

MEMBER RECORD SPOTLIGHT: TOM GROSH



A "hand pour" is made manually in limited quantities vs. a mechanically produced mass pressing for large quantities.

The photo of Teri Landi (of Abkco records) and myself Thomas R. Grosh (Very English & Rolling Stone) shows my own personal copy of the "Rolling Stones - Let It Bleed" of only about 12-15 issued to the executives at London records in 1968 - Teri contacted me for the photos - that are to be used in the production of a "hand pour" for a record store day issue of 900 units. As we know 2020 has been a Covid 19 year - and was supposed to be issued earlier. Teri and I are grateful that finally this has now come to see the light of day. 11/27/20

The February issue was loaded with those artists we lost in 2020. Long-time club member, Mitch Johnson, took it upon himself to research something positive.

OLDEST LIVING BILLBOARD TOP 40 POP/R&B CHARTED ARTISTS - 1955 to present

- Sue Thompson - born July 19, 1925 (over 95 years old!) "Norman" fame. BTW, Boots Randolph is one of the 2 trombonists on that recording!
Joni James - born Sept 22, 1930 (over 90 years old)
Jaye P. Morgan - born December 3, 1931
Sammy Turner - born June 2, 1932 (88)
Johnny Thunder (Loop de Loop) - born August 15, 1932 (88)
Lloyd Price - born March 9, 1933 (88)
Quincy Jones - born March 14, 1933 (88)
Willie Nelson - born April 29, 1933 (almost 88)
Pat Boone - born June 1, 1934
Jerry Lee Lewis - born Sept 29, 1935
Don Everly - born Feb 1, 1937
Johnny Tillotson - born April 20, 1938
Duane Eddy - born April 26, 1938
Connie Stevens - born Aug 8, 1938
Sandy Nelson - born Dec 1, 1938
Dion - born July 18, 1939

I did not list any artists born in 1940 or later.

I'm surprised by Yoko Ono's age - born February 18, 1933 (88) - not sure if she technically was in the top 40 with Lennon. Definitely on flip sides of some big hits. Happy Xmas (War Is Over) did not chart top 100 Billboard (I was also surprised by that).



KEYNOTES

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APRIL 2021 ISSUE #244 Inside...
Remembering Dave Schmidt
Oldest Living Artists
TMP Big Across the Pond
Kraft Collection Donated
...and more!

THINKING OF DAVE SCHMIDT

At the December 2013 Pennsylvania Music Expo at the Continental Inn, I will never forget watching this huge man approach Derek Shaw's show tables. I was thinking this man was going to be gruff and rough with his white hair flying around his head. He opened his mouth to speak to me and this beautiful, deep voice (think Luther Vandross type of voice) came flowing out of his mouth.

From that day forward, David Schmidt, was my devoted older "adopted brother," my Schmidty or simply Dave. He was unbelievably good to me. He always had a word of encouragement and a funny clean joke I could retell. Dave never ran out of praise for me from my cooking to my driving he was always so grateful. As a patient advocate (I am a RN with experience in many areas of nursing that I could let flow over Dave's health problems.) I took him to almost all of his doctor appointments and to the grocery store and other fun places while he was able to enjoy going with me. We used to go to Pretty Boy Lake in Maryland, and he would direct me where to take water samples.

As the last year unfolded, 2020 into 2021, Dave's kidney function continued to fail. He wanted to die at home and asked me to be his caretaker and durable power of attorney. This document was his advance directive for health care, or as some people call it a living will, appointing me as his representative when he was no longer able to speak for himself.



Dave died at home per his wish with me holding his hand as he passed away, comfortable and in his own residence. It was an honor to do this for a man who has quietly helped many people through the years.

