

"ALONG THE WAY".....

with Lesley Gore

Fall, 1981

International Fan Club
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Hi! welcome to the fall newsletter. Hope all of you had a fantastic summer.

Before getting on to some club news. I would like to thank each one of you who took time out to write me about the Yearbook issued in June. I received some very nice comments and I'm glad the hard work of compiling the newsletter was appreciated. In the future, we will try to have three regular newsletters and the Yearbook. The fourth newsletter will be combined in the Yearbook on a page or two of current news.

It isn't too early to start thinking about what you will contribute to the next Yearbook. Time passes very quickly and the success of the Yearbook is dependent upon your contributions.

There is a new television program on (in New York on Saturdays at 12:30 PM) titled "Portrait of a Legend." I have been told that Lesley will be featured in the program on Quincy Jones. I do not have an airdate for it, so watch your TV Guides. I've noticed that they are repeating some programs several times, so if you miss it the first time, keep tuned for a rerun.

As many of you have been writing to tell me, "Fame" is popping up on many local cable television stations. So, do watch for it...it is excellent!

I wrote to RSO Records to inquire whether the single "Fame" was available on a 12 inch disco version. I received no response from them. I assume it is not available. Has anyone seen it?

"Variety" July 8, 1981 stated that Lesley and Carol Hall have written some country material and they were trying to interest some people in Nashville to record it. Have received no further word, but will keep you posted if I do.

Hope you've heard Helen Reddy's "Play Me Out" on MCA Records. Lesley and Carol Hall wrote the title tune and Helen does an excellent job on it. Actually the entire album is quite good!

Hollywood's top voice coach, Seth Riggs, was featured in an article in Rona Barrett's Hollywood (July, 1981). In the article, a list of artists Seth Riggs has coached at one time is listed. Lesley is on the list along with many top performers and artists.

No one is perfect and I never said I was! Sorry about the "imperfect" Crossword Puzzle in the Yearbook. I left out 27 Down while typing. The correct clue should have read:

27 Down: "I Don't Wanna Be a _____"

We've had requests for another Fan Club Dinner. I personally think it is a great idea and the get-together held several years ago in Connecticut was successful and fun. I would love to have another one this winter. I will work out the details and see what I can come up with in the December newsletter. The reason it was held in Groton, Connecticut is that fan club member Sharon Fortune works at the

Groton (Conn.) Motor Inn and we were able to get a big discount for people wanting to stay overnight. If you would be able to travel to Groton, Conn. for another fan club get-together, drop me a note and let me know so I'll have some idea as to how many people are actually interested. Then I will be able to work something out. I'll look forward to hearing from you, so don't forget to write!

From "Home Video", July 1981 comes the following article on Lesley:

"Gore always had a musical reason for existence in beach party movies. Rock and roll were an integral part of these flicks. The Supremes were featured in Roger Corman's version and the Animals in "It's a Bikini World." And, of course, Frankie and Fabian and Annette were all chart-busters. In "Muscle Beach Party," William Asher introduced Little Stevie Wonder on a split screen bizarrely juxtaposed next to blonde, befringed, watusi-dancing Candy Johnson. In "Ski Party" (starring Frankie Avalon and Deborah Walley), which is well endowed with beach party scenes, it was Lesley Gore's turn to try. Whereas Sandra Dee served as a Brooke Shields of the period, Lesley was the Jodie Foster, majoring in literature at challenging Sarah Lawrence College while reigning as the country's best-selling female pop singer, with her unrehearsed girl-loses-boy teenage trauma songs like "It's My Party and I'll Cry If I Want To" and "It's Judy's Turn to Cry." The petite strawberry blonde was the perfect performer to entertain in beach party movies. After all, her wealthy daddy's company, Peter Pan Swimwear, paid for the singing lessons. And although John S. Wilson in "The New York Times" compared Lesley's vocal style to that of Bing Crosby, little was heard from Lesley Gore during the 70's. But back in 1963, Lesley's 12 year old brother Mike used to sell his sister's autographs to schoolmates for \$.50 apiece. Michael Gore, now the Oscar-winning composer of "Fame," encouraged Big Sis to write the lyrics to "Hot Lunch Jam" and "Out Here on My Own." Now 34, and a self-professed feminist, Lesley lives in a spiffy Upper East Side Manhattan apartment building while awaiting new fame."

From When Rock Was Young by Bruce Pollock, Holt-Rinehart-Winston, 1981:

1. "To find a more antagonistic sister you'd have to wait until 1963 when the snarling Lesley Gore arrived with "It's My Party."
2. "Less cryptic was Lesley Gore, again berating a fellow woman, in "She's a Fool."
3. "And the women, those docile dollies tiptoeing through the man's world of the charts, in 1964 finally started tossing dishes against the wall. Lesley Gore started out the year raging "You Don't Own Me". By November, she was musing "Sometimes I Wish I Were a Boy."

I was going to have an old article featured in this issue for a "Remember When" page. However, someone borrowed my scrapbook several years ago and I'm still waiting for their return. Hopefully, I'll have one for the December issue.

Thanks to: Mike Gillespie, Frank Mc Cree, Robert Balboni, Sharon Fortune and Jim Allio for material in this newsletter.

Please continue to send anything you see on Lesley. I deeply appreciate it. I will look forward to hearing from all of you. Until the next issue, thanks for your continued support....Take care,


Jack Natoli, President

