

KEY NOTES

DECEMBER 1995
ISSUE #92
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COLLECTORS, P.O. BOX 1516, LANCASTER, PA 17608

From the Editor's Desk

Another year is almost over for the Keystone Record Collectors. It was a banner year with a few lows and lots of highs. We had to quickly regroup and secure a new show site effective with the March show. Places were visited and Lancaster Catholic was selected. It has proved to be a great facility with many desirable amenities. Even after 17 years we continue to draw new members and customers who have recently discovered the best kept secret in Pennsylvania, actually the East Coast.

The November show proved to be quite a success. The KRC held our first dual autograph parties with the members of the **Class of '60 Somethin'** as well as the **Kalin Twins**. People came from all around the get autographs, chat with guests and of course visit our show. Over 100 Press Releases/Requests For Media Coverage were sent to radio/TV and newspapers in a ten county area (seven in Pennsylvania, three in Maryland). Many of the media plan to do followup stories and utilize the club in the future. If any member has contracts with other regional/national artists and groups that would enjoy being part of one of our future shows, please let me know. There's always room for another autograph party.

Recently your Editor had the privilege of working with Pete Paladino, lead singer of The Badlees, a Sunbury-based rock group recently signed by A&M Records. Pete cut a few TV spots for the American Lung Association 1995 Christmas Seal Campaign, where I work when I'm not looking for records. You should be seeing it on most of the TV stations throughout the Susquehanna Valley. The Badlees manager was given info on the club and said they would take into consideration the invitation I gave them to hold an autograph party at our show sometime in the future. (By the way, don't forget to give to Christmas Seals and help fight lung disease.)

Stop the presses - and prepare for the shocker of the decade. Next to polyester and disco music coming back is another revelation. After everyone thought 8-track tapes and their accessories were dead, your Editor found how to give one item a new lease on life. A few years ago I acquired a couple of 8-track cases in a bulk record deal. Not knowing what to do with them, I stuck them on the shelf in the basement only to be uncovered this past summer. Through experimentation I found if you pull out the cardboard insert that kept the 8-tracks secure, the box becomes the exact size needed to cart 30 CDs around! I'm all for recycling and this fits the bill.

Finally two comments to ponder. During the past few years I've noticed a surging interest in 60 something pop artists from the 20 something crowd. Being in the middle of the baby boomer generation, artists like Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Tony Bennett had no appeal to myself or my peers. Yet people who were -10, -20 or more when they were at their peak are really getting into this genre. I guess anything is better than rap music!

"Those who complain the loudest, help the club the least." I now believe this statement to be true. It seems we have a lot of fair weather vendors. When attendance and sales are up, so are their spirits. When things are off, the finger gets pointed at a variety of reasons. Ladies and gentlemen and fair weather friends: we are a non-profit club providing a service to music collectors, NOT a profit-driven promoter out to sell tables. Sure we could charge \$40, \$50 or \$60 for a six-foot table, the going rate nationwide. As a club we were founded on giving the member that had a few extra records the opportunity to reasonably secure a table and set up.

Our best promotion comes by word of mouth. Every member, every vendor - all of us need to take the bull by the horns and tell friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, etc. about our show and club. Take some flyers and put them in high traffic locations where you live. If you have media contacts, call in your favors and help get us exposure. If you aren't willing to support and help your club promote our product (the PA Music Expo), then I suggest you pay higher freight and do a promoter run, profit-driven show. I'm sure they'll gladly take your money.



BREAKTHROUGH DISCOVERY! Those old 8-track cases are recyclable! All you do is convert the one on the left by pulling out the inside liner and presto... you have a new carrying case for at least 30 jewel boxed CDs!

Musically speaking,

Derek

B. Derek Shaw,
Editor, Club Publications

View From The Top

"Please take time and effort to participate in the selection of officers of the KRC for 1996. Make your thoughts and wishes known.

The Club and its operations should be a joint effort. We are all in this together and we each have a stake in its success or failure. If we each make a greater effort to promote the KRC, record collecting and the monthly shows, all will benefit.

The business world - especially in the retail field - has been complaining for months about the inconsistency and lack of

business. This has been reflected in attendance at many events and shows across the country. We cannot expect peaks without valleys... patience everyone. Hopefully our dealer base will remain loyal and continue to serve their regular customers on a monthly basis. If we offer good quality, fair prices, and good service, the number of repeat customers should grow.

Dealers and customers: with the winter months upon us remember if you arrive late or leave early you must use the front entrance. This is a common courtesy to dealers and customers located near the side doors that shouldn't have to experience all the cold air that comes in when you are late or leave early. Thank you."

