

# KEY NOTES

OCTOBER 1998  
ISSUE # 109

- Mudflaps Review
- Authgraph Hound
- Idols at the Park

PUBLISHED BY KEYSTONE RECORD

COLLECTORS, P.O. BOX 1516, LANCASTER, PA 17608

## From the Editor's Desk

In August, Central Pennsylvanians were treated to a couple of musical events, one new, the other was the return of a popular operation.

For the past 40 years, if you tuned in 96.1 on the FM dial, you heard preachers, religious music and programming. More recently the company who acquired the former WGCB, Brill Media, simulcasted their sister country station, WIOV. All that changed in early August. Market studies they conducted, indicated the region was ripe for a second, more powerful, oldies station (5,000 Watts on WWKL vs. 50,000 on WSOX). Thank goodness they didn't try to introduce a seventh country station! (Hee haw).



The first few weeks Oldies 96.1 was commercial-free, sounding similar to their Dauphin County competitor. Then commercials started arriving, and some music you don't hear all the time filtered in.

I wish WSOX all the best - in fact they had a table at our September show. That indicates to me that they are committed to our market, and our show. I only hope they commit some of their format to the many great artists and groups from the region that had big local hits in the late 50's, 1960's and early 70's - their target years.

My only wish for the new station is that they hear what collectors like ourselves and local research should indicate: this market is ripe for good doo-wop, R&B, soul and group harmony material. If there're any stations for them to emulate, WBIG in Washington, WOGL in Philadelphia and WCBS in New York are three class act operations.

I know they can't alienate their listeners with just the above mentioned musical niches; however, a sprinkling of these types of tunes throughout their 168 hour week and/or a speciality show or two on the weekend, wouldn't hurt (aka: Ken Schreiber's "Echoes of the Past" on WTMD, Alan Lee's "Forgotten 45's" on WQSR or Harvey Holiday's Sunday evening show on WOGL are right on the money).

When I was a kid growing up outside Pittsburgh, I belonged to Record Club of America. They operated on a similar basis as RCA (now BMG) Club and Columbia House. At their peak, RCOA sold 3% of all the records in the U. S. and Canada. I bought a ton of stuff from them, due to their decent selection and great price. (When you're a teenager, price is everything.)

In August after a seven year bankruptcy battle, the 4075 North George operation in Manchester, PA is home once again to RCOA. This time they're getting rid of 650,000 sealed LPs and 100,000 new tapes; but not at bargain prices.

The club is sitting on 7,500 different titles manufactured for them in the late 60's through early 70's. Their 48 page catalog lists the available titles and corresponding prices in this initial offer. Albums start at \$10 and escalate from there. The low end prices are mostly

Continued next column

for titles on their Alshire label, and Living Strings material. A quick check of a few other titles and their prices: Rotary Connection - Aladin \$40, Bo Diddley - Where It All Began \$100, Rod McKuen - In the Beginning \$30, Billy Holiday Story \$50, Humble Pie - Thunderbox \$40, Frank Zappa - Freak Out \$175.

To me, these prices seem excessively high, however I guess if you were really looking for a title or two for quite some time, it might be worth grabbing them. As for me, if I win the lottery, I might pick a few up. Oh, by the way, each record comes with a Certificate of Authenticity.

To get your own catalog, you can reach them at : 1-888-276-7262. They also operate a Gallery show room that contains a box lot of every title they have for sale. Hours are : 10-5, Monday through Friday; 10-3 on Saturday.

Musically Speaking,

B. Derek Shaw  
Editor, Club Publications

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

**TO ALL DEALERS \*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

A reminder that the KRC has a proud history of being a family oriented show. We must maintain that tradition. Please watch your mouth. No foul language. Do not play anything with obscene or profane lyrics out loud. Use headphones if you must. Do not display any material that might be offensive. These are covered by dealer set-up procedures. Please cooperate or you might lose your privileges.

It is nomination time for KRC offices. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer are all open. Nominations will be made in October and November. Make your selections and turn in the names to any officer or at the business meeting following the show. Ballots will be included in the December newsletter. All newly elected officers take over at the business meeting in January.

The KRC has a new phone reservation system. Hopefully it has operated perfectly. The KRC will maintain the current number permanently. It should make all communications more effective.

Hope you all had a great summer!

- Jack Supplee  
1998 KRC President

## OOPS - WE GOOFED!

Key-Notes #108 (August) had a misprint on our phone number. It has been, is, and should continue to be: **717/898-1246** Write it down, commit it to memory, use it.



