

Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
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Tarpon Music Bash revisited...



The Tarpon Music Bash moved its festivities over to Horace Caldwell Pier on Sunday.

The Tarpon Ice House celebrated their 4th Annual Music Bash this weekend. We missed our usual host, Al Barlow, who was attending to his grandfatherly duties in Colorado, but Billy Snipes picked up where Al left off and did a fine job of keeping the music rolling. The Bash is an event where Texas Hill Country musicians join Gulf Coast musicians each year for three days of great music and camaraderie. We saw performances by such local artists as Carol Elliott, Uel Jackson, Stuart Burns, Ellie Goldsmith, The Free Beer Band, Sky Malone and Johnson Grass with Dan Brodhac, Jamie Smith, George Hermes, Butch Davis, Savanna Johnson and Tony Seracene plus such Hill Country and Central Texas artists as John Scholten, Lucas Taylor, Kem Watts, Tony Barton, Kelly Windham, John Wesley Anders, Larry Sweeney, Carrie Denniston, Todd Dorn and Ashley Monical. On "Bloody Mary" Sunday morning, the group moved in mass over to Keepers, the pier house at Horace Caldwell Pier, and kept the ball rolling until late in the day. It was pretty amazing to sit around the old pier house with all these musicians sitting in a circle and trading songs to a back drop of the Gulf of Mexico. Congratulations to Ice House owner, Paul Fain, on another successful Bash! The music was off the charts and nobody got hurt or arrested. I'd call it a success.

Los Fabulocos...



Los Fabulocos played the Back Porch last Friday night.

On Friday night, the Cal-Mex boys from East L.A., Los Fabulocos, played the Back Porch. This band is made up of three of the original Blazers, a highly popular California roots and blues band. The usual guitarist, Kid Ramos (who once played with the Fab T-Birds) was absent due to health problems. I love this band. They used to show up in San Antonio and play Casbeers when I worked there. They are the California version of the Texas Tornados. They played everything from conjunto to Doug Sahm, from Freddy to Flaco and Los Lobos... I'm a sucker for a button accordion and jumping Mexican music. We had a blast dancing and grooving to these guys. They were heading to

S.A. the next day to play the Conjunto Fest. I wanted to jump in and go with them. These dudes are my kind of batos.

Jesse Dayton ...



Jesse Dayton played the Back Porch last Saturday night.

On Saturday night, real deal honky-tonker, Jesse Dayton (Austin, TX), paid his respects to the Back Porch. Jesse was hilarious! When I walked in, Jesse noticed me and said hi from the stage (I've known him for years from when I worked for the Antone's Record label. I used to bounce his kid on my knee). I asked him if he was ready for a little eye opener and he stalled me... something about mama locking him out of the house the night before for coming in late and he had to crawl through the doggie door to get in. I don't think he was kidding. This guy is the reincarnate of George Jones if there ever was one. He's a Beaumont boy which explains a lot... there's all kinds of funky stimuli around those parts. Jesse is on the verge of releasing his new zombie movie that he wrote and directed, Zombex, starring Malcolm McDowell. In fact, he's at the Cannes Film Festival as we speak. He's hooked up with horror film magnate, Rob Zombie, and has a whole other Hollywood life (Captain Clegg) completely separate from his Broken Spoke persona. This guy is all over the map.

Ruben Limas...

Also on Saturday night, I finally got to catch a set from Ruben Limas (N. Padre Island, TX). I'd been told by people I trust to keep an ear out for this guy but had never been able to catch him until this gig at Shorby's. When I walked in, he had the place rocking (not always an easy task for a solo act)! He's a highly energetic sort with a super amiable stage presence. He does a lot of covers (Beatles, Dylan, Neil Young, etc) mixed in with his mega-catchy originals. He also played the next afternoon at the Back Porch and I was impressed enough to seek him out two days in a row. I'd like to see more of this guy. He's good.



Ruben Limas played Shorby's last Saturday night.

30th Annual Songwriters Showcase...

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!!

John Wesley Ander
Saturday, May 25
Mike Williams
Every 2nd, 3rd & 4th
Fridays And Every Monday
Free Beer Band
Every Thursday (7-10)



Carol Elliott
Friday, June 7 (6:30-8:30)
Stuart Michael Burns
Every Wednesday (7-10)
Open Jam with Uel Jackson
Every Sunday (7- 11)

The 30th Annual Songwriters Showcase was held in Port A last Sunday. This event goes to benefit the Island Art Center and showcases much of the abundant talent our island has to offer. This year, founder Jesse Bishop, returned from Costa Rica (his home for the past ten years) to host the event and reunite his old band, The Dynamics, with Woodie Lawson and drummer, Deb Dault. The Showcase took on more of an electric feel this year with the Dynamics full-band set, a set by L. Leon Sands (with 13 year old Sierra Howe) and a set by Lela Caldwell, both on electric guitars and a set by Melissa Brooks with her full band. Otherwise, it was fifteen minute acoustic performances by Carol Elliott, Guy LaRoux, Todd Dorn, James Derkits, Hump Brodkman & Janet Drew, Tyler McCumber and Tony Seracene. There were a few technical down moments when the sound and lights went out, but otherwise the show was delightful and well attended. This event is uniquely Port Aransas and exemplifies the real spirit of our town. I really like the location they've finally settled on at the end of Roberts Point Park. Maybe the city should build a permanent outdoor stage there. It works well.



