

KEY NOTES

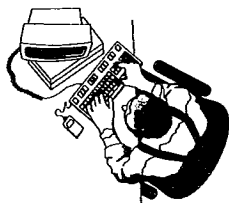
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JUNE 1994
ISSUE #83

INSIDE:

- Untold, but You Know
- Future of KRC Show
- Where's the \$ Go?
- The Doo-Wop Video



From the Editor's Desk

A new meaning for garage bands. In my new job as Media Relations Specialist for the City of York, you never know what kinds of activities you'll be getting yourself into. In early May, my office got word that a 35-member German brass band and 70-member choir was staying overnight in York. Would the city like a free concert? Sure, why not.

What does all this have to do with KRC? I'm getting to that part.

The concert was slated to begin at 7 PM on the steps of City Hall. Five tour buses with the performers arrive a few minutes before 7, at the same time a big rain storm begins. Looking for a "quick fix" to hold up the concert, one of the City of York's municipal garages just up the street is selected as the alternate site.

We quickly gathered the group and band along with the crowd and ushered them a half block to a lower level in the King Street Parking Garage. And you know what? It worked!



German garage doo-wop? Not exactly. Municipal parking garages can provide excellent acoustics.

The sound emanating from the garage was great. Watching the concert caused me to reflect back on all the great doo-wop groups that got their start in subways, tiled bathrooms and other "off beat" sites. Now municipal parking garages can be added to that list!

Doo-wop concert promoters take note: You don't need a fancy venue... try your local parking garage. It works! During the concert, I kept thinking of Kenny Vance's mid-70s tribute to doo-wop groups, "Looking for an Echo." It was just fabulous.

Until next time, keep promoting the music collecting hobby!

Musically speaking,

B. Derek Shaw,
Editor, Club Publications

View From The Top

Continued Success For Our Shows

Our May show was surprisingly strong with a near-sellout for dealer space in spite of Mother's Day conflicts. Early crowds trailed off in the sunny afternoon.

Today's June show is expected to be another sellout so our dealer support remains solid. The KRC officer team is particularly gratified and appreciative of our dealers' continued interest. Although we receive new dealer inquiries every month, we are pleased to provide our regular members the opportunity of occasionally setting up to liquidate excess.

Our dealers are the lifeblood of our shows and to each of you, we thank you for supporting KRC in our 16th year.

But What About The Future?

The location for future shows is very much uncertain at this point. The Blue Ball Market complex is scheduled to be auctioned a week after our June show. No one knows what will happen after the sale. The best scenario would be to stay where we are, but that may not be an option.

Contingency Plans

Since we have no lease, we must be ready to move our show. We have drafted a form to evaluate alternative sites. Currently, two sites are vying for the KRC shows: A flea market in Weiglestown (west of York) and the Host Resort in Lancaster. There has also been some preliminary discussion regarding sites in Lebanon and Ephrata.

Make Your Opinion Known

At the club meeting following today's show (June 12th, 4:30 PM), we shall vote on an alternative site just in case we have to move the July show. Please let your voice be heard. If the show moves, we shall mail announcements to all members and advertise the new location.

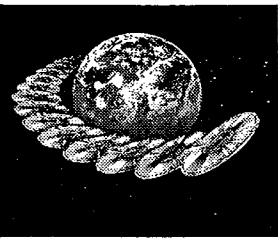
Steve Clark
KRC President



Three years ago, the Swallows performed. In 1993 the Cardinals played. This year the crowd was wowed by the Orioles. They were part of Alan Lee's 3rd Annual Doo-Wop get together and swap meet in Baltimore. (From left to right: Skip Mahoney (of the Casuals fame), doing the lead on some songs, Larry (filling in for the right), Diz who has been with the group since 1954 and Reese (who was originally with the monarchs). It was a great performance that will long be remembered.

610-589-5094

KRC 24-HOUR INFO LINE



MID-ATLANTIC MUSIC EVENTS

All of the following events provide a special admission discount to KRC members upon presentation of your KRC membership card unless there is a **NO** in bold type after their listing.

KRC in '94

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 4 PM
SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

at THE BLUE BALL MARKET, 1/2 MILE EAST OF RT 23 ON US RT 322, BLUE BALL, PA. 8 miles south of PA Turnpike exit #22, 9 miles east of Ephrata.

KRC FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE DURING EACH SHOW...

TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!

BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY SHOW...

PLAN TO BE THERE.

EVERY SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH: Record/CD/Tape Collectors Convention and Sale. Fireman's Hall, Parish Dr., Wayne NJ. Rt. 23 at Rt. 202 (north of US 46 and I-80). 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Fred Falk 201-773-6067.