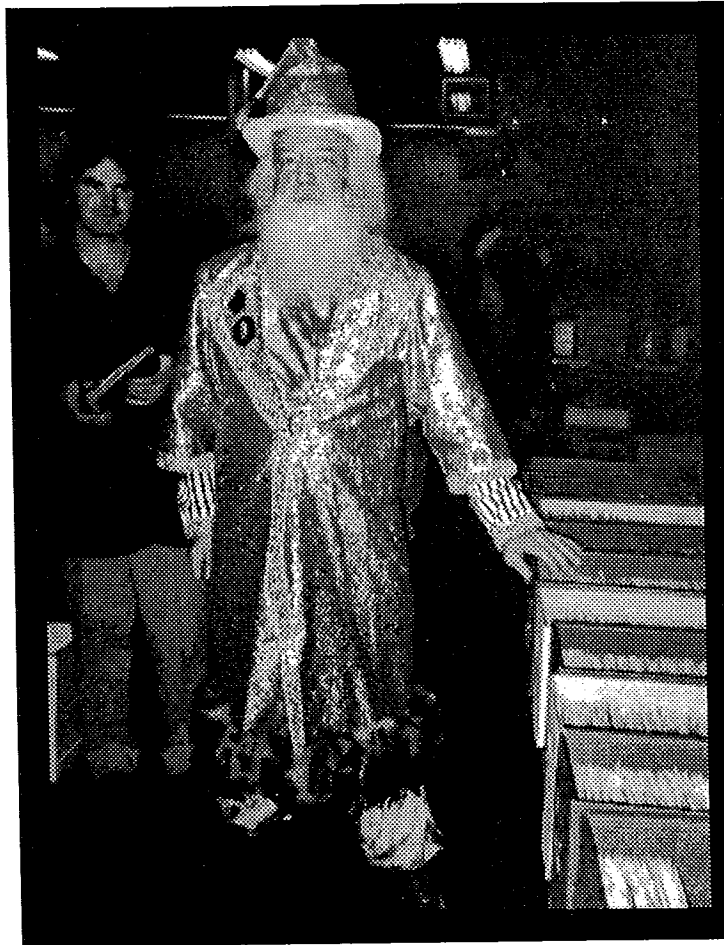
## KRC INFO LINE

CALL ANYTIME!  
(717) 898-1246

### KRC in 1998

EACH SHOW 9 AM TO 4 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
LANCASTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE, SO TAKE SOME AND SPREAD THE WORD!  
ANNOUNCEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR WANT LIST ITEMS.  
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWS EVERY OTHER SHOW AT 5 PM.  
PLAN TO BE THERE.



Is it New Year's yet? You never know what to expect when **Bob "The Count" Ellis** shows up at a Record/CD Expo. He's always in the running for Hollywood's best dressed or worst dressed- or both. In any event, he definitely adds color to each event he attends.

## KEY NOTES

Issue #109, OCTOBER 1998

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Names in bold type are members of the Keystone Record Collectors

(Deadline for #110 is November)

## The Mudflaps

A Group/Concert Review by Steve Yohe

On a Sunday trip to Kneobels Amusement Park this summer, I spotted a sign for a '50's and '60's group performing in the park. Expecting a sloppy, Sha Na Na-type group, I was pleasantly surprised to hear a tight, polished ensemble that takes obvious pride in musical arrangements with good, doo-wop harmonies and attention to detail.

The Mudflaps, a seven person group from all over north central and northeastern PA, has been around for over 25 years, but like south central PA's Class Act featuring Rita, they play a lot of private and special engagements and, therefore, have escaped mass attention.

Of the seven members, two are primarily singers, but three of the musicians also share in the vocal chores, occasionally giving the group 4 or 5 part harmony arrangements. They perform a varied and extensive repertoire of songs ranging from '50's and '60's rock and roll like



"Run around Sue" and "Little Deuce Coupe", through Motown and rhythm and blues favorites, with an occasional venture into the '70's, such as "YMCA" and "Some Kind of Wonderful" (the Soul Brothers Six and Grand Funk song). I caught their second and third shows of the day, and there were no songs repeated. This is not surprising since they have released 5 cassettes, three of which are also available on CD.

The group is equally at home with pop ballads like "Unforgettable" as they are with doo-wop classics like "Morse Code of Love." Highlights of the shows for me were fine versions of "You Really Got a Hold on Me" and *Animal House's* "Shama Lama Ding Dong." The only criticism I have is that the female singer occasionally sounds a bit operatic for the type of songs she's singing (for example, in "Higher and Higher"), but there are other times when she's right on the mark.

If the Mudflaps are going to be appearing in your area, I'd heartily recommend your taking the time to catch their act. For information contact Sam Alonge, RD #3, Box 190A, Tamaqua, PA 18252.