Buster Jiggs will play Giggity's this Saturday night



Father James Derkits performed as his son, Eli, watches at the Songwriters Showcase last Sunday in Port A.

Look for Jesse Bishop and Woodie Lawson to stretch out. The always great Free Beer Band will play their weekly gig at the Tarpon Ice House and just for the record, the Kerrville Folk Festival begins its 18 day run for the 41st time since 1972. On Friday, May 29th, Gary P. Nunn (Austin, TX) will be going home to the armadillo one more time at the Back Porch. Todd Dorn (San Antonio, TX) will bring his velvet smooth country to Giggity's and the amazing Hold Fast Fables (Galveston, TX) will play Shorby's. I've seen Hold Fast Fables a couple of times and can attest, these guys are incredible... its all original material accompanied by guitar, cello and light percussion. Very nice! On Saturday, May 30th, get ready to party to the hell raising sound of Buster Jiggs (Hondo, TX) at Giggity's. This is one guaranteed foot stompin' good time! Also on Saturday, the guy who invented island time, Larry Joe Taylor (Stephenville, TX) will play the Back Porch, the sweetest gal I know with bad intentions, Mandy Rowden (Austin, TX) will play Shorby's. She's a bonified fire-cracker! Otherwise, it's Max Stalling at Brewster Street and Ruben V at Doctor Rockits. On Sunday, May 26th, the big show is at Concrete Street with Josh Abbot, Kyle Park, Bart Crow and Aaron Watson. I'd venture to say there will be the world's largest collection of young girls wearing short shorts and cowboy boots. Also on Sunday, Mandy Rowden will play an early set (5-9) at Giggity's... Antone and the All Stars will take the late set at 9:30, Raeanne and the Ride will bring their bluesy rock to Shorby's and teenage powerhouse, Samantha Aiken will play the Coast Club.

DO NOT MISS LIST

Memorial Day Weekend...

We made it! Memorial Day is finally here. This is not a dress rehearsal... get your game face on and get ready to rock people, we are officially in season. On Thursday, May 28th, the Dynamics will reunite for a full evening at the Back Porch.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

John Eric Open Mic @ South Texas Ice House
Sunday, May 26 continued
Now & Zen Bday Bash @ House of Rock
Josh Abbott, Kyle Park, Aaron Watson, Bart Crow @ Concrete Street
Preston Hall & the DFW All Stars @ Dr. Rockits
Collin Roche @ Scuttlebutt's

Vampires Welcome

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•BACK•PORCH•

LIVE MUSIC EVERY SUNDAY 3-6

Dynamics Reunion	May 23
Gary P. Nunn	May 24
Larry Joe Taylor	May 25
Cruise Control	May 26
Mike Milligan	May 30
Mike Blakely	May 31

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Monday, May 27
Mike Williams @ Tarpon Ice House
Open Mic @ Coffee Waves
Open Jam w/ Antone Perez @ Doctor Rockits
John Eric @ Scuttlebutt's

Tuesday, May 28
Open Mic @ House of Rock
Blue Man Group @ American Bank Center
Reno & the Groovegetters @ Dr. Rockits
Kevin Hill @ Scuttlebutt's

Wednesday, May 29
Stuart Burns @ Tarpon Ice House
HOBO @ House of Rock
Free Energy Device @ Dr. Rockits
Fabian Rivera @ Scuttlebutt's
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeards on the Beach

Thursday, May 30
Robert Earl Keen & Lyle Lovett @ Selena Auditorium
Mike Milligan & the Altar Boys @ Back Porch
Rockin' Blues All Night @ Dr. Rockits
Free Beer Band @ Tarpon Ice House
John Eric @ Island Italian
Local Licks @ House of Rock
Kevin Hill @ Scuttlebutt's
JB & the Moonshine Band @ Brewster Street

Friday, May 31
Mike Blakely y los Yahoos @ Back Porch
King Pelican @ Giggity's
Freddy Steady Krc & Cam King @ Shorby's
Mike Williams (5-7) @ Tarpon Ice House
Flashback @ Executive Surf Club
Five Card Draw @ Brewster Street
Bar Nutz @ South Texas Ice House
Ken Barnett @ Coffee Waves
Chris Saenz @ Scuttlebutt's
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeards on the Beach

COAST CLUB
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Samantha Aiken & Rodeo Drive Sunday, May 26

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SHORTY'S
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Hold Fast Fables	May 24	Mandy Rowden	May 25
Raeanne & the Ride	May 26	Freddy Krc/CamKing	May 31
Lela Caldwell	June 7	Get Off the Lawn	June 8

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