

CRYSTAL PALACE - Summer Bash Show - (08 - 26 - 06) : We wondered if this day was ever going to get here. There were plenty of reasons to be excited about this show! First...."Hot Wax" had performed only once at the Crystal Palace....and we loved this venue....so we were anxious to come back! We had never seen "Hot Wax" do a theme show before so we were excited about that also!

Before I talk more about the "Summer Bash" show itself.....I'd like to take a second or two to thank, Greg Lack, the owner of the Crystal Palace, for bringing our boys to his great club! The Palace has already become one of our favorite stops on the "Hot Wax" circuit! Greg put so much planning into his club.....and it really shows. There are just so many ways to enjoy yourself at the Crystal Palace!

I'll give you an example of what I am talking about. "Hot Wax" wasn't going to hit the stage until 8:30.....and let's face it...."Hot Wax" was the main reason we were there. However, that wasn't the only reason to be at the Crystal Palace. I looked at the clock at 7:45.....and decided to walk from the main showroom where our boys would be performing in a short while to the other side of the Palace where the very talented house-band, the "Barstool Gypsies" were performing. When I got there...."Hot Wax" performers, Tommy Casino and the Great Sigsbee were already there watching the Gypsies perform and they both were very impressed with them! Don't let the title "house band" mislead you.....as the Gypsies could be a feature act at any club in the city!

While I was talking to Tommy and TGB and enjoying the sounds of the Gypsies.....Doc Roc's lovely wife Katie came up from behind me and shoved me towards the dance floor and we had a great time! Within a few minutes....we had even more "Waxers" on the floor and that even added to the fun. As I looked around while I was watching the "Gypsies" I realized what a multi purpose club the Palace is. While I was on the dance floor....others were sitting at tables having a few drinks listening to the "Gypsies". My wife and her friends were over in the main showroom enjoying a very nice meal. Our sound crew....the "Syndicate of Sound" boys were enjoying themselves playing the casino video games over in the bar area. There were also some great pool tables over in that area also. While all of this was going on....Greg had a crew outside in the parking lot detailing our cars for us! Ok...Ole "Ambassador Bob" is exaggerating a little bit now....but it wouldn't have surprised me!

I also would like to thank Greg and his entire staff for making the entire "Hot Wax" family feel so welcome. I talked to Greg several times in the last few weeks and no matter what I needed to make our visit more enjoyable or my life much easier as far as making reservations....Greg was willing to help.....and I truly appreciated that! Because of Greg's great hospitality...that is why most of my gang who reside in Northern Kentucky are willing to travel to Fairfield to patronize the Palace even when "Hot Wax" is not performing there. I would hope that other "Waxers" would reward Greg also for booking the greatest cover band in the area, "Hot Wax" for four appearances this year! Once again....thanks Greg from the entire "hot Wax" family!

Shortly before the "Hot Wax" show started....Greg told me that things were looking real good as they had 20 tables reserved.....and that he was expecting about 100 walk ups.....so pat yourselves on the back ..."Waxers" for a job well done! In case any of you out there doubt the loyalty of "waxer" fans.....Greg told us this story Saturday or at least I think it was Greg. He told us that someone from Cleveland called Saturday afternoon and wanted to know if this was the real "Hot Wax" playing later at Greg's club. Greg assured the man that it was. This man from Cleveland then asked if there were any nice tables left....and again was assured that there were.....then told Greg to save him oneand that they would be leaving Cleveland immediately! I'm not sure if the man made it or not ...but I was told by some "Waxers" that he did!

We knew there was going to be some surprises for the "End of Summer bash"but we weren't sure what they were going to be. It didn't take us long to find out as "Hot Wax" hit the stage with all 10 members attired in their black trousers.....and each and every one of them were wearing a beach shirt of some kind. The loyal "Waxers" really were decked out and they just simply couldn't

have done a better job of creating a beach or summer atmosphere. The outfitsespecially Lucy McGee's and Mary Montgomery's just could not have been any more colorfuland I can say with complete confidence....that our group of "Waxers" could easily matched the Buffet Parrot heads outfit for outfit!

I have noticed in the last couple of shows that the Hula Hoop contest has been shortened somewhat from 4 contestants to two....and that is a welcome change to probably most of us. There have been some new songs added recentlyand by shortening the Hula Hoop skit somewhat...."Hot Wax" does not need to remove as many songs from the show to make up for the additional new songs. Like I said....most "Waxers" would prefer shortening the Hoop skit a bit....than losing songs. The more music we hear from our boysthe better! By the way.....we had two great competitors in the Hula Hoop contest. Representing the guys was long time "Waxer" and great guy, Jim Steigert. Representing the gals was my good buddy, Al Gabriel's lovely wife Heather.....and Heather was just a great sport! This was their first show....but they assured me ...it won't be their last show as they plan on being back with more friends for the Xmas show. Based on what I know so far....I expect the Xmas show to shatter all of the Palaces records for local groups for this season. I believe "Hot Wax" has already drawn the two largest crowds of the year....at least for local groups!

