

July 5, 2006

Written by Domenica Lovera, FOR Blues Board member

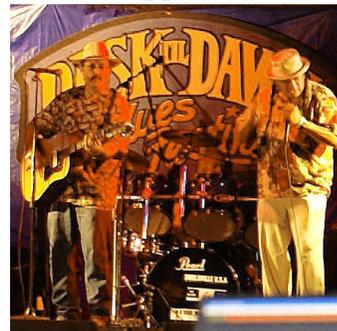
Hi!,

“*Hey Everybody! Tell Everybody...*” that in Oklahoma, hidden out in the woods, is a little old juke joint called *The Down Home Blues Club*. It’s authentic, funky, and very much alive.

It’s been there since Oklahoma Bluesman D.C. Minner’s grandmother opened up a bootleg corn whiskey bar 80 years ago. Now, however, the bootleg whiskey is gone. You can get a cold beer or soda, and sometimes people bring potluck, but it’s all about the music. The club opens the first Saturday of every month for informal jam sessions, musicians show up with cases, and the years roll back. Part of the magic is the energy produced by the connection of musicians with the audience, but the little club has its own charisma: a grittiness and authenticity both palpable and intoxicating. It is rural and real in a sense that other venues fail to capture. For those who have never felt the power of the Blues, try Rentiesville. For the full effect, mark your calendar for Labor Day weekend and come to the *Dusk to Dawn Blues Festival*, a three-day event that has occurred yearly for the past fifteen years.

The Down Home Blues Club is operated by Friends of Rentiesville Blues (FOR Blues, Inc.), who intend to preserve the site in all its originality and make it a museum, as well as the home of the Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame, which was founded by FOR Blues and already has inductees. We need your help! We would love for you to visit us and become part of the experience, but there are others ways to help. FOR Blues is a grass roots, non-profit organization; it is supported in part by the Oklahoma State Arts Council and other grants. These grants have assisted and enabled programs and performances, but they have provided little or no support for the preservation of the site itself.

All of us at FOR Blues, Inc. believe that our mission to preserve one of the last original juke joints is an important and vital one. If you could see for yourself what we are achieving here, we know you would believe it as well. Won’t you join our effort to preserve the original flavor of American Blues Music? Your presence would be a blessing, your financial or artistic support would be deeply appreciated.





Dear Supporter of the Arts:

Selby Minner and the friends of Rentiesville Blues inc. are planning the 20th annual Dusk til Dawn Blues Festival to be held in Rentiesville at the birthplace of Oklahoma Blues Legend D.C. Minner over Labor Day Weekend. The dates this year are September 3rd through the 5th.

This event has been rated a must see by the International Blues Foundation. Just imagine three days and nights, three stages indoor and out, 200 musicians, electric guitars, unplugged workshops, a showcase of regional blues and national blues artist. Not to mention the ongoing activities for kids. This event attracts over 3,500 people to the rural historic African-American Township of Rentiesville.

We inducted D.C. Minner into the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame in 2001. That night D.C. and his band received 4 standing ovations within his 20 minute show. I highly recommend D.C. and Selby Minner's festival for any funding that might be available. Their festival provides an extremely valuable educational, artistic, and cultural service not only to blues fans, but to Oklahoma music lovers as a whole.

Sincerely,

Penny Kamp
Executive Director

P.O. Box 3221 • MUSKOGEE OKLAHOMA • 74402-3221 • 918/687-0800 • FAX 918/687-0900
www.ohhof.com • okmusic@ohhof.com

Selby Minner and Leon Blue accompany Johnny Rawls at the Rentiesville Blues Fest



Deb Bynum

Passing it on

Selby Minner's got the blues—and she wants Checotah kids to have them, too



By Jack Fowler
Managing Editor

When Selby Minner talks about music, or teaching music to others, she says she's driven by her own memories of being a frustrated teenager.

"When I was a kid, my folks listened to opera," she says, laughing.

"It seemed the people who liked the kinds of music I liked lived in some other world, and I'd never be able to meet them. So I have...empathy, I guess, for those kids. For being young and frustrated."

It's just one reason Minner says she's teaching guitar lessons to kids at the Checotah Library. That, and her uncontainable love of all things musical.

"I've been teaching for awhile," says the Rhode Island native.

"Giving individual lessons, stuff like that. But I learned a few years ago that there are some kids around here who really want to learn music and play an instrument but their folks can't get them to lessons or they can't afford a guitar or whatever. So when I found out that we could do this for free, and in town, it just seemed like a great opportunity."

An opportunity for everyone involved, perhaps—teacher and students. To visit Selby's home (the Down Home Blues Club in Rentiesville, the site where her husband, legendary bluesman DC Minner, was born) it's readily apparent that her life revolves around music the way the Earth moves around the sun.

