

(Cont. from Page one)

Perhaps programming executives at major station chains, are realizing that 'Oldies' are a viable format, regardless of the time span covered. There are still A LOT of listeners out there that enjoy the music. Lets see if this trend continues.

Internet Radio - What's It Doing Now?

That's a very simple question to answer.....its GROWING! Your computer is turning into the place where you'll be getting your music needs with a better variety of programming then is available anywhere else. You can subscribe to Sirius/XM but is there really any need to? All of the programming offered by their service is available via the internet and better yet, its FREE!



To give you some examples of what's available on the internet, one service that carries many independent internet broadcasters is Reciva. They gather together over 40,000 stations that can be picked up via internet radios made by C. Crane or Sanjean, etc. plus a dose of over 100 formats to select from all over the world - many in stereo. I recently ran into a station from Poland that featured an oldies format done in the same style as WABC in the 1960's, however everything was in Polish - even the jingles!

Another service that is free and offers just short of 50,000 choices, from internet broadcasts to commercial stations that are streaming is Shoutcast. Like Reciva, they offer a listing of over 100 formats of music and it is all FREE!

You can sit and listen to various programs and great oldies from *Top Shelf Oldies*, who has been broadcasting for over 10 years, on the net. You can listen to KKHJ in Guam or KDAV, the Texas

station that gave Buddy Holly his start. You can hear some good oldies on *The Hits of Yesteryear* radio on the net, as well as *Treasure Island Oldies*. If you're a beach music fan, there are stations in the Myrtle Beach area available (including 94.9, The Surf) as well as independent broadcasters. Like Polkas? It's available at *24/7 Polka Heaven*, another that has been around for almost 10 years on the internet.

There are also services, such as *Live 365* and *Rocket Radio* where you can go on to their site and find a few thousand stations for FREE, including many just starting out in the business. The internet has opened the door for many to get into the field of radio by letting them start up their own stations, be it for a local community or for the whole world.

What do you need to make it work? It takes a high speed internet connection, like what is offered by cable or phone companies (DSL), a computer that is 5 years old or less and a set of speakers (most computers have them included when they're new). Some stations will play forever, others have timers so they have to be reconnected about every hour (so to make their limited connection interface available to others).

As things progress, you'll see more internet capability available via car radios. This service is available now in the New York/Philadelphia corridor and works very well with no signal drop outs. There is so much available, it will shock you but there is plenty of good listening available and its all FREE! Have fun and enjoy!

-Dave Schmidt

(Hear his station at: oldiesradio1620.com)

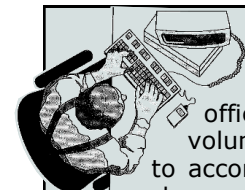
KEY NOTES

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DECEMBER 2011
ISSUE #188
Inside...

- ♫ - Mag Men Doc Soon Out
- ♫ - Internet Radio Update
- ♫ - Richie Grasso Story III
- ♫ - KRC Christmas Gifts and more!

RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR



It is appropriate to thank the 2011 officer team for their hard work. In an all volunteer-run organization, it is not possible to accomplish the many things on our agenda and organize a show every month without the continued efforts of many different people. So, whether it was a small one-time job, or a continued monthly commitment, *thanks for another great year!*

With that being said, the club is still in need of volunteer help with a position...

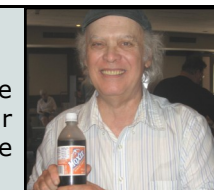
INTERNET CALENDAR/SOCIAL MARKETING COORDINATOR: Publicity of our shows and special guests is vital to our continued success. In addition, to traditional promotion (radio/TV/print) we try to market our show via non traditional methods. This includes radio, TV and print internet calendars, along with music and CD/record show publications, Craig's List, Twitter, Linked In, etc. Help is needed to get the word to the list we have built up.

The position does not require your attendance at every show, however they do require computer/internet navigation proficiency. If interested, contact me at bdshaw@lunginfo.org or 717-843-3050.



Derek
B. Derek Shaw
KEY-NOTES Editor
& Communications
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VIEW FROM THE TOP



It's hard to believe that we're heading into the end of the year already. Time flies when you're having fun!

We are still in need of some help with club functions. We are trying to find ways to raise additional revenue each month to help pay our on-going operating expenses. The KRC has managed to cut some duplication we had and make price adjustments on items, however we can still use additional funding sources.

We are looking for someone who would be interested in fund raising, (This includes the monthly club raffle, operating the KRC sales table and coordinating silent auctions.) If you are interested and think you are up to the challenge, please see one of the club officers.

Have a fantastic holiday season! I hope you find what you're looking for in your musical search.

Stay Tuned!
Dave Schmidt
2011 KRC President
NRCMusings@aol.com

Are Oldies Stations Making a Comeback?

In the last six months, I've noticed that more and more stations have been reported making format changes, including dropping formats like talk, sports and foreign language programming to return to 'Oldies.'

In following the affiliates listings for various satellite-delivered oldies feeds, all have shown a substantial increase in addition to many stations programming their own versions of the format. Every one has a different meaning to the word 'Oldies' from the 1950's and 60's to the 1970's and 80's, but at least the music is being promoted as 'Oldies'.

