

HOWARD BLANK'S
THE
OUTSIDERS
BIO

THIS IS THE REAL DEAL, NOT A TRIBUTE ACT

THE OUTSIDERS were a Cleveland Ohio rock and roll band headed up by Tom King. The band was originally named **THE STARFIRES**. **THE OUTSIDERS** were a continuation of **THE STARFIRES**.

Howard Blank was a founding member. The band included Tom King, **Howard Blank**, Sonny Geraci, Mert Madsen, Richard Kriss and Al Austin.

They recorded over a dozen songs at a small local studio/label owned by the band leaders uncle Patrick. Uncle Patrick owned **PAMA RECORDS**.

In the fall of 1965, the **STARFIRES** recorded "*Time Won't Let Me*" at **PAMA RECORDS**. Tom King, the band leader decided to submit the recording to **CAPITOL RECORDS**.

Capitol Records said it could be a hit song so **CAPITOL** signed **THE STARFIRES**. Capitol Records had one caveat to the contract, the band had to change their name.

When Tom King told his uncle Pat, he was signing with Capitol Records, his uncle got mad and told Tom, "you and your band are a bunch of **OUTSIDERS** to me". That is how **THE OUTSIDERS** got their name.

Their song "*Time Won't Let Me*" hit the national Billboard charts at No. 5 in April 1966. The Outsiders also scored three other Top 40 songs in 1966, No. 15 "*Respectable*", No. 21 "*Girl in Love*" and No. 37 "*Help Me Girl*". In 1967 they charted three more songs and recorded three albums.

The band's newest member, **Laurie Beebe Lewis** was the replacement for Michelle and McKenzie Phillips of **THE MAMA'S AND THE PAPA'S** for seven years in the late 80's. She also was a member of **THE BUCKINGHAMS** for several years.

THE OUTSIDERS perform all their hit songs, songs from their albums, other songs from the era, songs from The Mama's and the Papa's and three new **OUTSIDERS** songs.