". Shed some light on writing and recording this record?

KC: The songs feel ancient to me! I wrote a lot of the songs following my divorce, during a very tumultuous time. I love them, but they bring me back to a time when I was not really okay. We took a long time to make the record. There was a time when we almost thought we would never

finish it. I was determined to finish recording before I had my baby. So a lot of the vocals were recorded when I was super pregnant, or just after I delivered. David Spreng, who mastered "Symbols and Snares," did this album too, so we were psyched to have his talents on the post production front, after Jeff Britton did all the in house production. We are happy with how it all turned out.

RRX: What Does the future hold for Last Daze? Any plans for 2020?

KC: We are still unrolling singles from the new album, but have started writing new music, and will hopefully end up recording some new tunes, and get back to a regular touring schedule next year.

www.lastdazeband.com

■ Katy Cole

Photo provided.



Art Fredette
 Publisher

Liam Sweeny
 Editor-In-Chief
 Creative Director

Ralph Renna
 Music Editor

Dick Beach
 Staff Geek

Contributors

Rob Smittix

Debora Bump

Sassy Auburn

Fred Aseel

Jeff Spauling

George Glass

Contact

35D Saratoga Avenue,
 Waterford, NY 12188
 (518) 326-1673

info@radiatorradiox.com

Published by Imperial
 Broadcasting in conjunction
 with RadioradioX.com.

URBAN COWBOYS PACK BIG SOUNDS

Slik Nik & Tex's Playboys brings a time honored country vibe to the wild cityscapes of New York, and they'll never apologize.



Photo provided

By Liam Sweeny

■ (l - r) Tex (Sean Secor) and Slik Nik

I love the blues. I play the blues, I feel the blues, love 'em. This isn't about the blues. When I think of country, I get torn sometimes. I like all kinds of music, but country is one that goes deep. I was loading my diapers to Merle Haggard, Hank Williams, Willie Nelson and Johnny Cash. So when I hear new country, that's my yardstick.

I just popped in Slik Nik & Tex's Playboys, and God as my witness, they've got it. That deep, bar-filling sound, the twang, the voice – all there. And Tex (a.k.a Sean Secor) is a renaissance man

in the greater scene, with a publication called Hey Greasy! and a few handy demons driving him from place to place.

I sit down with Sean and we discuss testing the speed of sound playing on flatbeds.

RRX: Slik Nik and Tex's Playboys has a really pounding, chugging sound. It drives deep, and I listen to most of my music on good-but-small computer speakers. Care to share any magic spells when it comes to getting a sound that fills a space like this?

SS: When you choose not to include things people are used to

hearing on a country or rockabilly record, like a bass or snare drum, I don't think it takes away from the sound. It gives everything a little more room to breathe and be taken in. The kick gets to really boom and the guitars get to inhabit where the bass might be in the mix, and the vocals are right on top.

RRX: You all are country, but the kind of country I listened to when my dad and my uncles were stopped off at some country road dive and I made angels in the sawdust. It's a different landscape now though, with country being

mainstream. What is the risk of going deep with the sound, and what's the payoff?

SS: The risk is always the same. Maybe people won't like you. They can go see Skeeter Creek.

RRX: With Radioradiox, along with Xperience, we're trying to build connective tissue in the local music scene. You do that too, with a publication called Hey Greasy! I've seen it, and it's pretty badass. Can you give me the who, what, when, where and why about Hey Greasy!?

SS: About two years ago, I felt like rock n roll was having a real moment in town. I was booking more shows and an annual fest at the Fuze Box called Capital Trash Invasion, and a lot of new bands were coming into their own. Instead of harassing everyone with posts and invites online, I decided to make a showpage listing the Garage, Psych, Rockabilly, and surf shows for the season. I leave copies at the record stores, coffee shops and venues the gigs happen at.

Eventually I decided to book shows under the name of Hey, Greasy! as well.

RRX: Jumping off of the last question; Hey Greasy is a great hub for a part of the local scene that not everybody knows. Does it stand alone or is it more a tip of the spear? If a new band came up to you and wanted to hit the circuit, are there any other things like Hey Greasy that they should

know about?

SS: Superdark Collective is out there working harder than anybody else putting on more eclectic mix bill shows twice a week, plus a radio show, podcast, monthly nights in Albany and Brooklyn, and all their musical projects.

RRX: Playing balls-to-the-wall country around the 518, you probably don't pigeonhole yourself into playing only the sticks or only the city. Do you see a difference in the way you're received? Do you think there's a bigger difference between rural and urban Capital Region, or between any Capital Region and any somewhere else?

SS: We've only ever played in Troy, Albany, and Manhattan. I'm more of an urban cowboy

anyway.

RRX: Now, Slik Nik & Tex's Playboys, from what I read when I grabbed the album, is two people and an occasional third, is that right? There's Slik on guitar, percussion and vocals, Tex on lead and backup vocals, and Ben Wessels coming in on harp. How do you get such a full sound with that ensemble? What kind of magic are we talking about?

SS: That EP was all set to just be the two of us until Ben just happened to be in the area for a couple weeks. I recorded his parts for fun but we ended up keeping all of it. I feel like it really gave us a Blasters vibe. As for me, I'm used to being the only guitar player in a band, so my playing takes a lot of space. In fact, it's a challenge to leave room for Slik

sometimes. When I recorded and mixed the tape, I barely touched anything. Just use good gear, good mics and it'll mix itself. I hope we can do the big band (five people) again soon, but it's cool to have a band with minimal requirements to be able to play.

RRX: This is where you get to answer the question I didn't ask. What's your take on

pocketwatches? Do you think knobs should come with eleven notches? Enlighten, educate, emote; the floor is yours.

SS: If nobody ever calls you, your phone is a pocketwatch. If your amp has more than four knobs, you're one of 'em. Bring back River Street Pub.

Custom
Creations
Upon request.





Live. Laugh. Love. Learn.
STAY MINDFUL

Mindful Intentions

www.mindfulintentions.online

Incense, CBD Products
Custom Jewelry

193 River Street
Troy, NY 12180

(518) 545-8280

info.mindfulintentions@gmail.com



Berben Wolff's

Vegan Delicatessen

Student Discounts
Available

NOW TWO LOCATIONS

TROY
4th & Ferry Street

ALBANY
227 Lark Street

THATCHER ST PUB

16 Thatcher St.
Albany, NY 12207 (518) 463-9214

Sat
Sept 28th
Doors at 4PM

The Erotics

w/ **Noncompliant**
No Cover 21 Plus

Happy Hour

Mon-Wed
\$3 Domestic Bottles
\$4 Imports

Fri & Sat 5-7
\$3 Shot Specials

Thurs
Free Pizza

Tues 4-Close
50 cent Wings

Sat
75 cent Pool

Eddie Munoz's Double and Triple Life

Between playing in two big bands (and managing one,) guitarist Eddie Munoz is in it full spectrum and at full volume.



■ Eddie Munoz, flyer for an Austin, TX fundraiser.

Photo provided.

By Liam Sweeny

Rock and roll is a unique institution where people possessed of a multitude of skill, talent, presence and style swirl about in white water rapids that smell faintly of tobacco, whiskey, and sawdust, searching for other people so possessed. When enough of these people catch each other in the

current, sweet music pours out, and sometimes this is just one of myriad bursts coming from cycles of mixes and matches.

Plimsouls guitarist and Split Squad singer Eddie Munoz has been adrift in the musical wash for decades, and if you throw him a life buoy, he'll toss it back and keep swimming. I sit down with Eddie and we talk about the rash of Abe Lincoln quotes on the internet.

RRX: The Plimsouls. You are both manager and guitarist. Most heads in a touring rock and roll band end up becoming hat racks. Is being in those two roles a matter of convenience, or did your tenure in the band make it a natural choice? And do you have to make adjustments to the daily grind to handle it, or are they well separated?

EM: I keep everything apart from each other unless they absolutely must connect. I've managed and played in several bands, The Plimsouls being one of them, so it is no real big deal to do it again.

RRX: The Split Squad. A real "band's band," it's got roots in such other bands as the Plimsouls, the Parallax Project, the Baseball Project, Blondie, Magic Christian, and the Fleshtones. How does a band like the Split Squad put out a fresh sound with all the opportunities it has to slip into familiar, but successful, grooves?

EM: Basically because maybe we grew tired of the same old grooves and fall backs. Expansion of one's creativity takes some effort, but the results can be satisfying, although not enough most times to say "I'll never have to work again!"

RRX: You have a unique sound on guitar, unmistakable, really. And I've read that you attribute it to a "chaos theory" approach to rock guitar. Now, I'll wager a guess and say that it doesn't involve etching fractal equations into your fretboard before every show. So what are we talking about here?

EM: Oh, it was just a silly thing to say, although I did at one time use a "smash 'em and bash 'em" kind of style to my chording.

RRX: Back to the Plimsouls. There's a story here, and it's a very rock and roll story. It's the LA scene, late seventies, early eighties, and the Plimsouls are about to hit the main. What was it like then, in what I can only imagine to be some pretty heady times?

EM: Lots of fun, and lots of anxiety, too.

RRX: Now you are the longest standing member of the Plimsouls. You've seen players come and go, and you've felt the Plimsouls sound carried through the years. Players leave their imprint. Can you think of some specific imprints that have molded the band over the years?

EM: Oh yeah. Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, NWA, South Florida Funk, Soul music, Stax/Volt recordings, James Brown, Beatles (not so much from my end) Stones, Most Brit Invasion, old school country and western, 50's rock and roll and Elvis!

RRX: Here's where you get to answer the question I didn't ask. Shoutouts are good. Doling out advice, laying down good grilling

tips...educate, enlighten, emote; the floor is yours.

EM: Each day is a gift. On September 14th the Athens and Austin line up of The Plimsouls' stable of random musicians will be playing in Austin TX at the Continental Club doing a benefit Memorial fundraiser for our dear departed friend, Woggles Guitarist and first Bassist of the 21st Century Plimsouls, Jeff Walls. The Plimsouls appear to be making plans to do a show with the Mighty Fleshtones sometime in October, but it hasn't cleared the decks yet. I'm gonna make a solo record using mostly Southern and Texas musicians. That's it for now!





RYAN'S WAKE
PUBLIC HOUSE

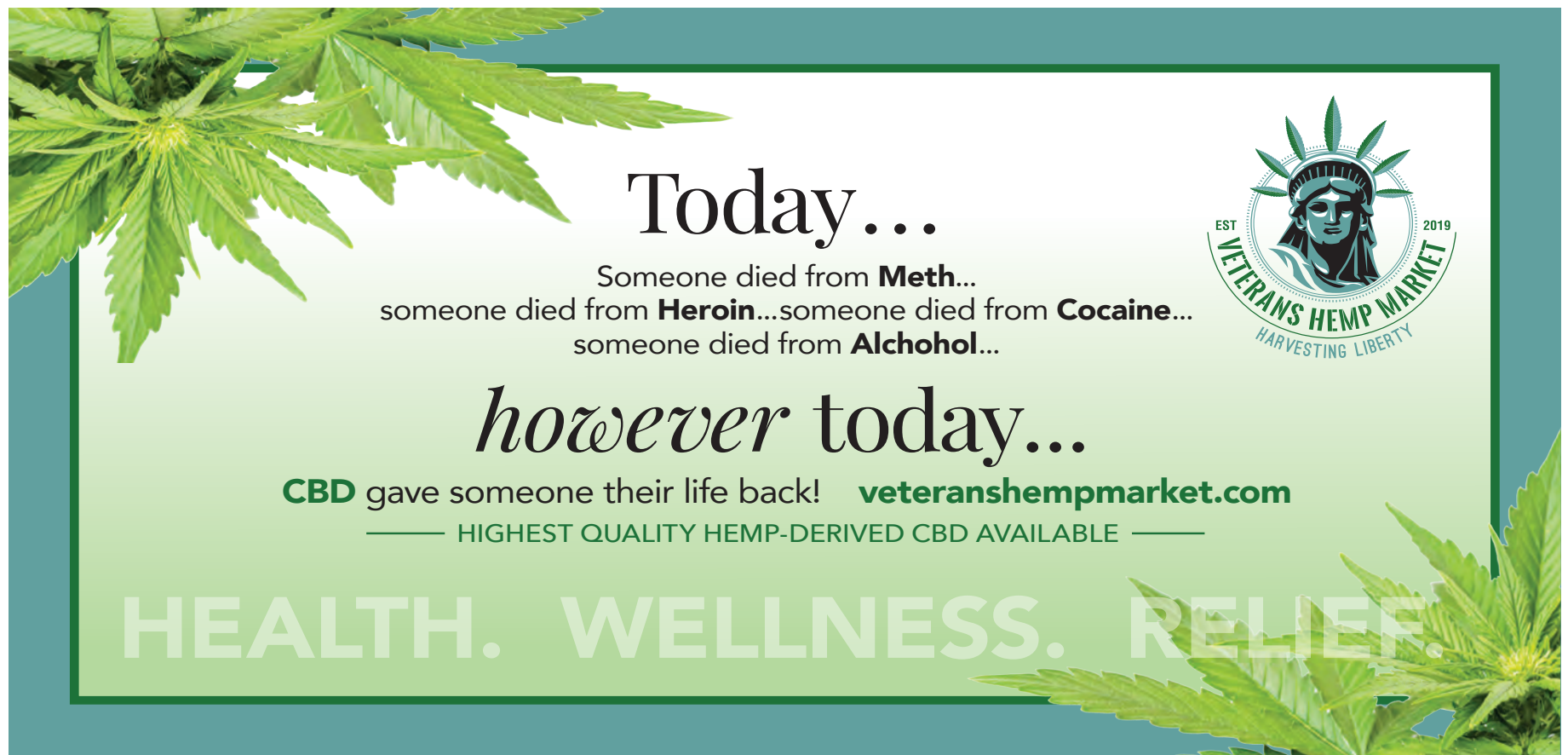
- OUTDOOR DECK
- 15 DRAFT LINES
- GREAT FOOD
- PRIVATE PARTIES

403 RIVER STREET — TROY
Monday-Thursday: open at 4 PM
Friday: open at 3 PM
Saturday & Sunday: open at 2 PM

www.RyansWake.com








Today...

