

WQED Multimedia Concert 50 Years of Little Anthony

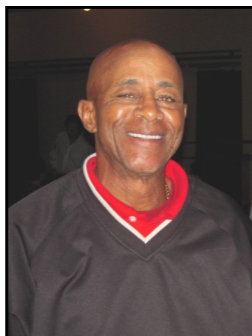
In October, Pittsburghers and supporters of the Public broadcasting affiliate were treated to a night of great music. While the Benedum Center is typically the home venue for the taping of nationally distributed doo-wop and other oldies genres, on that night it was a concert event.

During 2008 Little Anthony and the Imperials are enjoying 50 years of performing. Also on the bill that evening were: Shirley Alston Reeves former lead singer of the Shirelles, Jimmy Charles, The Vogues, The Jaggerz and the The Marcels with original bass man Fred Johnson. The last two groups were 11th hour replacements as Johnny Maestro was unable to make the engagement.

All the acts put on a great show, however Little Anthony and the Imperials were the big guns that night. The group was accompanied by a four piece horn section, fours strings and five other musicians that set the mood with an overture medley of their biggest hits.

Little Anthony was animated the entire time they were onstage joking with the audience and making them feel comfortable. He shared that he really doesn't care for "Shimmy, Shimmy Koko Bop", but did sing it anyway.

Backstage after the show, afforded the opportunity to talk with Little Anthony and others. He shared a funny story about a formal affair he attended for a Princess Diana charity in 1994. It was attended by Anthony Quinn, Red Skelton, Sir Anthony Hopkins. He and his wife were introduced as "Mr and Mrs. Little". "Red Buttons fell on the ground" (from laughing, he quipped.



Jimmy Charles, a native of Patterson, NJ recorded "A Million to One" at the ripe old age of 15 1/2. It wasn't released until he was 17. The backing group were the Revellettes, neighborhood friends Evelyn and Jackie Kline and Dottie Hailstock.

The ballad on the Promo label made it to number five on the charts, however the other half dozen singles and Christmas records didn't fare nearly as well, sending Charles into early music retirement.

Jimmy got into the landscaping and vending card businesses in the San Antonio area. He's been married 31 years and has four grown kids. Charles got out of singing retirement about five years ago, making appearances when asked.



Shirley - Alston Reeves



Tom Landis (3rd from left and Derek Shaw 4th from left) backstage with the Imperials.

KEY NOTES

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DECEMBER 2008
ISSUE #170
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A Show Review
Time to Renew



RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

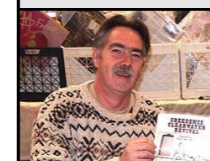
WE HAVE A NEW SHOW SITE! Starting with the December show, we are now 15 minutes north of the Pennsylvania Jaycees Bingo Hall at the German Trading Post in Denver, PA (we are right beside the Pennsylvania Turnpike on PA 272). More details below.

It is appropriate to thank the 2008 Officer Team for their hard work. In a volunteer-run organization, it is not possible to accomplish the many things on our agenda, and organize a show every month without the continued efforts of many different people. So, whether it was a small one-time job, or a continued monthly commitment, thanks for another great year!

May Your Stockin' be Rockin'

B. Derek Shaw
KEY-NOTES Editor
& Communications
bdshaw@lunginfo.org

FINAL VIEW FROM THE TOP



As my presidency comes to an end I look back on where we were (Lancaster Catholic HS, then the PA Jaycee's Bingo Hall and now to the German Trading Post). Yes, we have had to do a lot of moving within the last year or so. However, after 30 years the **Keystone Record Collectors Club** is still here and providing the **Pennsylvania Music Expo** to our members and the general public.

This has been done by a committed group of volunteers (elected and appointed) who I wish to **THANK** for their support during my tenure as President of the club. The KRC is still growing in many ways to help its members. Keep supporting the club by renewing your membership today. Tell your friends to join. Look at our web site often - you may see something new. But most of all keep hunting for that record that keeps eluding you and keep the discs spinning!

Bill Donohue
2008 KRC President
discspinner45@comcast.net

A LOOK AT OUR NEW SITE...

