

Beach Boy fan puts group in perspective

by PHIL CHRISTENSEN
Correspondent

Hoodland resident Len Kirschner has been listening to the Beach Boys since 1961, and has been the state representative of their fan club since 1976.

Saturday's Beach Boys concert will find him in the audience applauding songs he has heard hundreds of times.

"I just like the way their voices blend; I don't idolize anyone but the Lord," Kirschner said.

"Honestly, I'd rather be myself than anyone in that group. They've all had unsuccessful marriages, live on the road between concerts, and in general, the price of success has taken its toll on them all."

Kirschner's appreciation of the Beach Boys music goes back to his childhood in Dearborn, Mich. "Around 1961, my next door neighbor and I would play the Surfin' Safari album over and over. Our parents bought us snare drums and we practiced the snare drum parts religiously.

"It was escapism; in Michigan we were 2400 miles away from any surfing."

During the years that followed, Kirschner continued to build his catalogue of original Beach Boys releases. "I bought, without hearing, anything they put out. I think there are 29 albums in my collection."

He took the role as state representative of the band's fan club in 1976, when he moved to Oregon. "The record company put the address of the fan club on the back of '15 Big Ones,' which commemorated their 15 years in the industry. I wrote and asked for the position. I got it, along with a list of people who were in the Fan Club, and my responsibilities."

Since then, Kirschner contacts the people in the club when either a new album or a tour is in the making. "I don't know exactly how many people are in the club right now. They're sending me an updated list."

Official members in Oregon number under 100 these days, but



Len Kirschner has been a Beach Boys fan since his surfing days.

even so, Kirschner's position can still try his patience.

"Members have written with some really stupid questions," he said. He recalls the time he was asked what kind of shampoo Brian Wilson used. "I wrote the kid and told him I hoped he wasn't waiting to wash his hair until he found out."

"I always try to stress that these people are just folks like you and me. They should be treated as such. Anyone who looks at any celebrity as a hero or bigger-than-life person is not really taking into consideration that anyone who has been built up by the public can be torn down by the same public. Just look at Gary Hart."

Kirschner said that anyone who pays the \$3 annual dues can be a member of the club. "The fee gets you a quarterly newsletter, advance notice of their dates in the area and their entire touring schedule."

Kirschner said Beach Boy concerts are easy to catch, now, since the band spends a lot of time on the road. "They're busy, they tour 200

days out of the year."

Kirschner has met the band and describes them as "very polite and talkative on subjects not related to music."

"In 1981, I went to their 20th anniversary party in Hollywood," said Kirschner. "It was on New Year's Eve. I met the whole group, except Brian, who left early. I talked to Al Jardine about goats. He had an Arabian horse farm in Big Sur, and he stocked a bunch of goats on it. I was raising goats at the time too, so we talked about goats."

"I talked to Carl Wilson about how the (then recent) murder of John Lennon would affect Wilson's interaction with the public. He told me, 'That's just something I'll have to live with.'"

Kirschner said he enjoys being in a support role for the Beach Boys. "When I was a kid, they really uplifted me emotionally. It's good to be a part of helping them now."

Film being produced at McKinnon air strip

by SHARON NESBIT
Staff writer

TROUTDALE — Police Chief Doug Dorsey did a double take when he drove through town Sunday and spotted an unfamiliar patrol car in his turf.

"I saw this police car being towed behind a van with cameras on top of it and I thought, 'What in the world is going on here. That's not our car.'"

The chief then paused and added wistfully, "It's too bad, too. Because it was a nice-looking car."

What Dorsey stumbled into was the preparation for a police chase scene that was shot in Troutdale Sunday as part of a feature-length adventure movie being filmed by Tom Shaw Productions, 7500 S.E. Division, Portland.

The company is making a

90-minute action film that Tom Shaw calls a "shoot 'em up."

"We're even going to rig a cable across the Sandy River so people can escape there," the film maker says. He declined to disclose the time or place for the escape scene for fear of drawing a crowd.

Shaw said the production company also had filmed at the McKinnon air strip near Dodge Park.

Shaw, who eight years ago filmed "The Brats Up the Mountain" on Mount Hood, said the film being shot in this area will cost \$180,000 to produce and is being readied for the video cassette market. It will be distributed in California.

Called "Take No Prisoners," the movie will be completed by October in time to send it to the Cannes Film Festival in France, he said.

"There are no stars," Shaw said.