Someone died from **Meth...**
someone died from **Heroin...** someone died from **Cocaine...**
someone died from **Alcohol...**



however today...

CBD gave someone their life back! veteranshempmarket.com

— HIGHEST QUALITY HEMP-DERIVED CBD AVAILABLE —

HEALTH. WELLNESS. RELIEF.

WHERE THE WATERS MEET THE WATERS: A HISTORY

By Liam Sweeney

Encompassing only seven square miles, the village of Waterford claims its unique place in a world driven by industry and transportation.

This issue hits close to home for us. I mean that in the most physical sense possible, because September hosts the Tugboat Round-up in Waterford, our home base. And as we shoot the breeze over a cigarette about which bands should go in which issue, that breeze might drift about a hundred yards south, to the Waterford Museum and Cultural Center, where director Anastasia Garceau spends her weekdays preserving a fascinating village wrapped around tons of U.S. history.

I sit with Anastasia and we discuss the timelessness of ebbs and flows.



Lock 2 of the Barge Canal, 1950.

Photo provided.

RRX: The Erie Canal, for people not from around here, can be misleading, in that they make think of it as one straight-line path from our area to Buffalo. Can you give me maybe a “birds-eye” of the canal and it’s off-shoots as it would’ve been used in it’s heyday?

AG: In its heyday, the Erie Canal was a 363-mile stretch east that sprawled from the east end to the west end of the state in as straight a shot as possible to make it as quick – and profitable – a trip as the engineering marvel of the day would allow. It sparked a canal craze shortly after its construction, with a series of enlargement projects to the

original stretch and many other canals within the state were created to connect to this waterway. Many opportunistic places had offshoot canals run close by the Erie Canal to their businesses, like the Cohoes Power Canal that ran alongside the Erie Canal and the Harmony Mill Complex, the largest cotton mill complex in 1872. However, the Champlain Canal that connects Whitehall to Waterford was built simultaneously and in conjunction with the design of the Erie Canal in 1817. It opened in 1823, earlier than the Erie’s official 1825 opening, and boats were able to take advantage of this waterway’s access to

the Erie Canal, created by the junction of a state dam in the Mohawk River between Cohoes and Waterford. Boats would often either enter or exit the Erie Canal through use of the Champlain Canal side-cut locks; a “side-cut” is a term for a waterway connecting a canal with a stream, river or another canal. Waterford’s side-cut is visible today directly beside Lock 2, repurposed to be a spillway. It was one of many of such engineering features to allow many other later canals to be included in the canal that put “empire” in the Empire State.

RRX: Waterford, Cohoes, Watervliet and

Green Island were all a part of a cultural landscape because of the possibilities that came with water travel, in general, or canal travel, specifically. What was the culture like around Waterford?

AG: At the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers, Waterford developed long before other “canal towns” as a residential and commercial location. Originally heavily Dutch in heritage (which lingers still today), the canals later brought in Irish, Italian, and French-Canadiens to the area in higher numbers – Waterford was also situated along the “Great Road” of colonial and Revolutionary-era importance so there has always been a cultural mixing in this area. Shanty boats for families on the canal would opt to spend their time in Waterford as it was a safer, albeit not always quicker, alternative to continuing on the Erie Canal from Cohoes to Albany through Watervliet. These families could be transient in nature, but occasionally canallers would be charmed enough with the area and the locals that they would ultimately put down roots here, continuing the ever-growing mix of ideas and traditions. A defining local cultural development largely thanks to the canal would be “Northside”, which is technically at the southern most point of Waterford. But it was north of Cohoes, where many of the residents here either owned or worked in the many mills there. And, it was largely French-Canadiens who came to work on the canal and/or in these mills and then settled in the area. French was spoken as the primary language into the

1900s and continued to be frequently heard in the streets in this area as late as the 1950s and 60s. Northside connected the French-Canadiens in Waterford to those in Cohoes as a cultural identity within Waterford as a whole. The term still is used today and it is a National Historic District, which includes the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center.

RRX: We’re an art and music publication, so we’re pretty big on all that entertains. If someone spent their lives on the canal, in and out of the locks, what did entertainment look like for them?

AG: A lot of entertainment on the canals was the self-made kind for boaters, usually in the form of card games, stories, and music that they could play on

instruments that they could fit onto the small and packed boats (banjos, small guitars, fiddles). Often those stories were of the oral variety, passing on folktales through song. These songs, much of them having an undeniable folk music feel to them, were typically focused on the canal itself and living on it, “ashore” songs that were popular at the inns and towpath, and music that made its way to the Erie Canal from other waterways and regions. The lyrics and portions of a melody would be altered with time and adapted in certain areas to fit with their particular portion of the canal. There were songs similar in melody and structure to those of Irish/Scottish songs, arriving later with these immigrants in the late 1830s and 1840s. In Waterford,

there were inns, taverns, stores and the necessary repair shops for canallers to stop at – lock tender buildings could also be grocers like the Weighlock in Waterford ran. “Classic Hall” on First Street in Waterford often offered talks ranging from aeronautics (hot air balloons) to seances that were open to the public for canallers to be entertained by, along with acting as a theater with performances that any visitor would be able to enjoy (including a visit by sideshow performer General Tom Thumb in the 1860s). Like with travelling today, canallers could be lucky enough to stumble upon local events too.

RRX: The Tugboat Roundup brings tugs from all over the country, maybe even the world, to Waterford. It’s a celebration of a tradition and a history, but since it’s an annual event, is it creating its own history? If so, how?

AG: The Roundup regularly draws in record-breaking crowds every year of people looking to get a chance to view both historic and modern tugboats. Regularly, visitors to Waterford ask specifically when the Tugboat Roundup is and when the Parade of Tugs is supposed to occur from Albany to Waterford; it’s definitely an event that has been making history for its assemblage of vessels since it began 20 years ago this year. Even our repeat visitors on the Erie or Champlain Canal from Canada check in to make sure they don’t miss this event. As much fun as the party is – and there are dozens of vendors and a great farmers’ market and play area for children over in the park

The Waterford Museum and Cultural Center building was built in 1830 and moved to its current location.

Photo provided.



Continued on Page 19...



f FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

**\$2 Off \$20 Spent on Vinyl
Tugboat Roundup Sale -
15% Off Everything**

Always Buying Vintage, Antique,
& Collectible Items.

57 BROAD STREET, WATERFORD, NY 12188 • (518) 874-1643

*Straight Razor
Society*

Barbering, Razor Shaves
Hair Restoration
@thebarber_grimm



Jos. C. Kinney, Sr.
Specializing in Men's Hair

Please call or text
518-321-6607

**Book your back-to-school
appointments**

Ask us about our Report Card Club.

99 Broad Street, Rear, Waterford, NY 12188

TUGBOAT ROUNDUP 2019

f




CORCORAN'S
TOWPATH TAVERN

LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS | 8PM - 11PM

Sept 7th, 2019 - Frankie Lessard
Sept 10th, 2019 - Post TUG CHUG Fest
(Open @ 10 AM - Music by Just Nate)
Sept 14th, 2019 - Dublin Trainwreck
Sept 21, 2019 - Dave Render
Sept 28th, 2019 - To Be Announced

Happy Hour Daily 4 - 7 • Daily Food Specials

33 Saratoga Ave, Waterford, NY 12188 • (518) 326 - 2739



Beer Belly Bob's
**WATERFORD
BEVERAGE**

**Featuring over 28 DOORS designated to
cold crafts, ciders, imports and domestics.**

**Easy bottle return - all brands and no limits
with precounts and drop and go service.**

35 Saratoga Ave A, Waterford, NY 12188

A Look Into the World of Mini-Tugs

By Capt. Ben Grudinkas

Tugboats come in many shapes and sizes, from massive 18,000 horsepower bluewater rescue tugs, river towboats, harbor assist tugs, big city fireboats, the full sized PBS illustrated Theodore Two, to bathtub bobbers.

All are purpose-built and no two are alike.

Specific and recognizable shapes include Great Lakes “G” boats, classic design New York Central “railroad” tugs, blunt nose towboats that push their 1500 foot barge combinations on the Mississippi River, Erie Canal tugs with telescoping wheelhouses that enable them to pass under low bridges and newer harbour assist tugs with innovative power/transmission combinations.

Amongst this amazing display of power and maneuverability, but not lost, is the “mini” tug!

These small boats can be found in North and South America, Western Europe, the Mediterranean Sea area, as well as Australia and New Zealand.

Mini tugs also come in many shapes and designs.

All are hand built from a few available plans but the majority of the builders use the “cut and fit as you go” method.

There are no production cookie cutter recreational mini tugs, all are an expression of their individual builders interpretation of what a tugboat should be.



They can be built using conventional “rib and plank” construction with solid woods, laminated plywood, epoxy and fiberglass, steel, aluminium or any combination that the builder is proficient using. Cardboard and duct tape are not options!

The finished paint schemes may be applied using exotic marine grade paint or a simple can of Rustoleum if the color is “just what the builder wanted”.

Propulsion can come from many sources as well and includes electric motors, concealed small horsepower outboard engines, small displacement automobile gasoline engines, turbocharged diesel engines, and authentic wood fired steam engines.

All of the support systems are hand fabricated to fit the builders interior design fantasies, including the fuel tanks, vents and hoses, the cooling water pick-up and exhaust plumbing, the electrical system and gauge layout and, especially, the coffee mug holders.

“Minis” have all the required

lighting and sound producing equipment to generate the signals required to rapidly talk to each other without verbal communication. They feature towing bitts, safety axes, towing hawsers and paint schemes to make them individual works of art.

The interiors can be seen fitted with classic wood paneling, distinctive steering wheels, GPS systems and vhf radios for safety, sleeping arrangements are common, and comfortable seating is a must, at least for the captain.

All of these boats are trailerable which makes getting them to and from different events less time consuming and more efficient than that same effort required by their big brothers.

Participants at the Tugboat Roundup, held after Labor Day for the past twenty years, in Waterford New York, have traveled from areas such as Detroit Michigan, Cape Cod Massachusetts and as far away as Maryland.

The boats pair off in friendly “pushing” contests to vie for bragging rights to which boat has

the most and best use of its power and which captain can spin his realistic steering wheel most effectively to out maneuver his opponent.

They are meant to be fun and they are. They can be seen taking part in events and parades on the water as well as being displayed in landlocked parades, filming with the BBC organization in Gloucester MA in an episode for one of their series on small boating, celebrating the last sail powered whaling vessel G. M. Morgan in New Bedford MA, performing for spectators at the New Bedford Working Waterfront Festival while the big boats are forming their parade, as an attraction at the year long Mystic Seaport’s focus on tugs, as well as just being a curiosity factor wherever they go.

The captains and their crew are always happy to showcase their creations and spend time relating the trials and tribulations they’ve endured in creating and finalizing these water-borne

Continued on Page 40...

