

Collectors Corner - Tips On 45rpm Record Organization/Storage (Part 1)

By Eddie Collins

For many of us who started collecting records as youngsters, we considered it a hobby, a weekly trip to our favorite record store, picking up a few of those 45 rpm singles we heard our favorite disc jockey play on the local radio station, or maybe a great tune Dick Clark debuted on American Bandstand.

There was a mystique about those 7" vinyl records, as it was not only what we heard in those grooves on the 'A' or 'B' side, there was much more to be seen on the record labels placed on those discs - names of songwriters, producers, arrangers etc. In addition to the musical acts, these industry names would become our heroes, as we developed a thirst for knowledge, posing the question "What else did they do?" This is when the aspect of a hobby, becomes a lifelong passion.

Record collecting is varied by those who collect specific artists, genres of music, output of a specific record label, colored vinyl, picture discs and of course the individual who collects everything. Some collectors are meticulous in finding alternate pressings, typesets, and the list of diversity goes on. The sincere beauty of being a collector, is quite simply always finding 'another piece to the puzzle.'

I'm sure we all agree, for the collector who begins to acquire their collection, the main question and obstacle which always remains, is the overwhelming engineering process of organization, cataloging and storage.

In the realm of organization and cataloging my personal collection, now in excess of 35,000 45's, the need to devise a very simple filing system became apparent many years ago. I needed a system where I could access my collection easily and file new additions quickly. Here's a breakdown of the method that has worked extremely well for me:

1) Classifications - Dividing the entire collection into 'genre classifications' tailored to your needs. Categories could include: Doo-wop; R & B vocal groups; 1950's 60's, '70's, and 80's; 1960's and 70's Soul; British Rock; Beatles; Motown, etc.

2) Sub-divisions - Inside the classifications, (in alphabetical order by last name or group) filing an artist with three or more singles, using a filing card header to identify. Also, with groups that had members who had successful solo careers, adding them to follow is an easy way to streamline your filing, example: 'The Eagles,' followed by Don Henley (solo), Glenn Frey (solo) etc.



3) One-Shot Artists - After creating the sub-divisions by artist, placing 'one hit wonder' acts, or records you have one or two of the artist, into a miscellaneous category utilizing header cards. For example: Miscellaneous: A - male vocal; Miscellaneous A - female vocal; Miscellaneous A - group. By filing these 'one shot' records as such, it becomes very easy for retrieving, and more so - if you acquire additional records from that artist, they can be assigned a header card, and later added to the mainstay of artists within the particular classification and it's sub-division by artist or group.

Editor's Note: Coming up in Part 2, KEY-NOTES #205: Eddie discusses tips on record storage, racking, and space utilization for the novice and most discriminating collector.



KEY NOTES

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AUGUST 2014
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Inside...
45 RPM sleeve links
Marlyn's 31st Edition
Left Coast Record Stores
Record Organization
and more!



RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

On a recent visit to northern California to attend the American Coaster Enthusiasts annual convention, time was set aside to visit record/CD/DVD stores in the Bay Area. Having visited Amoeba Records in Los Angeles the past decade, I was eager to visit their pair of locations in San Francisco and Berkley. I was not disappointed.

A big operation in our area might be a 2,500 square foot music facility. These left coast "superstores" are sometimes as large as 12,000 square feet or more!

Amoeba was just one of at least three gigantic music store mom and pop chains I un-earthed. Equally impressive were Rasputin Music (12 locations) and Streetlight Records (3 locations).

Vinyl rules these operations, however there was a surprisingly large amount of CD and DVD's proportionally to choose from in each location. (I guess the falling out of favor for these last two items hasn't made it to the West Coast, yet.)



On any day and any time of the day that I visited, the crowds were there. (As Steve Yohe has often said when he's in the thick of a large music collection, "I'm over stimulated!") That certainly was the case with these huge bastions of musical memories - a veritable "treasure trove".

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Our shows continue to draw record crowds each month along with new members and vendors. The new vendors are from all over the country, who continue to return. Thanks to all involved for helping make the Pennsylvania Music Expo the success it is.

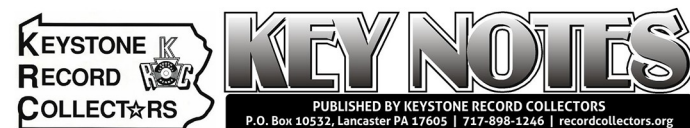
We have once again started selling supplies such as record jackets and sleeves. Please stop by the KRC Main Table and talk to us on what you need. If we don't have it available (such as record boxes), we will be happy to place an order for you. Please help support your club by purchasing your supply needs with us.

