

# THE CHICKEN WIRE

## FINAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION

*"Hey, What happened  
to the Fan Club!?"*

Is this what you've been asking yourself for the last ten months? Well, the band realized that they are caught between what they want to do and reality. They want to be able to give their fans that "personal touch", but they have been SO busy (find out on the next page what's been going on) that they didn't have enough time to respond to everyone (you know...write updates and articles for the newsletter, produce the gifts or special items they wanted to give to the fanclub, etc.). The guys love getting your letters and support, so keep writing and sending your pictures, questions, etc.

But...

As you may have noticed, this is the last Chicken Wire you'll be receiving. That's right! The PUSA Fan Club is going through A BIG change. There will no longer be paid memberships, but by being on the mailing list, you will hear about all the happenings AND you will be able to buy cool PUSA stuff as soon as you receive the brand new merchandise catalog that's coming soon to a mail box near you!

Hey! Did you notice the tape in your envelope? Of course you did. That's the coolest thing of all!!!! It's a little message to you from the band themselves, including original 4-track versions of "Ladies and Gentlemen" and "Boll Weivel" (commercially unavailable anywhere), "Road Runner" (a cartoon song cover album featuring various artists), and "Man" (a track that was going to be on their album but never made it). NO ONE, but you the fan club members, can get this tape anywhere!!!! So hold on to it: it's a collectors item.

Jason

Chris

Bill

Dave

*The Presidents of the United States of America Fan Club  
Newsletter - November 1997*

# What's new! and old.



Tired Dave arriving in Brisbane, Australia

Whew! Finally, the band has slowed down enough to tell us all the stuff they've been doing for the past year!

Obviously, you all know about "II" that was released on Election day last year, but did you know that the album went GOLD in the United States and DOUBLE PLATINUM in Australia?! And did you know that the day their album came out, they played on Politically Incorrect for the Presidential countdown? Yes, the boys have been quite busy these days. To promote their album the guys did a U.S. tour with Custard and Redd Kross opening for them, as well as performing at the KROQ (L.A.'s Alternative Radio Station) "Acoustic X-mas" with several bands including Republica, Bush, 311, Beck, The Wallflowers, Cake and more! A couple of months later, PUSA played with Tom Petty at the famous San Francisco Fillmore, and later performed with "The Captain" (from the 70's group, The Capt. And Tenile) on the premiere of the Jenny McCarthy show on MTV.

In April, Chris and his wife, Mary Lynn, had a beautiful baby boy named Augustus William Ballew. More happy news arrived when PUSA received another Grammy nomination for "Peaches". Chris ventured on his own to do a song for a lounge compilation (Lounge-a-palooza) on Hollywood Records. His song is called, "Robert Goulet on the River Nile". It's available now!

As the summer arrived, they started playing festivals around the U.S., as well as lending their talents for an AIDS benefit for the Chicken Soup Brigade, and GET THIS..... The guys performed in DRAG!!!!!! (check out the pictures on the next page!)

PUSA music also popped up into some hip summer movies, like "George of the Jungle", "Good Burger" ("Man"), and "Nothing to Lose" ("Tremolo Blues"). For "George of the Jungle" they did the title track and got to work with the famous producer, Don Was (he worked with everyone from Bob Dylan to the Rolling Stones).

At the beginning of August, they played a private party at Sony Pictures Studios in Los Angeles, BUT someone at the party forgot to get a permit to play loud music after 10pm, and the band had to stop playing in the middle of their set, or get arrested! As the police started to surround the party, the crowd went crazy and started chanting "BULLSHIT!" What a night!

In August, the band played after a Mariners' game to some 50,000 people at the Kingdome in Seattle to make up for their absence earlier in the year. In April they were scheduled to sing the "National Anthem" at a game, but they had to cancel just hours before when Chris' wife went into labor!! Luckily, this game the Mariners won! Too bad they weren't even close to the pennant.

Finally, last month they rapped up their Australian tour with Custard. (They love those guys!) It was a huge success!! There's love for the Presidents all over the world!

## FUN FACT:

Did you know that the owners of the TV show "Speed Racer" tried to sue PUSA for using the name "Mach 5" for their hit single? Apparently, the people who owned the rights to the "Speed Racer" name thought that the song was named after and inspired by Speed Racer's car (which is called Mach 5). Luckily, after discussions everything was resolved!



