

SUNMAN, INDIANA Show: As the "Fab 5+1" were making the one hour trip to the show Saturday night, we were wondering what the new venue would look like and how large the crowd would be. We were not disappointed in either. The new American Legion building was great and although I was told that it held 80 less people than the Milan facility held last year for the New Horizons fund raiser ....it seemed much larger and it was much easier to move around. This was the 10th season that "Hot Wax" has performed for this great event and our boys get more popular every year. The place was absolutely packed and there was standing room only. Although the doors were not going to open until 7:00, we arrived at 6:00. As our gang was standing in line, Ole "Ambassador Bob" was recognized by a very nice lady from the New Horizon's organization. She informed my wife Gail and I that since I was the "Ambassador" that we did not have to stand in line and that we could come right in, however my friends would have to stay in line. I can't even begin to tell you about the abuse that I took from my so called friends when we exited the line to strut inside...and I do mean strut...LOL! I'm just joking as the abuse I took from my buddies was all good natured....I think. My wife was thrilled as she told me elatedly "that after putting up with all of your Ambassador Bob nonsense....I finally got a perk for being Mrs. Ambassador Bob"! Isn't love grand?...LOL. My friends were only forgiving because Gail and I were able to secure us a great table up front.

The "Fab 5+1" have discovered the perfect formula to enjoy the total "Hot Wax" experience. First, you must arrive at the show about an hour or hour and a half early. If you are lucky then you may catch part of the bands sound check and you may get to hear some of your favorite songs that have been retired from the show. You know, songs like "Jaunita", "Wildwood Days" or the excellent "Baby come back to me". Wouldn't it be great to hear a couple of those great numbers in the last show at Jim & Jacks? Another great thing about getting there early is that you have the best opportunity to get to chat with some of your favorite "Hot Wax" people...both performers and the equally important support people. It also a great time to meet the families of all of these people in a relaxed laid back setting. It works much better than trying to talk to them at intermission or after the show when the "Hot Wax" people are tired and they still have work to do before they get to head home. We really enjoyed getting to spend some quality time talking to the lovely Miss Sable and her husband and also Katie and her husband. There is a very inside joke in there somewhere that probably only a very few people will appreciate....mainly Katie...LOL. By the way Miss Sable...I hope both you and your hubby are feeling better. You were both real troopers the other night. Bobby, I can still feel your pain at the end of "Trilogy," your a gamer! We were also greeted very warmly by Tiny, the relatively new stage man. I think I have said this before, but if not, I will say it again, that Tiny, much like Roo, Rocky and Buddy seems to be a class act and is a great addition to the "Hot Wax" family. "Hot Wax" not only has all stars on the stage but also behind the stage. I also enjoyed chatting with Biff and getting to pose for some pictures with the always gracious Bobby before the show. At the break I also got to talk music, which I always enjoy, with the very knowledgeable Bruno and also had fun with the Big Bear. Another plus to getting there early is getting to mingle and make new friends with other fellow "waxers". Each week we all seem to be getting to know each other better and that makes the night is even more fun! Our group that sits together at each show just continues to grow and grow and the fun continues to grow. I think before long that I will call a venue and tell them that I need a table and reservations for 375 people and we will all be sitting together.....which sounds like a winner to me.

Now....lets discuss the show for awhile. The performers once again, much like last week, were really on again. Once again, the crowd may have had something to do with that. This was the rowdiest, loudest and most enthusiastic crowd yet. The crowd was being led by some of the most loyal hardcore "waxers" that your ever likely to see. It was almost like ...if there was a "Hall of Fame" for "Hot Wax" fans....then all of the "Hall of Famers" were there Saturday night. They cheered loudly, they clapped on every song, they gave standing ovations when they were deserved and there was plenty of those! Barb Gabbard made sure that Tom Jones ( Bruno) didn't sweat too much by wiping his forehead. Mary Montgomery did the same for Elvis (Bobby). When Martha and her VanDykes needed a male vocalist to join the group on stage, Denny Mcgee volunteered....ok.. maybe he didn't volunteer, actually Buddy Love had to drag him

