

OCTOBER + RECORD RESEARCH = SAVINGS FOR KRC MEMBERS!

Each fall the KRC offers our members the opportunity to purchase the definitive source for Billboard album and single music chart data – the Record Research/Joel Whitburn catalog. With savings of **up to 40% off the cover**, this is an *exclusive* offer of the entire catalog for card carrying KRC members. We only make this offer *once a year*, so stock up now! *Yet another benefit of being a current member of the Keystone Record Collectors!*



- Top Pop Singles 1955-2008 (NEW) \$50.00
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Order Deadline: November 8th, 2009 show
Expected Delivery: December 13th or January 11th shows

Photocopies are acceptable. Mail form with payment to:

Keystone Record Collectors
1616 Robert Road
Lancaster, PA 17601-5633

Add \$5 postage for each book if you want to have them shipped directly to your home. The only exceptions are the DVD-ROM's - they are \$2 if this is all you are ordering (1 or 2 same price). If you order a book and a DVD-ROM...just \$5 for the book - the DVD-ROM goes along for **no extra charge!**



KEY NOTES

PUBLISHED BY KEYSTONE RECORD COLLECTORS, P.O. BOX 1516, LANCASTER, PA 17608

OCTOBER 2009
 ISSUE #175
 Inside...
 ♪ - Freestyle Music Park
 ♪ - Mag Men Update
 ♪ - What Time Is It?
 ♪ - Whitburn Offer again

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR



The issue of **KEY-NOTES** that you are holding in your hands contains the ever popular Joel Whitburn/Record Research book catalog. We offer their entire catalog **every** October to club members, including a few titles not advertised, but still available. In fact, there are some people who join specifically so they can enjoy 40% off cover prices that club members enjoy. *Yet another benefit of KRC club membership!*

Fall is the time of year to start thinking about the leadership you want your club to have for 2010. Nominations will be accepted for all for elected positions (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) at today's show (October 11th) and next month - November 8th. Ballots will be mailed with the December **KEY-NOTES** and membership renewal form. When you renew, by the January 10th show, you are entitled to vote.

Get your Christmas shopping done early – at the **Pennsylvania Music Expo!** Why not give the gift of music. 2010 KRC memberships make great stocking stuffers! See Club Secretary **Erna Reinhart** at the show for more details or write her at: P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster, PA 17608.

Next month the American Historic Jukebox Association makes their semi-annual return to our show with another batch of vintage jukeboxes for sale. So come on out and pick up one for your living room, den, office or music room! Spread the word - invite others to attend.

Until next time, keep looking for those treasured tunes!

Derek
B. Derek Shaw
KEY-NOTES Editor
 & Communications

KRC INFO LINE
 (717) 898-1246
 CALL ANYTIME!



WHAT TIME IS IT?

If you ask **Alonzo Kittrells**, he will sing about it, crooning his version of the Jive Five song. Sometimes he will also modify the "Hoody Doody Show" TV show theme song.

However if you ask **Bob "Will" Williams**, he will gladly give you the time it is!



VIEW FROM THE TOP



Into the fall we go - hope that everyone had a good summer and found some of the tunes you were looking for!

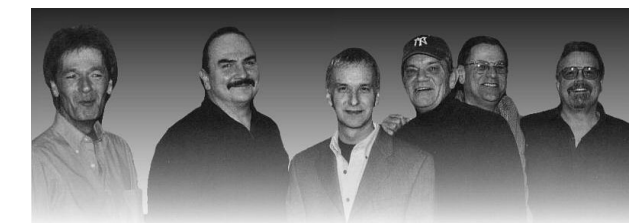
A tip of the hat goes out to **Derek Shaw** for his getting the word out on the KRC, but YOU can also help by passing out fliers to various places of business that will help spread the word.

In a recent visit to West Chester, PA, both **Dennis Emerick** and myself were at WCHE, a station doing **TRUE LOCAL PREOGRAMMING** for Chester County. We slipped Ron McNeal, who was doing *The Swap Shop* program (Monday through Friday 10 AM until noon) information on the KRC and our monthly show. We were rewarded by **THREE** mentions on the air (maybe even more!). So don't be afraid to promote our show and club. We have plenty of printed material available.

Dave Schmidt
 2009 KRC President
 NRCMusings@aol.com

Happy Hunting!

UPDATE ON THE MAGNIFICENT MEN DOCUMENTARY PROJECT



"A Magnificent Reunion," a DVD, will be available beginning November 28. Showcasing 13 songs by *Class Act* featuring Rita with special vocalists Dave Bupp and Buddy King, the DVD was shot in November 2007 at Harrisburg's Sunoco Performance Theater. The highlight is the first onstage reunion of all seven *Magnificent Men* in nearly 40 years as they perform "Peace of Mind" and "Stormy Weather." Additionally, Dave and Buddy perform "A Change Is Gonna Come," "Nobody Can Turn Me Around," and other Mag Men tunes. Purchase details will be available in November at www.magnificentmen.org.

