

From the Editor's Desk



Summer signals vacations, parties, and as the Dire Straits once said: "Twisting By The Pool".

The warm months also tend to be times when attendance takes a dip at our monthly shows. I guess the less crowded show becomes a bonus for the customer, not having to shop shoulder to shoulder with others as the past three months of shows have been.

Vendors, what can you do to get more shoppers to our shows over the summer? Obviously, spread the word loud and clear about our show! Take flyers and make sure your local newspaper runs a calendar listing (especially if it's outside our ten-county primary marketing area). Discoveries ads, list us on your website, and push the KRC in music chat rooms on the internet.

There are members who are already strong supporters and promoters of our club and show. To them, we say THANK YOU! To the rest of you, today is the day to start actively promoting the Pennsylvania Music Expo!

Our show belongs to all of us -- not just the officers, the vendors, or customers. Ownership involves the entire membership!

The more people that you bring to our show, the more money you make and the happier you'll be. It's simple economics -- without your help, we just maintain. With your help, we will all prosper -- it's your choice!

Musically Speaking,

Davek

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



View From The Top



Hello Folks,
The May show's attendance was down a bit, due in part to the fact that it was Mother's Day.

A few points were discussed at the club meeting after the May show that I would like to pass on to you. Dealers and others should practice discretion with the volume levels, so as not to cause distraction to those nearby. Dealers are asked to vacate the building no later than 5:00 p.m., so the crew can reset the cafeteria. Your continued cooperation on these issues will be appreciated by all who enjoy our special organization!

Sincerely,

Kevin Welch,
KRC President (1999 - 2000)

THE PRESERVATION OF OLDIES LOVERS
PROUDLY PRESENT
THE FIRST ANNUAL P.O.O.L. CONVENTION

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 1999 4 PM-TILL
HAMBURG FIELD HOUSE
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THE PASSIONS THE MYSTICS THE CLASSICS

"JUST TO BE WITH YOU"	"SUNDAY KIND OF LOVE"	"LIFE IS BUT A DREAM"
"THIS IS MY LOVE"	"WHITE CLIFFS OVER DOVER"	"P.S. I LOVE YOU"
"GLORIA"	"HUSHABYE"	"TILL THEN"

OTHER GUESTS TO BE ANNOUNCED!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! LIMITED RESERVED SEATING - FIRST 300 SEATS!
RESERVED GOLD CIRCLE FLOOR SEATS AVAILABLE - MAIL ORDER ONLY! \$50.00 Ea.
GENERAL ADMISSION FLOOR : Adv. \$20.00 / Day of Show \$25.00
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CRUISERS & DISPLAY DEALERS CALL US FOR TICKETS & RESERVATIONS BY JUNE 1 FOR YOUR SPACES.

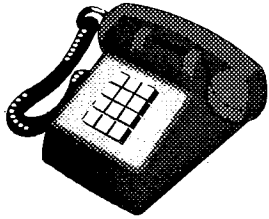
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KRC in 1999

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LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 4 PM..
PLAN TO BE THERE.

- A KRC EXCLUSIVE -



From the projected book:

Record Collecting Recollections by Steve Yohe

EARLY RECORD FINDS: "Lama Rama Ding Dong"

Several years before it became a hit as "Rama Lama Ding Dong", a small Ohio label named Dub released the recording with the title misprinted "Lama Rama Ding Dong" on the label. In 1958, I recall hearing the record played one evening on a local station (probably WLBR, 1270 AM from Lebanon) during a regular feature called "Make It or Break It." The object of this phone-in feature was to determine whether or not the listening audience thought the record was worthy of becoming a hit. I recall thinking it to be a fascinating, unusual song, but the callers, for the most, seemed to want to "break" the record. Obviously, this record was either way ahead of its time, or, as most people believed, its time would never arrive. Of course, the former eventually proved to be true.

It wasn't until many months later that I happened upon a copy of that record in White's Record Shop, a long-since-defunct store in downtown York. I found it in a batch of what I now know to be cutouts. I believe the price was 25 cents. Since I remembered it from before and the price was right, I purchased it, adding it to my collection. After playing it once or twice, I filed it away and promptly forgot about it.

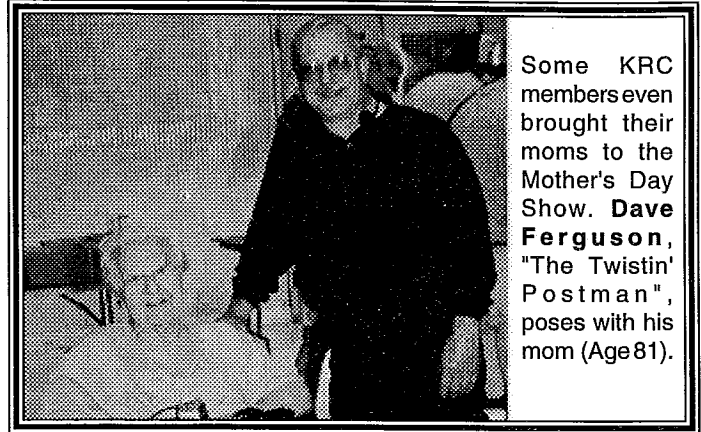
Almost everyone else had long since done the same--except for a New York deejay whose mind was jolted with the "shock of recognition" in 1961 when "Blue Moon" by the Marcells became a monster hit. Since there was a big, albeit too brief, doowop revival going on at that time, he pushed to get the record rereleased. It became a substantial hit, this time on the Twin label with its correct title, Rama Lama Ding Dong.