- * We are now in the heart of "Antiques Capital, USA" at 2152 North Reading Road, Denver, PA
- * Show room size is about the same as the Pennsylvania Jaycees Bingo Hall in Leola.
- * Ease of loading. There is one big ramp, one flush door and two loading docks, none of which directly opens into the hall, thus preventing as much cold/warm air from escaping depending on the season.
- * There is an on-site food vendor with reasonable prices, wide variety and open to suggestions.
- * Our new location is just 15 minutes northwest of the previous location.
- * In the front of the building is an antique mall, open 10 - 5 on Sundays (shades of Blue Ball).
- * The show entrance is same as the auction entrance. (on the southern side, half way back)
- * Rest rooms with multiple stalls are located in the antique mall area, with easy access.
- * Parking is adequate for vendors and the public.
- * Club tables are being stored on site. We can use auction company tables too, allowing us to accommodate approximately the same number of vendors we've become accustomed to.
- * Table rents remain at \$35 per 6 foot table. All wall space tables are 8 foot at a cost of \$45.
- * Dealers - reserve in advance - space fills up quickly - waiting lists are becoming common.



#170, December 2008
P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster, PA 17608
www.recordcollectors.org

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR 2008 OFFICER TEAM!

KRC in 2008

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

GERMAN TRADING POST AUCTION 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.

HOW TEENS GET THEIR MUSIC

Driving with my 14 and 17 year old daughters recently with a local "top new hits" format radio station on, I was surprised when they did not know most of the songs. When questioned, I was surprised to learn that both of them do not go out of there way to listen to radio. So how do they find out about new music and what exactly is on their I-pods?

My 17 year old daughter listed her sources of new music in order of influence: 1) websites such as Myspace and Facebook and associated links, 2) friends and 3) VH-1 or MTV videos. Her musical interests include alternative rock and metal. She plays CD's and her I-pod (with a cassette adapter) while driving and does not play the radio. She "hates" the "classic rock" that is on the radio at her part-time job.

My 14 year old daughter's musical influences: 1) MTV, 2) websites, 3) friends, and 4) Disney Channel. Her I-pod includes "popular" hip hop, R&B, and rock. She actually likes a few songs by The Beatles!

Looks like the golden days of radio are over?

- Mitch Johnson



"CAMEO KIDS"...as in Cameo/Parkway Records I-which became the biggest independent label in the US from 1957 - 1963. Charlie Gracie put them on the map in the late 1950s and Dee Dee Sharp cemented their success in the early 1960s with several top discs including "Mashed Potato Time." Charlie and Dee Dee strike a pose before their induction on the *Philly Walk of Fame* (Avenue of the Arts) on Broad St where their name on bronze plaques will be added in front to the Double Tree Hotel. Hundreds attended the ceremony October 23rd.

KEY NOTES

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(Deadline for #171 is January 11th)Names in **bold** type are members of Keystone Record Collectors

KRC INFO LINE

(717) 898-1246
CALL ANYTIME!

KRC MEMBERSHIPS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Buying a club membership for the music collector spouse, cousin, uncle, grandparent, co-worker or friend makes an excellent stocking stuffer gift for the holidays. For a nominal \$15 a year, someone you know can enjoy (or continue to enjoy) a membership in one of the world's largest organizations for music collectors. Membership provides six issues of the **KEY-NOTES**, the official club newsletter, 12 issues of **KEY-NOTES** update, a monthly cyberspace update and show reminder via e-mail, and **Recollections Magazine** (2009 plans include an edition or two). This is in addition to discounts on price guides, chart information books and special music and book offers that appear in **KEY-NOTES** from time to time. Members who attend the show can enjoy member prices on record sleeves and other hobby supplies along with complimentary copies of Goldmine music publication (when available.)

Selected music retailers in South Central Pennsylvania offer a cash register discount to card holding KRC members (an up-to-date list of participating retailers is available from Club Secretary, **Erna Reinhart**). If that's not enough, some record/CD shows throughout the Mid-Atlantic region offer discounts to attend their show with a current KRC membership card. What are you waiting for? Sign up your entire neighborhood today! Gift memberships may be obtained by contacting: **Erna Reinhart**, 1616 Robert Road, Lancaster, PA 17601, or call: 717-299-4935 or e-mail: beatlechas@comcast.net

DON'T LOSE IT THIS YEAR!