Concert posters, photographs of musicians, paintings and sculptures of DC that Selby has crafted. Guitar cases. Sheet music. CDs. They're all abundant in spades, here in this main hall of the blues club. They're placed like bohemian decoration throughout the entire home, and it's clear, especially when Selby talks about teaching the guitar, that it's just another outlet for her to share the blues with everybody else.

"I like to try as hard as I can to make it fun for them," she says when asked what style of teaching she's used to.

"Playing the guitar is not easy. It's hard, and

For more on DC and Selby Minner's "Blues in the Schools" program, visit www.dcminnerblues.com



See 'Passing' on page 2

Bringin' Blues To School



Award winning Blues vocalist, guitar player Selby Minner, left, accompanied Jim Thorpe Academy's Garrett McDonald during concert at Jefferson Elementary School.

Lori Goat 21.JAN.10

The students at Jim Thorpe Academy (JTA) were singin' the blues and lovin' every minute of it.

On Jan. 14, the children at Jefferson Elementary School were treated during lunchtime to an exclusive concert by JTA students, accompanied by Oklahoma Arts Council's Blues professional Selby Minner and guitar player/vocalist Jerry Criner, aka Cryout.

"It takes courage to do what these kids have done, especially with less than two weeks of practice," Minner said.

Eight days of practice, to be exact. During the eight days, a dozen JTA students learned how to perform a dozen songs. JTA students Brad Hill sang a Bob Marley tune, Shawn Budka banged the bongos and sang a Lynyrd Skynyrd song and Garrett McDonald sang a Tracy Chapman song and an original tune by her band "Ballistic Balinda." Calvin Parker strummed the guitar, James Hedge tickled the keyboards and the remaining JTA students played percussion and were vocalists as backup for Minner and Criner.

"This is very valuable for all the students," teacher Royanna LaHue said. "It helps them learn about music in an enjoyable way."

Minner is an inductee in the Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame. She was the bassist and singer with Blues legend D.C. Minner for 31 years. She won an international "Keeping the Blues Alive" award in education and has been featured in the Living Blues Magazine, Black Entertainment Network and on The Oprah Winfrey Show.

"Blues is the foundation of most American music," she informed the Jefferson Elementary audience, who jumped and jived to the bodacious beat.

Blues originated in the Mississippi Delta following the Civil War. Its influence is African American and it's a combination of field hollers, ballads, church music and what was called "jump-ups," rhythmic dance music. The Blues found a home on Beale Street in Memphis, Tennessee, where it expanded into a national craze during the 1920's.

Minner also said that the performances develop certain skills in students, like confidence from performing in front of peers, working together as a group, learning the disciplines involved in creating music and basic performance skills.

"Performing in front of an audience is also the supreme exercise in building self-esteem," LaHue said. "It's very difficult to put yourself center stage."

Besides funding from a grant through the Oklahoma Arts Council, JTA's Dollar-A-Day (DAD) program furnished monies, Gateway to Prevention provided some of the instruments and First Baptist Church of Shawnee allowed the students to use their facilities for rehearsals. Pottawatomie County's Redbud Arts Council introduced Minner to the area last summer at a meeting and concert to explain the Blues In The Schools program.

*The Museum
of the Great
Plains
Authority*



Adjacent to Elmer
Thomas Park

601 NW Ferris Ave

Lawton

Oklahoma 73507

580/581-3460

Fax 580/581-3458

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2009

**Oklahoma Blues Artist Selby Minner
Coming to the Lawton**

(Lawton, OK) Selby Minner of *Blues on the Move* is a highly esteemed blues singer/musician who toured non-stop for 12 years with blues legend D.C. Minner before settling at his birthplace of Rentiesville, Oklahoma. There they established the Down Home Blues Club and founded the Dusk til Dawn Blues Festival around 1990, both of which continue on to this day. The Festival has gained national attention and presents more than 200 blues musicians for three days every Labor Day Weekend.

Selby grew up on the East Coast and followed her passion for performing blues music to Berkeley where she first competed with and later joined forces with the older blues man. "You are my best student," he said. She is carrying on the tradition they forged together over 31 years, D.C. having worked with legends Freddie King, O.V. Wright, Chuck Berry and Bo Diddley. The music is Blues, Rhythm and Blues and early Blues based rock. *Johnny B Good, The Thrill is Gone, Lean On Me, My Girl, Stand By Me* - standards which have defined the blues - roll off the stage - and originals as well.

Selby has been featured in *Living Blues Magazine*, on Black Entertainment Television, the Oprah Winfrey Show, OETA and NPR. She has performed with Albert Collins, Lowell Fulson, Drink Small, Little Johnny Taylor, Hubert Sumlin, Tony Mathews, and opened for Koko Taylor, Albert King, Bobby Bland and Buddy Guy among others. She is poised and ready to carry on the band with its warm and enthusiastic performances, that is loved by people of all ages, and covers a full range of beats, melodies and emotions.