Humble and knowledgeable about music, ham radio operator and model railroad train enthusiast, DJ/radio newscaster, radio engineer and railroad yardmaster. Dave had a wide variety of interests and was passionate about these interests. The one thing bad about Dave is that he had little financial resources and gave away much money to people needing it more than he did. When I realized what he was doing, I tried to talk to him about this, he would tell me he kept enough to eat and buy a meal for whoever helped him. He felt he owed the IRS nothing after he retired due to being legally blind as a result of complications from diabetes. His kidney and heart disease were also a result of diabetes.

Donations toward his funeral costs will be gratefully accepted. Contact Derek Shaw on how to reach me.

- Kathy Flick

More tributes can be found on page 5.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

Each February, the annual "Thank You For the Music" article is a look back and pays tribute to those artists, musicians and singers we lost during the past year.



Unfortunately during the past year, we lost far too many musicians. COVID-19 reared its ugly head elevating the amount of people who passed to a much higher level. At least 20 succumbed to complications from the coronavirus.

The Keystone Record Collectors lost at least three members due to various reasons last year.

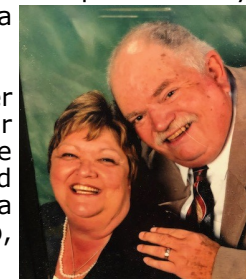
This year is not starting out in a positive mode, as we have already lost at least two members: Chauncey Kraft and Dave "Schmidty" Schmidt. Tributes to both can be found inside these pages.

On a lighter note, Spring has sprung. Warmer days mean outdoor concerts, Bar B Que's, car cruises and more. It also is a great time to visit the Pennsylvania Music Expo.

Even with COVID-19, the Pennsylvania Music Expos this year have ALL been very strong. In addition, there have been many first time faces at our show.

CHAUNCEY "SPIKE" KRAFT

KRC member Chauncey "Spike" Kraft passed away on January 7 of this year after a lingering illness.



He was a 1965 graduate of Dover High School, serving in the US Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Lost and Found Record Review in York, a monthly music sharing group, serving as president at one time.

From his widow, Kathy, who is pictured above: "I have known him for 56 years. Many didn't know how caring and loving he could be. He loved going to the KRC shows for years, not missing too many months until he had to go to a nursing home four years ago.

His final wish was for his record collection to be given to the Keystone Record Collectors with hopes they would be able to use the money made from them for the club. He was an R & B and oldies music lover."

The collection will be available at the Pennsylvania Music Expo over the next few months, or until all are sold.

The Keystone Record Collectors extend our condolences to Kathy and the rest of his family.



"A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and advancement of music collecting"

KRC in 2021

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 3 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF **EVERY** MONTH
(EXCEPT MAY 2)

SPOOKY NOOK SPORTS - LANCO

FLIERS ARE AVAILABLE - TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!
ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE MADE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.
BUSINESS MEETING VIA ZOOM, WHEN WARRANTED.

The Maxwell Project: Breakouts in England, Scotland and E-Bay

In the 1980s, The Maxwell Project (TMP), then known simply as Maxwell, was breaking attendance records at The Village Nightclub and other hot spots in Lancaster and surrounding counties. Since the late '70s after the group's release of their first 7" record, "Radiation Funk", the group has undergone many personnel changes; however, the principals — Jeff and Kathy



Aston and Corby Myers—have remained constant. In 2005, TMP returned to The Village for the release of their smooth jazz-oriented CD, Jamaphonic. More recently, the group collaborated with Don Hodgen and Chuck Ronemus of Pocket Full O' Soul to release "Too Much of a Good Thing"—a song originally recorded in 1966 with Don as lead vocalist for his high school group, The Ambassadors. The song was written by fellow Ambassadors "Bud" Hill and Eric Spitzer. The new recording was introduced on the recreated Pee-Vee label—the Lancaster-based label that released the original version of the song.

HOW TO REACH US...

www.recordcollectors.org

Find us on Facebook Keystone Record Collectors

17-898-1246 CALL ANYTIME!



