

We Get Letters...

Caught 4 shows raising my total to 22. 1st nite Garden (St. Stephen-what more can be said!) Both Worcester(great 1st set) Carrier Dome(hope they go back to War Memorial).Returned here to SUNY Binghamton to 4th concert in as many nights - Hot Tuna(not many old tunes; too loud)
DAVID S Binghamton NY

I went to see the captain/ to dance and shake my bones/heard about Delilah/and gentle Jack Jones/Met St Stephen in NYC/never had such a good time/So Good-bye Mama & Papa/while the music plays the band/I'm off to follow the DEAD/ to the promised land. JOE A Newark DEL

St Stephen was the hottest-whole Civic Center lit up with excitement! Many MIKEL stickers floating around. GREGG C Castleton VT

After a long and magical cross-country bicycle trip(4000 miles) it was great to come home & see the DEAD play in my backyard. Worcester police arrested me selling spare ticket for cost. Got bailed out in time for last 4 songs of 1st set.
MIKE D Millbury MA

Mission accomplished-all stickers either handed out or stuck on at Portland and Worcester. Not sure which I liked better: radiant smiles of girls I stuck 'em on, or dazed looks of those who never quite figured out who it was that stuck that brilliant sticker on them. JOHN E Middletown CT

Been a DEADhead for last 14 years. The shows are like family reunions. I'll always be proud to be called a DEADhead. ROSSELL C Sacto CA

I'm a taper, so I'm usually anchored to my seat on the floor, but this past tour I walked around each show looking for your stickers ROE B Storrs Met Bobby, Billy & Brent on Bobby's birthday at Lake Placid Hilton(site of Dancing Bears Lounge) DAN M south Amboy NJ

Can't say enough for you & what you are doing. You are an inspiration! Along with DHD hats off to both of you! FRED J Montreal Canada Haven't spent the night in any caves yet, but next summer surely will. Many DEADheads here. PAUL R Utah State University

At work they call me a leftover from the 60's. I don't mind. I would have liked to experienced the 60's, but I'm having fun in the 80's with the DEAD. Lots of us are. HOLLIE ROSE Middlefield Not only are the mountains here in Boulder getting better everyday as snow falls, but East Coast show tapes are sweeping this town SCOTT L Boulder CO

How's it going? I'm a big DEADhead now-34 shows this year. First met you in Eugene in Dunkin' Donuts, than again at Hartford.GREG B Southwick New Years info finally out- I broke one of my phones getting all the info.KIM C Sandose Your newsletter is great. Gives me scoop on shows I can't get to & second opinion on shows I was at. My favorites are your stickers tho. ERIC E Berkeley CA

High anxiety time is with us again. How can I improve my chances for being selected at random without screwing my ticket karma? Please get it over with so our lives can return to normal. ARMILLA

Long time no write-sorry 'bout that. Still putting out your on-the scene newspaper? Hope so & hope you're doing well. Saw you in Crono last spring. Left for Alaska soon thereafter for the summer. Saw the boys at Lake Placid- wheel was especially enchanting; Revolution encore lots of fun. Phil sang on choruses. Passed up other shows:mid-semester DEAD splurges tend to drain me.Looking for JGB(with Lesh)Warfield 6-26-81
GEORGE G Vermont

Ticket orders for Marin were filled for all who applied - only ones rejected were those who failed to follow directions - mostly personal checks & badly filled out SASE's...weir joined Hot Tuna for encore Oct 28 at Nassau Coliseum, Jimmy Reed's Baby What You Want Me To Do, and White Rabbit David Crosby was backstage at Marin, ready to play but... On TV scene, Theresa, Salmon II reports General Hospital Holly saying, "What A Long Strange Trip It's Been" and Suzy Lai CKC, heard Dream House quiz, What Band Does Jerry Garcia Play For? Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Grateful Dead...At MSG Oct 11, crowd failed to recognize St Stephen until words came along-contrast with instant Marin cognizance Best smoke of year at Marin.. Bobby bobbing up&down in Stor at Marin when guitar broke- Farrish to the rescue!

CALENDARS

'83-85/82-83

STICKERS

50¢ each, 12 for \$5, 27 for \$10
all 38 for \$12

(note: many out of print soon)

SONG BOOKS

VOL 2 12.95
VOL 3 16.95 (Anthology)
VOL 4 5.95 (GARCIA)
VOL 5 4.95 (EE GUTMAN)

OFFICIAL BOOK OF DEADHEADS
HARD 25, SOFT 12.95 + \$2 Shipping
BLAIR JACKSON'S MUSIC MERCH STORE
7.95

Also in the works is a Years End MIKEL which will depend largely on you:

BEST 3 SHOWS OF '83: 1) _____

2) _____

BEST NEW SONG OF '83: _____

BEST ENJOYABLE CONCERT SITE _____

SONG YOU'D LIKE TO SEE REVIVED _____

Also requested is your best (or most memorable) DEAD related experience of 1983.
DEADLINE for contributions DEC 15, 1983
Include your line (student, job etc) and age (OPTIONAL, but of interest...)

