

FEEDBACK FROM MUSICIANS AND FIRST BOOK BUYERS

The “Comments from Book Owners” page (on Book Page) has become a very popular place on the web site so we will utilize it to not only give you the latest feedback from the musicians and book buyers but to give you additional news regarding the book and other information.

These are our last comments that will be posted for 2006. We will begin a new listing of comments about the book along with general comments and observations titled 2007 comments.

Greg

Thanks for the book. I really appreciate it, and am simply *awed* at the tremendous effort you made to record this history. I wanted to buy a copy for Larry Nixon, who re-mixed the Tassels tapes (3 songs) cut in Jimmy Capps’ studio, and the tracks that I wrote, arranged, and cut (13 songs) in Heber Johnson’s studio in Wilmington. Jay Howard was the engineer. I will send copies of these to you, if you want, when the CD cover is finished. I may be able to find some more early Tassels tapes, now that I have a new utility building, and can clean out the old one. Also, I may be able to get some photos of the (Wayne Lanier era) Tassels, performing at a high school prom. I just saw the guy that has these. Do you want these when I get them? Again, thanks for the book, and I wish you and yours a very happy and successful 2007!
PS: Thanks for the advice. I will buy at Books-A-Million.

Sonny(Coley) The Tassles Raleigh, NC

Sonny,

Thanks for your comments which we will post them on the hey baby web site. I think it is so important to keep the dialogue going between the musicians of that era, an era that quite a few do not want to forget. Buying the book at Books A Million will help our effort to get the book into as many markets as possible. We want the retailers to have some success with the book.

Thanks and have a happy new year.

Regards,

Greg Haynes

P.S. Would love to have a copy of anything you can provide for the web site as well. Ripete may have an interest in the recordings as well.

Subject: "Love that BOOOOK!"

Dear Greg,

"Thank You" for the great gift of "THE HEEY BABY DAYS"! I could not believe it when it showed-up at my door. You must be very proud. It is beyond anything I could imagine. I have enjoyed it so very much and I really appreciate the work you put into it for all of us BEACH MUSIC fans to relive the best times of our lives. I wish Dick Hodges had lived to see it. It would have meant so much to him. I am glad you got to

talk to him before he passed away. I hope Bill Deal got to see the book before we lost him, too. I loved the letter he wrote, and was surprised to read about The Rhondels working the "elevated stage" at Disneyland. I worked at Disney for 18 years, and played on that stage for 2 years with "PIZZAZZ" and "AIRPLAY." When The Rhondels would come through Roanoke it WAS AN EVENT! I loved to hear "Fat Ammon" sing. Well, Greg, I wish you the best in 2007 and I hope the "BOOK" is doing great!!! Thanks again for signing my copy and it was most gracious of you to "comp" me a copy. I am telling everyone to go out and buy it. My Texas friends had never heard of BEACHbMUSIC, so I tell them your book will educate them to the "hippest" scene of the 60's.

Your pal,

Greg (Slusher) The Divots, Roanoke, Virginia

P.S.

**I married my high school sweetheart, too!
Thirty-three years this year!**

Thanks Greg,

I did not know about Dick Hodges. (Dick was the long time manager of the Divots) I had tried emailing him about getting a copy to him and did not hear back, Now I know why. I am glad his legacy lives on in the book. Ironically, Bill Deal passed away less than a couple of weeks after he submitted the story in the book. The book is especially popular with the 55-65 crowd which unfortunately is beginning to thin out, but the memories will remain.

Regards,

Greg

For the year 2006 there have been 1,000,770 hits at www.heybabydays as of noon on December 26, 2006. Over 40,000 made visits to the site. We expect it to continue as grow as we expand the web site and update directory information in the coming weeks. Additional photos from the book will be added to the site and we continue to seek '60s memorabilia that we can share with a growing audience.

Perhaps the performer who had the greatest influence on the bands of The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music was the godfather of Soul, James Brown. The site will pay tribute to the memory of James Brown by displaying various photos of James Brown that were taken with members of The Never Gonna Give It Up Club. Please send us any that you might have stuck away somewhere.

Number 8 in Columbia, SC: According to the listing in The State Newspaper of Columbia, South Carolina in its December 17 edition, "The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music" is Number 8 among local best sellers. It's just behind "Nature Girl" by Carl Hiaasen and just ahead of "Next" by Michael Crichton. THANKS!

There are now 170 retail outlets for "The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music." Check for a store near you by clicking on the State link on the book page.

Hi Greg,

It's utterly shameful that I'm just now getting in touch about the book. I have excuses, but I always tell my kids 'there are NO excuses.'

Anyway, I'm sure I'm not the only one to tell you that when I received the box, I thought you'd sent me 25 copies. Opening a box that heavy and big and finding one book accounting for all the volume and weight was one shock. Leafing through it was another. I never expected such quality cover-to-cover content, raw material, and production.

And for dessert, I felt rather like I'd found a truly great prize in a box of Crackerjacks when I discovered the added value CDs nesting inside the back cover.

Another but no less shocking revelation was the price tag! Surely, we thought, this tome must cost over \$100. When I saw the actual tariff on your website, plus the fact you're sharing income with worthy causes, it became very clear you haven't devoted a substantial part of your life to this project for the money.

I'm also impressed with the website, the additional CDs available, and the fact that you're maintaining this as a living project.

I don't know that you can ever be adequately repaid for everything you've done, but for all of us to whom the subject matters, we love you deeply for your labors of love.

Warmest regards (and gratitude)

Tim Whitsett

Imperial Show Band

Tim,

Thank you; it might seem trite to some but I know that it won't to you but the essence of my return on investment are affirming words from the musicians that lived in the era such as yourself. It continues to stun me that nothing had ever been committed to book form about bands such as the Imperial Show Band. Bill Millar did a wonderful job in his story about you and the band. Now, his commentary and my adds will hopefully be preserved at libraries in Jackson, Mississippi and many other places. I am very appreciative of the time and insight you gave to the book.

Regards,

Greg

Greg, the time telling old tales was and is one of old age's few joys.

Even had I thought all that I said (or wrote) would follow me into oblivion like dust in the wind, I've got an endless supply of yarn to spin as long as there's just one unfortunate soul unable to escape my imagination, er, memories.

Tim

Tim,

If all our utterances were as informative as yours, escape would not be a consideration. Chapter 17 of the book was one of my favorites as the detail and history that resulted from the interviews with you and Cyril Vetter were great reads for any music lover.

Regards,

Greg

A tribute to an owner of “The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music”

Way back in time (5-6 years ago) when we set out on the journey that ended in publication of “The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music”, two of the strongest supporters for the project were from Chicago. Fellow CBRE professionals and friends David Lind and Mike McLaughlin would periodically ask me “when” the book was coming out. Over the five plus years, they never asked “if” the book was coming out. There’s a big difference. Earlier this year in March, David was stricken with “Guillain Bare Syndrome” which reduced him to a quadriplegic. David has beaten the disease and made a recovery in record time. He credits most of this to the strong support of friends and family. Now he’s truly “Back In The Saddle Again” again at CBRE. Need big chunks of office space in Chicago? David’s at the CB Richard Ellis office in Oakbrook.

Lucky I was to be on his list of recipients of the December release “Living Legends” CD which is an eclectic compilation of music that crosses generations and genres. Prior to turning professional golfer and subsequently, professional office properties specialist, David was on the Duke golf team and received his vital training into the ways of the Beach Music world while a resident of Durham. Sorry, the CD (produced by Mike McLaughlin) is not available at you favorite record store but here’s a sampling of the 20 cuts from his CD that celebrate his recovery, his support system and his return to the commercial real estate world:

**“Gimme Three Steps” – Lynyrd Skynyrd
“Takin’ Care of Business” – Bachman Turner Overdrive
“Ain’t No Stoppin’ Us Now” – Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes
“Ain’t No Mountain High Enough” - Marvin Gaye & Tammie Terrell
“Back In The Saddle Again” – Gene Autry
“Stand By Me” – Ben E. King
“Hey! Baby” – Bruce Channel
“Devil With The Blue Dress/Good Golly Miss Molly” – Mitch Ryder & The Detroit Wheels
“Take Me Out To The Ball Game”- Harry Carey
“No Problem” Pat McLaughlin**

And there’s 10 more... Wow!

Way to go David, we love you, man!

Thanks A Million, y’all !