Selby's passion for playing the blues and sharing this genre with others is why she's planning to be in Lawton for a week in July. Selby will teach a blues music program at the Museum of the Great Plains July 13 - 17. Children, ages 5 to 10 may sign up for the morning session, which begins at 9 a.m. and runs three hours. Older youth may sign up for the afternoon session, which begins at 1 p.m. and also runs for three hours. The program will culminate with a blues concert on Friday.

For more information call Jana Brown at 581-3460 or email educator@museumgreatplains.org.

Selby Minner to give blues 'Informance'

By **BILLIE HILL**
STAFF WRITER
BHILL@LAWTON-CONSTITUTION.COM

Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame inductee Selby Minner thinks it's time Oklahoma got credit where it's due for its contribution to the rich legacy of American Blues music. Minner is set to perform this Friday at the Museum of the Great Plains where she will give what she calls an "Informance." Along with playing original music and music by other artists, Minner and her trio will talk about the history of blues in both America and this region. The performance is part of the "To Kill a Mockingbird"-themed Big Read of Lawton, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Institute of Museum and Library Science and Arts Midwest.

"Oklahoma doesn't get any credit for blues, but the sound 'Texas Hot Box' came out of the Brazos Valley and on either side of the Red River ... even B.B. King said, 'I don't play Mississippi Delta Blues, I'm too lazy for that, I play that Texas Style,'" said Minner.

Most music lovers may immediately think of the Mississippi Delta when they think of the origins of the Blues, but Minner said she goes out of her way to educate listeners to this area. As African-Americans migrated north, they brought through Oklahoma and Texas the uniquely American blues sound, heavily influencing rock and roll as we know it.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame inductee Selby Minner is set for an "Informance" with her band Friday at the Museum of the Great Plains. Before his passing Minner and her husband blues legend DC Minner frequently visited this area for festivals and workshops. Minner has continued blues workshops with young children in the Lawton area.

credit back to Oklahoma," she said. "That's why this is so important." She said the greats were inspired by Texas Hot Box, which focuses primarily on the sound of the guitar. "Blind Lemon Jefferson, T-Bone Walker, Charlie Christian, Freddie King — who my husband DC played bass for for many years — Stevie Ray Vaughan, BB King, and Eric Clapton, these musicians

have brought our regional form of the Blues to the world."

Minner is the wife of the late Blues legend DC Minner and began playing guitar and singing in her twenties. The two met in the East Bay in California where she said they were competing performers — "Even though I'd only been playing for five years," laughed Minner. The two musicians

On the Web

DC and Selby Minner - www.dcminnerblues.com

Cecil Gray and the Brothers Dupree - www.myspace.com/the-brothersdupree

Museum of the Great Plains - www.museum-greatplains.org

The Big Read March calendar of events - www.city-of-lawton.ok.us/Library/BigRead2010.htm

married a short time later and left the Bay Area in 1977. Years later — and after many years on the road — DC and Selby moved to Oklahoma where they settled in Rentiesville, Okla. where Minner said they reopened the Cozy Corner — once DC's mother's corn whiskey house/Jook Joint — as the Down Home Blues Club in 1988. "It quickly became an after hours club where we planned on people coming to us rather than us going to them — and they did," she said.

The Minners began the "Dusk 'til Dawn Blues Festival" in 1991 as a way to bring their fans and musician friends together from across the country, and Selby now continues her work to educate young people and music lovers about the blues, and its forgotten historical contributions from musicians of Oklahoma.

"At this 'informance' we'll be talking about the roots of the music and how it influenced Rock and Roll," said Minner. "We love working

with kids when we have our classes here. And, we're catching them at an age where they absorb it quickly. One little boy would dive out of the bleachers during performances, and do what I guess was Break Dancing ... he had 'the can't help its' he was so moved by the music," she said. And, that's exactly what Minner said she hopes audiences will get out of it.

Included in Minner's trio are Jerry Cryout on guitar and Torrence 'Bear' Cushinberry on traps, and she said she is very pleased with this group.

"I'm very proud of the band — it's a very strong three-piece band," she said. "It took me a while to feel confident that they wouldn't miss a note ... and, I'm really excited about the music we produce."

For this show she said they will focus on a variety of music. "We'll mix it up and make it fun," she said. The fact that this will be an 'informance' and is part of this year's Big Read is something she's particularly proud of. "It's a gift I have to be able to not just play, but explain it," she said, and it's something that she said applies to the rest of her band, too.

Friday's performance mustn't be missed, and it's free and open to the public. The show runs from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Museum of the Great Plains, 601 NW Ferris Ave., and will include Lawton vocal artist Cecil Gray, with Brothers Dupree, who will share lead duties with the band as well.





Established Artist Spotlight - Selby Minner

By Michele Schmidt

In the '60s, the world was changing. Politics, religion, clothing, hairstyles and especially music were all at the forefront of a turbulent time when Vietnam and human rights issues shook several the world.

Selby Minner was in the middle of it all. She had always loved music and singing, but it wasn't until she was at art school that she fully realized her dream. That's when something happened to bring her musical soul alive.

