

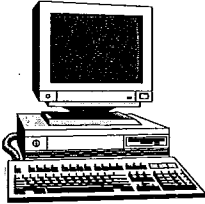
KEY-NOTES



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From the Editor's Desk



As Spring arrives and the bad weather is behind us, the spring and earlier summer looks busy for the KRC. Next month, rockabilly artist and author, Billy Poore will be in attendance.

He will have a table of music as well as his *Rockabilly: A 40 Year Journey* book to sell and sign. See the review in KEY-NOTES #111. Also elsewhere in this issue is more information on his upcoming visit.

Later this spring or summer, recording artist, Charlie Gracie plans to be part of our show, by way of an autograph party to kick-off his new CD. Charlie (most noted for his late 50's hits "Butterfly" and "Fabulous") is (as you are reading this) recording a new CD -- ironically in Lancaster ! As things develop, we will keep you posted. Our thanks to KRC member Bob Burke for making this happen.

Speaking of members, a welcome back to long time club member, Eddie Collins. Eddie juggles a host of activities including record collector, radio DJ, musician, a concert Master of Ceremonies, writer, interviewer, and even a Record / CD show promoter. Eddie is second from the left in the photo below.



If there are any other members out there who would like to share with us a little more about their interests and accomplishments in the world of music / entertainment, please drop me a line or package.

Musically Speaking,

B.D. Shaw (bds@alascpa.org.)
KEY-NOTES Editor

View From The Top



This time I'd like to review a few basic ideas / suggestions / observations about our club and our monthly shows. They include...

- ~~ Please follow club rules -- for the good of the show and for everyone concerned.
- ~~ Dealers -- No pornographic material or bootlegs.
- ~~ Vendors should pre-pay for the following show to help insure that you will get in.
- ~~ Remember -- the main entrance should be the only one used after 9:15 a.m. -- especially in the colder months
- ~~ Again, for at least the tenth year, dues remain at \$12. Membership benefits include: reduced rates on book and music offers along with paper and poly sleeves, to name a few.
- ~~ Please ask for a quantity of flyers to let your corner of the world about what you have come to enjoy. We need members to help spread the word.
- ~~ Try and attend our bi-monthly meetings, after the show. We are always open to new ideas to promote our club.

Kevin Welch
KRC President, 1999

Music For The Soul...

Here's some heavy philosophy from Plato (427 - 347 B.C.), written long before the times of Guy Lombardo or Def Leppard ...

"Music is moral law. It gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, a charm to sadness and a gaiety and life to everything. It is the essence of order, and leads to all that is good, true and beautiful". I wonder what the *Top 10* songs were in 347 B.C. ?

Dave Kressley, KRC Member



It's all right here -- you don't have to travel anywhere -- it's all right here -- 10,000 square feet of music, memorabilia, and shoppers ...!



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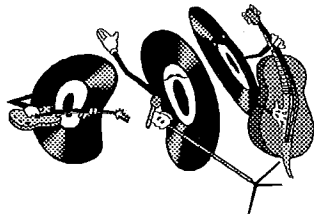
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KRC in 1999

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- A KRC EXCLUSIVE -



From the projected book:

