

*The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra
&
The Pied Pipers*



America's Hits On Parade

Directed By: Bill Tole

Featuring: Nancy Knorr



America's Music On Parade

Enjoy an evening of America's Hits that inspired many of the greatest recordings ever made. A memory of these songs touched our deepest feelings in a way no other songs have or ever will. American's Hits On Parade are legendary songs from the most thrilling era of music that captured our hearts during an amazing ten years of music and history. The America's Hits On Parade was everywhere! Radio's broadcasted from ballrooms like the Aragon, Palomar, Palladium and the "Make Believe" Ballroom. Juke Boxes whirled at home while a world away GI's warmly welcomed the sounds of America's Hits. We danced at night clubs, USO's, ballrooms and truly had the greatest time of our lives. Sit back and enjoy America's Hits On Parade with an evening of the songs we cherished the most and will never forget listening to - I'll Never Smile Again - In The Mood - I'm Getting Sentimental Over You - Tangerine - There Are Such Things - Dream - Boogie Woogie - So Rare - Stardust..... and many more.

Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra™

Jimmy's musical training began when he was a young boy in Pennsylvania. Along with his brother Tommy, the talented young musicians joined Paul Whiteman's Orchestra and at the same time they were recording many records under the billing "The Dorsey Brothers Orchestra". Their band continued through the early thirties until a dispute over a tempo of a song separated the brothers for decades.



Jimmy found himself an instant leader of the band that became the birth of the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. His records sold well in the thirties, but as the forties got under way it was apparent that Jimmy and his band had jumped to the top of the charts. Jimmy had so many hits that he was known as the "Juke Box King", which made him the biggest success story of the time. Over the years Jimmy had many other hit selling records and a series of motion pictures followed, establishing him firmly on top.

During the early fifties Jimmy was still a successful name in the business. Even with all of his success, he joined forces with his brother Tommy in 1953 to become the greatest band of all time.

With the untimely death of Tommy in 1956, Jimmy once again was left to carry on, but only for a short time as his own health was failing rapidly. In 1957 he left us with his last and greatest hit "So Rare" which topped the nation's popularity charts selling over a million records. It was the biggest "Big Band" hit ever and has become a standard of "America's Hits On Parade".

The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra has continued successfully for decades and is still in great demand all over the world. The leadership has been passed on to Bill Tole who has continued to bring joy to the young and the "young at heart" as they enjoy the sounds of American Music – our history.

Bill Tole



Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Bill comes from a musical family. His parent's influence helped him develop an appreciation and love for the art. His father was a high school band director, and a professional trombonist and pianist. His mother was a pianist, singer, accompanist as well as a music teacher for children with special needs.

Bill attended Duquesne University School of Music. After four years of college he auditioned for the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and went on tour with the band for a few years. He later joined the United States Air Force dance band, the "Airmen of Note" which is the continuation of the Army/Air Force, "Glenn Miller Orchestra". Bill was the solo trombonist and assistant leader during his tenure with the band.

Bill's experience, expertise and qualifications quickly made him a much sought after musician. He moved to New York City in the 1960's and played in many of the top Broadway shows. He played numerous club dates with top headliner artists in addition to being very busy playing on recordings during the prime of New York City studio days. Bill relocated to Los Angeles in 1967 where he continued his musical career with recordings, commercials and movies.

Bill's career took a dramatic turn when a producer put out a casting call for a trombonist to portray Tommy Dorsey in a film. The film starred Liza Minelli and Robert De Niro. In Bill, they not only found a professional trombone player who understood the musical era, but who also had his own big band for the movie. As a bonus, the producer realized that Bill also played as sweet as Dorsey. Bill had the credentials to land the part and looked just like that "Sentimental Gentleman" in the movie, "New York, New York" released in 1977.

Upon completion of the film, Bill recorded his own version of the movie sound track entitled, "Music from New York, New York". In the 1990's Bill also recorded two other CD's of American standards entitled, "Big Band On The Move" and "Big Band Memories".

Bill has performed with many of the great stars over the years. He has recorded with America's legendary artists such as: Ella Fitzgerald, Bing Crosby, Barry Manilow, Tom Jones, Pearl Bailey, as well as many recordings and television specials with Frank Sinatra. Bill has also performed and recorded with many other big bands over the years including: Ray Anthony, Tex Beneke, Louis Bellson, Les Brown, Bob Crosby, Harry James and many of those glorious recording years with Nelson Riddle.

