

SUNMAN INDIANA New Horizons Show : Hey "waxers"....no...Ole "Ambassador Bob" did not leave town, I'm still around....just running a little later than usual....and I apologize for that! It just seems lately that something always seems to pop up on commentary week for some reason...and of course we are all a little bit busier during the holidays. What is that old expression....better late than never?

I know that probably some of you are wondering why it takes me so long to get my commentaries posted...but again...I'm sure that there are probably some of you who don't care if they ever get posted..LoL! Honestly...if I just wanted to get something posted as quickly as possible just to get it done and off my mind....then I could do that...and you would see something posted within 24 hours! Actually, that would be much easier for me! However, I would not be happy with the end product....and I think that most of you would notice a significant difference in the quality. As ole Richard Nixon used to say...."Let me make this perfectly clear"...that is not to say that they are high quality now...but without a doubt they are better than they would be if I wrote them in 24 hours...LoL!

Some of you have asked me why it takes so long to post my commentariesand what is the actual process? I will try to explain. The shows usually take place on Saturdays and as most of you know...most of the shows don't end until somewhere between 11:30 and 12:30. By the time we congratulate our boys on a job well done and then say our goodbyes...we don't usually leave the venues until 1:00 or later. Then we gather in the parking lot and decide where we are going for a bite to eat....and that is usually Perkins in Hiland Hts. Now, when we get to Perkins...then we spend about an hour or more eating and discussing the show that we just saw...and all of the latest "Hot Wax" news. Ok, Lucy, Ethel and myself talk and everyone else listens....what a surprise...Huh? Anyway...by the time we get home it is usually 3:00 in the morning or later....so Sunday basically becomes a day of rest and football for ole "A-Bob"!

This works out very well for me....because I usually want to take at least a day to reflect on the show that I just saw Saturday night before I attempt to write anything. If I try to write too soon after a show...then sometimes my emotions might be a little out of wack....and I might be overly excited about the positive aspects of the show....and maybe overly disappointed in the negative aspects of the show....if there ever is anything negative in the show...which doesn't happen very often! So...for several reasons....taking Sunday off....works very well for me. It keeps me from maybe writing something impulsively based on the moment...that I might regret writing 24 hours later. I have used that policy several times when I have written an e-mail to someone who had upset me for some reason....and after a day to think about it....then I softened my e-mail some...or didn't send it at all.....and I was glad that I didn't!

On Monday night...I usually just start jotting down many, many, random notes in no particular order. These notes will cover just about anything and everything that I can remember that took place at the most recent show that has even a remote chance of making my commentary. By making this list....hopefully this will prevent me from forgetting anything important. Then I go back over my notes....and see what notes are worth keeping....and then delete all of the rest.

I now try to come up with a theme of some kind for that particular weeks commentary. I don't always come up with a theme...but I try. Some weeks...my commentary may just be a smorgasbord of unrelated thoughts or ideas. Now, I look at my list of random notes from the previous show...and then I try to decide how and where to work them best into my commentary....and make sure that all of my notes are used somewhere....and somewhere where they seem to fit or belong! It's kind of like working a puzzle!

Now, on Tuesday evening.... I try to complete my first draft of my commentary....and I try to make sure that just about everything that I wanted to say is in my commentary somewhere in some shape or form.. Then I relax and sit back and read it....and usually...I am not very happy with what I just read. However, I will admit that I am a very tough critic! I am usually not happy with the way the commentary flows or should I say doesn't flow! I also look for places to improve my wording and for ways to improve my sentence structure. I also try to make sure that I have not forgotten anything or left anything out after I made my original notes!

Now, I rewrite my commentary and make all of my changes either Tuesday or Wednesday night....and then I send them on to Bruno. Bruno allows me the freedom to pick the font and the style that I prefer....and then Bruno takes my primitive style and does a great job of getting my commentary posted very quickly once I have sent them to him. I know I have said this before....but I want to thank Bruno for all of his help....and again thank Bobby for giving me the format to do my commentaries! Well....there you have it....and that is how I do it! It wasn't very exciting or all that interesting...but at least you know why it takes me the time it does to do my commentaries!

While I am on the subject of my commentaries....you will notice a major change this week. I will be going back to one commentary only instead of the two that you have seen for the past several months. The "Fan" only commentary will no longer exist. I also am going to try to shorten my show commentaries up some in the very near future! I'm not sure if I will succeed in doing that ...but that is the plan. When there is something extra special or new in a show...then I will be talking mostly about the show with just a little mention of the fans and other topics here and there. However, when there is less to talk about in the show itself...then there may be more room to talk about the fans ...and other topics.

