

# Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour  
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**Susan Powell sells the Back Porch to have T-Joe's love child...**



The big news this week is (hold on to your seats) **Susan Powell** has sold the *Back Porch* to **Glenn Martin**, the owner of *Woody's Sports Center* in Port A. After 29 years in the food and beverage industry in Port Aransas, Susan has decided to throw in the hat. When pushed for an explanation, Susan offered, "My dear mother passed away recently and I decided it was time to get my priorities straight while I still have all my teeth, plus people have begun calling me "Miss Susan" like I'm 100 years old. And, I was really hoping this wouldn't get out, but I'm pregnant and am going off to have **T-Joe's** love child. Actually the truth is, my husband, **Gentry**, threatened to torch the place if I didn't get out."

**My hair's been on fire for 29 years...**

Susan went on to say, "I still have my house in Port A and Gentry has his sailboat here so we'll still be around, just on the other side of the bar. I plan to devote myself to my husband and our ranch in Goliad. Look, I've been running around like my hair's on fire for 29 straight years and the fire's about to go out. I want to rediscover "normal" and just go sailing with the most patient person on the planet...Gentry. The *Back Porch* will remain basically unchanged. The bands are nearly booked through October. I won't miss the work, but I will miss seeing my customers and friends (and their secrets are safe with me). My office manager and brother **Scott Lagedrost** is leaving, also. We've worked as a team since *Tortuga Flats*. I took all the glory while he did all the grunge work. We're really proud of what we accomplished."

**Mingo Fishtrap to play retirement party...**

When asked about the *Porch's* new management, Susan offered, "Glenn and I were 50/50 partners. He was the silent partner. He is a former mayor of Port A and was the 2012 recipient of *Port A's Citizen of The Year Award*. He and his son, Clear Channel Communications executive, **Matt Martin**, have bought me out. I'll be handing my key (a big giant one) over to them at the party when the deal goes through on April 4<sup>th</sup>, featuring my favorite band, **Mingo Fishtrap**, and everyone is invited."

**Adios amiga...**

We'll miss you Susan. Me especially. You've been a great friend for most of three decades and I think you hung the moon. Music professionals and fans alike will forever be indebted for the mark you made on this community. Your attention to detail and the consistently great live music calendars is what made the *Porch* a major destination in Port A. You're one of the good guys that really did make a difference. Plus, what would the world be like if there was no turkey bowling? I shudder to think. Don't be a stranger! You too, Scott.

**My weekend in Austin...**

I finally got off the island and took a little road trip to Austin to see my mother and sister. It's been way too long. After a couple of days of

bouncing grand-nieces off my knee, I hooked up with my old pal, **Preacher Keen**, and went to hear some music. Preacher is a great musician who I've known for many years. He lives out at Lake Travis and was more than ready to hit the bars with me. It was a Sunday but the music scene in Austin never slows down and we found plenty of shows to see.

**The Resentments at the Saxon...**



*The Resentments, Bruce Hughes, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Miles Zuniga, John Chipman and Jeff Plankenhorn at the Saxon Pub in Austin*

While the sun was still up we headed off to see **The Resentments** at the *Saxon Pub*. This band is an Austin institution that started with **Steven Bruton**, the late Ft. Worth guitarist, singer, composer and producer with a resume that included **Kristofferson, Raitt and Dylan**. The band has had a steady line-up of Austin dignitaries since its induction. The current incantation consists of some real heavyweights: **Bruce Hughes (Bob Snider, Monty Montgomery), Scrappy Judd Newcomb (Loose Diamonds, Toni Price, Troy Campbell), Miles Zuniga (Fastball) and Jeff Plankenhorn (Joe Ely, Willis Alan Ramsey, Ruthie Foster, Eliza Gilkyson, Slaid Cleaves, Bruce Robison, Susan Gibson)**. The place was packed and the show was classic Austin hip. I'm not sure I'm cool enough for Austin anymore. I used to be right in the middle of this scene but that's been a long time. They played all originals as far as I could tell and traded the spotlight back and forth, dropping names and exuding buckets of cool. We listened to a half dozen songs and bolted.

**The One 2 One and Strange Brew...**



*The Brandon Temple Jazz Group played Strange Brew in Austin*

I wanted to see some of the new music venues in Austin, so Preacher took me to the *One 2 One Club* next where **The Derailers** were playing their patent honky tonk. This was a cool place with a big stage and lots of room to dance. Next we headed over to the *Strange Brew* to see the **Brandon Temple Jazz Band**. Temple is one of the greatest drummers to hail from Austin and we stayed and listened to his "cool jazz" for as long as we could stand it. **Joe King Carrasco** had played there the night before. This was a serious listening room.

