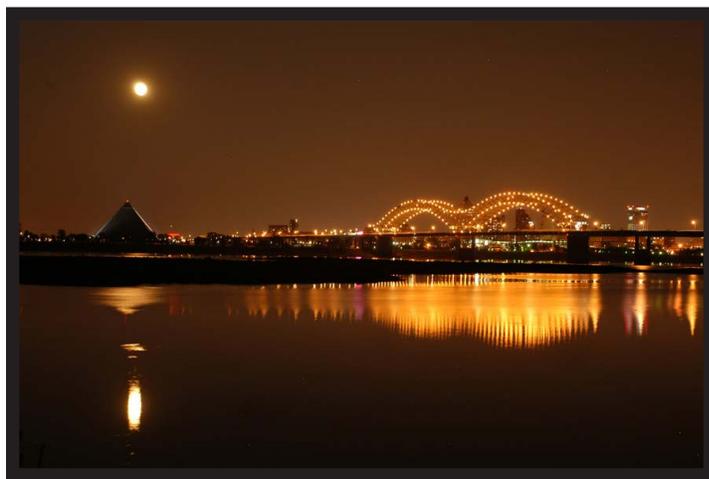




THE LIZZARD KINGS

ORIGINAL DEEP-FRIED MEMPHIS MUSIC

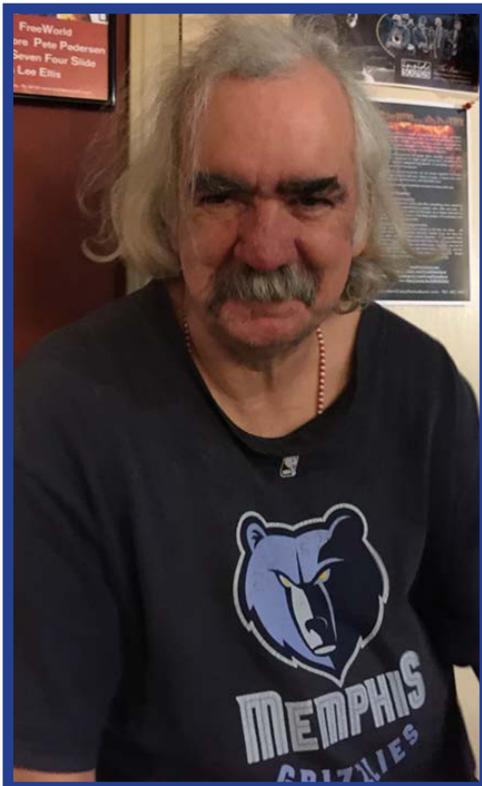
In a music-drenched city like Memphis, where you can hear a different genre of music emanating from every street corner, it can be difficult to find a band that isn't segmented into one genre or another, one with a universal appeal; much less, a band performing all original material.



2019 *International Blues Challenge* artist, **The Lizzard Kings**, recognize the need for a band whose sound is as diverse as the place they call home, a band delivering all-original music that appeals to the masses, and they have answered the call.

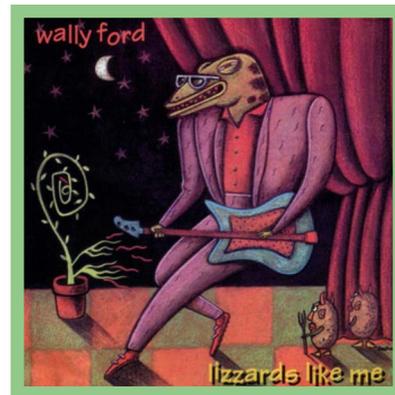
The Lizzard Kings captures the essences of the musics that informed and influenced its members, and their hometown, and distills them to create its own *Original Deep-Fried Memphis Music*.