- Jack Supplee, KRC President

KRC in 1996

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

LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE DURING EACH SHOW...

TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!

BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 5 PM...

PLAN TO BE THERE

You'll notice Mid Atlantic Music Events that normally is in this space, missing from this issue. Starting in 1996, we will unveil a Mid Atlantic promoter directly in this space. We plan to run it 3 times a year. If you need calendar information, consult *DISCoveries*, *Goldmine*, *Record Collectors Monthly* or *Record Finder*.

New Rockin' Records Available

The KRC, in cooperation with the Lost & Found Record Review are proud to offer the latest *Antique Trader* (Jerry Osborne) record price guide. This is one of the standards in the record collecting world. Skip McComas has agreed to coordinate the ordering of the book for both organizations, yielding a better price to everyone.

The latest edition has many new features including a Country Western category, Canadian releases not documented elsewhere, and What's Hot, What's Not from some of the experts.

Rockin' Records normally lists for \$39.95. KRC members can get it for only \$24.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling per book ordered. Should you not want to pick your copy up at the February or March KRC show, we can ship it 4th class for an additional \$1.00 per book ordered. Please note: This offer is being coordinated by Skip McComas NOT Club Treasurer Charlie Reinhart. Therefore your checks and money orders (no cash) should be sent to Skip at 1931 North Drive, York, PA 17404-4317.

Rockin' Records Price Guide Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone - evening () _____

_____ Guides @ \$24 each

_____ Postage and Handling for each book ordered

_____ Total enclosed (check or money order)

Mail check or money order to: Skip McComas, 1931 North Dr., York PA 17404-4317.

Orders will be filled at February 11 or March 10 shows.

Between The Grooves

Compiled by B. Derek Shaw

The hottest piece of musical property in Central Pennsylvania during the fourth quarter of 1995 came out of 15 South George Street in York. That's the location of 60 Second Street Productions who just released the *Class of '60 Somethin'* album project. A complete review can be found on page three....The rumor floating around is that Starview 92.7 (WHTF-FM) is changing to an oldies format. The station is now owned by WLPA/WROZ (The Rose) out of Lancaster....Everything I've heard about the new Quintones is good. They are performing at various clubs throughout the area. The group is all male this time around....A Jersey City, New Jersey concert promoter brought 11 acts to Harrisburg's Zembo Mosque last month. Billed as the *R&B Group Classic Tour*, the turn out was far less than anticipated, forcing the promoter to re-cut deals with the performers that evening. Unfortunately, Blue Magic and the Delfonics were two groups that decided not to play for the pay. The KRC found out about the show the *morning of the concert* at the November PA Music Expo. Had we known about it earlier, you would have known about it earlier. On the plus side, all the acts that did perform were good, especially The Manhattans, The Chi-lites, The Escorts and Skip Mahoney and the Casuals....Our own Roy Robbins was Master of Ceremonies at the Northern York Regional Police Department's annual *Flashback to the 50's and 60's Concert*. He even gave the club and show a nice plug. Thanks Roy! (By the way Erna and Charlie Reinhart liked the show so much they unexpectedly caught it again a week later, at McCaskey High School!)....Ephrata store owner and long time KRC supporter Andy Kamm was honored in the November 24 *Goldmine* magazine. His store, Record Connection, was voted by magazine readers as one of the Top 10 record stores in America. Over 300 retailers from 41 states were nominated. Andy even bested stores in Puerto Rico, Canada, England, Australia and Japan. Andy is one of the true gentlemen in the business. (By the way, Glenn Eagle who now works for Andy used to operate a classy looking operation called Rock Nest in Wyomissing. Another class operation is IKO's Music Trade in York)....Dave Kressley has earned his own distinction with the club. Dave has set up as a dealer at our show (Columbia, Blue Ball and now Lancaster Catholic) for over 92 consecutive times! What makes this even more amazing is Dave doesn't live in Central Pennsylvania. He travels to all our shows from the Lehigh Valley (Allentown) area - about an hour commute each way. Way to go Dave....The folks at *Lost and Found Record Review* continue to put on a great meeting every first Sunday of the month. Club members spin doo-wop, R&B, soul instrumentals and flip sides from 6 to 10 PM. Radio living legend Ed Lincoln was recently made an honorary member of the group. (He is also an honorary KRC member, since the early 1980's). Since attending the meetings my want list has grown dramatically. Call Skip McComas (also a KRC member) for complete information at 767-5198....Manna from heaven. You won't have to travel as far anymore to hear that good doo-wop music, because someone is finally doing something about bringing it to the mid-state. The newly formed *Central Penn Group Harmony Association* held their first concert this fall with Memory Lane, Frankie & the Fashions and three other acts. Nearly 300 people supported the event. They plan to hold their next concert on a Sunday afternoon in March. If you would like to get involved in the group or get their newsletter write Gary Ulrich c/o Garrison's Tavern, 400 Forester Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102 or call 717-232-2028....That's all the material that we could muster up this time around. If you have some items, please direct them to the York address elsewhere on this page. Until next time, keep groovin'.