Mame Fay's Seedy Support of the Canal Trade

By Kathryn Sheehan

Mary Alice Fahey aka Mame Fay, was born in 1866 in Troy, NY. Her bordello was along the strip of 6th Avenue row houses sandwiched between the Union Railroad Station and the central station for the Troy Police Department. She was briefly married to a man named G.A. Bontner. By 1898 she had already been questioned in the death of a prostitute who was found with her throat slit near the back door of Mame Fay's bordello. Throughout the almost 40 years that she ran the bordello, she was arrested several times relating to her house of prostitution. She was finally shut down in 1941 by an aggressive district attorney, Earl Wiley. When they entered the house to pull items for a public auction, the house was so filthy that they destroyed all the furnishings. The house was torn down along with the rest of the row in 1952.

That was the reality. Urban myths about Mame paint a different story. They play Mame up to be like Belle Watling in *Gone with the Wind*, sitting in a beautiful mansion, having beautiful women working for her and making a fortune. Legend also states that it was WWII soldiers who frequented her house as they were passing through on troop trains and then told stories about Mame in the South Pacific. Another error

since we did not enter the war until after Pearl Harbor and she was shut down by then. It is likely the soldiers were WWI soldiers, who may have relayed their stories throughout Europe, but not the South Pacific.

One of the other interesting myths was what did she actually look like. When people who said they knew her were interviewed various witnesses said she was tall and blond, others said she was short and dark, tall and thin, tall and heavy, short and thin, short and heavy, no one could agree on what she actually looked like.

Her estate was worth almost \$280,000 when she died in 1943. The women who worked for her did not come anywhere near making the money that she promised them they would make when she recruited these young women.

Mary Alice Fahey is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in South Troy. For years she was in an unmarked grave until 2006 when a monument was purchased for her grave.

It is amazing after all these years the myths of the benevolent madam persist despite evidence to the contrary. I am sure the stories will continue.

Kathryn Sheehan is the Rensselaer County & Troy City Historian



Mary Alice "Mame Fay" Fahey, 1866 - 1943

Photo provided.



16 Beers and Cider on Tap

Award Winning Burgers and 2016 Wing Wars Winner

Book Your Private Party Call Today!

Forty*One
SPORTS BAR & GRILLE

41 112th Street, Troy
(518) 235-4141



HALFMOON WINE & LIQUOR

September WINE RIOT!!!

10 % off All red wine bottles

\$2 off every \$20 spent on white wine bottles

Not applicable to clearance items / not valid with any other offer

Mon. thru Sat. 9:30 am – 8pm Sunday: Noon—5pm



1471 Route 9, Halfmoon (next to Fred The Butcher) 518-557-2877

BOOKING FALL SESSIONS NOW



Albany Audio Associates

LOCAL BANDS
CAPTURE
YOUR SOUND
SCHEDULING
TOURS NOW
FREE
ESTIMATES

GET RESULTS FAST!

518-961-0069
AAA Live Sound
AAA Recording Studio C
AAA Mastering

448 North Pearl Street Albany N.Y. 12204
Albanyaudiovideo@gmail.com
www.Albanyaudio.com




**COLLAR CITY
TATTOO**

631 RIVER ST. TROY, NY
518.326.3797

RIVER STREET

BEAT SHOP

197 River Street
Troy, NY | (518) 272-0435

LIKE US ON 



BUY, SELL, TRADE - CD'S, LPS, & MEMORABILIA

Waterford Tugboat Roundup: Origin Story

Submitted by Mary Stalker

Waterford is not the only town to host a gathering of tugs. In fact Olympia, WA hosted a Vintage Tugboat Show, Portland, ME held a tugboat muster and New York City hosted their 27th annual Great North River Tugboat Race. So when Capt. Stephen R. Wunder, standing in the wheelhouse of the Tug Waterford, suggested a “tugboat rodeo,” John Callaghan, lifelong Waterfordian and then tug captain, thought Waterford would be the perfect location.

John had recently attended a tugboat muster in Kingston, NY as a crew member of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Wire, a regular Tugboat Roundup participant. There he met other tug captains and maritime industry professionals, including long-time Tugboat Roundup supporter Rob Goldman. With his new tug community connections in mind, John approached Waterford’s Canal Development Committee Chairman Dick Hurst with the idea.

The waterfront was in the very early stages of its development into its current state. Dick Hurst, who would go on to serve as Harbor Master, was spearheading the revitalization efforts. Upon hearing the idea, he mused that he wasn’t sure people would show up to see a bunch of old tugboats – agreed that a good time

could be had by all regardless – and then gave the idea his blessing and his support. And Dick’s support would be critical – from the moment he gave the event the green light he was all in: without the hours and nights and weekends he spent making the event successful over two decades the Tugboat Roundup would not be celebrating TBR 20 this year.

Another early supporter of the event was Captain Bart Brake of Empire Harbor Marine. Says Callaghan, “he called me up and in his distinctively gravelly voice – finally honed through a tugboat life well-lived – informed me that Empire Harbor would be well represented at ‘your little tug muster.’ Bart, like NYS Marine Highway, grew to be an integral part of the event and it seemed like it was the highlight of the year for him.” Sadly, Capt. Brake has since passed. The family of Bart Brake continues to support the event each year. The Roundup’s highest honor, the Bart Brake lifetime achievement award, is named in his honor.

The first Tugboat Roundup took place on September 11, 1999. Planning began earlier that year, as did construction for the promenade Waterford Visitor Center (now the Hurst Harbor Center). With 24 hours to go to the inaugural event– much of this construction site was a mud pit with orange construction fence running in all the most inconvenient places for any sort of public

gathering. Rain had made a mud pit of the site, unsuitable for a festival of any sort. Callaghan and Waterford resident Craig Falcone shoveled stone dust into the muddy pond throughout the night creating a walkable surface for the morning.

Seven tugboats participated in the first Tugboat Roundup. The event started, as every one has since, with tug boat parade. Callaghan recalls “Paul Norton – who had practically grown up on the state boats – was at the helm of the Tug Waterford as we headed north from Troy for Waterford. It was a treat for me to have him on board and great to see him at the wheel – I know it meant a lot to him and I will always remember the look on his face. The look on both of our faces was puzzlement, though, as we approached the Waterford wall from Troy, leading a parade of 7 boats. Neither one of us could figure out why there were so many people up on the wall at Waterford. It took us a minute to realize the word had gotten out and they were there to watch the tugboat parade!”

The plan was to have the tug parade, open the tugs up to tours, and have a hot dog roast. That one-day event – construction site and all – could not have been more successful, other than running out of hotdogs. There was very little advertisement, yet many times more people than expected turned out to board the

Waterford, Benjamin Elliot, Herbert P. Brake, Emil P. Johannsen, Crow, Governor Cleveland, and K. Whittelsey. Perhaps even more people carried their commemorative TBR mugs up the street to Keilty’s Emerald Isle for 50-cent draughts. The 50-cents draughts did not catch on as a tradition, but the mugs are still available at every roundup.

Tugboats pull at the heartstrings of the young and old. The event organizers discovered quickly that getting people to show up would not be a problem. The event grew quickly. It became a two-day, then three-day event and stretched along the promenade up to Lock 2. Festivals standards like vendors, fried dough, pony rides, and of course fireworks, have been added but at the heart of it, it is still a gathering of a bunch of tugboats - large and small, old and new, commercial and recreational - and characters.

Tugboat Roundup now features over thirty tugs and other vessels, dozens of vendors, live music, kids’ activities, demonstrations and more, along a half mile stretch at the Hurst Harbor Center at the gateway to the Erie Canal. This year the Tugboat Roundup celebrates its 20th anniversary. It is made possible each year through the support of the Town of Waterford, the maritime community, numerous sponsors and volunteers.

This year’s Tugboat Roundup is Sept. 6th through Sept. 8th.

Hooked on Fishing!

Hudson River Fish Advisory - What you can eat, and how often.



By Diane Whitten

If you're hooked on fishing in the Hudson River, you should be aware of the NYS Department of Health (DOH) Hudson River Fish Advisory, and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Catch & Release regulation. Due to PCB pollution in the Hudson River which accumulates in the fish, the DOH issued an advisory about eating fish from the river. The advisory varies based on where you fish, what you catch, and who you are. The DEC has designated the Hudson River between the South Glens Falls Dam to the Federal Dam in Troy as a Catch & Release fishing area due to the high level of PCBs in fish. No one should eat any fish caught in this section of the Hudson River.

Downstream of the Federal Dam in Troy, the pollution level is

lower, and so is the corresponding PCB levels in the fish. However, women of child bearing age and all children under 15 years of age are advised to eat no fish from the Hudson River all the way downstream to the NYC Battery. For women over 50 and men older than 15 some species can be eaten when caught south of the Federal Dam in Troy. Visit www.health.ny.gov/fish for the latest, complete fish advisory information.

Diane Whitten is with the Cornell Cooperative Extension in Saratoga County



RING AROUND THE SPECTRUM

LIKE & FOLLOW US ON 

BOOKING BIRTHDAY PARTIES & FIELD TRIPS!
ALL-INCLUSIVE SENSORY GYM FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!
20 FOOT ROCK WALL, YOGI BO PRODUCTS AND MORE!

"AWESOME PLACE FOR SPECIAL KIDS TO BE THEMSELVES AND LET LOOSE IN A FUN AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT WITH SUPER ATTENTIVE STAFF. OUR KIDS NEVER WANT TO LEAVE!"

1214 TROY SCHENECTADY RD, LATHAM, NY 12110 • (518) 250-5328



BARRETT BLACKTOP & PAVING CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.

(518)235-0032

- Free Estimates -Fully Insured
- All Work Guaranteed
- All Materials State Approved

Paving & Stone Delivery Seal Coating

A family tradition since 1951
www.barrettblacktop.com

Tugboat Roundup 2019 Music

Friday

Over
George Ward

Under
Harmonic Duo

Saturday

Over
Lou's Blues
Three Quarters North

Under
Boys of Wexford

Sunday

Over
Tom Harding

Under
Mark Rust

Waterford (Contd.)

also booths like the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center that are there to introduce those interested to the local history and heritage. Other groups have set up booths dedicated to offering visitors to the event to be a part of their efforts to preserve these historic tugs before the vessels are removed from the waterways or otherwise destroyed. The Roundup itself has really helped to reinvigorate Waterford to once again redevelop itself and become a draw for visitors to explore and enjoy their time at this section of the canal.

RRX: When I think of tugboats, my mind conjures up sooty faces, oil-stained hands and rough-and-tumble living. Do you know of any interesting customs among tugs, either past or present?

AG: This image is a great way to introduce the history of the canal and tugs to people. And it's warranted – tugs used coal after all to produce the amount of power necessary to move those large barges. Life on early tugboats differed in cleanliness than the luxuries afforded today, such as readily available places to get clean water. Many early tugboat crews would have a barrel on board their vessel that would contain water from a trusted source. In a questionable move by some of these early tugboaters, to preserve the sanitary nature of this water they dropped a block of sulphur in the barrel. For a good amount of time on the Barge

Canal, just like on the original Erie and Champlain Canals, the water for cooking, cleaning and bathing would come right out of the canal. It's no wonder that alcohol was commonly drank by most boaters given it was likely much safer to drink in terms of risking picking up any illnesses. So, many lock tenders also ran saloons or stills for the boaters (that may or may not have remained in operation during the later Prohibition years...). But, on the upside to all the dirt was the food: often, goods being transported in barges was food, which offered the crew easy access to "complimentary" snacks along the way. Game could be hunted along the route when possible in early days, and there were butchers and farmers in towns along the way that offered a range of fresh foods. According to a Waterford tugboat crewmember in his retelling of his time on the canal during this era of tugboats, when short on money, canallers would buy a can of tomatoes and a loaf of bread (beer could then be filled into those empty tomato cans later). Cooking was often done by stovetop by frying in a large skillet of lard, or boiling water drawn from the canal. If you're looking for a meal today, you can stop in town and sample from local restaurants like those on Broad Street or Corcoran's Towpath Tavern in Northside.

RRX: Every community, every service, vocation or endeavor develops a language. At first it's

purely functional, that term for this or that, but it spreads. I'm guessing canal life had its own language. Can you give us an example or two of a canal expression, and what it means?

AG: A canal language developed along the Erie and the Champlain Canals, just like anything else creates its own jargon that might as well be a foreign language to those unfamiliar with it. Waterford could hear gossip "on the towline", had its "hogeers" (mule drivers, often young boys) and "jiggerbosses" (also young boys who would bring a "jigger" amount of whiskey to canallers at intervals during the day) ready to assist with rentals of mule teams along the Champlain Canal, and plenty of locations where boaters could get some good "prog" (food)

sometimes with a "canal scrip" (an IOU) as payment before heading back out on the canal unless they were "mudlarked" (grounded due to low water in the canal). With the emergence of the tugboats replacing the mules, the phrase "under steam" began to be used to mean something was underway, boat or otherwise. It was also used to refer to individuals who were "not under steam" due to "hauling too many wet goods", which as can be imagined, indicated a boater may have had a little too much alcohol to drink.