HISTORY



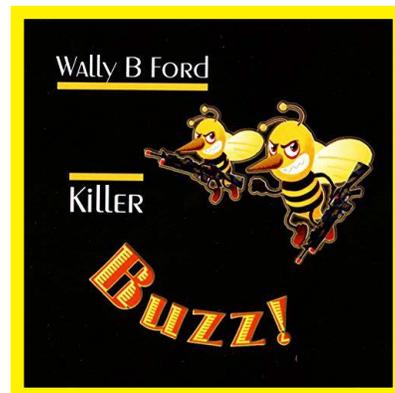
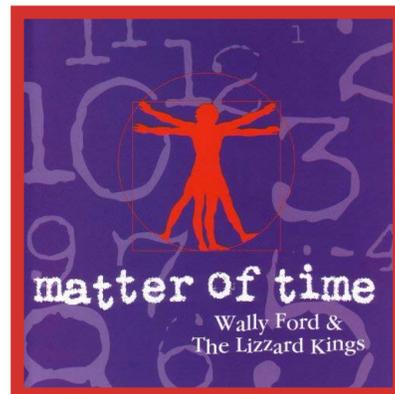
Formed in the 1980s, **Wally Ford & the Lizzard Kings** has been but one of the outlets for the creative musical and songwriting talents of Memphis' own eclectic genius, **Wally B. Ford**.

You can hear Wally's original compositions on his releases, 1994's *Lizzards Like Me*, 1996's *Matter of Time*, and his latest, *Killer Buzz*, released in 2012.



Now, thirty years in, **The Lizzard Kings** have risen, like the mythological Phoenix, from the mystical, magical ashes of Wally Ford & the Lizzard Kings.

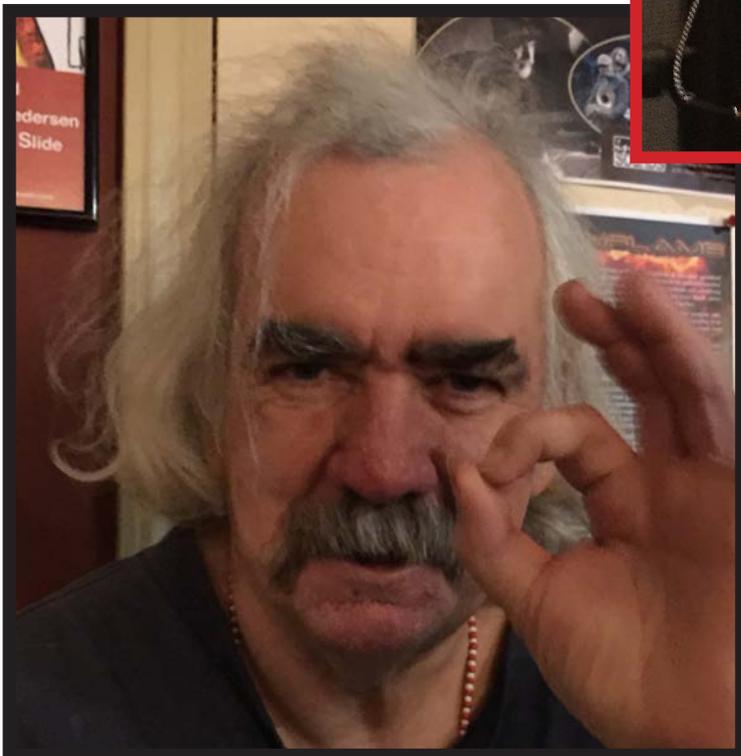
The current incarnation of The Lizzard Kings includes **Wally Ford** on guitar and vocals, **Dwayne Caudill** on drums, percussion and vocals, **Jesse Branstetter** on guitar and vocals, **Charles Ponder** on lead vocals, harmonica and percussion, and **Tim Goolsby** on bass and vocals.



WALLY FORD

GUITAR - VOCALS

Wally Ford is the founding member of The Lizzard Kings. He has been playing guitar and writing songs since the age of twelve. Wally has co-written songs for Dexter Haygood (of The X-Factor) at Cotton Row Studio in Memphis, and he has co-written songs with Niko Lyras, a partnership that yielded two major cuts, one on CBS Records



and one on Curb Records.

Wally went on to collaborate with Eddie Dattel at Inside Sounds, where he now writes for The Lizzard Kings, and for the Daddy Mack Blues Band, among others.

MEMBERS



DWAYNE CAUDILL

DRUMS - PERCUSSION - VOCALS

Born in Atlanta, and raised in Memphis from an early age, **Dwayne Caudill** has been immersed in a melting pot of musical influences his entire life. From the music made famous by the town that he grew up in, to all the music he was exposed to living in a family of music enthusiasts,

to all of the music that he discovered himself along the way, few musical destinations have been left unexplored.

Dwayne started on his journey as a musician at the tender young age of 40 years. Having already established a successful career with a Fortune 500 corporation, and at the prodding of a friend and co-worker, he took up drumming. It is a passion that has since consumed him, and propelled him forward on a musical path.

