

Meow

by Sharon Lee



Mello there, and happy, happy holiday season! Don't you just love this time of year when it seems there's more love and happiness around? Wouldn't it be super if it were like this all year 'round?

I wanted to take this time to tell you about the marvelous birthday party we had for **TONY DeFRANCO!** **TONY** was 14 on August 31, and we had a surprise barbeque and birthday party for him at the home of our publisher, Charles Laufer.

TONY was so surprised at all the gifts he received from fans! "I've never had a party like this," he kept exclaiming, and his mouth dropped open in amazement when we presented him with our birthday gift—a ten pound box of chocolates! Everybody who knows

TONY knows how much he loves chocolate! **TONY** promised he wouldn't eat the entire box in one evening, but knowing him it didn't last longer than a week!

TONY wants to give a personal "thank you" to all who remembered his "day of birth" with a card or gift, or with warm wishes!

Speaking of the **DeFRANCOS**, did you get a chance to see them on "Action '73" on October 27th? They sang their hit record "Heartbeat, It's a Love Beat" and everybody on the beach for the filming fell in love with them. They really are a wonderful family to know!

Speaking of wonderful families, the **OSMOND BROTHERS** dropped in for a while when they came into town for

brother **MERRILL's** belated wedding reception! Were you surprised about **MERRILL**? So was I! In fact, when I found out that **MERRILL** was planning to marry, (it was just one week before the wedding) I was so shocked I couldn't say anything for a few minutes. It really took everyone by surprise—**MERRILL** said it was just a sudden thing! Now I know I really believe in love at first sight!



THE BRADY BUNCH celebrated the 100th Brady show! Isn't that a gorgeous cake? It's 5 years for the show!



DARLING TONY DeFranco was truly surprised when we threw him a surprise 14th birthday party! He opened all the gifts you've sent to him in care of TB, and we gave him—you guessed it, a 10 pound box of chocolates! Tony's big weakness is for anything chocolate! He gives his thanks and love to all of you!

The reception was held at the home of **MIKE CURB** (who just resigned as President of **MGM** records) and everyone about town was invited! I told **MERRILL** how happy I was for him and I got to meet **MARY**, who is a wonderful, beautiful girl! I told **MERRILL** about all the warm wishes that have poured into the office for him and his bride, and he was really touched by your love for him. He knows that he's probably caused some of his fans a little sadness, but when I told him you all understood, and were happy that true love has come his way, he smiled and said, "Yes, my fans are really wonderful, beautiful people!"

DONNY was all over the place talking and visiting! He's taken **MERRILL's** wedding quite in stride, now that he's used to the idea, and **MARY** is just like one of the family! After all, she is!

Are **ANDY** and **DAVID WILLIAMS** darling? You bet they are! They really are so funny, too! We took them up to Mr. Christmas, a shop in Los Angeles that sells Christmas decorations, to do a photo shooting for a story **Liz Dagucan**, editor of **FaVE** and **Tiger Beat Spectacular** was doing with the boys! (see January **FaVE**, on sale November 27). After the shooting we were all rather hungry so we went across the street to eat at a coffee shop in a department store! (It was the only place we could find around there open that late). Well, the food wasn't very good, but we had lots of fun! There were only about 6 or 7 customers in the place,