NEW SHOW

SATURDAY, JUNE 18th: Record/CD Fair. Holiday Inn, Cromwell Bridge Rd. (exit 29 off I-695), Towson MD. 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Ray Quigley 410-247-2589.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th: Maryland Music Collectors CD/Record Expo. Arbutus Fire Hall, 5200 Southwestern Blvd., Exit 12A off I-695 (Baltimore Beltway). 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Ray Quigley 410-247-2589.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th: Record Convention. Holiday Inn, 10th and Packer Streets, Philadelphia PA (across from Veterans Stadium). 10 AM-5 PM. Info: Chuck 609-629-0685. **NO**

JULY 22-24: Record/Music Sale. Wicomico Youth and Civic Center, 500 Glen Ave., (just off Rt. 50), Salisbury MD. 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Bob Tierney 410-757-6182.

SATURDAY, JULY 23rd: Record/CD Mart. Knights of Columbus Hall, 6726 Little River Turnpike (exit 6E off Washington Beltway... go 3.5 miles on right). 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Ray Quigley 410-247-2589.

JULY 29-31: Record/Music Sale. Ramada Inn Convention Center, 901 Dual Highway (just off I-70), Hagerstown MD. 10 AM-4 PM. Info: Bob Tierney 410-757-6182.

ABOUT OUR CALENDAR: Dates and times of events are subject to last minute changes and/or cancellation. Please call ahead to confirm. *Key Notes* will gladly list other record shows and concerts of interest to our members, space permitting, as long as they do not conflict with any KRC scheduled event. Send your items to: 329 Rathton Road, York PA 17403-3933. This service is provided **FREE** of charge. **Deadline for Key Notes #84 calendar is July 10th.**

KEY NOTES

#83, June 1994

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster PA 17608

NEWS/PHOTOS/IDEAS: 329 Rathton Rd., York PA 17403-3933 • 717-843-3050

Names in bold type are members of the Keystone Record Collectors
(Deadline for #84 is August 14th.)

Our Members Write

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped with the sale of T-shirts for the Friends of Floyd Art Scholarship Fund. A sketch that the late Floyd Runkle did was transferred to T-shirts to raise money for a scholarship in his name. To date, \$1860.00 has been raised through the sale of these shirts and several cash contributions. Floyd was a graduate of Donegal High School and Millersville University. His untimely death in January 1992 saddened all those whose lives he touched.

A special thanks goes to the following: Paul at Iko's Music Trade in York, Andy at the Record Connection in Ephrata, Steve at For Every Ear in Elizabethtown, The Local Aid Foundation, and Fred at Designs Unlimited who printed the shirts, many on short notice. Also thanks to Vaughn and Cindy Myers, Scott May, Ruth Anderson and the Luthern Brotherhood, and the Keystone Record Collectors club. And of course, thanks to everyone who made this project possible by purchasing a shirt.

Anyone wishing to make a cash contribution to the Friends of Floyd fund, may send it to: The Bainbridge United Methodist Church, PO Box 261, Bainbridge PA 17502, attention: John Lokey.

Sincerely,

Rich McLenson and Friends of Floyd

Editor's Note: Floyd was a regular at our shows in Columbia. In the 2-1/2 years since he's been gone, he's been missed by quite a few people at our monthly event. (See article in Key Notes #72, summer 1992).



A FEW YEARS AGO, this Herndon, Virginia dealer started doing our shows – and enjoyed some success. **Jim Koppers**, usually found in space #26 deals mostly with 45s. **Jim** was the man behind the new club key-chains. If you don't have one, stop in at the club table (#1 & 2).

Treasurer's Report

KRC FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY-MAY 1994

Charles Reinhart,
KRC Treasurer

SUMMARY:

Balance 1/1/94.....	1122.13
Jan-May Income.....	10267.14
	11389.27
Expenses.....	- 9502.79
Current Balance.....	1886.48

EXPENSES:

Rent.....	2040.00
Advertising.....	1505.50
Show Flyers.....	889.59
Bags Unlimited.....	849.10
Table Repair Mat'ls.....	783.41
Show Expenses.....	732.55
KRC Phone.....	514.00
Postage.....	442.36
Newsletters.....	390.22
Book Order.....	333.00
KRC Keyrings.....	313.24
Direction Signs.....	299.08
Stationery/Envelopes.....	220.59
Business Cards.....	111.67
Miscellaneous.....	78.48
	9502.79

The Story Untold Music Alliance

A different kind of oldies club? The organization was formed "for the appreciation and preservation of the greatest music ever produced," as its members will tell you. For the most part, they are referring to the music that was made popular in the United States between 1953 and 1963.

The appreciation comes in the form of monthly meetings called sessions – a concept adopted from The Lost & Found Record Review of York PA. Members meet and share their collections of their favorite songs. More often than not, the music is not from the *Billboard* charts but from the songs that rarely had air time. The club researches the groups and artists as well as the lifestyles of the period. The information plus the music is shared with anyone who has an interest. The membership actively seeks out similar organizations and people who would like to start a club if one does not already exist for the sole purpose of sharing.

