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OUR MISSION

SGNScoops exists to promote the gospel by unveiling what is intriguing and real about gospel music. With integrity, we aspire to highlight people who are fulfilling a call to minister and emphasize the music that inspires audiences and glorifies God.

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Have a SCOOP to share? For news consideration, email us at news@sgnscoops.com

PUBLISHER'S POINT

by Rob Patz



Can you believe we are already in the third month of 2020? March also signifies Spring, and for those that live in certain parts of the country, it means the chance that the snow will soon be disappearing from their walkways and streets, and flowers will start to bloom.

I know I've written in the past that I love Spring and it's no surprise. I love new beginnings. I love the part of life where things start anew and for me, Spring has always been a signal for the start of many great gospel music events. I have been so blessed to have the opportunity to now run and organize events throughout the United States.

Spring also means that Easter is right around the corner. As a Christian, it should be the most incredible time of year. I heard a sermon recently about when Jesus was crucified, and the one thief recognized how amazing Jesus was that he wanted to be with him wherever it was that he was going. I find it very fascinating because this man obviously had lived a life of only caring for himself or taking what he wanted from whoever it was in the society of the time. I did some research and we really don't know that much about either thief. I know in a lot of circles they call the thief that accepted Jesus as his personal Savior on the cross, as the "grateful thief." I think that's pretty cool.

As Christians today, we know that our society as a whole is spinning effortlessly out of control. I'm not here to say that I have an answer for how we can fix that, but I do think about the thief on the cross. He knew that Jesus was pure, and was willing to sacrifice who he was for more than just himself. I think as Christians, in this Easter season, we need to learn to sacrifice ourselves more to show those around us what it truly means to be a Christian. Not just Christian in word only, but Christian in deed and action. We are set apart, we are an example.

So let me challenge you, as we lead up to Easter, to be an example, to be the Christian that people are drawn to, not the Christian that's judgemental. Not the Christian that only talks to other Christians but to be the Christian that Christ so desired us to be. To be the person that takes the extra effort to lift up the people that are hurting, those that are looking and seeking for an answer, not just a religion, but a relationship.

That's my challenge to you between now and Easter. Find someone in your community, find someone in your neighborhood, find somebody at your office, and show them what it truly means to be a Christian. Because the outside world looks at us and they see the image of Christianity, not the relationship we are so blessed to have.

Let me encourage you to join us in Tupelo, Mississippi, at Barnes Crossing Mall, April 23 - 25. If you need more information, you can call me at 360-933-0741, or email me at events@sgnscoops.com.

Until next month, this is the Publisher's Point.



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Paul Heil: The Voice of Southern Gospel Celebrates 40 Years

By Rob Patz



Every genre, whether it be in music, film, television, or radio, has a voice that transcends generations.

In Southern gospel music, we have been not only blessed but fortunate to have such a man. He's a man of integrity and vision. That man is Paul Heil.

Scoops: Congratulations on 40 years! What inspired you to get into radio?

Paul Heil: My interest in broadcasting goes back about as far as I can remember, perhaps as an outgrowth of my interest in journalism, especially newspapers. I was probably one of very few middle schoolers whose allowance went toward subscribing to the second daily local newspaper at home. So, my interest in broadcasting involved the news quite a bit. In fact, I was news director at a local radio station for about seven years (just out of college) and then at a local TV station for two years (before beginning "The Gospel Greats" program).

Both of those stations were market leaders. But the production aspect of radio always intrigued me, and, growing up, a particular local radio station was known for its outstanding production. That inspired me. I was also interested early in syndication and networking. During college I created a 12-station live network of college

radio stations throughout southeastern Pennsylvania for a half-hour nightly news block.

Scoops: Who were some of your broadcast influences?

Paul Heil: My all-time radio hero was Paul Harvey. When I was in 7th grade I smuggled a little transistor radio into school so I could listen to his noon broadcast during lunch. Much later, when my family and I were vacationing in Chicago, one of the stations carrying "The Gospel Greats" program arranged for us to meet Paul Harvey at his offices. Sheila and I were, in fact, allowed to sit in his studio during his live noon network broadcast. Here's the "rest of the story:" <http://www.thegospelgreats.com/ciphph.htm>

Scoops: Tell us about your days on television in Lancaster. How did that shape your career?

Paul Heil: Actually, I was not on television -- except for some voiceovers. I was behind the scenes as news director. (It was) fascinating work. However, a change of ownership at the station created some tense times, and I think the Lord used that to help make me unhappy enough there to move on to do what he had in mind for me all along.

Scoops: How did you come up with the concept of "The



Gospel Greats?”

Paul Heil: My interest in radio and radio program production and syndication led me to look for some way to put this interest to good use. My brother, John, had a local singing group and introduced me to a monthly publication that included a Top 40 chart. Having been a fan of some of the syndicated Top 40 radio shows on the air in those days, I thought, why not Southern gospel? So the concept was born and launched -- with the first broadcast on the first weekend of February, 1980, on a handful of stations around the country. Conceptually, though, I wanted to include the voices of the artists telling their stories, rather than doing it myself (as Casey Kasem did on secular radio). That became the sound of “The Gospel Greats” program from the very beginning.

Maurice Templeton and his wife, Marsha, spent their first anniversary touring Pennsylvania Dutch country. Included was a visit with Paul and Sheila Heil

Scoops: Over 40 years, I’m sure you’ve had some unique experiences and some memorable interviews. Is there one in particular that was your favorite?

Paul Heil: Lots of them. I remember one particularly

poignant interview with the late J. D. Sumner, whose public persona was quite often somewhat gruff. But when I asked him how he would like to be remembered in years to come, he said simply, “I would like them to remember the real J. D.” Indeed, those who knew him said he had a heart of gold in his dealings with people he was trying to help.

Another interesting interview was with the late Kenny Hinson. We were interviewing in a classroom at a high school where the Hinsons were to sing. We finished up, walked out into the hallway and Kenny got this look on his face. He heard the concert starting -- with the Hinsons starting to sing without him. He rushed out, in his street clothes, grabbed a mike and never missed a beat.

Perhaps one of my favorite interview experiences was when George Younce co-hosted “The Gospel Greats” program’s 20th anniversary edition in 2000. This was just after the Cathedrals had retired, and we actually recorded the program in George’s sunroom in Stow, Ohio. George was a very special man, always (along with Glen Payne) very supportive of what we were doing.



Scoops: Is there anyone that you wish that you had had the opportunity to interview?

Paul Heil: I would have loved to interview Albert E. Brumley. He contributed so much to this music and had quite a story to tell. (We’ve always considered his son, Bob, to be a good friend, too.) Actually, as I think about your question, I must say that we have been extremely blessed to have interviewed so many of the veterans of this music who have passed on to Glory -- stalwarts such as James Blackwood, Brock Speer, George Younce, Glen Payne, J. D. Sumner, Rex Nelon and many others. In retrospect, those experiences become even more precious.

Scoops: How do you see radio evolving over the next

five years?

