

The Beach Music Top 40 News



- * Deb Browning: Singer - Songwriter - # 1
- * Beach Music: Taking the 'Distance' Out of Social Distancing
- * Sammy O'Banion -- "Ring A Ling" from Quaranting

The Roadhouse Blues and Boogie Top 40:

Smitty & the Jumpstarters, Cory Luetjen & the Traveling Blues Band

Beach Music: Taking the ‘Distance’ Out of Social Distancing

Beach Music began small, very small. Just a desire-without-a-name. A search for a rhythm somewhere ‘outside’ that matched the longing on the inside.

The pioneers, scattered and few, didn’t know they were searching for ‘Beach Music’ any more than they were aware that they were looking for specific ‘prosodic’ element, rhythm, intensity, pitch, timbre, and emphasis. ‘Beach Music’ and ‘prosody’ weren’t parts of their vocabulary. They couldn’t ask questions such as “I wonder what is the future of Beach Music?”

It’s often been said that “music is a language.” It’s been repeated countless times, yet when we ask the question “What is Beach Music?” the answers don’t generate consensus as to what it is? Why not? If it’s a language we should all be able to hear the answer, shouldn’t we?

At its core, Beach Music isn’t a syntactic language with a particular grammatical structure or literal meaning.

Music isn’t the language of concepts and ideas; an interesting challenge because my aim is to use objective, syntactic language to reveal subjective, prosodic experiences.

Music is provocative and stimulating--the language of emotional and physical arousal.

Two or more ‘disconnected’ people who participate in singing together, dancing together, or even listening together, experience emotional responses in their bodies in similar ways.

Music produces communion--community

As art, music presents an environment containing what matters most to a group of people.

As such, a music environment can’t make us behave in a certain way--we have to be open to it, flow with it. In this way music is like radio waves. We move each day through an ocean of radio waves, unaffected by them unless we tune to a particular frequency.

We can only ‘Be Young, Be Foolish, and Be Happy’ if we open to the mood those attributes conjure.

Outside of notes and sounds, music is also a calling; an emotional, rather than linguistic, evocation.

In The Forgotten Pioneers & Amazing Rise of Beach Music there are stories in which we can feel the summons of Beach Music before it had a universal name.

Listen here to the ‘music’ of Elaine Fox in the Statesville



The New Corona Shag. Sam & Lesa West demonstrate the proper feet gap in contemporary Social-Distanced-Shag. They were permitted to move their heads somewhat closer as part of Governor Cooper’s Phase 1 Relaxed Shag proclamation. Learn more during their Shag lessons Thursday and Sunday evenings via **Sam and Lesa’s Shag Page** on Facebook.

The Beach Music Top 40 News & The Roadhouse Blues and Boogie Top 40

Celebrating the Music, Dance and Lifestyle of Beach Music and Fas’ Dancing, Shagging, Boppin’ and Freestylin’

Founded by Fessa’ John Hook 2020

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Editorial: If you have something to share send it on to my e-mail address below.

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The Beach Music Top 40....

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Record and Landmark, September 4, 1941; “After supper games were enjoyed on the lawn which was a festive setting, with lights and colorful decorations. Many of the group shed their shoes and danced, beach fashion, to recorded music.”

Elaine evoke, in two sentences, a carefree world distinct from day-to-day living. They began with ‘supper,’ a ritual of breaking bread together, sharing stories about themselves, their families, and gossiping--sharing feelings and observations about their community and the world beyond.

Keys to the emotions of the evening are in Elaine’s use of words such as ‘game,’ ‘enjoyed,’ ‘festive,’ ‘lights’, and ‘colorful decorations’ which compelled many of the group to dance ‘beach fashion.’

‘Beach fashion’ was a description of a style of dancing rather than the name of a dance.

The July 1, 1942 Florence Morning News ran an ad for a popular activity lightly scattered among a few stories from the 30s and 40s in other newspapers--an ad for a ‘Beach Dance’ at the Florence Recreation Center.

The Rec center was far from the beach. Roads and cars being what they were then, probably almost two hours.

The ad went on to say “Dance to the smooth, sophisticated swing of Dimpsey Pearson and his orchestra (underlines are my emphasis).

The ad infers a distinction between a ‘Beach dance’ and an ‘ordinary’ or ‘inland dance.’

In day to day living, music accompanies the subjective language of poetry rather than the language of intellectual knowledge or debate. The Iliad and Odyssey were chanted to musical accompaniment. We don’t sing the Declaration of Independence which offers new intellectual and political concepts about who we are and our fundamental birthrights.

The poetry of Beach Music and Shag emerged in the literature of the 40s.

The first pointed mention of ‘Beach Music’ as ‘Beach records’ and ‘Beach relics’ emerged in the October 22, 1948 edition of The Belles of St. Marys, the school newspaper of St. Mary’s school and college in Raleigh.

Even if unnamed the ‘music’ was part of Carolina culture years earlier.

Anthropologist Raymond Firth observed, “Even songs, as a rule, are not composed simply to be listened to for pleasure. They have work to do, to serve as funeral dirges, as accompaniments to dancing, or to serenade a lover.”

In other words, songs and music are the organizing com-

ponents of rituals. The ritual was the Shag, for dancing and courtship.

Going back beyond Beach Music’s initial footprint in October ‘48, there are numerous Shag pictures in Forgotten Pioneers and the Amazing Rise of Beach Music in ‘47, ‘46, ‘45, ‘44, the cover of Forgotten Pioneers.... in ‘43, ‘41, and the iconic picture of Shag pioneer Billy Jeffers on the back deck of Roberts Pavilion at Ocean Drive in 1939.

Reflecting on music at a Human Behavior and Evolution Society meeting, Ellen Dissanayake states that “the arts are concerned with ‘making special,’ that is, with underlining and rendering ritualistic forms of behavior.”

In this context, art illuminates and celebrates that which is important. Shag and Beach Music bring forth some characteristics important enough that they’ve grown and flourished from at least 1939-2020, 81 years.

In a 1939 lecture at Harvard, the great Igor Stravinsky affirmed that “the profound meaning of music and its essential aim...is to promote a communion, a union of man with his fellow man and with the Supreme Being.”

To elaborate, Beach Music evinces romance and joy.

Harvard socio-biologist E.O. Wilson writes, “Singing and dancing serve to draw groups together; direct the emotions of the people, and prepare them for joint action.”

From day one, we’ve navigated the pandemic via countless live streams by Beach Music artists...disappearing the distances between us.

At the same time, Beach Music DJs implemented their art in serving up the many songs that celebrate communion and carefree living.



Steve Hardy’s passing on April 23rd, in the middle of the pandemic, accentuated the community of Beach Music artists and fans with a CD tribute representing the longest running show in Beach Music history. ***



Gary Lowder and Sammy O'Banion -- not quite clear in the opening days of the corona virus scare on what exactly needed to be masked, adopted 'head masks.'

Why are These People so Happy?

Because they have songs all over the Beach Music Top 40, or bubbling under.

Gary Lowder has been in a recording frenzy. It's paid off with one song in the Top 5 and several bubbling under.

In addition, he works with Deb Browning and others who are enjoying varying stages of success as well.

Deb has two songs on the Top 40, another bubbling under, and a classy new video. ***



Sammy O'Banion and "Ring A Ling"

We enjoyed Sammy for years with his Mardi Gras band (or maybe your experience extends back to his Southern Comfort days).

Lend an ear to his new, self-penned tune, "Ring A Ling." If you like it, vote on it during the next round of voting.



Charlie and Jackie demonstrate more vertical consistency in Distance Shagging, although about two feet short of the mandatory six foot separation.

Sadly, the audience didn't observe separation standards and all had to be washed for twenty seconds each after the dance-off. ***



The Craig Woolard Show WNCT 107.9 FM Sunday 6-10 PM

That's right beach music lovers... what better way to play the best beach music, than with a man who plays beach music?!?! The Craig Woolard Show every Sunday night at 6pm.

[Craig Woolard's show is on 100,000 watt WNCT FM. If your business could benefit from sponsorship of one of the Giant shows in the Beach Music World, contact Craig at cwoolard@gmail.com]

Craig has taken on the formidable job of filling Steve Hardy's Beach Party shoes, at the same time as performing and recording with the Embers as well as producing and providing instrumental and vocal backup for other artists...