Bill has continued his extensive musical credentials by yet another accomplishment in the preservation of American Music as the leader of the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. The combined energy of the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra and Bill's sweet, smooth, sentimental style will take the listening audience from the great America's Hits of the 1940's right through the decades to the present day.

The Pied Pipers™

The assembling of the Pied Pipers, Frank Sinatra and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra was the most formidable of America's Music History and the Big Band Era.

The Pied Pipers officially joined Dorsey in January 1940, just before Sinatra, who was the new boy singer with the band. Both Sinatra and the Pied Pipers made their recording debut with the Dorsey Orchestra on February 1, 1940.

Much of the success of the Pied Pipers was due to their distinctive harmony and phrasing which prompted Paul Weston to state that, "The Pied Pipers were truly ahead of their time."

In April 1940, the Dorsey Orchestra combined with the historic pairing of Frank Sinatra and the Pied Pipers struck gold with their song, one of America's legendary hits, "I'll Never Smile Again." It was a hit for 15 weeks and remained on the charts for an additional 25 weeks. This memorable song was certainly an all time American standard and was the first hit for Frank and the Pipers. Many more hits followed such as... This Love Of Mine - There Are Such Things - Oh, Look At Me Now - Stardust - The One I Love Belongs To Somebody Else and Put Your Dreams Away For Another Day, which later became Sinatra's theme song.

The Pied Pipers made four movies during this magical time, including Sinatra's first, Las Vegas Nights. The other movies followed within the next few years, Ship Ahoy, DuBarry Was A Lady and Reveille With Beverly, featuring one of America's biggest hits, Night And Day.

The Pied Pipers left Dorsey to join Johnny Mercer, who was the greatest lyricist of the day and founder of a new record company in Hollywood, called Capitol Records. The Pied Pipers were the first artists to sign with Capitol and collectively made music history by recording their First Gold Record, "Dream."

From 1945-46 the quartet took part in a series of National Theatre tours with Frank Sinatra. They then became a second-billed attraction on Sinatra's CBS radio show and later were regulars on Sinatra's TV series, "Your Hit Parade." Many radio and television appearances followed over the years, including Johnny Mercer's radio show "Chesterfield Music Shop", which used the Pied Pipers biggest hit and truly an American classic "Dream" as the closing theme.

The Pied Pipers are American icons in the world of music and were voted the number one vocal group of all time for six consecutive years in Billboard Magazine. More recently the Pied Pipers were presented a "Harmony Award" and were honored as the 2001 inductees into the Vocal Group Hall Of Fame.



Nancy Knorr

Nancy, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was fortunate in that as a child she was exposed to some of the finest music in the country. She's from a family of musicians who have performed with all of the "Big Bands" and the musical greats that made American history with their music.

At the young age of 12, Nancy was with the world renowned Pittsburgh Youth Orchestra. As a classically trained violist, she attended West Virginia University School of Music and continued in education and performance at St. Louis University.

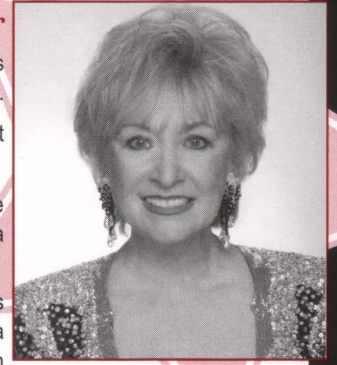
Nancy performed with the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra and many other chamber groups over the years. She has done considerable studio work as an instrumentalist and as a vocalist, recordings, commercials, voice-overs and in the fashion industry Nancy has worked as a model, as well.

In addition to her varied achievements, Nancy has had a noted singing career performing throughout the country with artists and luminaries of the American music industry. Her talents have complimented the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra as their featured vocalist for more than a decade, engagements with the Tex Beneke Orchestra, Nelson Riddle Orchestra, Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, The Clambake Seven, Glenn Miller Orchestra and many, many others.

Nancy has performed with and shared the stage with Frank Sinatra, Toni Tennile, Jack Jones, Shirley Jones, Hal Linden, Doc Severinsen, The Four Aces, The Lettermen and the Manhattan Transfer, just to name a few that are still performing our great America's Hits. Nancy was also featured on a PBS Television Special entitled, "Those Fabulous Forties".

Nancy's incredible talent as a soloist and her love of close harmony as a group singer is evident in the success of the American Vocal Legends, "The Pied Pipers" where she has been the lead singer since 1983. The Pied Pipers have continued to be the premier Vocal Group in the country today.