Paul Heil: Next question? No -- I really don't know. Radio, as we've known it for decades, has succeeded best when it did an outstanding job at what it does best -- communicate. In Christian radio, we have the greatest message of all to communicate -- the Gospel. And, of course, the Gospel deserves our very best. Southern gospel radio entertains to communicate. But the message is the most important element here. Technological changes may bring ears to radio in different ways in the future, but those ears; will only stay tuned if we make it worth their time.

Scoops: For someone reading this who is contemplating a career in broadcasting, what advice would you give them?

Paul Heil: Have you considered farming? No, seriously, there are great opportunities in broadcasting. But, as is the case in most endeavors, you have to give it your best. You have to learn the fundamentals. People used to look at me strangely when I suggest to someone wanting to get into Christian radio that they first work

in, and get trained by, an outstanding secular station. That was my background. When the skills are in place, then it's time to take and use those skills in Christian radio. Do whatever the job requires -- and gob that.

Scoops: With all of the experience you have, what is something you wish you could go back and tell your younger self?

Paul Heil: My greatest problems, professionally, have been the result of spreading myself too thinly among multiple projects. I've always had more interests than time to pursue those interests fully. I would tell my younger self, to focus more on the primary jobs -- or job -- that I believe the Lord gave me to do, which is, for the past forty years, "The Gospel Greats" program. Don't get me wrong -- I think the Lord has blessed my other endeavors over the years, too, but that was his grace at work and not necessarily his perfect will.

Scoops: Another aspect of your life is Springside Marketing. For those who may not be familiar with it, tell us what it is and how you came up with the idea for it.

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Paul Heil: Springside started back in 1986 when we had so many people writing in to our program to say that they just didn't know where to get all of the music we were playing on the air. Bookstores that even had music departments seldom had a very good selection of Southern gospel music. So we started selling records and cassettes by mail through a catalog, and have continued to this day. Of course, today it's CDs and DVDs, primarily. The website for that is www.springside.com.



Scoops: Tell us about Paul Heil when he is off the air. What are some of your favorite activities?

Paul Heil: A favorite activity of mine these days is being with our little two-year old granddaughter (who will soon have a sibling, thank the Lord). She is amazing. I also like to do interior renovation work at the house, finish carpentry, drywalling, electrical (but not plumbing), etc. I've often told Sheila we're moving into a new house, one room at a time. But the press of work makes any such projects drag out for a very long time.

Scoops: Do you and Sheila have any favorite vacation destinations?

Paul Heil: Not particularly. We've taken some bus trips to sightsee in the past. We go on the Singing at Sea Cruise most years. But we really don't get away much.

Scoops: Outside of music and broadcasting, what are you most passionate about?

Paul Heil: The best answer would simply be "the Gospel." That's the bottom line, as it should be for all of us. How can we get it out there, how can we reach more people? I feel SO blessed that the Lord gave me a love for the work I do which, by the way, just happens to get the Gospel out there. And, as someone recently pointed

out to me, with the internet the Gospel (through our program and many others) can literally be heard around the world.

Scoops: If you hadn't gone into broadcasting, what career do you think you would have pursued?

Paul Heil: That's a tough question. Perhaps something in journalism. My dad was a pastor, but I've never felt a call to preach, per se. I do feel that the Lord called me, instead, to the work I'm doing now. Nevertheless, he did let me experience preaching occasionally as a lay preacher for about 10 years in our home church at the time. So, I don't know a specific answer to the question, other than to say I'm sure the Lord would have directed my paths because that would have been my desire.

Scoops: You have interviewed countless people but now it's time to turn the tables on you. What is one thing people don't know about Paul Heil?

Paul Heil: You may not know that at the present time our business is entirely our family - Sheila and I and our two sons, Jason and Andrew. What a blessing it is to see them and work with them every day! And there's one thing that most people, I hope, do know about Paul Heil -- but if they don't, it's this: first and foremost, he loves the Lord.



Authentic: Get to know the Browders

By Justin Gilmore and Lorraine Walker



Implementing both modern and classic Southern gospel styles, the Browders have taken gospel music by storm over the past several years. Their musical journey can be traced back to their hometown of Hiltons, Virginia. Hailing from the same town of the original Carter Family, the Browders take inspiration from the legendary country group, but are dedicated to being authentically themselves.

This family band is abundantly talented and committed to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ to all. Formed by family patriarch Tommy Browder in 1990, the group features the talents of his two sons Matthew (rhythm guitar/vocals) and David Browder (bass guitar/vocals), Matthew's wife Sonya (piano/vocals), Sonya's brother Burton on lead guitar, and David Quillen on drums. The Browder men deliver power-packed, spot-on vocals, while the lone female voice, Sonya, brings emotion and clarity to their sound. These harmonies alongside great musicianship, provide an energetic and

authentic vehicle in which to deliver the timeless message of the cross.

Matthew and Sonya Browder are married, and have a daughter, Sadie, almost 2 years old. David Browder and his wife Kimberly have two sons, and own Browder Brand clothing. Tommy is Matthew and David's father, who thoroughly enjoys his grandchildren. Burton Ludwig, III, is married to Aphtyn. David Quillen, or "Q", is the accomplished drummer who keeps everyone on time.

"It's been quite a journey," says Sonya Browder. "We started as a family of four in a Dodge Omni car. We started small, with the limited resources we had, and just followed the Lord's leading the best we could. We've learned a lot along the way, tried to be teachable and learn everything we could about our craft, and be the very best that we're capable of. That's all that anyone can do."



“In the midst of all that, we’ve tried to keep our eyes on the calling we believe the Lord placed on us, and we continue to see people come to know Christ through our ministry and music, and Christians encouraged and challenged,” states the talented vocalist. “Where do we go from here? More of that.”

Awarded throughout 2013, 2014 and 2016, the Browders have headlined their own shows and have also opened for the Band Perry, MercyMe, Michael English and others. It may seem like the band has suddenly begun to grab the attention of the nation, but it’s been a gradual takeover of listener’s hearts across the country, with resulting awards and nominations.



“It probably seems sudden, but it’s really just been a steady growth over a long period of time,” says Sonya. “They (accolades) are not the goal, per se, but they are a lovely encouragement whenever they come our way!”

The Browders cite several influences on their unique

sound including other top family artists, like the Hinsons, the Paynes, and the Crabb Family, sounds which are evident in the group’s latest recording, “Authentic.” This moving project, released last year, features well-crafted songs, including the No. 1 song, “You’re Not In This Alone.” Sonya is featured on this powerful song that reminds us of God’s faithfulness.

“I wrote most of the song, and Matt helped me finish it,” says Sonya. “It was very personal to me; it was not originally chosen for the recording, and I had to fight for it. There was another song picked for me, and we replaced it with ‘You’re Not In This Alone,’ which was not even finished at the time.”

Sonya has recorded a video about the writing of this chart-topping song that reminds us that Jesus will never leave us, even when we are in the middle of a situation. So many songs are written from the perspective of the end of a problem or difficult period in our lives. This song comes from the perspective of someone who is right in the middle of a storm.