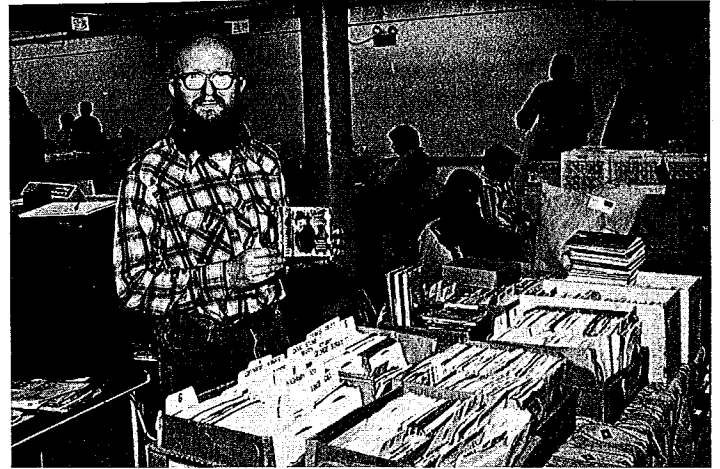
Based in Central New Jersey, the club is new and very active. It is mentored by Prez Tyus (wrote "I'm So Young" and "Everyday of the Week" as a teenager in Cincinnati) who is presently affiliated with Doug Yeager & Associates in Manhattan, a firm that does promotional and talent agency work. The club is in contact with Richard Nader, Don K. Reed of WCBS-FM, Drs. Anthony Grebin and Matthew Schiff – authors of "Doo Wop, The Forgotten Third of Rock N Roll," and Richard Johnson (original bass singer of the Students). The preservation is in the form of some of its members' kids. The organization encourages young people who have an interest and cultures the ones that already have it. They take pride in their greatest asset: today's teenagers. The club has a few youngsters that can hold their own against the most avid collector. They can be found every spring attending the Richard Nader Oldies Show at the Meadowlands. At a glance, they appear to be like any other kid that is brought there because of their parents... until you catch them singing along with the music, discussing B-sides of records that were produced some 35 years before they were produced, the original labels, the group aliases, how the lead singers bounced between the groups and the life experiences behind the lyrics.

The club stresses that they are not in competition with record collecting clubs like the KRC or organizations that produce shows or have their own record label like the UGHA (United Groups in Harmony Association of Clifton NJ). The members support these and other organizations by attending their functions.

The name was selected for two reasons. Story Untold was chosen because club members feel that they are still learning about what happened back in those "happy days." Alliance because by definition it is any union, relationship or connection by common interest.

It is more than middle aged folks reminiscing about sock hops, drive-ins or submarine races. It can be summed up in the words of New York DJ Gus Gossert who was surprised to discover that a percentage of his WPIX-FM listening audience were too young to remember the music. Gossert said, "The magic of the music is that you can sing along with it or you can hum it." He went on to say that you do not have to look for hidden meanings or deep philosophies. Gossert continued with, "When you were a teenager, the most important things in your life were – if you were a guy – (1) your girl, (2) how you were getting along with your buddies, or (3) maybe your car, etc. If you were a girl, the most important were (1) your boyfriend, (2) how you were getting along with your friends, etc. And that is what 90 percent of this music is about." These words were spoken more than 20 years ago and they ring true today.

For more information on the organization contact Al Stefanowicz, 22 Lindsey Ct., Franklin Park NJ 08823 or call 908-422-4352.



CECIL THE DIESEL: This guy has been at our shows almost from the beginning. Occupying space #95, Cecil Worley, Jr. is an expert on Country Music. He's not bad at pop and rock stuff either. If you need current 45s, Cecil can help you out. The York resident is always willing to help you locate that special song you need.

Sign In Please

The past 2-1/2 years, dealers, customers and members have mysteriously found and shown up at the Blue Ball market month after month to support our show. The amazing thing is that it's eight miles off the four-lane Route 222!

During our tenure in Columbia, canvas directional signs were used to direct potential customers to our show (only about a mile south of Route 30). Upon scouting out our situation, we quickly learned that in the vicinity of our present location there aren't enough signs that we can attach ours to easily. A few months ago, Sam Stein, owner of Century 21 American Dream Real Estate office in York, graciously donated seven frames suitable for attaching our information to.

Member Derek Shaw contracted with a local sign shop to create aluminum directional signs to the Pennsylvania Music Expo. They look great and will stand out along the roadside.

Here is where we need *your* help. Bob Atwater and Dennis Emerick have agreed to put a sign out on Route 322 in front of the turn off back to the building, as well as placing one at the 322/23 intersection. However, we still have more to place. Here is where *you* come in.