Record Collecting Recollections by Steve Yohe

Chapter 1: Precollecting Days

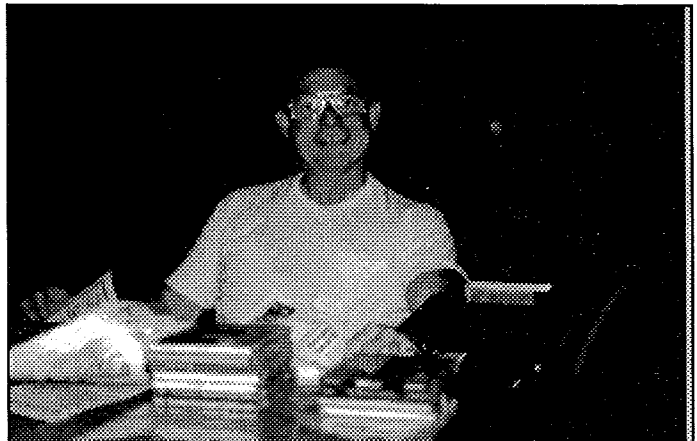
It's Saturday night. I'm sitting on the couch in front of the TV. The announcer has just welcomed me to "Your Hit Parade". It is 1957 and rock and roll music is invading the previously pop-dominated world of music. I am eager to see where "Party Doll" is on the top 7. I know that the version done by Snooky Lanson or Russell Arms on the show won't be as exciting as Buddy Knox's original version, but it's still exciting to see rock and roll music get some recognition from the staid music establishment. I am always puzzled why they just don't do a countdown from 7 to 1. Other than always ending with number one, the order is random, some weeks starting with 3, sometimes with 5, and so on. The songs are always done as a skit, and the writers' imaginations must be taxed to come up with a new situation for each week's appearance of a particularly long running song. I'm sure they'll be glad when "Party Doll" fades from the charts because it's a somewhat racy song by pop standards, and they're probably running out of ideas. Maybe it's already faded from the charts, and another one has taken its place. Maybe they've fudged the alleged tabulations of popularity, and it's not even on their chart anymore. I'm eagerly waiting to see this week's results.

KEY NOTES

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Names in bold type are members of the Keystone Record Collectors

(Deadline for #113 is May 9)



This that and the other: If you look up **Ken Swigart's** listing in the **KRC** directory, he collects "everything". Ken, one of the founding members of our club, takes a break at a recent show. His collection can be found in his living room, kitchen, bedroom, and barbershop-even in the second chair.

ROCKABILLY AUTHOR TO APPEAR AT NEXT KRC SHOW

Rockabilly fans won't want to miss the May 9 Pennsylvania Music Expo. Author, performer, producer, promoter Billy Poore will be at the show with copies of his recent book, *RockABilly: A 40 Year Journey* (see the last Keynotes -- #111, for a review), its companion CD, and other recordings of interest to fans of the genre. Hailed as an expert on Rockabilly and Roots Music, Billy will be glad to sign autographs, discuss music with oldies fans, and offer discounts on selected items to KRC members.

Besides having met most of the artists he wrote about in his book, Billy has been personally acquainted with such performers as Danny Gatton and Charlie Feathers, so show attendees can expect some fascinating conversations.



BILLY POORE

"A WHOLE
LOTTA
RACKET"

B/W

"FOOL
FOOL FOOL"

ROCK-A-BILLY
Record Co.
121

OLDIES SHOW AT STRAND-CAPITOL

A Concert Review by Steve Yohe
York, PA March 14, 1999

On March 14 after the Pennsylvania Music Expo, around a dozen adventurous KRC members weathered the snowstorm to travel to the Strand-Capitol in York. It was well worth the trip.

The opening act was the Del-Vikings, looking and sounding flashy in bright red suits complemented with two-tone, color-coordinated shoes. The too-short (20 minute) set featured fine versions of several of their recordings--the biggest hits (except they omitted "Cool Shake") and their fine uptempo version of "Sunday Kind of Love," with its great a cappella introduction. The five-member group produced a full, balanced harmony anchored by a strong bass man. A special highlight of the set was an Eddie Holman-ish version of "Hey There, Lonely Girl," with beautiful harmonies.

The second act, the Shangri-Las, did a slightly longer set (about 30 minutes), during which they performed only two of their hits--"Remember (Walkin' in the Sand)" and "Leader of the Pack". The set was lively with all three members sharing the lead vocal chores. The highlight was the youngest member's performance of Roy Orbison's "Crying", during which she effectively hit all the high notes and built to a powerful climax. This member was then introduced as the daughter of the group's remaining original member.

After the intermission came the high point of the evening--the performances of Johnny Maestro and the Brooklyn Bridge. The musicians were great, the vocal harmonies were outstanding, and Johnny Maestro was tremendous, getting stronger with each song. Two of the background singers were former members of the Del Satins, who backed up Dion on many of his post-Belmonts' hits; as a result, the group did a medley of Dion's hits with Johnny very impressive on lead.