(Continued on page 4)



A Magnificent Evening: In early September, a small group of people who have been supportive of the Mag Men documentary were assembled to view a 93 minute draft version of the project. (l to r): **Phil Schwartz**, Special Projects; **Steve Yohe**, Show Coordinator; **B. Derek Shaw**, Communications (all KRC); Dave Zang, Executive Producer; Ed Nielsen, Consultant; Ann Reynolds, friend of Consultant; Karen Hostetter, York County Library System; Becky Janney, White Oak Park reunion coordinator and Bill Lewis, Mag Men fan and host of the evening. See story on page two for more details.

HOW TO REACH US...

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KEYSTONE RECORD COLLECTORS

KEY NOTES

#188, December, 2011
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR 2011 OFFICER TEAM!

KRC in 2012

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 3 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH
(EXCEPT APRIL 1ST AND MAY 5TH)

THE CONTINENTAL INN

FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!
ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 3:30PM,
(DURING THE MONTH THERE IS NO **KEY-NOTES**) PLAN TO BE THERE.

COMING SOON:

THE MAGNIFICENT MEN ON FILM

A report by Steve Yohe

Recently, several KRC officers were privileged to view the rough cut of the long awaited, eagerly anticipated documentary *This Magnificent Moment: The Story of the Magnificent Men*.

It's much more than a biopic about a great group: it explores the Mag Men's place in music history and the social fabric of our country's racial tensions in the 1960's. It's created by Dave Zang, a social historian from Towson, Maryland.

The narrative traces the group from its roots in York and Harrisburg through their formation, successes in south central Pennsylvania, as a recording group for the Capitol and Mercury record companies, and as an acclaimed live act at colleges and the "Chittlin' Circuit," including such venues as the Uptown Theater in Philadelphia and the Apollo in New York City. The story is excellently told, effectively interweaving the group's music with interviews from the band, musicians who worked on the same bill with them, deejays, and fans. Noteworthy among the interviewed are Eddie Levert of the O'Jays and radio air personality Jerry Blavat.

To view a trailer for the film, go to this link: www.magnificentmen.org/. For great photos and a wealth of information about the group, go to the blackswansociety.com/Mag_Men.php.

Look for the premier of the documentary at several film festivals in Maryland this spring, then at theaters in Lancaster, York, and Harrisburg this summer. Zang also expects it to air on several PBS stations in the near future. Ultimately, the DVD will be offered for sale. As soon as it becomes available, Dave will bring copies to the **Pennsylvania Music Expo** for sale.

KEY NOTES

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(Deadline for #189 is January 8th)

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



KRC MEMBERSHIPS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Buying a club membership for the music collector spouse, cousin, uncle, grandparent, co-worker or friend makes an excellent stocking stuffer gift for the holidays. For a nominal \$15 a year, someone you know can enjoy (or continue to enjoy) a membership in one of the world's largest organizations for music collectors. Membership provides six issues of the **KEY-NOTES**, the official club newsletter, 12 issues of **KEY-NOTES UPDATE**, a monthly cyberspace communication and show reminder via e-mail, and **Recollections Magazine** (2012 plans include an edition). This is in addition to discounts on price guides, chart information books and special music and book offers that appear in **KEY-NOTES** from time to time. Members who attend the show can enjoy member prices on record sleeves and other hobby supplies.

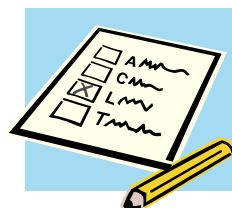
Selected music retailers in South Central Pennsylvania offer a cash register discount to card holding KRC members (an up-to-date list of participating retailers is available from Club Secretary, **Erna Reinhart**). If that's not enough, some record/CD shows throughout the Mid-Atlantic region offer discounts to attend their show with a current KRC membership card. What are you waiting for? Sign up your entire neighborhood today! Gift memberships may be obtained by contacting: **Erna Reinhart**, 1616 Robert Road, Lancaster, PA 17601, or call: 717-314-5009 or e-mail: beatlechas@comcast.net

DON'T LOSE IT THIS YEAR!

Your 2012 KRC membership renewal notice is included in this issue of **KEY-NOTES**. It should be returned quickly so it doesn't get mixed in with monthly and holiday bills. By renewing your membership early, you will be assured of a listing in the 2011 Membership Directory. You also won't miss out on any special offers that appear in many issues of **KEY-NOTES**.



YOUR VOTE COUNTS



Also included in this issue is a ballot for selecting your 2012 club officer team. To vote, you must be a member for the upcoming year. Please fill out the top part of the form first (Renewal Application), then complete your ballot. Time flies, so don't procrastinate.