Deads attitude toward MARIN shows was reflected in rare full sound check (complete performance in front of empty house at MARIN, Friday before actual shows). Anyone with tape of that please contact MIKEL.

I regret I can only print excerpts from this most
written, thought-provoking letter...

received your OCT number while egressing from
Marin Center—it brought a smile to my face. I've
been a DEAD fan since 1968, when we used to troop
from Palo Alto to see the band at spots like
Fillmore Auditorium, the Carousel (later Fillmore
East) and Playland-at-the Beach (a.k.a. Family Dog).
Those were glorious, magic times, and we shall
never see them again... It amused me to read in
our newsletter the nostalgic importance accorded
the song "St Stephen"... a staple in those old
days, almost a haemum. I say let the old chest-
nuts rest in peace. Of course it's a good number,
but the DEAD's new material is just as good, if
not better. I was especially excited about Marin
show. Here for once was a chance to enjoy the DEAD
in a concert milieu, actually sitting in plush
seats, in a beautiful theatre (designed by Frank
Lloyd Wright school). I expected a special program
well, the music did not disappoint. It was a
beauty—a corker. I WAS disappointed a little by
the DEADheads, however. I'm not sure what I was
expecting. Maybe a little more attention to de-
tail, given the specialness of the event. I thought
people might actually don their Sunday-go-to-meetin'
clothes and comport themselves like real concert-
goers in the classical sense. It looked like I was
the only one there who wore a shirt that was ironed.
It seemed scores of people had pulled a dirty tee-
shirt out of the hamper... The parking lots were
lined with people with no tickets. These hopeless
gave off a slightly sinister vibe. What on earth
were they doing out there... For a new category,
how about songs to be retired? For all its vener-
able robustness, "Sugar magnolia" needs to be
shown the rocking chair at the home for decrepit
rock'n'roll. Also the siamese twins, "China Cat"
and "I know You Rider" should be surgically sepa-
rated forthwith. Both songs are great classics,
but pairing them has become so predictable...
In my view the DEAD are better than ever, even
effused with a new HIGH SPIRIT. I'll probably
never tire of them. It makes me happy just know-
ing they still exist, after all these years.
MIKEL: thanks for what you're doing also. Perhaps
someday we'll meet on the cosmic merry-go-round
that is the DEAD. STEVE L San Francisco CA

Review from San Francisco
Chronicle Nov 2...

'Heads Always Find the Dead

BY JOE SELWEN

Only the most avid Deadheads
got tickets for the two-night
stand Sunday and Monday by
the beloved Grateful Dead
at the 2000-seat Marin Veterans Auditorium
in San Rafael. Just the previous week,
the group paid out two shows at New
York's 20,000-seat Madison Square Gar-
den.

The sole advertisement for the Marin
shows, produced by the band itself, was a
taped message on a special Deadhead hot-
line — and the number was unlisted.
Tickets were sold exclusively through
mail order and the concert hardly had a
chance to reach the rumor stage before
all the seats were sold.

On Halloween, the relentlessly color-
ful crowd came bedecked in all sorts of
crazy costumes. One gentleman was accom-
panied by two ladies dressed in giant
rip-tac bags filled with bits of styrofoam.
"This is my bag of grass," he said, point-
ing to the lady with green styrofoam,
"and this is my bag of cocaine," he said,
indicating the woman whose white styro-
foam was leaking onto the audience car-
pet.

A number of fans came dressed as
Jerry Garcia, the band's famed lead gu-
tarist, almost all with stuffed-pillow sto-
machs. One enterprising Deadhead ar-
rived disguised as a life-size backstage
pass.

The best costumes, however, be-
longed to Allen Kelley, the artist respon-
sible for creating most of the renowned
Grateful Dead emblems, and his wife
Fenny. In skull masks with movable jaws,
he came as court jester, even sporting a
mandolin, and she wore a painted skele-
ton costume with a headband of roses —
they were his album covers applied to life.

A commemorative T-shirt with a
sketcher's hand holding a pumpkin and
one word, "Halloween," emblazoned
across the front was on sale in the lobby,
and a massive jack-o'-lantern sat on the
front of the stage.

By the time the band left the stage
after a 3½-hour performance, it was
abundantly clear that the Halloween
show would become legend among Dead-
heads, an elite offering filled with treats
to be savored by the cognoscenti.

Take for instance, the band's ren-
dition of "St. Stephen," a vintage staple of
Dead show's not performed by the
band in more than 10 years.

