

El Rey and The Night Beats

Over 50 Years of Great Rock 'N Roll!

Okay fans -

This is the time of year when it is more than appropriate to look back and count our blessings. You've all been waiting patiently for the news as to the status of "El Rey and the Night Beats", so we thought it was only fair to let you know at this time.

First of all, these last 54 years have been some of the most fulfilling that anyone can imagine. Some of the major acts that we have had the pleasure to open for, some of the terrific venues that we have had the opportunity to now say, "Oh yeah, we've played there", and over 40 musicians that have come and gone as part of the group, but most of all, it has been the loyalty of all of you - our fans - that bring the biggest smiles to our faces.

The last few years have brought about some extra-special challenges. Yes, we are all getting older, and hauling the equipment doesn't happen all by itself. There have been some health challenges (as well as the loss) of some of our very close family members, friends, and fans.

Turn-over of band members - although inevitable - is never an easy task. We had actually at one point seriously anticipated that year #53 would have been the last, and there would not have been a year #54. As luck (and will) would have it, the fans, band members, and even former bandmates, all encouraged us to keep it going. How could we say no to #54? And so it was - year #54 was a great year.

We are all truly blessed and thankful.

Now comes the decision for year #55...and it's time to consider it all again.

We are all another year older. The equipment is heavier than it has ever been. Our own health and that of our families and close friends is still present in our minds.

Some members of the band are now retired from their day jobs and are looking forward to moving on to a different stage in their lives.

So once again, we must weigh all that against the joy we get out of being able to bring the smiles to the faces of our friends, family, and those that still come in great numbers to see do what we love to do. And we have to continually question ourselves and ask "Is our heart really in it?"

We have asked all the questions. We have searched our souls. And the answer - and it is not an easy one - is....

...almost there...

...a resounding "Yes!" - and we sincerely thank you all for your encouragement to keep it going! You will see the Night Beats again in 2012 - year #55 is a go!

Although we never had what most would call a "killer schedule" in the past, we will be doing a reduced schedule, concentrating on those venues that seem to bring out the best in our fan base, as well as those that bring out the best in the band.

And we are pleased to announce that *ALL of the members of the 2011 Nightbeats will be back!*

But wait! There's more....

We have received such a great response to having Ray-man's wife Bette and her sister Barbara join us for a few special appearances, that you can expect to see more of them in 2012! And as always, we look forward to having guest appearances by many former Night Beats as the opportunity presents itself to bring them on stage with us.

Make sure to look to our [website for the schedule](#) It will be posted as soon as it becomes available.

Everyone can use another friend, so please take a minute to [become a friend on FaceBook](#).

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL - AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC YEAR #55!!

The Night Beats:

Rey "El Rey" Ojeda

Terry Thuemling

Gene Schiller

B.J. Gebhardt

Jimmy Capozzo

Duffy Wage

Rich Gonia

Ray "Ray-man" VonGunten

Road Crew:

Brian Price

Chris Price