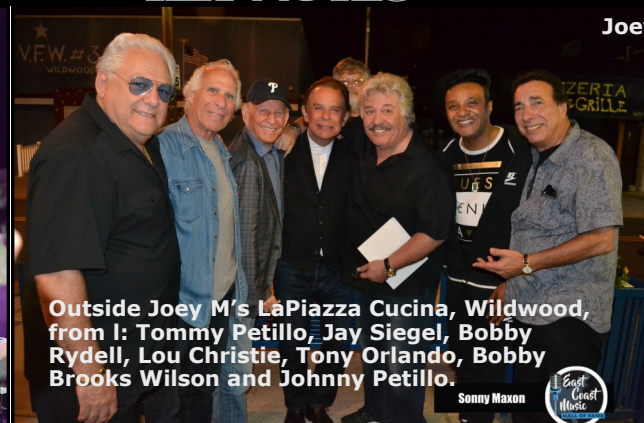




Bobby Rydell



Outside Joey M's LaPiazza Cucina, Wildwood, from l: Tommy Petillo, Jay Siegel, Bobby Rydell, Lou Christie, Tony Orlando, Bobby Brooks Wilson and Johnny Petillo.



Joey Dee with Ronnie Spector



Willie Winfield of the Harptones



Nearly 3,000 attended the 3 1/2 hour gala



Organizers Tommy Petillo and Billy Grieco



Teresa McClean, Music Maker award recipient and member of the Classics



The next day at Cool Scoops, N. Wildwood, from l: Joey Dee, Larry Chance, Vito Picone, Jay Siegel, Jimmy Moschello and Jimmy Merchant.



Connie Francis



KEY NOTES

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AUGUST 2019
ISSUE #234
Inside...
East Coast Music Hall Gala
Berks County R&R Hall
Tom's Take on Gala
Coming: A new column
and more!

VIEW FROM THE TOP

It Was 50 Years Ago Today

So many things happened fifty years ago this season that we still talk about today. For music fans that means "Woodstock" and the breakup of the Beatles. The moon landing and the Manson murders were headlines for months. Hurricane Camille killed hundreds of people in the south and thousands were killed in Viet Nam. The "Stonewall" incident in New York City sparked the gay rights movement and the Mets won the World Series after being a joke since they began. The Chappaquidick incident in Massachusetts and the Chicago Seven trial were in the news. "Easy Rider" was in theaters and "Laugh-in" was on TV. The radio was playing "The Age of Aquarius" and "In the Year 2525." Bryan Adams wrote "The summer of '69" in 1985 and didn't mention any of the above. But record collectors never forget.



Ken Sweigart
2019 KRC President
kenofparadise@aol.com

Happy hunting!

TOM'S TAKE - ECMHOF Gala

My overall impression of the awards gala was great. The program made me feel like I couldn't wait to see who or what was coming next. I was most impressed by the performances of Bobby Brooks Wilson and the tremendous voice of Doreen Arminio covering Connie Frances', "Stupid Cupid." The induction of Eugene Pitt to the hall was very moving to me; however, the performance of Kenny Vance honoring Johnny Maestro and the subsequent performance of The Brooklyn Bridge live, backing up the recording of Johnny singing "You'll Never Walk Alone" brought me to tears. It was tremendous! I was shocked to see how many of these legendary artists are still alive. However, my favorite part of the evening was meeting and shaking hands with Johnny Maestro's widow.

- Tom Landis



Near the end, a very stirring performance with the Brooklyn Bridge on stage and the late Johnny Maestro on the screen.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Five years ago, when we were celebrating our 35th anniversary, I thought the Pennsylvania Music Expo was going to fade out of existence. Our latest home at Spooky Nook Sports-LANCO, while cozy, is proving to be drawing lots of attendees. Perhaps it is word of mouth or social media or something else. Whatever reason, attendance continues to be strong. Of course there's always room for more!



Throughout this issue, read about the East Coast Music Hall of Fame Gala. The group is dedicated to celebrating honoring, and sustaining music's past, present, and future, giving recognition to those who have dedicated their lives to preserving the music of the 1950s - '70's.

Closer to home is the Berks County Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. KRC member Billy Yuhos was recently inducted. They exist to honor and memorialize Berks County's rich musical history in a way that would celebrate and commemorate the musicians and groups who made it so special.

B. Derek Shaw
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List of performers at ECMHOF Gala

(In Performance Order)

The Del Satins, The Elegants, Kid Kyle, Joey Dee, Teresa McClean, Dennis Tufano (Buckingham's), Bobby Rydell, The Duprees, Quiet Storm, The Stylistics, Tito Puente, Jr., The Skyliners, Sal Valentinetti, Bobby Brooks Wilson, Lou Christie, The Tokens, The Brooklyn Bridge and The Earls. The MC for the evening's festivities was Emil Stucchio, lead singer of the Classics.



Tommy Petillo, founder of the East Coast Music Hall of Fame and a member of the Duprees, closed out the evening with these remarks, "It was a good idea and the people proved that. The oldies never left, they just went underground. We are the largest generation — we changed politics and the course of this country with our music," before concluding, "3,000 fans in Wildwood on an off-season Wednesday night? That only proves one thing — that the people are keeping the music alive!"

(See pages 3 and 4 for additional coverage)



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KRC in 2019

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Berks County Rock & Roll Hall of Fame 2019 Inductions by Phil Schwartz

The 4th Annual Berks County Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame induction and reception was held on June 14th at the Berks County History Center in Reading. The organization was originally conceived following the 2nd annual Magical History tour concert in August 2014 to honor Berks County musicians and groups who have had a significant impact on the regional music scene. There is a permanent exhibit which has been developed since that time at the History Center.



