

Grand Band Slam 2004

By Advocate Staff

Party Band Floyd Patterson Band

The Floyd Patterson band — vocalist and bassist Floyd Patterson, drummer Marquis Rowtham and lead guitarist and keyboard player Frank Serafino — has been covering Top 40 music for years, playing a mixture of R&B and blues. But starting this fall, papa's got a brand new bag. The band will be touring locally with "Sweet Soul Music," a dinner theater-esque show featuring music by the Four Tops, Otis Redding, the Temptations and more, interspersed with comic bits and song-appropriate skits. Log on to FloydPattersonband.com for locations and showtimes. We spoke to Patterson.

Q: What was your first gig? How much did it pay?

A: My first gig was the Berlin Wonderbar in Berlin, Conn., in the winter of '79. To be honest with you, I'm not sure how much [it paid], but probably 50 bucks.

Q: How many Valley bands have you been in?

A: Oh, a lot of different bands until '85, when I started my present band.

Q: Who's your favorite Valley musician?

A: Well, my favorite musician doesn't play anymore. It was bass player Brian Allaire. Actually probably bassist Dave Natale too.

Q: What's the craziest thing a fan ever did at one of your shows?

A: I saw a fan get arrested right in front of the stage but I don't know what she did. They just cuffed her and took her off. It kind of shook us all up.

Q: Who do you listen to?

A: James Brown, Tower of Power, Otis Redding, all the old soul.

Q: Who's cooler: Godzilla or Gamera?

A: Oh, yeah. They fought. Wasn't that the turtle with fire coming out of his uh, uh ...?