Now, in the near future...I expect to expand the way that I currently use my new "A-Bob Discussion Page". I hope to use my new page in a way that I think most of you "waxers" will find interesting and kind of fun! The reason that my commentaries will hopefully be shorter...is that I plan to talk more about the fans on my new "A-Bob Discussion Page"....and I also plan on promoting future shows more on the "A-Bob Discussion Page" instead of on my commentary page. I can promote the upcoming shows better and more on a daily basis this way...and that in turn will keep the upcoming shows fresh in everyone's minds.

I know that it seems like we are changing things around every week or so....and maybe we are....but our ultimate goal is to keep working on my pages until we get it right! I hope you guys will remain patient with us and continue to read my commentaries....and also come visit my new "A-Bob Discussion Page" and leave your comments!

Ok, hopefully I got that all cleared up...and now let's get on to the fun part of my commentary...and discuss the very exciting and very entertaining show that I was fortunate enough to see last Saturday night in Sunman!

First thing I want to do is to congratulate my gang.....as all 10 of them made the 58 mile journey to Sunman Indiana. I saw that Jean made the trip also.....and I want to thank the entire Reynolds clan for showing up also! I would also like to thank Jenny Reynolds for bringing 4 newcomers with them. Our gang thoroughly enjoyed watching your newbies all night....and I believe they smiled from the opening note until the final note of the encore song! Oh....before I forget....thanks Lucy for all of the great snacks that you brought for us to munch on! They were great....and very tasty!

The Sunman show is always one of my favorites! The Sunman Indiana show is kind of the indoor version of the outdoor show in Falmouth Kentucky. What I mean by that is that most of the fans at these out of town shows only get the opportunity to see this great "Hot Wax" band perform only once a year....so the crowds are large....and the crowds are loud! That always makes for a great enthusiastic show! The popularity of "Hot Wax" became very obvious very early. On a chilly evening....there were at least 50 people waiting outside in line...at least 90 minutes before show time....and that was very impressive!

The VFW hall in Sunman is a very nice venue. I am guessing that the hall held 300 to 400 people or maybe more.....and all of the seats appeared to be sold. It looked like a standing room only crowd! That is always a great thing for this Sunman show....because the money raised goes to the New Horizons benefit fund....and that is just a great cause! "Hot Wax" and the New Horizons organization has just a terrific relationship. This relationship has lasted about 10 or 11 years or so....and I don't see that changing anytime soon! Before I forget....I want to thank both Mary Weber and Lisa Conley from New Horizons for all of their help and co-operation in helping us to get the great seats that we had!

Speaking of Lisa.....Lisa's beloved sister Megan has always played a big part in putting this great event together every year....and she was a big reason why this event has been so successful! Earlier this yearLisa's sister passed away....and she will be greatly missed! Both Lisa and Bobby paid tribute to Megan during the show with some very emotional and heartfelt words....and that was very nice!

This terrific night of entertainment did not start very well for us or our very talented sax player, Tito. Tito nearly collapsed as he entered the hall with terrible back spasms! Tito was in so much pain that his lovely wife, Spanky, had to take him home immediately! This was very disappointing news to us "waxers"....and I'm sure to "Hot Wax" also because we all know how valuable Tito is to the band and to the show! I know Tito had to be disappointed also ...because he loves to perform! The latest news that I have on Tito is that he is doing a little better....and that he will be receiving some medical treatment possibly as soon as Monday and that may relieve his pain quite a bit! I cannot confirm that though...as this was told to me Wednesday night by a 3rd party. Tito, all of us "waxers" wish you nothing but the bestand get well big guy....we miss you and your great talent!

I know that we are starting the holiday season and it was just Thanksgiving....and if you were at the "Hot Wax" show Saturday evening ...then you had a lot to be thankful for! You had to be thankful...that we are fortunate enough to have a band as talented as "Hot Wax" in our local area....so that we have the privilege of seeing them perform many times a year! We should also be thankful that our boys are so talented....that they were able to make so many changes on the fly an hour before the show to cover up for the loss of Tito. Not only did they have to fill in for Tito's great sax playing....but Tito also does a great job singing on a few numbers now and Tito plays an important role in the 3 song Beach Boy Tribute....so that had to be covered also!

"Hot Wax" swung into action immediately after finding out that Tito was not going to be able to perform and they began to make the necessary changes! One of the changes that had to be made was that Bobby was going to give up his bass part....and sing Tito's part instead on the Beach boy numbers. When "Hot Wax" went to perform Bruno's great number..."I don't know why I Love You but I do"....there was going to be a huge void where the sax was missing....but instead...Sigsbee filled in for the missing sax part with his guitar....pretty cool...huh? I can't imagine how much more improvising took place during the evening that we fans were not even aware of! Mr. Doc Roc...was just awesome as he did double duty and filled in for his dynamic duo partner, Tito! Doc.....you were outstanding and Kudos also to the entire "Hot Wax" band!