"It's all local actors. And all our local actors are as good as many of those we get out of California." The cast numbers about 50.

The story is about a doctor who invents a directional listening device to listen to insects. But others realize that the same device could be based on a satellite and put to use to spy on anyone in the world.

"There's a good guy who seems to be a bad guy and the plot has a good twist," Shaw said.

Shaw said that most of the films for the video cassette market are made in California and, as a result, all look alike.

"We're trying to capture Oregon in this one," he said. "We've got backgrounds of the (Columbia River) gorge, the Sandy River gorge and some shots of Mount Hood."

Keeping Posted

Tim Rim sets craft sale

Artisans and crafts people are being sought to participate in the eighth annual Rim Craft Market at Timberline Rim in Brightwood on Saturday, Oct. 10, and Sunday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Indoor and outdoor display areas are available on a first come, first serve basis. Registration fee for a single 4- by 8-foot space is \$12.50. A double space is \$25.

There is no additional commission taken. All items must be hand-crafted.

For more information, contact Ann Holbert at 622-3589, or 668-4151 during the days on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Preschool has openings

The Sandy Christian Kinderschool has openings in its afternoon class for 5 year olds, and in both morning and afternoon classes for 3 and 4 year

olds.

The school offers a well-rounded curriculum with experienced teachers at both the kindergarten and preschool level.

A discount is offered for the second child in a family who is enrolled in either program.

For more information, call 668-5589.

Registration forms are available at the office of the Sandy Assembly of God Church, 39800 E. Highway 26, weekdays between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Summer picnic planned Saturday

An end of the summer community picnic is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Meinig Park. The band "Wood Putty" will be featured, and jumbo chocolate chip cookies will be given away.

The picnic is being sponsored by

the Baha'is of Sandy. Participants are encouraged to take a picnic lunch.

Wood Putty is a Portland group that specializes in Irish, folk and blue grass music.

Members of the Baha'i faith work toward religious unity, elimination of prejudice and peace among nations.

For more information, call 668-9357 or 668-8157.

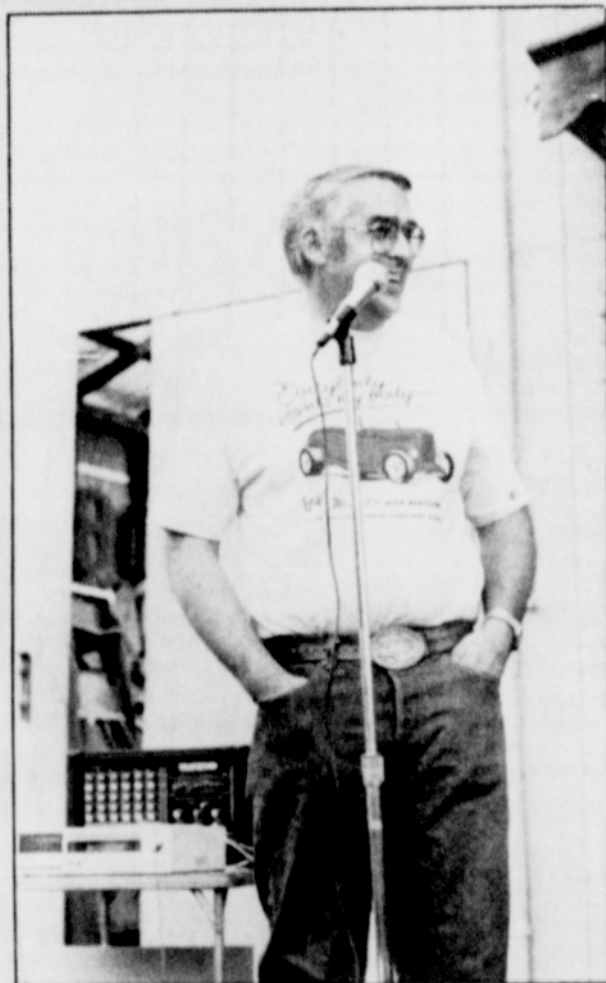
The Store hosts blues performer

The Store Natural Foods and Cafe in Wemme will present another Mountain Music Concert on Friday, Aug. 21, at 9 p.m.

American blues performer Glen Delpit of Fresno, Calif., will be performing. He has been studying and playing music since the mid-1960s.

Reservations are suggested. To make a reservation, call 622-3130.

Wine, beer and fresh-ground coffee, as well as desserts, will be available.



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3 p.m. - til??

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