Our friends over in Bama land apparently made enough inquiries about the “Baby” in Books-A-Million stores that the chain, the nation’s third largest, has decided to

carry the book in its stores. You sorta had to figure that a chain of book stores that was founded in Florence, Alabama would sooner or later have the book up front and center. You know Florence, Alabama is the F.A. in FAME studios where much of the music we talk about in the book was created. It along with Muscle Shoals Sound, created a unique brand of music that attracted everyone from Percy Sledge to the Rolling Stones. When you buy a book in a Books-A-Million store regardless of where the store is located, that book came by way of the distribution center in Florence, Alabama just up the road from where Percy loved a woman and Wilson waited 'til the Midnight Hour. When we know what Books-A-Million stores have the book, we'll add to the list of Retail Outlets.

About the Hey Baby Days Web Site

We are having a great month at www.heybabydays.com !!!!! Thank You. At the current hit rate, the site will pass the One Million Hit mark for 2006. By the end of 2006, more than 40,000 visits will have been made to the site during the calendar year with the average visitor making 25 individual hits. It appears that they are quite a few people out there who long for the days when our troubles were so far away.

About “The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music” The Book

The response has been extremely favorable and encouraging. Some retail outlets have made several reorders. The number of orders received at the site has grown quite a bit lately most likely because the book is the best Christmas present you can give to a member of “The Never Gonna Give It Up Club.” We now encourage visitors to the site to buy the book at retail outlets. (Please see retail outlets) Our ability to process the order and get the book to the post office to insure delivery before Christmas book is becoming more difficult. After December 18, it is unlikely the book can be purchased from the site and reach its destination before Christmas. That is assuming books are still available from www.heybabydays.com.

THANKS FOR THE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT,

About the Play

The play script based on the book has been circulating and the overall response has been great. The role of Charlena will be the major one and it will require another Ann Margaret. The writer of the play Nora Marion Haynes has incorporated most all the songs on Disks One & Two of The Sound Track to the Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music plus she hopes to include the new cut by the In-Men Ltd. titled “Rhythm.” Stay tuned.

Greg

enjoyed meeting you and nora last weekend in tuscaloosa.

while scanning the book i was delighted to stumble across a "small world story": the segment on the bleus from gadsden and my old buddy, tony lumpkin.

we were in design school together at auburn in 69. he was one of my absolute favorite people from those days. we bonded while pulling all nighters on design projects in biggin hall, appreciating our mutual love for music, and drinking schlitz beer with hors d'oeuvres of doritos and pickled eggs. we had very discriminating palates.

had no idea where tony landed and now i hope to be able to track him down.

also enjoyed reading some of your uga tales as i was a frequent visitor there myself to visit my former girlfriend/ex-wife and many other friends who were there at the same time.

also saw mention of chips moman who now resides nearby in lagrange and is friends with my good friend, david fountain (whom you signed a book for).

get this: david says that chips has an old box truck or tractor trailer body parked out in a pasture on his farm that chips says is FULL of old original master tapes of elvis and many others he worked with thru the years. they must just be FRYING. supposedly, chips just doesn't care and has no intention of doing anything about it.

maybe we ought to stage a late nite raid. it's just a shame and a waste. incredible.

anyway, thanks for the memories. by the way, you two have held up very well considering we were all in school about the same time.

happy trails...

bo

Bo,

That's incredible about the Elvis tapes; I ready for a raid when you are.

Regards,

Greg

Never Again !

Will I forget to take the two copies of "The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music" that now each have about 80 plus signatures of the stars of the Heeey Baby Days. On Saturday night when Nora Marion and I were in Tuscaloosa, I could have gotten the signatures of Tiger Jack Garrett, Bill Connell (Allman Joys) and Benny Deer (Billy Stewart Band) What a fantastic time we had in T. Town. The band was just as their name implies, "The Crowd Pleasers." Nora Marion wanted to take them home... Besides Benny Deer on Drums, the cast was dynamite including George Byrd on Saxophone, John Hall on Keys and Willis on Guitar. Thanks to Robert Register for putting this all together.

Greg,

At long last, the book came today. IT'S KILLER !! Thank you soooooo much for putting all these remembrances together.

Please stay well and in touch.

Johnny Townsend

<http://www.JohnTown.com>

<http://www.TolerTownsendBand.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/JohnnyTownsend>

Greg:

I have been meaning to send this to you before now. I received the book and it is very impressive- a lot of information. I know it took you a long time to collect the material, but I can tell you that when you look at the book, you can be very proud that that you were the master mind of this creation.

Great job.

Rick (Countryman)

Tyn Tymes

Thanks Rick, it took a lot of people to put the book together and we're proud of the way it turned out. It was a little disappointing to me that Tyn Tymes were not included on one of the first two book CDs. As you recall, I had requested use of two cuts from the Hold On To The Feeling CD. I had especially wanted to use "Breakin' Up" Tyn Tymes' great cover of the Tams' song. But you know what Mick Jagger says, " You can't always get what you want" Glad that Tyn Tymes is being included on the extended series.

Regards,

Greg

Hi Greg,

I received my copy in the mail...what a great book! I can't wait to read it. It really hits you how important this music is to all of us who grew up in our part of the country. It is the texture of our lives, and I am so happy that you have chronicled it so extensively, and with such passion. We are leaving in a few minutes to go out on the road for a few days, but when we return, I plan to sit down and listen and read it cover to cover. Thanks so much for thinking of me. Good luck with it, and if there is anything I can do to help, please call me.

Regards,

Banks (Burgess)

Banks & Shane

Banks,

Thank you. I wish I had of connected with you sooner and gotten a photo of you and Paul for the book's "Never Gonna Give It Up Club." Maybe you could send me something for the web site and future book editions. Thanks to you and Paul for keepin' the music alive.

Regards,

Greg Haynes

Greg,

I am a friend of Wilbur Walton, Jr. My sister and I visited him over the Thanksgiving holidays and he had the book. IT IS AWESOME!! You obviously

spent a lot of hard work on it. Wilbur seemed very proud of it and told us about his trip to receive the book. As we listened to the CD with "24 Hours of Loneliness" (I think that's the name) Wilbur got emotional. He was such a great talent and entertainer; it's a shame his music career couldn't have lasted longer. He is also a super, sweet person. Thanks for preserving such an important time in music history.

Becky

Becky,

You'll be pleased to know and please let Wilbur know if he doesn't but an additional 12 CDs have been issued called The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music series and there are at least three other cuts by the James Gang on the CDs including my favorite (Right String Baby, Wrong Yo-Yo). This cut is not Wilbur's favorite but he gives it such a great treatment. "Georgia Pines" is also included as well as "For A Little of Her Sunshine."
Wilbur's legacy lives !

Thanks for your e-mail.

Regards,

Greg Haynes

----- Original Message -----

From: robert.register

To: rarereads@bellsouth.net

Cc: jdwyker@charter.net

Sent: Saturday, November 25, 2006 6:35 PM

Subject: Greg Haynes' Masterpiece, HEEEY BABY DAYS, Brought More Joy To The V.A. Hospice Today!

Greg:

This morning wwwwwwwwyker forwarded me Jim Coleman's email concerning Joe Rudd being in Tuscaloosa's V.A. Hospice. I called Joe and asked him if he wanted to see the book and he told me he wanted me to come by about 5 this afternoon.

When I got to his room, Joe was alone so I opened the book on the side of the bed and showed him the picture of the Distortions, the Battle of the Bands poster with the Distortions and all the other Tuscaloosa related pictures.

About that time Joe's brother and other members of his family showed up and they were so excited that Joe got to see the book. Joe's brother really has tried to get the book. Somebody at the Tuscaloosa News told him he could get it at Books-A-Million and when he drove out there, they didn't even have it in their list of books available. His computer was down so he drove into a Holiday Inn Express and used their computer to order it from the website <http://heybabydays.com> He was really disappointed that he couldn't have the book Fed Ex'ed.

Everyone was so happy with the book. Joe's brother had all the family gather around Joe's hospital bed to get their picture taken while Joe was looking at the book. Then Joe's brother had me hold the book next to Joe and he took a picture of Joe and me with the book.

Joe responded the most to the picture of The Old Dutch. He said loudly, "Oh, I remember that place!"

No way to express our gratitude to you Greg for what you have accomplished and shared with us.

Joe Rudd is not long for this world but this afternoon he looked like he was feeling no pain and his mind was definitely back in the HEEY BABY DAYS OF BEACH MUSIC!

Best,
RR <http://robertoreg.blogspot.com>

Greg, you really made the Rudd family happy tonight.