This article has been edited for length. You can read the full article on the Xperience blog at www.radioradiox.com

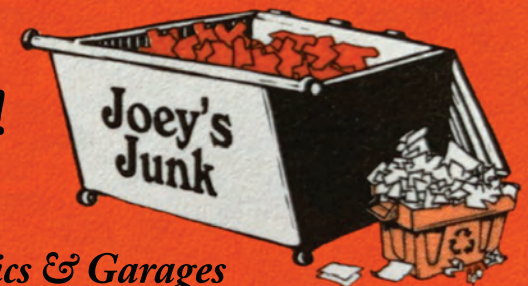
Joey's Junk

Call Joe!

*Clean Outs:
Basements, Attics & Garages
Hauling, Removal & Demo
12 & 20-yd Dumpsters Available
We do it all!*

Most Junk Recycled

(518) **237-JUNK** (5865)
www.joeyjunk.com



The Hard Fought Path to Playing



Photo provided

■ Tom Atkins at Lake George Beach Club.

The struggle to learn the craft of music unites all who pick up an instrument in a war, and Tom Atkins is in the foxholes.

By Liam Sweeny

If you've kicked your shoes off for the day, and the beer in the fridge is a quick second from being in your hand 'cause it's five o'clock somewhere and you want to hit that spot in your ears as well as your belly, the Tom Atkins Band's got a jam for you.

Frontman and band namesake Tom Atkins, bassist Mike Persico and drummer Bob Napierski are

going all out, blending a handful of notes and beats like a certain famous man from Kentucky blends herbs and spices, to deliver a sweet bucket of extra melodic love.

We sit down with Tom Atkins and talk turkey (or chicken.)

RRX: You have a pretty interesting groove, something I can't pin down to any one genre, not fully. Definite rock core, but some blues here, jazz there, alternative

around the edges. It's a great mix of sounds. How would you describe what you do if you had to give what we could call "the elevator pitch"?

TA: Well thank you, that's praise I love to hear. I've never been in one genre fully. Full genre, not full genre. My feeble attempt at an elevator pitch is that my band serves up a stewy gumbo of classic rock and shredded punk with a dash of power blues. I love filling the air with a loud guitar and putting everything I have into it, and I try to focus on making every note be an honest emotional expression. I have been

so lucky and to be able to be still performing music today. Playing music thrills me to my core. To have been playing with the same drummer for twenty years is an incredible blessing. I have always been really lucky to make great friends for a long time, but my drummer, Bob Napierski, is totally my groove.

RRX: I hear that you were self-taught, and that you trained yourself finger-by-finger. So here's a question from my inner guitar-nerd; was this your fret hand or your strumming hand, or both? And how did you go about that?

TA: Everyone is technically self-taught. Someone might teach you something but YOU make the connection for you. It's so funny looking back at those first awkward notes. It was my fret hand. I was so bad initially I thought maybe I'd have to learn how to play left handed guitar because my left fretting hand was completely uncoordinated. It was pretty clear, I am not at all a "born" musician. I was terrified of playing in front of a teacher. I had tremendous stage fright, but the rush and thrill of performing, once it's on its on, I believe the phrase is "the ham is cooking."

Anyway, I am not self-taught any more than anyone else. Everything that I can play today, I had to really work at it. I was trying that 1, 2, 3, 4 warm up exercise, one finger per fret, and I was really frustrated because it literally felt like I could not separate my fingers at all. I would try to move one finger and all of them would move.

So one night after having the guitar for a few months, I was determined to get it done. I tried so hard to do that exercise, for so long that one night that I fell asleep sitting down with the guitar. I woke up in the morning and I was finally able to just move one finger at a time. I had absolutely no stretching ability, I could barely go two frets with all four fingers. But I worked at it every day. Now I still warm up with that. Writing a guitar journal basically keeps my chops fresh. (That's the application I am working on.)

RRX: One of the things I love about interviewing bands is that

you all get to go out in front of crowds and share what you've created, what you love. Do you have any shows that made all the work, all the practicing, worth it? I'm talking more than every show does; one in particular?

TA: I'd have to say when my Band THICK opened for Blue Oyster Cult back in 1999, that was one show that I am really proud of. But as far as my own band, my first show in Montreal was exciting since it was the first Tom Atkins Band show with me as the singer, and we have done so many since then. We had a show at the Arsenal City Tavern in October last year that was completely packed, wall to wall people; drunk people were dancing on my footpedals. I loved every second of it. A hot sweaty drunken mess. We were all having a great time, some maybe too much.

For me personally, performing Little Wing with guitarist Eric Johnson, that was one for my tombstone – "Here lies Tom. He played Little Wing with Eric Johnson. He died a happy man."

RRX: Recording in a studio is like the famous Tolstoy quote from *War and Peace*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Everything comes out in the studio. Last year you recorded a CD that we had talked about on the blog, as well as your personal takeaways from the time you've spent in the studio for that. Anything to share?

TA: It was the first CD that I'd written and sang on all of the tracks, and it was a real struggle because it was also the first CD

I completed while having a full-time job and being a father and a husband. It was challenging emotionally because I know my guitar, but I am only beginning to really learn my voice, what I can do and can't do. And that was really emotionally intense battling the fear that I had to overcome as a singer, especially in today's musical entertainment environment where "the voice" is more important than the song or even the words. I am proud of my effort, and I look forward to the next one with greater confidence and I plan on working with a producer next time, one who knows how to coach performances to be as good as possible. It was also the first CD where I knew my limits and hired a mixing and mastering engineer. (I learned from my last CD "Guitar Wash" that just because I know my way around a studio doesn't mean that my ears are up to the challenge.)

I can track what I need to, and leave the rest of the cooking to people who have all their ear hairs. For my latest CD, Peter Jones tracked all the songs and was a real professional and did an incredible job with his mixes. My long time friend from my college days in Fredonia, Robert Kulhman of Root Cellar Studios, did the mastering job of a lifetime. The CD sounds so incredible because Bob and Mike and I really did our best to perform on it, and Peter and Rob really displayed their talented audio skills.

RRX: We here are a family, and we're looking to connect our long-lost cousins. We're also looking for stuff to put in the family

newsletter. Anybody out there you think we should know about? And what is in your near future?

TA: I was in Nashville this past April and was blown away by all of the talent in all the clubs. In a tiny club called Dee's country cocktail lounge, I was blown away by Jim Oblon. He is a top session guy in Nashville and his skill on guitar was incredible. His album *Sunset* was inspirational and I listened to it the whole drive home. I play guitar for my friend Doug Lawler who grew up in Rotterdam but moved to Nashville – Doug writes and puts out beautiful country music. I have wonderful friends down in Newburgh area, Jason Castlerlin's *Old Stone Church* has a few of my licks on there, really well produced record and good friends. Jason's band is Hillbilly Parade, they are awesome. And I have some incredibly talented musicians I have met at all my Vai camps and will be partying next month at NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants.) Chris Stark (from Hawaii) writes and performs beautiful instrumental guitar music and we are playing on each others future songs. I have a dear friend in Montreal Canada named Victor E who launched a new song earlier this year, might be RadioRadioX friendly. One more to keep an ear out for – Mick Hayes from Buffalo NY – tremendous talent. I want to get him in our area for a show, I think he is top tier one talent!

This article has been edited for space. For the full article, please visit www.radioradiox.com.

Connections and Long Roads

Playing 250 shows a year brings one into every club and juke joint in the lower forty-eight and beyond. Super-duo Sirsy takes to the highway in stride... and a beat-up white van.



Sirsy (l-r) Melanie Kraemer, Rich Libutti.

Photo provided

By Liam Sweeny

Often, the mystique of a band starts before you hear that first track. It starts with a fan who can't get enough, whose voice carries across the diner and puts a cool sounding name in your ear. Then one day you're reading the paper, and you realize the band's name is spelled differently than you thought it was, but you still might not go listen. Then, one day, you're listening to the radio station, the cool one you know, and you hear them for the first time, and everything catches.

Sirsy is a duo and adding 'dynamic' wouldn't be stretching things at all. Melanie Kraemer's shape-shifting voice and anchoring drums (and drumstick-driven keyboard bass,) intertwine with Rich Libutti's driving guitar and pedal bass to form something pretty damn epic.

I sit down with Sirsy and we discuss advancements in extra limb transplants.

RRX: When I first heard Sirsy, knowing nothing else, I assumed I'd be looking up four people, or at least three. It's that kind of sound. But that sound is coming from you two. Was the two-piece arrangement the original intent, or was it a "happy accident?"

RL: I'd like to say that it was all part of a brilliant plan. But I'd be a liar. When Melanie and I first started writing songs we put together a more traditional 4 piece band: drummer in the back, guitar player, me on bass, and Melanie up front singing. We played with some talented, cool people, but we couldn't find people we totally clicked with musically or that wanted to tour as much we do. After two years, four drummers, and six guitar players we decided we needed to try something else. So I switched to guitar. Melanie somehow learned to play

the drums overnight (infuriating!), and we found some creative ways to add in bass. Ta-da! Two piece band.

RRX: I don't imagine it's easy to pull off the sound you do without being able to lean on other players, especially onstage, but you do it all over the country on the daily. Do you think that less can go wrong on stage with fewer players, or does it make the musical gremlins, when they surface, even more of a nuisance?

RL: I definitely think it's a strength that there are only two of us. We are both so in sync on stage. I can recognize the look on Melanie's face when she wants to speed up or slow down or even extend a section. We play together so much that it becomes intuitive. The gremlins sneak in some times. We always tell people that we pepper in enough mistakes just so they can tell it's all being played in 'real time', no loops or backing tracks.

RRX: Most people can't handle one instrument well, let alone two at once. It seems like one of those things that's an art and a science. And maybe you can't go about describing the art of keeping different roles "together and separate" on stage, but are there any mental tricks that would help someone starting out?

MK: What's that old joke? How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice! It's kind of the same thing with musical multi-tasking on stage. Rich and I are lucky to get to play so very many shows together. We average about 250 a year. Plus we practice in addition to that. So,



■ Mel and Rich spend more time on the road than at home. Photo provided.

it becomes second nature after a while. I'm not on stage thinking about singing technique, drumming technique, counting beats, and thinking about the bass line all at the same time or anything like that. I'm just playing the song and enjoying a moment with the crowd. It wasn't always like that, though. When we first started this two person thing, we scheduled a show two months out. Then we practiced at least 12 hours a day, every day, until we played that first show. It was scary as hell and we weren't great

at it yet. But that's how you learn. You jump in and you keep practicing and you keep going. Eventually, it all feels totally natural and you don't have to think about it as much.

RRX: Sirsy's been on the road so much your GPS probably needs its own backup hard drive. Every state except Alaska, touring for years on end out of a white van. So I imagine asking you for a road story might be less of a thing than asking you for a home story. So, have you got a cool home story, a little 518 tale?

MK: Recently, we came home from 3 months out on the road. We toured our way out to the west coast and back. Our first local show at home was at the Saratoga Winery. It's a favorite place for us. A really cool, intimate space that's family friendly. It was the first time we saw our local fans in a long time and there was a lot of love in the room. It felt like a big family reunion. There was a moment in the show when we did a stripped down version of our song, "Brave and Kind" (a song we wrote about the first time I fought cancer). Rich and I came out into the crowd and did the song acoustic and the crowd sang along with us. I didn't even need the mic. It was a beautiful moment and it made us both teary eyed. There's nothing like coming home! We actually did a show there on Aug 23rd and we raised money for the Saratoga Hospital Cancer Patient Fund. (Who helped me so much!) All the money we raised helped local cancer patients. We were excited to finally be in a spot where we could give back some of the help our local community gave us. It was about a year ago that our wonderful friend Erin Harkes (a fantastic local singer/songwriter) threw a concert at this same venue to help me make it through my second bout with cancer.

RRX: You have amazing fans, I mean, super supportive and nationwide. When people think of rock and roll fandom, they think of the cheers and adulation, but there's a deeper relationship that goes on, something that carries

Continued on Page 38...



Canal Culture

Before the eight-lane asphalt, before the iron rails that criss-crossed the country, water was the way of the where. Rivers like the Hudson and Mohawk, and canals like the ones that cut through Waterford, were the centers of the world for anyone not tied down. Much of the old canal culture: its music, its customs, even its rougher pastimes have ben lost. But every September, new muscle powers new engines and the canal story adds another chapter.

