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The Sweet Sounds Of The Oldie Girl Groups

By Mary Ann Apostol

Like the men, the girl groups in Doo Wop relied on harmonies, but they were also a step or two

further into the recording studio. These groups came later in the Doo Wop Era, and were concentrated mainly in the period of the early 1960s. By the same token, the girls remained on the charts later, still having a strong presence for a year or two after the Beatles and all the other British groups began filling our air waves. Girl groups were a force on the charts by 1962, and were still hanging in there in 1965.

Just as the guys had sung about girls, the girls' songs were mainly about guys. These young women mixed standard pop with rock n' roll sass, while usually conveying a feeling of innocence. They had more instruments backing them up, but their harmonies were firmly based in the Doo Wop tradition. The lyrics in these songs were simple, but heartfelt. They dealt with teenaged problems of getting together, breaking apart, and a kid's standing within the group. They were a girl's version of high school set to music.

How could any girl (or guy) of the early `60s not know what was going on when the Angels sang "My Boyfriend's Back"? When the Chiffons sang "Don't Say Nothin' Bad About My Baby" everyone in the audience knew exactly what was going on. These songs used the now-classic Doo Wop harmonies to communicate old feelings in a new way. They've been speaking to teenagers and former teenagers ever since, and it's hard for anyone who's ever grown up not to get the message.

Some other truly great oldies by the most popular girl groups at that time included: "Sweet Talkin' Guy" by the Chiffons, "I Met Him on a Sunday" by the Shirelles, "Easier Said Than Done" by the Essex, "I Love How You Love Me" by the Paris Sisters, and "He's a Rebel" by the Crystals.

Remember the oldies but goodies way back when? Rediscover the sounds of yesterday Find out what your favorite golden era performers of the 50's, 60's and 70's are doing today Mary Ann Apostol brings you her FREE I love the Oldies Newsletter. Go to

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Hair Bows For Your Flower Girl

By Jessica Furtney

My daughter, Emily (4 years old), was just recently in a wedding for my brother. She was a flower girl. She was so happy and excited about having a part in her Uncle's big day, and it was very hard to keep her relatively calm, this being her first opportunity to be a flower girl. We searched for a flower girl dress and shoes and found frilly little socks, and then we needed to find a wreath for her hair. I did some serious searching on the internet and in many bridal stores that would specialize in items for a flower girl. I really couldn't find anything I liked, so we left it up to the bride. Our flower girl had found something she really liked, and I was thankful not to have to look any longer.

On that wedding day we went to the hair dressers to get her hair done in a special way. After the flower girl "do", we tried to get a very stiff wire crown to stay on top of her head. That wreath was not going to stay on that bouncy, excited little head of my daughter. Still, I was thankful to have something and to have not had to make it myself. It was a rather simple look for a flower girl, so I decided to dress it up with a big, white organza hair bow with tails and all. I put the hair bow on a French clip, thinking that that would help keep this wreath on her head. While we were at the hair dressers and trying to get it to stay on, I realized it needed two alligator clips on the front too. We did manage to get the wreath to stay on, but while I stood there and watched the hair dresser try to get the wreath on, it came to me that what our little flower girl really needed: something light, and simple, but pretty enough to make our girls feel special.

It was then that I came up with a wreath of ribbons in satin, organza, and other decorative ribbons that have been put on a ribbon wreath specifically designed for a flower girl. This made it far easier to either bobby pin to their hair, or even to tie on with a ribbon. We have come up with a light and beautiful hair accessory for any flower girl which can be made in all white, or with a few color accents to match whatever dress you desire. The key for flower girl hair accessories is to make them practical, and yet sophisticated. We tried to make one style that would accommodate any hair style. If the hair style for your flower girl is the "hair down" type of hair style, use our wreath as a headband. If the flower girl needs to have her hair piled in curls on top of her head, then the wreath of ribbons can be tied however tight you need and simply bobby pinned into the hair around the curls.

Jessica Furtney is the president of Bows For Best Friends

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, a

company based in Simpsonville, SC that designs and manufactures high quality hair bows and hair accessories.



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