

**Hot Wax Show - Murphy Theatre - 3-04-06: [As all of you loyal "waxers" already know.....as soon as one "Hot Wax" show ends.....we start counting the days until the next show! Now, we have always been that way because you just can't hear the fabulous music from the best music era ever, the 50's & 60's, performed by the best "Oldies" band in the midwest, "Hot Wax", and not become addicted.**

**What I am trying to get around to saying is that the normal "Hot Wax" show is entertaining enough to get us to every show, but lately we have been getting an extra bonus.....not that we need one. Three shows ago, or the last show of last year, we were all anxious and excited to see the last show of the season and say good bye to some great "Hot Waxers" and good friends. Then, two weeks ago ....we were all excited to see the first show of the 2006 season with all of the talented new "Hot Waxers". This week, we couldn't wait to see the return of Hall of fame "Hot Waxer", Tommy Casino! Ok, now were spoiled....what's our bonus next week....LOL? Hmmm....maybe we could have a different Hall of fame "Waxer" make a guest appearance at each show....wouldn't that be cool...LOL! I will say this, whatever "Hot Wax" is doing is working, because "Hot Wax" is just packing them in as the first two crowds have been huge. The first show at Jim & Jacks was completely sold out and sold out in advance. This weeks show at Wilmington's Murphy Theatre was near capacity. The Murphy Theatre has a seating capacity of about 750. The box seats were completely sold out and all of the floor seats were gone also and over half of the balcony was filled. I was told that the crowd numbered about 600 or so. Not Too shabby for a first time appearance 50 miles or more away from "Hot Wax land"! I made reservations for my group today for the Starlite in 2 weeks and was told that tickets are going very well for that show also! I'm not sure if any records have been kept on average attendance per show for a "Hot Wax" season....but I would think that this season is on a record pace! [My gang caravanned up to Wilmington in 3 vehicles and we were anxious to see this great old theatre. Murphy's Theatre was a very unique venue for me as I had never seen our boys perform in a setting like this. It was really neat to see the old fashioned marquee lit up....with the "Hot Wax" name displayed proudly and prominently in lights. The best way that I can describe the venue was that it kind of reminded me of what the old opera houses of the late 1800's or the early 1900's would have looked like. It had the antique lighting with some crystal chandeliers,etc. It had some great boxes built high on the walls that overhung the floor seats below. The box seats were very intimate and looked like they may have seated 6 to 10 people. If you happen to be a history buff....then think of the pictures that you have seen of President Abe Lincoln's last fateful night at the Ford theatre when he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth and you will have a pretty good image of what I am talking about. Hey, that was pretty impressive for Ole "Ambassador Bob"....don't you think? I know a lot of you out there were thinking that the only thing I know anything about is "Hot Wax"! Well, actually your probably not too far off to be honest about it...LOL. By the way, in case you didn't know, it appears that our boys were immediately booked for another show in 2007 after their great performance Saturday evening! Thank you Murphy Theatre!Before I discuss the actual show I want to talk a little about what went on outside the show. As usual, we got there very early so we visited a quaint little coffee / book store 4 doors down from the theatre. While we were there I had noticed a woman staring intensely at all of us in our "Hot Wax" jackets. Finally, she came up to me and told me that maybe 20 years ago that she had seen a great oldies band play in a town in Kentucky called Covington....and she was wondering if this could possibly be the same band. I assured her that it was....and she was**

pleasantly surprised as she had tickets for the show as they like checking out all of the oldies bands they can. She asked me how good they were....and I tried to be as honest as I could. I told her that we had seen 49 shows in a row and had not missed one in over 2 years and that was all she probably needed to know. However, I told her that there had been some turn over in the bands personnel.....and that this was the first show that we were going to see with the new members....so I didn't want to promise her anything that I did not know anything about yet. I told her based on "Hot Wax's" past track record....that I could assure her that she would see a good show....but that it would be disingenuous for me to say much more than that since I had not seen the show myself yet. Anyway, she found me at intermission and told me that I should have bragged on our boys more....as they were fantastic....and she liked "Hot Wax" much better than she liked the Van Dells....which became a common theme throughout the evening. I had talked to 4 different people who said they were Van Dell fans also and everyone of them said the same thing! Anyway, this very nice lady thought I knew a lot about the band and I had told her earlier that if she had any questions, that I would be happy to answer them. She then admitted that she did have two questions. She wanted to know who was that hot, hunky guy who was doing Tom Jones...and more importantly....could I ask him if he could wear tighter pants in the future! For once, Ole "Ambassador Bob" was at a loss for words....I had no answer for that question....LOL.

I also got to do my usual mingling before and after the show which I enjoy so much. It was great to see Mary Day and her group at the show. It was also great to see the "Helwig Trio" of Nancy, Barb and their lovely Mom, Mary. Of course our gang was there and Rick and Mary Montgomery brought with them maybe the newest and youngest "waxer" ...and that was their little 8 year old Granddaughter, Khrystian. What a cutey she was and also so well behaved. No wonder Rick & Mary that you like to show her off. Bobby, she was just a little disappointed though as I heard that she has seen the movie "Grease" at least 50 times....and she was hoping to hear a couple of "Grease" songs....but we explained to her that it was a little shorter show than normal....and maybe she will hear "Grease Lightening" in Bellevue. She forgave you Bobby....but don't forget you owe her one...LOL!