Tugboat Roundup
Waterford, New York
2019

AND THE WORLD FINDS ITSELF IN HER SONG

She brought her talent to The Voice and brought a big house down. Now singer/songwriter Moriah Formica sees a bright future walking the path of rock and roll.

By Rob Smittix

Moriah Formica at the Radioradiox station.

Photo provided

Just like Game of Thrones, I will watch it when the hoop-la has died down. I was the same way when all of the local news were covering Moriah Formica and Madison VanDenburg, I wasn't really paying attention. But... I decided to listen and as soon as I did, I knew that I had to talk shop with Moriah. She rocks!

RRX: First of all, I'm excited to meet you.

Moriah: Yeah, you too. Thank you for having me.

RRX: So, I personally don't really follow American Idol or The Voice very much.

MF: I never did either before I went on it. All I actually knew about The Voice was that you sing and people turn around for you, that's all I knew. (Laughs)

RRX: You had a four chair turn!

MF: Yeah, that was crazy.

RRX: So when Miley turns around that's when you're like I got it.

MF: That's all I needed, was one.

RRX: How did it feel afterwards?

MF: I was just in shock. I had

my eyes closed for the rest of the time, so I didn't see that all of them were turned around until I was done with the song.

RRX: I didn't notice that.

MF: So at that point I was like, I have decisions to make.

RRX: I mean you did a blind audition, yourself.

MF: Yeah, literally blind.

RRX: Don't get me wrong, I think coaching is great. Maybe it's just the thing that people say when they get off that show that drives me insane but I hate when I hear somebody say "They helped shape me into an artist."

MF: Yeah, I don't get that either. Somebody asked me, 'has the show helped you form yourself into the artist that you are today? Has it helped you find who you are as an artist?' My honest answer is just a flat out no! I went on The Voice because I knew who I was and because I knew what type of music I wanted to do. I knew I wanted my guitar on stage every time and knew that my image was going to be straight up rock & roll.

RRX: I love that.



MF: I didn't go on there because I needed to find an identity, I went on there because I already had one and I wanted people to see it. I was just so unapologetically me.

RRX: So you're eighteen now. Are you done with the competitions?

MF: One hundred percent, yes!

RRX: Are you planning on working with Madison again in the future?

MF: We grew up together we were close even before we did music. So that's why it's so weird, we're doing this together. So yeah we hang out a lot. She's kind of like a younger sister to me. We've talked about writing together. I just had her guest and do a few

songs by herself and a few with me at my Clifton Commons show. So yeah, anytime we want to do something together I'm sure we will.

RRX: It wasn't like you were just thrown together because you were both on these shows.

MF: I think a lot of people thought that and they're surprised to hear it. Because what are the odds? It's a very weird situation but it's how it went.

RRX: So thinking about a full-time music career, do you need a plan B?

MF: I think it's good for everyone to at least think of a plan B. But I don't really see myself doing anything else. I feel like it would be a disservice to myself, my fans, my family and honestly

the world. I'm not a cocky person, I don't mean that like,... some people take things the wrong way, like 'wow look at her she's saying the world needs her.' Okay, to answer your question. I think it's good to have a plan B but as long as you don't need it, you can put it on the backburner. Honestly, I didn't choose music, music chose me from the time I was little and that's just how it goes. It's like alright we're doing this.

RRX: Yeah, so I started checking out your music and I'm like, oh she really rocks!

MF: Thank you

RRX: Don't ever lose that. Doesn't sound like you have any intentions on doing that.

MF: I couldn't. I actually tried to go mainstream. I was writing

all sorts of pop songs. And they were good pop songs. First of all, I wasn't being transparent. People know it. People can see fake and they can feel it and they run from it. I just wasn't happy doing it.

RRX: I believe in your dream. I think you've got what it takes.

MF: That actually means a lot.

RRX: Do you have any advice for young people that have similar ambitions?

MF: Be genuine, don't really listen to what too many people say around you, like if they're telling you it's not realistic. Unless you suck! (Laughs)

RRX: But even if you suck, you should still do it.

MF: You should still try and do it, exactly. Stick with it, you need to have a lot of perseverance and strength. There are going to be so many days where your body's not feeling it, you're mind is not in the right place. Make sure you have a good support team and be humble, that's one of the biggest things. If you're not, I don't know what to tell you. No one's going to like you, once they find out what your true character is. So just be honest, transparent, hard-working and be humble, is what I would say. Follow your dreams, I know that sounds cliché but do it. Seriously because that's one of the keys to happiness.

■ Moriah will be performing at Powers Park on September 8th.

Photo provided



Catch Moriah Live 9/1/19 at The Columbia County Fair (Chatham, NY) and 9/8/19 at Powers Park Music Series (Lansingburgh, NY) or visit moriah-formica.com for more info.

September is National Preparedness Month



You can take three easy, but critical, action steps to get your household ready for emergencies: Build a kit. Make a plan. Be informed.

Do you have an EMERGENCY KIT?

To learn more about how to get your family prepared, visit redcross.org or download one of our free preparedness apps by searching for 'American Red Cross' in your app store.

American Red Cross



ARTCENTRIC MARKETPLACE

Vintage Furniture
Eclectic Designs
New items every day. Stop in!

Antiques & Unique Gifts



266 River Street, Downtown Troy NY (518) 691-0007



ALBANY'S FAVORITE GARAGE BAND SINCE 2001
Go for the throat, high-energy rock 'n roll!

BLACKCAT ELLIOT

NEW CD coming soon – CD party to be announced. NEW website coming soon.



IL FARO

restaurant & bar

698 N. PEARL STREET, MENANDS, NY 12204 | 518-463-2208

Join Il Faro for:

Every Saturday This Fall - 1/2 price glasses of your favorite wine (red or white) from 8pm - midnight!

Taco Tuesday
Steak or chicken tacos every Tuesday night!

Mac-n-Cheese Wednesday
Chef-inspired Mac-n-Cheese. Come and try the flavor of the week!

We want to thank you for your business,
your trust & your confidence these
past five years.

*Michelle, Ashlee,
Shannon & Jennifer*

\$10 off for new clients
w/ Shannon or Jennifer
for a color service.

Get ready for
back to school!

Beautique Salon

Crescent Commons
1471 Route 9
Clifton Park, NY 12065

(518) 383-3333

Indoor Axe Throwing



1865 Central Ave., Albany, NY
518-250-9731

Group Reservations | Celebrations
Corporate Team Building | Leagues

Book Online: thelazyaxe.com

burritoburrito.

333 Broadway Troy
(Inside the Quackenbush Building)
(518) 712-9099

Now
Serving
Breakfast

www.burritosquared.com

See you in



September

PRESENTS



Sept. 5

MOON HOOCH

WSG *JAW GEMS*

THE HOLLOW, ALBANY, NY



Sept. 6-7

**EASTBOUND
THROWDOWN**

IRWIN'S FARM, SALEM, NY



Sept. 11

**AN EVENING WITH
HOLLY BOWLING**

THE LINDA, ALBANY, NY



Sept. 21

**START MAKING
SENSE**

*A TRIBUTE TO TALKING HEADS
PUTNAM PLACE, SARATOGA, NY*



Sept. 27

BLIND OWL BAND

WSG *USELESS CANS*

THE HOLLOW, ALBANY NY

For info and tickets, go to
guthriebellproductions.com or facebook.com/guthriebell

Strings, Soul and the Sweet Unknown

Guitarist and vocalist Erika Wennerstrom of the Heartless Bastards ventures into the solo world.

By Ralph Renna

Based on a true story. The first few months of a relationship can be magical. Biographical life changes lead to many peaks and special memories built. A connection forms so strongly that it seals the bond and we reflect on it in years to come. The reason why fate brought us together; That saying, quote, movie, song, food, or moment. Even if you closed the car window on her fingers on the second date, she didn't care. That is love! But only they know who, where, why and what it all means to them. Imagine one night, while laying in bed, a mature couple turns on the local public broadcasting channel. They too share the passion of quality educational programming. Little did they know that the music of the group Heartless Bastards would become a soundtrack and memory to their life together. Irony or fate? Since then Heartless Bastards have released 5 records, major tours, and numerous television appearances. The band was 10 years plus into their career, the momentum was building and the band decided it was time to take a break. Guitarist and vocalist Erika Wennerstrom became inspired and released her first solo record *Sweet Unknown*, which has been keeping her quite busy!

RRX: What prompted you to go solo? Did you find challenges?

EW: I've toured with the same team since 2009, and the band asked about taking a hiatus a couple years ago. Then I got



Photo by Briana Purser.

■ Erika Wennerstrom

really inspired and wrote *Sweet Unknown*. I thought it might be a nice change of pace to try something different. It has definitely been challenging to get my name out there. A lot of folks aren't familiar with my actual name versus the band name. It's been a lot tougher than I thought to get awareness out, but it's also been exciting to have this new experience, and it's really given me so

much gratitude for what I have achieved with Heartless Bastards over the years.

RRX: Tell us about your life, your first bands pre-Heartless Bastards? Childhood music and memories?

EW: I grew up in Dayton, Ohio, and have wanted to be a singer since I was old enough to think about doing anything. My mother got me a piano when I was around eight.

That was my first instrument, and when I started writing music. Some influences that stuck with me from an early age are Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding, Jackson Five, Bobbie Gentry, and lots of soul music my mother listened to. Also my aunt was a huge influence and very into folk music. She would talk to me about Bob Dylan and Neil Young lyrics as a five or six year-old, which is funny for me to think about now, but it really stuck with me. I've always been someone that gravitated to melodies first, and in my own writing I create melodies first too, but my aunt made me think about how what I said was important too. It's always been important to me to write from an honest place.

I had some severe shyness/self-confidence issues growing up, and a lot of folks from my hometown find it hard to believe I ended up an entertainer, but I think it's easier to get up and perform a song you've rehearsed 100 times than it can be to publicly speak off the cuff.

The first band I was in came about when a friend asked me to join and play bass. I said "I don't know how to play bass" and she said "well you can probably figure it out", and I said "Okay!" That was a group called Shesus. We started out as an all-female band, and later Dave Colvin joined on drums and eventually was part of Heartless Bastards. I think performing in the background of that band gave me the courage and experience to do my own thing.

RRX: You have been touring on *Sweet Unknown*, can you

share some highlights and from recent shows?

EW: I have been touring a ton on this record. It's actually winding down, and I'm getting ready to record another one pretty soon. A highlight was playing Red Rocks for the first time a few weeks ago with the Avett Brothers. That venue has been on my bucket list for a while. I'm a friend and fan of the Avett's. It was a joy to play with them again.

RRX: What city in the United States is your favorite or has the best music scene?

EW: I don't really have one spot that's my favorite. I think these days my favorite thing is playing random off the beaten path venues and cities for a new and unique experience. The quirkiest the better. Have you

heard of Meow wolf in Santa Fe? It's hard to describe, but it's magical. Playing cities like New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, and Austin, where I have had a long history of playing and an avid fanbase, is always a joy too. As far as music scenes I'm a little out of touch with that. I live in Austin and I'm not sure I even have a grasp on my own city these days. I don't go out much.

RRX: What vulnerabilities have driven your creativity and why?

EW: I used to feel like I had this invisible dot that guided me around and I didn't really know why I did the things I did. I wasn't really sure what was driving me so much to express myself, but now looking back I think I've always known deep down

that art brings people together. I long for that human connection. Writing a song where I express a personal truth, and having others relate to it I think is a reminder to us both that we're not alone in our thoughts. And everybody might not relate to my songs but that's ok. I'm grateful for those who do. In a lot of ways I still don't know where some of these ideas come from. I feel blessed to have inspiration and hope it continues throughout my life.

RRX: When it comes to songwriting you seem very imaginative lyrically? How far into fiction do you travel for inspiration?

EW: I might use imagery a lot, but my songs are very vulnerable and open. This last album I put it all out there. The album is a lot about self-love and personal growth. And I thought why fear judgement. When I am completely myself there's no room for regret. I don't really write fiction, but I have written a few wishful thinking songs over the years in an attempt to manifest my own destiny. I feel like that's kind of truth too because it's coming from the heart.

RRX: What is next up solo career? Heartless bastards or other projects you are involved in?

EW: Right now I'm just focusing on writing music, and pretty soon I'll need to figure out what project name to put it under. I recently released a couple Townes Van Zandt covers digitally.