Robert,

Please send me an address so I can send the Rudds a complimentary copy of the book and thanks for sharing the story.

I do hope we'll be able to work out a book signing in T. Town this Saturday. Neither of us will be having quite as much fun as we hoped for, .i.e. watching our respective teams play for the SEC championship. Alabama in general and Tuscaloosa and Dothan in particular have been extremely good markets for the book. I do hope we'll soon have retail outlets in both towns soon.

When you are firm on Saturday, let me know and I'll post it to the site.

Regards,

Greg

Hi Nora--

I thought you would like to know that I received the book today and I am absolutely floored! This is the finest volume of its kind ever produced--vital and important history in a handsome package. Congratulations on an irreplaceable volume!

Cheers--

John

Dear Ya'll !

I wish each and everyone of ya'll could have been at The Magic MFV Party at The Coopers last night on beautiful Shoals Creek !

It was the best one yet and living proof that our MFV Digital Tribe is not only surviving...but thrivin' !

The Raffle Presents were all first rate as usual and once again Mama-Lama Char put together a package of gifts that made all the winners happy....Cooper bought 5 Raffle tickets and damned if he did not win 4 out of 5 times...actually he won 5 for 5 but he decided to let someone else win somethang...talk about luck...not only is he blessed to have Becky but he's also just down right lucky! I think Cooper and Becky have broken their bad luck spell!

The place was filled with some of The Shoals best musicians...DAVID HOOD and DONNIE FRITTS along with PATTERSON HOOD and JASON ISABELL of The DRIVE BY TRUCKERS...SCOTT BOYER...STEPHEN FOSTER and HOWLER...SONNY EDWARDS...N.C. THURMAN..PETE CARR and SLUGGER ALLRED of The ALLRED CARR BAND .The Lovely and talented Jazz Mama-Lama KAREN GRUBER...Pete Carr brought his handsome 16 year old Sax playin' Son John...he's plannin' on attending WEST POINT !..

PETE won the Grand Prize a 4 gig RED NANO IPOD with MIGHTY FIELD OF VISION engraved on the back and the color Red is for the AIDS Cause in Mother Africa that The MFV sent some money to...The Ipod will hold about 1000 songs !

I think I was about the oldest cat at the party....DAVID HOOD is about 2 years older than I am but I felt like the youngest dude at The Party because ALL of The best lookin' young thangs were buzzin' around me like bees to honey...they must think I'm rich or somethang ! I made me feel great...and it's a nice change from

bein' Mr. Mom everyday...and also this marriage came to an end on Mother's Day !
I'm so thankful...because my 2 kids decided to stay with me...

The **ULTIMATE** surprise for me came when **KATRINA KELLOGG**...who was My Muse for **MOTORCYCLE MAMA** and **BABY RUTH** and about everythang else I wrote in the late 60's showed up....she was only about 4 or 5 years old back in The late 60's and she's ...well you do the math.... now...what a talented beautiful Lady she has grown up to be and she has also raised 2 sons...the youngest bein' 19...Her Mother The late **Becky Robbins** was my second wife....It's been since the mid 80's since I've had the pleasure of seein' her...what a beauty !

Also **COOPER'S** 24 year old daughter **KATE COOPER** was there and she's a real beauty too!

The **GREG HAYNES BEACH MUSIC BOOK** and **RANDY POE'S "SKYDOG"** were bein' passed around and this exposure should cause some sales....everybody seemed to be genuinely impressed with **BOTH** books....**CHAR** gave one copy of **SKYDOG** as a raffle prize!

JERRY HENRY of The **WEEKLY PLANET** Newspaper of **TUSCALOOSA** came up for a taste of The **MFV** ...and also from **T-Town** we had **RANY REED** and one of The cats from his ad agency was with us again this year!

I want to say again what a blessing **Mama-Lama CHAR** has been to The **MFV Tribe**....I want to Thank You **CHAR** for takin' a chance on us...and our wild and crazy dreams!

Some great jams were goin' on inside in several different rooms after the outside music ended...

We also voted 2 new **MFV Board** members in and they are **CHUCK "DOC" SNOW** and **GREG "COWBOY" LOVETT** aka **VANNA WHITE** !

WE plan to have a bunch of stuff up on **YOUTUBE** later today and tomorrow...so **PLEASE** stay tuned!

I'm gonna be playin' some great music on **MFV radio** today...The new **ALLRED CARR BAND**...The **CAPRICORN Rhythm SECTION**...and all kinds of new **CD's** people were layin' on me at The party...I'm sure we will pick up plenty of new members from the magic event at **COOPER'S** yesterday !

THANKS AGAIN to **DICK** and **BECKY** for bein' The Perfect Host and Hostess!
More later...I've got to make mo' coffee!

We hope to be able to give all **MFV Members** that were not able to attend plenty of pictures and Music in the next few days!

Robert Register

Robert,

I checked out the caricature that is in the book and was amazed that it was indeed done by Al Rose of Storyville and New Orleans Jazz fame. Thanks for your continuing contributions and thanks to and Bennie Deer for organizing a book signing soon in T. Town.

Regards, Greg

First of all, let me say that I am only 24 years old, but have grown up enjoying "Beach Music" in South Carolina. In particular, I have followed the "Band of Oz" primarily through the years, but also groups like "The Original Tams" and "Bill Pinkney and the Original Drifters." Obviously, there aren't a lot of my peers that even know what "Beach Music" is! It's a shame, but thank goodness someone has taken the time to compile the history and music to share with generations to come. Personally, I am honored that my parents and aunts/uncles have shared the music, stories, and fun of the past with me (I love to shag!). I can't wait to share it with my children in 25 years!

Mr. Haynes, THANK YOU for your all your effort and talent in writing and promoting the heart of this important era in music history! God Bless!

P.S.- I have a picture of "The Original Tams" somewhere that I would love to find and share with you. I remember dancing with them on stage at the National Guard Armory in Batesburg-Leesville, SC (where I grew up) when I was a LITTLE girl. They gave me an autographed picture after the concert. Also, I think I may still have one or two photos from the "Band of Oz" that I would love to share (if I can find them). Thanks again!

Lauren,

It appears that among your peers, you are the enlightened one. You're certainly a better speller than me as I misspelled Bill Pinkney's name in the book. I beg his forgiveness and promise to correct in future editions of the book. Thanks for sharing your thoughts. My 27 year old son certainly knows what Beach Music is all about because like you, he was raised properly. I can also understand your fondness for the Band of Oz, Bill Pinkney & The Original Drifters and the Tams. What a tremendous trifecta of Beach Music legends !

We would be pleased to share the photos you referenced on the web site. Either send us a extra print of the photo or a scan.

Again thanks for contacting us..

Regards,

Greg Haynes
THANKS

I got it

In retrospect, an unwieldy item to read because of its largesse.

Impressive but ultimately, impractical to maneuver in front of one's eyes.

Tabletop mandatory.

An exhaustive study of something worth documenting. Musical history as it should be told. Just redesign for a second printing so one might read it in a chair, in bed, or in the bathroom.

Thanks again for thinking of me

Al Kooper

Al,

The trade off in making the book smaller is the font size. We figure the typical reader like me has a half dozen pair of reading glasses in various stages, i.e. lost, broken, etc. We always envisioned it being on a coffee table; some have suggested that we get screw on legs and then it could be a table. Most importantly, it was worth documenting and your contribution is valued and much appreciated.

Regards,

Greg

**THANKS A “TON” TO THOSE ATTENDING THIS PAST WEEKEND’S 2006
CAROLINA BEACH MUSIC AWARDS**

A ton (we’re not kiddin’) of books were sold over the weekend at N. Myrtle Beach in conjunction with the 2006 Carolina Beach Music Awards. More books are on the way to our retail outlets in the area. Thanks to Steve Palisin and his great article in The Sun News which obviously spurred interest. Thanks to the CBMA for allowing us to set up the Heeey Baby of Beach Music banner in strategic locations during the event. To cap it off, they asked me to co present with Neal “Soul Dog” Furr three important awards that were presented at the Alabama Theatre Sunday afternoon. These included : Song of The Year, “I’ve Got A Feeling” by the Craig Woolard Band, Group of The Year - Rickey Godfrey Band and Entertainer on The Year – Scott Fine.

Greg,

Thanks so much for sending me a copy of your book. You have a GREAT memory of events that took place so long ago. The book is terrific. I have really enjoyed reliving those “best of times”. It was quite an honor to be the A of A & H Productions. You were my best friend in high school and I’ll never forget the excitement we shared in promoting concerts. I can’t put into words how much I love this book!