Your 2009 KRC membership renewal notice is included in this issue of **KEY-NOTES**. It should be returned quickly so it doesn't get mixed in with monthly and holiday bills. By renewing your membership early, you will be assured of a listing in the 2009 Membership Directory. You also won't miss out on any special offers that appear in many issues of **KEY-NOTES**.



YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Also included in this issue is a ballot for selecting your 2009 club officer team. To vote, you must be a member for the upcoming year. Please fill out the top part of the form first (Renewal Application), then complete your ballot. Time flies, so don't procrastinate.



HONORING LEVI STUBBS, JR.

By Denise Haage

When a dear friend from Detroit called me Friday morning, October 17th with the sad news, I knew I had to make an unscheduled trip to Michigan. Levi Stubbs, Jr. had passed away in his sleep earlier that morning. I consider it ironic that this date was also the release date of the movie "Secret Life of Bees" where an actor sings "I Can't Help Myself" in one of the scenes. After the announcement of the viewing and funeral details, I began making plans to attend. I contacted fellow KRC member, **Cecil Worley**, to travel with me.



The Four Tops are my favorite Motown group since 1965. My music collection includes their complete forty LP/CD catalog. I have had several wonderful opportunities to meet Duke Fakir, Obie Benson and Levi Stubbs in Lancaster (PA) and Detroit (MI). I enjoyed Levi Stubbs baritone voice for the last time in November, 2000, at the Detroit Opera House. I learned later that this performance was his last complete concert appearance.

Family and friends could pay their respects Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 9 pm at the Swanson Funeral Home. A funeral home hostess observed a steady stream of mourners both days. I noticed flower mâchés from the Contours, the Miracles, the current Four Tops lineup and Berry Gordy. The Temptations sent an impressive four-foot red and white carnation treble clef shaped arrangement trimmed with white/gold sprayed ferns. The viewing room displayed a few Four Tops posters and Levi photos. Four Tops music played softly. A 1942 white Cadillac hearse sat proudly outside. Assuming the vehicle "for display only," I was thrilled to view it parked at the church the next day.



Greater Grace Temple, a 4000 seat church, also celebrated the life of Rosa Parks in 2005. We met Susan Whitall, a Detroit News entertainment reporter, while waiting to enter the church. She has covered Motown artists for numerous years and her name appears quite often in newspaper clippings in my "Tops" collection. Pleased that we knew of her (even though from out-of-state), she mentioned us in her article covering the funeral published the following day.

About 2500 people attended the service. Inside everyone could view Levi again, if they wished. A continuous slide show of mostly family photos continued



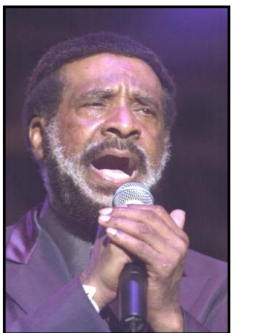
Exterior and interior of Greater Grace Temple where the funeral service took place.



throughout most of the 3½ hour celebration. Because of the large number of family and friends, the funeral began fifty minutes

late. Speakers and performers seated on stage included Rev. Jesse Jackson, Smokey Robinson and Berry Gordy. Sadly, close friend Aretha Franklin had a previous commitment in New York and could not attend. Two of Levi's daughters' and several others included Four Tops song titles in their tributes. Ollie Woodson, current member of the Temptations, performed. Councilwoman Martha Reeves stated her desire for Detroit to erect statues of Motown artists. When she shared her personal stories as many others had, she sang the titles of the "Tops" songs. Duke's son, Nazim Fakir, read scripture and offered a prayer in addition to his remembrances.

Not ostentatious, the generally celebratory service accommodated those friends and family members who needed to speak of Levi. They showed class and reverence. The huge number of former Motown family members in attendance including many currently living in California proved how well they respected and loved him. I did fight tears a few times, however. The video clip of Levi performing "I Believe in You and Me," Martha Reeves singing a line of "Ask the Lonely" and Duke's goodbye to "The Captain" near the end were most poignant. I am thankful I had the opportunity to attend.



Deborah Boatner, one of Levi's daughters believes Levi died singing because his mouth was open. I think he was calling out to Larry and Obie whose deaths preceded his...

Editor's Note: Little known facts about Levi Stubbs will appear in the February edition of KEY-NOTES also written by Denise Haage, KRC's "Encyclopedia of Motown Artists", especially The Four Tops.