KEYNOTES

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(Deadline for KEY NOTES#245 is May 2nd)

Names in **bold** are members of the Keystone Record Collectors

Over the past two months, the new version of the song, arranged and produced by Jeff Aston, has caught fire in Scotland and England in both the nightclub and radio circles. Wayne Kennedy of Chocolate Radio in the UK recently declared that he was "blown away by the talent and production" of the recording



and has requested an interview with the group. Steve Hobbs of Solar Radio has played the record on both his Smooth Tracks radio show and on totallywire-radio.com. The host commented, "So, the single is causing a real buzz over here..." Long-time friend of KRC, Colin Law of True Soul Records, is handling distribution of the 45 in Scotland and England.

In the meantime, there is renewed interest in a 1981 single recorded by the group in a "no-happy-ending" recording session at Mach 1 studio in Kentucky. Following the regional success of "Radiation Funk" in 1979, Rick Poppell, Maxwell's manager in the early 80s, entered into an arrangement with Clyde Brown, owner of Mach 1 Recording Studio and Muhlenberg Music in Central City, Kentucky, to bring the group to the Blue Grass state to record a full-length album over two weeks. The album was destined for major chart action. This was before an all-too-common incident in the music industry—a "blow-up" between Poppell and Brown caused the project to go "sideways." To the band's dismay, the recording sank before it could be released. However, that year, two of the tracks from a mono dub were salvaged and released on a 45 *(with special sleeve). "Realize" was the top side. How were sales? "Almost nothing" according to Kathy Aston, who along with Jeff, shares the lead vocals on the disc. How was radio play? "I don't think it was ever played on the air" she said.



Fast forward to 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic has wrecked the entertainment industry and caused the cancellation of all the group's 2020 gigs. Meanwhile, spurred by DJs in the UK who found scarce copies of the 45 and began adding the song to their sets, "Realize" has gained enthusiastic interest from collectors in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. The ever-unpredictable Northern Soul world has discovered the record and sent prices skyrocketing for original copies on eBay. UK-based Pressure Makes Diamonds records declared, "It's a beast of a record that I feel deserves to be heard/owned and played by thousands." The group couldn't agree more.

What's next? Four tracks: two new and two remixes are in the works. Look for a new 45 this spring on TMP's own record label, distributed by X-Bat Records in Lancaster. The group has been receiving more requests for radio interviews, and TMP is preparing a schedule to return to live performances. Check out their website, themaxwellproject.com, for news and updates.



- Phil Schwartz

Remembering Dave Schmidt, 1951 - 2021

KRC's longest serving president remembered by some of those who knew him best

I have known Dave since the mid-1960s, when we were both involved in the radio and music hobbies... DXing (trying to hear distant radio stations) and trading tapes (3 inch reel tapes) of each other's shows to play on our pirate radio stations, Dave's being WMOT-640. First time I ever visited Dave was in September, 1966 at his home in Village Green, near Chester, Pa. We kept trading radio stuff and tapes over the next few years, and by the early 1970s, Dave had gotten a job at WHOT in Youngstown, about 45 miles from where I live in Akron. He often did the engineering at the WHOT night site and was in charge of the automation for the Big Al Knight show, so I would visit him during his shift there a number of times.

Over the years, Dave worked at quite a few radio stations as both as DJ and engineer. He was also active in the National Radio Club, one of the major groups for radio DXers. During that time period, he often attended radio get togethers, including one in S. Plainfield NJ held annually, and I often saw him there, and a lot of good radio discussions ensued. Dave also hosted several National Radio Club (NRC) conventions, one in Kulpville, Pa., and another in New Castle, Del., both of which were really enjoyable events.

More recently, as I began attending the KRC record shows, I met up with Dave once again to talk about records and music each time I was at a show. One time, I visited him at his place in New Freedom, Pa. and got to see his set-up for Oldies 1620, which was very impressive, both technically and also due to the large number of records on his playlist. About that same time, he also did a few DJ shows at Topshelf Oldies, the online station I have a show on as well.