In Sonya’s video, she says, “I was five months pregnant at the time and I was 37 years old and Matthew and I had been married for over 12 years. A pregnancy was not in the plan. We have never even had the hint of me carrying a child ever in our lives. It was a huge change to say the very least. I spent most of my days teetering between panic and excitement - equal parts of both.

“It brought me to a place of a new perspective where everything seemed so much more important, everything mattered so much more, including this song that I would sing. I just felt like it had to be something very deeply personal for me. It had to be something that meant something to me that I could portray to other people, and I knew that this song that we were working on was not it,” reveals Sonya. She brought out a different song that she had just started, and she and Matthew finished it in time to record on the new album. Sonya knew that this song was the right one, at the right time, for this project.

The “Authentic” album has many great heart-grabbing, soul-wrenching songs, that it is sure to gain new fans, nominations, awards, and - God willing - new believers. You can hear the hearts of the Browders in every cut. Songs like “Healed By The Stripes,” “I’ve Come Too Far,” “When God Says Wait,” and “My Home,” will take the listener from clapping to crying to gaining a

new, eternal glimpse of life and heaven.

Including recent loss of loved ones who have gone on to heaven, Sonya and all of the Browders have come through difficult times, and they may still be in the midst of other storms. Sonya tells us to remember that our Master and Savior is there with us.



“There will come a time in my Sadie’s life, that Mom and Dad will not be able to be there,” says the new mother. “And as much as I want her life to be perfect and everything to go smoothly, and for her to never experience a heartache, that is just not life. That’s not reality, and that’s not reality for you, that’s not reality for me. There are times in our lives that things do not go the way that we have planned, and they do not go the way we expect them to.”

Sonya continues, “It’s in those times, for my Sadie, and for you and for me, that we can count on the fact, that regardless of how things are and how we are looking at life right now, what circumstances that we are in, Jesus is for us. Child of God, Jesus is for you. He’s not against you. He has great plans for your life and you are not in this alone.”

The Browders. Authentic, genuine children of God. Find out more at thebrowders.com.

Happy Birthday to the Browders



Congratulations to my friends the Browders as they celebrate 30 years of sharing the Gospel message! So many wonderful songs and such a loving spirit... It’s no wonder that so many people have fallen in love with their music and their hearts. I pray that the Lord will bless you guys with another 30 years (or more) of sharing the Gospel in beautiful song and testimony. Keep your hands on the Gospel plow and keep singing! -- Mark Bishop



I met the Browders before any hit song and they are exactly the same people before they had success! Very talented family. Very real family! Congratulations on 30 years! -- Steve Ladd of the Old Paths



I remember the first time I met the Browders, I was covering Singing at Sea for SGN Scoops magazine in 2014, sending pictures and videos from the ship. Their music was so touching and the way they connected with the audience was impressive. When they released the song “Fall On My Knees,” I was overwhelmed by how much I related to every word. I called Matthew and asked if he would mind if I recorded it on the album I was working on... and he was so encouraging. It ended up being the title track for that album and is still my favorite song! So many of their songs speak right to the heart. Without the Lord, we would be utterly without hope. “Praise You in this Valley,” and “Whatever You’re Going Through” are two more songs that have undeniably touching lyrics. Matthew has worked with many of the artists I represent, helping them catapult their latest radio single to the top of the charts. It takes many years of blood, sweat and tears to achieve what the Browders have worked so hard to accomplish in the gospel music industry, and they give God all the glory for it. That’s what makes them so special. Congratulations on 30 years in ministry! You are a blessing to all who know you and love your music. May God continue to bless you and protect you as you serve him! -- Marcie Gray of Marcie Gray Management



It takes way more than just desire and talent to stay the course, traveling and ministering the nation for 30 years; it takes divine dedication and that's what comes to mind when I think of the Browders' ministry! -- Derrick Boyd

of The Dixie Melody Boys



30 years is a long time to do anything! Especially the rugged roads and sometimes thankless life of a gospel singer. The Browders are celebrating three decades of unwaning dedication

to spreading the gospel through song. Congratulations to this great family!! -- Mark Trammell of the Mark Trammell Quartet



Congrats to The Browders for 30 years of ministry! Three decades is an accomplishment, no matter what you're doing. They are great folks with an awesome ministry, and I know they'd be first to give all honor and glory to their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Here's to the next 30 years! -- Bob Sellers



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8:30 am Clinician Mike Speck
9:30 am Clinician Cliff Duren
10:30 am Clinician Tim Davis
12:00 pm Lunch
5:00 pm Registration
6:00 pm Doors Open
7:00 pm Meet & Greet - Clinicians
8:00 pm Concert - The Isaacs

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3RD

@FBC SEVIERVILLE/@ DOLLYWOOD

8:30 am Session 1 - Mike Speck
9:30 am Session 2 - The Isaacs
10:30 am Session 3 - Cliff Duren
12:00 pm Lunch - Comedian
1:00 pm Free time at Dollywood

THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH

@ FBC OR LECONTE CENTER

9:00 am Doors Open
10:00 am Clinicians Mike Speck & Cliff Duren
11:00 am Rehearsals
1:00 pm Free Time
6:00 pm Doors Open
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Meet the Pastor

Dr. Charles Keen

By Bill Dykes

During 35 years as Pastor, Dr. Keen led First Baptist Church of Milford, Ohio to become one of the premier missions churches in America. Over 50 families were sent to the foreign field. Dr. Keen's mission burden later expanded to include the founding of FirstBible International to target the unreached people groups of the world. Dr. Keen oversees the ministry of FirstBible.

Testimony of Dr. Charles Keen:

I have been preaching for 53 years. The first 35 years were spent as pastor of one church, First Baptist Church of Milford, Ohio. My worldview has gone through a slow metamorphosis. In the beginning of my ministry, my worldview was basically a door-to-door one developed for me by good, zealous soul-winning pastors who frequently preached: "Capture Your City for Christ." I practiced this philosophy, for it is right and scriptural.

Though I knew it was right, I also knew it was not to be the total ministry effort of my church or any New Testament church. I became deeply involved in world missions. This involved raising millions of dollars for world evangelism; holding more than a score of missions' conferences annually; sending more than 50 families to the mission field out of our membership; and even founding, along with Carlos Demarest and Sam Caudill, the ministry called Bearing Precious Seed (which has and still is printing millions of scriptures annually). The next link in my evolving worldview was brought on when in my unrest, I discovered we were sending missionaries and Bibles where missionaries and

Bibles already were.

Like door to door soul winning, my mission's philosophy was not wrong, it just wasn't enough. God was leading me to get involved in the unreached people groups, sometimes called tribes or unengaged peoples. The Bible calls these the "uttermost" in Acts 1 :8. To fulfill this burden we founded FirstBible International.



The final step in my mission's journey is to help get the Gospel to the non-literate oral speaking peoples of this world, which constitutes 2/3 of the 7 billion

globally. They cannot use a Bible because they do not have an alphabet, dictionary or written language. But our Lord's commission to the church is to reach every creature including the oral-only speakers. The reason for this testimony is to create awareness that they are there and we have a responsibility to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature." I am ashamed of the fact I did not know of these unreached and hence they have played no part in my worldview until recently.

