

**BONUS - Volume II  
(2023)**

**to the  
"New" R&B Files**

**by Claus Röhnisch**

**THE TOP 4 R&B HITS OF EACH YEAR OF THE GOLDEN '50s**  
 - The Blues & Rhythm Years, 1949-1954 -



One year per row with four records 1949-1954.  
 In 1954 (when the R&B market doubled its sales) the 45 rpm record surpassed the sales of 78 rpm records (although they were obtainable during the whole of the 1950s).  
 I've tried to find the most correct pressings for each of the hits.



**THE TOP 4 R&B HITS OF  
EACH YEAR OF THE GOLDEN '50s  
- The Rock 'n' Roll Years, 1955-1959 -**

I've searched for best possible image of each original record label. Check next pages to find out if I've found the correct credits.



## Special Encore: THE GREATEST RHYTHM & BLUES HITS of THE GOLDEN '50s



This is really the Best R&B of the Golden 1950s. Try 'em all - 113 Super Songs.

Ranking numbers from Big Al Pavlov (with some editing). Chart data from Joel Whitburn. Month given after label indicates month of entering (hitting) the Billboard national R&B charts (or month of release when not charted - tw indicates total weeks on the charts). Flip sides not listed with peak positions only charted with a mark "flip ht" (mostly not the whole charting period). **Revived** links to youtube videos.

### 1949

- 1. Trouble Blues** - Charles Brown Trio - Aladdin - Apr. 15w#1 - 27 tw (Chuck Norris, g and Eddie Williams, b)
- 2. The Huckle-Buck** - Paul Williams and his Hucklebuckers Direction: Teddy Reig -Savoy - Feb. rec 1948, 14w#1 - 32 tw
- 3. Saturday Night Fish Fry** (Parts 1 & 2) - Louis Jordan and his Tympany Five - Decca - Oct. 12w#1 - 23 tw
- 4. Chicken-Shack Boogie** - Amos Milburn - Aladdin - 11/48. rec 1947, 5w#1 - 23 tw (Maxwell Davis, tenorsax)
- 5. Ain't Nobody's Business** (Pts 1 & 2) - Jimmy Witherspoon - Supreme - 11/48. rec 1947, 1w#1 - 34 tw (Jay McShann, piano - the parts rec on diff days)
- 6. Boogie Chillen'** - John Lee Hooker and his Guitar - Modern - Jan. issued late 1948, 1w#1 - 18 tw

*Favorite Golden Bonus:*

- 14. Rockin' At Midnight** - Roy Brown with his Mighty-Mighty Men - DeLuxe - Mar. 4w#2 - 16 tw

*Top Artist:* Amos Milburn

### 1950

- 1. Pink Champagne** - Joe Liggins and His "Honeydrippers" - Specialty - May. 13w#1 - 25 tw
- 2. Double Crossing Blues** - Johnny Otis Quintette w Vocals by The Robins and Little Esther - Savoy - Feb. rec late 1949, 9w#1 - 22 tw (Bobby Nunn, co-lead bass vcl)
- 3. For You My Love** - Larry Darnell - Regal - 11/49. 8w#1 - 22 tw (Paul Gayten orch)
- 4. Hard Luck Blues** - Roy Brown and His Mighty-Mighty Men - DeLuxe - Jun. 3w#1 - 18 tw (the Griffin Brothers orch)
- 5. Anytime, Any Place, Anywhere** - Joe Morris and his Orchestra with Laurie Tate, vocals - Atlantic - Oct. 4w#1 - 22 tw
- 6. Blue Shadows** - Lowell Fulson featuring Lloyd Glenn at the 88 - Swingtime - Aug. 4w#1 - 22 tw (Earl Brown, ts)

*Favorite Golden Bonus:*

- 32. The Fat Man** - Fats Domino - Imperial - Feb. rec late 1949 - 1w#2 - 9 tw (with Dave Bartholomew band)