Robert Adams

A of A/H Productions

Sir Greg

It looks like you hit a HOME RUN!!! People are talking about the book and I am getting question from people about how to get a copy of the book. I also am looking into getting some locations to sell the book in my area. I would appreciate you sending me 5 books that people have asked for to give as gifts for Christmas. I hope thing are good with you and your family. Again CON-GRATS on doing such a great job.

ED the KING

Kind Edward & His BD’s

Dear Greg:

The “Comments from Book Owners” page (on Book Page) has become a very popular place on the web site so we will utilize it to not only give you the latest feedback from the musicians and book buyers but to give you additional news regarding the book and other information.

Email to Gene Lee of The Sensational Epics

Gene – pass the word (not that my opinion means anything) – but everyone I have showed the book to was REALLY impressed – they love it – WOW is it really comprehensive and I had no idea there were so many bands – I guess I just remember us and a few others (Counts, Tams, Driters, Medallions, etc) serving all the music needs of the south east – how much I have forgotten. I do remember mooning (and getting mooned by) other bands as we traveled the interstate. Thank goodness I didn’t see any “ moons” in the book – but I bet somewhere someone has a picture of someone’s moon in a vehicle.

Larry

Sensational Epics

GREG

THE BOOK IS SUPERB!!!! BY THE WAY HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT ME AND CHARLENA? HOPE YOU DON'T FIND ABOUT MISS BAINBRIDGE [SHE WAS ALSO THE COTTON QUEEN FOR THAT COUNTY] MISS ALBANY THEY SAID ALBENNIE DOWN THERE.

TOMMY MANN

K_Otics

November 3

Nora Marion and I traveled to Albany, Georgia last night where we were promptly overwhelmed. The private reception and book signing that we had spotlighted on the web site was one we shall never forget. Albany attorney, Spencer Lee and wife Lacy along with Russell Martin, trumpet player for the 60s’ King David & The Slaves and present day Relapse Band, hosted this event at the Lee’s home.

How many books should you take to an event like this I wondered, especially in light of the fact that the Friday before at a large band event we had boxes of books and

few buyers? Forever optimistic, we almost fully loaded the car and in the end we almost had a sellout.

It was gratifying and very much appreciated. This was the first private reception that I have ever attended in which there was television coverage. I was treated like a celebrity, but reality sunk in when I realized how many of my fellow Phi Alpha brothers (Phi Delta Theta) were in attendance. They knew better – celebrity, I am not! What a great treat it was seeing fellow brothers in the bond: Bubba Burt (folks in Albany will now always remember that Bubba knows all the words to “Only The Strong Survive”); Bill Hughey and Garrett “Mole” Fleming (they went with me to the January 1969 appearance of the Tams Revue in Statesboro and can verify another one of the jams I seem to be getting into at the time); Phil Greene (President of Georgia Alpha when I joined); Jud Vann (the Camilla banker who brought greetings, salutations, and CHECKS from other brothers-in-bond, Tommy Johnston, Cheney Robinson, Cader Cox all of whom were too stunned to come after learning that I had actually finished a book) and of course Spencer Lee who was probably the most senior Phi in attendance but definitely the youngest in spirit.

Mesmerized, we watched Spencer skillfully demonstrate for Nora Marion the nuances between the Carolina shag and the P.C. Bop. The variations in the dances of the Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music has become increasingly important to Nora Marion as she takes the musical that she has written based on the book to a new level. Play !? What play many of you may be now asking. Since memorializing this era is contagious, Nora Marion has been writing for months an adaptation of the book for stage incorporating many of the songs on disks 1 & 2. Without letting the cat completely out of the bag, I will tell you that two of the central characters are Charlena and Robert Abrahamson.

Also at the Albany reception, there were many other vintage UGA alumnus among those attending who like so many others we have run into as of late are members of The Never Gonna Give It Up Club. Thanks to the Lees, Russell, fellow brothers in the bond and the many others who welcomed Nora Marion and me back to our native South Georgia. Thanks also to Carleton Fletcher for the nice article he wrote about the book in the Albany Herald. (See In The News)

Greg

I did get the book and it's wonderful. I grew up in North Carolina...Burlington..where it seemed we had a band on every block. The book has brought back some great memories. Thanks for putting it together. For those of us who grew up on Beach Music, every page is memory.

Gary McCann
Rock Hill SC

Greg

I have received the book and I love it. Thanks! I was so happy to see John (McElrath) did the forward. Jayne and I were very good friends for many years from the time our children were very small . I miss her a lot and think of her so often. I knew most of the members of the Swinging Medallions and it's so good to have the good reminders.

Great job!

**Anne Hudson
Peachtree City, GA**

Greg

Just wanted to say "Thank you so much" for "The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music" book I received. The day the book arrived, I could not get much accomplished for having myself glued to the pages. What a book of memories! With Jerry having worked for Cecil at Beach Club, I had heard about lots of the events and stories mentioned in the book. I thoroughly have enjoyed every page so far. The CD's are now in my car to enjoy daily. Thank you for being so thoughtful by sending me a copy. My daughter, Stacey, has also enjoyed the book. Thanks again for many years of entertainment. I hope you have to reprint the book numerous times.

Brenda McElveen 11/03/06

Greg,

Louise and I have enjoyed reading your book and listening to the 3 CD's. We can't imagine how many hours it took you to put this great book together. Wow.

Regards,

Joe

Note: Joe McDermott, a friend and fellow professional at CBRE is our Philadelphia office. He has learned a little about Beach Music because of my constant babble though the years

Joe,

Thanks it took about 4000 hours (conservatively) over five years and required the help of a small army. It is a piece of Southern history that many may not be familiar with. I think you'll especially enjoy the story on the Magnificent Men in chapter 22.

Regards,

Greg

Greg,

We received our Heeey Baby Days book a couple of weeks ago. That is the most amazing book I have ever seen--very well done--and the heaviest book I own.

After flipping through it and reading some of it, I am in awe that you were able to write it and publish it in your "spare time".

Congratulations and thanks.

Hope to see you soon.

Tom

**Thomas J. Flanigan
M.D. Hodges
An ING Clarion Company
3350 Riverwood Parkway
Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30339**

Tom ,

Thanks, as you can see, it took an army of people to make the book happen. It became a central point for reviving and remembering a great era of music and good times in the South back in the 60s.

regards,

Greg

News and misc. Items November 2, 2006

They're shaggin' in Arizona: Nora got a call this morning from Arizona where a displaced Southern received her copy of the book. She said they stayed up all night reading the book and dancing to the music on the CDs. She said that we were foolish to be selling the book for \$59.95... it should be \$559.95... so we are hereby raising the price to (kidding); however we do encourage those interested in the book to check out the retail outlets listed on the book page of the site as sources for the book.

The more books sold in retail outlets, the better, because it will cause more stores will carry the book and the greater the audience the book will gain. The whole world needs to know that Beach Music is not surf music.

We have received emails from bands and performers whose band may not have received appropriate recognition in the book. We plan to continue to add and update band directories at the site as well as add additional band stories in the "More Stories" section.

Note: In the Musicians and Readers Feedback section that follows, we had not preciously shared our responses to those submitting comments. We will begin sharing those responses and try to catch up on past responses as well.

HI GREG,

CHIP ALLRED W/ SHAGGIE MAGGIE, FORMERLY DOYLE ALLRED W/ WILLIE T. & THE MAGNIFICENTS. TED, DOUG & MYSELF GOT OUR BOOKS . MAN, I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH. WHAT A LABOR OF LOVE. THIS THING IS GOING TO BRING SO MUCH HAPPINESS FOR YEARS TO COME TO SO MANY PEOPLE.

I DON'T THINK EVEN YOU REALIZE HOW SPECIAL THIS IS.

WHAT A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO A TIME WE WILL ALL CHERISH.

THANKS AGAIN & GOD BLESS

CHIP & DOYLE ALLRED

PS -- IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT AT WORK I HOPE TO SEE YOU CAMMY WEEKEND

Thank you; it means a lot to me to hear from the musicians of the era; ones that enjoyed those great times. And in the words of my late great friend, Jensi, "Willie T & The Magnicients were great !"

Regards,

Greg

Reverend Greg!

I can't believe your book. My father (Ted Keaton) had been telling me about it for some time, but I finally got to see a copy today. I am very happy for you. Your hard work is surely reflected. The layout is cutting edge, the collection of pictures surreal, and the CD's are brilliant.