The Embers started in 1958. By the time I turned sixteen ten years later, they were a big time band to a kid from the wilds of Eastern NC. The guys I hung with learned songs off their "The Embers Roll Eleven" album, as best we could. Those "Jackie Gore chords" were a little harder to figure out than the chords in most rock songs. They had a nightclub in Raleigh, and one at Atlantic Beach, NC. Big time!

After a year in college, I played in a rock band for a few months. I almost starved. The next four years were spent working six nights a week, 51 weeks per year on a hotel circuit.

Then In late 1976, I joined the Embers. Thrust onto a bigger stage with a much bigger audience, I learned and thrived.

At a tobacco warehouse dance (another era), someone informed me that there was a beach music DJ named Steve Hardy playing before us, and during our breaks. I remember being amazed that there actually was such a thing as a "beach music DJ". But Steve Hardy was well-known to that Kinston crowd, and to the guys in the band who were there before me. The crowd loved him, and he loved the crowd. He also interacted with the band a little, and got away with it.

Of course, we all know now that Steve Hardy went on to become one of the most successful beach music radio DJs ...for decades. He broke songs into the public ear for almost every beach music artist. If Steve played it, it had validity.

But age takes us all, and Steve was no exception.

Henry Hinton, the owner of Steve's final station, 107.9 WNCT FM, had become a friend to me, and asked me to record a four-hour radio show for NYE 2018. And again, in 2019. Steve was to retire New Year's Day 2020. I 'm aware that the couple of months before the start of the new year were spent auditioning talent to take over the show. But I got the call. AND I get to still be in the Embers...if we ever get to go back to work.

Now I find myself in the position of learning to be a radio DJ. I will tell you that I have new respect for all you radio guys. There's a whole new skill set to be acquired: Fielding requests, trying not to forget a shoutout, picking out the music to play, trying not to slight an artist, and trying to help like Steve did. Only recently have I not needed to take a blood pressure pill.

I'm living in the world of beach music more than ever... playing and singing the music I love live, as well as playing it on the radio. I'm learning and I'm loving it. Radio guys were always the coolest, and now I get to pretend to be one on Sunday nights!

Craig Woolard

The Gathering

June 19-21, 2020

Bucksport Marina & Campgrounds
Conway, SC



Hot Dog Shaggers Bill and Brenda Barber with their friends in a Count-the-Tattoos contest gettin' in the mood for the Bucksport Marina and Campgrounds even bigger Gathering in June.

Bill is getting his right hand extra rested on Brenda's knee.

This is an extra welcome sight after two months of 'lock-down.'



Earl Dawkins of the Entertainers photobombing Sammy O'Banion

Facebook Chatter



The Eden Drive-In reopened Friday evening for a double feature. Although it's considered a theater and subject to North Carolina's COVID-19 restrictions, the drive-in received permission from Gov. Roy Cooper's office to reopen as long as it follows social-distancing guidelines, it said on Facebook.

Cars lined up in place at the reopened Eden Drive-In theater Friday to wait for the movies to start. ***

(Photo by Woody Marshall / Greensboro News & Record)



Brenda Tripp Chilton shared that she spent "many good times" at the Shallotte Drive In pictured here.

Dodie Burns Rodgers responded, "I grew up in Greenwood, SC where there was not a lot 'to do' - but we had TWO drive-ins!!"

Facebook Chatter



Can we start doing this with beach music concerts? Pay as you enter, the band performs live (projected onto the big screen behind them so everybody can see) - and, you can shag in front of your own car!!! Anybody in??? ***

--Dodie Burns Rodgers

Still Active Drive-Ins

NORTH CAROLINA

The Badin Road Drive-In in Albemarle
The Belmont Drive-In in Belmont
The Bessemer City Kings Mountain in Bessemer City
The Bright Leaf Drive-In in Mount Airy
Original owner deceased, now under new management.
The Eden Drive-In in Eden
The Raleigh Road Outdoor Theater in Henderson
(Opened July 15, 1949)
The Sunset Drive-In in Shelby

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Highway 21 Drive-In in Beaufort
The Monetta Drive-In in Monetta
Also known as "The Big Mo"

VIRGINIA

The Central Drive-in in Norton
The Family Drive-in in Stephens City
The Fork Union Drive-in in Fork Union
The Hiland Drive-In in Rural Retreat
Hull's Drive In in Lexington
The Moonlite Theatre in Abingdon
The Park Place Drive-In and Fun Center in Marion
The Starlite Drive-in in Christiansburg



May 2020 has been busy for North Myrtle Beach Singer/Songwriter Deb Browning. her third single, "In My Dreams," was released on May 1st in a worldwide Premiere on several social media channels. Written by Deb in early February, the song was recorded at Sand City Productions and arranged by Tim Sidden and Gary Lowder.

Deb also released a Music Video for the song's debut. Filmed in North Myrtle Beach by Tony Murnahan of Strong-tone Media, the video features Deb singing "In My Dreams" in a variety of beach and waterfront locations, as well as Sand City Production's studio. Deb hopes you will take a moment to view the Music Video of her new release, and looks forward to returning to live performances after the pandemic. A full clip is below for your enjoyment. (you may have to Copy and Paste)

<https://www.facebook.com/BeachSceneUS/videos/865856220594152/> ***



#1 Six Weeks & Counting

From the Beach Music Top 40

Dateline: 5/23/20 Gary R Lowder



What a time to hold on to music as a comfort zone. For the past year Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot

Have been recording new material for our new CD... **"SOUL ON FIRE"**.. We first tested the water with a great cover from Boz Scaggs **"Georgia"**, as a key song on the CD. During the production, I was asked to record **"I Just Can't Get You out Of My Mind"**, The classic Four Tops song, for The Steve Hardy Tribute CD, Party of A Lifetime.. What a honor to be included with the artist on this CD.. Then there was **"Got To Be You"**, a cover from Dr Victor, which is flying high on the charts. Our fans insisted that we do a cover of this fun song after performing it in our shows. It's just a great crowd pleaser.

Over the shutdown, I was contacted by Doyle Wood, (Daxwood Studios) and asked to collaborate on a duet, **"There's Still Music"**. This original song has a great message of hope for our current situation and should be well received by our

fans and listening audience.

In the mix of all of this, we have been busy at my Studio in N Myrtle Beach, (**Sand City Productions**) with promoting, recording, and video production of new artists like Deb Browning and veteran artist Russell Henry. Deb had great success with her original **"Dancin"** and **"You're No Good"**, Russell Henry, (formerly with Bill Pickney & The Original Drifters) has had several songs that have been chart toppers that were recorded at Sand City Productions including, **"Be Ever Wonderful"**, and **"You're So Fine"**, just to mention a few. Smokin' Hot is excited for the release of our new CD, **"Soul On Fire"**

The new CD will include 12 tracks and feature most of the members of the band.. ***

.....



When Elton John comes to mind, most don't respond, with a "Hey, more Beach and Shag music," however, look at the list:

- * Club at the End of the Street
- * Sacrifice
- * I'm Ready
- * Johnnie B. Goode
- * Don't Go Breaking My Heart
- * Recover Your Soul
- * Sad Songs (Say So Much)
- * If You Were Me (with Chris Rea)
- * Teardrops (with K.D Lang)

Now, **"(I'm Gonna) Love Me Again"** with Taron Egerton from the Rocketman soundtrack. ***

From the Beach Music Top 40



Russell Thompkins Jr has two songs currently climbing the Beach Music Top 40: “Do You Believe In Love At First Sight” is his glorious take on the Dionne Warwick classic, and “If I Were A Magician” in tribute to the late Steve Hardy who loved that song.