"Janis Joplin came to the art school when I was a freshman. She wasn't famous on the east coast yet. She was trying to get signed with the agency that made her famous. She was still with Big Brother & the Holding Company and I got to see her do a four hour concert in a very small space. I couldn't talk to anybody for days," said Minner.

Selby spent four years at the art school. She finished her junior year in good standing. Then, the same year that her friends were graduating, she hitchhiked out of town with guitar player Jim Donovan.

"My folks thought I had lost my mind," says Minner. "But that was it. I started singing on the street, working for tips. We went to Washington D.C. for six months that summer and we sang all over D.C. in the parks, and then we went up to Chicago and we went to every hootenanny and every open mic we could find."

They made their way to New Orleans, where Minner's first paid gig was on Bourbon Street.

"It was after hours - from one to five in the morning - for tips. So that was my first gig, which is kind of amazing - I mean first gig being on Bourbon Street, because that's such a famous place."

They worked the French Quarter and then went back up to Providence for the summer. After working all over southern New England, they finally got back to Berkley. That's where Selby met Oklahoma Blues legend, D.C. Minner.

"We were playing in some of the same places. Actually he saw me when we first hit town, and he came over and introduced himself. He was a very shy man so it was very unlike him," said Selby. "He said, 'What are you guys doing here?' and we said, 'We're here to play music.' He said, 'What kind of music?' and we said, 'Blues.' I mean we had our guitars on our backs and he said, 'Oh really?' and then he proceeded to tell us all the places where we could get jobs. I was hiding behind Jim because I'm so shy. Just that man's (D.C. Minner's) smile was like the sun to me. So I was hiding behind Jim but I was letting him know that he needed to keep talking to this man."

For Minner, that was a critical point in her life. It was at this time that everything about her passion was lining up and playing out just so. Life was good.

"D.C. hooked us up with the gigs there and we started playing a whole lot of music. I mean, performing out and getting paid. I was living on food stamps

Selby Minner
Photo by Jeremy Combs



and we were making enough to pay the rent and everything. We were picking up a lot of music so that was it."

Selby was just starting to explore her interest in the bass and was looking to join up with a guitar player who could play the blues. DC had started as a bass player, but by the time he and Selby met up, he was starting as a guitar player. He needed to try out his new songs so he went down to the Odyssey Bar, which was the same place Selby and Jim were working. The rest is history.

"Finally he let me know how he felt about me. I was already to the point where I knew I wanted to play the music with somebody who really knew the music, so it was a good experience. The timing was really good."

D.C. told her he needed a bass player and that he would teach Selby how to play hers.

"So then all of a sudden I was playing bass for somebody that had played bass for Freddie King, Bo Diddley, and I didn't even know three songs. It was like, baptism by fire," said Minner. "He didn't give me very many lessons, but I could sort of tell by the look in his eye if I was getting close. But I figured it out and it was a lot of fun."

It was not long before they decided to leave Berkley, get a van and spray painted it. They moved to the van and started traveling.

"He (D.C.) had told me he had a house and land that were paid for in Oklahoma. I'm a musician, you know, one apartment after another so I said, 'I'd like to see that.' Well he did. Where I live now is the old family farm and he was born in 1935. He grew up there and his grandmother ran a corn whiskey house on that land and grew cotton and everything else. He was raised right

there by his grandmother. She had been gone 10 years when we finally moved back in 1988. We got married in 1979 but when we opened the place we were able to stay put," said Minner.

The two opened the blues club that is now home to the Rentiesville Blues Festival and have made music history ever since. Together they won the Keeping the Blues Alive award from the Blues Foundation. That award was for their work with kids in schools around the area, which Selby still continues to do now that DC has passed.

She also teaches free all-ages classes in public libraries around Checotah and Muskogee and a jam band meets

at her house on Sundays to play the blues in a comfortable setting with no audience.

"Now I just want to do right by this music. Giving back has always been a big part of it; teaching - I'm right there with that. Now I'm just trying to keep the whole thing going. It's a lot of work, but I have a lot of people that help me. I have wonderful musicians coming through there because we have that jam session every Sunday so my band keeps morphing. I'm very blessed. I have gotten to make a living doing something I love to do. How many people in this country get to do that?"

For more information visit dcminnerblues.com





Bank of Eufaula

"The Hand that Rocks the Cradle is the Surest of Good Fortune"





102 N. Main • Eufaula, OK 74432 • 918-689-7732



In cooperation with Harry and Debbie Blackwell
present blues legend and OK

BLUES HALL of FAME member ...