Hiding Behind The Shadows Of A Dream... The Richie Grasso Story
Part III
By Eddie Collins

Capitol Records... and picking fresh 'Raspberries'

After the success of having a Top 10 record, and impressive track record in the industry, Richie decided to make his next career move, but not before arranging a meeting with Tony Orlando. At the time Tony was heading up CBS' April-Blackwood publishing firm. Although Orlando had a lot to offer, with high regard for his songwriting talents, Richie declined the position, at the advice of his business manager Steve Frank, who had a more lucrative deal in the works. Ultimately, Richie and Tony began a close friendship, and in 1997, Tony invited Richie to perform in his self-penned musical 'Jukebox Dreams'.

In 1970, Richie was tapped by Lou Ragusa and Jerry Simon to join Capitol Records publishing firm Beechwood/Glenwood Music. Prior to his arrival at the label, Capitol attempted to jump start Pat Boone's career with "Oh My God" (Capitol 4396) written by Richie and Fred Goodman. Another Grasso/Goodman effort resulted in "Esperanto", an infectious instrumental released as The Grand Piano Co. in 1970 on Ampex Records. As Richie recalls, "The song was played by the Doc Severinson band, as a 'lead-in' for Johnny Carson on 'The Tonight Show' and used for ABC TV's 'Wide World Of Sports'."

Herb Belkin, lawyer for Capitol's New York office, recognized Richie's ear for talent, and in addition to being hired as staff writer, Grasso was promoted as head of east coast A & R for the label in 1971. Many tapes came across Richie's desk, among them a singer/songwriter named Sheilah Rae (later signed by RCA subsidiary, Wheel Records), Rae and Grasso composed a few tunes including a Bee Gees tinged song entitled "Maybe Tonight", featuring a relatively unknown pianist and arranger named...Barry Manilow!



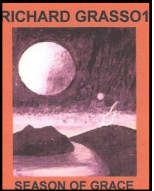
Most notably, was a reel of tape given to Richie by Herb Belkin, requesting he give it 'immediate' attention and see what he thought. According to Richie, "there were three top 10 records on that tape, I played it for my wife Karin...we couldn't believe our ears they sounded like 'The (new) Beatles'...we said...who are these guys???" The next day when

asked about the tape, Herb asked Richie "Would you bet your job on signing this act?", Grasso said, "I certainly will!" Belkin, with Richie's approval, now informed Capitol that the label was signing 'these guys'... but who they were, became tight lipped at the label. Eventually, Richie was told he'd meet the band, in fact, that he actually knew them. One day they stroll in - Wally Bryson, Dave Smalley, Jim Bonafanti, well it's his old friends - The Choir, as Wally introduces Richie to new lead singer Eric Carmen. "Hey Rich, meet the 'Raspberries!'"

A little help from his friends...and a 'solo' album

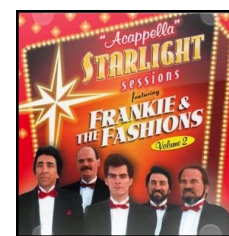
During the early 1970's, Richie was also getting by with 'a little help from his friends', as Arnie Silver and Mark Stevens of The Dovells produced two records, "Sing" (Jubilee 5706) by Jamaica Ginger and "Too Soon" by The Peanut Gallery with Tommy Nolan (PIP 8927), both featuring Richie on lead vocal. He returned the favor in 1971 writing "The Lovers" and "We're On Our Way", plus lending his keyboard talents to the pair's *Silver-Stevens* album on MGM's Lion label (# 1002)

Richie finally recorded his debut solo effort in 1974, entitled *Richard Grasso 1...Season Of Grace*. All instruments were performed by Richie and sixteen Grammy award winning keyboardist Chick Corea. Winding down the decade, in 1977 Richie wrote "Love I'd Like To Thank You" for Déjà vu (Capitol 4396) and opened Rhapsody recording studios in 1979 with Tony Rockliff, backed by David Campbell, producer for Linda Ronstadt.



The Lion Sleeps Again...Richie moves into the new millennium, and beyond

The early 1980s were a whirlwind of musical adventures for Richie, and by 1985, for the next twelve years, found himself singing with The Tokens during their renewed success, with the Disney movie *The Lion King*. The group re-recorded their hit "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" and were featured on *Wolfman Jack's Rock & Roll Palace*, emanating from Little Darlin's in Kissimmee Florida, among numerous television and concert appearances. Grasso also sang and recorded with Frankie & the Fashions.



In 1999 Richie returned to his native hometown of Philadelphia, singing with acapella act The Emeralds, and was featured on their CDs *Taking You Back*, *Remember Those Love Songs*, and *One Summer Night*. The group was also the subject of a widely acclaimed documentary *Harmonizing*, by producer Tom Porett. More recently,

in 2003, with the advent of the PBS music specials, Richie appeared on *The 1st Ten Years Of Rock & Roll* singing bass with Philly doo-wop icons The 4 Jays. In 2004, He wrote the title song for the Lifetime television channel's pilot *You're Not The Man I Married*. Along the way, Richie has appeared as an actor on TV's *The Nanny* (an episode featuring Chevy Chase) starring Fran Drescher and in 2007 as a bodyguard in the movie *A Sicilian Tale* to his credit. Today, Richie remains active in the Philly area and occasionally sings the vocal sounds he loves...no longer, hiding behind the shadows of a dream.