We must not only include them in our mission's philosophy but we must work towards a solution to their illiteracy. Though we can give them the Gospel orally and they can be saved and even disciplined into church planting, they will not have a word-perfect Bible until many changes are made and they can finally read one in their native tongue.

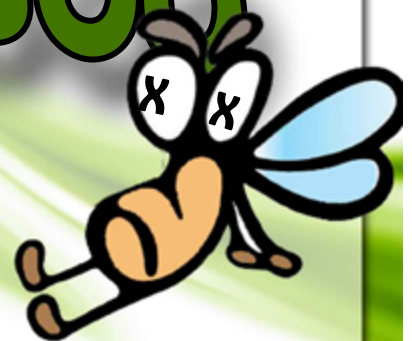


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YOUTH IN GOSPEL

Canaan Coffman

By Lyndsey Chandler

I am excited to introduce to you this month's featured artist, Canaan Coffman of gospel music artists, the Coffmans.

Canaan lives in Danville, KY and is 17 years old. While she is the only one who travels with her parents, Canaan has four older adult brothers. She sang her first solo at three years old and her parents said it was actually on pitch.

Canaan has a passion for acting and she hopes to use that one day for God's glory. It is a scary passion, but she is crazy about characters, costumes, and theatre.

"I also love Broadway," says Canaan. "There's so much creative genius on Broadway, it's amazing. Besides my passions, I like a good puzzle and youtube video."

When it comes to instruments, Canaan shares, "I have taken piano (lessons) on and off my whole childhood, but I've never learned enough to play whatever I want or play publicly. I also played the trumpet in public school. Not to brag, but I was first chair."

Her favorite fast food is Chick-Fil-A nuggets or Culver's burger with cheese. Her days off of the road are never really "days off." Canaan is homeschooled, so when she gets home, she typically finds herself catching up on work she wasn't able to do on the road before her deadlines. When she gets a real day off, she'll let us know how it feels.

One of my favorite questions to ask of my featured artists is what is the funniest thing that's ever happened on stage, because after a while, something funny and or crazy is bound to happen.

"For some reason, I always knock my teeth with my mic trying to take it off the stand," Canaan confesses. "At Dollywood one year, my lip bled through our whole set and you could see me trying to make it stop. Also, my mom once fell backwards on stage during our set. Everyone was so quiet, but then we all were dying laughing. Other groups were there too, and we all had a big laugh about it later that night."

Canaan's parents were a part time duo when she was little and she traveled with them. When she was nine years old, her parents decided to start the ministry up again and officially add Canaan to the mix. This March,

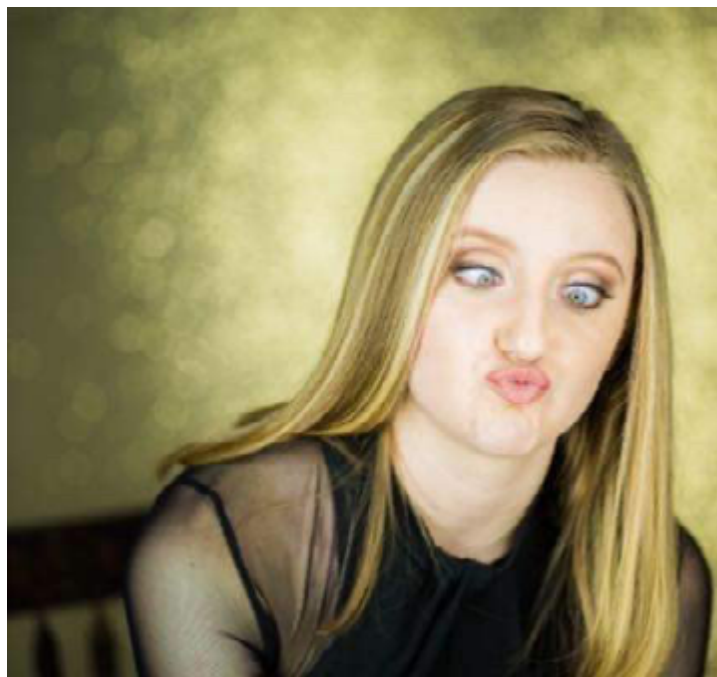




Canaan will have traveled with her parents for nine years.

“We moved back to Kentucky from Tennessee where my mom had been a worship leader at Mountain View Baptist in Johnson City. I can’t speak for my parents who make up 2/3 of our group, but there was something missing. We were finally with our whole family in the same town. My dad had a fantastic job, so we were financially stable. Yet, we knew God was calling us to something bigger than ourselves. We started practicing music and booking dates. With a lot of growth and favor from God, we became the Coffmans.”

Canaan shares how the group stages songs. “Mom and I have pretty close ranges, but she’s still the higher singer. We can trade in and out on leading songs. I’m not totally confident in my range, which I’m working on. So, for now, I sing alto when I don’t lead.”



Canaan does Dual Enrollment courses through Liberty University homeschool program. When she graduates this May, she will have her Diploma and Associates

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them, I feel more connected to the Lord.”

A special message that Canaan would like to get out to young people and a life goal that she would like to complete is, “Read your Bibles!! I cannot stress this enough. Read it all. Read the good parts, the scary parts, the confusing parts, and the really confusing parts. Twitter and Facebook aren’t the Bible, and we need the true Word of God more than ever. I hope God will give me the opportunity to lead someone to Jesus one-on-one. To see a true, saved all over salvation. Careerwise, I would love to worship in an arena and take part in a movie.”

I hope you have enjoyed reading this interview with Canaan. For more information about The Coffman’s ministry and booking information, you can contact Lori Wise with Dominion Agency.

Degree. She does plan on attending college on a campus, and she and her parents believe that God is going to keep their ministry going through that.

“When I sing straight to Jesus and not to people, I feel humbled and motivated to keep going. Discouragement hits me often like a truck. But usually, that happens when I’m thinking about my goals, my wants, and my abilities. I know God has given us our gifts to help other people. But, if I think of it as worshiping with