*Top Artists:* Roy Brown, Johnny Otis Orch

### 1951

- 1. Sixty-Minute Man** - The Dominoes - Federal - May - 14w#1 - 30 tw (Bill Brown, lead vcl and Clyde McPhatter)
- 2. Teardrops From My Eyes** - Ruth Brown with Budd Johnson's Orch. - Atlantic - 10/50. 11w#1 - 25 tw
- 3. Black Night** - Charles Brown and his Band - Aladdin - Feb. rec 12/50, 14w#1 - 24 tw (Maxwell Davis, tenorsax)
- 4. Please Send Me Someone To Love** - Percy Mayfield and Orchestra - Specialty - 10/50. 2w#1 - 27 tw (Davis, ts)
- 5. Fool, Fool, Fool** - The Clovers - Atlantic - Apr. 6w#1 - 22 tw (Buddy Bailey, lead vcl; Willis Jackson, ts)
- 6. Rocket "88"** - Jackie Brenston with his Delta Cats - Chess May. 5w#1 - 18 tw (Ike Turner, pno & his Kings of Rhythm)

*Favorite Golden Bonus:*

- 14. I'm In The Mood** - John Lee Hooker - Modern - Oct. 4w#1 - 15 tw (John multitracked vcl/gtr; Eddie Kirkland, 2<sup>nd</sup> gtr)

*Top Artist:* Charles Brown, The Dominoes

### 1952

- 1. Lawdy Miss Clawdy** - Lloyd Price and his Orchestra - Specialty - May. 7w#1 - 26 tw (Fats Domino, pno)
- 2. Have Mercy Baby** - The Dominoes - Federal - May. 10w#1 - 20 tw (Clyde McPhatter, lead vcl)
- 3. My Song** - Johnny Ace with the Beale Streeters - Duke - Aug. 9w#1 - 20 tw (Earl Forest, dms)
- 4. One Mint Julep / Middle Of The Night** - The Clovers with Rhythm Accomp. - Atlantic - Apr. rec 1951, 2w#2 - 18 tw / 2w#3 - 8 tw (Buddy Bailey, lead vcl)
- 5. Night Train** - Jimmy Forest, tenor and all star combo - United - Mar. 7w#1 - 20 tw (Forrest)
- 6. 3 O' Clock Blues** - B. B. King - RPM - 12/51. 5w#1 - 17 tw (probably Ike Turner, pno)

*Favorite Golden Bonus:*

- 11. Juke** - Little Walter and his Night Cats - Checker - Sep. 8w#1 - 20 tw (Muddy Waters and Jimmy Rogers, guitars)
- 15. Booted** - Roscoe Gordon and his Orchestra - RPM hit version Feb. rec 8/51. 1w#1 - 13 tw; and **Chess** (Roscoe Gordon, rec 12/51) >100. **K. C. Loving** (later known as Kansas City) - Little Willie Littlefield - Federal - Nov. (Maxwell Davis, tenorsax)

*Top Artist:* B.B. King

### 1953

- 1. Money Honey** - Clyde McPhatter and The Drifters - Atlantic - Oct. 11w#1 - 21 tw (Sam Taylor, ts)
- 2. Shake A Hand** - Faye Adams with the Joe Morris Orch. - Herald - Aug. 10w#1 - 21 tw
- 3. Honey Hush** - Joe Turner and his Band - Atlantic - Sep. 8w#1 - 25 tw (Fats Domino alias Kathy Thomas, piano)
- 4. Crying In The Chapel** - The Orioles - Jubilee - Aug. 5w#1 - 18 tw (Sonny Til, lead vcl)
- 5. Good Lovin'** - The Clovers - Atlantic - Jul. 4w#2 - 18 tw (Charlie White, lead vcl; Sam Taylor, ts)
- 6. I Don't Know** - Willie Mabon and his Combo - Chess - 12/52. 8w#1 - 18 tw