**All the very best to you!
TK**

**PS. Your timing couldn't have been any better...
I am buying a copy for my in-laws for Thanksgiving and my friend Ryan is buying one for his dad for Christmas.**

T.K. My father and brother would be surprised that you addressed me Reverend since they are indeed reverends. Thanks for you note and interest in the book. Your father was certainly a great source and contributor to the book.

HEEY BABY DAYS is
THE BEST DAMN MUSIC
BOOK EVER WRITTEN.

THANKS FOR
WRITING IT

Ted Hall

Greg,

That's the biggest book I have ever seen in my life! Amazing. It's going to take a while to get through it all, but it's going to be lots of fun. You did an awesome job!

Thanks,
Jeff (Limlich)

Limestonerecords.com

NORA,
I ALREADY HAVE THE BOOK.IT'S GREAT.I WISH YOU WOULD ADD TO YOUR WEB SITE MORE GREAT PICTURES FROM OUR BAND REUNION IN 2002.THERE ARE SOME GREAT PICTURES FROM THE HEEYBABY DAYS OF BANDS FROM DANVILLE VA.THE SITE IS www.wbtm1330.com/1beachmotel.html click on the battle of the bands and see all the groups listed by band name.

Thanks,
johnny dollar

Howdy, Greg. Just a note to say THANKS, again, for the books. I went through every page this weekend.

I love it!

Perrin (Gleaton)

Swingin' Medallion, Caravelles

Sunday, October 29, 2006

robert register <robertoreg2003@yahoo.com>

HEY Y'ALL:

Ronnie Quarles and Tiger Jack Garrett were doing a remote from Alex's front porch at THE LOCKER ROOM <http://www.locker-room.biz/>

I got Tiger Jack to sign his photos in THE HEY BABY DAYS OF BEACH MUSIC
<http://heybabydays.com>

He signed the one of him in WTBC studios, circa '63,
<http://wtbc1230.com/history.html>



"Robert, we were there for it all-- Keep on rockin' T JACK"

For the picture of Papa Gary Fuller and him with the Tams, Jack wrote "Me and Papa Gary, T Jack"



My copy of HEEY BABY DAYS is gaining value every week because last Saturday, I met Wilbur Walton, Jr. and Jimmy Dean at Dothan's Dakota Coffee Works and got them to sign their pictures. Wilbur started shaking and wheezing when he saw the picture of THE OLD DUTCH INN. He was definitely suffering from the ravages of post traumatic stress syndrome when he wrote,

**"I survived THE OLD DUTCH INN. WHEW
Wilbur Walton, Jr."**

Greg-

I just completed reading your book. As you know I have over 300 books in my music library but your book in terms of reading enjoyment ranks at the very top. I know that I have said this before but I want to say it again-Thank you for taking the time out of your life to write about a subject that brought so much enjoyment to so many. On behalf of not just the Jesters but of all the bands and members-thank you Greg Haynes for such a treasured gift.

Also, after carrying this book around reading it for the 2 weeks- I feel a lot stronger for some reason.

Bill (Dyno)

Greg

From cover to cover and 1 thru 14, one word, MAGNIFICENT! Believe it or not, I got my copy of the book and Volumes 3-14 of the companion series on the same day.

For a Beach Music collector for over 25 years and a once upon a time Beach DJ in the 80s, your efforts made me feel like I hit the Lotto. I grew up in the 60s going to shows with the Tams, Bill Deal and the Rhondels, Ron Moody and the Centaurs, the Showmen, Percy Sledge and Clarence Carter. Here in Southside VA. we had great venues to go to such as the Armory, the Memorial Center and Bellefonte Lake (all in Blackstone) and the Electric Flag in Emporia. It was a great time to grow up and when the Beach Beat series came out in around 1980, I dusted off my old 45s & LPs and jumped back in.

I will be in NMB from Nov. 9-12 and I hope to be able to meet you and get my copy signed. Thank you for all you have done to reaffirm all the wonderful things I and countless others appreciate about our favorite music genre. Congratulations!

**Mike Cary
Crewe, VA**

Greg - I received the copy of the book you sent me. WHOA! Simply stupendous... and well worth the wait. I'd like to promote the book via 60sgaragebands.com but the images on your website are copyright protected. Could you send me a . jpeg photo of the book/cover so that I can do it justice when I rave about it?

GREAT job.

Mike Dugo

Greg: What a work of art. Should be one in the Smithsonian too. Look forward to enjoying the book. Mike (McLaughlin) Chicago

Nora,

I received my book the other week and it is great! Outstanding work and obviously a labor of love; I hope that y'all sell a lot. I have been passing the word on to my friends that would appreciate such a book and hopefully they will jump on board. While I was a bit to young to enjoy and appreciate the era, I have a great fondness for the music and the bands

Thanks,

Scott

Greg,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Al has thoroughly enjoyed "The Book"..... When I gave it to him this past Sunday, he must have read it for nearly 3 hours before being able to put it down. You did a GREAT job on it, that was quite an accomplishment.

**Tricia Clayton | Asset Services Director
CB Richard Ellis | Asset Services
3340 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 1050 | Atlanta, GA 30326
T 404 923 1346 | F 404 923 1564**

Hey, Julian,

Mary Wade Smith brought me my book Saturday - complete with lots of autographs. It is totally AWESOME. I can't put it down. To see all those names and faces of people I had forgotten about is quite an experience.

I do hope this ambitious project is a commercial success. How many are in the first printing? I bet you will sell out fast.

Thanks so much for my copy.

Regards,

Bud McNeely

The Rivas (Bob Meyer)

Greg

My God man! What a book!!!

I will be reading every page and writing a review asap.

So many people in there that I know or have known...

Man what a HUGE book too... My left arm is cramping from holding it open in my lap. That book weighs as much as a small planet!

Beautiful layout, awesome memories and photos, Wyker's Cat Tales, Robert

Nix, Gregg and Duane and kids, on and on, and our SC boys The Swingin

Medallions...AUTHOR! AUTHOR! What a great book. Review soon.

Best book I've seen cross my desk in months!

Michael Buffalo Smith

Publisher Gritz Magazine

Hello Greg,

Congratulations on writing and putting together such a fantastic book. I looked at it for three hours straight. Thank you very much for running the 1966 photo of The Charms in the Columbia State newspaper. The photo was taken exactly 40 years ago. Looking at the photo in the newspaper I had mixed feelings. In some ways it seemed like a long time ago but in some ways it seemed like the 40 years passed in a flash. I'm sorry that I was out of town last Thursday and missed the book signing in Columbia. Mike Tronco, of the Epics, called me and asked me to come to it. I did go to a musicians reunion in Columbia last Sunday for Dick Holler. We played for about three hours. Dick Holler wrote the hit song, Abraham, Martin and John. Entertainment Tonight has been playing that song every time they start talking about the new Bobby Kennedy movie (Bobby) coming out in November. So it was really exciting playing that song with him. I'm about 99% sure that he is a musical genius like Brian Wilson. I remember hearing Garth Brooks sing that song with Paul Shaffer and saying that it was one of the greatest songs ever written. This is the link to Dick Holler's web site. Check out the photo of Tom Jones and Dick Holler. <http://www.dickholler.com/photos.htm> The musicians reunion is held every October. I'll let you know when the exact date is, if you would like to come to it next year.

Thanks again,

Jackie Muckenfuss

Original Charms band from Columbia , SC

Greg,

I want to thank you again for coming to Columbia and staying late before returning to Atlanta.....what a great evening! It was great to be a part of it with you, Marion & Karen, and Julian and Mary Blanche...just sorry Nora Marion could not be there with us. Your appearance really kicked off the book campaign here.....much buzz and requests for books or info since then. We plan to have a big promo on Nov 11 in Sumter at "The Gathering"., a mini-reunion of Edmunds High classmates and musicians of the 60's that occurs 2-3 times a year. Some of our old HS band with Hank Martin and others will perform. We sure would love to have y'all come over and party with us.

Once again, thanks for this wonderful work and for honoring the bands and the music with your love and tireless devotion to it. May God bless you, Greg!

Charles Stafford

Footnotes, Billy Stewart Band, Persians, Second Nature and others

Hey Greg,

Hope all is well with you. Got the book the other day and I must say that I am extremely impressed with everything about it.

It is a most definitive collection/ reflection of that period of time and genre of music. I'm sure all of MBB are proud to have been included in this anthology. It is wonderfully nostalgic to wander through the pages and re-live a lot of good times.