Selby Mimmer

ONE NIGHT ONLY

Thursday, November 18, 8:30

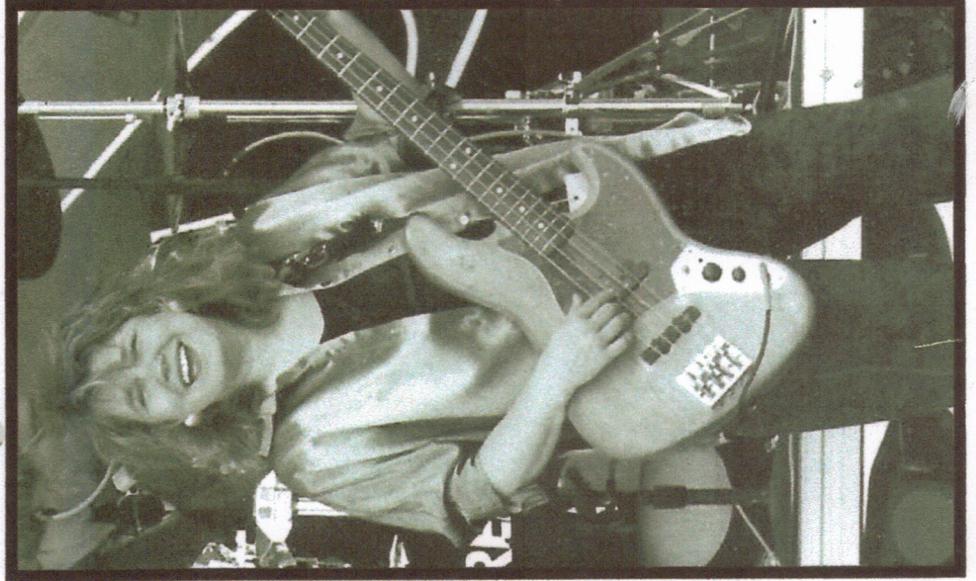


From the Dusk to
Dawn Blues Festival
to Beale Street in
Memphis, Selby
does it all.

Don't miss your
chance to see this
great blues
performer in person.
No cover charge for
dinner guests.

Make dinner
reservations **ASAP.**

530 918 9234



October 30, 2009

I got them old Oklahoma blue



Guy Folger
.....
Staff Writer

In my opinion, the blues is basically a love story. This is a love story.

The Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame is located in Rentiesville, just a few miles north of Checotah. It is a small town, one of the few remaining of the all-black communities in Oklahoma.

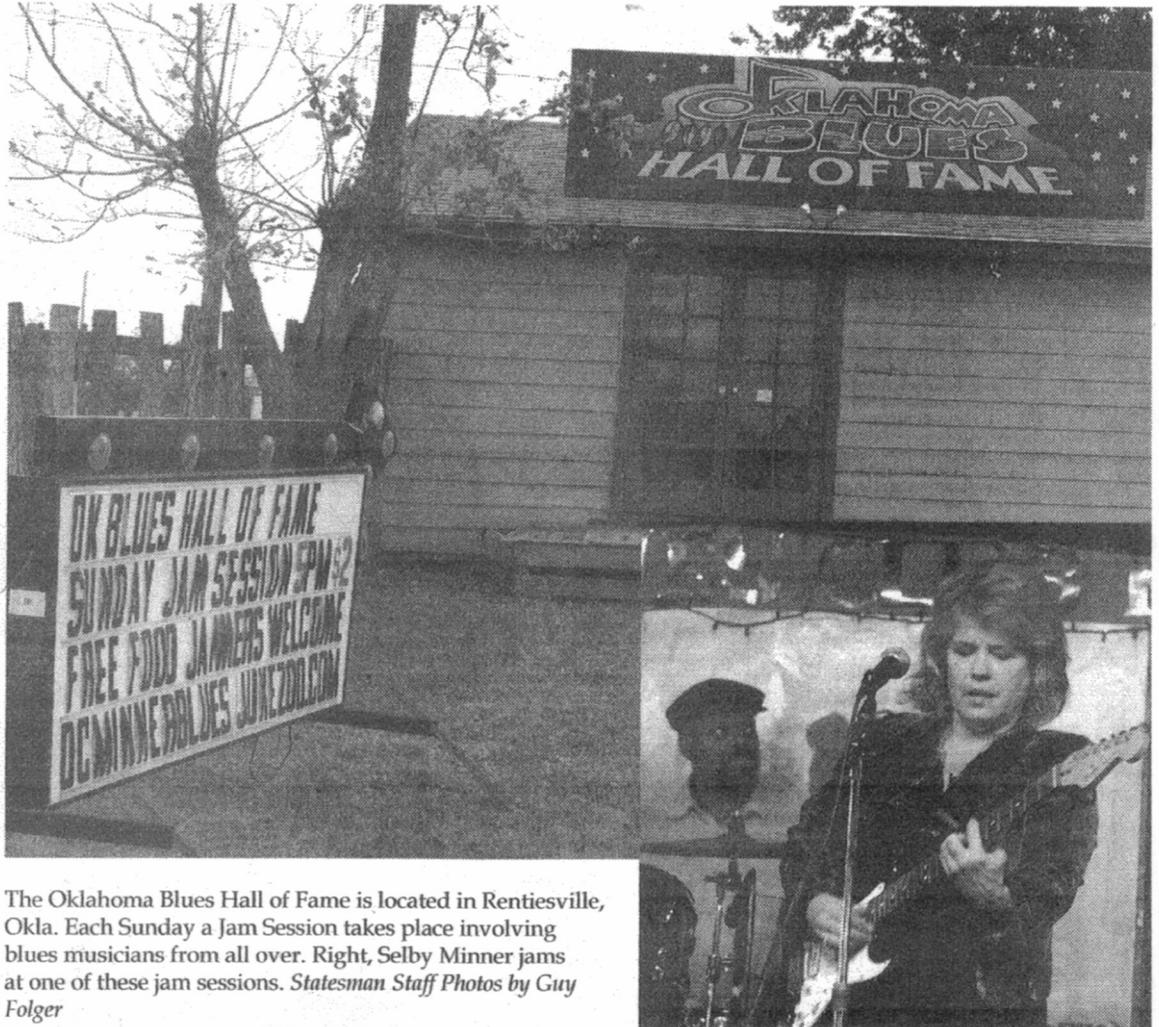
It is also home of the Honey Springs Civil War battlefield and, of course, the Labor Day weekend Dusk Till Dawn Blues Festival.