Work on the full documentary of the Mag Men story is finally moving at a steady pace. Interviews are expected to be completed this fall through the generous involvement of Mark del Costello, a historical consultant to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, a professor at the Philadelphia Art Institute, and a former assistant to Martin Scorsese. Editing will begin in early spring, with completion expected later in 2010.

- Dave Zang
 dzang@towson.edu

KRC in 2009

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 3 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

GERMAN TRADING POST - SPECIAL EVENT ROOM

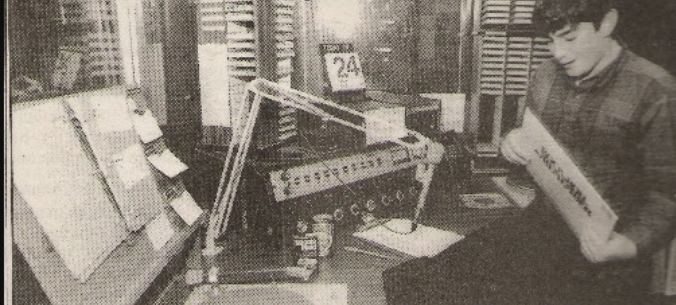
FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!

ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.

BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 3:30PM,
(DURING THE MONTH THERE IS NO KEY-NOTES) PLAN TO BE THERE.

They're Back: Starting at the September 13th show, Hillside Catering returned as one of our caterers at the **Pennsylvania Music Expo**. This was a result of the caterer the German Trading Post attempted to secure not showing up, leaving us in the lurch at the August show. The KRC will again handle catering arrangements. Hillside will be back in November and Jack & Lynn's Hot Dog Deli returns in December. Bon Appetite!

Matt The Cat early in his career



My radio career began at WBMT-FM 88.3 in Boxford, MA. I was 13 years old. I hosted a show called "Friday Night At The Oldies" from 6-10pm every Friday Night. The show ran from January, 1989 until June of 1994. See the [Friday Night At The Oldies](#) page for more info on this show. WBMT is a community radio station that's still in operation as part of the Masconomet Region School District. It was here that I learned what worked and sounded good and what didn't. I wouldn't be anywhere today if it wasn't for Glen Walker, the general manager of WBMT for giving me a chance to open a mic and discover what came out. We all have to begin somewhere and it's really too bad that everyone can't have access to a radio station like this to start out on. Where's the radio talent of the future going to learn how it's done?



Issue #175 October 2009

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Freestyle Music Park website, Matt the Cat website

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(Deadline for #176 is November 12th)Names in **bold** type are members of Keystone Record Collectors

BRING THE CAT BACK

By Phil Schwartz

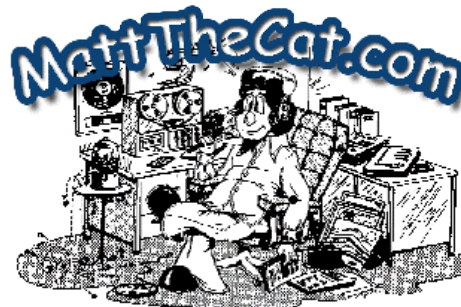


Since XM radio went on the airwaves in 2001, creating the no-commercial, pay-to-listen arena, one of the most popular air personalities among record collectors was Matt The Cat. Matt's shows heard on the "50s on 5" Channel were creative and presented in a style of the popular platter-spinners of the day. Special programs "Harlem Hit Parade", and "The Night Prowl Show" showcased artists not commonly heard on any station in the last few decades. Following the merger of Sirius/XM, Matt was abruptly dismissed from the network, airing his final show on October 15, 2008.

A year later, several members of the original "Night Prowlers" have spearheaded a movement to Bring Back Matt The Cat. Matt has been sending email to his fans who have signed up on his website www.matthecat.com since leaving the airways. There have been podcasts of old shows, and the always exciting Friday Night Cat Fight, which pits different artists singing the same song against each other in a phone in (now click-in) contest. This core of dedicated fans was encouraged to write or phone five of the powers-at-be from Sirius/XM, asking to reinstate their furry leader, all on the same day, October 14, 2009.

So far, no word. But as fellow record collectors who appreciate a great radio talent, we would like to encourage other members of KRC to support Matt in his bid to get back on the air.