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POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	COME TO THE WELL	KINGDOM HEIRS/CROSSROADS
2	NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES	GUARDIANS/STOWTOWN
3	YOU ARE LOVED	JEFF & SHERI EASTER/GAITHER MUSIC
4	KEEP ME CLOSE	WHISNANTS/UIA
5	I'VE EVER BEEN GLAD	KINGSMEN/CROSSROADS
6	GOD SAYS YOU CAN	HYSSONGS/CHAPEL VALLEY
7	WHEN GOD SAYS WAIT	BROWDERS/DREAM BIG MUSIC
8	SOMETIMES IT'S THE RADIO	JOSEPH HABEDANK/DAYWIND
9	A LOT WITH A LITTLE	11TH HOUR/CROSSROADS
10	THE HEALER HASN'T LOST HIS TOUCH	TRIBUTE QUARTET/DAYWIND
11	LOVE STILL FLOWS	TAYLORS/STOWTOWN
12	CAN I GET A WITNESS	THE SOUND/DAYWIND
13	GO ASK MOSES	MARK TRAMMELL QUARTET/CRIMSON ROAD
14	READY TO KNOW	LORE FAMILY/CROSSROADS
15	ONE MORE REASON	OLD TIME PREACHERS QUARTET/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
16	33	WILBURN & WILBURN/DAYWIND
17	FOLLOW ME TO THE CROSS	JIM & MELISSA BRADY/DAYWIND
18	THIS STORM	BRIAN FREE & ASSURANCE/DAYWIND
19	POWER OF AN EMPTY TOMB	ERWINS/STOWTOWN
20	WALKING THROUGH FIRE	ERNIE HAASE & SIGNATURE SOUND/STOWTOWN
21	IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY	MARK BISHOP/CROSSROADS
22	YOU'VE ARRIVED	GREATER VISION/DAYWIND
23	ROBES OF PURE WHITE	WILLIAMSONS/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
24	WHAT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD	SUNDAY DRIVE/CROSSROADS
25	HALLELUJAH MARCH	HEART 2 HEART/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
26	CHILDREN GO WHERE I SEND THEE	DOWN EAST BOYS/CROSSROADS
27	IF GOD PULLED BACK THE CURTAIN	NELONS/DAYWIND
28	THE GOD I SERVE	KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER/DAYWIND
29	IT NEVER GETS OLD	PERRYS/STOWTOWN
30	GLORIOUS GOD	LAUREN TALLEY/CROSSROADS
31	WHEN I TURN TO YOU	JASON CRABB/DAYWIND
32	I SEE REVIVAL	CRABB FAMILY/DAYWIND
33	THE PEOPLE THAT GOD GIVES YOU	BOWLING FAMILY/RIVER HILL MUSIC
34	JUST AS BLESSED	JOSH AND ASHLEY FRANKS/INDEPENDENT
35	WHAT ONLY GOD CAN DO	MICHAEL BOOTH/DAYWIND
36	LET IT BE THE CROSS	CAROLINA BOYS/CROSSROADS
37	LIKE JESUS DID	THREE BRIDGES/CROSSROADS
38	COME LORD JESUS	JUSTIFIED QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
39	AWESOME POWER OF PRAYER	COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY/STOWTOWN
40	THIS IS THE PLACE	GAITHER VOCAL BAND/GAITHER MUSIC
41	BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB	WILBANKS/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
42	GO DOWN AGAIN	WISECARVERS/CROSSROADS
43	ALABAMA MUD	GOLD CITY/SONY
44	HE'S ALREADY ON HIS WAY	LITTLES/INDEPENDENT
45	I GOT THE GRACE, HE GETS THE GLORY	THE OLD PATHS/CROSSROADS
46	WHEN THE ANSWER IS NO	TALLEYS/CROSSROADS
47	I'M GOING TO HEAVEN	DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
48	I GOT SAVED	DIPLOMATS/INDEPENDENT
49	I BELIEVE THE BOOK	LEGACY FIVE/DAYWIND
50	A BRIGHTER DAY	PRIMITIVE QUARTET/INDEPENDENT

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AWARDS

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
51	I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU	TROY BURNS FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
52	RUGGED OLD CROSS	LEFEVRE QUARTET/DAYWIND
53	BLANK PAGE	DUNAWAYS/INDEPENDENT
54	PRAISE THE LORD	CARROLL ROBERSON/INDEPENDENT
55	PLACE WHERE I FOUND GRACE	WOODALLS/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
56	MY LAST DAY HERE	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
57	TABLE OF THE KING	TIM LIVINGSTON/INDEPENDENT
58	BE THAT KIND	ZANE & DONNA KING/INDEPENDENT
59	SMELL OF SMOKE	3 HEATH BROTHERS/CROSSROADS
60	WELL DONE MY CHILD	ADAM CRABB/DAYWIND
61	MORE THAN ENOUGH	BIBLETONES/INDEPENDENT
62	ALWAYS GONNA BE	SELAH/INTEGRITY
63	OLD CHURCH CHOIR	HAZEL PARKER STANLEY/INDEPENDENT
64	REASON FOR THE RAIN	JAY STONE SINGERS/CROSSROADS
65	OVER THE NEXT HILL	PAULINE PATTERSON/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
66	THREE BEATING HEARTS	STEVE HESS & SOUTHERN SALVATION/MANSION
67	HE'S COMING BACK	MASTER'S VOICE/CROSSROADS
68	YES	TRIUMPHANT/STOWTOWN/SONY
69	3 NAILS, 3 DAYS	GREG SULLIVAN/RPM
70	HE MADE A WAY	CHANDLERS/CHAPEL VALLEY
71	SING THE BLUES AWAY	EXODUS/INDEPENDENT
72	THANK GOD	JUDITH MONTGOMERY FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
73	WHO I AM TODAY	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
74	DAYS LIKE THESE	MARTINS/GAITHER MUSIC
75	THAT LITTLE CROWDED ROOM	TIM MENZIES/DAYWIND
76	HALLELUJAH FOR THE CROSS	RIVER'S EDGE/INDEPENDENT
77	HE KNOWS MY NAME	ROCHESTERS/UIA
78	GET ME THERE	TALLEYS/CROSSROADS
79	A SONG TO REMIND YOU	STEELES/STOWTOWN
80	ONE IN THE NUMBER	SACRED HARMONY/PATTERSON PROMOTIONS
81	LET'S CARRY ON	NEW GROUND/INDEPENDENT
82	MOVIN ON	JORDAN FAMILY BAND/CROSSROADS
83	IT'S A HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN	ENDLESS HIGHWAY/CROSSROADS
84	FOR YOUR GLORY	BATTLE CRY/INDEPENDENT
85	I WILL NEVER GROW TIRED OF LOVING YOU	CHARLES BLACK/PATTERSON MUSIC GROUP
86	KEEP ON PRAISING	FERGUSON FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
87	WALK BY FAITH	ADAM'S FAMILY/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
88	WHAT HE'S DONE LATELY	MILLERS/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
89	MY LORD IS TAKING GOOD CARE OF ME	DETTY SISTERS/INDEPENDENT
90	JESUS PROVED HIS LOVE	CHRONICLE/INDEPENDENT
91	I WILL GLORY IN THE STORY	AUSTIN & ETHAN WHISNANT/UIA
92	MY KIND OF PEOPLE	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
93	KEEPER OF THE WELL	MERCY'S WELL/INDEPENDENT
94	BE THE WITNESS	CHOSEN/INDEPENDENT
95	MY LIFE IN A SONG	DEAN/CHAPEL VALLEY
96	HEAVEN	SOUL'D OUT QUARTET/CROSSROADS
97	LOVE ALWAYS FINDS A WAY	JOHNSON EDITION/INDEPENDENT
98	FEELING AT HOME IN THE PRESENCE OF JESUS	IVAN PARKER/UIA
99	YOU DON'T WANNA MISS THIS	CANA'S VOICE/STOWTOWN
100	GREAT HOME AWAITING	SWEETWATER REVIVAL/INDEPENDENT