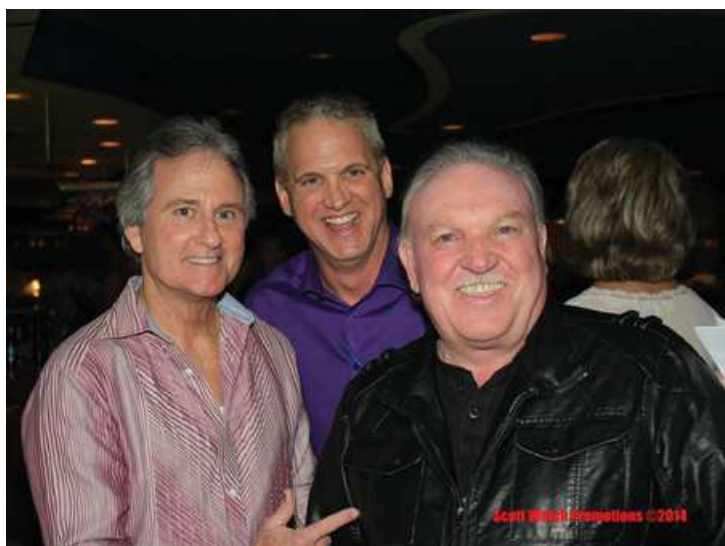
We understand Russell is involved with other Forevermore Music projects so there won't be any lack of his Golden High Tenor voice anytime in the near future. ***



“Let Love Come Between Us” The Rhythm Tramps: Lee Thornburg, Billy Watts, Ron Dziubla, Teresa James, Herman Matthews, Terry Wilson. Big Joe Maher also shares some of the vocals with Teresa on this release.



Teresa and her long-time, good good buddy Delbert McClinton. (Big Joe Maher was also a big part of Delbert's most recent CD)



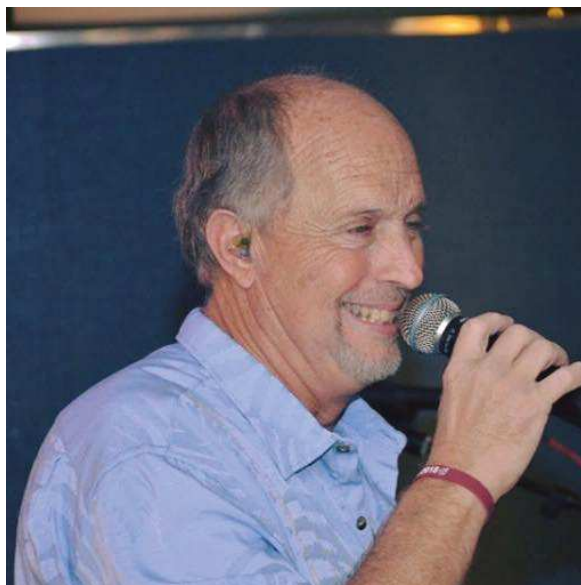
Earl Dawkins and DJ Eric Bowman photobomb Sammy O'Banion together because he has another song about to launch.

The first band to be called ‘the Rhythm Tramps’ was formed by Terry Wilson and Tony Braunagel when they were living in London back in the 70's. They were touring at the time with the rock band, Back Street Crawler (which also featured the legendary Paul Kossoff on guitar and John ‘Rabbit’ Bundrick who has been a long time keyboard player with The Who) and they missed playing the Texas style blues that they had grown up with, so they formed the ‘Rhythm Tramps’ and performed in local pubs. It got to be quite a hang for London musicians – legendary singer, Frankie Miller was one of the regulars, which also included whoever happened to be in town. The transient nature of the players spawned the name, ‘the Rhythm Tramps’. In the years since Terry and I have re-established the Rhythm Tramp tradition, we have also had a lot of amazing players that have played with the band – some for several years at a time, some for just a few nights. [Teresa James, from teresajames.com] ***

From the Beach Music Top 40

BEACH, BOOGIE AND BLUES

Keith Pollard



I wrote this song over 10 years ago while performing at North Myrtle Beach . I was there quite a lot playing at the clubs and the words just came to me as I observed people and how they enjoyed the different types of music they could shag to. Obviously, Beach, Boogie and Blues just hit me.

I started my music career in the early 70's playing Classic Rock, Country and R&B. I was playing bass guitar with a group of guys from my hometown of Erwin, NC. We did quite a bit of original music as well as covers. I continued playing while attending NC State. After getting married, I slowed down a bit. I was working as a salesman and was playing music part time. I worked with several groups through the 80's and 90's including Hall of Fame member Al Williams but didn't get involved with the Beach Music Industry until I joined Tommy Black and Blooz in 2002. I left them when asked to join the Carolina Breakers in 2010 and I continue to perform with the Breakers. Plus, you may see me working with Gary Lowder and Jerry Shooter as the Breakers Trio. And, besides "Beach, Boogie and Blues", I have a few more original songs that I am working on.

As the song says, it's "This music we love that they play at the beach...it starts with a smile, then it moves to your feet". And "It makes you feel young, it makes you feel bold, with this kind of music I ain't never growing old".

That's why I love beach music; it keeps you young!



Huey Lewis is one of those who has secretly had an eye and ear for Beach Music most of his life. Clifford Curry was his idol from the day he released "We're Gonna Hate Ourselves in the Morning."

His 2010 Soulsville CD had 6 instantly recognizable Beach songs, and others worth delving into.

2001's Plan B wasn't intended as Beach, but had one song that went Top 10.

It's his 1994 CD that is comparable to Soulsville. Fifteen out of seventeen cuts on Four Chords and Several Years Ago clearly showed his passion for the Beach genre.

Although "Pretty Girls Everywhere" would be a first choice from his new Weather collection, the first cut onto the Top 40 is "Her Love Is Killing Me."

In the weeks before Weather's release Huey announced it was his last album, that he had a throat disorder which had ended his singing career. Happily, he announced post-release that the Doctors would be able to heal him.

Dwight Nichols
The Catalinas
Stranded & Take a Walk on the Boardwalk



I started working on Stranded a couple of years ago with Chris Allen. It began as a introspective type of pop song. I was taking a deeper look inside myself.

Then life came to a standstill.

With time on my hands, I had a chance to revisit this song. With help from John Barker, of the Catalinas, a little bit of tweeking, we thought we had something special that everyone could relate too.

After some editing and lyrical changes we have what you hear today. Stranded...We hope it becomes one of your favorites.

Take a Walk on the Boardwalk is a trip down memory lane. All the good things from a summer vacation rolled into 3 minutes. Hanging with friends, a cooler in the sand, a long walk on the beach, and a sky full of stars.

The song writing process is a passion for me. While writing this note, I think I have my next song idea. I hope its a great one..

And I will SEE you soon...

Wanted: Guber Driver



Get YOUR Guber On

Put a case of your favorite beverages on ice, stir the Chicken Bog, Purleau, Salt & Pepper catfish, or the cuisine you love best and enjoy the **Beach Music Top 40 Countdown** Saturday afternoons from 3-6 on www.jukinoldies.com (go to the website to download an app to fit your Iphone or Android).

On Sunday catch the **Roadhouse Blues, Boogie and Fish Fry** from 9 pm to midnight, on jukinoldies.com



Many of you probably know a little about Keith, but here is a brief bio.

Keith has been on the beach music scene for three decades playing trumpet, flugelhorn, and trombone with some of the top bands on the circuit. These bands include The Fabulous Kays, The Fantastic Shakers, The Entertainers, The Craig Woolard Band, and currently Gary Lowder & Smokin' Hot.

In 2018 Keith was honored to be inducted into the CBMA Hall of Fame, a prestigious recognition for a select number of people in the Beach Music Industry!

Keith's daughter Maggie Stone is from Carolina Beach, North Carolina. She is pursuing a vocal performance degree at Appalachian State University. Maggie has studied under Broadway professionals, Terrence Mann, his wife Charlotte d'Amboise and many others. She hopes to perform with Opera Carolina and Hawaii Opera Theatre in the future. Her passion for music all began when she started to write her own music at age 5, playing guitar, piano and singing. She's been honored to be a CBMA Scholarship Foundation recipient for the past three years. When Maggie is not singing opera up in the mountains, you can catch her at the beach surfing!