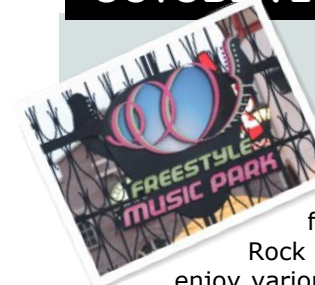
You can contact the organizers of Bring Back Matt The Cat at matthecatback@comcast.net



The Land of the Free; no longer the Home of the Hard

A look at Freestyle Music Park, Myrtle Beach, SC

By Doug Smith



It certainly seemed like a good, profitable idea: establish the first theme park based on the Hard Rock Café franchise, where people could enjoy various types of loud music in a seacoast park atmosphere and a milieu not always rated "G". So the Hard Rock Theme Park in Myrtle Beach was launched in the spring of 2008 with a large turnout and much fanfare. And with some high profile events such as a performance by the Eagles in honor of the mine train ride named "Life in the Fast Lane".

Well, to make a sad story short, the hype ultimately did not sustain the promising beginning. Attendance and revenues steadily fell off sharply; and by the fall HRTF was in bankruptcy.

It would have been a shame for the nearly-new park to just disappear. In the fall and winter, the property was purchased for pennies on the dollar; changes were made; and a year later the re-christened Freestyle Music Park was open. The emphasis now was more family-oriented and all types of music fair game to be featured.

So what is it like now? Actually, not a whole lot different. That is hardly a surprise. With the short amount of time to retool, most changes are cosmetic. In some cases it was just a name change. The Eagles ride is now the Iron Horse. The ride where cars are launched out of the rotating metal wheel is the Roundabout.

One big obstacle the new owners had to overcome was getting out from under the crushing financial burden of the licensing of the Hard Rock name, the Led Zeppelin roller coaster, and the Moody Blues dark ride. The Zep coaster is now the Time Machine. Riders now hear a montage of hits from the 1960's through the '00s, depending which decade door they enter. Last year each group of waiting riders was treated (or is that subjected?) to the beginning of the video of "Whole Lotta Love"; then the rest of the tune on the ride via the sound system. Now the "holding areas" for the video are just part of the entrance to the ride and the on board sound system gives you the hits from your entrance decade. I normally do not scream on a coaster. But hearing Vanilla Ice on the nineties soundtrack was enough incentive to do so. Whatever the musical backdrop, though, this is still a great looping coaster. What a meticulous task it had to have been to apply all those CD album covers to the Time Machine front façade.

With the changed name and emphasis, some things of course had to disappear. Two of the regrettable items in the category from the Across the Pond area are Phone-henge and the female versions of the Royal Palace Guards. But the most glaring disappearance has to be the dark ride based on "Nights in White Satin". It is

laudable that there was a replacement in the few months available to create something; and no expense was spared for the coloration of the new particleboard backdrops. But I am sure most patrons hope that the Monstars of Rock is only a placeholder for an eventual replacement. A few thoughts:

A) there must be some other song out there that could be licensed for a reasonable fee that would offer ample inspiration for a new dark ride theme. American Pie? Whiter Shade of Pale?

B) is licensing a song too costly? The Time Machine has montages of hits for the different decades. How about a montage for a unifying dark ride theme? Rock n Roll Heaven? A Wall of Sound? Or even something as simple as colors? I imagine pictures of matchstick men in a jelly jungle of orange marmalade in purple haze with some green tambourines and yellow balloons thrown in for good measure while floating down a green river.

C) or if licensing is out of the question, then how about an interactive "shoot 'em up" with target practice on whole notes, half notes, treble clefs, bass clefs, sheet music, corrupt music agents, Donny Osmond 45s, Milli Vanilli CDs, and a Danny Partridge in a pear tree?

A replacement, please, because frankly, I don't think the Monstars of Rock would scare even a three year old.

Some familiar things remain, though; e.g. the air guitar rack and the Abbey Road photo op backdrop. The biggest example is the landmark guitar atop the Gibson Store (with the new name and twisty logo, of course). The country ice show also remains largely intact. The other live shows are CSI Live, part magic show and part forensics school, the stunt-laden Adrenalin Rush, and the children-aimed Flip 5 Live.

At least for July, there was a 7^{1/2} minute fireworks display around the lake just before park closure. Its impending start was signaled by the playing of my favorite Zep tune, "Rock & Roll".

The fireworks were lively and spirited; set to a very loud soundtrack. Guess some old habits die "hard". The most significant changeover addition was the fleshing out of the children's area, Kids in America. Within is the doo wop dune buggy ride, which acts strangely like a frog hopper.

Final thoughts: Freestyle Park can be a worthwhile addition to the Myrtle Beach landscape. It most certainly is a different attraction from every thing else around, including Family Kingdom Park a few miles down the road. If FMP keeps adding rides (to include a better dark one), it could be a beach attraction for years to come. Maybe even a "destination" to compete with all the other current attractions. A bonus would be an operating season beyond Memorial Day to September 20). And some of us would not mind a return of those female palace guards.

www.freestylemusicpark.com