ROCK-A-BILLY MEETS SOUL: KRC's first president, rock-a-billy enthusiast and founding member Roy Robbins (left) got together with members of The Tymes after the Northern York Regional Police Flashback to the 50s and 60s Concert in late October. Roy served as MC to the event that was held at the Strand Capital Performing Arts Center in York. (I might add Roy did an excellent job.) Posing with Roy from left to right: Al "Ceasar" Berry; Norman Burnette; Carol Robbins (Roy's better half); Donald Banks and Lafayette Campbell.

KEY NOTES

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Names in bold type are members of the Keystone Record Collectors

"Class of '60 Somethin'" - Js Somethin' Else

A CD review by B. Derek Shaw

Central Pennsylvanians have been waiting for this project for a long time, without even realizing it. For years fans of three well known, loyally followed and highly respected mid-state bands were hoping for more, not sure if they would get it. Now it's here and the wait was worth it.

Class of '60 Somethin' is a project that primarily is a labor of love. It started as an idea by musician and jingle production company owner, Mike Leash, to re-release that hard to get soul and R&B music on CD for the music collector in the 90's. Rethinking his idea, he wondered why not put his sound studio to use with live regional musicians performing the material using today's recording standards. Leash didn't settle for just anyone. The twenty eight people that ended up on Volume 1 of the series reads like a who's who of Central Pennsylvania musical and vocal talent.

Leash brought together members of the former Del-Chords, the Magnificent Men, and Custer's Last Band along with the currently popular band, Class Act featuring Rita. The intent wasn't to get each of the groups to record four or five of their songs. Rather, it is a collaborative effort involving EVERYONE doing different tracks with each others band - providing the best possible combination for the 19 cover tunes. Leash was digging for gold and found the motherlode!

The selections covered touch all parts of the sixties and into the early seventies. They include a variety of styles, and levels of familiarity. Many of the songs were local dance hall favorites that needed to be recorded once again. Anyone that frequented the Shady Dell, White Oaks, Progress Fire Hall, Salunga Pavilion, the Hullabaloo Club or danced on Club 43 TV show KNOW these songs. The lesser charted selections include: Billy Butler and the Chanters and Major Lance's *Gotta Get Away*; The Dells' *Why Do You Have To Go*; Johnny Ray's *Walkin' My Baby Back Home*; The O'Jay's *I'll Be Sweeter Tomorrow* and *I Did Your Act*; and The Temptations *Farewell My Love*. The first time the laser hit the orange and blue CD (William Penn colors, I might add), I knew this disc was in the pocket.

The collection starts out with a fantastic version of *All Your Lovin's Gone To My Head*, a Magnificent Men song that only ever appeared as the flip side of *Piece of Mind*. It was a good song then and with the Dave Bupp and Rita Angelucci duet treatment now, really adds impact. Buck Generette's interperation of *For Your Precious Love* melted me the first time I heard it. Rita would make Patty & the Emblems proud with her version of *Mixed Up Shook Up Girl*. By the way, recent rumors about the 1964 song indicate that Patty was actually Patti Drew (Drew-vels fame too) even though the Whitburn book credits Pat Russell. Also when Leash received performance rights for the song by the publishing company, they sent him a copy of the original sheet music that contained a third verse that was never recorded - unfortunately it missed making the 1995 version too.

Daddy C (Thom Colson) does one of the finest covers of the Tommy Hung song, *Human*. This is one that will get the bump and grinders out on the floor. The Watusi features Dave Bupps' usual decent delivery in this Vibrations dance hall favorite. Some of the other songs are just good music from the period namely, *In A Moment*, *Band of Gold*, *Get On Up* and *Think*.

When the three former bands were performing in the 1960's (Mag Men, Del-Chords and Custer's Last Band), none of them had female lead or background singers. The addition of Rita Angelucci REALLY is the icing on the cake. She's smooth, commanding and is the perfect touch to the project.

