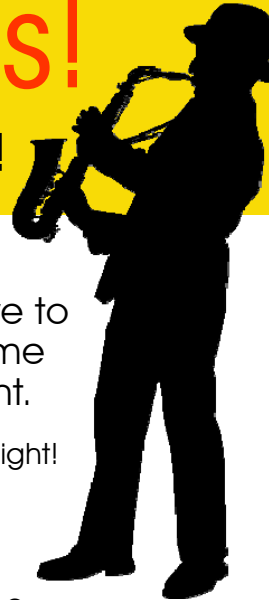


Beloit hi lites!

live. laugh. play!



WHAT'S PLAYING TONIGHT?

Almost any night in Beloit you can groove to hot jazz, catch a blues jam, or enjoy some of the region's best lounge entertainment.

Call these Beloit hot spots to see what's playing tonight!

Suds O'Hanahan's - Mondays - 368.1933

435 E. Grand Ave., 7-9pm

Catch a blues jam! Dave Potter & The Alley Kings and guests.

Café Belwah - Wednesday & Friday - 363.1110

500 Pleasant Street, Wednesdays - 6-9pm, Fridays 7-11pm

On Wednesdays, enjoy either Rob Tomaro and musical guests, or catch Harlan Jefferson on the 1st Wednesday of the month. On Fridays a variety of musicians are featured.

Enjoy blues & jazz on the outdoor riverfront patio when the weather warms up.

The Gun Club - Thursday-Saturday - 362.9900

1122 East Colley Road, 7-11pm

On Thursday, enjoy blues by Glenn Davis & Matt Goodwin. Friday & Saturday entertainment varies. Enjoy dinner in this traditional supper club.

The Rock - Thursday & Saturday - 363.7625

101 Maple Avenue, 5:30pm

Greg Gerard plays your favorites two times a week. It's always Five o'clock at The Rock.

The Butterfly Club - Friday & Saturday - 362.8577

County Highway X, 7pm

See the talented Mike Williamson, 1st weekend of the month, The VIPs play all other weekends. Take advantage of their dance floor!

Bushel & Peck's - Fridays - 363.3911

328 State Street., 7-10pm

Join Greg Gerard and friends for an eclectic night of music. Open mic. Food, coffee, wine & beer served.



Please check our website for complete up-to-date information on live music in Beloit.

Dates, entertainment and times are subject to change, please call the venue to verify information.

www.visitbeloit.com

VISIT BELOIT

500 Public Ave.

608.365.4838

**BELOIT
WISCONSIN**

Beloit's Music Scene:

Personal expressions of enjoyment of the thriving live music scene in Beloit, Wisconsin.

by Rick McGrath, Beloit, Wisconsin

As a relatively new resident of Beloit I must say the music scene here is wonderful and evidently expanding. Having moved here from another 'college town' out of state I was hoping for a level of arts, culture, dining and entertainment I'd enjoyed elsewhere and Beloit has not disappointed me.

While our family takes advantage of many of the varied arts community offerings, for me... if there's good live music, I'm in. My particular flavors are Blues, Jazz, acoustic and touring live talent. I enjoy creative off-beat and atypical, non-main stream musical expressions. And like most 'college towns' or engaging downtown areas; proximity, variety or eclectic offerings and frequency lend to the area's buzz. There's this sort of buzz happening in Beloit.

So here's where you'll want to be.

Monday nights: (Yes, Monday nights!) Hit [Suds O'Hanahans](#). There's a jam session hosted by [Dave Potter](#) that draws some of the region's best talent who mix it up. I love the energy and spontaneity this sort of jam makes happen. What's cool about this night is this is where the area's musicians performing their own gigs elsewhere on the weekends come together to hang out and play with their buddies. By evening's end you'll have sampled some of the best Blues, Jazz and plain ol' Rock-n-roll you're going to find. It's an Irish Pub, kick-back kind of place. You'll find music here on other nights but on Monday... this is where you want to be.

Tuesday nights: Nothing at this time – but watch this space.

Wednesday nights: Cafe Belwah - Cool Jazz & Blues, this is the place. They bring in some of the best talent from Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison and points in between. Sax player [Harlan Jefferson](#) and Chicago performers [The Lance Brown Group](#) are among our favorite that perform here but we've enjoyed a lot of different performers we'd not have experienced otherwise. It's a more sophisticated, martini bar sort of venue that when filled with music has a wonderful cool vibe.


