

## MUSIC NEWS – Havin' a Ball!

By SierraMadreSue Behrens



Deck the halls and sound the fire alarm! This is the year I'm finally going to attend the **SIERRA MADRE FIRE FIGHTERS' CHRISTMAS DANCE** on Saturday, December 6th! I've always had a conflicting engagement or been sick or had some other reason I couldn't go, but not this year - and I'm so excited about it! And seeing as how it's walking distance from my house (at La Salle High School) that's an added plus. Admission is only \$2.50, or you can donate as much as you like. See below for more details. Live music will be provided by **MERCY & THE**

**MERKETTES**, with the addition of **CYNTHIA**, who, along with Her Sweet Potatoes have done this event for several years. Together they will keep everyone entertained and dancing the night away! *Cynthia and Mercy are pictured with me this week. Thanks gals!*

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**12/2 - "TACO TUESDAY" @ MARY'S MARKET & CAFE IN SIERRA MADRE CANYON with STEVEN RADICE, 6:30 - 9pm. Stringed instruments & vocals. 561 Woodland Ave. Limited parking. Yummy tacos & burritos!**

**THURS. 12/4 - HELLO FROM RENO @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm? 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, pool table. Power Pop originals. *They're here for the first 3 Thursdays in December. and no - they're not from Reno!***  
<http://www.myspace.com/therealhellofromreno>

**FRI. 12/5 - The MELLOW D'z (DAVE OSTI AND DEANNA COGAN) @ THE MAYAN BAR (inside the Aztec Hotel) in MONROVIA, 6 - 8:30pm Happy Hour. 311 W. Foothill Blvd. 626-358-3231. NO COVER. Full bar, food, coldest beer in town! Acoustic Guitar, vocals. *"Hot Chick, Cool Dude & Music to suit your mood!"*** <http://www.myspace.com/themellowdeees>

**FRI. 12/5 - "THE SUBS" (Better Than Blue's acoustic alter ego) @ the DOCKSIDE GRILL in WEST COVINA, 7:30 - 11:30pm. 3057 E. Garvey Ave. North. In the bar area, but you can order food also. All ages ok. Joe Velosa, Danny Hesse, Felicia Bright. Acoustic rock, soul & blues. 626-915-3474.**

**FRI. 12/5 - WRECK 'N' SOW @ the "1st FRIDAY ART CLUB" @ McGinty's Gallery at the End of the World in Altadena, 8pm. 2475 N. Lake Ave. 626-794-8779. \$5 admission, includes dinner. *The event features exhibits and sales by more than 30 artists from throughout Southern California in a party atmosphere.* Bluegrass. [www.galleryattheendoftheworld.com](http://www.galleryattheendoftheworld.com)**

**FRI. 12/5 - BOBBY BRADFORD MOTET @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 8 - 11pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar, great Italian food. *A fixture on the local jazz scene, Bradford is best known for his early 70's work with Ornette Coleman, and was one of my brother Rick's early musical influences.***

**FRI. 12/5 - RICK SHEA & THE LOSIN' END @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9:30pm. 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, free parking in back. 21 and over. Honkytonk Country/Blues. *Always enjoyable!* <http://rickshea.com/>**

**SAT. 12/6 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443 . All ages. Saturday BLUES Brunch under a big breezy tent. *The Mission St. Gold Line station is just a short walk away, and makes for a nice outing.* <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>**

**SAT. 12/6 - TIM TEDROW & TERRY VREELAND @ SIERRA CUP IN MONROVIA, 6pm. 409 S. Myrtle Ave. 626-301-4214. Traditional Folk Music. *Gotta love the title of their latest CD: "Songs We Stole From Our Friends".* Opening act at 7pm is Bob Christian. <http://www.trough.com/tedrow-vreeland/default.htm>**

**SAT. 12/6 - BETTER THAN BLUE @ THE WORLD-FAMOUS DERBY IN ARCADIA, 7:30 - 11:30pm. 233 E. Huntington Dr. 626-447-2430. Full bar, 5-star restaurant. Rock, Soul & Blues. Line-up includes Felicia, Danny, Joe & Herb this time.**