Before joining The Lizzard Kings, Dwayne was in Odd Normality, an all original, Avant-Garde instrumental trio, and in Trainwreck Willy, where he began his musical relationship with fellow Lizzard King, Jesse Branstetter.

JESSE BRANSTETTER

GUITAR - VOCALS

Jesse Branstetter was born in Saint Johns, Newfoundland, Canada, moving to Memphis at the age of 5. He received his first guitar at the age of 8, and began teaching himself to play. By the age of 13, he was singing and playing in public, as well as developing his songwriting skills. By 15, his mother had made legal arrangements to allow Jesse to play in adults-only establishments in and around Memphis.

In his early 20s, Jesse spent two years in California playing in a three-piece acoustic band named, ironically enough, Memphis. Before finding a home in The Lizzard Kings, Jesse honed his impressive musical skills in The Desert Wine Band, RCK, Trainwreck Willy, and Dixie Jam, where he started his musical relationship with the newest Lizzard King, Tim Goolsby.

When not performing with The Lizzard Kings, Jesse can also be found playing in Memphis' own Daddy Mack Blues Band, and in his latest project, Just Groovin.



MEMBERS



CHARLES PONDER

LEAD VOCALS - HARMONICA

PERCUSSION

Hailing from Newark, New Jersey, **“Sir Charles” Ponder** is a vocalist, actor, and musician whose performances will pull you in. “Deep sultry tones” and “Power at full throttle” have been used to describe the voice of this artist, and he commands that voice on any stage with an infectious personality and energy.

Trained in musical theater throughout grade school, and in classical, jazz, musical theater, and acting during college, Charles has starred and appeared in various plays, musicals, and films, sharing the screen with notable actors like Steve Buscemi in “Mystery Train” and Tom Cruise in “The Firm”.

Charles is a founding member of DeltaCapella, an award-winning a capella vocal band; he was the front man for the award-winning dance band The Distraxshuns / Funk de Ville, and he is a two-time member of the Opera Memphis Chorus.

“Sir Charles” Ponder is the total performing artist. He is an electrifying presence who is comfortable on any stage, in any venue, at any event. He is the type of entertainer who will show up, and show out.

TIM GOOLSBY

BASS - VOCALS

Tim “Coolsby” Goolsby has also been around music his entire life. His father, Wayne Goolsby, played in several Bluegrass and Country groups, and he has been Tim’s biggest inspiration.

At the age of 13, Tim received a bass guitar and amp for his birthday, and taught himself how to play.

By 15, Tim had joined his first band, Natural High Band.

Throughout his musical career, Tim has been a member of several bands, The Strangerz, Line Drive, Dixie Jam, Rusted Nail, and Condo Johnny, playing both originals and covers.

After suffering a stroke in 2013, Tim believed his days in music were over. He decided to take time off from musical pursuits in order to spend more time with his family. It wasn’t long, though, before Tim reconnected with the music he is so passionate about by learning to use music as a form of rehabilitative therapy. Thankfully, Tim overcame all obstacles, and he recovered fully to join The Lizzard Kings in 2015.



THE LIZZARD KINGS



“...love’s what it’s all about!”

Hailing from the Home of the Blues and the Birthplace of Rock and Roll, Memphis’ own **The Lizzard Kings** deliver a finely honed and diverse repertoire of well-crafted original songs that cut across many musical genres. From Rock to Pop, Blues to R&B, both Country *AND* Western, Funk, Americana, Reggae, Alternative, and Avant-Garde; it’s all in there, and more!

All of the members contribute songs to this band that they are so passionate about, and if you listen to the material with more than just a casual pass, you will find that there are some real meat and potatoes songs here. The lyrics can be insightful and thought-provoking, and, if you pay close attention and give them some careful reflection, they can stir deep emotions.

The Lizzard Kings are spreading Lizzard Fever with their ***Original Deep-Fried Memphis Music***. Catch yourself a case and you will see what it’s all about.

MEDIA & BOOKING



THE LIZZARD KINGS OFFICIAL SITE:

www.thelizardkings.com

THE LIZZARD KINGS AUDIO & VIDEO:

www.thelizardkings.com/media

THE LIZZARD KINGS PICTURES:

www.thelizardkings.com/gallery

SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES:

Bandsintown: <https://www.bandsintown.com/a/12877714-the-lizard-kings>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thelizardkings/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thelizardkings>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thelizardkings/>

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