For more info www.erikawennerstrom.com





 NEW YORK-CENTRIC BEER & SPIRIT SELECTION

TUESDAY
NAME THAT TUNE

THURSDAY
PUB TRIVIA

54 PHILLIPS STREET, ALBANY, NY 12207
 518-462-0690 | OPEN FOR LUNCH DAILY!



WED. SEPT. 4	HEAVY SLEEPER (BOSTON, MA) : VOGON POETRY : BARE MATTRESS
THU. SEPT. 5	VOICE OF DISSENT (BUFFALO, NY) : A JUDGEMENTAL SWARM OF BEES : EBTLY
FRI. SEPT. 6	JAKE & THE NOWHEREMEN (ITHACA, NY) : WITHR : BABY KILLERS
SAT. SEPT. 7	NO FSCKER (UTICA, NY) : AMBUSH : ROTTEN : WET SPECIMENS : CHLOROFORM PARTY
MON. SEPT. 9	BLUE MONDAY BLUES JAM W/ SCOTTY MAC *free
THU. SEPT. 12	LAST DAY SHINING : GRIVO (AUSTIN, TX) : GALENE
FRIDAY THE 13 TH	- GOZER : COMRADE NIXON
SAT. SEPT. 14	BEV RAGE (MANCHESTER, CT) : PURPLE SUNSHINE
SUN. SEPT. 15	KEEP UP (SYRACUSE, NY) : BETWEEN NOW AND FOREVER : AVENUE A
THU. SEPT. 19	YESTERDAY SAINTS (SIENA ALUMNI)
FRI. SEPT. 20	THE LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPS (SEATTLE, WA) : SOCIETY HIGH : LAME
SAT. SEPT. 21	GHOST HELLO (AKRON, OH) : OUTNUMBER THE LIVING : FROZEN HEADS
SUN. SEPT. 22	HIGH REEPER (WILMINGTON, DE) : GREASE FIRE : SMOKESTACK LIGHTNING : THE BLACK ELECTRIC
TUE. SEPT. 24	STRANGEPRIDE (NYC) : ELECTRIC TURTLE : STEVE HAMMOND
FRI. SEPT. 27	UGLY MUPPETS : LOW FORM (MASSACHUSSETTS) : THE VAVA VOODOOS
SAT. SEPT. 28	ANTHROPIC (BUFFALO, NY) : START THE REACTOR

Info & Links to Listen www.paulyshotel.com

**SUPPORT
UNDERGROUND
ORIGINAL MUSIC
SEPTEMBER 2019**



Follow us on Instagram
@Paulyshotel

SEPT 29th
11AM - 1PM
TROY

EST. **X** 2018

radioradiox.com

THE LOCAL BRUNCH

Enjoy brunch and hear great local music from RadioradioX local musicians.

LOCAL MUSICIANS - Come by, bring us your CDs, and enjoy some great food and drink.

McAddy's Pub
452 Broadway Troy, NY 12180

AMBASSADOR MUSIC GROUP PRESENTS



ROCK TOBER FEST

A BENEFIT FOR COMMUNITY MIRACLES IN ACTION



FEATURING MUSIC BY

MADISON VANDENBERG

C.K. & THE RISING TIDE · EL MODERNIST

VINCE PALMERI · JULIA GARGANO · DAVID CUTTINO AND THE ANTIKS · THIS STRANGE PARADISE

ADDITIONAL MUSIC BY

THEORY · CMA AND YOUTHFX STUDENT PERFORMERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

COLONIE PARK • 15 PLEASANT ST. • ALBANY NY

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AMGROCKTOBERFEST.COM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



Ten Tips for Enjoying Your Tipsy Adventure

By George Glass

Greetings my fellow patrons and Industry Fam! Today, I would like to discuss a subject, that many take for granted and ignore. It's called bar etiquette. Yeah, I know, believe me, I've heard all the responses to that phrase. "I know what that is!," "That's sounds like a 'you' problem." "The customer is always right!" "Just do your job and pour my drink!" Those examples are a drop in the bucket. If you're looking for a great experience and fun atmosphere, please read on...



1. Leave the negative at the door. A bar functions best as a place to unwind, relax, and have a laugh. It's a good feeling when you walk in and the door guy greets you warmly. Then you saunter up to the bar and see a smiling face that is ready to make your day a little brighter. Seriously, find me someone who doesn't have at least one great memory with friends and family at a local watering hole. That's what it's all about and why the bar concept is universal. So, leave any serious anger, resentment, and desire for violence at home. Alcohol is proven to amplify your emotional state. No one is saying don't come in after a bad day. But, if you're feeling combative, get a

six pack from the corner store and drink at home.

2. There is no universal service industry maxim. Basically, there's shit you can get away with at a restaurant or department store. However, you won't at a bar. Example: You may get away with blasting your brat in aisle 6 next to the produce. In a reputable bar, not so much. In a bar, the customer is right SOME of the time. Do you deserve good service and kind treatment? Absolutely! Is it ok to treat bartenders, servers, and bouncers like they're lower life forms? That's a negative, Ghost Rider. We decide who comes in and how long your stay will be. You have to understand, to operate, we have to follow strict guidelines when it comes to a patron's consumption. gambling is ok at the track, but not with a liquor license. Many have learned this the hard way.

3. When it's time to go, it's

time to go. I've covered this before, so I'll keep it short. If someone asks you to leave, just go. You might not understand at the time and you don't have to. Nothing good ever comes from having a discussion with the intent of extending your stay. Trust me, we thought about it before getting your attention and pointing you towards the exit.

4. 21 and over. It sounds like a no-brainer. But for some, it isn't. I can't tell you how many times a family has shown up at ten p.m. looking to bring their eight year old in for a burger or ribs. If there isn't a separate dining room, don't expect to be let in. If it's a closed family event or during the slower hours of the afternoon, we are usually cool with that. But, a crowded bar is no place for a child. It's an adult setting with low inhibitions. Also, don't expect a bar to be ok with your eighteen year-old designated driver in the house. Sneaking sips is what a teenager does and I know this from my own memoirs. Honestly, we can't supervise your child with all the other characters around. And for those that try to get in with fake credentials; what's wrong with you? Are you a heartless monster? Do you understand the implications? You can be arrested with false ID. Worse, if you're caught inside, the bar

is shutdown. We work to pay rent and feed our families. Please, don't hurt us so you can have a drink with your older friends. Again, what you do at home is your business. As far as the bar goes, just wait.

5. Please and Thank You. I believe those are self-explanatory.

6. There is only one way to get a bartender's attention. You need to make eye contact and follow with verbal communication. That's it. Sounds easy, right? If a whiskey slinger is making a drink or working the POS, let them focus on that. Nothing makes a bartender more grateful than a patient patron. If you have ever tapped your glass, yelled, or waved your arms; you may be wondering why the bartender has ignored you. Now you know. A good bartender will only skip you for two reasons. That crap and if you are too far gone. Remember, negative treatment of bar staff will get you nowhere but the pavement.

7. No whistling. We absolutely hate that. FOR REAL. Have you noticed most bars have alot of shiny wood around? At the very least, the bar stand itself. There is a science to this ambiance. A sturdy wooden structure reflects sound. That's what allows you to converse in a noisy

environment. It also makes ordering drinks doable when the bar is three deep. However, any high pitched sounds are like a dagger to the skull. If you're guilty of this, look around next time. You'll see some heated faces. Whistle while you work, but not at the bar.

8. **Spilt drinks happen.**

Unless you're engaged in horse play, spilling a drink isn't a barring offense. It happens. Please don't try to hide it or pick up broken glass by hand. It behooves us to clean it up so no one gets cut or takes a header. Let one of us know and we'll take care of it.

9. **Keep your shoes on.**

I shouldn't have to tell you that it's not good to walk through a busy bar with no footwear. The hazards are many and obvious. We don't care if your dogs are barking from walking in those pumps or boots all day. Plan ahead and bring sandals.

10. **LAST CALL.** Probably the most controversial topic and the most confusing for patrons. Many bars have different definitions of last call. However, there is one that applies to most and should be the patron's go-to. When we say last call, it means you can get one more drink. We do this in the spirit that you will finish said beverage in twenty minutes or less. During this period, please pay your tab and use the facilities, if needed. Then, depart

without our prompting. If you can do that, you will always be welcome and fondly remembered by staff. What isn't necessary is lingering around, sipping your drink, or calling for a ride well past the time limit. Likely, we have endured this loud chaotic locale for many more hours than you. We need a break and want to go home at some point. There's no reason for us to ask you to leave more than once. There are other bars or 24 hour diners where the fun can continue. If you see a few people with full drinks at the bar when you're being roused, it doesn't mean you should have another too. These are the folks who waited all night for us to get done and join them for quality time. Bottom line, when in doubt, refer to number 3.

I hope everyone found this informative and useful. Thanks again for reading and remember: Drink within your limits and get home safe!




Open 7 days a week at noon

DAILY DRINK SPECIALS

Every Tuesday- \$2 Genesee Drafts

Sunday late night happy hour

Mid.—2am - 2 for 1 domestics and well

Bucket Fridays- 5 for \$15 domestic btls.

5 for \$18 import btls.

 **29 - 124th Street , Troy**

BIG BELLIES



**535 5TH AVE
TROY, NY 12182
(518) 629-9501**

HOURS

**MONDAY-THURSDAY
7 AM - 8 PM**

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY
7 AM - 10 PM**

SUNDAY - CLOSED

Delivery Mon - Fri
11AM - 3PM

Thumann's
"The Deli Best"

**Certified Gluten-Free
Up to 97% Fat Free
No Artificial Colors or Flavors**

Misery and Unhappiness Make Them Happy

From concentrated sadness to fleeing from Nazi disco auditions, metal band Frozen Heads drops a sound that is uniquely theirs, and watch it float down the storm drains to clog the sewers.



■ (l to r) Bud Montesano, Jay Sebastiano, James (Krone)

Photo provided.

By Rob Smittix

Have you ever found yourself going down the rabbit hole of the internet to discover new music? If so, I encourage you to dive deep with The Frozen Heads. The music is quite different and hard to describe but hopefully my interview with J. Sebastiano (Guitar, Keys, Vox), Krone (Bass) and Bud

Montesano (Drums) will help shed a little light on the darkness.

RRX: So I listened to your music and I am digging it. I read a description of your band online which says you play some type of metal but I hear doom.

JS: Absolutely.

BM: The best heavy metal is doom.

RRX: What is the doom element?

BM: I guess you'd say attitude, there's a really broad form of styles for every sub-genre of metal.

JS: Slow tempos, layers, atmosphere, lots of misery and unhappiness.

RRX: Misery and unhappiness in the lyrics or the feel?

JS: A little bit of both. When we were working on some of the tunes, I said something to Bud

like: think of your favorite dog that you ever had. Now think of someone kicking it and how that makes you feel. Does that make you feel sad? Good, now play.

BM: You just made me sad all over again.

JK: Like everything else, a lot of it is based on personal experience or channeling a feeling to a certain extent.

JS: We really like each other's misery, in a way.

BM: They sought a Nazi to replace me once!

RRX: Whoa, what do you mean?

JK: We were up in the mountains and this guy was really scary, off the grid, there were kid's toys everywhere, no children to be seen, wife watching from the house, we noticed after a while she was more or less hiding from him than she was from us. It was pretty creepy.

JS: We went into his studio, we thought, "oh cool, nice drum set, nice amps, nice riser, nice swastika fla...swastika flag!!!! Oh #S@&%*! Where are we?"

James: We got to get out of here.

RRX: So to clarify, this guy was trying to audition for the band, to replace Buddy?

JK: Yeah, and he didn't warn us. We walk in and there's the confederate flag, thinking hey whatever that's a grey area, I don't want to touch.

JS: But the iron-cross and the swastika! You forgot the best part

though, the Nazi disco-dance light show. He turns the lights off and turns on the disco lights, it's all swirling around and stuff, it's some kind-of bizarre...

RRX: So I mean, do you still go ahead with the audition?

JK: We pretty much decided on our way out there, we were going to give this guy two hours and we had a safe word if it got weird.

JS: Pineapple.

JK: We didn't know if he was armed or not. He had made reference to guns.

JS: We were sort of silently communicating back and forth by means of gestures and eye contact. I look at James, he looks at me; I look back at him and say, "you're polish aren't you? We should probably get out of here."

JK: We went to leave and we're packing up, he picks up Jay's guitar and starts playing some song. It wasn't half bad but then he starts singing about sleeping with his cousin and going to Walmart. We're getting out of there.

JS: We were driving away so fast down that mountain, I felt like I had cockroaches crawling all over my soul.

JK: He felt so dirty, when we both got home to our respective

houses, we both showered.

JS: And I don't shower for any more than like twice a week. I took two showers.

BM: What they are saying is they showered together at each of their homes.