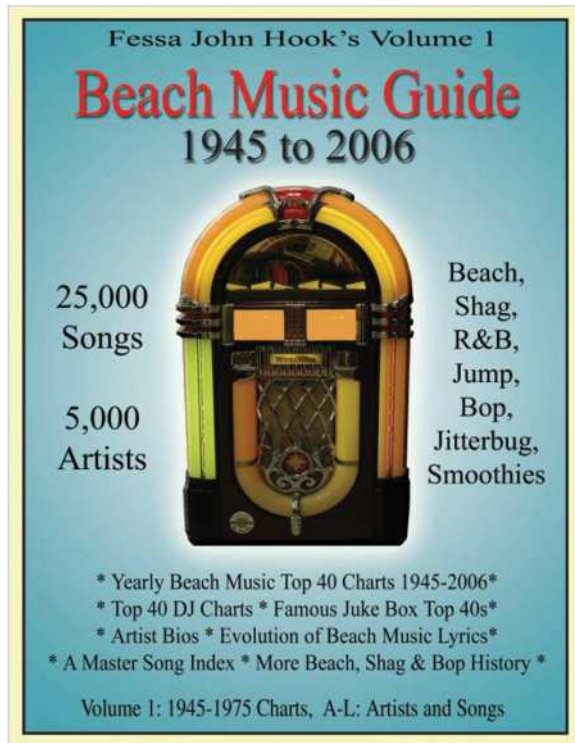
Keith's newest release, "Some Enchanted Evening", was suggested by his friends Layne and Wanda McMillan, as it has always been one of Wanda's favorite songs. Originally the song was going to be all instrumental, but at the recording studio, he decided to add Maggie's vocals on the 3rd verse and background vocals. The song has received great reviews both as a good shaggin' song, and smoothie. People have said that it takes them back in time...to a different era, a nostalgic sound, full of romance.

What's in the future for Keith Stone? He already has a smooth jazz CD out, with contributions from two talents... Leroy Harper, Jr. and Dave Maffris, who produced and engineered the cd. Another new CD is in the works with Dave! This current project, in collaboration with Judie Walters, will also include his newest release of the George Michael hit "Careless Whisper", featuring his friend R. Mark Black on sax. This one has an explosion of horns that you do not want to miss! This new project will be a great mix of recognizable smooth beach jazz. (Hey there's a new term for ya!)

Look for Keith playing live with both Smokin' Hot and The Leroy Harper AllStarz Band. There's many new things to come from this talented trumpet player!

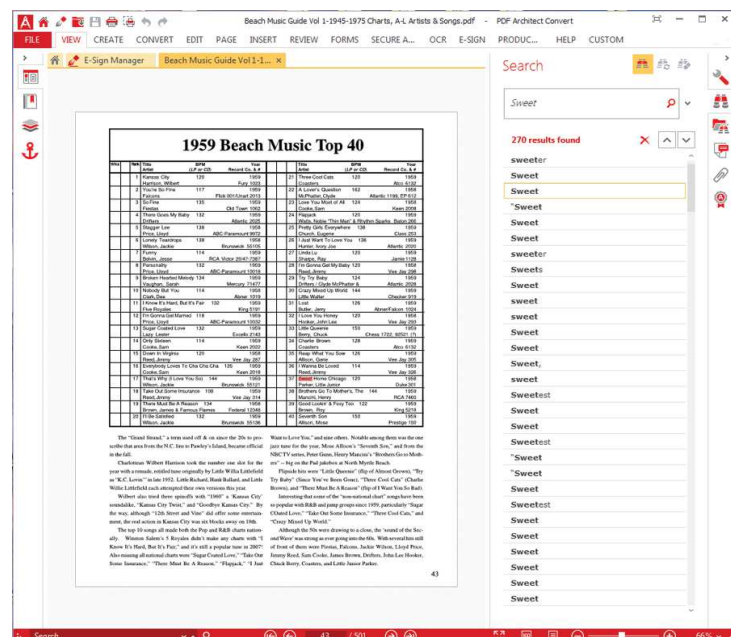
How to Get the Most out of the Beach Music Guide Vols 1 & 2 in Searchable PDF files

Folks have been asking for digitized versions of my books for awhile. You'll find them all on my website at borninthe-carolinas.com However the benefits are far beyond the \$8.00 price for each pdf.

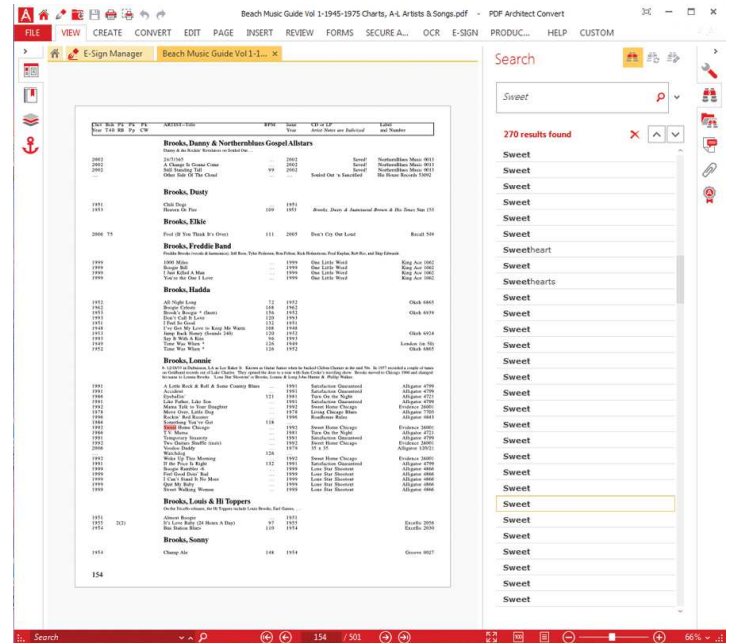


Imagine you have a pdf copy of the Beach Music Guide Vol 1 and you want to know all the songs, people, and references to any of those that contain the word 'sweet.'

Using the SEARCH feature of your PDF reader, just type in 'sweet' and you'll get 270 references on the right.

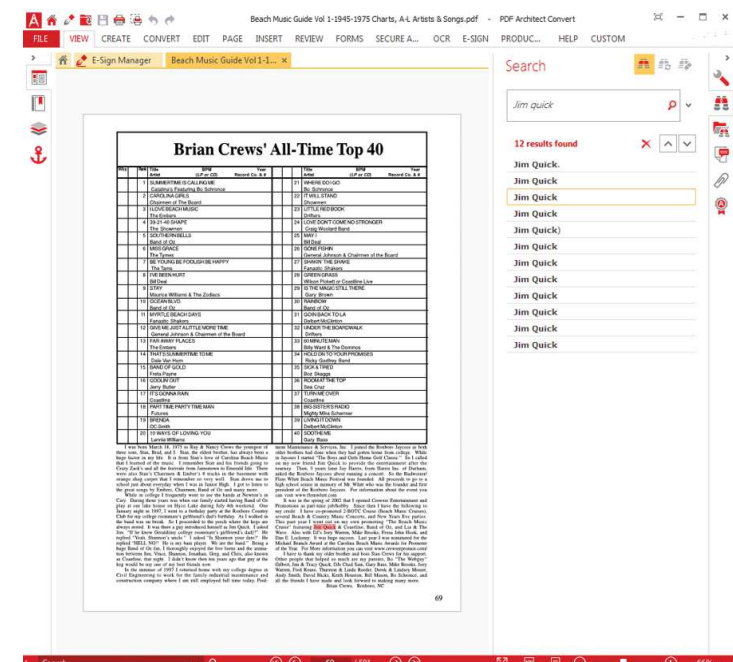


Click on any reference and instantly opens the window to show it -- Here, I clicked on one of them 2/3 of the way down the page. It shows Lonnie Brooks' version of Sweet Home Chicago.

