

"OLD AND IN THE WAY"

by BRIAN WALSBY!



BEING IN A BAND IN THIS DAY AND AGE IS A REAL TRIP. IT IS INTERESTING TO PLAY MUSIC IN YOUR MID FORTIES AND IT IS EVEN MORE UNUSUAL WHEN THE BAND IS **DOUBLE NEGATIVE**. WE ARE OBVIOUSLY A BUNCH OF WEIROOS BUT EVEN THAT PALES IN COMPARISON TO WHO WE ARE AS PEOPLE.

A GOOD QUESTION IS: WHAT MAKES FOUR PEOPLE OF 'ELDER STATURE' STILL WANT TO DO A BAND? HELL, I STILL DON'T REALLY KNOW MYSELF BUT I THINK WE ALL THINK IT'S A WHOLE LOT OF FUN.

I RECENTLY HAD THIS REALIZATION THAT I AM GRATEFUL TO BE ABLE TO STILL DO THIS. I HAVEN'T PACKED AWAY MY DRUMS AND MOVED ON TO ADULTHOOD YET. I STILL DIG IT. SO I MAKE TIME FOR THIS. WE USUALLY PLAY TO PEOPLE HALF OUR AGES WHO COME TO OUR SHOWS WITH HOMEMADE T-SHIRTS OF OUR BAND'S LOGO. I USED TO DO THAT WHEN I WAS A KID. IT'S A HELL OF AN ENDORSEMENT! THESE KIDS SHOW UP AND GET THEIR LIVES RUINED BY LIVE MUSIC. SO THAT IS PRETTY COOL.

OF COURSE IN A WAY, IT IS SORT OF ALIENATING BUT AT LEAST IT IS ALIENATING IN A GOOD SORT OF WAY.

ANYWAYS, THIS IS THE GOOD PART INVOLVED IN BEING IN THIS BAND.



ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ARE TOO LAZY AFTER FOUR YEARS AS A BAND TO BE CAREERIST ON EVEN THE SMALLEST LEVEL THAT YOU CAN IMAGINE. HELL, WE CAN'T EVEN MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO EVEN PAY OUR PRACTICE ROOM RENT. WE AT TIMES GET THE SHORT END OF THE STICK... I FEEL LIKE OUR BAND IS SOME KIND OF CHEAP WHORE!

WE ARE LIKE CHARLIE BROWN, AND THE MUSIC COMMUNITY HERE IS LIKE LUCKY... AND NO MATTER HOW MUCH THAT FOOTBALL IS PULLED AWAY FROM US WE ARE ALWAYS BACK FOR MORE, EVERY SINGLE TIME! I GUESS WE JUST HAVEN'T LEARNED OUR LESSONS AND BELIEVE ME... IT IS FRUSTRATING.