RRX: So rather than replacing Buddy, did you call him right up after that and ask him to stay?

BM: That's the funny part the next day at nine in the morning, I get a call from Jay.

RRX: So you all have kids, how does that work being in a band?

BM: I love it, I share music with my son; I have no limits in music with him.

JS: My daughter loves weird anime-sounding ecstasy-techno rave-music that the kids listen to on YouTube, weird videos. I don't understand any of it. But she's also got an excellent Black-Metal stream.

RRX: How old is she?

JS: She's nine.

JK: She does some great artwork too.

BM: She looks like a little anime girl.

RRX: How old are your boys?
[Directed at James and Buddy]

BM: My son's eleven.

James: My son's ten.

JS: My daughter can beat both of them up.

RRX: So direction, are you trying to make any sort of statement? Are you trying to get a message across?

BM: Well, I set the pace being the drummer and all but I try to show up to practice so loaded that I can only play heavily-handed and really slow. It's music to beat your face into the wall to.

JK: On a more serious approach, I guess it would be more music for the individual. I mean it's cool if somebody digs it but in reality we don't give a damn if anybody likes it or not.

RRX: You're making it for yourselves.

BM: We're not out to write hits, we're not out for hooks, we're not out for any of that. We're just

gonna do whatever comes naturally. Whatever sick stuff we happen to brew up in our heads.

JS: I like to leave it open to interpretation for people and let them figure out what it means. If there's one thing I hate, it's all these preachy bands trying to tell you what to think. We're musicians you should take our word for it.

Check out Frozen Heads Live 9/6/19 at the Low Beat (Albany, NY) or 9/21/19 at Pauly's Hotel (Albany, NY) visit thefrozenheads.bandcamp.com for more info.

JIT'S

\$3 Domestic & \$4 Import Bottles
1 - 8pm Everyday!!!

Outside Patio Seating

**\$1.00 Off Any
Appetizer With This Ad!**

Hours
Mon - Wed, 1pm
Thurs - Fri, 2pm Sat, 1pm

25 White St. Cohoes

Goldie's at COHOES MARKETPLACE

103 Remsen Street

Saturday
& Sunday

10am to
4pm

Sept. 7 & 8
Sept. 21 & 22

Goldie's

Vintage
Collectibles
Furniture
Pyrex



THE HANGAR
ON THE HUDSON
TROY, NY

Tickets Available on BrownPaperTickets.com

"TROY, NY'S HIDDEN VENUE"
UPCOMING EVENTS

9/6: THE NATIONAL RESERVE - 8PM

9/13: JITTERY JACK, AMY GRIFFIN
& THE LUSTRE KINGS - 8PM

9/20: ALI JEAN w/s/c
THE TELEVISIONARIES
& THE WILD WEEDS 8PM

9/21: SUPER 400 CELEBRATES
JOE DALEY'S BIRTHDAY - 8PM

675 RIVER ST, TROY, NY 12180 | (518) 272-9740
WWW.THEHANGERONTHEHUDSON.COM

Sirsy (Cont.)

Continued from Page 23.

into the rough times. Can you speak on that any?

MK: Yes! Totally! For Rich and I, making music is all about making that deeper connection with other people. That's the whole point. We're so lucky to have met so many wonderful people through our music. Our fans become our family. They've not only helped us through two battles with cancer, they've helped fund our records and our tours. They're the reason we're able to keep going. We're also grateful that a lot of our fans have told us their stories and how our music becomes part of their lives. We've been told that our songs have helped people get through their medical issues, their relationship issues, their emotional stress... that it's been played at their weddings, their birthdays, their vacations, their road trips, their dating life... that it's kicked them into gear when they need to make a change in their life or when their training for a marathon... so many ways. We're so honored to be a part of their lives.

For us personally, the fact that we're able to make music is what keeps us whole. When I was fighting cancer the second time, we were out of work for 4 months. Not being able to make music made us both feel like we weren't ourselves, like we were lost. When we were finally able to play again, we wrote a song called "Like a Drum". It's a rocking, upbeat song of celebration that's

all about being able to do the thing that makes you tick. We have the crowd sing with us when we do it, because it's become our new anthem... our celebration of life. We try never to take for granted that we get to do this for our job- this thing that makes us whole. So we want to shout it from the roof tops every time we get to do it!

RRX: Today, the music that spreads doesn't spread itself. We're in a time when anybody can get their stuff out, but there's only twenty-four hours in a day. Between touring so much, studio albums, having a web presence, you guys have a great handle on promoting your sound. Any tips in this regard for the overwhelmed?

RL: The tip is this: be overwhelmed. We are overwhelmed every day, but that's what it takes when you own and run a small business. Talk to anyone that ever made that leap to being their own boss... food truck owner, accountant, landscaper, whatever your gig is. Bands are no different than any other small business. Every time you sit on the couch to watch TV, your mind is yelling at you, "You should make that Facebook ad, you should be fixing your amp, you should be answering these questions from Xperience Monthly!" You have to be 'all in' to make it work as an indie band. If you love it, like we do, you find the time.

RRX: This is where you get to answer the question I didn't ask.

UNCLE SAM BIRTHDAY BASH



**Morrah
Formica**

LEGEND

**DONNY
ELVIS**

THE TRADITION

Magician 'Dewayne Hill

Face Painting - Clowns- Giant Bouncy Bounce
Balloon Art - Puppet Show - Obstacle Course

Sunday September 8, 2019
Noon-6pm Fun for the whole family
KNICKERBACKER PARK NORTH TROY

SPONSORED BY

**Thomas & Helen Knickerbacker
Memorial Playgrounds Inc.**

Any good places to practice sword fighting? The right fuel mix to get from Boston to Boise? Educate, enlighten, emote – the floor is yours.

RL: Let's talk fruit. One of the best aspects of touring this country is experiencing different things. Best orange you will ever eat can be found at Glass Farm on Rte 41 between Atascadero, CA &

Morro Bay, CA . Life changing.

MK: So healthy, Richard! For me it's all about the ice cream. If you ever find yourself in Nashville, try "Mike's Homemade Ice Cream". They make it on site. The red velvet cake flavor is amazing... there are chunks of freakin' cake and cream cheese frosting in it. I mean, hello!

sawtooth

JEWELRY STUDIO

studio instruction * custom design * expert repair

sawtoothjewelry.com

195 RIVER STREET, TROY

TROY.NY
RESTAURANT WEEK
SEPTMBER NINE TO FIFTEEN

BREAKFAST | LUNCH | DINNER

PRIX FIXE MENUS . SPECIALS . DISCOUNTS



RESCHEDULED

Rockin' on The River

Sunday, September 8
Riverfront Park | 5pm to 8:30pm

BALÚN

WSG DARK HONEY + LAVEDA

DOWNTONTROY.ORG

PRESENTED BY THE DOWNTOWN TROY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

f
PATRICK'S Pub
GOLF TOURNAMENT
6/02:
WATERVLIET'S **ONLY** IRISH PUB!
OPEN
MON - WED: 3:00 PM
THURS - FRI: 11:00 AM
SAT - SUN: 12:00 PM
EAT IN/TAKE OUT

606 3RD AVENUE
WATERVLIET, NY
(518) 238-3687

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 9/06: BROTHERS FLYNN STARTING AT 7:00 PM
- 9/07: CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT STARTING AT 2:00 PM
- 9/13: WILL FOLEY STARTING AT 8:00 PM
- 9/28: ACT YOUR AGE STARTING AT 8:00 PM
- 10/04: JIM MCARDLE STARTING AT 8:00 PM
- 10/12: 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

PLUS EVERY TUES. IS WING NIGHT: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM & ENJOY TRIVIA THURSDAY EVERY WEEK AT 7:00 PM

Mini-Tugs (Cont.)

Continued from Page 13.

fantasies. It's usually best to bring a comfortable seat if you initiate one of these forums.

They may not be big in size but they draw just as much of an appreciative crowd as the boats they're modeled after and they

work as hard in doing their specific task of having fun.

Capt. Ben is the builder and owner of the mini-tug ATLANTIC HUNTER II seen at the Waterford Tugboat in September.



Evolving with the future by remembering the past.

205 River Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 328-6077

troygroomingco@gmail.com

*Back to school appointments available.
Beard trimming and head shaving.*

www.troygroomingco.com

WWW.PARTIEVENTS.COM



**Weddings Showers
Corporate Functions
Catering**

**Book Your
Holiday Party Now!**

309 Third Ave, Troy, NY (518) 763-3111

The Sweetest Place in Latham!

**150 Old Fashioned
Penny Candy Jars**

**Nostalgic
Candies**

**Mon - Thurs
10AM - 8PM**

**Fri - Sat
10AM - 9PM**



**Large Selection
of Chocolate**

**20 Different
Varieties of Truffles**

**Collar City Sweet Shoppe Is Now
The Candy Cottage!**

(518) 608-4550

1082 New Loudon Rd. (across from Guptill's)

Observations and Ramblings of a Cranky Old Guy

By Jeff Spaulding

Last time we chatted about wild, crazy and wacky radio listeners.

To reiterate, every story was true.

This time, the stories remain all true.

But these stories pertain to wild, crazy and wacky former (?) radio co-workers.

I start with my college radio station from the Buckeye State.

(Again, no names, cities or call letters).

As staff for the college radio station, we all had to “volunteer” to show up early on a Sunday morning for what was called the “Church Shift.”

That meant running a couple prerecorded Christian Music programs, followed by a live broadcast of the local bible thumper church service, which was VERY boring.

You hit a button, get the broadcast on, that’s it for at least an hour.

One Sunday I was to start my “regular music shift” at noon.

I walk into the building, the church service was done, the “off” button from the church had been hit.

Dead air.

As I walk into the control room, I find the “volunteer” and his girlfriend sound asleep on the floor, missing numerous articles of clothing.

I don’t think they got that way

from praying.

I snuck over them, prepared a record to play, set the monitor to “11,” and while directly over them, I started playing “Born to Run.”

They jumped so high and so close it almost caused me to be damaged for life.

Amazingly, to this day, we are still friends.

My first full time radio job was in that same college town, I was an “All-Night Country DJ.”

The guy who preceded me, we’ll just call him “Ed,” was a very odd duck, a slow talking, low talking hillbilly, who had a way of making you believe everything he told you.

When he talked about “dating” a goat on the farm, I believed him.

When he talked about “preparing a chicken,” an act so rough it killed the chicken a week later, turning it into the main course of a chicken dinner, I believed him.

One night I am getting ready for my show and “Ed” is introducing the newest song from Charlie Pride.

Pride is African American, and next to Darius Rucker, the most famous black man in country music.

He is also known as “Country Charlie Pride.”

One night, “Ed” introduced him live on the air as “Colored Charlie Pride.”

I immediately have a massive bowel movement.

I start yelling, “Ed, you called him ‘colored’, you called him ‘colored!’”

He turns to look at the phone and says “Are we getting complaint calls?”

We weren’t.

He then says “Well, one of two things, no one is listening, or no one cares.”

The final story is actually legendary in the Capital District.

It involves a female air personality who was hungry.

As a matter of fact, she was always hungry.

She had a gastric system larger than the Grand Canyon.

Late one night she was at work and she was hungry (again/still).

She searched the ENTIRE radio station, and the ONLY food substance in the building was...a stick of butter...

She attacked that thing like a Kardashian.

Right down to the lip smacking and finger licking.

The problem was, much to her surprise (and this HAS been verified), there WAS a co-worker hidden in the building who saw the entire stick vanish from site.

Of course, there was denial, but in time the legend was born.

Do you remember a television commercial for Parkay Margarine that had a little tiny voice say “butter,” followed by a LOUD BOOMING VOICE that said “PARKAY”?

There’s any number of

Capitaland radio legends I could call right now, and when they picked up the phone, I just say “butter”, and hang up, they got it.

Recently, an old friend (and now co-worker) got a “Welcome to the Company” gag from me.

I was going to leave the gag in his mail box, but they never gave him one.

RULE NUMBER ONE-There is NEVER a gag that should not be played on one if it involves money.

It shows them you care.

So, I got a box, put my gag IN the box, went to the post office and PAID to have it mailed to him AT WORK!

When he got it a few days later, he opened the box up....

In the box, was an empty box... Of butter...

Immediately I was caught.

Worth every penny.

Remember, I have been a broadcaster for well over 40 years, I have DECADES of stories to share.

Next time, a lost art, how to play pranks on co workers to make them “lose it” on the air.

Be hearin’ ya!