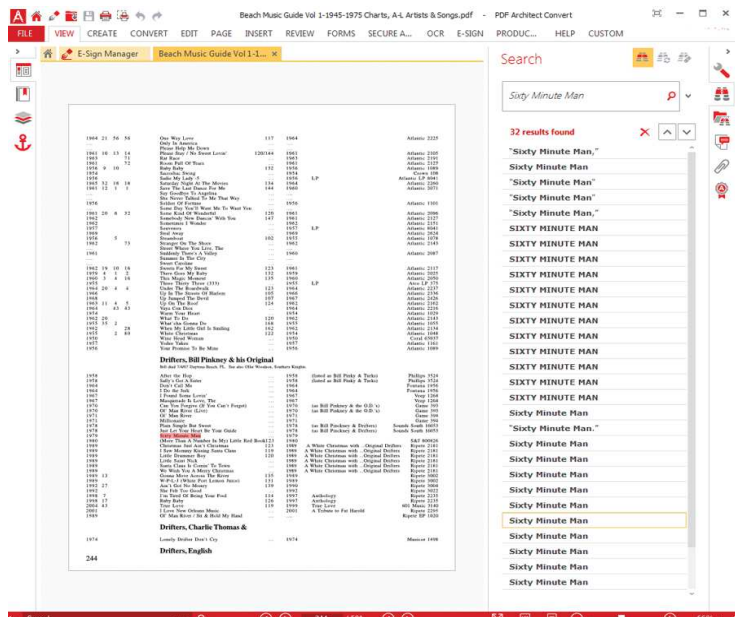


Every song, person, or reference in a story or footnote is instantly available.

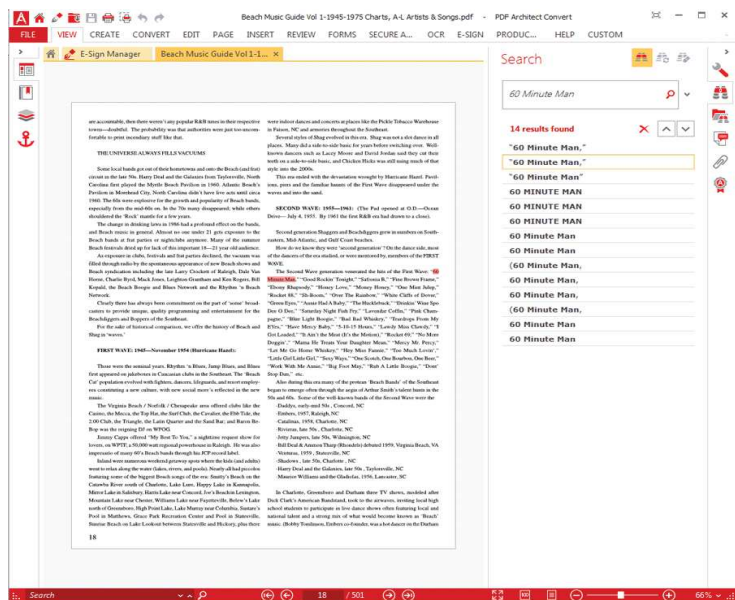
Try a search for 'Jim Quick' and you'll get 12 results. The first I clicked brought up Brian Crewes All Time Top 40, mentioning Quick in the story below.



We can go for a Classic such as "Sixty Minute Man" and get 32 results, as shown in the next picture. However, remember



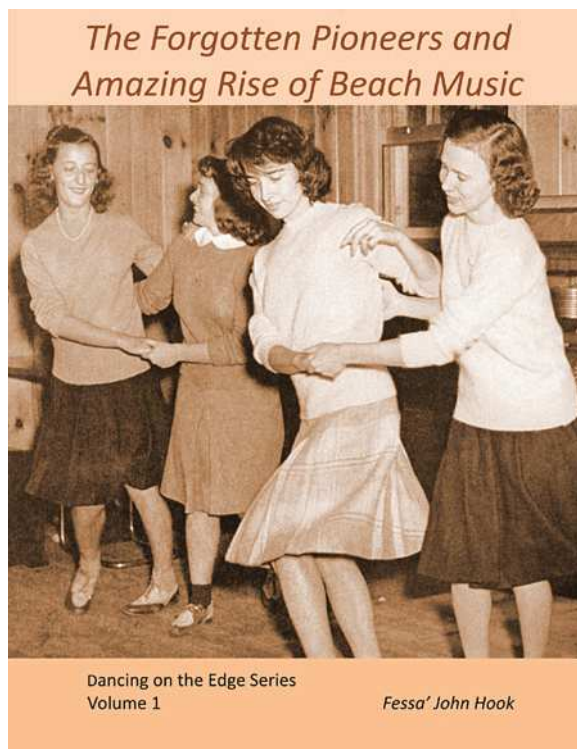
that some folks prefer to list this song as “60 Minute Man” numerically. Searched in that fashion another 14 results show up as you see below.



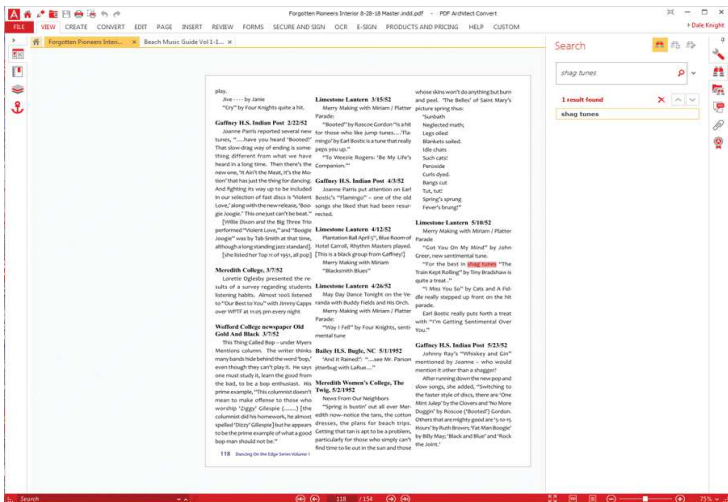
Finally, keep in mind these searches were in Vol 1 (A to L). There are still more discoveries for ‘Sweet,’ ‘Jim Quick,’ ‘Sixty Minute Man,’ and ‘60 Minute Man’ in Volume 2 (M to Z).

(If you find the print too small to read in this example -- No Problem! PDF readers can be adjusted, usually with a Plus and Minus sign at the bottom of the document).

Try it with Forgotten Pioneers & the Amazing Rise of Beach Music



Open the PDF and start a search for ‘shag tunes’ and up comes one result in the Limestone Lantern 3-10-52



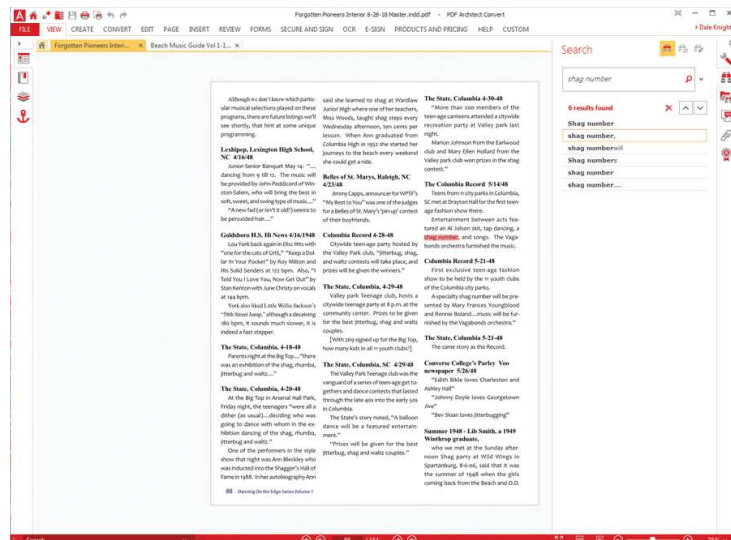
try another search for ‘shag tune’ and you’ll get five results. I clicked on one and the search shows The State Newspaper in Columbia, SC 6-7-48, as seen on the next page:

Sylvia Johns Ritchie

(from the Beach Music Top 40)



Another search for ‘shag number’ and another, earlier story in The State newspaper from 5-14-48 pops onto your screen.



We still haven’t search for ‘shag song’ or ‘shag songs.’ where there are more discoveries in store.

“Forgotten Pioneers....” is so loaded with information, you’ll want to search the phrase ‘beach music’ to learn when it first showed up in newspapers and annuals -- far earlier than generally believed.

You can search DJs, Booking Agents, and any number of cities, colleges, and even Beaches and have dozens of instant references right there on your screen. This is particularly important in “Forgotten Pioneers....” because there isn’t an index -- don’t need one when you have a searchable PDF.

The rest of our books are available in PDF as well at born-inthecarolinas.com Just order and I’ll send the PDF(s) you order within the day, if not the hour.