In the first show TGS's Buddy Holly just gets better and better...as the "Great One" gets more reps under his belt! We were getting anxious as the first show moved on. We were told that our boys were probably learning some Beach Boy songs for this special "summer show".....but we did not know how many songs they were learning and which songs....and where would they appear in the show. It didn't take us long to find out. With about 20 minutes left in the first show and right at the point that we normally would have seen the Jail Bird skit.....we heard the wail of the Great Sigsbee's guitar....and we immediately knew the Beach Boys were about to storm the Palace...and storm the Palace they did....as the "Waxer" fans roared!

Our boys proceeded to rip through one Beach Boy song to another with no break in between. They ran through "Fun, Fun Fun", " Don't Worry Baby", "Surfin' USA", and then closed the first show and brought the people to their feet with a rousing rendition of "Barbara Ann"! I liked that exciting ending because while I liked the Jail bird skit.....I kind of thought that the first half of the show ended a little too quietly....for my taste. That doesn't mean I'm right....but it was just the way that I felt personally. Someone famous.....and I think it might have been P. T. Barnum said that you want to leave the audience wanting more.....and our boys certainly did that after the "Barbara Ann" finale!

Now, while our boys were on break.....everyone was still buzzing about what we had just heard.....but no one was buzzing more than our great vocalist, Tommy Casino. Tommy didn't even go to a break....but immediately came over to me to tell me how excited he was and how proud he was of his fellow band mates. Tommy told me that he has been in a lot of very talented bands including some awesome "Hot Wax" bands....but that he has never been in a band that was talented enough to pull off the complex counter melodies and the 6 part harmonies that was needed to do some of the Beach Boys stuff. Tommy sounded like a proud papa....especially for the Job that Tito and Sigsbee did! The amazing thing to me is that I heard that our very talented boys may have put this together in about two and a half rehearsals! There were rumors that "Hot Wax" learned that entire medley in one hour. Now, I am no expert by any means....but I know that is not possibleeven for our talented lads!

Those weren't the only flattering words about our boys. Gary (Frankie Fabulous) stopped by at the Palace and watched the entire show! Gary said that "Hot Wax" sounded great after the first show.....and he was going to stick around and see the second show! Gary told me that he just got back from a do-wop festival in Las Vegas where Gary played with Ritchie and the students.....and Gary told me that "Hot Wax" was better than every group he heard in Vegas. Anyway...Gary is a great guy....and is currently doing a great job in the very talented "Vibe " band and we appreciate his very flattering remarks about "Hot Wax"!

Our second show was outstanding like always.....but there was one dramatic change or surprise! When the Waxers chanted for their encore.....our boys came out.....but hesitated for a few seconds and then Tommy whispered something to some of his mates. We were prepared to hear the Temptation song...."Get Ready".....but to our surprise....."Hot Wax" broke into their new Beach Boys Medley again! That was a great idea.... not only because we were glad to hear it.....although we missed our dance song at the end.....but it gave "Hot Wax" another chance to do the medley under show conditionsbefore they need to do it again ...in Falmouth.

I saw on the comment page where Lucy McGee had thanked "Hot Wax" for making her proud that she brought newcomers to the show. I would like to echo those comments.....as I brought several newcomers also.....and I had bragged for weeks about "Hot Wax".....so once again....Thank You "Hot Wax".....like always for not letting me down! Every one of my newcomers enjoyed the show immensely.....and they plan on bringing more people with them when they come back for the Xmas show at the Crystal Palace.

Anyway....GREAT job on the theme show.....and credit goes to obviously the entire "Hot Wax" family....including spouses, "Waxers" and the SOS boys! Speaking of the Syndicate of Sound boys.....I thought the sound was great for my personal taste. I love to be able to hear the piano or keys.....and I also love to hear the backup vocals.....and both of them seemed cranked up to me.....and that is way I like it! I also would like to personally thank the 46 "Waxers" in my group.....who not only made reservations with me.....but everyone of them managed to show up also!

Last but not least.....one last THANK YOU to Greg Lack for inviting "Hot Wax" to perform at his great venue, the Crystal Palace,....and hopefully we will be invited back for many years to come!

Now...once again....this ends my commentary about this weeks show.....but go back to the top of this page and click on "A-Bob's Fan Page".....and that will take you to a lot more comments pertaining mostly to the fans or "Waxers"! Thenat the bottom at that page....click on "Fans Pics"to see some great photo's!