The Blues Hall of Fame was established in 2004 by Selby and the late D.C. Minner, owners of D.C. Minner's Down Home Blues Club. The club was built on property where D.C.'s grandmother had operated a bootleg whiskey/juke joint many years before.

The Minners met in California, while on separate blues tours, married in 1979, then toured the nation together until 1988 when they returned to D.C.'s hometown of Rentiesville.

And the aforementioned Dusk Till Dawn festival was started in 1991 by the Minners, as well.

Some of the first inductees to the Hall of



The Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame is located in Rentiesville, Okla. Each Sunday a Jam Session takes place involving blues musicians from all over. Right, Selby Minner jams at one of these jam sessions. *Statesman Staff Photos by Guy Folger*

Fame included Tulsa's legendary guitarist, bandleader, Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame and Music Hall of Fame member Verbie "Flash" Terry, Dorothy "Miss Blues" Ellis (who was 'blues with an attitude' vocalist from Oklahoma City), Berry Harris, blues pianist from Stringtown, Tony Mathews — guitarist from Checotah — who was Ray Charles'

guitarist for 18 years, tenor sax player Big Dave 'Bigfoot' Carr from Oklahoma City and others.

By the way, the thing that I like about the blues, almost as cool as the music itself, is the nicknames. You gotta have a cool nickname, mine would be Guy "The Coffee Man" Folger, of course.

In 2006, the third

year of the Hall, the Minners received their due, Selby as an inductee and D.C. with the Lifetime Achievement Award that bears his name. Also inducted that year were Tulsa blues guitarist/vocalist Elvin Bishop, best known for his song "Fooled Around and Fell In Love;" Tulsa singer and harmonica

player James "J Markham; Jame Walker — Fort Towson guitaris who has worked Joe Simon; Estl Phillips; Ike and Turner and Bris saxophonist Fra Swain.

The Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame charter or proclamation states: "Due to the fact

WILBURTON STATE COLLEGE PAPER

www.deminnerblues.com 918-855-0978
deminner@windstream.net



Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame Inductees



D.C. Minner

D.C. Minner was born January 28, 1935. He was raised in Rentiesville by his grand mother, Lura Drennan, who ran a corn whiskey house while he grew up. "There was no electricity anywhere around, so she would have the guys come over with their acoustic guitars. That was my first time hearing live music." said Minner.

Minner moved away when he joined the service. After he returned, he took up bass and worked out of Oklahoma City with Larry Johnson and the New Breeds. With this band, he performed behind O. V. Wright, Freddie King, Chuck Berry, Eddie Floyd, Bo Diddley and many more.

He moved to California in the late '60s and had a band with Tony Mathews in Hollywood. Then he moved to the bay area, retired from bass, studied Yogananda, took up guitar and ran into his future wife, Selby. She was playing acoustic guitar and singing blues at clubs in Berkeley and San Francisco. With a desire to learn the electric bass, Selby became D.C.'s apprentice, and they left the bay area in 1977.

D.C., Selby and Blues on the Move toured non-stop for 12 years, and then returned to D.C.'s home place. They re-opened the Cozy Corner as the Down Home Blues Club in 1988, and it quickly became an after hours club. In 1991, the Minners founded the Dusk 'til Dawn Blues Festival as a way to bring their fans and musician friends together from across the country.

The couple has received the Handy in Blues Education award, for their Blues in the Schools work, the Keeping the Blues Alive Award and in 1999 Minner was also inducted into The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. However, his proudest accomplishment was having his hometown rename part of the road that runs alongside the club in his honor. D.C. and Selby currently reside in Rentiesville, Okla., on D.C. Minner Street.