KEY NOTES

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(Deadline for #114 is July 11)

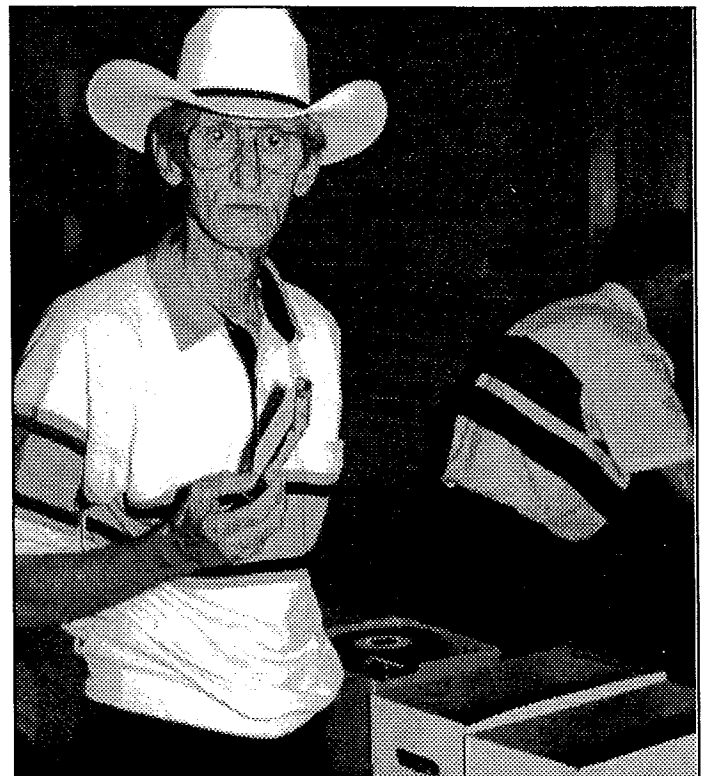


Some KRC members even brought their moms to the Mother's Day Show. **Dave Ferguson**, "The Twistin' Postman", poses with his mom (Age 81).

"Persistence Pays Off"

How many collectors have had a song in their head which they have tried to locate for four decades?

Lonnie Van Scoyc, East Berlin, Pa., had a song in his memory for nearly 40 years. Growing up in Shippensburg, Lonnie had a record collection as a teenager. "I got married in 1959," remembers Lonnie, "and after we moved several times, somehow the record got lost." Still, he made several visits to the KRC shows, first at Columbia, and later to Blue Ball and Catholic High, armed with only a title and lyrics. At the May show, Lonnie finally identified his long lost tune. A few KRC members may remember this local Philly obscurity: "I'm Going Away" by Tom Reiley and the Tom Cats (TIME label) released in July, 1958.



Lonnie Van Scoyc with tape of his "long lost" oldie.

Acoustic Dreams by Larry Griffin

A CD review by B. Derek Shaw

Sometimes the best way to learn about good new music is by referral. Prior to this March, I had never heard of Larry Griffin or his music. Lori Leonard from Keystone Music Exchange, suggested Larry contact me for getting involved with the KRC. The Glen Rock, southern York county artist, last fall released a ten tune collection of songs he penned, called "Acoustic Dreams".

One play of the disc - I got hooked. Repeated plays confirmed my initial gut feeling - this guy is good. Billing himself as "authentic acoustic", Griffin transcends rock, soft rock, country with even a bit of folk. He has a touch of Gordon Lightfoot, a pinch of Mike Cross and a dash of Dan Fogelberg in him. Best of all, the disc, albeit, only clocking in at 33:51, contains ten original compositions.

Griffin does a great deal of finger and picking work, crafting each song with it's own unique style on his 12 string guitar. What is even more amazing is that Griffin gave up his musical sojourn for 18 years, settling down, raising a family, and doing a day job. Credit son Tim, wanting to enter the music field, with a rekindling of Larry's passion in performing again.



The collection contains a variety of moods, subjects and philosophy. "She Touched Me" starts out like the beginning of Joni Mitchell's "Free Man In Paris" tune. I especially enjoyed "Feeling You", "Our Dreams Belong To Yesterday", "Long Way From Home", "Sweet Lady" and the infectious "Ask The People". The latter track, the opener on the disc, in my opinion is the song that could generate tremendous radio single airplay, provided area stations stop listening to music consultants thousands of miles away, and play good local material. "Ask The People", an internal protest song, has the right ingredients to put Griffin on the charts.