Ok....I must be OFF (Insert your wisecracks here!) Thanks everybody!

"Ambassador Bob"

CRYSTAL PALACE - Summer Bash - "A-Bob's Fan Page" - (08 - 26 - 06) : Ok "Waxers"....go ahead and congratulate yourselves. As usual....you came through again! First of all....you showed up in great numbers at the Palace and I can't say enough about how everyone got into the spirit of the "Summer Bash". Everyone did a fantastic job on their summer outfits. The gals led by Lucy McGee did just a fabulous job with the decorations! In addition to the leis's provided for most of us....there were center pieces for the tables. There were also colorful goblets provided so that they could be signed later by the "Hot Wax" band members.....and in some cases also the SOS boys.....and even myself. I'm sure that being asked to sign things has become routine to most of the band members....but it' still a thrill to me when I get asked to sign something!

Speaking of a thrill to sign something. Einstein's very proud mother-in-law was having a group photo signed by the band.....when she turned to me and asked me to sign her photo. I explained to this very nice lady that I was not in the band....and she said that she knew that but wanted me to sign the photo anyway. That was very nice of her.....and of course I was thrilled to sign. We then spent a few minutes chattingand I told her what a great guy Einstein is and how he has become a real crowd favorite! I wishedI knew Kim's mother's name but maybe I will get a chance to meet this very nice lady again at another show.

I must commend "Mama Hot Wax".....as she was the only lady brave enough to wear a grass skirt.....and she looked great! All of our gals just looked sensational....and we knew they would! I must say that the guys looked pretty sharp also....if I say so myself!

I'll tell you who else would have looked great if she could have made it.....and that would have been Debbie! I had talked to Deb earlier in the week and she had hand sewn her own very creative outfit....and it sounded like it would have been something if she could have made it to the show. As most of you know....Deb was in a van on her way home from Columbus and the van she was riding in was run off the road and flipped over. She suffered a large baseball size lump on her head, a dislocated shoulder I believe, a black eye, a couple of loose teeth....and lots of bruises. The good news is that Deb is back to work. Deb.....we missed you and your enthusiasm at the show...but we expect to see your smiling face at Jim & Jacks on the 30th of September!

It was a pleasant surprise to see Bob & Selena at the show. While we expected to see Deb....no one expected to see Selena for at least 3 more weeks or so as she is recovering from hip surgery. However....Selena's daughter Nikki e-mailed me earlier in the week and told me that Bob was going to try to surprise Selena and everyone at the show....by bringing her to the show ...if she was up to it. Nikki told me to keep it a surprise and I did.... and even Bobby was shocked that she was there and he had talked to her a day or two before the show....but that is because Selena didn't even know herself that she was coming to the show.

At the end of the show Bob got very emotional with me....and told me that he just could not believe the number of people involved with both "Hot Wax" and the "Vibe" that took the time to call Selena and to visit her and to send cards. They both told me that they will never forget the kindness shown by everyone....including people who they didn't think even knew them that well! Bob told me to be sure to say something in my commentary.....and I was glad to do that! Bobbydon't forget that Selena is looking forward to her signed group photo at the next show.

Loma....you looked outstanding Saturday night....but when is your long lost buddy , Judy, ever going to get back from Florida. I thought that she was only going to be gone a few weeks? If you talk to Judy tell her we miss her!

Darlene, I can't believe the effort that you made to get to the show....and it was nice to see you there. However, we were concerned about your trip home with some of your health problems....but glad to hear you made it home safely!

It's always nice to see Christina Farrell at the show.....although it didn't seem right to see Christina without her Mom, Barb Gabbard. It was also great to see so many first timers at the show like my friends Al Gabriel and his very lovely and fun loving wife Heather.....and also my good buddy Ted Miller. It was also nice to see Sally with the Helwig clan and Lillian, Pat's Mom. It's always nice to see the Ottoman....and he was styling in his very cool Panama hat! Jackie & Paulette....I think Ole "Ambassador Bob" finally may have your two names straight....I think....LOL!

It was nice to meet Tiffany's best friend Angie this week....and it was great having you sit with Gail and I. You were great fun....and I now know why Tiffany has you as a best friend! Tiff....I'm glad that we have Denny Mcgee around since he has medical training....because I used to worry about Jean when Bobby comes out in his Elvis suit....but I saw your Mom, Doris, looking a little flush and fanning herself also the other night. We might need to keep a close eye on her! By the wayit was very nice to see you Jean since you had missed a couple of shows....and like alwaysyou looked great!