MARCH 2020

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	ONE SUCH AS I	EAGLE'S WINGS/INDEPENDENT
2	TURKEY BUZZARD	EAST RIDGE BOYS/MANSION
3	I'M NOT WHO I USED TO BE	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
4	HE KNOWS MY NAME	ROCHESTERS/UIA
5	PLACE NO WREATH	BALSAM RANGE/CROSSROADS
6	ONE MORE TIME	LAKESIDE/MORNING GLORY/MOUNTAIN FEVER RECORDS
7	A BRIGHTER DAY	PRIMITIVE QUARTET/INDEPENDENT
8	UP ALL NIGHT	SOUTHERN RAISED/STOWTOWN
9	NOTHING AT ALL	HIGH ROAD/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
10	I'M GOING TO HEAVEN	DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER/BILLY BLUE RECORDS

CHRISTIAN COUNTRY TOP 40 CHART

POSITION	SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	DOWN AT THE ALTAR	PARDONED/INDEPENDENT
2	BRIGHT NEW MORNING	MARTY RAYBON/INDEPENDENT
3	MY KIND OF PEOPLE	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
4	DEEPER	GERALD CRABB/INDEPENDENT
5	REGARDLESS	LISA DAGGS/SERENITY RECORDS
6	THE SAINTS SING THEIR WAY BACK HOME	CAROLINA/INDEPENDENT
7	THAT LITTLE CROWDED ROOM	TIM MENZIES/DAYWIND
8	NOTHING AT ALL	HIGH ROAD/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
9	I'M REMINDED	THE DODSONS/INDEPENDENT
10	I'M NOT WHO I USED TO BE	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
11	WINGS OF PRAYER	MICHAEL COMBS/INDEPENDENT
12	BLIND MAN IN THE BLEACHERS	AARON WILBURN/INDEPENDENT
13	PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD	REED BROTHERS/NEWSTEP RECORDS
14	THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME	PHILLIPS FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
15	WE WILL STAND	ROGER BARKLEY/JR/INDEPENDENT
16	IF I WERE IN YOUR SHOES	CHUCK DAY/NEWSTEP RECORDS
17	HEAVENLY SHORES	MARY JAMES/INDEPENDENT
18	BE THE WITNESS	CHOSEN/INDEPENDENT
19	GLASS HALF FULL	SHELLEM CLINE/TIRE SWING RECORDS
20	NEAR YOU	MICHAEL LEE & RHONDA VINCENT/RED HEN
21	I'VE COME TOO FAR	TAMMY NORRIS/INDEPENDENT
22	ARMS OPENED WIDE	COREY FARLOW/BIG CATCH RECORDS
23	BORN AGAIN	ETERNAL VISION/SANCTUARY
24	STRAIGHT & NARROW ROAD	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
25	MY LAST DAY HERE	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
26	HE IS THERE	JIM SHELDON/ZENITH RECORDS
27	WHEN I COME TO YOU LORD	HUNTER MAY/INDEPENDENT
28	WHO I AM TODAY	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
29	GOD DID IT	GREG DAY/NEWSTEP RECORDS
30	ONLY THE BEGINNING	BEV MCCANN/INDEPENDENT
31	THAT'S HEAVEN FOR ME	BRUCE HAYNES/DIRKWORKS RECORDS
32	WHAT DOES GOD LOOK LIKE	GRASCALS/MOUNTAIN HOME/CROSSROADS
33	THE BACK OF THE CHURCH	JERRY SALLEY/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
34	HOLY GHOST REACTION	KEVIN & KIM ABNEY/INDEPENDENT
35	A DAY	CAROL BARHAM/MAC RECORDS
36	TOUGH AS A PINE KNOT	JESSICA HORTON/MAC RECORDS
37	PRAISE THE LORD	CARROLL ROBERSON/CRM RECORDS
38	YOU'RE LOOKING MORE LIKE YOUR FATHER	JOURNEYS/CHAPEL VALLEY
39	PATIENTLY WAITING	STEVE BRIDGMON/INDEPENDENT
40	NOBODY IS TOO BAD	RHONDA RICHARDSON/MAC RECORDS

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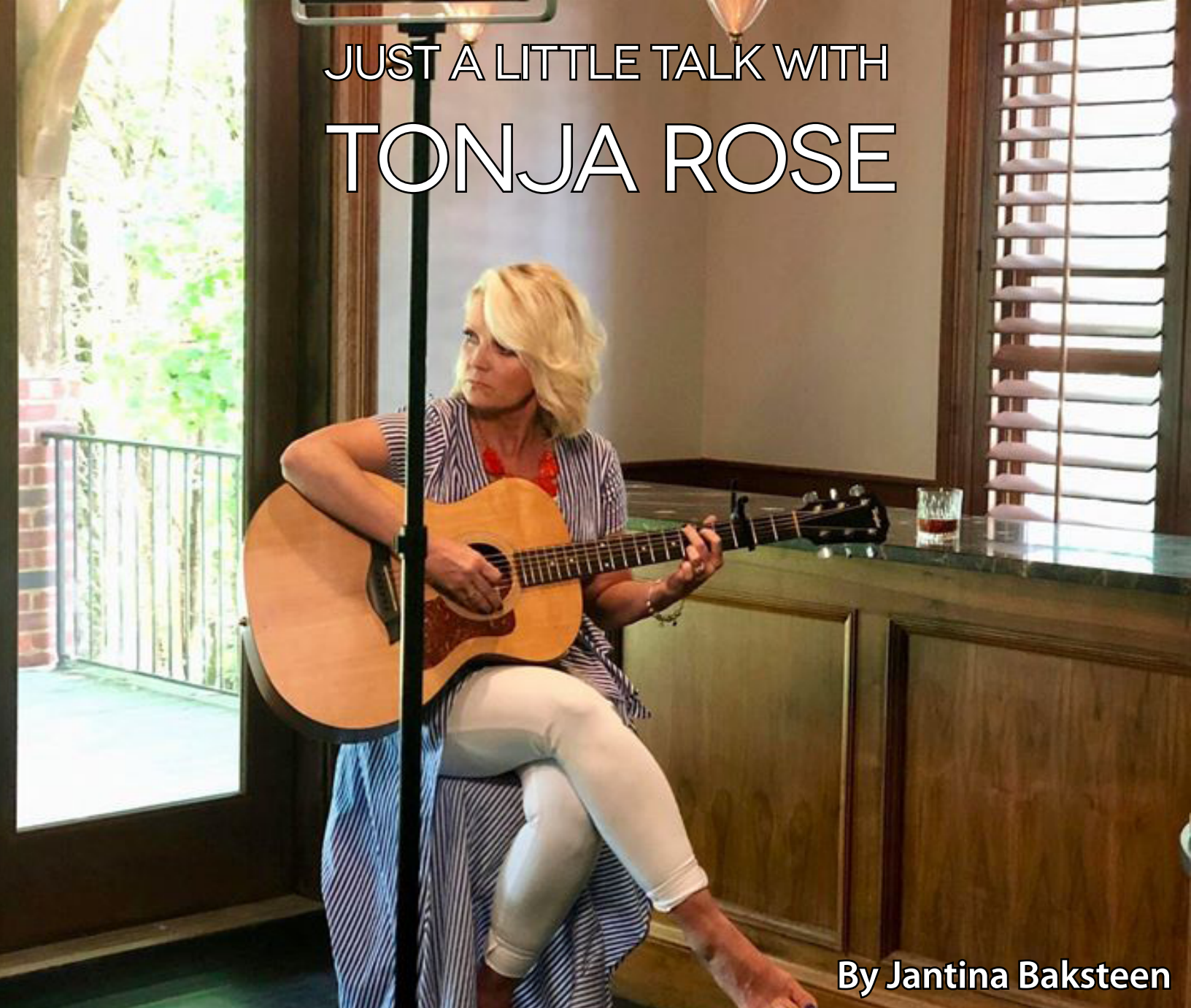
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JUST A LITTLE TALK WITH TONJA ROSE



By Jantina Baksteen

It was a pleasure to have Tonja Rose featured in this issue as she has an impressive message to share.