*Favorite Golden Bonus:*

- 7. (Mama) He Treats Your Daughter Mean** - Ruth Brown with Orchestra - Atlantic - Feb. rec late 1952, 5w#1 - 16 tw
- 8. Baby Don't Do It** - The "5" Royales with Charlie Ferguson His Tenor and Orchestra - Apollo - Jan. rec late 1952, 3w#1 - 16 tw (Johnny Tanner, lead vcl; Lowman Pauling, vcl/gtr)
- 9. Hound Dog** - Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton w Kansas City Bill & Orchestra - Peacock - Mar. rec. 1952, 7w#1 - 14 tw (Pete Lewis, guitar in a Johnny Otis-led rhythm quartet)
- >100. **Mess Around** - Ray Charles and his Orchestra - Atlantic - Jun. (written by Ahmet Ertegun, based on "Pine Tops Boogie Woogie")

*Top Artists:* The Clovers, The "5" Royales

## 1954

1. **Work With Me Annie** - The Midnighters - Federal - Apr. 7w#1 - 26 tw (Hank Ballard, lead vcl) - first pressings issued as The Royals; and soon as The Midnighters (formerly known as the Royals)
2. **The Things That I Used To Do** - Guitar Slim and his Band - Specialty - Jan. issued late 1953, 14w#1 - 21 tw (Ray Charles, arr/pno; Lloyd Lambert, b)
3. **Shake, Rattle And Roll** - Joe Turner and his Blues Kings - Atlantic - May. 3w#1 - 32 tw (Sam Taylor, tenorsax)
4. **Hearts Of Stone** - The Charms - DeLuxe - Oct. 9w#1 - 19 tw (Otis Williams, lead vcl, *not a Temptation*)
5. **Honey Love** - The Drifters featuring Clyde McPhatter - Atlantic - Jun. 8w#1 - 23 tw (rec Feb 4, 1954; Mickey Baker, gtr; poss Jesse Stone, pno)
6. **You'll Never Walk Alone** - Roy Hamilton - Epic - Feb. 8w#1 - 20 tw

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

7. **Lovey Dovey / Little Mama** - The Clovers - Atlantic - Mar. rec 1953, 5w#2 - 21 tw / #4 - 15 tw (Charlie White, lead vcl)
35. **I'm Your Hoochie Coochie Man** (Hoochie Coochie) - Muddy Waters and his Guitar - Chess - Mar. 1w#3 - 13 tw (Little Walter, hca)
- ././ **Someday You'll Want Me To Want You** - The Drifters featuring Clyde McPhatter - Atlantic - Oct. flip of Bip Bam #7 hit (Bill Pinkney, bridge vcl)

Top Artists: The Midnighters, Clyde McPhatter & the Drifters

## 1955

1. **Only You (And You Alone)** - The Platters - Mercury - Jul. 7w#1 - 30 tw (Tony Williams, lead vcl; Sylvester Scott, pno)
2. **Ain't It A Shame** (Ain't That A Shame) - Fats Domino - Imperial - May. 11w#1 - 26 tw (Samuel Lee, Herb Hardesty and Buddy Hagans, saxes)
3. **Maybellene** / Wee Wee Hours - Chuck Berry and his Combo - Chess - Aug. 11w#1 - 16 tw / #10 - 1 tw (Johnnie Johnson, pno)
4. **Earth Angel (Will You Be Mine)** - The Penguins - Dootone - 12/54. 3w#1 - 19 tw (Cleve Duncan, lead vcl; Dexter Tisby, bridge vcl; Curtis Williams, bass vcl and poss pno)
5. **Pledging My Love** - Johnny Ace w Johnny Otis Orch - Duke - Jan. issued late 1954, 10w#1 - 19 tw
6. **I've Got A Woman** (I Got A Woman) / Come Back - Ray Charles and his Band - Atlantic - Jan. issued late 1954, 1w#1 - 20 tw / #4 - 15 tw (Don Wilkerson, tens; David "Fathead" Newman; bars)

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

9. **Tweedle Dee** (Tweedle Dee) - LaVern Baker and The Gliders with Orchestra - Atlantic - Jan. issued late 1954, #4 - 15 tw (the Cues, vclgrp; Sam Taylor, tensax)
10. **Bo Diddley** / I'm A Man - Bo Diddley - Checker - May. 2w#1 - 18 tw (Clifton James, dms; Jerome Green, mrcs)
11. **Sincerely** - The Moonglows' (Moonglows) - Chess - 12/54. 2w#1 - 20 tw (Bobby Lester, lead vcl; Harvey Fuqua, bar vcl)
23. **What'cha Gonna Do** - Clyde McPhatter and The Drifters - Atlantic - Mar. 2w#2 - 15 tw (rec 2/54 - also unissued recs 6/53 and 8/53)