I’m a homegrown North Carolina girl, born in Henderson and raised in Rocky Mount. I cannot recall a time when I wasn’t playing piano, singing, or performing. My musical journey began at age 5 at a Rocky Mount church, where I played piano, organ, or sang most Sundays. I continued to pursue music in my college years, beginning at East Carolina University and culminating with earning a Bachelors in Music from the University of South Alabama at Mobile. I developed a bluesy vocal style to accompany myself and was soon performing a one-woman show in lounges and upscale hotel venues in Mobile, the Gulf Coast, and New Orleans.

As my talent continued to develop, I found a new love of songwriting. As of this writing I have recorded 10 studio albums, the first of which, “Close to Yesterday” was recorded in part at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, with Rick Hall at Fame Studios. This project also included 3 additional songs recorded at Mercury studios in Nashville. During this session I was privileged to work with Charlie McCoy on harmonica, the first of many celebrities I would come to play with.

A new adventure began when I took a long-term engagement with the Monteleone Hotel in New Orleans. Before long I was headlining at 2 French Quarter clubs, The Duchess Room and Stage Door Café. After signing with Oak Records in 1991, my song and first radio airplay “From the First Time I Saw You I Knew” debuted on Cashbox Independent Chart at #92.

I taught over 500 children music and voice, served as music director for many musicals, and acted as minister of music for 2 congregations in the Mississippi-Louisiana area before moving back to the Carolinas to be closer to family

in 2016. I soon formed the Class Act Band with former New Bern music teacher Barry Langston, who is my music partner and bass player. After recording my 10th studio album with JK Loftin and Cape Fear Studios, he suggested that one of my songs, “Some Girls Have It All” could be remixed to make it a beach music smoothie. Just a year later in 2018 I won my first CBMA Cammy award as a part of the Compilation of the Year, “Tranquil Bay.”

Many songs have followed, including solo efforts “Loving My Blues Away,” which was on the 2019 Cammy-award winning Compilation of the Year “I Count the Tears.” My most successful song has been “Carolina Moon,” which has remained on multiple charts including reaching #1. Both songs are currently played on SiriusXM Carolina Shag Radio. I have been fortunate to work with some well-known artists in beach music, including Gary Lowder, Dan Thomas, and Doyle Wood. Gary recorded my patriotic song “In Their Boots,” which is currently under consideration for a special video project by the Army Joint Chief of Staff. Dan had previously recorded drum tracks on my solo songs, and I was thrilled to record the Delbert McClinton classic “Two More Bottles of Wine” with him, which was #1 for almost 6 consecutive weeks. Most recently I wrote (along with Lynne O’Quinn) and performed a duet with Doyle Wood, “Loves Come Knockin,” which debuted at #6 on the charts and is still climbing!

My very newest solo song, “Gonna Stop My Lookin” was just recently released and will be included in the upcoming Patman & Robin Compilation CD. There is much more to come from my partnership with Doyle & Lynne at Daxwood Studios, and a new 11th studio album is currently in production at Cape Fear Studios with JK Loftin. I have no intentions of slowing down anytime soon and have even performed many weekly Home Alone Together concerts in order to continue to share my music with others! My greatest joy in life is performing for others and sharing this wonderful gift called music. If I can do that and do it well, then I consider it a life well lived.



Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday, May 23rd, 2020

The first full day of Phase Two after a long Lockdown. Cory Luetjen and Johnathan ‘Toots’ Link entertained a grateful audience all afternoon in the Sunshine at the Old Homeplace Winery near Midway, NC.

Ordinarily, Cory’s Traveling Blues Band is a five-piece group, but they were easing back into the performance mode with a smaller unit.

Luetjen’s two-week old daughter was in attendance!

Link and Luetjen entertained with a long list of originals and many favorites called out by the crowd.

The band’s most recent entry on the Beach Music Top 40 is “My Baby Just Loves to Shag” and he has several fresh new tunes vying for positions on the BMT40 and the Roadhouse Blues and Boogie Top 40 as well.

In 2019 Cory’s “Way You Move” came in at #38 on the yearly Beach Music Top 40. However, he’s had several tunes, all self-penned originals on and off both charts including:

- * “Left Me With the Blues”
- * “Hurt All Over Again”
- * “Do It For Me”

Luetjen is headquartered in Asheboro where he conducts open mic nights when he isn’t fulfilling over 200 play dates per year.

From the Roots

Artist Profile

The Falcons By Butch Halpin

The Falcons were one of the first vocal groups to pass from R&B into soul. Unfortunately, they failed to achieve the success of their contemporaries like The Impressions. It may surprise you, but the Falcons' roots were not solely



in R&B music. They sang modern and "pop" music, with a touch of gospel. Another thing many people do not know is that they began as a racially mixed group.

Bob Manardo and Eddie Floyd worked in a jewelry store together in Detroit, Michigan, and decided to form a vocal group. Bob encouraged his friend Tom Shelter while Eddie brought in Arnett Robinson. Willie Schofield, a local street singer, made the group a quintet. It was Robinson that dubbed the group The Falcons. Eddie Floyd sang lead, Manardo sang first tenor, Shelter was the baritone, Robinson sang second tenor, while Schofield handled bass duties. Manardo and Shelter were white.

This line up preceded other racially mixed groups like The Del-Vikings, The Marcells, or The Crests. They rehearsed constantly and were very serious about their singing. Their first release was a cha-cha styled tune, "Baby, That's It".

In mid 1957, membership changed within a month by Manardo and Shelter going to serve in the military and Robinson just left - period. They were replaced by Mack Rice, Lance Finnie and Joe Stubbs. Stubbs was now the

new lead singer.

In 1959, with Stubbs on lead, The Falcons recorded "You're So Fine". It wound up charting at #2 R&B and #17 Pop and has been covered by numerous other artists. "The Teacher" (One of my all-time favorites) was released in 1960 on United Artists Records and made it to #18 R&B. That song was also popular in the shag clubs several years ago and still receives some play on radio and in clubs. Shortly after its release, Stubbs left and sang with The Contours and The Originals.

It has also been written that he filled in on occasion with his brother Levi's group, The Four Tops. He was replaced by a 19 year old from Alabama by the name of Wilson Pickett. Pickett sang lead on their hit from 1962, "I Found A Love".

Robert West, who was their manager and uncle of Eddie Floyd, farmed the group out to Atlantic Records, where they had no success. They subsequently disbanded in 1963 when Schofield was drafted.

West then took The Fabulous Playboys and made them The Falcons. This ensemble consisted of James Gibson, Carlis Monroe, Johnny Alvin and Frank Holt.

To keep a "link" to the original group, Mack Rice became their road manager. They recorded a few songs for Atlantic records to satisfy The Falcons' recording contract, with "Standing On Guard" making it to # 29 on the R&B charts in 1967.

West was shot in a dispute over the management of Mary Wells. Management of The Falcons was then assumed by Frank Kocian. He took them to Big Wheel Records where they released two records. This incarnation of Falcons disbanded in 1970.

In 1980, Joe Stubbs, Mack Rice, Willie Schofield, and Lance Finnie regrouped along with Playboy/Falcon group # 2 member, James Gibson as a new Falcons group. In 1982 the classic lineup was performing as also the Playboys/Falcon line up.

