

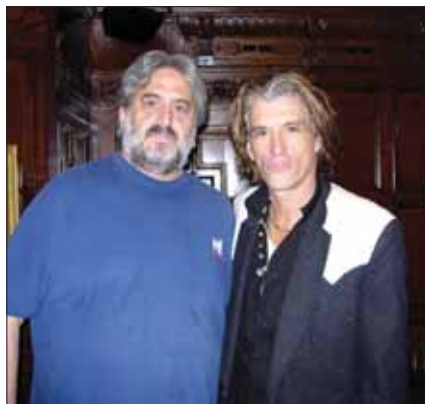
# Hard Rock Treasure Hunting

By Helen Marketti

Picture this...You are traveling the country and the globe, sometimes at a moment's notice because Joe Perry (Aerosmith) has called to say he has some guitars for you. You are able to visit rock stars backstage such as Velvet Revolver or KISS. By the way, you are also able to spend time at their homes while sharing a laugh and securing a memorabilia deal with the likes of Vince Neil (Motley Crue), Rick Nielsen (Cheap Trick) and Brian Johnson (AC/DC). While you are in London you might meet up with Jimmy Page (Led Zeppelin) for dinner or hang out with Tom Hamilton and Joey Kramer (Aerosmith) as you visit the band's private warehouse in Boston. In addition to all of this rock and roll "to do list," you will attend auctions at Christie's and Sotheby's to spend your employer's money to acquire music artifacts that are extra rare finds to furnish the walls for 124 Hard Rock Cafes around the world!

This is the real life dream job for Don Bernstine who is the Manager of Acquisitions and Artist Relations for the Hard Rock Cafe. He is constantly on the road to find the next great artifact so it was a rare moment that he was in his office in Orlando and took a few minutes to chat.

"I was a Navy brat," Don remembers. "My father was stationed in England so I saw The Beatles when I was a kid in 1964. I liked the Mersey Beat sound and the British Invasion groups. One thing led to another and I began stocking shelves at record stores and then becoming an inven-



Don with Joe Perry from Aerosmith.

tory clerk. I eventually was a buyer for a record chain." Don has also worked as Marketing and Promotions Director for rock band, Deep Purple.

He has been at the helm of Acquisitions at the Hard Rock for five years. "It was good timing," Don recalls. "I was bouncing around on the Hard Rock Cafe website and saw there were two positions open. One job was for the Marketing Department and the other one was for what I do now. Over 80 people applied for the position but I was the one who got it."

It is not unusual for musicians to call Don to meet up with them on the road, after they return

from a tour or any time. Don's job is to talk with the artists and convince them to part with their guitars, stage costumes, tour props and any other music memorabilia. It certainly is a unique way to earn a living.

Rapport, trust and friendship all intertwine with this gig. "When an artist says "no," it can mean "not right now," said Don. "It means the timing is off. There was difficult rapport with Joe Perry (Aerosmith) at first. We came up with the idea to market his hot sauce. After awhile he called to say he had some guitars for me to see." Rock and Roll is a fickle business so it is clear that Don's job while sounding glamorous is not always easy as musicians do not always readily hand things over.

Don works with a Memorabilia Team that consists of twelve people. Everyone works together to plan a Hard Rock Cafe's opening, the artifacts that will go into a particular location as well as rotating items from various cafe locations. "I'm the one that seems to get pushed to the front," said Don. "But nothing could be done without them."

Don says he has the coolest job in the world and most rock and roll enthusiasts would agree. A day in the life of Don Bernstine can be seen on "The Hard Rock Treasures" DVD which gives viewers a look behind the velvet rope and beyond the concert arena as he's hot on the trail of the next rock and roll treasure. It's the best backstage pass that anyone can get.

## Women of Grace Ministries Giving New Life to Local Girls

By Rose Britner, Founder/Director

Women of Grace Ministries is a non-profit organization comprised of volunteers from several different churches. Since August of 2000, women meet weekly with the girls incarcerated at the Sandusky County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). During these group sessions topics dealing with anger management, self-esteem, healthy relationships, and setting positive goals are discussed. The participation by the girls is voluntary and it helps to give them a sense of what their life will be like by making good choices.

Teen girls are offered the opportunity to receive one on one mentoring with a trained mentor. Mentoring relationships often begin while the teen is still residing at JDC.

Once released, the teen has the opportunity to continue meeting with her mentor, as well as attend workshops and activities offered by the program. In July the mentoring program took a sailing trip on "The Journey" with Captain Chad Grubb from B-About Sail Ministry. The Journey is a 65-ft, 24-ton Schooner Sailboat docked at Sandusky Harbor Marina. The experience of sailing challenged the girls learning skills as they shared in the duties of hoisting sail, standing watch and following directions.

Not only were the mentors and the girls involved in the sailing trip but also Amanda Martin who is a juvenile probation officer.



Amanda stated that "the sailing trip was an amazing experience because not only did it help the girls realize that the Judge and I are real people with lives outside of our jobs but also that we truly care about the girls. It was an opportunity for us to see the girls as the incredible young ladies that they are instead of the stigma that they have attached to them. It was absolutely one of the most powerful experiences that I have ever had."

Some of the comments from the girls: "At first I was really nervous that the judge was coming along, but then I was glad that he had the opportunity to see us being good." "The trip was awesome!"

Judge Brad Culbert, who oversees the operation of the JDC was also aboard on the sail-

ing trip. He views the trip as a great opportunity to build upon the relationships that began in the confines of a stress- filled courtroom. "My goal in participating was to remind them that each of us is created with value, talents, and a purpose for our existence. I believe it's important to challenge today's youths and encourage them to continue to search for their purpose and eventually discover how they can use their talents to contribute to make better the lives of the families around them," explained Culbert.

The goal of the Ministry is to continue to mentor at risk teen girls and, in the future, to establish a group home named appropriately "Grace Haven".

A place where teen girls can temporarily reside to get the help that they need in a local setting.

Give a little time, get a lot in return. It only takes a few hours a month to make a huge difference in the life of a teen girl. Mentoring helps keep youth off drugs, out of gangs and in school so they can fulfill their dreams. And the best part is, you'll not only see what it does for them, you'll feel what it does for you.

Next Scheduled Trainings: Sat., Aug. 11 - 9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. and Mon., Sept. 10 & 17 - 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. "Pre-registration is required by calling 419-332-1001. For info womenof-graceministries.org (419)332-1001



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