up there, but at least he went and did a terrific job! At the end of the evening when Bobby was singing the moving song "The fans" Rick Montgomery shouted out, "We love you Hot Wax" which made us all chuckle, but I have a hunch that could be a new "Hot Wax" tradition. "Hot Wax" was just terrific this night and even though Gail and I have been to 40 shows in a row, we just could not sit still in our seats as our boys were Rockin & just Tearin it up! I was amazed as I looked around the room when I saw so many familiar faces, and remember we were in Indiana for Pete's sake! I saw people that I know have seen at least 15 shows or more this year and a few like us that have seen every show, and yet all of these "Hall of fame waxers" traveled from places like Cincinnati, Crittenden Ky, and even as far as Columbus Ohio to see our boys one more time. These loyal "waxers" were so great that I think I need to take a little time to identify some of them. Mary Day and her lovely Mother, Barb Gabbard & her daughter Christina, Bob, Selena & Nikki Ankiewicz, Barb & Nancy Helfig, Denny & Sandy Mcgee, Rick & Mary Montgomery, Biff's wonderful Mom, Katie Griffin, Jim & Shirley Breeze, Carol Woodward, Gwen Floyd, and of course, Gail and myself, Bob Horn. I'm sure that I missed some of you and I sincerely apologize if I did. These are truly "Hall of fame" fans....and I think that I can speak for Bobby and his "boys in the band" when I say that they would like to give you all a standing ovation! It is this passion that the fans feel for "Hot Wax" that makes "Hot Wax" so special. I've never seen anything like it.....well at least in the local area. I would compare it to the rabid fan support that the "Grateful Dead" used to have. People would follow them all over the country and watch them perform show after show, wear their T-shirts and never tire of them. A better example locally might be the following that Jimmy Buffet has when he comes to town every year. "Hot Wax" is also one of the few bands and I mean few that get asked back to play venues year after year after year, and their crowds get bigger every year. There truly is a love fest that exist between "Hot Wax" and their fans that no one can match. Right now, waxers, are spending their own hard earned money to design and produce their own sweaters...just to display their loyalty and comradery with their boys. Tonight I received a call asking me if I would like to have a jacket made costing in the \$150.00 range and there are 2 of us who have agreed already!. Again, who does that for any other band? "Hot Wax" has tradition and a history that simply stated, no other local band can match. How many bands in the local area actually have adults asking the performers for autographs? When I tell people that I am a small part of the "Hot Wax" organization....I say it with great pride....because the person you are talking to will know about the band and you will get a look of respect and envy that you would only get with "Hot Wax" and very few others. So to sum up this part of my commentary, I will use a sports analogy. Much like the Yankees in baseball, Kentucky in college basketball and Notre Dame in College football, players and coaches may come and go...but their rich tradition and their proud history and their fans always remain! To me that is one of the best things about "Hot Wax" and makes me proud to be a loyal fan! Ok, I'm off my soapbox now and that is the end of my speech..LOL! As I'm sure most of you have figured out by now, I am not a professional writer, probably not even a good amateur writer. I did not ask to be the "Ambassador" but kind of inherited the position....LoL. I have no training whatsoever in this area. I'm sure that I drive some of you real writers out there crazy with my many grammatical mistakes, but I can guarantee you that I am sincere and my passion for our boys is real....so I hope you all overlook my technical mistakes and put more value on substance than style. Speaking of my comments, please write me or leave comments on the comment page and let me know if you like what I am doing or hate it or have any suggestions on how to improve it....and don't say shorten it....LOL! Thank you.

Ok...now for a few odds and ends from Saturday evening. When "Hot Wax" was doing their encore number "Higher & Higher", at least 50 people jumped from their seats and rushed to the front of the stage to dance, it was quite a site. Sonny sent me a nice e-mail earlier in the week and told me in a very humorous way that we scared him to death. He thought we were storming the stage and going to toss all of the performers into a mosh pit and start passing them around over our heads...LOL!

"Hot Wax" fans were stunned when Bubba actually walked out to the front of the stage and grabbed the mic to wish Bobby a very Happy Birthday and led us in singing Happy Birthday to him. We asked Bobby how young he was and a funny thing happened, he couldn't hear the question and then said the show needed to get moving into the next number....LOL. We kind of

thought of Bubba like the wizard of Oz who was always behind the curtain until the end and we didn't know what he really looked like. That was the kind of the way we felt about Bubba....as he was always behind his drum set. It was nice to see him and it was a nice touch for the show. Again Bobby , Happy Birthday from all of us!

Now...onto the much anticipated last show of the year. As many of you already know by now, next week will be the last performance for several members of the current "Hot Wax" band. We will miss them dearly and I would like to thank all of them for the many hours of pleasure that they brought to all of us "waxers" over the years. This class of "Waxers" will go down as one of the best. Now, we wish them nothing but the best in the future as they have all been first class "Waxers"! Everyone of them will be remembered fondly and now will become part of that rich "Hot Wax" history that I talked about earlier. They will now join other great names of the past such as Tommy Casino, Major Flash, Johnny Rocket, Butch Wax, Pepe and of course our beloved Eugene and many more. Now of course all of us waxers will go through the usual mourning period that we always go through and for a short period we will be convinced that our boys will never be the same. Then once again Bobby & Bruno will bring the band back in 2006 bigger and better than ever with a brand new show.....it happens every time! I have known about this probably longer than most and my mourning period is fading some. Bobby & Bruno have been kind enough to share with me some of the new ideas for next season's show and I am getting real excited! "Hot Wax" has already hired some very talented people that I know some good things about and I am pumped up about that!

Anyway, show up on the 19th and give these great guys a send off they deserve, and also thank the "Hot Wax" members who are staying for all the great fun they have provided all season! Thanks to everyone who has helped to pack Jim & Jacks for this very fun and emotional night. It will be a great evening with many surprises. I suggest people get there around 7:00 and have something to eat or drink and enjoy the fun of discussing what the upcoming evening will hold. Tickets are going fast and I suggest you make reservations real soon! Debbie, bring your hanky...LoL.

Now to get serious for just a moment in closing. The state of Indiana has been very kind and appreciative to "Hot Wax" for many years. We left Indiana around 1:00 am: last Saturday and around 2:00 am: southern Indiana was surprised with a powerful tornado that did lots of damage and took many lives. The entire "Hot Wax" organization would like to offer our condolences and to the good people of Indiana and let them know that our hearts are with them and they are in our prayers.

To Lisa of the New Horizons organization, thanks you so much for everything you did to get us our tickets. We are so grateful!

Take care my fellow "waxer" brothers & sisters and hope to see you all at Jim & Jacks on the 19th. I must be OFF and Rock On! "Ambassador Bob"