I was enjoying talking to Boomer's lovely wife, Angie, and also Cadillac's lovely wife, Bonita, when I found out something very interesting. I found out that Cadillac Charlie is not the only keyboard player in the family....as Bonita plays also. Bonita & Charlie do a act together and travel around

and play small social events and retirement homes. I should get to see them in person very soon! They do music from the 50's & 60's. I asked Bonita if she was ready to fill in for Cadillac if Cadillac was unable to go on....but Bonita shook her head no!

Although it is not official yet.....there is a strong rumor that the Horn and Helwig clans could make it official soon and announce that they have officially merged! The Horn & Helwig or the H&H partnership could become better known than M&M....or Sears & Roebuck, Johnson & Johnson, Spic n' Span, Simon & Garfunkle, Peter & Gordon, Donnie & Marie, Chad & Jeremy, Sam & Dave, Phil and Don, Jim & Jack's, Lucy & Ethel....ok probably time to stop.....I think you all get the idea!

I'd like to thank Jenny & Bill Nordman and Joan and Randall Smith for coming to the show.....and I really appreciate it!

Every now & then....I like to acknowledge a great long time loyal "Waxer".....who is as big of a "Hot Wax" fans as there is.....but because they are quiet and don't draw much attention to themselves.....we just don't know them as well. Denny Mcgee is one of those fans! Denny is a great guy....and again I'm sure just about everyone knows him if they see him....but they may not know his name. Denny has been an avid "Hot Wax" fan forever and Denny is also a very knowledgeable fan but Denny doesn't keep telling people about it. However, there are very few people who have followed "Hot Wax" for as long as Denny has. Denny is a serious fan much like mewho actually studies the band and analyzes what he is seeing and hearing. Denny knows what he likes and what he doesn't like. Anyway....Denny ...Ole "Ambassador Bob" wants to acknowledge you as one of "Hot Wax's" all time great fans and all time great guys!

I want to thank both "Hot Wax" and Greg from the Crystal Palace for saying so many nice things about me the other night. It was also nice to wear my honorary sombrero during the "Come a Little Bit Closer"....LOL!

Ok...before I sign off....let me mention the upcoming show on September 9th in Falmouth KY.! Falmouth is considered one of the most popular venues to almost every "Waxer".....and because of thatFalmouth is referred to as the capital of "Hot Wax" land! "Hot Wax" has traveled down to Falmouth for about 8 or 9 years....I believe. The stage and the seating are as good as any place that "Hot Wax" performs....with maybe the exception of the Murphy Theatre in Wilmington.....but as far as an outdoor venue goes....Falmouth has no peers! There is a roof over the stage and seating so the show will go on through rain or shine. The crowds in Falmouth are always the most responsive and appreciative on the "Hot Wax" tour!

I think that the entire tri-state area should just shut down on the 9th of Septemberbecause it seems to me that everyone I talk to is traveling down South to Falmouth! "Waxers".....wear your colors proudly to Falmouth.....and let everyone know who we are! Last year we took our first annual "Hot Wax" class picture.....as we invited every person who was wearing any kind of clothing with "Hot Wax" displayed on it to come up on stage at the intermission....and have their photo taken. A very impressive 71 people had their photo taken. I think we can shatter that record this year.....and top the 100 mark! If you are bringing someone with you and they would like to participate ...but do not have a shirt....there will be time to purchase one before the photo is taken.

Now, as some of you knowOle "Ambassador Bob" names a champion each year and that goes to the best outdoor venue for that particular year. Falmouth has won the title in 2004 and 2005 or both years since the award was created....but it has been very close both years! The competitors this year are Dillsboro, Mason, Lawrenceburg, Evandale, Bellevue, St. Bernard and Cold Spring. The Champion is decided by several factors such as.....the size of the crowd, the enthusiasm of the crowd, the venue itself, the hospitality of the host venue....and miscellaneous factors that may include anything not mentioned in the earlier categories. During the next week or sohelp me to decide who has been the bestby leaving your comments on

the comment page! Next Friday...or the day before the Falmouth show.....I will announce the winner from the group that I named above.....and that venue will then become the challenger to two time defending Champion Falmouth. It will then be up to Falmouth on Saturday the 9th to defeat the challenger. I think the people in our capital city of Falmouth will be fired up.....and ready to take on the challenger whomever it may be!

Ok...when you get to the bottom of the page click on Bob's commentary....if you want to go back and just read about the actual Crystal Palace Summer Bash Show! Click on the "Fans Pics" if you want to see some great photos!

Ok gang...again congratulations "Waxers" on a great job at the "Summer Bash"! Thankseveryone for being so nice to me....and I will see you all in Falmouth! Ok....I must be OFF (insert your wisecracks here!)

"Ambassador Bob"