Nancy has continued her successful musical career with recreating the elegance and sounds of the America's Hits of the 1940's with her own style and vocal ease.



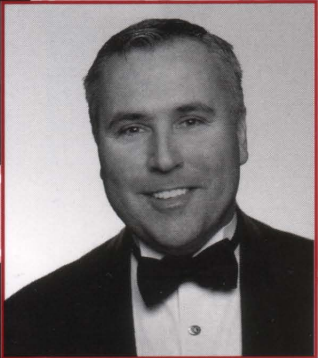
Kevin Kennard

Kevin was born and raised in Michigan and discovered at a very young age his love for music and theatre.

He nourished his talent and in the process with years of dedication as a singer, Kevin has become a very fine and successful performer in musical theatre, cabaret shows in Los Angeles, in the recording studios, vocal ensemble groups and as a featured singer with many legendary Big Bands.

Some of Kevin's notable performances include: the opening ceremonies for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, the Lincoln Center in New York and theater productions of *Guys & Dolls*, *West Side Story*, *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *Torch Song Trilogy*, just to name a few.

These wonderful credits and performances have made Kevin a much sought after performer, a perfect addition and an integral part of the sweet harmony of the Pied Pipers



Christopher Sanders

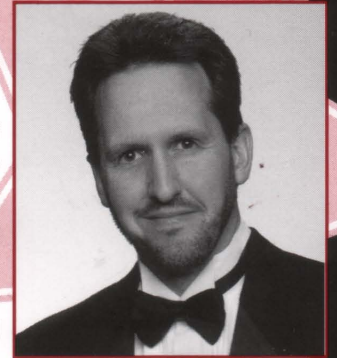
Chris is a multi-talented singer, actor and showman who has performed in a variety of musical venues both in this country and throughout the world.

Chris' multiple talents are evident whether he's performing with a Symphony Pop's Orchestra or in the legitimate theatre. His wide range of musical styles have been displayed with the Knoxville Symphony, the Pasadena Pop's Orchestra, at the Friar's Club and the National Theatre in Tai-Pei, China.

In addition to Chris' classical credits, he is an award winning actor with extensive experience in theatres across the country having recently appeared as Dr. Jekyll / Mr. Hyde in the production of *Jekyll and Hyde*.

Chris' other selected theatre credits include: Emile in *South Pacific*, the title role in *Phantom*, the Red Shadow in *Desert Song*, Adam in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Chauvelin in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*, as well as the *Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, to name a few.

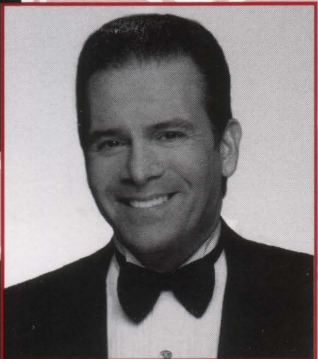
Chris' experience as a singer with the likes of Rosemary Clooney and George Hearn make him a natural performer and an invaluable member of the Pied Pipers.



Don Lucas

Don toured with the Glenn Miller Orchestra as Lead Vocalist for two years opening for American luminaries such as: Mel Torme, Rosemary Clooney Teresa Brewer and Jerry Vale. He has sung with Barbra Streisand, Frankie Valli as a Four Season and with Loretta "Hotlips" Swit in "Song of Singapore".

Don has shared the stage with John Lithgow, Rosemary Harris, Roger Daltrey, Harry Groener and John Mahoney. In regional theatres around the country, Don has played roles as diverse as that curmudgeon, Horace Vandergelder in "Hello Dolly", the Emcee in "Cabaret" and "LA Cage aux Folles", which earned Don a Robby Award for his role of the colorful Albin. His Los Angeles premieres include "Eating Raoul" and multiple productions of "Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh", which just completed an Off-Broadway engagement last spring. TV credits include *Golden Girls*, a three-year stint on *General Hospital* and a four-season association with *Picket Fences*. Don remains the only performer authorized by Lucie Arnaz, to portray the legendary Ricky Ricardo.



Sentimental Over You
God Bless America
Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree
In The Mood
So Rare
I'll Never Smile Again
Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy
G I Five
J.D.'s Boogie Woogie
Dream

A globe showing the Earth, with a map of the United States overlaid on it. The map is filled with the colors and stars of the American flag.

America's Hits On Parade

JimmyDorseyOrchestra.com
ThePiedPipers.com