AWARDS and COMMENDATIONS
garnered by
D. C. Minner, Selby Minner
and the Dusk til Dawn Blues Festival

D. C. Minner

OK Blues Hall of Fame, the D.C. Minner Lifetime Achievement Award

Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame inductee 2003

Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame inductee 1999

Tulsa World Hall of Fame inductee 2007

Oklahoma Arts Council Commendation August 26, 2006

Governor's Commendation Nov 16, 1993

D.C. Minner Day in Muskogee OK April 17, 2008

Citation by Representative Ray miller and the Ok House of Representatives

Spotniks Tulsa World Music Award

Selby Minner

OK Blues Hall of Fame inductee 2006

D.C. Minner & Selby Minner:

Keeping the Blues Alive Award in Education, International Blues Foundation

D.C. and Selby Minner Day, State of Oklahoma Sept 1, 2006

Larry Johnson Foundation Music and Humanitarian Award May 15, 2009

Barebones International Film Festival Bonehead Award April 16, 2007

D.C. wants to give you

THE BLUES

Dusk till Dawn festival walls this weekend

By Becki Cato
Phoenix Staff Writer

For the ninth year in a row, fans can hear a unique blend of traditional blues music at the Dusk till Dawn Blues Festival this weekend. The annual Labor Day weekend event, hosted by the Faver Jazz Ensemble, will feature a variety of blues acts, including the Oklahoma Arts Council's D.C. and Selby Minner. They hoped 300 would come to the first...



For your comfort

- Do bring your chairs to bleachers.
- Do come early for chair seating.
- Don't bring weapons, pets, coolers, go-cups or food canyons. Food, soft drink and beer concessions available.
- Patking is free directly across from the entrance. Overnight parking is allowed but there are no hook-ups.
- Camping is available at Fountainhead State Park (KCA Campground, 475-0511).

Volunteers needed

Volunteers will get back plus \$7.50 a shift. Call 475-3611

Blues lovers flock to Rentiesville

Blues are for kids, too

Beat goes on at Bluestage

Music in the park: Rentiesville pair bring groups together.

By LOU ROEDE
Phoenix Life Writer

Five diverse blues acts with headliners D.C. and Selby Minner begin winding down...

Selby Minner Oklahoma Faver, GJHS students sing the blue.

Andrew Kirkpatrick
Guthrie News Leader

It's a cold Wednesday afternoon in the Faver auditorium, and a group of students is enraptured.

But math taught blue.

"Following Your Dream"

Department of Education and the Oklahoma Arts Council

High have been attending workshops and the Oklahoma Arts Council

Following Your Dream is November 12-18, 2000

Minner residency is November 12-18, 2000

D.C. and Selby Minner residency is November 12-18, 2000

by Dobby Weidensch...

National awards for Minners

This year D.C. and Selby Minner were named recipients of the National Blues Foundation. The award recognizes their hard work on the move, for the work done in schools across Oklahoma and their impact. The award is presented to the Oklahoma Arts Council. D.C. Minner was inducted into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame in Tulsa. Of the six living Oklahoma honorees, Minner is the only one who resides in the state.

D.C. Minner

C. Minner of Rentiesville has won many awards in his more than 40-year career as a jazz musician. Minner and his wife Selby just returned from Menphis where they both were given the International Blues Society (IBSA) (receiving Blues Alive award. But it is an award to be given closer to home that means the most to Minner. It will be awarded to him and his wife Selby at the 11th annual Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame.

All That Jazz

Local artists enter Oklahoma Hall of Fame

My organizers said... With the Jazz Hall of Fame award, Minner believes he "hit a home run for my genre pool." "We all have our own little legends and their kids do something," Minner says. "I'm only 16 feet from where County line..."



A dose of soul Blues artists have medicine for students

By Mary Funk
The Guthrie News Leader

D.C. Minner started life a "doctor," but when he leaves Faver Alternative School Thursday, he hopes students remember his artful medicine for the mind and soul. Minner and his wife and musical partner, Selby, are artist-in-residence at the Guthrie school this week, courtesy of the Oklahoma Arts Council.

Unique Blues Seminar To Feature Outstanding Oklahoma Musicians

A unique blues seminar will be held at the building... The group has brought... 8:30 p.m.

Master artist has students singing the blues



Join us for a FREE End of Summer Blues Concert September 7, 2000 Blues and Classic Rock

D.C. Minner, Selby and Blues on the Move

Blues and Blues on the Move... Your lawn chairs...

Musicians to flood park with the sounds of soul

Counting down... your Highlights Park...

The Minner's Tale

by Linda Seabold



Up Front

Portrait

TULSA PEOPLE, Tulsa, OK

Jazz man

First it was Tulsa's Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, now D.C. Minner is being recognized by the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame.

by Kayte Spillman

Nearly 50 years after learning how to play bass guitar, D.C. Minner—a recent inductee to the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame—is grateful for anything he has given to music.

“It’s a great honor to be singled out by your peers for having contributed something,” Minner says. “It’s nice to know you have left your mark.”