**SAT. 12/6 - JORGE MENA & GARY PUTMAN ACOUSTIC SHOW @ THE DOCKSIDE GRILL IN WEST COVINA, 7:30 - 11:30pm. 3057 E. Garvey Ave. North. In the bar area, but you can order food also. All ages ok. 626-915-3474. Classic Rock (Beatles, Tom Petty, Eagles, Dylan, Stones, Elton John, etc.)**

**SAT. 12/6 - Open Mic Night @ the FRET HOUSE in Covina. 309 N. Citrus Ave. (626) 339-7020. Always on the first Saturday of the month, and just one dollar for performers or audience. Sign-up starts at 7:30. If there aren't enough slots for everybody they'll make a list for the next month, and call you. Each act gets two songs or ten minutes, whichever comes first. The show starts at 8:00. They'll have desserts and coffee ready. *Bring your friends and family and join the show!* [www.covina.com/frethouse/](http://www.covina.com/frethouse/)**

**SAT. 12/6 - SIERRA MADRE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION 87th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DANCE @ LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL, 8pm - 1am. 3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., at Michillinda Ave. Live music from MERCY & THE MERKETTES, featuring CYNTHIA (formerly of Cynthia & Her Sweet Potatoes.) Admission \$2.50. No host bar. *Also - new, unwrapped toys will be collected for "Toys for Tots".***

**SAT. 12/6 - JOB STRILES @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm. 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, pool table, free parking. BLUES. *Sierra Madre's own Peter Burke on drums.***

**SAT. 12/6 - JETSTREAM @ THE RANCHO BAR IN ALTADENA, 9pm. 2485 N. Lake Ave. 626-798-7634. Full bar, no cover. *This time they'll be settin' up in the pool room so the keyboard player doesn't have to stand in the hallway to the patio! Jet's jammin' hippie rock band.* And check out the ongoing "art bender" weekend at the gallery next door. [www.ranchobar.com](http://www.ranchobar.com)**

**SAT. 12/6 - MARTINI DIARIES featuring JEFF STETSON & friends @ COLOMBO'S ITALIAN STEAK HOUSE IN EAGLE ROCK, 10pm - 1am. 1833 Colorado Blvd. 323-254-9138. Full kitchen & bar. *Jeff sez: first set will be Jazz & then evolve into "Acid-Lounge-Jazz-Rock!"* 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month.**

**SUN. 12/7 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443 . All ages. *BLUES Brunch under a big breezy tent.* <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>**

SUN. 12/7 - GRANT PARK SOFTBALL - ALL ARE WELCOME. NOT A LEAGUE - JUST FOR FUN & THE LOVE OF THE GAME! CORNER OF CORDOVA & MICHIGAN IN PASADENA, 3 BLOCKS WEST OF PCC. BATTING PRACTICE 12:00, GAME TIME ASAP. BRING YOUR GLOVE, BAT, CHAIR, ICE CHEST, GUITAR, UKULELE, ETC. *EVERY SUNDAY.*

SUN. 12/7 - THE MERCY POWELL QUARTET @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 1:30 - 4:30pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd . 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. No cover, all ages. *Mercy, Josh, Marc & Peter Burke doin' some standards & jazzy stuff for your dining & listening pleasure!*

SUN. 12/7 - "OPERA TO BROADWAY" VOCAL PERFORMANCES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 7pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. Every Sunday evening. *Get there early - they pack 'em in!*

12/9 - "TACO TUESDAY" @ MARY'S MARKET & CAFE IN SIERRA MADRE CANYON with JODI & THE MINIONS, 6:30 - 9pm. 561 Woodland Ave. Limited parking. Yummy tacos & burritos! *"Standards with a high standard of standardness."* [www.myspace.com/jodiandtheminions](http://www.myspace.com/jodiandtheminions)

TUES. 12/9 - WRECK 'N' SOW @ THE PIKE IN LONG BEACH, 8pm - Midnight. 1836 E. 4th St. 562-437-4453. *Fun Bluegrass stuff w/great harmonies & snazzy overalls!* The Dupuy brothers, etc. <http://www.wrecknsow.com/index.htm>

WED. 12/10 - aka MAX BUDA @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 8 - 11pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar, great Italian food. No cover, all ages. *Unique jazzy rock stuff from Chester & the boys.*

THURS. 12/11 - FUR DIXON & STEVE WERNER, THE BROMBIES and SUSIE GLAZE & THE HILONESOME BAND @ THE COFFEE GALLERY BACKSTAGE IN ALTADENA, 8pm. \$20. 2029 N. Lake Ave. 626-398-7917. Americana/Bluegrass.