Top Artists: Fats Domino, Ray Charles

## 1956

1. **Honky Tonk** (Parts 1 & 2) - Bill Doggett (combo) - King - Aug. 13w#1 - 28 tw (Billy Butler, gtr; Clifford Scott, ts)
2. **Blueberry Hill** / Honey Chile - Fats Domino - Imperial - Oct. 11w#1 - 23 tw / 2w#2 - 5 tw endured into 1957 (Walter Nelson, gtr)
3. **The Great Pretender** - The Platters - Mercury - 12/55. 11w#1 - 20 tw (Tony Williams, lead vcl; prob Ernie Freeman, pno)
4. **Tutti-Frutti** - Little Richard and his Band - Specialty - 11/55. 6w#2 - 21 tw (Lee Allen and Alvin "Red" Tyler, saxes)
5. **Why Do Falls Fall In Love** - The Teenagers featuring Frankie Lyman - Gee - Feb. issued late 1955, 5w#1 - 17 tw
6. **Long Tall Sally** - Little Richard and his Band - Specialty - Apr. 8w#1 - 16 tw (Edgar Blanchard, gtr, Earl Palmer, dms)

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

7. **Fever** - Little Willie John - King - May. 5w #1 - 23 tw
9. **Roll Over Beethoven** - Chuck Berry and his Combo - Chess - Jun. 1w#2 - 7 tw (Johnnie Johnson, p; Willie Dixon, b; Fred Below, d)
- ././ **Your Promise To Be Mine** - The Drifters - Atlantic - Apr. rec 9/55, flip of Ruby Baby #10 hit (Gerhart Thrasher, lead vcl)

Top Artists: Fats Domino, Little Richard, The Platters

## 1957

1. **Young Blood / Searchin'** - The Coasters - Atco - May. 1w#1 / 12w#1 - a total of 13w at #1 - S: 21 tw / YB: 17 tw (lead vocals Carl Gardner-YB, Billy Guy-Searchin; Gil Bernal, tensax-YB, Mike Stoller, pno)
2. **Blue Monday** - Fats Domino - Imperial - 12/56. rec 3/1955, 8w#1 - 16 tw (Billy Diamond, b; Cornelius Coleman, d)
3. **You Send Me** - Sam Cooke w Bumps Blackwell Orch. - Keen - Oct. 6w#1 - 18 tw (Clifton White, gtr)
4. **Send For Me** - Nat "King" Cole with Music Conducted by Billy May and Vocal with McCoy's Boys - Capitol - Jul. 2w#1 - 17 tw
5. **Since I Met You Baby** - Ivory Joe Hunter w Ray Ellis Orch. - Atlantic - 12/56. 3w#1 - 18 tw
6. **I'm Walkin'** - Fats Domino - Imperial - Mar. 6w#1 - 16 tw (Lee Allen and Herb Hardesty, saxes; Walter Nelson, g; Earl Palmer, d)

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

8. **Jim Dandy** / Tra La La - LaVerne Baker and The Gliders with Orchestra - Atlantic - 12/56. Rec 12/55 & 1/56, 1w#1 - 18 tw
10. **Lucille / Send Me Some Lovin'** - Little Richard and his Band - Specialty - Mar. rec. 1956, 2w#1 - 13 tw / 2w#3 - 11 tw
28. **Star Dust** - Billy Ward and his Dominoes - Liberty - Jul. #5 - 10 tw (Gene Mumford, lead vcl)
- >100. **The Right Time** - Nappy Brown - Savoy - Oct. (Budd Johnson, ts; Kelly Owens, pno; and group vocals)
- >100. **Sweet Georgia Brown** / What Is The Secret Of Your Success? - The Coasters - Atco - Nov. (side A: Gardner, Guy and Nunn, joint leads / side B: Billy Guy lead)