**HAPPY EASTER**

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Every Sunday (7- 11)

**Back to basics at the Continental...**

After that, it was time to get back to basics at my old stompin' grounds, the *Continental Club* on South Congress. The *Continental* is one of



*Red Volkaert and the Heybales played the Continental Club in Ausin last Sunday*

the best and longest standing live music clubs in Austin still today. They run live shows seven days a week and stack 'em two and three deep every night. Preacher insisted that we see **Red Volkaert and Heybale**. Red is a Canadian who used to be the guitarist for **Merle Haggard** and won a Grammy for *Best Country Instrumental Performance* in 2009. Preacher assured me, "you won't believe this cat... he's amazing." Preacher was right. The list of musical luminaries he's played with is staggering... so were his licks on that Telecaster. While there, I ran into an old friend, **Steve Dean**. Steve is a big part of Austin's music history and used to own the famous *Austex Lounge*. Steve treated us to a couple of classic stories from the old days and filled us in on his latest efforts to keep old Texas dance halls from being torn down. It was great seeing him.

**Full circle to 6<sup>th</sup> Street...**

After the *Continental* we headed to 6<sup>th</sup> Street

to see our old pal **Alan Haynes** play some blues at *Maggie Maes*. It was a blast from the past seeing Alan still playing down there and brought back a surge of memories. It blows my mind how much that scene has grown.

**DO NOT MISS LIST**

**Sandy Bottom String Band**  
I'm really excited about several really cool shows coming up. First of all, this Sunday (Easter Sunday) will be the debut of our new gospel bluegrass band, **The Sandy Bottom String Band**, who will play the sunrise ecumenical church service at *Robert's Point Park* in Port A. This 10 piece ensemble has a fiddle, banjo, two mandolins, guitars, auto-harp, stand-up bass and multi-layered harmonies. The service starts at 7:15 a.m. so set your alarms. What a great way to celebrate Easter!

**Mingo Fishtrap/ Joe Mack**



*Carter Sampson and Joe Mack will play the Back Porch on April 5th*

I mentioned that **Mingo Fishtrap** will be playing Susan's party at the *Back Porch* on the 4<sup>th</sup>. They are a big horn powered funk and soul unit that will make your hair stand up. **DO NOT MISS THIS SHOW**. Also, the happy mad Okie scientist, **Joe Mack** will play the *Porch* on the 5<sup>th</sup> and he's bringing a songbird with him by the name of **Carter Sampson**. This will be an incredible show. Trust me.

*And that's the truth!*

## LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

**Monday, April 1 continued**  
Open Jam w/ Antone Perez @ Doctor Rockits  
John Eric @ Scuttlebutt's

**Tuesday, April 2**

**Vampires Welcome**  
Mon-Sat 10am- 2am  
Sun Noon- 2am  
**Ray T & the City Crew**  
Every Friday  
801 Tarpon • Port Aransas, TX

Secondhand Serenade, Juliet Simms, Veronica Ballestrini, D&S @ House of Rock  
Kevin Hill @ Scuttlebutt's

**Wednesday, April 3**  
Stuart Burns @ Tarpon Ice House  
Open Jam with Wolfjaw @ Flat's Lounge  
Quiet Company, ECHO @ House of Rock  
Open Mic @ Executive Surf Club

**Thursday, March 28**  
John Cortez @ Dr. Rockits  
Free Beer Band @ Tarpon Ice House  
JB & the Moonshine Band, Rosehill @ Brewster Street  
On Blast Standup Showdown @ House of Rock  
John Eric @ Island Italian  
John Cortez @ Dr. Rockits  
Uel Jackson (4-7) @ Sugar Shack- Rockport  
Chris Saenz @ Scuttlebutt's

**Friday, March 29**  
Kevin Higgins Band @ Back Porch  
Carol Elliott (5-7) @ Tarpon Ice House  
Raeanne & the Ride @ Giggity's  
Ray T & the City Crew @ Flats Lounge  
Samantha Aiken @ Coast Club  
The Washers @ Executive Surf Club  
John Eric Band @ Brewster Street  
David & Barbara Brown @ Coffee Waves  
Justin Estes @ Dr. Rockits  
Larry Joe Taylor @ South Texas Ice House  
Kevin Hill @ Scuttlebutt's

**Saturday, March 30**  
Ruben V @ Back Porch  
Stevie Start @ Coast Club  
Shadow Moon @ Flat's Lounge  
Stuart Burns @ Fish House  
Double R Nothing @ Brewster Street  
At My Signal, With My Last Breath, Darkness Divided, Tomorrow Too Late @ House of Rock  
Hilda Lamas @ Executive Surf Club  
John Eric Band @ South Texas Ice House  
Grassfire @ Coffee Waves  
Mike Milligan & the Altar Boys @ Dr. Rockits  
Kevin Hill @ Scuttlebutt's  
Open Mic @ Tango Tea Room

**Easter Sunday**  
Sandy Bottom String Band (Sunrise service) @ Roberts Point Park  
Open Jam w/ Uel Jackson @ Tarpon Ice House  
Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie's Beach House  
Open Jam @ Neptune's John Eric Open Mic @ South Texas Ice House

**Monday, April 1**  
Mike Williams @ Tarpon Ice House  
Open Mic @ Coffee Waves

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## BACK PORCH

Susan's Retirement Party  
April 4

<b>Kevin Higgins</b>	<b>March 29</b>
<b>Ruben V</b>	<b>March 30</b>
<b>Mingo Fishtrap</b>	<b>April 4</b>
<b>Joe Mack</b>	<b>April 5</b>
<b>Mike Milligan</b>	<b>April 6</b>

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Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie's Beach House  
Open Jam @ Neptune's

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