

KEY-NOTES

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RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Recently the semi-annual club media e-mail was sent to 130 radio/TV/print publications. This continues to generate additional coverage of our club and show. The mailing announced show dates for the second half of the year; print calendar information along with Public Service Announcements for the electronic media telling about our monthly musical treasure trove. We also encouraged them to attend and cover the event for their readers/listeners/viewers. (The Lancaster New Era did a piece the Friday before our July show on the lure of vinyl. The impetus for the coverage came from the e-mail they received.)

Club Members tell us they continue to enjoy the monthly, **KEY-NOTES** cyber space edition/ pre-show reminder. If you have not been getting this service; either: **1)** we do not have your e-mail address **2)** we have an incorrect, old or bogus e-mail address for you or: **3)** you don't have e-mail capabilities. If either of the first two apply, please give me your e-mail address and we will add you to the Distribution List. Note: No e-mails are shared. It is done via a blind carbon copy method.

Looking Ahead: The next issue of **KEY-NOTES** will contain the annual *Joel Whitburn/Record Research* book offer – a very popular promotion with club members. You've been warned – start saving your money!

Don't forget the club features two items for ALL show attendees to possibly purchase: **1)** albums that have been donated by a radio station to benefit the club and **2)** an issue of the excellent resource publication: *Music & Memorabilia* (from the Editor's of *Goldmine* and *DIScoveries*). These are two ways you can support the club. Both are at/near the club table area.

As we move into the last half of the year, the club continues to rely on ALL MEMBERS to promote OUR show. Recruit new members; encourage past members to re-join; forward the monthly e-mail notice (if you get it) to other music collectors; put flyers in your favorite music store or one in mail-order packages if you are a vendor; mention us on your web site (provide a link) or place some flyers in your neighborhood high-traffic retail areas. *Help us - help ourselves!*

Musically Speaking,

B. Derek Shaw
KEY-NOTES Editor
& Communications
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VIEW FROM NEAR THE TOP

Yes Virginia, there is a Lyn Christopher!

To poorly plagiarize the 1897 letter to the editor of the New York Sun, the Lyn Christopher album does indeed exist. Now I know right now you're saying to yourself "who the heck is Lyn Christopher"? I'll get to her in a moment.

Those who know me know that I am a KISS fan. I've been a fan of the band ever since I bought their album 'Dressed to Kill' back in 1975. About 10 years ago I started trying to complete the KISS vinyl catalog (U.S. pressings). Now I'm one of those people who tries to collect every different pressing of every album put out by an artist. This is no easy task with KISS. The band released about a 500 different albums on vinyl (okay, only 28 by my count) not to mention all the promo copies, colored vinyl, picture discs, 12" singles, error copies, record club issues and label variations. Needless to say, there's quite a bit to collect. "Good luck with that." you say, but where does Lyn Christopher fit into this?

Lyn Christopher released one album in her recording career. The 1973 self-titled album was released by Paramount records #PAS 6051 and features songs written by Neil Diamond, Al Kooper and Randy Newman and although a mostly forgettable album, it is an important item for those who collect KISS on vinyl. Listed among the background vocal credits on the rear of the album are the names Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley (they actually only sang on tracks A4, A5 and B1). This would be the first public use of Gene and Paul's stage names. Perhaps the more significant aspect of this recording to KISS fans is not their appearance on the album, but what they did in lieu of payment. The five-song demo they eventually used to land their Casablanca Records contract was recorded using the studio credit they received for appearing on this album.

What's my point in all of this? I needed a copy of Lyn's album for my collection and have never seen it locally. I've watched quite a few of these albums sell on eBay, I've bid on a few but ultimately lost them to a worldwide bidding public (at some ridiculous selling prices). Then, while randomly looking through a box of vinyl at June's **Pennsylvania Music Expo**, there she was! I had finally found my copy of Lyn's album (a promo copy in fact), in perfect shape and very reasonable priced. It's easy to look on eBay and find dozens of copies of an album you're searching for but what's the thrill in that? It's definitely more rewarding (and more fun) to search through the hundreds of boxes that our loyal KRC dealers bring to the expo every month. You never know what you will find. This is a great hobby! Keep searching and I wish you luck in finding your own 'Lyn Christopher' album.

Now if I could only find that promo copy of Alive!

Les Knier
2006 KRC Vice President
Lknier@suscom.net



KRC in 2006

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

LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

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.

IT'S JUDY'S TURN TO... SELL! BY DOUG SMITH

It was just what I "really" needed: a spending temptation even before your esteemed Key-Notes editor **Derek Shaw** and I had reached our first destination (Myrtle Beach) of an Independence Day amusement park trip. But Judy's House of Oldies at 300 Main Street in North Myrtle Beach beckoned.