Top Artists: Fats Domino, The Coasters

## 1958

1. **Yakety Yak** - The Coasters - Atco - Jun. 7w#1 - 14 tw (Gardner and Guy, dual lead vocals; King Curtis, tenorsax)
2. **Topsy** (I and II) - Cozy Cole - Love - Oct. 6w#1 - 15 tw, hit side is II
3. **It's All In The Game** - Tommy Edwards w Leroy Holmes Orchestra - MGM - Sep. 3w#1 - 14 tw a re-recording of his 1951 Pop Hit
4. **Get A Job** - The Silhouettes - Junior/Ember - Jan. issued 1957, 6w#1 - 11 tw (Bill Horton, lead vcl)
5. **Rock-In Robin** / Over And Over - Bobby Day - Class - Sep. 3w#1 - 15 tw (with the Satellites / Hollywood Flames backing vcls uncredited)
6. **Twilight Time** - The Platters - Mercury - Apr. 3w#1 - 14 tw (Tony Williams, lead vcl)

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

7. **A Lover's Question** - Clyde McPhatter - Atlantic - Oct. 1w#1 - 23 tw (feat Noah Hopkins, bass vcl)
8. **Sweet Little Sixteen** - Chuck Berry - Chess - Feb. rec 12/57, 3w#1 - 11 tw (Johnnie Johnson, pno)
10. **What Am I Living For** / Hang Up My Rock And Roll Shoes - Chuck Willis w Reggie Obrecht Orch. - Atlantic - May. 1w#1 - 17 tw / #9 - 14 tw
21. **Johnny B. Goode** - Chuck Berry - Chess - May. rec 1/58 2w#2 - 12 tw (Lafayette Leake, piano and Berry multitrack gtr)
- ././ **Zing! Went The Strings Of My Heart** - The Coasters - Atco - Apr. (Will "Dub" Jones and Cornel Gunter, lead vcls) unch. flip of Yakety Yak

Top Artist: Chuck Berry

## 1959

1. **Lonely Teardrops** - Jackie Wilson directed by Dick Jacobs - Brunswick - 11/58. 7w#1 - 22 tw
2. **It's Just A Matter Of Time** - Brook Benton - Mercury - Feb. rec 8/1955, issued in late 1958, 9w#1 - 15 tw
3. **Kansas City** - Wilbert Harrison - Fury - Apr. 7w#1 - 15 tw (feat Jimmy Spruill, gtr; Harrison, prob pno)
4. **Stagger Lee** - Lloyd Price With Don Costa Orchestra - ABC Paramount - 12/58. 4w#1 - 19 tw
5. **Try Me (I Need You)** - James Brown and the Famous Flames - Federal - 11/58. 1w#1 - 22 tw
6. (You've Got) **Personality** - Lloyd Price and his Orchestra - ABC Paramount - May. 4w#1 - 16 tw

### Favorite Golden Bonus:

7. **There Goes My Baby** - The Drifters - Atlantic - Jun. 1w#1 - 19 tw (Ben E. King, lead; Charlie Thomas, ten/bar vcl)
8. **Poison Ivy** / I'm A Hog For You - The Coasters - Atco - Aug. 4w#1 - 16 tw (Gardner & Guy, joint leads - B-side Pop #38, unison)
9. **What'd I Say** (Parts I & II) - Ray Charles and his Orchestra - Atlantic - Jul. 1w#1 - 17 tw (feat the Raylettes/Raelets) (53). **The Twist** - Hank Ballard and The Midnighters - King - Apr. rec 11/58, #16 in '59 and #6 in '60; 23 tw (James E. "Hank" Moore, ts) originally flip of Teardrops On Your Letter #4 hit

Top Artists: Lloyd Price, The Coasters, Jackie Wilson

## CORRECTIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO the BONUS (Volume One) plus some new info!

Due to an unfortunate mis-hap when editing the last of the Pioneer Series (the bonus volume) I had to fix a special "Volume Two" – Here it is!! The "New" R&B Files 2021-2022 (Bonus Volume One) is closed and will stand as it is (latest and final update Jan 24, 2023). This is **Bonus Volume Two** (dated 2023).