Word already had filtered back to
the West Coast that the band had, indeed,
played the song the previous weekend in
New York and, even though the Dead
had not performed the tune on Sunday,
expectations ran high that it would be
played on Halloween. When Garcia

struck the identifying guitar licks that
open the classic piece, coming out of yet
another extended set of instrumental im-
provisations, an ecstatic roar swept
through the crowd before a single word
from the song had been sung.

The band also thrilled the audience
with renditions of the Beatles song "Rev-
olution," another tune fans heard the
group had played in New York. Taking
the number at the kind of rolling pace
which the Dead specialize in, Garcia in-
stead, it fit the band like a glove. It
sounded like the Dead striding to
make a hit record out of the song for the
second time.

The Dead, however, never had re-
corded on hit records. Unlike other rock
bands, almost every aspect the group
does not need a new album to stir inter-
est in concert. Fans come out of the wood-
work for every engagement, often at

standing shows eight after eight. On Mon-
day, the road into the hall was filled with
Deadheads peering for a ticket, offering
up to \$100 for a rare ticket.

With improvisation playing a
major role in any Dead per-
formance, the sections of a
show depend on a particular
chemical synthesis between the mus-
icians. When everything goes well, the
band is a fabric on Halloween, working
brilliantly, with the music and
audience sections embracing each other.
Jerry Garcia's solo, however, was
just phenomenal. Arlo's soaring lead
instrument, as did Dead regulars Bill
Kreutzman and Mickey Hart.

Basist Phil Lesh put rumbles into
the walls with the uncanny range of his
playing. Guitarist Bob Weir, who plays a
melancholy larger musical role in the band,
than the usual rhythm guitarist would
disparately imply, added some stinging
tweez guitar to "Litter and Scurvy."

As always, however, it was the
guitar work of Jerry Garcia, who
rose or fell and, on Monday, he
was soaring. Garcia etched complex
melodic lines that seemed to go on and
on. "Exhumed Prophet" he gave the
solo a light-whisper that vanished
glowed in the dark and at West sang the
song. (Last chorus, Garcia nailed down
the vocals with a jagged, thumping line
that rumbled ominously behind the sing-
ing.)

The material included many songs
the Dead never recorded, such as the
Chicago blues number "Wang and John-
die" that opened the show, and a
political tract by Weir, "The
Stones" that featured a solo by
Garcia's snare rhythm. "When a good
friend falls down" in the chorus. Although
the song never has appeared on vinyl, mem-
bers of the audience sang along know-
ingly for the entire tune.

Deadheads belong to a small world,
where even unrecorded songs are well
known. Even with a strictly enforced ban
on tape recorders in the hall you can be
late tapes of the Halloween show are at
ready circulating among the insane
Deadhead tape collectors.

One prominent member of the small
world may have even been in the hall
Monday for quite a while. Longtime band
associate Bear — also known as Arthur
Stanley Owsley, former a successful
factor of LSD — said he had been in
Australia. He has determined that the
res of storms later that he was in the
new and sudden ice age of the North
Hemisphere and he is getting out there
while the getting is good.

1984 MIKEL CALENDAR

includes:

- highlights of 1983 MIKELS
- artwork by Doug Stein, Brian Cullen
- MIKEL/ETHAN STICKERS

put together in an unusual format, limited
edition, each copy numbered

\$10 postpaid [cal res add. 65 tax]

BOBBY & MIDNITES

OCT 13 MIDNITE NY (SUNNY GYM)
BOOK OF ROSES (FARAWAY/FESTIVAL)
YOUNGBOUNDS (TRY HARD/BIG ROOM)
LIVE IN AMERICA (EASY TO SLIP)
JANUARY (MUSIC OF GRAY) HEAVEN HELP
THE PAUL DROWNS (JOSEPHINE
OUT OF CONTROL)
OCT 15 BUFFALO NY (SWEET TASTE)
POISON IVY (FAR AWAY/SLC)
MUSIC (MUSIC/CITY GIRLS/VICTORY, COME
EASY TO SLIP/LIVE IN AMERICA) PAUL DROWNS
HEAVEN HELP THE PAUL DROWNS (JOSEPHINE
THE HEAVY METALS)
NOV 5 (PROUDNESS) RI (LIVING ROOM)
POISON IVY (YOUR LOVE/BIG ROOM)
CITY GIRLS (WORMS ON THE CHAIR) (LIVE IN
AMERICA) (EASY TO SLIP) (HEAVEN HELP)
JANUARY (MUSIC OF GRAY) HEAVEN HELP
THE PAUL DROWNS (JOSEPHINE)
OCT 15 (SUNNY GYM)
ROCK OF 80's - year of CONTROL



Thank you to Joseph Chertok, Jeremy, Rev. Henderson, Providence