THURS. 12/11 - HELLO FROM RENO @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm. 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, pool table. Power Pop originals. *First 3 Thursdays in December. and no - they're not from Reno!* <http://www.myspace.com/therealhellofromreno>

FRI. 12/12 - The MELLOW D'z (DAVE OSTI AND DEANNA COGAN) @ THE MAYAN BAR (inside the Aztec Hotel) in MONROVIA, 6 - 8:30pm Happy Hour. 311 W. Foothill Blvd. 626-358-3231. NO COVER. Full bar, food, coldest beer in town! Acoustic Guitar, vocals. *"Hot Chick, Cool Dude & Music to suit your mood!"* <http://www.myspace.com/themellowdeees>

FRI. 12/12 & SAT. 12/13 - CHICO'S BAIL BONDS @ THE DOCKSIDE GRILL IN WEST COVINA, 7:30 - 11:30pm. 3057 E. Garvey North (on restaurant row, off the 10 Fwy.) 626-915-3474. In the bar area, but you can eat dinner there; all ages ok. Semi-acoustic BLUES. <http://chicosbailbondsblues.com/>

FRI. 12/12 - THE URINALS, THINGZ and DING DONG DEVILS @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm. 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, cheap drinks! Rock, Punk, Alternative.

SAT. 12/13 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443 . All ages. Saturday BLUES Brunch under a big breezy tent. *The Mission St. Gold Line station is just a short walk away, and makes for a nice outing.* <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SAT. 12/13 - "HOOTENANNY!" @ SIERRA MADRE BOOKS, 1 - 3pm. 18 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-3200. *"Join us again for one of our favorite events! The hootenanny is perfect for families*

*and children of all ages. Bring an instrument to play, your favorite song to sing, or simply share in the fun." Refreshments provided.*

**SAT. 12/13 - THE B.O. TRIO PLUS ONE, featuring JEFF STETSON, play "A MIXED BAG AND SOME BLUES" @ ZEPHYR COFFEE HOUSE IN PASADENA, 8:30 - 10pm. 2419 E. Colorado Blvd., just E. of Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-793-7330. Soups, sandwiches, coffee, tea, smoothies, etc.**

**SAT. 12/13 - LIGHTNIN' WILLIE & THE POORBOYS @ THE BUCCANEER LOUNGE IN SIERRA MADRE, 9pm. 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. Full bar, no cover, free parking in back. *Lightnin' fast BLUES.***

**SAT. 12/13 - SNOTTY SCOTTY & THE HANKIES @ THE OLD TOWNE PUB IN PASADENA, 9pm. Corner of Fair Oaks & Union - enter thru alley off of Holly Ave. 626-577-6583. Possible cover charge? 21 & over, beer & wine. *Pasadena's legendary 60's garage band returns to their old stomping grounds.***

**SUN. 12/14 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443 . All ages. *BLUES Brunch under a big breezy tent.***  
<http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

**SUN. 12/14 - Have Lunch with NEW ASTROTURF @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 1:30 - 4:30pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food in a comfy setting. *Bring the family! Acoustic Folk/Rock, Classic Country. Guest Bass player Tom Behrens.***

**SUN. 12/14 - THE FRET HOUSE EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS SHOW, doors open at 2:30, show at 3pm. FREE!!! All ages. 309 N. Citrus Ave., Covina. 626- 339-7020. *An afternoon of performances by Fret House employees and friends.***

**SUN. 12/14 - "OPERA TO BROADWAY" VOCAL PERFORMANCES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 7pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. Every Sunday evening. *Get there early - they pack 'em in!***

**Please remember to call and verify all info. before making plans. Everything is subject to change. This is show biz, after all...**

Hope to see you out & about,  
SierraMadreSue  
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**FOR EVEN MORE COOL SHOWS & INFO., CHECK OUT THESE SITES:**

<http://cafe322.com/>

<http://sierracup.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/piratedive>

<http://www.coffeegallery.com/home.html>

<http://www.myspace.com/americanarootsla>

<http://www.aliveandpicking.com/calendar.html>

<http://www.covina.com/frethouse/concerts.html>