Butch Halpin is a veteran Beach Music DJ, past recipient of the CBMA's "Club & Mobile DJ of The Year", Inducted in the Carolina Beach Music Radio Hall of Fame and CBMA Hall of Fame. He currently hosts the Carolina Sounds Beach Show, heard on nine stations in NC, SC, VA & PA. You can find out more by going to www.carolinasounds.com

[Thanks Butch for a look into the vintage years of one of the great groups. JH]



Butch Halpin, Carolina Sounds



www.CarolinaSounds.com
PO Box 2566 Dunn, NC 28335

WLWL 770AM "Big Wave 77" Rockingham, NC - Thursday @ 2pm
Also available on the Tunein app

ERG Radio - www.ergradio.com
Saturday @ 3pm / Monday @ 1pm
Wednesday @ 7pm / Friday @ 10am

Papa T's Beach Music - Rocky Mount, NC - Saturday @ 10am
www.papatsbeachmusic.com

AM 86 WEVA 860AM, Emporia, VA - Saturday @ 11am

Sunny 107.9 WFBS-FM, "Sunny 107.9 FM" Seneca, SC
Saturday @ 2pm www.wfbsfm.com & Tunein app

Beach, Shag, Rhythm & Blues - www.beachshagradio.com - Wilson, NC
Friday @ 1pm / Saturday @ 4pm
Sunday @ 10am / Thursday @ 1pm

Retro 104 Oldies, www.Retro104Oldies.com, Elon/Greensboro, NC
Sunday @ 9am & Tuesday @ 7pm

Oldies Radio 1620, www.OldiesRadio1620.com Tuesdays @ 1pm

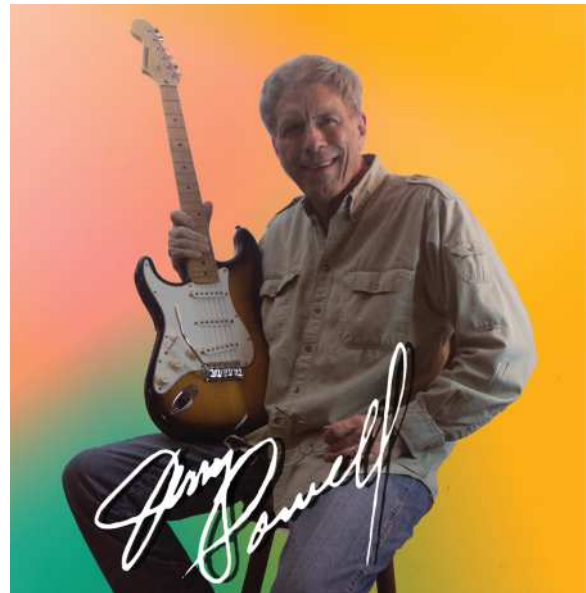
Beach & Oldies 96.5, Anderson, SC - Various Times

* All times eastern time zone *



2013 Carolina Beach Music Awards Hall of Fame

From the Beach Music Top 40



Jerry Powell was born on a farm in the Appalachian foothills of north Alabama but spent his formative years 300 miles to the south in Mobile. It was there, as a teenager he began earning money playing guitar and singing in a local band. After high school and a stint in the army, he ended up on the road playing music 6-nights a week. This journey took him from independent night clubs to the burgeoning 4 and 5-Star hotel lounge circuit, which called for, not only musical skills, but a strong focus on floor shows and communication and interaction with diverse regional audiences around the country! "It was trial by fire" he says, "but I sure learned a lot during that time".

Dissecting and performing the current Top 40 hits every week during those years, contributed to his songwriting skills, a talent he had nurtured and begun as a teenager, and eventually led him to more time in the studio and production environment! He is a former CBS/Epic recording artist, as well as serving as a staff songwriter for Sony/Tree and Muscle Shoals Sound Music Publishing. His guitar style has been utilized in hundreds of recording sessions, and as a player and producer, his work has been released by several major record labels such as Capitol/EMI, and the aforementioned CBS/Epic Records.

His new CD, "Highly Recreational Man" includes the current "Weekly Trop 40" top ten hit, "You and the Yucatan" on Radio A1A, as well as one of the other cuts, "Still Falling"

charting in the Beach Music Top 40/Cashbox Magazine charts. “Life is good!”, says Powell, “And I am certainly honored to be in these charts at this time, with all those great artists and songs!”

Longtime Powell friend and band associate, Eric Marre-ro can be heard on numerous cuts with his excellent horn playing!

Available from iTunes, Amazon Muic and other outlets!

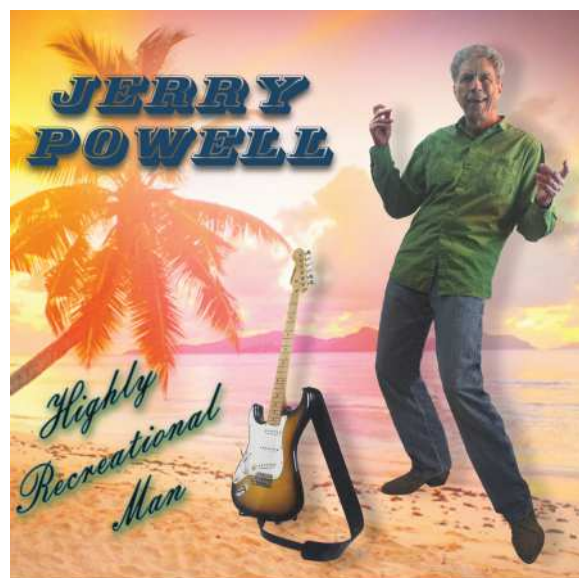
As a veteran songwriter and entertainer, it’s especially gratifying to have people appreciate and embrace what you have created! I am blessed and honored to have “Still Falling” doing so well in Fessa’ John Hook’s Beach Music Top 40 as well as several other charts!

Ironically, in 2018, another song, I had written and re-corded with my group, The Carnival Band, enjoyed 50-plus weeks in this highly regarded chart and stayed in the coveted Number One spot for 12 or 13 weeks! That song, “Carolina Shore” pays tribute to the overall joy and spirit of what we call Beach Music...the entertainers/bands...the area, and some wonderful people! I came by that song honestly as it was borne of Carnival’s several-week engagement in Myrtle Beach in the 1970s! Though we traveled extensively, and enjoyed much hard-earned success, we were not prepared for the overwhelming reception and genuine warmth of the people and the special connection we had that Summer! There’s an old saying: “You may forget what someone says, but you never forget how they make you feel”! Every time “Carolina Shore” plays, I remember that special time and place!

“Still Falling” is from my new album, “Highly Recreational Man”, a project I worked on for quite some time, and all eleven songs are ones I had written and held onto for this purpose. Some folks feel an album should contain all songs with a common theme or style. I believe the music should move you in some way regardless of style and hopefully each of these songs will do that. There is an overall tropical look and feel to “Highly Recreational Man” and 5 of the songs might fit into that category but hopefully any listener will find something they really enjoy in the diversity of song styles!

Since the official release of the album in November, response has been overwhelming and I receive comments from folks all over the place. Fortunately each of the songs have a favorite place in in different people’s hearts, however “Still Falling” has something that is reaching out in a special way! John Hook called it early on. He heard it, and he was right!

As I have said before, whatever Beach Music is to each one of us, it’s the good stuff! I listen to Fessa’s show and am really impressed by the great songs and artists in this chart every week! I consider it an honor to be a part of it and I thank John Hook, all his colleagues and all the listeners around the world! I’ll never forget how you make me feel!



[I’m indebted to my friend Harry Teaford, owner and station manager of Radio A1A, a Trop Rock internet station originating from the Florida Keys, who introduced me to Jerry Powell. Harry mentioned the Carnival Band’s “Carolina Shore” one day and a new friendship as well as an achingly haunting song sped up the Beach Music Top 40 chart.

Jerry Powell has been a delight to get to know. To my surprise we have mutual friends through some of the Shag and Bop clubs in Alabama and the Gulf Coast.

In addition, Jerry is in Mobile, the same town as the K.M.A. Shag Club (Yes, the Kiss My Ass Shag Club) which we reported on in the Dancing On the Edge News-zine four or five years ago. How that group of Shag celebrants came about is another story we’ll revisit in the future. They took their name from the North Myrtle Beach lifeguards who originated the K.M.A. Club there. --ED]

Rockin' & Jumpin' On the Roadhouse Blues & Boogie Top 40



I'm not going to say that Smitty and the Jumpstarters are one of the best-kept secrets of the world of Jump Blues, R&B, Swing and Soul, but up until two years ago I was unaware of their existence. Then I ran across their 5-song EP entitled Smitty and the Jumpstarters. Their songs "Caldonia," "Oh What A Thrill," and especially "Rock This House" were on the Roadhouse Top 40 nearly all year. The Merle Fest organizers had their eye on them as well, inviting them to perform that year.

Not only were they invited to play Merle Fest again this year, they released Let's Get Jumpstarted, a 12-song CD with SEVEN (!) perfect Roadhouse cuts that are making inroads on the Beach Music Top 40 as well as the Roadhouse Top 40.

