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Monthly Musings from the Peas
March 1, 2012 Vol.2 * No. 3

We will be sending you our literature on a monthly basis and we will be updating our contact list. So, if you want to make any changes, additions or deletions, please contact us at whirledpeasband@gmail.com.

WEEKLY GIG

We are regulars at Catherine Rooney's in Trolley Square, Wilmington. From 7:30 until 10 we perform every Wednesday. For info or menu, directions and so on www.catherinerooneys.com

PEAS MERCHANDISE

Peas shirts and all four of our CD's can be purchased at our gigs or by going on-line to www.whirledpeasband.com

WEBSITE

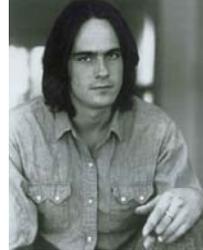
We are in the throes of revising our website with all the latest "bells and whistles" to keep you current and most importantly be informative to our listeners.

'SWEET BABY JAMES' TURNS 64

James Vernon Taylor was born March 12, 1948 in Massachusetts to a physician father and aspiring opera singer mother. He was the second of five children.

At 3, his parents moved to Chapel Hill, NC where he learned to play the cello then switched to guitar. His style of music evolved from listening to hymns, carols and Woodie Guthrie while his technique was derived from experimenting on his sister's keyboard.

He was enrolled at the Milton Academy where in his junior year he faltered academically and finished up that year at Chapel Hill High School. He returned to Milton in senior year and while applying to colleges he fell into a deep depression and committed himself into McLean Hospital where he stayed for 9 months.



In 1966 he moved to NYC and performed with a variety of people and became hooked on heroin and spiraled downward. One night he made a desperate call to his father who flew to NY, rented a car and drove straight back to North Carolina where James spent the next 6 months getting treatment and underwent a throat operation to fix damaged vocal cords.

Late 1967, he moved to London and his music was introduced to Paul McCartney who upon hearing him said "Wow, he's great." James became the first non-Brit to sign with Apple.

He returned to his drug habit during recording sessions and eventually committed himself to the Austen Riggs Center. Apple released his debut album during his hospital stay but because he was unable to promote it, it suffered commercially. After his recovery he moved to California where he collaborated with Carole King in producing the *Sweet Baby, James* album. Both the song, *Fire and Rain*, and the album reached number 3 in the Billboard charts and earned numerous Grammy Award nominations.

His struggle with drugs finally ended in 1983. His top 10 pop singles besides *Fire and Rain* are *You've Got a Friend*, *Mockingbird*, *How Sweet It Is*, and *Handy Man*.

PEAS PONDERINGS

I believe musicians have a duty, a responsibility to reach out, to share your love or pain with others.

I believe 100 percent in the power and importance of music.