When presenting the story of Modern Records in an earlier volume i didn't find a picture of Jules Bihari (the boss of the company). Here then it is (far left) with yet another one of Saul, plus the famous Joe.



The image of the original duo of Bob and Earl (Bobby Day and Earl Nelson) went missing in the printout of the Bonus volume Well, that can happen some time ). Note: Curtis Williams was on and off the Hollywood Flames n 1954 wth Penguins duties, often subbed by Curlee Dinkins.

[http://www.keeponliving.at/artist/t-bone\\_walker.html](http://www.keeponliving.at/artist/t-bone_walker.html)

In the -Walker entry of the Blues Giants "Travelin Blues" was shown as a 1954 re-issue. Somamay havenoticed a catalogue number not identivcalwith the original ones -so a re-issue is right but prob 1960 and on sveral issued (LPs too) the rack on that record was actualy "The Hustle Is On" . Well, here is the original issue.



### Bull Moose Jackson

really deserves a presentation in this series – one of the very popular early blues giants. Here some info from wikipedia. **Benjamin Clarence Jackson** (April 22, 1919 – July 31, 1989) was an American blues and rhythm-and-blues singer and saxophonist, who was most successful in the late 1940s. He is considered a performer of dirty blues because of the suggestive nature of some of his songs, such as "I Want a Bowlegged Woman" and "Big Ten Inch Record". Jackson was born **Benjamin Joseph Jackson**<sup>[1]</sup> in **Cleveland, Ohio**.<sup>[4]</sup> He played **violin** as a child but quickly became drawn to the **saxophone** and started his first band, the Harlem Hotshots, while he was still in high school.<sup>[5]</sup> In 1943, he was recruited as a saxophonist by the bandleader **Lucky Millinder**,<sup>[4]</sup> and the musicians in Millinder's band gave him the nickname "Bull Moose" for his appearance.<sup>[4]</sup> He began singing when he was required to stand in for Wynonie Harris at a show in Lubbock, Texas.

Millinder encouraged Jackson to sign a solo contract with Syd Nathan of King Records to play rhythm and blues. The first recording in his own right was "I Know Who Threw the Whiskey", in 1946, an answer to Millinder's "Who Threw the Whiskey in the Well". The following year, his recording of "I Love You, Yes I Do" reputedly became the first R&B single to sell a million copies, holding the #1 spot on the R&B chart for three weeks and crossing over to the pop chart, where it reached #24. He formed his own group, the Buffalo Bearcats, and over the next five years recorded in a wide variety of musical styles

**Now We Know!** "Burnin' " by John Lee Hooker LP-session recorded in Chicago – Universal Recording Corporatin (Studio B) **October 26, 1961** (issued in 1962). Craft – Concord (US) issued a 2022 60th bithday re-issue, vinyl and CD (008880732424593) formats, featuring the 11 original mono takes **plus** the same tracks in stereo (same takes) plus one alternate "**Thelma**", also in stereo.





**The Coasters Play The Apollo**

The Coasters on stage with the King Curtis Orchestra at the Apollo Theater in the Harlem neighbourhood of Manhattan, New York City, New York, 1964. The band's lineup is fr l Will "Dub" Jones, guitarist Thomas Palmer (who entered in mid 1962), Earl "Speedo" Carroll, Billy Guy, and leader Carl Gardner. (Photo by Don Paulsen/Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images).Below: Also 1964.



The Coasters (with clockwise fr.l. bottom Earl Carroll, Dub Jones, Billy Guy, Carl Gardner, and Thomas Palmer) backstage at the Apollo Theater in the Harlem neighbourhood of Manhattan, New York City, New York, 1964. (Photo by Don Paulsen/Michael Ochs Archives/Getty Images)

Below: At the Dick Clark TV show on March 19, 1960 (Jones, Gardner, Guy and Cornell Gunter). Gunter was a member 1958 - mid 1961.