**Happy Halloween!**



## An Autograph Hound

by Frank Schiavon



Author Frank with Miss Allentown Fair 1963, Leslie Gore.

My name is Frank Schiavon. I am a collector of autographed pictures of Oldies Rock N' Roll Stars. I go to Oldies Rock N' Roll shows all around our area, and get to meet artists like Jay Black, Len Barry, The Pixies Three, Chubby Checker and Ronnie

Dove (who happens to be a good friend of mine.

Sometimes it's easy to get autographs; however, on the other hand, I really work hard sometimes for just one autograph. Jerry Lee Lewis was impossible. The members of the back-up band couldn't even get an autograph for me.

I've been collecting autographs for almost 4 years. I have at least 60 pictures- most are autographed. I make a lot of new friends at the Oldies shows, not just by getting to know the

stars, but with other people who I have helped to get started in collecting autographs.

It is a lot of fun! - I recommend it to anyone who wants to try it!

### Tips for Securing Autographs...

- 1) Be early for the show. That way you might catch the star coming in for the performance.
- 2) If the artist is in a car, (like at Hershey Park) call their name and hand them a picture of themselves asking politely for a signature.
- 3) Sometimes you might get band members to take a picture you have backstage for the autograph you need. Also, as a back-up option, family members can work out great too!



Bonnie Walker, Kaye Krebs and Debbie Horn pose with Frank after a concert in Hershey last year.

## Teen Idols Concert Review

by Karl Wolf III

On Sunday, July 5, 1998, at the Hersheypark Amphitheatre three legends of rock and roll performed - BOBBY SHERMAN, DAVEY JONES of the Monkees, and PETER NOONE of Herman's Hermits. They gave two performances and there were long lines of fans waiting patiently outside the amphitheatre to enter both shows.

With the addition of the Great Bear ride growling outside the amphitheatre location, the performers actually had to stop talking because of the noise when the riders went by. Perhaps it is time to move the amphitheatre to a new location in the park. It should be noted that during the musical numbers; however, the speakers did drown out the ride noise. Bobby Sherman opened the show and was very appreciative of the crowds' attention and adoration: During his performance he obliged fans by posing for graphs and signing autographs while singing. Davey Jones appeared second, and was very intense, but eventually warmed up to the crowd. He sang all of the Monkees' top hits. Peter Noone went on last and was very energetic and gracious. The Herman's Hermits tunes were enjoyed by the crowd.

All three performers were entertaining and appreciative of the crowds' support and enthusiasm. Although all three never appeared on stage at the same time they were touring together as a package.

Hershey security was pretty thorough in keeping the fans away from each performer as they whisked them away following each individual's second performance. Davey Jones, however, did manage to sign autographs to lucky fans who were standing at the right spot at the right time, before being driven away into the night.

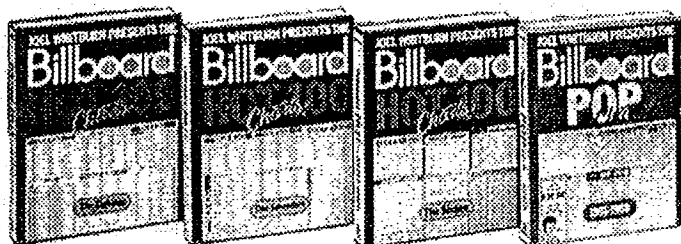


Karl Wolf and Yumi at the Teen Idols Concert in July outside Hersheypark's Amphitheatre.

# If It's October, It Must Be Time for Joel Whitburn's Complete Catalog



We are again offering the complete Joel Whitburn/Record Research catalog to KRC members at the lowest prices anywhere. All of the titles at right are being offered to KRC members at **40 percent off the cover price!** To order, select the title(s) you want, enclose one check for the entire amount (include \$2 postage and handling for EACH book ordered). Make checks payable to: Keystone Record Collectors. Orders must be RECEIVED by November 8, 1998. Delivery is expected at the December 14th or January 11th shows. **One copy of each title per member, please.** These books are the most comprehensive ones available on chart information, including brief group/artist bios. The price listed is the actual discount price to KRC members. **(Don't forget to add \$2 postage and handling for EACH book ordered.)**



## Weather Information

Should the weather get bad this winter and become snowy or icy right before one of our shows, call the KRC telephone number at (717) 898-1246 for a weather update and show operation status. We are planning to get the word out to Harrisburg, Lancaster and York radio stations. The phone message update will always be your most up-to-date source. When in doubt, call.

### BOOK ORDER FORM

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Copies of this form are acceptable. Mail entire form with payment to:  
Keystone Record Collectors, 1616 Robert Rd., Lancaster PA 17601.

**Deadline: November 8, 1998**



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