

YOU HEARD IT HERE!

The Electric Flag - Wine

By Terry Gross, Board Director

SES Audio/Video & Entertainment Chair / Internal Auditor / Social Media Chair

Happy Mardi Gras and welcome to March everyone. This month’s song, just as last month, is simply titled, “Wine”. But that is where the similarities end.

This month’s song is totally a party song. The lyrics start with *“Down in New Orleans, where everything’s fine, all them people just sockin’ that wine”*. A perfect line for March and Mardi Gras! I had the opportunity to be in New Orleans for a Monday and half of Fat Tuesday and it was crazy, fun, and nuts. Hope to go again some time. I have to say though, wine didn’t kick my butt, but Hurricanes (the drink) sure did (made with rum, lemon juice, and either passion fruit syrup or fassionola).

Let’s be clear. This is not about the refined sipping and swirling and tasting of fine wine. This is a straightforward plea to get well buzzed. *“Some buy a pint, and some buy a quart, but if you buy a half-gallon, you’re playin’ it smart”*, does not imply moderation, or for that matter quality of wine. Nope, just get what you can and start your journey to *“getting drunk and start fightin’ all night, knockin’ down shop windows and breakin’ down doors, drinkin’ half gallons and asking for more”*. Technically, it’s not a party, but a riot when you look at this lyric.



This song is performed by a band named **“Electric Flag”** and it included two of the most respected blues/jazz musicians ever. Guitarist Mike Bloomfield and drummer Buddy Miles, who is seen wailing on the drums in the video I included. This was a live version recorded at the 1967 Newport Jazz Festival. The track was included on an album title **“A Long Time Comin”**. Check out Bloomfield’s guitar solo on this number.

If you never wandered far from the top 40 stations in your life, you likely didn’t hear much of Mike Bloomfield. My introduction came when someone shared the album **“Super Sessions”** with Mike Bloomfield, Stephen Stills and Al Kooper (not Alice Cooper of rock fame). If you like rock, blues R&B and jazz, this album covers it all. Bloomfield started the original recording sessions and was later replaced by Stephen Stills for the last half due to health reasons. Most of us know about Stephen Stills who had just finished a run with Buffalo Springfield, Al Kooper was a keyboardist who had just finished recording with Blood, Sweat and Tears.

WINE song doesn’t have any deep meaning or undercurrent. There isn’t much to say about it as lyrics are short and straight forward, but it is a jive jumping song, guaranteed to get the Mardi Gras spirit(s) started!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37fNUR3aWrk>

<p>Down in New Orleans, where everything's fine All them people just sockin' that wine Drinkin' wine is their delight And when they get drunk, they start fightin' all night Knockin' shop windows and breakin' down doors Drinkin' half-gallons and shoutin' for more</p> <p>You got a nickel and I got a dime Let's get together and buy some wine Some buy a pint and some buy a quart But if you buy a half-gallon, you're playin' it smart</p>	<p>Drinkin' wine, wine, wine Everybody pass that bottle to me Wine, wine, wine</p> <p>(Elderberry) Wine, wine, wine (Port or sherry) Wine, wine, wine (Sweet Lucy) Wine, wine, wine (Father Bird Wine) Wine, wine, wine Everybody pass that bottle to me</p>
---	---