2 Center St
HF, NY
12090
unihog.net



Sept 1, 12p **THE TRADITION**

Sept 6, 8p **Karaoke w/ CBD**

Sept 14th, 8p **5 Daze Out w/s/g Bubba Lou Tugget**

Sept 15th, 12p **Brunch Jams w/ Jay Simon**

Sept 21, 8p **halfway to St Patty's w/ Bernie Branch**

Oct 6, 12p **Brunch Jams w/ Mike McMann**

Oct 12, 8p  *North South Dakotas*

Oct 18th, 7p **FLASH POINT** **Rockin' the hits from the 60s and 70s!**

Oct 26th, 8p **HOT LIPS** **w/s/g PearsonConstantino**

Oct 27th, 12p **WIDE MARGIN**  

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS!!!

For your next "RFP" choose AVET, LLC

Working with a **Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business** increases the odds that your company will partner with a dedicated and disciplined team, have access to contracts that would otherwise be unavailable, AND your business will also be doing a service to those who have served. **WIN/WIN.**

This is why YOU should choose AVET, LLC



877-345-2838 • sales@avetllc.com

ELECTRICAL SERVICES • CONTRACTOR SERVICES • LIGHTING SERVICES • MRO SALES & SERVICES • SAFETY EQUIPMENT
FULL SERVICE PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS • STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH LEADING MFG'S • IN HOUSE FACILITATION AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Last Vestige

MUSIC SHOP

EST. 1989

MORE RECORDS!
RECORDS!
RECORDS!

**CELEBRATING
OUR 30TH YEAR
THIS OCTOBER!**

**BUY • SELL • TRADE
VINYL RECORDS
CDS • TAPES • DVDS**

**ROCK • JAZZ • FOLK
COUNTRY • BLUES
SOUL • R'N'B • PUNK
POP • METAL & MORE!**



**SUPER
TUESDAYS!
EVERY TUESDAY BUY 1
GET ONE 1/2 OFF
EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE**

LARGE COLLECTIONS BOUGHT
HOUSE CALLS BY APPOINTMENT

**OPEN 11AM-7PM MON-SAT NOON-5PM SUN
173 QUAIL ST ALBANY NY 518-432-7736**

PUTNAM PLACE

BEATS IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

63a Putnam Street

Saratoga Springs, NY

Upcoming Shows

- | | |
|--|---|
| 9/14 - Music is Medicine Festival
ft: Brett Bollinger of Pepper | 10/25 - Steal Your Peach Band |
| 9/19 - Andy Frasco & The U.N.
w/ Wild Adriatic | 10/26 - Aqueous w/ Lespecial |
| 9/21 - Start Making Sense | 11/2 - Turkuaz |
| 9/27 - Angelica Vila
w/ DJ King Bully, DJ TGIF | 11/15 - Kung Fu
w/ Strange Machines |
| 9/28 - Boyd Tinsley | 11/16 - White Denim
w/ Spaceface |
| 10/4 - The New Deal | 11/22 - The Other Side
w/ Given to Fly |
| 10/5 - Uncle Murda | 11/23 - The Lizards |
| 10/17 - Perpetual Groove | 11/29 - Jdakis w/ Nino Man |
| 10/19 - Yonder Mountain String Band
w/ The Drunkin Hearts | 11/30 - Skeeter Creek |

For more info visit us at: www.putnamplace.com or call: (518) 886-9585

Milan Fashion on a Micro Budget

By Sassy

According to the calendar, summer is starting to wind down. Of course, the weather may not feel like it is, but retail stores will quickly remind you that fall is just around the corner. It's hard enough to process that back-to-school supplies are already in center aisles of every department store, but now they are even unpacking Halloween candy and fall decorations to put on display. Prepare yourself for pumpkin-scented everything. Ugh.

With autumn being the next season we face, that means it is also time for many of us to re-assess our wardrobe for a new school year, college semester or even just cooler temperatures. Summer can be draining on our wallets with the vacations and getaways we took, so there might not be a lot of funds left over to put together a new look for fall. There are many ways, however, to get yourself looking fresh without dropping some major coin. Here are some tips and tricks to jazz up your closet without breaking the bank:

1. End of season sales – Just because new fall fashions are out doesn't mean the temperatures are going to drop 50 degrees by mid September. Take advantage of the summer clearances whenever possible. And start

Sassy Says

by looking for sales at your favorite stores. You may think that classic rock tee that is on sale will be too cold to wear in the morning, but it actually may not. And if it is? Throw a flannel over it or a cuffed old shirt. Taking clearance tops from summer and layering them with leftovers from last year can give you many "new" options. Don't forget about accessories as well. Layer different bracelets, stack rings, put heavy chain necklaces around boots, or even take a clearance pair of jeans and fray or color them for a new look. Then keep

your eyes and mind open for ways to take a super sale set and make it into a look just for you.

2. Consignment & thrift shops are your friend

– "One man's junk is another man's treasure."

This statement is SO true!

You can find some amazing pieces of clothing as well as accessories at consignment shops and thrift stores. Not to mention, if you are familiar with designers and brands, this puts you a step ahead of many others. You could spot a great pair of jeans by a high-end designer for pennies compared to the original rack price. Take advantage of these hidden steals, especially on classic items that never go out of style.

3. Cheap does not mean

necessary – You just found this super cute neon green top with glitter wings on sale for only \$2. Your first reaction is, "OMG! I LOVE it! I have to have it!" Awesome for you. Now, ask yourself one thing: How many times will I wear it, and what looks can I put it with? If you can only think of one or two outfits, it's not worth it. Don't confuse a deal with an impulse buy. That \$2 could be put towards a pair of earrings or shoes that you might use numerous times. Shop smart.

4. Know your size & your style – Many times, a hidden treasure is found only to realize that it is a size too small or too big. Never use the phrase, "I will just lose a couple pounds" or "I think I can make it shrink". Know



what your size is when you go out shopping and start by looking at those sizes first. There are times when items like consignment clothes may have been stretched out a bit or even shrunk a little already. To make sure they fit you well, try things on first. Also remember what colors look good on you, and what items you have at home already. Try to pick pieces that can work with sets you have already, to kick them up a notch. Also check the store's return policy. Just in case.

- 5. Take A Risk!** – Step outside of your comfort zone when it comes to fashions you may not normally wear. You may be surprised what styles and colors are out in the mainstream that you don't think are for you. They may actually look awesome! Read a few current fashion magazines to see what is trending for the upcoming season. See if you can create a similar look to your liking. And if you really want to try stepping out of your comfort zone but are just super nervous about taking a fashion plunge? Bring a

good friend with you. Use the mirrors, take selfies and ask for opinions!

A change in seasons does not have to mean a huge change in your bank balance. If you plan what items you want to add to your fall ensemble, you can go out and look for the best deals. Don't forget to look for accessories (sunglasses, jewelry, scarves, backpacks, etc.) to jazz up existing fashions that you already have, and check out clearance shoes that just might be the standout piece amongst them all. Research to see what is hot this season—and what is not—and see how you can integrate some of these design-forward looks into your closet. Be proud of who you are and the style you embrace. Own it... then rock it!





Bodhi Inspirit
Massage ~ Reiki ~ Aromatherapy Products

Kristi Terry
NYS LMT & RMT
website: bodhiinspirit.abmp.com
email: bodhiinspirit@yahoo.com
facebook @bodhiinspirit

Now Booking Massage Appointments
@ Mindful Intentions

Chair Massage Every Saturday
During Troy Farmers Market

THE FLESH TONES



Chowderfest
After Party!

w/s/g
**THE CHRIS
BUSONE BAND**





EST. 2018
radioradiox.com

Doors at 4PM

Oct 13th

Advance tickets @ Brownpapertickets.com
The Ale House, Muddaddy Flats and the
River Street Beat Shop



THE HANGAR
TROY, NY ON THE HUDSON

675 River Street
Troy, NY 12180

Lost and Found - Xperience Fiction

By Liam Sweeny

Tommy slid his hand over his right cheek and heard the crinkle of the rolled-up paper nestled into his back pocket. Parkway Music had moved up the street a way from where it was when he was just another note-hungry soul. Before Amanda. Before her last gig.

They'd moved up in the world. He walked in the inner door not knowing what to expect, whether he'd feel like Norm from Cheers or a crackhead at a pay-by-the-hour motel. Turned out he couldn't tell, because his eyes went west toward a wall of goodness, the land of maple and rosewood; a nickel-plated, copper-wound nirvana that took him away from the frantic call he got that night from Amanda's bass player, when nobody knew how bad the crash was.

Tommy had business, much as he'd have liked to plug in and callous his fingertips. Down the center aisle were the display cases where the tops hosted guitar repairs and every conceivable effects pedal, new and used, filled their mirrored shelves.

Tommy was a good guitar player before he gave it up, as in he played, and once in a while someone would ask him to jam out or join a band. But the people who really knew him wouldn't waste his talents on blowing lead

Liar's Almanac

melodies over a Chicago blues riff. Those in the know called him the Tone Wizard.

There's a lot to be said about a clean guitar sound, and the world teemed with the ministrations of acoustic players. But you couldn't find a cafe on the moons of Jupiter with an acoustic. And every amp had only a set range of sounds you could get out of them. So if you wanted *that* sound, you'd be looking for help. Maybe if you were in the know, you were looking for Tommy.

He got it. He saw the 'electric' in electric music. He went to tech school, and his toolbox indeed had gear label stickers on it. He took beat-up, junky effects pedals that would've scored a dime bag in a pawn shop trade, and he modified them into the sonic equivalent of a Faberge egg.

Sort of funny, then, how Amanda was so diehard anti-effects. She was all about the pure tone, and she sung its praises one night at their mutual friend's house, completely unaware of Tommy's nickname and rep.

He had to think their love sprung from her guilt about smearing his passion. He succeeded in making her a pedal, an orange-glitter, high-gloss, psychedelic design that he

hand-painted. He went back to school, so-to-speak, and put all of the filters and attenuators and parlor trick circuits he could into creating something that could make any amp crystal clean. And in return, she made him stop using pedals himself for three months to play with her everyday by the river with two acoustics.

His eyes swept over the pedals, caught the glint of chrome knobs and white notches and names like Big Muff Pi and Tube Screamer and OCD. A lean kid in a white T-shirt was polishing the fretboard of an unstrung guitar.

"You need anything?"

"Yeah," Tommy said. "My buddy was in here earlier. Saw a pedal; orange and glitter, psychedelic. Used, just came in, I guess. I had him ask you guys to hold it?"

"Let me check." He hopped in the back and Tommy could hear voices. He came back out with the pedal that didn't seem to age.

"It's busted. It doesn't work right now," the kid said. "If you want to come back,"

Tommy pulled the sheet out of his back pocket and unrolled the schematic.

He popped his debit card out of his shirt pocket.

"As is?"

Hours of Operation

Mon - Sat
Open 3pm
Sun 11am
for Brunch



Happy Hour

Mon - Sat
3pm - 7pm
All Day
Sunday

2nd Anniversary Party with Han Solo Come celebrate with us!

9/14 - Pearlpalooza After Party
9/21 - Largest Party!
9/28 - Oktoberfest

*Nerd Beer and Dope Food
for Reals*

942 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207



THE RUSTIC BARN

150 SPEIGLETOWN RD, TROY, NEW YORK 12182 • (518) 235-5858

UPCOMING EVENTS & LIVE MUSIC



9/08/2019: 6TH ANNUAL CLAM JAM
6TH ANNUAL CLAM STEAM & OPEN JAM - 4:00 PM

9/20/2019: THE ELOVATERS
W/S/G MIXED ROOTS REGGAE - 9:00 PM

9/06/19: LOU'S BLUES - 4:00 PM

9/07/19: THE HARMONIC DUO - 8:00 PM

9/13/19: RIVER JUNCTION - 8:00 PM

9/14/19: THE PURPLE STUFF - 8:00 PM

9/21/19: SOUL PROVIDER - 8:00 PM

9/27/19: DR. JAH & THE LOVE PROPHETS - 8:00 PM

9/28/19: WEST SIDE DRIVE DANCE BAND - 8:30 PM

10/04/19: DONNA TRITICO BAND - 8:00 PM

10/05/19: THE DEADBEATS - 8:00 PM

EVERY THURSDAY: OPEN MIC | STARTING AT 7:30 PM

LOVE THE BARN? NOW DELIVERING OUR DELICIOUS FOOD 7 DAYS A WEEK.

TUGBOAT ROUNDUP

WATERFORD, NY

SEPT 6-8, 2019

WWW.TUGBOATROUNDUP.COM



TUG PARADE
MUSIC
KIDS ACTIVITIES
TUG TOURS
FIREWORKS
DEMOS



**CELEBRATING
TWENTY YEARS
1999 - 2019**

TBR 20