Chris Ballew at the MTV Jenny McCarthy show

## What the future holds:

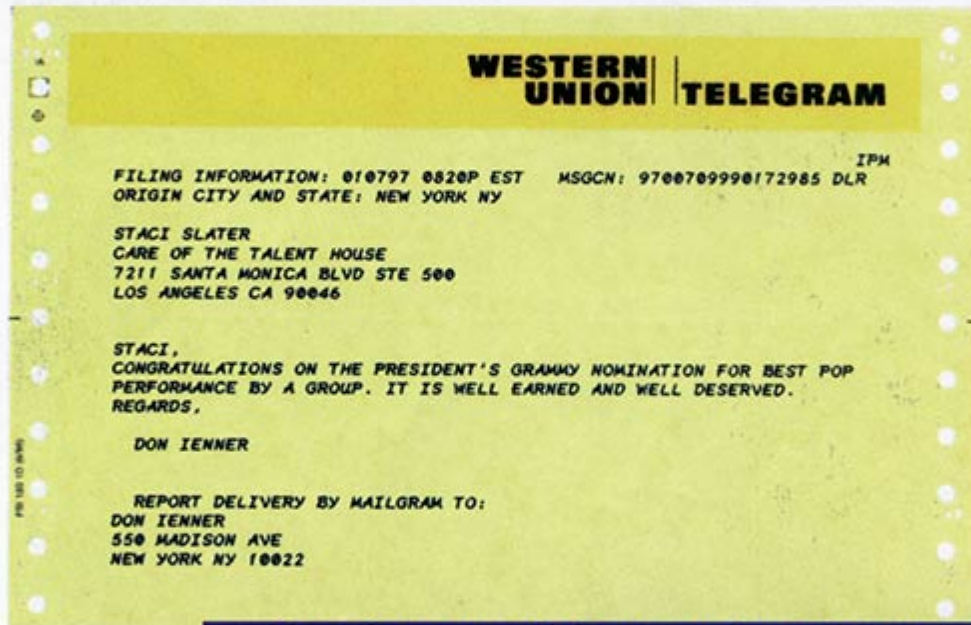
Well, PUSA is off to tour in Japan, where those lucky people got to see (in September) a cool concert and a special on Wow Wow television all about and hosted by the Presidents of the United States of America. BUT if you weren't able to get over to Japan to see or hear it.....keep an "ear" open for PUSA songs in some upcoming shows.....the knew theme song for the Drew Carey show (the remake of Ian Hunter's "Cleveland Rocks") and their cover of "Video Killed the Radio Star" in Adam Sandler's new movie "The Wedding Singer". The Guys will also be appearing on a Kiss compilation, and will be writing the theme song to an upcoming movie called "The President's Daughter." Plus, the guys are gearing up to make a third album when they come back from tour! We'll keep you posted on the tentative Summer '98 release!

Wed 17th Sept  
**THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
 Only Club Appearance

plus usual funky residency after 11.30pm  
**RELAX WITH MAX FREE**

EVENT	PIA 27SEP	SAT 27 SEPT '97	7PM
SECTION	GA	SUNCOOP PLAZA	
NO.	528	ACT. PR. SEATS	
COMP.	\$0.00	MTN. SPECIAL GUESTS	
BST181		UNRESERVED	
27SEP97		CUSTARD	
4272		GA	
		528	
		COMP.	\$0.00

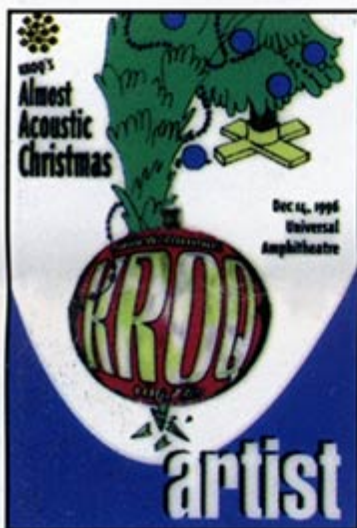
Check out some of the cool visuals from this year's archives.'



Here's something you won't see anywhere else! It's a telegram from the President of Columbia Records congratulations PUSA on their Grammy Nominations last year!



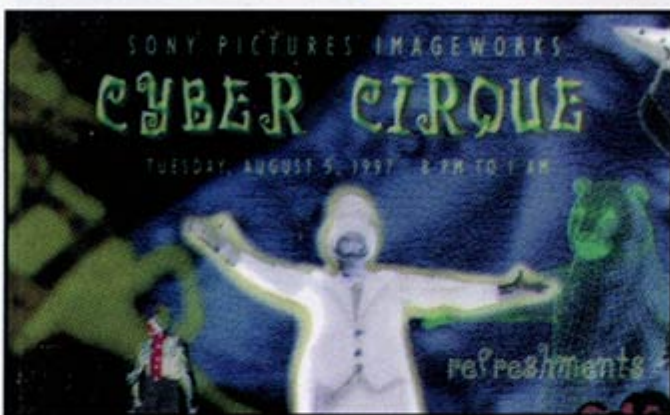
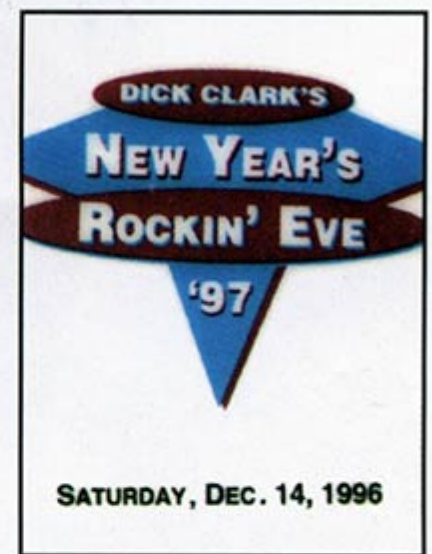
You remember this video? of course...it's "Mach 5!" Here's some of the photos; sort of a "Making of..."



backstage pass to the 1996 KROQ Acoustic X-mas in L.A.



photo shoot and backstage pass to the 1997 Dick Clark Rockin New Year's Eve show earlier this year. PUSA performed with Weird Al!