And while it isn't much bigger than the proverbial hole in the wall, it is a treasure trove of one thing Carolina specializes in: beach/shag music. And I will admit that this kind of music was one of the allures for me to make the trip in the first place. Also in Carolina, beach music is featured on the radio! Not surprising, really, but there seem to be fewer such oases in the increasing sludge of

corporate FM all the time.

But back to Judy's. This is really the Mom and Pop type of music store that is also increasingly rare (its history dates to 1963). We got personal attention and service. You can (and **Derek** did) request to hear a song on a CD. I resisted too much temptation and did not inflict too much damage on my vacation budget. Another half hour and the result might have been different. Not to be concerned, though. If my desire for beach music needs to be satisfied (especially many items on the Repete label), Judy's sells online.

Check out www.judyshouseofoldies.com. Maybe next trip we will actually get to see Judy.



KEY NOTES

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(Deadline for #157 is September 10th)

Names in **bold** type are members of Keystone Record Collectors

PURE GOLD = PURE CLASS A CD REVIEW BY B. DEREK SHAW

You've probably heard them for years on the PBS Doo-Wop specials and had no idea who they were. They have backed up countless artists, including: Jerry Butler, Gene Chandler and Mel Carter. They are the pride of Pittsburgh, my hometown and with good reason. This polished eight member vocal group has been providing tight harmonies and excellent musician-ship for the past quarter century.

I actually knew the baritone tenor and lead vocalist from a different interest first - roller coasters. After I met Frank Czuri, I found out he was a member of the Igniters, (High Flying Wine), Jimmy Mack and the Music Factory, then Diamond Reo (the mid seventies rock group, before the country group of the same name.) Their 1975 album "Dirty Diamonds" was acclaimed by British Fan Magazines as "the best Heavy Metal LP to escape from the U.S. in years." Commercial acclaim did not follow critical acclaim and the band, discouraged with lack of big-time success, broke up four years later. Next came The Silencers which enjoyed a five year run. In 1985 Czuri joined Pure Gold.

One day I asked Frank what a rock/heavy metal musician/vocalist was doing in a doo-wop group. He

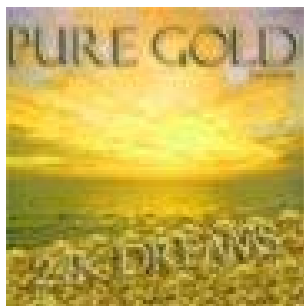


Editor's Note: Unfortunately the Beach Music/Shag phenomenon is mostly confined to southern Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia (although I understand interest in growing in Pittsburgh). This was the third time I had the opportunity to visit this small but well stocked store. Just half a block away, is another North Myrtle Beach landmark: Fat Harold's Dance Club. Here's a sample of the Top Ten Beach and Shag tunes for June 2006:

1. My Big Sisters Radio - Mike Schmerer Band
2. I Got A Feeling - Craig Woolard
3. If 10 Will Kill Me - Rickey Godfrey
4. As Good As It Gets - Chairmen of The Board
5. Til The Day After - Craig Woolard Band
6. Sweet Mama Do Right - Coastline
7. Hole In My Heart - Burton Garr
8. Happy Hour - Lia & The Wave
9. Hold On To The Blues - Lonnie
10. Your Grace Is So Good - Big John & Debi Mac



Note from the Graphic Guy: Normally I let Derek do most of the writing, but since I am a resident of NC this is a topic that I couldn't keep quiet about. "Down East" Carolina shag is really rooted in locations that you can only get to by boat, and truly a blast to see and feel. Shag is more of a way of life and an attitude...and everyone down here flocks to see Chairman of the Board.



replied that his heart was always in vocal group harmony, but rock group participation had paid the bills.

The other seven musicians and vocalists all have a heavy duty background as well. They include: Ron Crawley - Baritone Tenor/Lead Vocals, Susan DeLuca - Alto/Lead Vocals,

Sidney Hill - Bass Baritone/Lead Vocals, Don Garvin - Guitar/Vocals, Nick Gimiliano - Drums/Percussion, Larry Siefers - Keyboard/Saxophone/Harmonica/Flute, Tony Impavido - Bass Guitar/Baritone Tenor/Lead Vocals. You can read more about them at: <http://www.puregoldmusic.com/templates/Group.aspx>

Over the years, the group participated in at least seven of the PBS TV specials. Add to that, performances with many of the major headliners - Aretha Franklin, Frankie Valli, Chuck Berry, The Temptations, Smokey Robinson, The Four Tops and The Isley Brothers.

Last year this highly acclaimed group released their fourth CD, *24K Dreams*. What a gem it is! All fourteen tracks are well done, in the typical Pure Gold fashion. Outstanding personal favorites include: Let

It Please Be Me, Ten Commandments of Love, Since I Lost My Baby, So Much In Love and Let It Be Me. There is not a mediocre track in the entire batch.

The liner notes sum things up: "Special thanks to our family, friends and fans, who are no less precious than 24K. Thank you to all the DJ's, the musical appraisers who know Pure Gold when they hear it." This is the real deal – the genuine artifact.