The 2019 class of inductees included 30 musicians and six groups. Long time KRC member Bill Yuhas was honored as both a musician, and as a member of the group The Pretenders. Fellow members of this group Sam Talarico, and Mick Diana were also present to receive their awards.

Several KRC members attended the event to honor Bill, who has been involved in the Berks County music scene since the late 1950s, when he was the rhythm guitarist, and vocalist for the Royal Dukes.

HOW TO REACH US...

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Remaining 2019 Pennsylvania Music Expos: 9/8, 10/13, 11/10 and 12/8

KEYNOTES

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(Deadline for KEY NOTES#235 is September 8th)
Names in bold type are members of Keystone Record Collectors

He was also a member of The Invictors (aka The Termites) in the early 1960s. His work is heard on many other local records which were released on the Bee and Kingston labels. The Royal Dukes appeared widely in the nightclub scene over a multi county area. Bill joined The Pretenders in 1992. One of his fondest memories of performing with that group is their appearance in front of over 3,000 people at Scenic River Days in 1993. The event is Reading's annual celebration of music, art, food and fun

The ceremonies were well attended (a packed, standing-room only house). Guests were treated prior to the awards portion to music by keyboard virtuoso Karl Hausman (formerly of The Kit Kats) who also performed for ten years on Main Street at Walt Disney World.



From left: Mick Diana, Bill Yuhas and Sam Talarico inducted as members of The Pretenders.



A happy inductee, Bill Yuhas (center), surrounded by supporters all from the Keystone Record Collectors. (left, Bob Magaro, Derek Shaw, right) (Back from l:) Teresa Boyer, Dennis Emerick and Phil Schwartz.



It's new! It's amazing! It's technology at its most, like it was several decades ago! It's...hey, wait a minute here...

You know, we take technology for granted most of the time when we put a on record, a tape or a CD to listen to. Or perhaps we just stream from the internet much of the time now. But just how much have things really changed over time? And—do we care? Isn't the music itself the most important thing, not the tech behind it?

Yes—and oftentimes no. Tune in next issue for some thoughts by long-time audio repair tech, C.J. Huss, about the intersection of the tunes we love and the science that provides them.

East Coast Music Hall of Fame Awards Gala

- Wildwoods Convention Center was the venue for the inaugural event - By B. Derek Shaw

Wednesday, June 5th was an outstanding evening! First there was a 15-piece orchestra backing all 20 performances, special appearances by award presenters Ronnie Spector, Tony Orlando and Edie Brigati of the Rascals, and a 5-song opening performance by the talented band to kick-off the 3 and a half hour show. I spoke to Billy Grieco, Vice President, East Coast Music Hall of Fame (ECMHOF), to get the background about this first-time event.

BDS: How did the idea come about?

BG: "This was and is the vision of Tommy Petillo, President of the East Coast Music Hall of Fame and lead singer of the Duprees."

What was the initial reception to the idea?

"Most people were skeptical at first."

Were there any challenges along the way?

"Many Challenges were encountered, too numerous to mention — but we turned every challenge into an "opportunity."

How did the initial slate of inductees originate?

"The ECMHOF Board of Directors."

What are the criteria to be considered a candidate for a Legend Award?

"Our Legend Singer must have had a recording in the top 100 on charts of any genre of music. Our nominee and voting process for The Legends Awards and Best of The Music Makers Awards starts with our Ambassador members who are welcome to submit nominations to each of the 28 categories of the "Legend Awards" and "Best of The Music Makers Awards"."

Why Wildwood, N.J. and the Wildwoods Convention Center in early June?

"We visited Atlantic City, Asbury Park and Wildwood. The mayor and local business owner, Joey Montello, gave us the history of The Wildwoods as the Doo Wop capitol of the world."

How was reaction to the first induction ceremony event?

"OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE!"

Is this intended to be an alternative organization to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame?

"We are our own organization dedicated to the music of the 1950's, 60's, 70's and beyond."

When will the 2020 inductees list come out?

"After the Board has had the opportunity to discuss the potential candidates — sometime after the summer of 2019."

See back page for photos from the gala

Do you have anything else to add?

"Only that we are extremely happy that everyone enjoyed the show — all 3,000 plus attendees between the gala and our meet and greet."



East Coast Music Hall of Fame 2019 AWARD WINNERS LEGENDS AWARDS
Lead Singer Male- Fred Parris
Vocalist- Tony Testa
Group R&B/Soul- Russell Thompkins Jr. Stylistics
Group Doo Wop- The Brooklyn Bridge
Group Ladies Doo Wop- The Chantels
Group Acapella- Jerry Lawson Persuasions
Band Rock- Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes
Latin Music- Tito Puente
Musician- Johnny Gale
Songwriter/Composer- Billy Dawn Smith
DJ/MC- Don K. Reed

Music Maker Award Winners: Singer, Male: Kid Kyle, Singer, Female: Teresa McClean, Band: R&B/Soul - Shadows of the 60's, Band: Jazz/Blues/Swing - Bob Kulik, Band: Latin - Mambo Legends Orchestra, Band: Cover - Bronx Wanderers, Vocal Group: Doo Wop - Planotones, Vocal Group: Acapella - Classic Sounds, Musician: Joe Arminio, DJ/Web Personality: Lou Costello, Band: Tribute - Fleetwood Mac Tribute, Web Publication: Doo Wop Ramblings Newsletter, Historian/Advocate: Charlie and Pam Horner and Entertainment Venue/Theatre: Count Basie Theater.