Jantina Baksteen: Could you please introduce yourself to the SGNScoops readers?

Tonja Rose: My name is Tonja Rose, I am a country girl from Eastern North Carolina. Pinetown, specifically, with a population of 155. I grew up on Free Union Church Road, where I lived between corn and tobacco, and had a pig farm across the road from my house. You don't get much more country than that unless you're driving a tractor. All in all, I'm as country as cornbread and I am a sinner saved by grace who dies daily.

JB: You have a long rich career in music, starting from a young age. Can you share something about that?

TR: When I came along or shortly there after, my dad was part of a gospel quartet called The Coachmen Quartet, so I grew up singing. From the age of two, the stage just became a natural fit for me. Throughout school, I was in the band and ensemble and would sing anytime I could. After high school, I got married and moved to Virginia, was in a country band and had the opportunity to open for many country artists that all told me, "You need to move to Nashville." I moved to Nashville to pursue country music where I had charting success with an Independent record label before the label decided to shut its doors. In 2012, some friends were starting an Christian group and asked if I would be interested in joining them, that group ended up being named Crosby Lane. While with Crosby Lane, we had charting success with our song "Crucified," and we traveled all across the coun-

try. Shortly after this charting success, my husband, Ward, had a stroke in 2016. During his recovery, I tried to convince myself how I could continue with Crosby Lane but found myself struggling to leave him at home alone. So in early 2017, I stepped away from Crosby Lane and decided my music days were over. As therapy for myself, I continued to write music and would write a song that changed the whole trajectory of my life, (and) our lives. My co-writer, John Mathis, suggested we release the song to radio to see what happens. That song, "When the Mountain Can't Be Moved" would be the first of four top ten singles from my album, "Me, Jesus, and the Highway," and would garner five Diamond Award nominations.



JB: You have a new song out to radio, "I'm Not Who I Used To Be." How did this song come together?

TJ: All the songs off of "Me, Jesus, and the Highway," have some kind of connection to my husband's stroke and recovery. The co-writer of "I'm Not Who I Used To Be," Erin Johnston, brought the idea for this song for a completely different reason but I thought it fit perfectly with our story as I knew both Ward and I were not the same people we were before the stroke. I have learned so much from this song. The idea of that song meant one thing to Erin when she brought it to the table which we both embraced when we wrote it, but in the end God used it in a completely different way. And when I say "the end," I mean it. The song truly became what it was intended to be when we decided to release it as the last single from the album and talked about ideas for a video. Here is how God

turned this song into so much more: The gentleman in the video is not an actor, but my co-writers uncle, John Williams. At the time we wrote the song, Erin's family did not know if John was alive or dead. They did know this, he had struggled for years and was addicted to drugs, alcohol, gambling and was living on the streets. About the time "Me, Jesus, and the Highway," was released in July of 2018, John reached out to his family for help and they were able to help him get in a recovery program at John 316 Mission in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There he found the love of Christ and has completely turned his life around and is now a mentor to others in the program. He uses this video to share with others his story of how God has changed who he is.

JB: Do you write all your music?

TR: Though I did not initially enjoy writing, I now love to share my thoughts through music. I have written music for other artists. I co-wrote Ivan Parker's top 20 hit, "Who I am, Ain't Who I Was," which was a huge blessing and a big wink from God that I was on the right path and should continue spilling my thoughts, ideas, moments, feelings and all that into writing. You will find music from all over on my albums. You will find hymns, my original music and music that touches my heart written by friends, mentors and heroes.

JB: What musician would you have liked to have spent dinner with and a long chat, someone who is no longer here?

TR: Someone I admired growing up was Dottie Rambo. I always heard my dad talking about the Rambos and knew the name Dottie as one of the women of the family. Now that I am a singer-songwriter too, I would love to be able to sit down and ask why she wrote certain songs, what inspired her as an artist and writer, and ask if there is anything she would change in certain songs. Dottie had songs recorded by just about every genre of music from Whitney Houston to the Cathedrals to Elvis Presley. One of things I find hard as a singer-songwriter is knowing when to share a song with other artists, or keep it for myself as an artist. I'd love to know how she handled those kinds of things. Then finally, as a woman in the industry who has been there and seen everything, could she give any guidance and advice that would help me continue to create my music and grow ministry.

JB: Do you have a testimony to share?

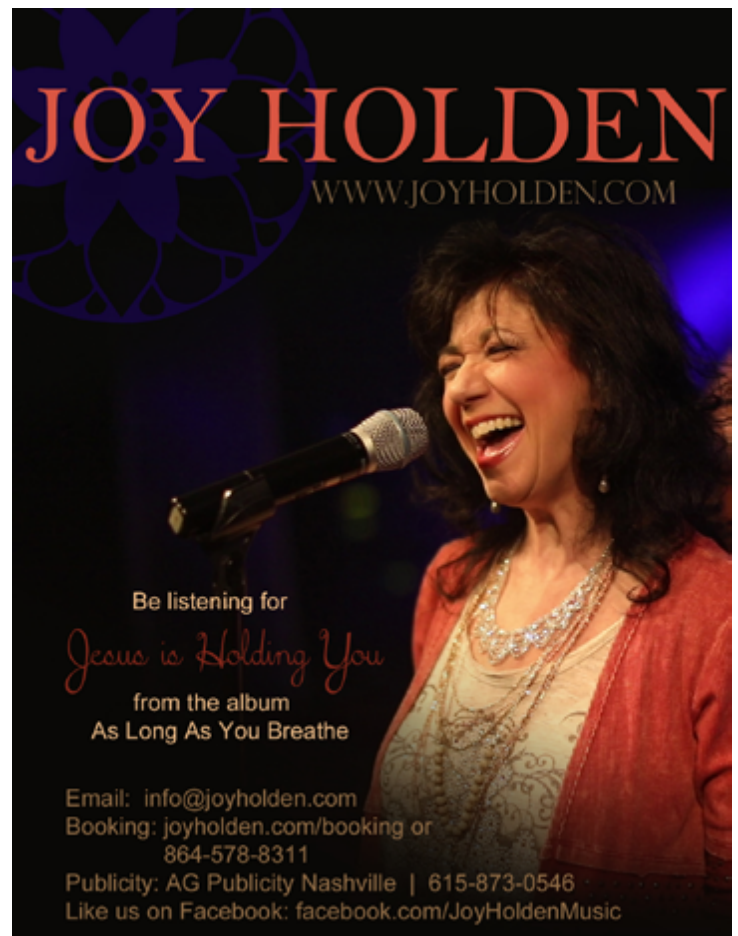
TR: I grew up in church and traveled with my dad and his gospel quartet. So there has never been a moment in my life where I didn't know about Jesus. He's always been present. I've often said I didn't feel like I had a testimony, some great testimony of healing or transformation. Has he done wonderful things in my life? Absolutely, but nothing that I felt held a candle to what others had experienced. What both Ward and I feel is this: God took us through Ward's stroke and recovery to have a story to share of God's grace and mercy with those that may not have hope. I now know that we all have a story to share that can help others get through the struggles and climb their mountains. If you don't think you have a story, just wait. He may give you one when you least expect it.