Thanks again for the book and thanks for writing the book. It will be one of my most treasured pieces of memorabilia and always proudly displayed.

Take care,

Ted Vaughn..... MBB (Mouse, The Boys & Brass)

Greg

My book arrived and, after fitting myself with a truss from picking it up and carrying it to the recliner, I sat down to look through it. What I expected to be a brief glimpse through it turned into over an hour of reminiscing.

My friend, you have created something wonderful for all of us who lived and breathed those "hey baby days". My sincere thanks for all the hard work, time, blood, sweat, and tears that went into this creation. I will cherish it always.

I'm not sure if I ever sent you copies of MouseTracks or the Live at Riverside reunion CD. Please drop me a note and let me know. It would be my honor to send you one of each if I haven't already.

Thanks again for keeping the memories alive. If I can ever be of any assistance in the future, please let me know.

May the good Lord bless ya bunches....

**Pete Rowland
Mouse, The Boys & Brass**

Greg...

Thanks for the book...it is going to be a great read. I've already started and look forward to reading the entire thing. Do you have any idea how many hours you put into this?

I will talk it up on the radio show and really enjoy playing some of the tunes...it's gonna be fun. The radio station wants a couple of copies...is the web site the best place to order...I'll pass it on to them if it is. Let me know.

Sorry I missed the party...I have heard it was a lot of fun.

Congratulations again,

Jack (Tiger Jack)

From Robert Register's blog:

Hey y'all:

Went down to the courthouse yesttidy to get my new utility trailer tag and to get the deputy to sign off that I had my tail lights fixed. Saw **Mean Gene the Postman** delivering mail to a law office so I cruised over to warn him about the state troopers and their computer printout traffic tickets.

He likes to drink a brew after a gig so he appreciated my warning. His band's trailer does not have a tag.

As I was about to drive off, he said, "Hey man, I gotta package in the truck for you. You want it now or do you want me to deliver it to the office?"

I told him to let me have it and when I saw that big ole box, I knew immediately what I had.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU, GREG HAYNES FOR THE HEEYY BABY DAYS OF BEACH MUSIC!!!!

I took the big ole thang down to the Downtown Pub last night and sat it down on the food table. When you open the book, it is 36 inches long so it takes a kitchen table to hold the damn thing. I bet I handed out 10 business cards with <http://heybabydays.com/book.htm> written on the back.

And the comments were unbelievable:

"My brother owns that guitar!"

"He gave me guitar lessons!"

"He lived in Skyland Park and never would play football with us."

"I grew up with all those cats!"

"My Daddy would love this!"

One of the most important things I discovered is that not only am I old enough to be a BAMA coed's

Daddy, I'm OLDER than all their Daddys!

Greg has made all of us proud and he has produced an automatic flashback machine that will transport all of you back 40 years!

It is absolutely a cheap, LEGAL & KOZMIC HIGH!!!!

THIS BOOK IS MARVELOUS!!!!

& the two CD's are SUPERB!

Check 'em out! http://heybabydays.com/HBD_CD.htm

I'm heading out down old U.S. 82 today for Dothan this morning. I'll be staying at my sister Becky and her husband Buddy's farm tonight and tomorrow night. Looking forward to catching a mess of fish and seeing the new pond Jessie Carroll just built them.

Sunday I'll drive along the coast down to Dauphin Island and I'll be back in office Wednesday morning.

Gloria Jean and Buddy brought me kicking and hollering into the 21st Century by buying me a cell phone so if any uv y'all need me, I can be reached at 205-239-5401!

Check out Greg's book <http://heybabydays.com/book.htm>

**Best,
RR <http://snakedoctor.blogspot.com>**

Greg,

What a great job you did with this book, and I am so proud to be included!!!!!!!!!!!!!! How can I help you sell some???

Mike Stewart

Thanks for saving this History!!!

Greg

Saturday we received "the Book". Wow! It was so much more than we expected. What a wonderful trip down memory lane. We look forward to reading every single page. From the size of it, that will probably take us a few months. I'm especially enjoying it since my husband, Jerry, is featured several times in the book. Those were the days before we were together so I'm getting a history lesson. I wish you much success with the sell of this wonderful book.

Sincerely,

Patsy Clapp

Mornin' Greg,

Barney from Tulsa here, yeah I know, long way from the sugar white sands of Panama City Beach.

I received my book yesterday...been up most of the night reading it! W O W! Let me tell you, Sir, it is everything and more than what I had hoped it to be. To me, it's certainly worth every cent that the selling price is / was, just an outstanding piece of journalism. They say that, " You can never go home again," well you can, thanks to you and your great book.

Hey where are my GANT / MADRAS Shirts, my WHITE LEVIS, my GOLD CUP SOCKS, my BASS WEEJUNS, my BRITISH STERLING COLONGE... it's time to cruise, I know there's got to be a PAR -TAY going on someplace.

Thanks again, Greg...you done good, bro !!

Semper Fi,
Barney

Nora,

Just had to tell you (and Greg) that my book arrived last Friday, and it was absolutely worth waiting for! Thanks for your efforts!

Bob Besal

Greg,

What a great job you did!!!!!!! I know you are happy that it is all finished, it really looks great. Lots of info to read. Thanks so much for helping us in making a good showing in the Ga. chapter. I look foward to a trip to Macon to see everything. . Look forward to seeing you, maybe down at Macon if you are going to make another appearance there doing another book signing.

I think you should do a few more and I would love to be there. Take care and WELL DONE my friend!!!!

Scotty (Piotrowski)
The Jesters
Athens, Georgia

Greg,

Wanted to share this e-mail with you.

Gene

Gene:

I received my copy of Hey Baby Days on Friday and have not been able to put down. It is great!! I know you helped with this fine account of the good old days. I want to thank you for your contribution the this extremely interesting walk down memory lane. It appears there are other CD's available from Repete Records. Again I think this is the most interesting book I have seen in a long time.

Jay (Collier)
Sensational Epics

Greg,

I can give you Mick's cell # if you need it. Comment: David came to the book debut and I didn't get a chance to talk a lot with him because of everything that was going on. He and Bob Robbins were fraternity brothers and roommates with me for a quarter at Georgia. They both deserve purple hearts. Luckily David Emailed the site. I told him that it would be easier getting Mick Jagger's cell phone number than finding a phone number for David Jones.

I was enriched by being in Macon last week! I have give your book to a couple of people who appreciate your story, and they can't put it down. The tickets and membership card you can keep. I mailed them today. I am glad you can use them. I read where Jerry Long chauffeured the "Stones". Next time I see him I'll have to bring that up. Thanks, again for cleaning out some cob webs and enjoying some great past times. Keep in touch.

David

Greg,

I put your book on a roll around music stand so I could take it into my reading room (bathroom)! I stayed up all night the first night I had it reading it. I have other stories about the Medallions and the Pieces Of Eight that came to mind after being immersed in all that beach history. Have you ever thought about creating a blog on your web site? Your book is 150% first class and worth 3-4 times what you charged. My

youngest son (bass player) has been hog'n the book since yesterday which is way over the line! I will be glad to pay you for the second book but the credit card number that you have for me has been changed. Let me know if you need my new credit card number! I am still amazed how much work you put into the HBD book! It is appreciated!!!! I have the same passion for music as you do and I write MIDI music files on a Yamaha Tyros 2 keyboard (with lyrics) for Karaoke shows. My living room looks like the Old Hickory stage!

Regards,

Bob Sigman

Greg,

I got my copy of "Hey Baby Days..." this week and have practically lived with it. It is both entertaining and informative. I know it was a work of love. This book fills a gap in music history. It documents a very dynamic music scene that was for the most part confined to the south and thrived for much to short a time.

A rebirth of Beach Music is beginning to take place in the Carolinas and Virginia. I hope you'll think about documenting that movement in a future work.

Congratulations on completion of a masterpiece. You have touched my life. Thank you for this wonderful book!

Regards,
Ken Beck

Greg and Joe, wanted to let you guys know that the "Book" safely arrived at our house on Saturday. WOW, Holy Cow, incredible. So much information, great photographs and graphics. This truly must be a labor of love, and it captures a special time in our lives. You guys should be proud of this work.

