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April 2012

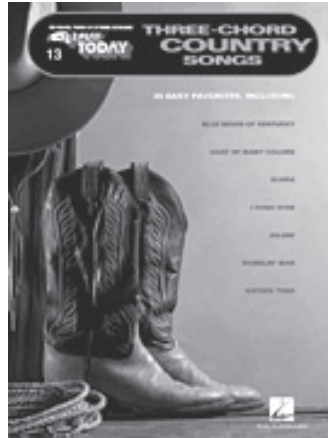
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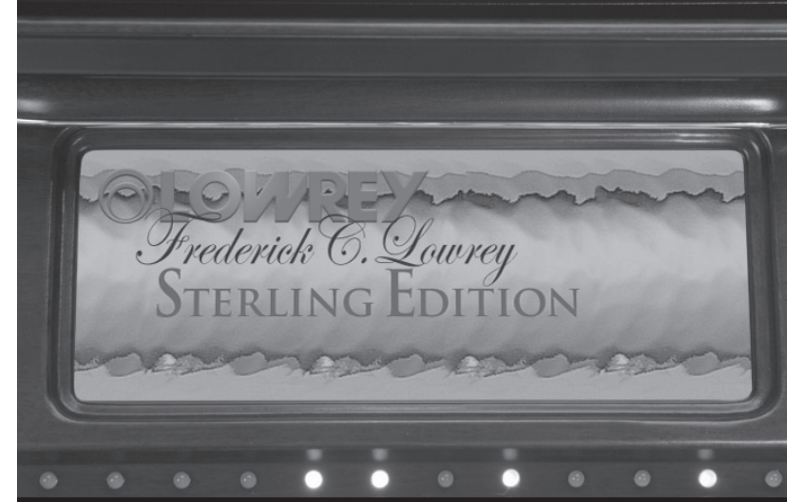
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Friends Play For Friends

Riverdale, Utah

The LIFE in Utah Chapter, sponsored by the Piano Gallery, continues to maintain an extremely high level of energy and activity. On a recent Saturday in March a gathering of the Chapter performed at the monthly Friends Play for Friends concert. Players from beginners to experienced came together to share music. And of course, what would be a gathering of Lowrey music makers be without everyone sharing their culinary talents as well. A wonderful variety of dishes made the pot luck that followed the music tasty indeed. It is worth noting that a pot luck follows each monthly Friends Play For Friends concert. Great Lowrey instruments, great music, fantastic food. That is the way we spend a Saturday morning in Riverdale. If your Chapter is interested in organizing a Friends Play For Friends gathering we would be happy to help get you started.

The Chapter also got together, and donated some of their weekend time to help out at the Piano Gallery booth at the annual **Spring Home and Garden Show** held at the Weber County Fairgrounds. With the Chapter's help the event was a huge success. Yes, LIFE does go on in Riverdale, Utah!- submitted by Tom Moeglein



L.I.F.E. Style

April 2012

Branson Spectacular

A Musical Must See

Visit www.dennisawe.com for complete details and sign up information

Get signed up and be part of the 2012 Spectacular. Promotional posters arrived at most Lowrey stores so check them out to see the dazzling array of artists appearing at this year's spectacular. Book your space now to guarantee your seat at this incredible musical extravaganza.

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Highlight

by: Bil Curry

The new Virtual Orchestra has a feature called **Touch**. Until now this feature was only found on the Elite series instruments. On the A5500 Sterling for example, this feature is called **Dynamic Keying**. **Touch** and **Dynamic Keying** allows the player to easily highlight notes in the melody with expression. This incredible technology now gives us the ability to sound like an authentic concert grand piano or an entire orchestra led by a conductor, YOU!

This feature is easy to use and responds the same whether you are a one-finger player, a conventional player, or somewhere in between. The harder you strike the key the louder it sounds! The principal of this “velocity sensitivity” is found in a piano. Press the key harder it plays louder. Play with a little more force for a medium loudness. If you want to have a note play louder, simply touch the key with more force or faster. If you want to play lower volume, use a lighter touch.

Experiment with the touch. You will find in no time you will experience music playing in a whole new light. **Touch** and **Dynamic Keying** makes your Virtual Orchestra come to life!



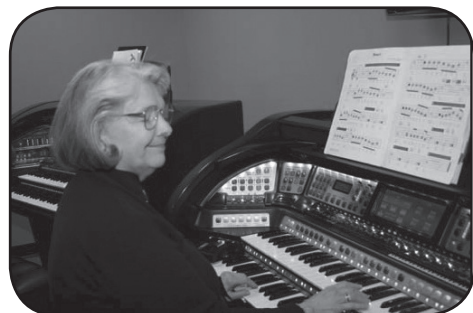
Friends Play For Friends

Dallas - Ft. Worth, Texas

Myrna Wood is a L.I.F.E. member from the **Cowtown Sharps and Flats** Chapter for L.I.F.E. in Fort Worth. She is currently taking classes at **Romeo Music** and is a longtime fan of Lowrey instruments. She learned to play on a Lowrey as a child and has upgraded many times since then. Myrna confides she was nervous about playing, but it was not noticeable as she performed a program of lovely music covering several music styles. Well done!