Below right: 1958 with guitarist Adolph Jacobs (lef - member mid 1956- - mid 1959, plus prob occ. up to 1960).



**Amendment to The Coasters at the Apollo!**

Unca marvy (Marv Goldbeg) has found some more Apollo dates featuring the Coasters (presented on hs super web site:

- June 16, 1961 Ray Charles, Raelettes, Coasters, Betty Carter, Jimmie Scott, Willie Lewis, Art Farmer & Jazztet
- June 23, 1961 planned as above but held over
- Nov 6, 1964 The Coasters, Shep & the Limelites
- Nov 8, 1968 The Coasters

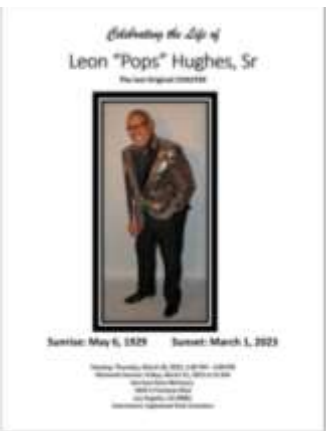




### LEON HUGHES

- read more at wikipedia -

*- the last the 50s/60s/70s(80s Coasters*  
 died in Watts (Los Angeles), California on March 1, 2023. He was born in Dallas, Texas either October 26, 1932 or (more probable) May 6, 1929 or '30.... and raised in Los Angeles County, California. He spent a full two years with the original group (February 12, 1955-late 1957, a period identical to the Coasters' rise to fame in California. During this period the double-sided million-seller "Young Blood" / "Searchin'" was recorded (in Los Angeles / Hollywood in February 1957. For some reason Hughes was not featured (subbed by Young Jessie a favorite of manager Lester Sill).



### Blues & Rhythm magazine obituary November 2022

**NAM GOODEN**  
 Gooden, guitarist of the instrumental, died on 4/11/2023 in Dallas, Texas, aged 67. He was a member of the instrumentals in the 1950s.  
 Part of the band of instrumentalists, in Dallas, Texas in the early 1950s, and he was one of the instrumentalists who were instrumental in the development of the instrumental sound. He was a member of the instrumentals in the 1950s.  
 Following a short stay in the Army, Gooden moved to Chicago, where he and his band, the Gooden Band, recorded their first hit, "Gooden's Blues". In 1957, he moved back to Dallas and formed the band, the Gooden Band, with Jerry Butler and the instrumentals, when Butler left for a solo career.

### Blues & Rhythm magazine obituary May 2023 – Charlie Thomas dies January 21 in Bowie, Maryland.

**CHARLIE THOMAS**  
 One of the most beloved of all R&B vocal group singers, Charlie Thomas passed away aged 85 on 31st January after a long period of poor health resulting from cancer.  
 He began his career in 1957, joining the existing Five Crowns along with Benny Nelson, original member Dock Green, Elsbey Hobbs and James Pops Clark. Their manager Lovell Patterson introduced them to songwriter Doc Pomus, who was running a small label, RBE Records. They recorded a song Doc wrote, 'Kiss And Make Up' and got booked at the Apollo Theatre. During the run of the show, the Drifters were fired by their manager, George Treadwell for drunkenness. Treadwell owned the label name and a ten-year contract with the Apollo. He needed a new offering and made an offer to the Five Crowns, minus Pops Clark - due to his name for the grape.  
 Treadwell also had a contract with Atlantic Records, so a session was arranged. Nelson had written a song for Charlie to sing but, in the words of engineer Tom Dowd, he "suffered from red light syndrome," meaning he was nervous in the studio, so Benny took the lead for the song that created their first single, 'There Goes My Baby'.  
 The hits kept coming. After 'Save The Last Dance For Me', Benny, (now Ben E. King), left for a solo career, replaced by Rudy Lewis. Charlie sang occasional leads, 'Sweets For My Sweet' and 'When My Little Girl Is Smiling'. Background singers came and went. Rudy died, replaced by Johnny Moore from the original group.  
 From 1964, I played with them many times and Charlie and I became good friends. Thomas remained in the group until 1967, but he returned to a new version of the group a few years later and was involved in a long-running legal dispute over the rights of the group name. Thomas formed his own version of the group, Charlie Thomas' Drifters, performing at small shows.  
 The Drifters were inducted into the Rock'n'Roll Hall of Fame in 1985 and given a Pioneer Award by the Rhythm & Blues Foundation in 1989.

