

Helen Marketti's Music Corner



By Helen R. Marketti



Revolver: An Echo of a Dream

Larry Cesare shares an interesting story of being part of one of the first Beatle-tribute bands in the Norwalk and surrounding areas.

"I am originally from Norwalk and have one younger brother, Bob. My dad was a railroader and my mom was a home maker. We lived a comfortable life. My father was a very accomplished accordionist," remembers Larry. "When I was a kid, I did dream about being a musician. Thankfully both of my parents fell into line with the interest Bob and I had with The Beatles. They bought my first electric guitar and bought my brother a drum kit which was almost exactly like Ringo Starr's."

"Bob and I played in many bands in Norwalk and surrounding areas for many years. I started a band in the 60s with a grade school friend of mine. We called ourselves, "US". It seemed fitting at the time since there were bands called "THEM" and of course, "THE WHO". We were one of the first rock and roll bands in the area," said Larry.

He continues, "My brother Bob collected vintage music equipment. He started amassing the kind of equipment that The Beatles used. (Hofner bass, Vox amplifier, Rickenbacker guitar and Ludwig drums). A lot of the gear was made in the 50s and 60s and was no longer being produced but Bob was able to find the gear!"

"We started playing around with the equipment with a friend of ours and discovered that we kind of sounded like The Beatles. The idea then came to mind that maybe we could play Beatles music. It was 1980 by this time and bands were not covering Beatles music," said Larry. "We decided to see the Broadway touring production of Beatlemania. We were impressed by their performance and thought we could play Beatles music, too."

"We decided to recreate The Beatles concert experience from 1964 to 1966. We already had the vintage gear so we added the suits, the boots and we had our own mop top haircuts. We played two sets of songs with 12 songs in each set. Our goal was to present The Beatles early music with technical accuracy which included "their look", accents, stage banter and so forth. Once we started performing around the area, people were going nuts! Crowds were quite diverse. The audiences would get happily lost in the illusion. Beatles tribute bands offer people an escape, to relive memories or simply be in the moment. We can comfort ourselves in their music. I feel Revolver started something with Beatles tribute bands. We had a pivotal role in getting the ball rolling. Now there are many Beatles tribute bands."

Larry explains why Revolver was the chosen name for their band, "The Revolver album marked the end of the early Beatles music because after that, they started getting into a more avant-garde style with Sgt. Pepper and so forth."

"The original infatuation with The Beatles was partly a matter of timing when they

appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show. The nation was still recovering from President Kennedy's assassination. The mood of our country was dark for a while. As the 60s continued, the Vietnam War was raging and there were more assassinations with Malcom X, Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy. It was a

time of uneasiness. The Beatles were like a ray of sunshine, a respite, offering a sense of hope. They were a positive experience in the midst of all the craziness," said Larry.

What do you want people to know or remember about Revolver?

"That we were a couple of boys from Norwalk, Ohio that breathed life into Beatles music in this area. We have stepped away from the stage so to speak but it's nice to see other "Beatle bands" continue to carry the torch," explains Larry. "I hope we can keep the spirit of the 60s music alive. During that time music matured, creativity blossomed and originality reigned. The music shaped the culture. We have never seen anything like that before and it may never happen again."



Plan Your Staycation With Us!



Visit Our Store!

All Sharkline pools are made in their state-of-the-art, 160,000 square foot facility in the United States.

EVERY DAY'S A VACATION DAY IN A SHARKLINE POOL!

Swim Rite Pools

2218 W. State St., Fremont

Mon.-Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-1

419-332-4441 • www.swimritepools.net

Email: sales@swimritepools.net



www.pacificpools.com



First Call for Help is a free and confidential service that helps people in Sandusky County find the local resources they need.



United Way
of Sandusky County

Call (419) 334-2720

Mon-Fri 8:30a - 4:30p

Browse our online directory 24/7 at www.uwsandco.org

