

## PLEASANT RIDGE NATIVITY SHOW

One of the things that I enjoy the most about "Hot Wax's" summer tour is traveling to all of the different venues. There are no two venues alike...although Harrison and Cold Spring kind of remind me of each other. One week you are at a great little street fair in Dillsboro Indiana, the following week you are sitting in a huge bowl in Mason surrounded by the largest hills that you are ever likely to see. You may find yourself at a large very well maintained city park like in Harrison or Cold Spring. Bellevue Kentucky provides probably the most picturesque venue as it sits in a little residential neighborhood in a nice park right on the Ohio River with the big paddle boats floating down the river directly behind the stage. Falmouth Kentucky provides the venue with the best stage and seating in their terrific outdoor theatre. However ...no venue is as strange or unusual as the Nativity festival in Pleasant Ridge. The best way to describe it would be to think of a 3 ring circus. Our boys are set up under a small tent in the corner of a large school yard. Within a few yards you can hear the hum of a Ferris wheel or a merry go-round ...and also hear a barker calling out a winning Bingo number. There is the crowd noise of a packed festival with lots of people having fun....and yet "Hot Wax" makes it all work...somehow... and it is great fun! We returned to the nativity show for the second year and while the crowds are still not huge..."Hot Wax" did what they always do and that was to more than double the crowd from the year before. After word of mouth gets out ...that happens everywhere "Hot Wax" performs! Now about the show itself; our boys being the pros that they are put on their usual great show. "Hot Wax" surprised most of their fans in attendance by unveiling a new 3 song tribute to the "Big O", Roy Orbison performed by the underrated vocalist, Frankie Fabulous. I only say that Frankie's singing is underrated because he plays lead guitar so well sometimes people may overlook his singing talents...however, I am not one of them. When Frankie is not singing lead then he is doing backup vocals and again while that may not seem too important to most...it is the back up vocals done by Frankie, Bubba and Bear that along with the 3 very talented "front men" provide that full wall of sound that hooked me on "Hot Wax". I am not a guy who was always in love with the oldies. I loved them in my youth and was kind of an expert when it came to naming the artist and knowing exactly what hits each artist had and when they had them. I had seen other oldie shows and just found that the songs seemed tired or dated. I had moved on to the newer music of the day. However I had never heard oldies done in the manner that "Hot Wax" arranges and performs them....again - with that full wall of sound! I now find myself again listening to nothing but "Hot Wax" style music.

Now back to Frankie's 3 song tribute to the "Big O" which includes the songs "You Got It" and "Sweet Dreams baby" and "Crying". The song "You got it." By the way, does the talent and versatility ever end with our boys? The song "You Got It" needed more guitar work than normal and to my surprise ...I look up and there is the big Bear, the outstanding keyboard man, playing guitar...who knew? My guess is that he can probably play more instruments than that also. Just a few side notes before I wrap up the Nativity revue. I was very happy to see big "Waxer" fan Selenena Adamkiwicz and her daughter at the show...but we still missed seeing husband Bob. We were worried about you for a while as we had not seen you at a show this year...but glad to hear your absence was only work related with Bob's job. On another note...I taped the Bengal game the night of the show so I would have it to watch when I got home. I would like to thank the PA man at the festival for feeling the need to tell me the score of this monumental exhibition game every 12 seconds for the entire evening...LOL!!! Now, last but certainly not least...a belated but heartfelt very happy birthday wish from all of us "Waxer" fans to our very talented and very popular sound man...Mr. Buddy Love!

My revue of the Florence show Saturday September 4th will be coming soon. I must be OFF!  
Rock On!