**Billy Vera**

Seven members of the Drifters have been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (1988):  
 Clyde McPhatter,  
 Bill Pinkney,  
 Gerhart Thrasher,  
 Johnny Moore,  
 Ben E. King,  
 Charlie Thomas,  
 and Rudy Lewis.





# The Original Atco and Capitol albums by King Curtis



Atco LP 33-113 (1959) / SD33-113, Clarion (Atlantic) SD 615 (1965), Capitol ST 1756 (1962), Capitol ST 2095 (1964)



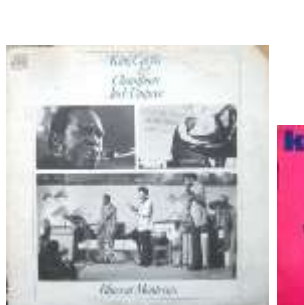
Capitol ST 2341 (1965), Atco 33-189, SD33-198 (both 1966), 33-211 (1967)



SD 33-231 (1967), Capitol ST 2858 (1967), Atco 33-247 (1968), 33-266 (1968)



SD 33-293 (1969), SD 33-338 (1970), SD 33-359 (1971), Atco SD 33-385 (1972, rec 1970).



Atlantic 1637 (1973, rec 1971), Atco France "Do Your Thing" 3013 (1968), Atlantic Netherlands 2358009 (1970), Atlantic Venezuela 50.033, Convoy Germany 849804 (1991), Capitol Jazz LP/CDP 36504 (1996 including the 1967 LP plus 7 bonus tracks).

# Some nice photos of Off-Shoot Coasters



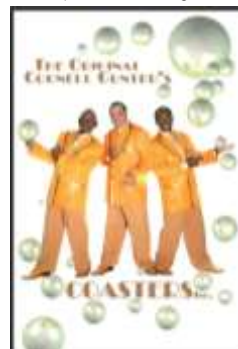
From late 1962 - Nunn's death in 1982: **Bobby Nunn's Coasters**. Billy Richards, Bobby Sheen, and Grady Chapman, with Nunn center front (1984). Nunn, Richards, Sheen – top left Sonny Chaney (1980).  
 From ca 1982 – early 2000s: **Billy Richards (West) Coasters** (with Richards Jr, bottom right prob around the 1990s).



From ca early 1980s - today: Manager Larry Marshak's fake Coasters, since Shirley Gunter "handed over" the rights named **Cornell Gunter's Coasters**, for long periods featuring Early Clover – here with Mike Mossard, Thomas Ross, Lee Bellinger and Dave Revels (who sang with this fake group for over 20 years) in ca late 1990s.  
 From ca late 1990s – Hughes' death in 2023: **Leon Hughes - the Original & His Coasters** (bottom center, Leon promoted himself as Leon "Pops" Hughes Jr in later years).



From early 1963 – Gunter's death in 1990 **Cornell Gunter's Coasters** with Nat "Buster" Wilson and Teddy Harper in 1974 – plus with Charlie Duncan and Edwin Cook (in later years). Both were to start their own new fake groups after the death of Gunter (with Cook leading both fake Platters and Coasters).



From circa 2002 – Chapman's death: **The Robins & The Coasters** (same lineup): Grady Chapman, Bobby Baker, Billy Foster and Bobby Johnson. Chapman had led off his own Robins/Coasters group, named **The Faboulus Coasters** (and the Bobby Nunn Tribute Coasters) as long as Billy Richards's (sometimes even featuring Billy and also Bobby Sheen).  
 From 2007 **The Original Cornell Gunter's Coasters**: Lionel Z, Charlie Duncan, and poss Ron Steenson