The final track on the disc is a *We Are The World* cause-oriented type song involving over half of the entire ensemble. Penned by Leash, *Reach Out For The Children* came about as a result of the Sunday morning television preachers message last May. This is the cut that local radio stations might give serious attention to - it lends itself to various formats. In fact the Victim Assistance Center, a York area organization, plans to utilize the song in an upcoming campaign.

Are all the songs good? Absolutely. Are they all great? No. As with any package, there are a few weak links in the project. I also questioned why a few selections were included. However the bottom line is that the recording DID HAPPEN and is the first of what is anticipated to be a triple occurrence each year. The project is definitely off and running. Even the CD mastering is of high quality, with Leash willing to give up some precious pre-Christmas marketing time, sending the master back the first time because it didn't meet his standards. Now that's commitment to doing the best job you can.

The packaging is well done with the cover cartoon graphics featuring a group of people all sporting football jerseys from local schools with different graduation years as the number on the front. Is it coincidence that many of the 21 characters have similarities to some of the musicians and vocalists, or was that planned? Either way, it's creative and catchy.

My only complaints are that the jewel box tray card DOES NOT have the twenty tracks numbered - a real disservice to radio/mobile/club DJ's. Also the disc itself has no track listing, making selection choices harder to pick. If you grew up in Central Pennsylvania in the sixties you NEED this album. This is the album that took only 30 years to happen. Buy it and do yourself a favor - play it at number 8 on your volume control - it will be worth it.



Ok, I've read the review, you say. The album sounds great. Where can I get my own copy? As of press time there are three places. The first is through Leash's Class of '60 Somethin' VIP Club. You can reach them at 1-800-758-1920 or locally at 717-852-7171. Another source is through any of the participating band members and singers. The third way to obtain a copy is to stop by Derek Shaw's table at any of the record/CD expos he participated in throughout the year in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Once you get a hold of a copy and give it a listen I'm sure you'll want to let others know. A logical choice would be airplay on Central Pennsylvania radio stations. However the frustrating reality is that if isn't proven *Billboard* chart material or something their consultant in Dallas, San Diego or Atlanta told them they could play, it ain't gonna get on. That stinks.

The Pixies Three had a national Top 40 hit, *Birthday Party*, yet you never hear their song on oldies radio stations. *Down the Aisle of Love* by the Quintones topped the charts at #18 nationwide and #1 locally. I can't say I've heard it played around the region recently. I could go on and on, but I'm sure you get the message. It seems these "expert" consultants who somehow know our market, even though they live thousands of miles

away, don't take local activity into account. Most of them were probably 8 years old when the music was first out. What a shame. My rule of thumb about music: if its good, it's good. Play it. Radio stations for the most part in our market pay little attention to local and regional artists and groups unless they're happening nationally. Consultants like to relate how everything must test well for them to consider adding material. If these consultants could visit one of those dance clubs of the sixties they'd find a great deal of music that tested well, ON THE DANCE FLOOR. So how do we get the buzz going about the Class of '60 Somethin' album? I like to call it more of a grass roots approach. First we need to get the mobile and club disc jockeys playing it at their functions. Then we need to get people calling the stations asking to play this new release that they heard at ABC Club or from so and so mobile DJ at an event. Eventually, maybe radio stations will get the message and start wondering "what are we missing out on that we should consider playing?" Obviously, anyone with friends or relatives working at radio stations might have a little more influence. The radio stations probably aren't going to make it happen. We need to make it happen at various entertainment venues first, then maybe radio stations will get the hint.

Million Dollar CD Offers Continue

Live Gold Productions out of Florida has just released a Doo-Wop Christmas CD as well as the first three in their newest series, *A Million Dollars Worth of Girl Groups*. All four releases are great as usual dipping into archives of some very obscure artists and groups. As in the past, the CDs are mastered from the original vinyl source, providing some rough sounding material at times. If you can live with the imperfections, then these discs are for you. Most of the selections are from 1958-1963. Here's a brief rundown:

Girl Groups Volume 1: The Uniques, The Baby Dolls, The Drew Drops, The Allison's, The Gingersnaps, The Deb-Teens, The Sweet Marquees, and more.

Volume 2: The Gleams, The Charmettes, Florence and the Nightingales, Sybil Love & The Lovenotes, The Sweet Hearts, The Mitlo Sisters, The Summitts along with others.

Volume 3: The Miller Sisters, The Teardrops, The Sa-Shays, The Brooktones, Venus and Group, Dolly & The Deans, The Sequins, and more.