We were told all week that we could expect to hear maybe a new song or two....but we found out Saturday night that we were going to hear much more

than that....and what a pleasant surprise that was! At the very end of the first show we got our first surprise as those " Blue Eyed Brothers of Soul"...the Righteous Brothers showed up with Tommy in his red jacket and Bobby in his blue and they performed an outstanding 3 song tribute! However, I am going to keep those 3 songs a secret....until everyone gets a chance to see and hear them! I will let you in on one little secret though...and I will tell you that the ladies in my group were squealing with delight....as Bobby shook and shimmied to the opening number!

Now the second surprise of the night was the awesome....and I mean awesome show closing medley....and I can't even begin to describe that to you! I wouldn't describe it to you even if I could ...because I want everyone to experience the same fun that I had when I heard the medley for the first time! By the wayOle "A-Bob " still has goose bumps from that rousing finale....and I can't wait to hear it again this week at the Palace!

The closing medley not only sounded great....but our boys were moving all over the place on the stage at the same time they were rocking...and that just added to the fun! Everyone in the band was outstanding on this medley ...and if there was ever any doubt that about whether Einstein could rock or not...there will be none after you see him perform on this medley. I can guarantee you that! Halfway through this fantastic medley....the crowd was asked to stand up and join in....and believe me....no one had to be asked twice....as "Hot Wax" was simply tearing the place apart! I'm guessing that the walls of the Sunman VFW may still be vibrating today even though the show was a week ago! It is virtually impossible to listen to that finale....and not leave the venue very upbeat with a large smile on your face! Actually, it is just hard to leave the venue period ...as you just want to stay and hear more!

I was thinking the other day about how far this show has come from the beginning of the year....and what an incredible show it is now! Think about it....the show was very good and entertaining to begin with. Then a few weeks into the show....the multi-talented Tommy Casino was asked to come aboard and his great cover of "Cara Mia" was added to the show along with the very popular "Black is Black"! Then at this point...a very good show got even better!

Then the Great Sigsbee...added his excellent "Buddy Holly " tribute....and the show got even better, again! As the season progressed...the wonderful and fun filled Beach Boys tribute was added....and the show once again got better! Then, this week the exciting Righteous Brothers tribute was added.....and again yep...the show got better! Are we starting to sense a trend here? Then ...if that wasn't enough....then our boys of "Hot Wax".... just for dessert....threw in the amazing closing medley! Now, can anyone imagine just how good this show is now? It really has to be seen as there is no way to describe how good the show has become!

Bobby always mentions the thousands of party poopers that chose to stay at home....well... if you were one of those people this week....then shame on you as you missed maybe the best show of the year! Now, there is some good news though....as you still have two shows left to attend! Those two shows will be the first Xmas show ever at the Palace in Fairfield on Saturday night December the 2nd....and one week later....the same Xmas show at Jim & Jacks to close out this fun filled season! Don't forget that kids are welcome to attend the show at the Crystal Palace....and also remember that Santa Claus will be this weeks special guest! Santa is very excited as he will be attending his first "Hot Wax" show....and that is all that Santa wanted for Xmas! Santa has also heard a lot of good things about Mr. Greg Lack's wonderful all purpose venue the Crystal Palace and Santa is very excited about that also!

When you are done reading my commentary....then please click on my new "A-Bob's Discussion Page" at the bottom of my commentary page...and post some comments! My new Discussion Page has replaced the very unpopular Message board! Check out what other "waxers" have to say! If you have any questions about anything pertaining to the "Hot Wax band or the "Hot Wax" show ...then post them on my new Discussion page also! I will either answer your questions or find someone from "Hot Wax" who can answer them! Again, feel free to leave your comments about anything that you want....as most of us "waxers" would enjoy reading them!

Let me sum up before I sign off this week. I know that my commentary was very late this week....but the good news is...now that I have you all pumped up to see the next show....the wait till the next show is only 6 days instead of 13! How's that for finding a silver lining in a black cloud! I know that most of you were not able to make the trip to Sunman...so I just can't wait to see everyone's reaction to the new additions in the show...and don't forget ...there will be some Xmas songs also....so make sure that we "Pack the Palace" Saturday night! (PtP)

Ok....thanks everybody for everything...and for treating me so nice when you see me at the shows! I must be OFF....(insert your wisecracks here!) "Ambassador Bob"