The lead song is "Let's Go Jumpin," a Big Joe Maher tune that sets the pace for the rockin' side of the collection.

"Excess in Moderation" is a creative twist on synchronizing satisfaction with constraint to stay within livable limits of consumption.

"Hey Ba Ba Re Bop" surprised me. I've loved this song my whole life, from Wynonie Harris's original vocal with the Lionel Hampton band, to Hampton's own version later that year (1945).

"Rock with Me" a Kim Wilson/Fabulous Thunderbirds original, is everything one would hope and expect to hear from these fellas.

And, as I'm always partial to a good jump instrumental, "Smitty's Shuffle" holds a special place in the Hook Home



(l to r) Doug Dennis bass and backup vocals, Steve Blake on Sax and backup vocals, Bryan Smith vocals & guitar, Roy Brown on drums



Smitty and the Jumpstarters on stage at the 2018 Merle Fest. They were slated to play this year -- but we know what happened to much of the year so far. Look for them in 2021 at Merle Fest. (from jumpstartersband.com)

Top 100 presently, while "Better Eye" and Elmore James' "I Can't Hold Out" are particularly engaging as well.

For traditional Blues fans there's Little Junior Parker's "Mystery Train," "Big Walter Price's "Pack Fair and Square," Albert King's "I Get Evil," and Otis Rush's "Keep On Loving Me Baby." What a Deal!!!!

Enjoy at your leisure. Find their website to hook into downloads from both CDs.

The Beach Music Top 40

Carolina Beach Music, Shag, West Coast Swing, Bop, **May 16, 2020** Push, Whip, Popcom, Northern Soul, Jump Blues...

No. of weeks	Last Week	This Week	Title Artist	BPM (LP or CD)	Year Record Co. & #	No. of weeks	Last Week	This Week	Title Artist	BPM (LP or CD)	Year Record Co. & #
11	1	1	DANCIN' BROWNING, DEB		2020		28	21	WHERE THE POOR BOYS DANCE MCDANIEL, RHONDA	Playing With My Friends	2019 KHP 1161
16	4	2	STILL FALLING POWELL, JERRY	Highly Recreational Man	2019	3	35	22	A LITTLE MORE LOVE HUDSON, LESA & MIKE TAYLOR		2020
16	8	3	YOU'RE NO GOOD BROWNING, DEB		2019	3	37	23	TOUCHING IN THE DARK BROWN, GARY	Party for a Lifetime	2020 B.M.T./BMG
15	2	4	I JUST CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY MIND LOWDER, GARY & SMOKIN' HOT	Party for a Lifetime	2020	17	13	24	MR. DREAMMERCHANT GORE, JACKIE	Party for a Lifetime	2020
15	3	5	(I'm Just Thinking About) COOLIN' OUT BAND OF OZ	Party for a Lifetime	2020	14	26	25	LET LOVE COME BETWEEN US JAMES, TERESA/RHYTHM TRAMPS/BIG JOE MAHER	Party for a Lifetime	2020 Daxwood
12	6	6	SINCE I'VE BEEN LOVING YOU EMBERS F. CRAIG WOOLARD	Together	2019 CFS Vol 1	7	RE	26	HER LOVE IS KILLING ME LEWIS, HUEY & THE NEWS	Weather	2020 Patman and Robin
15	7	7	MAKE IT WITH YOU ENTERTAINERS	Party for a Lifetime	2020	16	23	27	DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE AT 1ST SIGHT THOMPkins, RUSSELL JR.	I Count the Tears	2020 Patman & Robin
15	11	8	IF YOU DON'T WANT MY LOVE CAT 5 BAND	Party for a Lifetime	2020	23	29	28	I CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND HUNTER SIX, JAMES	Nick of Time	2019
6	17	9	SOME ENCHANTED EVENING STONE, KEITH & MAGGIE		2020	3	38	29	BEACH, BOOGIE & BLUES POLLARD, KEITH		2020 KHP 1164
15	5	10	JACK AND JILL CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD	Party for a Lifetime	2020	46	RE	30	HEAVEN MUST BE MISSING AN ANGEL TOWER OF POWER	Great American Soulbook	2009
15	12	11	YOU'RE EVERYTHING I NEED BLACKWATER BAND	Band of Brothers	2018 CBS	9	RE	31	BIG TIME LOVER MIGHTY SAINTS OF SOUL	Party for a Lifetime	2020
15	20	12	OLD HABITS DIE HARD FRANKLIN, JOHN G.	Party for a Lifetime	2021 GRC 813	28	RE	32	SHOW ME WOOD, DOYLE & TERRI GORE		2019 Republic
14	14	13	YOU CAN'T FALL UP (You Just Fall Down) OWENS, STEVE & SUMMERTIME	Party for a Lifetime	2020	1		33	SAY SO (clean) DOJA CAT		2020
15	22	14	SWEET CHARLIE BABE CATALINAS F. ANGELA RESIGNALO	Party for a Lifetime	2020 Green Dot	1		34	68 SUMMER NIGHTS O' JAYS	The Last Word	2019
13	16	15	SOONER OR LATER SMITH, HAROLD & 4 KNIGHTS ORCH.	Party for a Lifetime	2018 CFS Vol 1	1		35	WHEN MY BABY TALKS SWINDELL, ANDY		2020
15	18	16	DOWN IN VIRGINIA SCAGGS, BOZ	Out of the Blues	2018	3	34	36	LOVE COMES KNOCKIN' WOOD, DOYLE & SYLVIA JOHNS RITCHIE		2020
10	9	17	BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN BLACKWATER BAND & TOO MUCH SYLVIA		2020	3	25	37	IF I WERE A MAGICIAN THOMPkins, RUSSELL JR.		2020
15	10	18	TRUE LOVE HENRY, RUSSELL	Cape Fear Beach Sessions	2020	1		38	DOIN' THAT THING WE DO SPLIT SHOT		2020
30	19	19	GYPSY WOMAN SANTANA, CARLOS	12" 45 rpm EP	1990 Concord	1		39	START IT UP GODFREY, RICKEY	Party for a Lifetime	2020 B.M.T./BMG
15	21	20	TWO MORE BOTTLES OF WINE THOMAS, DAN & SYLVIA JOHNS RITCHIE		2020 Cape Fear Beach Sessions	1		40	GOT TO BE YOU LOWDER, GARY & SMOKIN' HOT		2020

Fast Dance Spotlight

IF YOU NEED SOME LOVIN'	BIG JOE & THE DYNAFLOWS F MOOKIE BRILL
PRIDE AND JOY	BIG TIME
ROCK ME BABY	BRACE, LAMAR
HARD TO SAY GOODBYE	BROWN, GARY
AIN'T NO FUN (WHEN THE RABBITT)	CASH BOX KINGS
ONE MORE	CLAY, RANDY BAND
WHO'S GONNA BABY YOU	COCHRAN, ANNE & ABELAMARCA
FEELIN' GUCCI	EVANS, PHIL & JIMBO CHAPMAN
THE LONG WAY AROUND	GRIER, SONJA
ANYONE CAN TELL (WE'RE IN LOVE)	JOHNSON, DARRYL & DETROIT MEMPHIS EXPERIENCE
NEW LIGHT	MAYER, JOHN
I BLAME YOU	MCGUIRE

WE'VE GOT TO CHEAT ON SCHEDULE	MS. JODY
CAROLINA	NELSON, LUKAS & PROMISE OF THE REAL
DANCING TONIGHT	RAWLS, JOHNNY
ROCK ME BABY	RAWLS, JOHNNY
I TRULY LOVE YOU	ROBERTS, ROY
EVERYDAY I HAVE TO CRY SOME	ROBILLARD, DUKE
LOVE HIT ME (Shag Mix)	ROYAL DRIFTERS
OLD, NEW LOVE	TONEZ
RUNNIN' BLUE	WEAVER, JIMMY

Top Beach Music CDs

I COUNT THE TEARS	various	Patman Robin
TOGETHER	Embers f. Craig Woolard	
BACKS AGAINST THE WALL	Holiday Band	KHP 1152
PLAYING WITH MY FRIENDS	various	KHP 1161
Party for a Lifetime	various	
BAND OF BROTHERS	Blackwater Band	