Griffin culls from his 60's and 70's band experience to give us a delightful acoustic experience. I finished listening to "Acoustic Dreams" with one thought in mind; to hit the play button again.

Griffin plays the usual nightclub/tavern/watering holes in Central Pennsylvania on a frequent basis, so plan to catch his show. You will not leave disappointed.

To get your own copy of "Acoustic Dreams", visit any of the following places. . .

- York: Border's, Classic Tunes, IKO's, 3D CD, Custom Blends, Menchey Music
- Lancaster: XYZed, Concentrix, The Music Den
- Ephrata: The Record Connection
- Millersville: Young Ones
- Lebanon: Keystone Music Exchange
- Glen Rock: Getty Mart

I have one request of Larry Griffin: Please don't wait another 18 years to release your second disc. I'm ready for it right now!

Dancing the State Teacher's College

On a Thursday evening in March of 1964 (the 19th to be exact) a young woman who nearly two years earlier enjoyed great success in Central Pennsylvania performed at Shippensburg State Teachers College (now a University). That evening, I'm sure she performed *Today's The Day*, *People Are Talking*, *I Don't Want To Cry*, *I'm So Young*, *The Story of My Love*, *Goodbye Baby* and of course, *Dancing The Strand*.

That tune hit the top ten on WSBA and WLAN in the summer of 1962, making it a frequently requested song.

That singer was Philadelphia area songstress, Maureen Gray. According to a Philadelphia Musical Society Local

#77, she was contracted for a 30 minute performance between 8 and 11 PM, at the rate of \$40.

Also, supposedly on the bill that night, along with the fees they commanded were. . .

- The Sherrys \$120 (must have been the feature act)
- The Lydells \$100
- Dean Christie \$35

What a great show that must have been! If only we could travel back in time to see it.

Maureen Gray is now living in England. She did an extensive radio interview last fall with Philadelphia's WOGL.

THE CANADIAN AMERICAN STORY

A CD Review by Steve Yohe

Over three years in the making, including research as well as painstaking mastering, this compilation by KRC's own Phil Schwartz on his X-Bat label is a fascinating mix of chart records, unreleased takes, hard-to-find collectibles, and historic yet little-known recordings. The accompanying 20-page booklet is well-researched and well-written. The styles of the 23 cuts are mostly limited to white doowop, pop/rock performances and a couple of '60's girl-group sounds, but there are some fine examples of each of these genres. I find myself enjoying the collection more with each hearing.

There are three chart hits: "Sleep Walk" by Santo and Johnny, "I've Told Every Little Star" by Linda Scott, and "It's Cold Outside" by the Choir, originally released on Canadian American before it was leased to Roulette.

There are also good non-hit performances by artists who had hits earlier or later for other labels, including the Fireflys, Gerry Granahan, Paul Simon as Jerry Landis, the Roomates, the Angels, and the Four Aces. Of these artists' recordings, I especially enjoyed Gerry Granahan's "Short Skirt," a sequel of sorts to "No Chemise, Please"; "I Wish I Weren't in Love" as by Jerry Landis with fine Dion and the Belmonts-style harmony by an uncredited group or possibly by Paul Simon overdubbing his own voice; and the Roomates with the previously unreleased "Someone to Watch Over Me."

Besides those, the most fascinating tracks are several of the noteworthy efforts by lesser-known artists. There are some

fine doowop efforts: "My Dear Little Doll" by Jimmy Lee and the Laurels is a ballad with smooth harmony; "Magic Eyes" by Nicki North and the Citations is a good mid-tempo, Jarmels-type harmony effort; "One Night" by the Four Kings is an exciting mid-tempo performance in the Four Seasons'/Tokens' style; "Zoom-A-Roo" by the Bermuda Keynotes is a catchy, uptempo effort; and "Don't Say Goodbye" is a pleasant ballad by the Criterions, which includes Tommy Picardo, later known as Tommy West of Cashman, West and Pistilli and the Buchanan Brothers, and Tim Hauser, founder of Manhattan Transfer.

Both of the girl group sounds in the CD are worth hearing: "Ziga Ziga Zoom" by the Relatives is a cross between "I Sold My Heart to the Junkman" and something out of "Grease"; "I Found Someone" by Carol Goldbert (released as by Laurie and the Lovells) has a Carole King/Brill Building/Cookies' sound.

Instrumentally, there is "Moonflight," a great "Telstar"-influenced recording by the Valiants. There's also an amusing novelty called "He Likes Rock & Roll" by the Citations with an unknown female lead. Many of the remaining songs are mostly pop/rock efforts in the style of such artists as Paul Anka or Rick Nelson. All of the songs are well-produced, commercial efforts well worth a listen. There's even a cut by Joey Welz--believe it or not, it's not bad. It's "Hey, Little Moonbeam," a pleasant "Venus" - style "calypso" co-written by Steve Lawrence and backed by the Angels.

Pick up your copy from Phil Schwartz at the next KRC show or from
X-Bat Records, PO Box 5347, Lancaster PA 17606.



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