We're in need of assistance on a monthly basis from two people (one traveling southbound on Route 222, the other traveling northbound on Route 222) to take charge of putting up and taking down two signs each. This would greatly help out the club as well as creating additional exposure about our event to people who perhaps may not have otherwise visited our show.

If you can do it on a regular basis, please let Club Publications Editor Derek Shaw know immediately. Your participation in this will really help the club. Don't delay, volunteer today.



A REVIEW BY AL STEFANOWICZ

'Pepsi World's Greatest Doo-Wop Festival' Videotape

Editors Note: In February, a 23-act doo-wop show was held at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. Al Stefanowicz, a member of the Story Untold Music Alliance (see story on page 3), was kind enough to review the video tape our club made available in Key Notes #82.

When I was offered the chance to share my reaction to the tape of this show, I jumped at the opportunity. Growing up in the northeast corridor of New Jersey, being surrounded by Brooklyn, Newark and Jersey City, I was in the middle of all the music. For me, the Festival was like going back to the Allan Freed shows at the old Brooklyn Fox and ABC Paramount theaters. On top of all this, on each chair at the Festival were flyers and one of them stated "to obtain a video of the show, send \$29.95 + \$3 to... etc." I sent a check and in about two weeks I received a postcard stating that my order was being processed, the tape will be three hours long, it is presently being edited and I should receive it in the near future. The offer held true to its words.

The Festival's 23 acts were presented at the Meadowlands Convention Center on February 12, 1994. It was co-hosted by two notables of the doo-wop world, Don K. Reed of WCBS-FM in New York, and Harvey Holiday of WOGL-FM in Philadelphia. The show was great and logic follows that I would think the same of the tape. Unfortunately, there were some disappointments.

The acoustics in the Convention Center were not designed with musical concerts in mind. The facility is used primarily for trade shows and conventions. The amps were on the stage and turned up so the sound could cover the center. This presented problems with the sound mixing which is evident on the tape. At times, the band overpowers the singers. The stage was not miked for the taping. Video cameras were located about halfway into the audience, resulting in conversations being picked up during the acts. You will also notice lighting changes. For some reason, a show would not be a show without varied colors fading in and out. Personally, I do not care for it. Finally, the cameras spent little time on the lead singers. If you think I am being too harsh, I am not. The video was advertised as a tape of the Festival. It is not until you send in your payment that you realize you are getting highlights with questionable quality.

The tape opens up as did the show with the orchestra doing what appeared to be a Tommy Ridgley tune ("Jam Up"). I am not sure. I missed the intro at the show and it is not announced on the tape.

The tune is quite lengthy. The real disappointment comes in the editing. Harvey Holiday and Don K. Reed are not introduced. The tape is not the complete show, with some acts being cut. The opening act, John Kuse/The Excellents, for example, was removed. Having the show in the Meadowlands, which is close to New York (where Coney Island is located), almost made the editing sacrilegious. The group's hit, "Coney Island Baby," is a memory that anyone from the area would want included.

I've talked about the disappointments, but if you like doo-wop or can relate to the 50s, there are three appearances that save the video - The Paragons, The Five Discs and Louie Lymon. This is not to take away from the other acts, but these really stand out for different reasons in spite of the editing and technical shortcomings. First, The Paragons. Recalling the old shows, I think of two things with this group. The white-gloved hand gestures and the lead tenor on "Let's Start All over Again" and "Florence." On the tape both of these characteristics are captured and performed just the way they were some 30+ years ago. Second, The Five Discs. This is a plus. Not for doing something I expected but because they did something no one was expecting. Between "I Remember" and "Never Let You Go" the group did their version of "My Hero" (originally recorded by The Love Notes), flawlessly and acappella. This is not an easy song to cover. Third, Louie Lymon. This act was billed as The Teenchords. However, they were wearing masks and there were no intros, which leads me to believe they just might be friends backing him up who suspiciously resemble another group (The Teenagers). Nonetheless, Lymon comes out in a white dinner jacket. He starts by singing "Honey Honey," then a ballad, followed by "I'm So Happy." During the instrumental part of the song, he starts dancing. The audience loved the theatrics.

From a practical point, the tape will cost you about a penny per minute and the editing left something to be desired but the music portions that remained are intact. The tape is good for someone who might be curious about the doo-wop sound, how the groups look, etc. The video might even get away with pleasing folks who were not at the show because they will see The Five Keys, The Marcells, The Jesters, The Teenagers, The Dubs, The Chantels and The Dream Lovers. If you are a "doo wopper" and were at the Festival, beware. You may or may not care for the tape depending upon your preference of groups.



June 1994

P.O. Box 1516, Lancaster PA 17608