Christmas Doo-Wop: The Cameos, The Voices, Marvin and the Chirps, The Sabers, The Velvet Sounds, The Motivations, The Creators, and others. (Please note: the KRC won't be able to turn this offer around quick enough to get this title to you before Christmas. However you'll be light years ahead of everyone else for Christmas 1996!

Bob Miles, creator of the series, has again agreed to offer these titles, as well as all 17 *Million Dollars Worth of Doo-Wop* to KRC members for \$9 per title. Miles informs me that #14-17 in the *Million Dollar* series are now available well as the first two in the series that has long since sold out.

He also plans to broaden his offerings starting next year with a book of exact reproductions of tour books and concert programs of 50s and 60s artists. Yet another benefit of belonging to the KRC.

Just In Time For Christmas...1996

Every year the record labels crank out seasonal product to cash in on the holidays. Most of it is the same bland, unimaginative rehashings of songs you've heard too many times (just like the Electric Slide!) Occasionally one slips in that is different, well done and refreshing. This is the case with Henry Farrag's offering *Street Carols...December Voices*. You can recall four Christmas's ago Farrag brought us *Street Carols*. It was a decent offering of new and old R&B singers featuring Stormy Weather, covering a variety of Christmas tunes with new songs as well. That was good, the new offering is even better.

The 1995 release features 15 newly recorded tracks that are so well done you'll think the groups are providing a personal concert just for you in your music room! Most of the tracks are acapella, which makes it even more enjoyable. Stormy Weather is back along with Soul Stirrers, the Eldorados, the Fleetwoods and more. The highlight of the disc to me is Legacy, a studio collaboration of singers including Bill Pinkney from the Drifters; Hank Ballard of Midnighters fame; James "Pookie" Hudson from the Spaniels and Jimmy Beaumont, lead singer of the Skyliners... now that's a line up! They perform one cut, an original Beaumont/Joe Rock composition, *Christmas Isn't Christmas (Without You)*.

If you enjoy doo-wop and/or R&B, you'll want to secure your own copy of this delightful seasonal offering. But wait, there's more. Farrag has agreed to offer *Street Carols; Street Carols... December Voices* AND Stormy Weather's non-holiday 1993 CD, *Vox Poppin* at 40% off normal retail to KRC members. Order as many as you want in CD or cassette at the prices listed below (plus \$1.00 per disc postage and handling). The only slight problem is that we just received this information at press time for our Christmas newsletter, so turn-around WILL NOT be in time for Christmas 1995. But at this price, it's worth the wait. Believe it or not, I'm sure these discs will sound just as great when it's 92 degrees and you're relaxing beside the swimming pool.

Million Dollar CDs	
Each title is \$9, no limit.	
Qty	Title
_____	A Million Dollars Worth of Girl Groups Vol. 1
_____	A Million Dollars Worth of Girl Groups Vol. 2
_____	A Million Dollars Worth of Girl Groups Vol. 3
_____	Christmas Doo-wop
_____	Past Million Dollar Doo-wop (1-17 - list titles)
Add \$1 per disc if you want them mailed to you. Otherwise you can pick them up at Feb. 11 or Mar. 10 shows.	

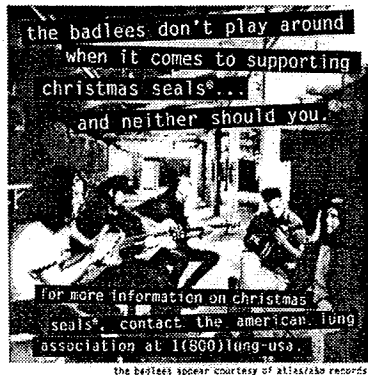
Name _____
 Address _____
 City, St., ZIP _____
 Phone () _____
 Total Order \$ _____ + _____ = \$ _____
HANDLING SHIPPING (IF APP)

Copies of this form are acceptable. Mail entire form with payment to:
 Keystone Record Collectors, 1616 Robert Rd., Lancaster PA 17801.
 Deadline: January 14, 1996

Street Carols CDs	
Each title is \$9, cassettes are \$6.	
Qty	Title
_____	Street Carols ('91)
_____	Street Carols... December Voices ('95)
_____	Vox Poppin-Stormy Weather
Total _____	CD(s) @ \$9 = \$ _____
Total _____	cassette(s) @ \$6 = \$ _____
Add \$1 per disc if you want them mailed to you. Otherwise you can pick them up at Feb. 11 or Mar. 10 shows.	



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SEASONS GREETINGS FROM YOUR KEY NOTES PRODUCTION TEAM!