For over an hour, the audience was treated to a wide variety of songs. From his days with the Crests, Johnny did their four biggest hits, including "16 Candles," as well as several great flip sides and lesser known chart records. Real treats for doowop fans were several a cappella versions of classic group-harmony songs. For fans of mid-'60's music were Brooklyn Bridge's four biggest chart hits, including "The Worst That Could Happen." A big audience favorite was a tribute to the Righteous Brothers' "Unchained Melody," an amazingly accurate reproduction during which Johnny hit all the right notes.

Johnny was also responsive to audience requests toward the end of the show when he obliged us with "What a Surprise," a solo hit for him in 1961, and "Sweetest One," the Crests' first chart record. I had heard from numerous people how great Johnny and the Brooklyn Bridge is, so I was expecting a good show. In reality, the concert well-exceeded my expectations.

The Strand-Capitol is to be applauded for bringing such a fine '50's and '60's show to York. It was obvious from the enthusiastic reactions of the audience that more of the same acts would be well-received in York. For future reference, the following acts are outstanding showstoppers and would be welcome additions to future concert schedules: the Jive Five featuring Eugene Pitt, The Clovers, The Capris, the Harptones featuring Willie Winfield, the Impalas, and Earl Lewis and the Channels.

The Oldies Show
Featuring...

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The Charmed Times Dance

A Concert Review by B. Derek Shaw -- Knights of Columbus (Catonsville, MD - March 6, 1999)

Heading down I-83 on a damp, dreary and pouring night, I wondered what might be in store for me that evening. Sure, people told me that they sounded good at the swaree in October. Maybe that was a fluke -- maybe the critics had too much to drink, or maybe they were damn good.

Walking up the steps to the *K of C* hall brought back memories of when the Arbutus Record / Cd show was held in this venue. Upon entering the hall, I was one of the first 15 there -- uh oh. However, the 120 seat room soon filled with "40+ somethings" (and a few younger people for good measure).

Sound checks were going on with the first of the two bands, *The Lower East Side*. About 9:10 p.m. my questions were answered. Versions of America, CCR, Eagles and other early to mid 70's tunes filled the room, while the dance floor filled by the third song. These four guys knew what they were doing. Vince DiGiosafati's vocals were backed by John Linthicum (guitar), Jimmy Hughes (bass), and Bob Jones (drums). One of the highlights for me was the rewording of the Standells' "Dirty Water". They moved the song a little south by substituting "Down by the Chesapeake Bay, Bal-tee-more you're my home".

Now for the group I was really waiting to hear. I couldn't imagine six guys who were in different bands in the 60's and 70's together and knocking your socks off. Well they did. On top of that, three of them are Record / CD show vendors that I see often, in that capacity.

I knew things were good when they opened with *Train Kept A Rollin* combining the Johnny Burnette Trio version with that of the Yardbirds. **Marty Mettee** (lead guitar) and **Tom Engle** (vocalist) --as one of the spouses remarked -- looked like they were businessmen, who would pick up their briefcases and leave after their two sets. Looks are deceiving, I soon found out -- Tom is a smooth R&B singer and Marty is an accomplished guitarist.



Charmed Times Reunion Band : (l - r) Jim Hughes, Tom Engle, Marty Mettee, and Ray Quigley -- all "Record Show Regulars"...

The *Charmed Times Reunion Band* played a ton of good dance songs (*Time Won't Let Me*, *Stand By Me*, *Hold On I'm Coming*, *Crying...*). They also did some more obscure songs. They performed tunes by the Lafayettes (*Life's Too Short*), the Van Dykes (*Stupidity*), Buzz Clifford (*Magic Circle*), and even Jerry Dahlman (*The Bug*). Marty and Jimmy (who pulled double duty in both bands) did one hell of a blues tune entitled *Charmed Times Blues In "A"*.

The night was a great success. Take a tip from me, if Ray and the guys plan another *Reunion Concert*, mark your calendar and plan to be there -- you will be guaranteed a good time !

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April 1999 #112

P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster PA 17608