Thursday nights: You have options. We head over to [The Gun Club](#) (a former outdoor sportsman's club, hence the name) this is where we like to hang with the "regulars" for some Blues. Ok, what are special here are two things. In short order you find yourself as one of the regulars, you know everyone and you're all there together having this shared experience of great music. It's very cool. And the second thing is it is great music. [Glenn Davis](#) and [Matt Goodwin](#) who are worth the visit alone frequently have guest musicians joining them adding new and interesting variations and textures to the evening's music. Love the spontaneity and the level of musicianship we enjoy every week. It's a casual place to hang out with friends.



Beloit musician Greg Gerard - photo by Ross Zentner

You should also check out [Greg Gerard](#) over at [The Rock Bar and Grill](#). Greg's one of the great musical talents and we're fortunate that he calls Beloit home. Thursday and Saturday nights at The Rock is one more of the recently expanding list of live music offerings in Beloit. This'll be fun, Greg now has a place he can let it go full out and The Rock is a great place in which to do it.

Friday afternoons: Now this is just starting up again for the warm months. Head downtown to the [First National Plaza](#) at Grand and State streets at noon. One of the local restauranteurs will be catering lunch. You'll be treated to different live music performers each week. There is a lot of talent around here and it's showcased for your lunchtime listening pleasure. It's a great way to wrap up the work week, outside listening to music, enjoying your lunch.

Friday nights: Now you may have hard choices to make on a  day night particularly through the summer. In cooler weather we like to head over to [Pleasant Street Coffeehouse](#) for the acoustic and eclectic mix of music Grammy nominee [Greg Gerard](#) and his guests serve up. What's great here is that you could listen to Greg all evening and not get enough. Need to check it out. The addition and variety of the other performers who show up to play with him or play their own set makes for a great evening out. As the name indicates P-Street Coffeehouse serves up just that kind of coffeehouse vibe. It's a good space for the music. It gets packed, so get there early.

Continued

Throughout the summer Music at Harry's Place lights up and you won't want to miss great live music outdoors along the riverfront at Riverside Park. We'll head over there to enjoy an evening with a thousand of our closest friends. The music offered is varied and over the course of the summer we'll enjoy several new performances we've never experienced before along with some the perennial favorites back by popular demand.

But then you also have to consider what the Beloit Fine Arts Incubator has planned. On the first Friday of the month they typically present new installations in the gallery. Along with new installations they'll frequently host an evening with the artist(s) along with live music. Very artsy. Very fun.

Saturday nights: Here again you have options. For us it typically depends on what the college is serving up from their International Performing Arts Series. They'll bring in world class performances from across the globe. If the college is presenting something, that's where we'll be. You just need to see their schedule to get a sense of the breadth and renown of what the College provides the community. From BeauSoleil to The St. Petersburg String Quartet and all points in between, all here to enjoy in Beloit WI. Additionally the Beloit Janesville Symphony performs at Beloit College throughout the year.



Friday night Blues jam at Beloit Fine Arts Incubator
- photo by Mark Preuschl

If we're between events hosted at the College we have to choose between Suds O'Hanahans (a rotation of bands) and The Gun Club (a rotation of bands) and The Rock (with Greg Gerard) all of which regularly have live music on Saturday nights.

Sunday evenings: I also have to mention the Jack Farina Big Band that plays the first Sundays of the month. You don't get to hear a full sixteen piece "Big Band" often. They perform out at the Marine Corps League and they're great. We really enjoy them.

Additionally, I have to mention Beloit's nationally recognized Beloit Memorial High School Jazz Band. Wait, they're not your typical HS Jazz band. They've won an invitation to perform in New York's Lincoln Center for the annual Essentially Ellington program from among thousands of like bands across the US and Canada. They perform regularly around town. I think they reflect the level of appreciation around music in Beloit. They're talented, enthusiastic and a ton of fun. Look for when and where they're performing. They'll not disappoint. BTW, we've no children in the band.

In sum for a town the size of Beloit it has an incredibly rich, diverse and emerging music scene. While admittedly on a smaller scale, it is reminiscent of the urban college music scene I've experienced in other much larger cities. Beloit is certainly establishing itself as the place to go in the entire Stateline area for arts and entertainment in general and live music in particular.

By Rick McGrath
Unbiased raving fan.
3/31/09

Enjoy more of Rick's insight into Beloit's entertainment scene at Beloit Neighborhood Preservation Association website: <http://nesnabeloit.org/>