Here's a backstage pass for that sony party the band played for and almost got arrested!



Here's a photo with the host of "Politically Incorrect" Bill Maher, and a backstage pass for the show where PUSA kicked off their second album



# Some words from Dave Dederer



Dave performs with Custard at a fender event during a music convention in Sydney. They've become great friends since last year's tour in Australia.

We asked the guys questions that some of you, the fans, wrote in your letters...and here's Dave's answers:

(Plus, check out the next page for Chris' response!)

What do you see yourself doing 20 years from now?  
 More of the same, I hope- playing music, skiing, eating, being alive.  
 Do you read sheet music?  
 Yes, but very poorly.  
 What's your favorite style of music to play?  
 Good old rock & roll (e.g. Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Elvis, etc.)  
 If you were stranded on a desert island who would you want to be with and why? And what 10 CD's would you bring?  
 I'd hope to be with my wife. CD's I'd like to have:

Miles Davis:	Kind of Blue
Led Zeppelin:	Physical Graffiti
Willie Nelson:	Stardust
The Clash:	London Calling
The Beatles:	Rubber Soul
Blosson Dearie:	Verve Connection
Joe Pass:	Portrait of Duke Ellington
Nirvana:	Nevermind
Muddy Waters:	I'm Ready
Hank Williams:	Greatest Hits

What's the weirdest thing that has ever happened to you on a tour?  
 Naked lady hiding on the bus, mid-winter in Hamburg, Germany.  
 What are your favorite sports and which ones did you play in high school, if any?  
 I like all sports. Faves include skiing, climbing, golf, cycling. Played soccer in high school and spent weekends rock climbing.  
 If you hadn't become a professional musician, what do you think you would have become professionally?  
 Work for non-profit environmental organization.  
 Do you plan to release any home videos, full length videos, interviews, etc.?  
 Eventually, yes. Need more material.  
 Did you ever consider suing Weird Al for doing "Gump" or did you take it as a compliment?  
 A compliment of the highest order.  
 Since you've been famous, have you ever met another star where you were so excited that you felt like you were going to faint? Who and why?  
 I expect to feel that way when I finally meet Ted Nugent. Meeting Mick Jagger was pretty scary, but turns out he's an o.k. guy.  
 Besides Seattle, where is your fantasy dream place to perform? Why?  
 No bettah than Seattle.  
 What's your favorite book? Why?  
 Sometimes A Great Notion, Ken Kesey. Captures the feel of the Northwest perfectly.  
 If you had the chance to meet your favorite sports figure, who would it be and what would you ask him or her?  
 I'd like to ask Greg Norman what made him choke on the ninth at the Masters two years ago.  
 What's your favorite road food or snacks?  
 Anything healthy.  
 What would you like to say to your fan club members as a "goodbye for now?"  
 Thank you again and again for your support- not a day goes by when I don't think about how lucky I am to be doing this, and I know that you make it possible.

## Here's a letter from Dave to you!

Hey PUSA People:

Just a quick note to let you know what we've been up to the last few months.

The summer has been fairly relaxed in terms of touring. We've played a bunch of state and county fairs and a few other strange little gigs. Just a few weeks ago we played at a party for Sony pictures and, for the first time in our careers, got shut down halfway through a set. We were playing outdoors in the parking lot at Sony's L.A. studios, and the cops came and pulled the plug after four or five songs. Seems unlikely -- one would think Sony would have dealt with all this beforehand. But they had failed to get the appropriate permits, and the neighbors were complaining, so end of show. It was still a good party -- lots of free food and drink and this crazy vaudeville troop on stilts performed. All in a day's work in the weird and wonderful world of show biz.

I've been spending as much time as possible frolicking outdoors this summer, trying to clear my head and re-energize after two years spent mostly in planes, buses, studios, hotels and smoky clubs. Played lots of golf with Conrad Uno (Popluma Records guru and co-producer of our first record) and have spent some time in the mountains. The two highlights of my summer for me were climbing Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams, two of the Northwest's high volcanoes, and skiing from their summits. Before this rock and roll thing took off, I spent most of my free time climbing, skiing, fishing and such, so it's been great to get back out there.

Speaking of skiing, look for me in the fall '97 issue of Freeze, a new ski magazine. Also, I'm working with K2 skis and you can find me in the "Scene" section of their website @ [www.k2ski.com](http://www.k2ski.com).

Not much other news to speak of. We're headed for Australia in a few days, and I'm surprised to say that I'm completely psyched to tour again. It's great to be home, but I miss stepping out on stage and feeling the sparks fly between the three of us and the audience.

Thanks for your support, and we'll see you out there.

*Dave*



Dave and one of his best friends, Weird Al!