Dallas Metro Chapter of L.I.F.E. member, Donna Knight re-initiated her custom of providing pleasant background music for members to enjoy as they gather prior to L.I.F.E. meetings. Great job!



Julia Kish, also a member of the **Dallas Metro** Chapter of L.I.F.E., continued the custom by playing some of her favorite tunes for us. It's wonderful to hear friends play to get our meetings started on a good note. Bravo!



Sparks Fly in Pennsylvania

The **Sparks** Chapter of L.I.F.E., sponsored by **Trombino Music** keep an active music making schedule by playing out about 3 times per month. Recent gigs include: William Penn Care Center, the Silver Lunch Bunch, and Bethlen Home. A special Valentine's Day set was played for the William Penn Care Center. Everyone enjoyed playing and listening!



Don Rose



Jo & Jim Hursh



Ken, Don, Pat,
Don, Marion & Jim

The Beach Boys

by Maryann Agiato

Republished with permission from the Melody Makers of Long Island

Encore Newsletter, February 2012 Spotlight.

The Melody Makers of Long Island L.I.F.E. Chapter is hosted by Anthony Cozzolino / Maestro Music. After spending the last six weeks at the beach (or pool), and after hearing that the Beach Boys were going to have a 50 year reunion, I was in the mood to go back to the “good old days” – the sixties.



The brothers Brian, Dennis and Carl Wilson, along with their cousin Mike Love and Brian's classmate Al Jardine, vocalized together often as teenagers (usually in the mold of pop vocal groups like the Four Freshmen). California natives except for Jardine, the five rented instruments and learned them well enough to record the Chuck Berry – influenced “Surfin”, a novelty tune meant to capitalize on the burgeoning craze. It did well enough regionally to prompt Capital to sign the boys in 1961.

In 1962 the group took off nationally with “Surfin Safari,” and soon parlayed that success into a number of songs about sun, surf, and girls. Brian, who had been studying Phil Spector's productions, soon began writing and producing much of the groups material. The result was one of the few American acts who could hold their own, creatively and commercially, with the rising British Invasion. In 1966, the group peaked with two masterworks: the Pet Sounds album and the single “Good Vibrations.”

Driven by that desire to compete with acts like The Beatles, Brian worked for months on the Pet Sounds album called “Smile”. The pressure of the work, combined with drugs and Wilson's troubled family history, led to one of rock's most famous flameouts – Wilson gained weight, became a recluse and spent hours in a sandbox he had installed in his living room. The group continued to perform, and has had some hits since, but Brian's dissolution essentially marked the end of the group's reign.

On June 13, 2006, the major surviving Beach Boys (Brian Wilson, Love, Jardine, Johnston and Marks) gathered for a celebration of the 40th anniversary of Pet Sounds and the double-platinum certification of their greatest hits compilation, Sounds of Summer, the best of the Beach Boys, in a ceremony atop the Capitol Records building in Hollywood. Plaques were awarded for their efforts to all major members, with Brian Wilson accepting on behalf of his late brothers. On August 21, 2010 the Beach Boys opened for Bryan Adams at Empire Field in Vancouver, BC.

In February 2011, The Beach Boys released “Don't Fight the Sea”, a charity single to aid the victims of the 2011 Japan earthquake. The single, released on Al Jardine's 2011 album A Postcard From California featured Jardine, Brian Wilson, Mike Love, Bruce Johnston as well as old vocals recorded by the late Carl Wilson. The Beach Boys also celebrated their 50th anniversary as a group and released the long-awaited Smile album in the form of The Smile Sessions in November, after a 44-year wait, as a set of 2 CDs, a vinyl double album and a 5 CD box set.

In late 2010 reports began to circulate that the surviving members of the Beach Boys would reunite for a 50th Anniversary tour and album. Despite some uncertainty and initial denials, on December 16, 2011 it was announced that Brian Wilson, Mike Love, Al Jardine, Bruce Johnston and David Marks would reunite for a new album and 50th anniversary tour in 2012 that would include a performance at the New Orleans Jazz Festival in April.

On February 12, 2012, the Beach Boys performed at the 2012 Grammy Awards, in what was billed as a “special performance” by organizers. It marked the group's first live performance to include Brian in more than 20 years. This anniversary band lineup performed “Good Vibrations” with Adam Levine and Mark Foster, after Maroon 5 opened the set with “Surfer Girl” and Foster the People played “Wouldn't It Be Nice” during the ceremony. On February 16, 2012, dates for their tour were announced, which included shows in the US, Canada, and Europe.

From the original group Carl Wilson and Dennis Wilson passed away.