It was great to get a chance to spend some quality time talking with the very lovely first lady of Rock & Roll, Tina. Ok, that may have been too strong.....but she is at least the "First Lady" of "Hot Wax"! Sincerely, I really did enjoy getting some time to chat with Tina. Of course it is always great to see my favorite trumpet players wife, Katie, but I missed getting to talk to you as I always enjoy that! I enjoyed talking to Angie, Boomer's, charming wife. It was also nice to meet Cadillac Charlie's very nice wife. Last... but not least I got to meet the legendary Tommy casino and his very nice wife, Patty. Tommy was just as warm and friendly as he is talented. Thanks for the time, Tommy! Oh, before I forget....everyone involved with "Hot Wax" would like to thank my right hand man, Jim Breeze, for the terrific job he did in taking all of the fantastic photo's from the show Saturday night. Great Job ....Jimster! Now, a little about the show itself. Bobby, you should be proud of your great horn players, Doc and Tito, and I know that you are. I don't think that I talked to a single person at the break that didn't mention to me how great the both of them were. I heard great things about everyone....but it seemed to me that everyone I talked to mentioned Doc and Tito!

The show was outstanding...and I know all of us old time "waxers" sometimes either expect perfection....or we take your talent for granted.....but it was refreshing to here all of the first timers at Wilmington tell us how great our guys were....and maybe the best Oldies band they had ever heard. We "waxers" were thinking.... sure it was a great show....but we know "Hot Wax" and it will still get even better than this as this was only their second show....and wait till they are more familiar with each other. I don't think the first timers think that it is possible to get much better....but we know what a high standard "Hot Wax" sets....and we know it will just keep getting better and better! Tina had told me before the show ...that you guys were ready to Rock Saturday night....and to just trust her....and the "First Lady " was right on the money! .I have a few observations on particular parts of the show. It's a must that at a oldies show that at least one of the two Danny & the Juniors songs either "At the Hop" or "Rock n Roll is here to Stay" be in the show and I am glad that "At the Hop" is in. I really enjoyed "Why do Fools fall in Love" as it is the prototype song to me for a "Hot Wax " show...and the harmony was tight! I like Cadillac Charlie's harmonica on the "Tumble Weed" song ...nice touch. I thought the Buddy Holly tribute was extra good Saturday night and Kingsley was outstanding the whole evening. Like always....I love it when "Hot Wax" adds horns to songs that may not have had horns....and the horns really add to the Buddy Holly set...in my humble opinion! I'm thrilled that "Only Make Believe" is back in the show. How can anyone not enjoy that great Conway Twitty song? Doc's "Love Potion # 9" is just outstanding and I like it better each time I hear it .....but I think I would like it even better if it was the closing number of Doc's great set! Many in my group really love the way Kingsley does the old Santo & Johnny instrumental "Sleep walking " on his big ole Gretch guitar! Another observation was what a great look it was with Sticky sitting high above everyone else. I know that "Hot Wax" only added one extra guy....but with Sticky in the air instead of hidden ...it looked like there was 20 "Hot Waxers on the stage....good look! Gail and I really love Einstein's "Trouble in Paradise" ....it's such a fun song and Einstein has fun doing it....and again the perfect style song for a "Hot Wax" show again in my opinion. I also thought that the song "I believe" with Einstein singing the lead and Bobby and Bruno doing the harmonies acappella was fantastic and very impressive! I love the touching and emotional song "The Wall" ....and I thought that the version of "the Wall" that I heard Saturday night with Tommy Casino's help was the best and strongest version that I've heard yet! Last.... but certainly not least was Tommy Casino's great rendition of Cara Mia Mi. I had heard Tommy do it on a Cd before but never live.....and now I know what everyone was talking about. A cheer went out immediatly from the crowd after only 3 notes. I had never seen this before and I don't know if the band members could hear it on stage....but the crowd broke into applause 3 more times during the singing of Cara Mia! Is that one of the best songs of all time or is that just me? Tommy also did a great job helping out on the harmonies and the back up vocals and Tommy just brought some professionalism and stability to the group when it was needed. I could go on and on about how much the band had grown from week one to Saturday night....but again ...I have run way too long. Bobby, if you get a chance to call me....I have a lot more to tell you about the show....as I actually took notes. I'm sure you can't wait to hear some more of my observations ....and yes ...I know ...I need to get a life....LOL!

In closing I will say that before Saturday night that "Hot Wax" was a group of very talented musicians playing together.....but during Saturday night's

**performance....that changed...."Hot Wax" became a band ....and everyone at the show Saturday could feel it and knew it!**

**I would like to say from all of us "waxers" ..... "Great Job Bobby" .....and the same to all the rest of the hard working members of this 2006 edition of our beloved "Hot Wax"! Lets pack the Starlite in 2 weeks and show our gratitude for all the hard work that our boys have put in. See you all there! I must be OFF ( your comments here).....and Rock ON! "Ambassador Bob"**