I was very saddened to learn of his passing, as he was a real good friend, along with being a really serious record and music collector. He will not be forgotten.

- George Greene

I met Dave in the mid-1990's when the Pennsylvania Music Expos were held in Blue Ball. His friendly manner and knowledge of music were obvious from the start. The longer I knew him, the more I came to appreciate his strengths and the kind of person he was. He was so approachable and easy to talk to.

Because of his affable personality, he was an ideal candidate for handling the club's phone reservations when the position became available. Since I was Show Coordinator, I had to work closely with Dave, and that was one of the easiest jobs ever. We also had an opportunity to work together when he served as president of KRC for several years. Even though he was a gentle soul, his imposing size made him a natural if we needed someone to intervene in the rare conflicts that erupted at the shows.

Dave liked to travel, so when he learned that I regularly did the Arbutus and Allentown shows, he volunteered to ride along. The great conversations we had during those trips made the time fly so fast. Because his sense of humor was compatible with mine, we had many laughs on the road.

He had a diverse background, including working on the railroad and ultimately as an all-purpose radio employ-

ee. Of course, with his rich, pleasing voice quality and wit, he was an ideal on-air personality. It was his knowledge of sound systems and electrical wiring, however, that made him most valuable to radio stations as head engineer. He was noted for being able to take a station with a mediocre signal and turn it into a powerhouse that commanded the attention of listeners scanning up and down the radio dial.

I miss Dave. His generosity and kindness were important, enviable traits. It was his unfailing loyalty to his friends that was most meaningful to me during the last few years. He was a true friend.

- Steve Yohe

For twelve years I was Dave Schmidt's chauffeur for the KRC shows at the Continental Inn. Once a month at the ungodly hour of 5:30 AM, I picked Dave up at his home in West York, and we dashed over to Lancaster to get through the door with the first wave of maniacal buyers. After the show, Dave would always treat at the Lyndon Diner.



The first time I met Dave, he was sitting in his station wagon blasting a Baltimore radio station, WZBA-FM 100.7 "The Bay." Dave was the Chief Engineer and his mission was to make the station's audio grab you by the short hairs and keep you tuned in. He looked like an aging Steve McQueen and sounded like Jim Nettleton, the sonorous Philadelphia "boss jock."

Dave grew up near Philly, and his early radio heroes were Hy Lit, Joe Niagara, Chuck Browning, and especially Joey Reynolds. When he was a youngster, Dave called Reynolds on the air at WKBW and held his own against Joey's caustic wit. Dave had no fear of picking up the phone and calling any one. In the mid 1970's, when AM radio was still huge, Dave rang up Ed Buterbaugh, Chief Engineer of CKLW, Detroit, to find out how The Big Eight got it's big booming sound. Buterbaugh was helpful, and Dave learned some tricks he used at stations all over the northeast.

In the early 2000's, after eye problems ended Dave's "official" radio career, he fulfilled a lifelong dream and put his own station on the air. A low powered AM/FM/ internet station, Oldiesradio1620 created a splash with highly processed audio and jingles. His playlist was unique. In a typical quarter hour you would hear Dale Hawkins, Maureen Gray, Chilliwack, The Volcanos, The Turtles, The Flamingos, Huey Lewis, and Kenny Hamber. Dave didn't know the meaning of the word "no." With a ragtag crew of underemployed salesmen, he managed to sell a lot of advertising on the station.

Dave had a wicked sense of humor, even about his own mortality. One Sunday, after a particularly lively dinner, we continued the conversation on a meandering drive through rural fringes of York County. For some strange reason we kept passing by various graveyards. "What do you think about that one?" I asked. "Nah, I'm looking for a tomb with a view," replied Dave. As the evening light began to fade, we found ourselves on Route 181, and off to our right was the sprawling warehouse of the Record Club of America. "Hey," said Dave, "Just throw me in there!"

- Gary Levine