

The Escarpment Blues Festival



It took me only a few days after the release of our first issue of this magazine to realize that I can now be classed as media. Going to events and wearing that all inclusive media badge was something that felt good to me.

Making this happen was a totally different story. I scanned the net seeking out events and of course contacting people for those events.

I was very fortunate to come across an organizer named Chad Trakalo ([Email Chad](#) for info on next years [Escarpment Blues Festival](#)) who was getting together a blues festival close by. Well of course I contacted him right away.

Within an hour or so, I had his contact information in my email and a statement that media passes were waiting for us at the main gate. How cool was that? We really are media now!!

The day was overcast with a few drops of rain which seemed more than fitting for a Blues Festival. A Saturday afternoon with rain did not stop the crowds and or the vibration of the whole setting.

Time to grab a soft drink (I meant beer), and settle to in and watch the first early afternoon act, [Doc MacLean](#) doing a solo act. Talk about the heart of the Delta Blues. The deluge of rain forced me back to the soft drink tent but what I heard from a distance was totally satisfying to my ears.

There is always something about a downpour that just energizes the air. It is like a morning shower for me; wakes up my whole body.

Still pouring as [Walter Trout](#) hits the





stage, a man who is one of blues music's beloved interpreters. A few songs into the set and the rain changed directions and was flooding the stage. A valiant effort was made to continue but given the choice of electrocution and/or

playing, he made the right decision to exit stage left.

With a rather long break ahead, we decided to do what we do best, connect with those around us. A day outside, meeting and relationshiping with others; what more could we ask for. While doing our thing, taking photos and having a blast, somehow the remaining performers slipped way too fast. Catching bits of the music and getting to know other people's passions made up the rest of the day.



For those that are still reading this, there was [Carlos del Junco](#), playing a ten hole diatonic harmonica. The

sophisticated sound produced by del Junco is sensitive, soulful, and sexy while never forgetting the rawness inherent in blues music.



Following was [Savoy Brown](#), the legendary British blues band that had the now almost dry crowd, bopping and weaving everywhere you looked. The sun was out and the crowds flocking in for the last few performers. What a beautiful vision of sun, blues

and smiles all round on everyone's face. The energy was just way too much to actually describe.





Next up was [Watermelon Slim & The Workers](#), a group that in 2006 had earned a multitude of nominations and won several major Blues awards in the United States.



This man, along with his blue collar attitude, mixing in his humorous tales had the crowd hanging on every note and word. The ease and simplicity had the crowd on its feet for most of the set.

As the evening wore on, an executive decision was made to pack up and move on, foregoing the final act, [Collin James](#). Not that this six time Juno award winning, blues, rock, big band and R&B artist, would not be great, but the energy of the day was taking its toll on us. So off we headed for the drive home, chocked full of source energy from all aspects of the day.

Hey everyone, do you have musical review and wish to share with our readers??? Feel free to contact me here at anytime as I am sure there are thousands of performances that people would enjoy reading about.

Peace and Love
[Wayne Parker](#)
[Email Wayne](#)



Kat's 2 Cents

Chad and the others did an exceptional job organizing their event, bringing us authentic blues bands and a wonderful atmosphere. We had a great time. I want to thank our good friends Ruth and Sharon for joining us that day and making a great day even better!