If you get a chance to see a live performance of Pure Gold, catch it. If you find out they are going to be on a TV special, watch it. And if you see a copy of any of their CD's including the latest, *24K Dreams*, buy it. You will not be disappointed!

BELATED RECOGNITION

June 8th was an important night in the lives of two York High graduates. Lead singers of the blue-eyed soul group, The Magnificent Men, Dave Bupp and Buddy King, were inducted into the William Penn High School Hall of Fame. The recognition of these two talented performers came 46 and 41 years after each graduated, respectively. Although long overdue, the recognition was justly deserved.

On a recent Gary Sutton TV show on York's Cable 4, Bupp had this to say, "When I got the call...I just burst into tears. It's a superb honor...It's great to have your high school recognize you." King was equally pleased, "I was very honored and very humbled by the experience...When Dave called, it was an exciting announcement." Much of the music the group wrote was penned by both of them as a collaborative effort.

We are proud of Central Pennsylvania musicians and singers who have made an impact in the world of music. Congratulations Dave and Buddy on receiving this deserving award!



IT'S TIME TO INCREASE YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE A CD REVIEW BY DOUG SMITH

Ever wonder about the talents of KRC members beyond being music buyers and/or sellers? Here's one answer: **KRC's** own **Rhys George** is a musician and songwriter. And now his band, "Krease", has released its own CD, "You Got In".

Mr. George, along with songwriter/guitarist Kris Harris, each contributed half a dozen original songs to this effort. Filling out the lineup are bassist Kevin Bonawitz, percussionist Bob Finegan and guitarist Rick Minter.

The album features totally professional musicianship, intelligent songwriting, and nary a cover tune within earshot. The band website, www.kreaseband.com states that the opener, "If I was your Girl" was featured on Delaware's WSTW-FM's "Hometown Heroes" program. Not surprising: a fine up tempo piece that sets the tone for the album. Ms. Harris' vocals remind me in some measures of Sixpence None the Richer's Leigh Nash. Her enunciation is crystal clear.

"This Time" has a real melancholy feel like one of those country duets from the sixties or seventies. It

has that country feel without the twang. Another cut that captures a moody presence is "Red". But in contrast, the band simply moves and grooves with the title cut.

If you are a fan of straight ahead rock with male/female vocals, you can do yourself a favor by "increasing" your CD collection with "You Got In".

Available from **Rhys George** at the KRC show, through the website or CD Baby.



SOULTRIP USA BY ANDY TURNER



Dance floor at the sports bar

From April 26th to May 3rd of this year I had the pleasure of attending Soultrip 2006, which was held at the East Brunswick Hilton in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Soultrip is an event which is held every two years and is organized by Kev Roberts from the United Kingdom. The idea behind the event is to have several hundred soul fans from the UK come stateside and meet up with several hundred stateside soul fans along with some of the 1960's soul artists who are greatly admired in the northern soul scene. This is the second such event to be held, the first being held in Los Angeles back in 2004. The first soultrip was my introduction into the UK northern soul scene, so I was really looking forward to this one. This time I decided to take my two sisters, Ramona & Yvette along with me.

Since the first soultrip was held in Los Angeles, the recording artists featured were from the west coast. This time, since it was an east coast event, the artists featured were from the Philadelphia, New York City and New Jersey areas. Some of the artists in attendance included: Archie Bell, The Persuaders, The Escorts, Freddie Scott, The Soul Shakers, The Spellbinders, The Del-Larks, Sandy Sheldon, Laura Lee, The Invitations, Sidney Barnes, etc. Most of these artists performed either on Saturday, April 29th or Sunday, April 30th in the main ballroom. The two nights were especially great because they were available to sign autographs, take pictures and meet everyone.



Sidney Barnes performing

On Monday, May 1st was a side trip to Clef



Tymes at the Clef Club in Philly.

Club in Philadelphia. In attendance there were The Orlons, Tymes, Kenny Gamble, Weldon McDougal, Don Gardner, Charlie Gracie, and Billy Paul. This included performances by several of the artists and a "meet and greet" afterwards. While I did enjoy this part of the event, I felt that it should have been longer. I was also disappointed that some of the artists that were supposed to perform were not able to attend.

The rest of the week was spent attending soul nights in the sports bar located on the second floor of the hotel lobby. These soul nights start on Monday and feature top soul DJ's from all over the U.S. This was one of my favorite parts of the event. It was great to meet people from the UK, have a few drinks and catch up with several people from Australia during the first soul trip in Los Angeles.



Me and friends Martyn, Eddie, Andy, Carl, And Kieth.

Some of the other highlights for me were the record show on Sunday, which some members of the **KRC** were set up to run. There was also several excursions to New York City to shop, do some sightseeing and watch the Yankees play ball. The next Soultrip will be held at the end of April, 2008 in Chicago and Detroit. I hope it is as great as this one was.



Some of the crew from Australia



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