I will still never forget that summer evening in Litchfield a couple of years ago. Phyllis and I had gone to dinner at Frank's, and we decided to stop by the Piggy Wiggly. As we were about to walk into the grocery store, a guy (Joe)was exiting and he turned to Phyllis and said

"Eddy...Eddy", (her maiden name). Phyllis didn't seem to hear him, and I said "Phyllis, this man is calling you." Well, she turned around and walked up to him, and quickly realized that it was Joe Morris who she knew from her Lander College days. And for me, I got to meet a member of the Swingin' Medallions. It doesn't get any better than that. What tickles me about this chance encounter is that Joe recognized Phyllis who he hadn't seen in probably 30 plus years.

As I was thumbing thru the "Book", and I got a chuckle seeing the photograph of the 45 rpm record "Double Shot of My Baby's Love" on the 4-Sale label, courtesy of Joe. Why...because Phyllis and I have "Double Shot" on that exact same 4-Sale label. Joe says only 500 were pressed, and Phyllis can't remember if she bought the record or if it was given to her. Joe claims she got it because she's a cute nurse with a big butt.

Thanks, and best regards.

Ty

Greg, I am really enjoying the book. It was good to see you and Nora in Macon. Thanks, for sharing your early life with everyone. I my membership card from the Bee Baby Club. I would like to give that to you or to the museum. What do you prefer? I also have a "Admit Two" ticket for the fabulous TAMS & Orchestra for Friday, August 16th in the Waycross City Auditorium #0351
YITB
David

Comment: David Jones, a fellow brother in the bond, is going to send The Tams Ticket (my very first show with the Tams in August of 1968) and a membership card from the famous Bee Baby Club of Waycross to me and I am going to scan them and put them on the site and then send to Joseph Johnson at the Georgia Music Hall of Fame for display.

Greg

The book is phenomenal! It's impossible to read or look at for just a few minutes. If I open the cover, I'm going to be occupied for at least 45 minutes to an hour minimum; very entertaining and interesting reading and looking at all the band pictures. I really appreciate your providing each one of us a copy. The amount of effort and time you obviously put into this project astounds me. Thanks again.

Mike Haynes
The Jesters

Greg,

A great job. I just reviewed your book, and it is a perfect anthology of the era. Without guys like you, we would have been "Lost in the Sixties"

Special thanks to Nora for putting up with your never-ending project. You did a great job and we're forever grateful.

Billy Young
The Jesters

Greg

Thanks for a GREAT event on Oct. 6! Attached are a couple of pics that I will treasure forever.....

Musically,

Tommie James
Second Nature

October 12, 2006

Greg,

I can't believe what you have done here. Before the James Gang reunion, when you first told me what you were going to try, I had no idea what you were shooting for. I remember thinking, here's somebody gnawing off a whole bunch more than anybody can really chew. I was expecting a book of about 10 x 12 inches, third-rate in quality, maybe 200 pages, skimming across the top of the Deep South sixties bands. This is a hell of a lot more than that.

My brother Robert stopped by Wilbur's house yesterday and saw the book for the first time. He told me today, "I've never seen anything like that." I had promised to send copies to my old buddies B. J. Thomas and Billy Joe Royal, which you generously provided, and I called them this week to tell them I was about to put them in the mail. I found the book difficult to describe to them. I told Billy Joe, "Don't plan on kicking back in a Barc-a-Lounger and looking through this thing. You got to sit at a table in a straight back chair to handle it and fully appreciate what you are looking at."

This is truly amazing. My advice to anyone who gets the book is this: Don't think of it as one of those Time-Life coffee table picture books. Read the words on the pages. If you are a fan of the music of that era, you'll enjoy getting a real picture of what was happening at the time.

Buddy Buie and I were talking about a year ago, and I remember him saying, "The James Gang wasn't a Beach Music group." Neither one of us was sure about our inclusion in your effort. Beach Music to us meant that song that stayed eternally on the juke box at the Hangout in PC, "Panama City Blues." It was pretty awful. We were into Ray Charles, B. B. King, James Brown, the Platters, the Drifters, then Otis Redding, and always of course, Piano Red. We did go with the flow, because this is what we did for a living. We did the Four Seasons and the Beach Boys (were we beach music after all?) and other covers that got us work on the Corn Bread Circuit.

Only after I started reading your text (sitting at my dining room table), did I realize that what you call Beach Music was nothing more or less than R & B, the love of our lives and our bread and butter. We were all on the same page after all.

I gotta thank you for undertaking this project. Others have touched on this era of Southern music, and they almost always get it wrong. This book is different, in the effort you made to get things right, in its inclusiveness concerning the groups, and in the broadness of what it covers. The quality of the book rivals anything Time-Life ever published. For crying out loud, Greg, did you know this thing was gonna weigh nearly fifteen pounds????

Thanks for letting us be a part of "The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music."

Jimmy Dean
The James Gang
Dothan, Alabama

P. S. I should have told you that when I was in high school, Buddy Buie booked some shows in Montgomery, the Farm Center in Dothan, and in PC, starring Fabian, Bruce Channel and Ray Stevens. Larry Coe, Sidney White, me, and Little Bill Akridge (sp?) had a group called the Strangers, probably because we sounded pretty strange (no singer), and Buddy hired us to back up his stars. Fabian's guys ruled us out real quick, but we did back up Ray Stevens and Bruce Channel. We sat around with Bruce in his dressing room grousing that Fabian's guys thought we weren't good enough to back him up (which we weren't, as bad as he was), and Bruce commiserated with us, complaining that Fabian always got the best dressing room. See? We were right there at the start! Heeey, Baby, we've been on the same page all along!

Greg,

I finally had to make myself stop flipping through the book, relishing the visual treats and browsing the text. I sat down to treat it as a proper read. This went well. I found myself warmly nostalgic. An occasional inner chuckle erupted as you described some of the misadventures, but mostly it evoked a pleasant, warm feeling of recognition and belonging.

That is, until I reached the passage that described the fragile, broken and ruined Charlena's flight to her mother's deathbed. Upon reading those few paragraphs, I realized I had tears in my eyes. The passage carried the clear message of redemption; not by deed, but through Grace. Charlena, the prodigal returns and in spite of her misdeeds, she is greeted with Love.

In my mind that is what *writing* is supposed to do - elicit an emotional response from the reader. There is no doubt that the book is a treasure in that it preserves some important musical history. I believe I just experienced something more.

Regards,
John Bradley
Dynamic Consouls
Greenwood, South Carolina

Heeey Baby is incredible!! You did it! The era is preserved.

Can't imagine what it must have taken to get this done - my mind boggles!
I read the intro and downloaded the cds to my iPod. Tonight I will start serious reading and listening.

Thanks for sharing this with me, it will be treasured!!!!

Skip

And Kudos to Nora as well. Her participation and support were invaluable I'm sure.

Tommy James (of the Caravelles) gave me a copy of your new book & I was absolutely "blown away". Tommy had told me that the book was in the works, but I just had no idea what to expect. As a life-long resident of South Carolina & a life-long lover of beach music, I am mesmerized by your book!

I am the publisher of 8 newspapers in the midlands of SC & we are working on a story about "Heeey Baby Days" and about Tommie James as well as mentioning a few other locals that you included in your book.

Incidentally, we new each other in passing while we were both students at UGA. Scotty Bayme & I were college roommates for 3 years & best friends.

Congratulations on a beautiful job!

--

Mike Mischner, Publisher
Camden Media Co.

803-432-6157

Publishing: Chronicle-Independent, The Kershaw Co. Extra, Lee County Observer, The Lake Wateree News, Blythewood Country Chronicle, Ft. Jackson Leader, The Shaw Spirit, The Connection.

Greg,

Thanks for the invitation to the reception last week at the HOF. It was great to meet some of the musicians from bands that I used to go see in the 60s. I grew up in Pearson so we spent a lot of time in Waycross at the city auditorium. We even played there a time or two (once I remember with the James Gang about 1970). Saw all the popular bands there (Bushmen, Tropics, etc.).

The book is great. Thanks for the copy. You did an excellent job of putting it together. As the author of a textbook, I know something about the labor that you put into the book and it turned out great.

Stacy (Sirmans)
The Bushmen
Douglas/Alma Georgia

Greg,

I received my first copy of the book in today's mail...

WOW!

This is one of those situations where I knew what to expect, was prepared for its' overpowering presence and yet after my first brief look through the book...I'm totally blown away. Greg, you should be very proud of your baby. She's absolutely awesome.

Jim (Ring)
Rotations
Waynesboro, North Carolina

Hey Nora and Greg,

Well I made it back to Richmond in one piece...hope your trip back to Atlanta was safe also

It was great to finally meet both of you and the event was fantastic. Everything was 1st class...just like the book. Greg, I wish you and I had more time to talk, but I know you had lots to do. The book is phenomenal!!!! You took on a huge project and you really connected the dots.

