

# Blues News



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## By Itty Bitty Boop

As you're doing your blues-related travels this year don't be in any hurry - particularly if you see a sign that reads something along the lines of "speed checked by low-flying aircraft". They mean it!!! And the officer doesn't care if you have to hurry to the next restroom or not. But it was worth a try!

Okay, back to the topic at hand. On February 7<sup>th</sup> representatives (being Q, Sweatdog, and myself) from the WWBS hustled ourselves over to Wenatchee to see Etouffee and Too Slim and The Taildraggers at the Wenatchee Convention Center. The show was produced by R.L.S. Entertainment Enterprises. Thanks Robert and Rio. It was a great party - I mean performance. Mistah Keefer, I owe ya one buddy.

The show started at 8:00 (doors opened at 7:00) and all 600 tickets were pre-sold. Etouffee opened the show and it didn't take more than 30 seconds into the first tune and the dance floor was packed! Those that hadn't seen Etouffee before were pleasantly surprised; those that had knew it would be a party. Kelly T. and Etouffee played until 10:00 and after a quick set change (thanks to muscle provided by Golds Gym) Too Slim and the Taildraggers took the stage. Needless to say, but I'm gonna say it anyway, the dancefloor stayed packed!

I'd like to pat, pat, pat all the players on the back, back, back. Both bands "found the groove" that Saturday night. From the looks of it about 500 people also "found that groove". Some of us, I won't mention any names, didn't get out of the groove until well in Monday evening when my hips quit aching. I sure let that cat out of the bag.

The ballroom has great acoustics. The wet bars were well stocked and fairly priced. Security was excellent. They even had concessions outside the

ballroom with hot dogs (with or without sauerkraut?) and pizza by the slice also reasonably priced. As the drummer for the King Biscuit Band out of Wenatchee, Robert Sandidge of R.L.S. Entertainment knows what it takes to keep us blues lovers happy. With the help of Dave Keefer, his partner in crime, (Remember the morning DJ that used to be at Tri-Cities radio? He's now making a name for himself at his new station in Wenatchee - and happens to do quite a bit of blues programming that is very, very popular I might add.) on the production and promotion end, the show was another success - another because last fall R.L.S. had Swamp Mama Johnson perform at the Convention Center to a packed house of 700+.

The Convention Center is a beautiful facility. They made us blues fans feel right at home. There were reps from the Inland Empire Blues Society, the Washington Blues Society, and of course, the 'small but mighty' Walla Walla Blues Society - "who'll do almost anything for a party." I thought that was our job, man!

R.L.S. Entertainment Enterprises will be doing shows every 6 to 8 weeks in Wenatchee. March will bring Curtis Salgado with the King Biscuit Band opening. For more information on this show and upcoming events by R.L.S. Enterprises give Robert a call at (509) 662-MUSC (6872). Tell him the folks from the WWBS referred you. He might not let you into the shows because of it, but hey - somebody had to have way too much fun and we're so good at it! Later babies! - Betty "Because you're short" Boop