And thanks again to VP Eddie Collins for his continued efforts in getting musical guests to our shows. He is continuing to work on a few more for the remainder of 2014, so watch each issue of Keynotes for what is going on in that department. That info is also posted first on our Facebook site, so "like" Keystone Record Collectors for immediate updates.

Dave Schmidt
2014 KRC President
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More to come!

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 have been warned - start saving your money now!

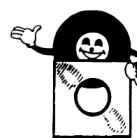


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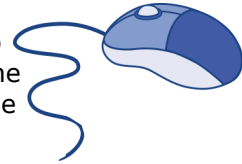
(continued on page 2)

KRC in 2014

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 3 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH THE CONTINENTAL INN FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD! ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS. BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS A SHOW WHEN WARRANTED.

LIKEABLE LINKS

Have you ever wanted to match a 45 RPM single with the correct sleeve from that time period?



Thanks to KRC member Vince Habel, for several years now I've been using a website that helps to do just that. If you go to: http://45-sleeves.com/ you will find an amazing compilation of photographs of record labels and sleeves and a listing of which release numbers fit into which sleeves.

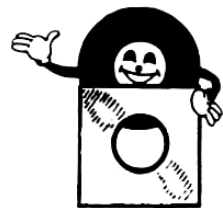
Even if it's not important to you to include each record into a vintage sleeve, you will find the information and photos fascinating to view. The quantity of labels represented is huge.

- Steve Yohe



HOW TO REACH US...

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KEY NOTES

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Did I find what I was looking for on my never ending want list? Yes, a few things, however I was hoping these vestiges would be the end all for me.

That excursion taught me that wherever I am, no matter how big or small the operation, I enjoy the "thrill of the hunt". If I find my obscure wants in the process, it is a bonus!

Speaking of a bonus: My last store visit was to Streetlight in Santa Cruz. One of the clerks got into a conversation with my about the 45's on my list which



led to a conversation about where I was from. "York, Pennsylvania", I replied. He responded, "So am I!." Mike Shelley (above right) left Central PA (Glen Rock) in 1983. He and his brothers were vendors at our shows when we were in the Columbia Market House. Mike handles the online vinyl sales for the store. Seems I missed Mike by a year, as I attended my first KRC show in 1984. Small musical world!

As we move into the last half of 2014, we 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 show flyers in your neighborhood retail areas. Help us - help ourselves!

Derek

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Marlyn Kauffman's 31st Annual "Family and Friends Picnic" By Steve Yohe as reported by Eddie Collins

As in previous years, the 2014 edition of Marlyn Kauffman's picnic featured an abundance of food, entertainment and great conversation. The Keystone Record Collectors was well represented with President Dave Schmidt, VP Eddie Collins, Special projects Coordinator Phil Schwartz, Show Coordinator Steve Yohe, and original show announcer Dennis Emerick.



In attendance and enjoying the festivities were many celebrities from the radio and music industry, including Dan Steele of WHP radio, Richie Rotkin and Mitch Schecter of the Rip Chords, and King Raymond Green of "Harold Winley's Clovers" (left). Those festivities included performances from many of the other guests.

Radio host Cool Bobby B. (of Sirius/XM's "The Doo Wop Stop") and KRC's Eddie Collins served as masters of ceremonies for the event. "The Original Nomads" acted as "house band" for the day, featuring a wide array of classic oldies from the 1950's and '60's. (Bobby pictured with host Marlyn Kauffman, right. Nomads 2nd column.)



Vocal group the Tridels with Mike Bove, Jackie Strauss, and Art Wilson (known for their 1964 record "Land of Love") performed a number of favorites including a great version of Spiral Staccatos's "More Today Than Yesterday."



York PA's Sting Rays, who delivered an extremely well-received set of a cappella renditions, kicked off their set with the Paragons' "Hey Little School-girl".



A special treat was a surprise appearance by artist and former WHEX (Columbia, PA) radio disc jockey Jimmy Clanton. After speaking about his early days as a teen idol, Jimmy performed his 1958 hit "Just a Dream". (with Tridels, bottom of first column.)

Closing out the afternoon in grand style was the ever soulful Miss Carmen Bryant of the RPM Band (and former touring member of the S. O. S. Band, known for their top ten smash "Take Your Time (Do It Right)"). She brought the crowd to its feet with Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools" and Donna Summer's "Bad Girls". (Above with the Sting Rays.)



Both Jimmy's and Carmen's performances were augmented with vocal backing from the Sting Rays, Dan Wolfe (Class of '60 Somethin') on guitar and bass, KRC's Eddie Collins on drums, and host Marlyn Kauffman on percussion.