Best to you both and congratulations on a wonderful project!

Ron (Moody)
The Centaurs
Richmond, Virginia

Hi Greg,

First let me thank you for allowing me and the Epics to be a part of your book. This is without a doubt a piece of history and we have you to thank for bringing it to life. Funny how one man's dream affects so many others.

I think the "affair" was very successful and everyone who attended had a wonderful time. The more I read, the more I want to read and I must say that you did a fantastic job of writing. Marion Carter's contribution of music certainly enhanced the book and he did a remarkable job as well. It was good to see so many friends that I had not seen in years and of course, I made some new friends.

Julian says that there will be a book signing at Jillians in Columbia, South Carolina on Oct. 19th and I hope you will be there. I look forward to seeing you again and I'm sure that all of the Sensational Epics will be in attendance.

A thought that you might want to consider...I noticed that a lot of photos were taken that night and I thought it would be nice to have a place on your website where everyone can upload their photos to share and allow everyone else to see and download whatever they would like to keep for their personal keepsakes. This was indeed a historical event that may never happen again. I'd like to think that at some time in the future we could expand this to a reunion and have a concert by the "Never Gonna Give It Up" groups.

Again...my deepest gratitude to you.

Gene Lee
Sensational Epics
Columbia, South Carolina

Greg

Just received my copy, for which I thank you very much. I can't imagine the time and effort you exerted putting this together.

I live in Gainesville, Ga & I believe you know a couple of my good friends from Waycross. The former Katy & Helen Hood. Their mom now lives here with Katy & Helen is just up the road in Helen, Ga.

Retired Jester bass player,

Cleon (Nalley)
Jesters
Athens, Georgia

Greg

JUST GOT MY BOOK. IT IS SO COOL! HUGE. PICTURES ARE INCREDIBLE!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING ON THIS? IT'S UNBELIEVEBALE. I'M
ORDERING A BUNCH, FOR XMAS PRPRESENTS! WHAT A LABOR OF LOVE.
THIS MUST HAVE TAKEN YOU AGES!!! THANKS YOU. ITS JUST SO
AMAZING!1 YOU ARE THE BEST!!!!

Jane

GREG:

JUST WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT TO EMAIL AND SAY HOW MUCH MY
WIFE AND I ENJOYED THE DEDICATION AND REUNION ON FRIDAY NIGHT.
ALL YOUR WORK AND THAT OF THOSE YOU CHOSE TO HELP YOU REALLY
PAID OFF. SO MANY FACES AND PERSONALITIES THAT WE KNEW AND
DIDN'T PERSONALLY KNOW GATHERED TOGETHER FOR A MOMENT IN
TIME THAT CANNOT BE REPLACED. THE BOOK HAS CAPTURED A LOT OF
R/R HISTORY THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN.

WE WENT BACK ON SATURDAY TO VIEW MORE WITH TIME JUST TO LOOK
AND REMINISCE.

THANK YOU NORA FOR ALL YOU DID AND ALLOWING GREG TO INVEST
THE TIME HE DID. THIS WAS OBVIOULSY A FAMILY THING .

THANK YOU BOTH AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO CONTINUE TO UPDATE THE WEB INFO?

BARRY CULPEPPER

Greg,

Neat event last Friday and what a book. We had intended to get one for a friend who was with a beach band, Gene and the Team Beats, but decided to keep it ourselves. Enjoyed the CD as I did my chores Saturday morning.

Patrick Topping, CEcD
Senior Vice President
Macon Economic Development Commission
305 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
478 621-2030
www.maconworks.com

Greg,

Thanks for including me in your special day. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. I can't imagine anyone who was "a part of it all back then" not being there at all costs. You did a fantastic job of everything above & beyond the book itself. You may not want to think so, but I'm afraid this is only the tip of the iceberg for you. Great things are gonna' happen now, & I'm so proud to be a part of it.

I've done some "pretty cool things" in my life, but when I walked into that Georgia Music Hall of Fame & saw my picture plastered on every wall along with all those other artists I have always admired, I knew I had been part of something greater than I had ever realized.

Thanks for your friendship,

Hack (Bartley)
Shuffle & Swingin' Medallions

Greg,

Yesterday, my wife Janis and I went to Macon and went to the GA Music Hall of Fame. I was very impressed with the exhibit. I think you will agree that Joseph did a great job. I was told by the staff that there was a very good turn out Friday night. I know that it must be a great feeling of accomplishment for you to see your dream being fulfilled. I am very happy for you and I want to thank you for taking the time out of your life to address a musical issue. For all of the musicians who were in bands in the 60's it was a very enjoyable time but many of the memories have been lost. Thanks to you and your efforts this period of time is being restored if not in action at least in thought. I told the band of your generous offer and I want to assure you that your donation will be greatly appreciated. I know that you are very busy but please advise me when it will be convenient for me to meet you and pick up the books for the Jester Band. Again I want to thank you for taking the time to do something that so many people will enjoy.

Best Regards,

Bill (Dyno) McDonald
The Jesters
Athens, Georgia

Greg,

Again, a wonderful, first-class experience. We played the recordings on the trip home - outstanding. I have been shifting through the tons of pics that Kathy and I made. Attached are two that you might enjoy - the first, you and me grinnin' like jacko'lanterns - the second, you and your wife obviously enjoying the event.

Thanks again for all you have done.

Warmest Regards,
John Bradley
Dynamic Consouls
Greenwood, South Carolina

Greg

Thanks, I had a great time. If I wasn't so dang old now I would have stayed and partied all night with those guys trying to get up a party.

My family is blown away by the quality and reach of the book. I especially like the type face and spacing; it makes it easy to read if I only have that much time left. I love the stories I've read so far.

Everyone you invited to the event that I met was very mellow and fun to talk with. Seeing Rodney Justo, The James Gang and the Swinging Medallions just can't be beat. It's a great life when you live long enough to get to see your heroes again at the other end.

Tabby (Crabb)
Strange Bedfellows
Brunswick/Americus, Georgia

Greg

The book and website are absolutely fabulous. My husband and one of our friends have begun a venture to amass a collection of every Beach Music song ever recorded. This book helps greatly in their endeavor. Please send release information for the CDs not included in the book, my husband and I can hardly wait to hear more of the songs of our youth. They bring back many memories of partying at Williams Lake, The (original) Embers Club on Davie Street in Raleigh, NC (and The (new) Embers Club on Creekside Drive in Raleigh. Having Maurice Williams & The Zodiacs perform at my Senior Prom and "Partying" with Black & Blue in our hotel room in Myrtle Beach in 1974. Ahhhh!!! Those were the days. In recent years we have begun to relive our youth by attending as many Beach Music Events as possible, including the FANTASTIC Carolina Beach Music Awards Weekend in Myrtle Beach, when we check out of our hotel on Monday morning (after visiting with such greats as Hack Barkley, Craig Woolard, Keith Houston, Henry & Charles Willis, to name a few) we begin counting the days 'til the next year's "Reunion". This book and the music that you have helped to bring back to life will be our sustenance between events. Thank you so much for undertaking this momentous endeavor. I am sure I speak for many music fans who would like to shake your hand and say THANKS!!!! for bringing back the memories.

Sincerely,
Connie D. Massengill
Erwin, NC

Greg,

My book arrived yesterday, and I am amazed! Can't wait to spend more time with it. It's hard to pick it up and not get lost in the past.

Have listened to one CD and am anxious to hear the other. I had to go with CD #2 first as Gene Barbour and the Cavaliers were our favorite local group in the late 60's.

Thanks very much.

Bob McRae
Kings Mountain, NC

Greg

My book arrived today. It is **so** wonderful - beyond my expectations! I cannot believe you've compiled such a fantastic volume – so amazingly well-designed, so many photos, and so much music – for the price. It's truly an incredible volume! Thanks for all your efforts!

I grew up with all this wonderful music in Tuscaloosa, where I still live. We were in school with Johnny Townsend, Tippy Armstrong, Bill Connell, and Chuck Leavell. We did the bop in Panama City and Gulf Shores and at the University; and in my “old age” I now do the shag with the Birmingham shag group, and North Myrtle Beach has become the Mecca. There are many of us out here hoping this wonderful music and dance will be preserved, and your book shall help in that effort.

Congratulations on your outstanding accomplishment!

Tuscaloosa, AL