However, the guy who has jammed with such legends as Chuck Berry and Bo Diddley didn’t always have such notable accomplishments.

Born in the all-black town of Rentiesville, Minner grew up in a speakeasy owned by his grandmother. After dropping out of high school after

the 11th grade and a stint in the military, Minner packed up and moved to California to pursue his budding love of music.

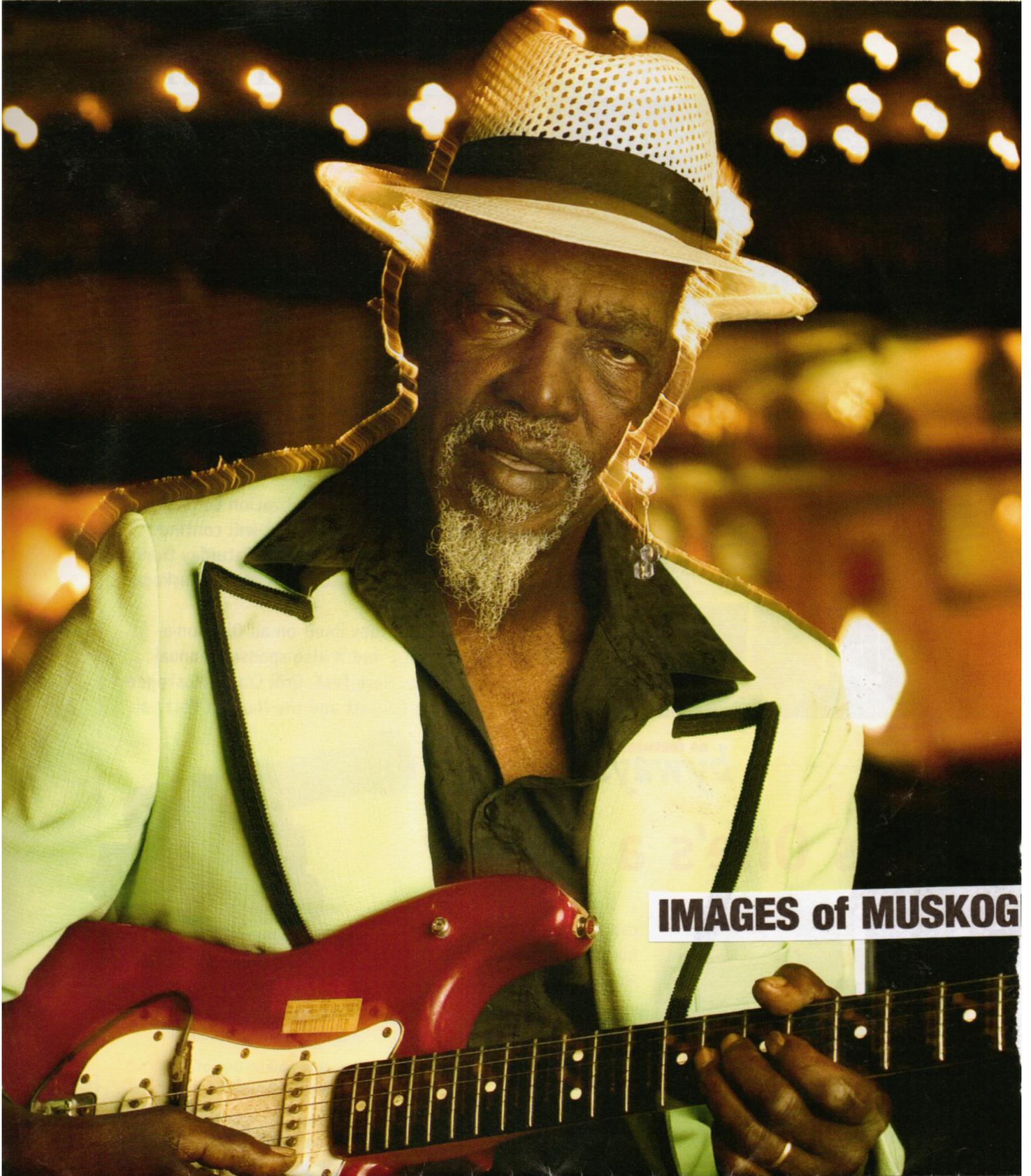
But it wasn’t penthouses and palm trees. Minner built a lean-to out of material salvaged from city dumps and camped out for seven months in the Northern California Redwoods. Twenty-five pounds of rice and 25 pounds of beans later, Minner emerged with 26 original songs.

It was the start of a great career that came full circle back to Rentiesville where Minner now holds an annual jazz festival, From Dusk till Dawn, in the same club where it all started. ■

Along with Minner, Ronnie Dunn, Benny Garcia, Flash Terry, Lee Wiley and John Wooley also are being inducted into the 2003 Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame Nov. 20.

IMAGES

OF MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA



IMAGES of MUSKOGEE