JB: What message do you share with your audience?

TR: We are not perfect. I am not perfect. I love God, I'm a Christian but I am a sinner saved by grace that dies daily. God's love will bring hope and will see you through any situation you may face and though we none are worthy, His grace reaches all who call on Him.

Tonja Rose can be found on social media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube, at

@tonjarosemusic. Watch her perform, "I'm Not Who I Used To Be," at youtu.be/hmtUPD1ZwX4.



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Les Butler and Friends: Kenny Smith



By Les Butler

I first heard Kenny Smith when he was a member of the Lonesome River Band (LRB) back in the 90's. They were my favorite bluegrass band at the time, and they still are great. His guitar playing was, and still is today, some of the best on the planet. His acoustic rhythm playing is on a short list of the greatest ever. It's special. He's special. Today he travels with his wife as the Kenny and Amanda Smith Band, as well as some special dates as the Band of Ruhks featuring former LRB members, Don Rigsby and Ronnie Bowman. Here's more about my friend, Kenny Smith.

Butler: What is your earliest musical memory?

Kenny Smith: My dad and grandpa were both fiddlers. I had uncles and cousins that sang and played as well. I remember Dad always playing fiddle around the house.

Butler: Can you fill us in on your musical history? What bands have you been a part of?

Smith: Dad made a guitar and would keep it in the closet. He told my brother and I to never mess with it. I was four years old at the time, I would get in there after he went to work and try to play it. My mom never told my dad because he was busy all day. One day, Dad

came home early and caught me. He saw something in me that day, though. He taught me three chords and the next day I could do it. That Christmas, Santa brought me a guitar and my older brother a banjo.

We would go to these banjo and fiddle contests and I would back up the other contestants. It was an on-the-spot music education. I would record the other fiddlers if they knew a new tune that I didn't know.

I always played but it was never a career choice for me. I had moved to Tennessee after I graduated from high school. I was playing in a bluegrass band from Huntsville, Alabama and Claire and Larry Lynch happened to be out in the audience. They asked me to help play a showcase at IBMA in Owensboro, Kentucky. It was a real eye opener for me. I got to talk to a lot of the artists there that day. Everyone was encouraging and it changed my life's path to a musical one. I played in the Lynch's Front Porch String band for about two years.

Through my travels I met a Virginia banjo player named Sammy Shelor. We jammed backstage at Graves Mountain, Virginia. One day I got a call from Sammy



to try out for one of my favorite bands, the Lonesome River Band. I remember trying out in Nashville in a hotel room. I recorded my tryout because it might be the only time I would play with my favorite band. After playing for about 30 minutes, Ronnie and Sammy told me I got the job. I couldn't believe it. I packed up my car and moved to southwest Virginia. My bluegrass journey was in full swing. I was also praying that God would send me someone to share music with. One night we were playing The Milton Opry House in Milton, West Virginia, when I met a young lady, Amanda Collins, who would be my answer to prayer. We got married about a year after that first meeting. We would sing at churches and different gigs locally. We started the Kenny and Amanda Smith Band in 2001, and recorded a project for our family and friends and one of the songs charted. We won IBMA emerging artist in 2003 and that jump started our career as a band.

Butler: What is it like touring and recording with your wife?

Smith: It's the best. I couldn't imagine it any other way. It's a tough business, but to have someone to pray with is worth it all. Recording is our favorite part of music. It's exciting knowing a song could possibly affect someone's life. We have always tried to pick songs that mean something and have substance. Our passion and

strength comes from (God) and to relay that through our music is our goal.

Butler: What's the first instrument you tried to play and do you play other instruments?

Smith: My first instrument was the guitar. I also play clawhammer banjo and acoustic bass.

Butler: Did you ever have a desire to do something else? If so, what?

Smith: While I was in high school, I wanted to be an artist. I could always draw at an early age. It's like music; it's something I've always done. I'm getting more serious about (painting) now. It kind of goes hand in hand with music. Painting has rhythm and music has colors.

Butler: Which do you enjoy the most; playing live or in the studio?

Smith: I like the spontaneity of live music and meeting people. I really enjoy the whole process of recording. We have had the great pleasure of recording at the same studio for the last 20 years. Our dearest friends Glenn and Susan Tabor at GAT3 studios in Charlotte, North Carolina, have helped us produce and preserve a special part of our lives. That studio always inspires us to do our best because it is the best.



Butler: What is your favorite song to play and why?

Smith: "You Know That I Would." Ed Williams wrote this song for his wife for their anniversary. It tells about how you would give anything you could for your special someone. It meant something totally different to Amanda, and it was about the baby we were waiting for at the time. Amanda was pregnant, and (we would) do anything for this beautiful baby that was about to come

into our lives.

Butler: When you're not picking and singing, what are you doing?

Smith: I like to cook and B.B.Q. I also fix up and restore vintage guitars, pickup trucks, Schwinn Sting-rays and Accutron watches.

Butler: Can you please give us a brief testimony?

Smith: I had been going to church in high school and was under conviction. Around that time, I had a near-death drowning experience that changed my outlook on everything. I literally saw my own funeral while under water. I soon moved to Tennessee from Indiana to get to know my grandma better. I started going to my cousin Richard Gulley's church. He always sang and played, so I was drawn to that. They had a trio and wanted to do quartets. So, they asked me if I could sing baritone. I tried and I could hear the part. Up until then, I had never sung much at all. There was a spring revival, and that morning the preacher stood in front of everyone individually in the pews and asked us point blank, "If you were to die would you go to heaven?" I stepped out of the pew and rushed to the altar. I asked Jesus to come into my heart that day and was forever changed. I was so lucky to be given another chance after my drowning

incident and I didn't take that for granted, never have. I was 19.

My cousin, Steve Mowery was a huge influence and witness on my life. Since I was little, I remember him singing and playing guitar. He would always sing gospel songs. Songs about a beautiful place where there are no tears and no pain. He would also sing about a man called Jesus that made a way for us to go to this wonderful place. Growing up I always knew Steve was different, but I didn't realize why. I felt it every time I was around him. I want to be more like that.

Thank you, Kenny, for giving us a look into your life. You can learn more about Kenny and Amanda at facebook.com/kennyandamandasmith on Facebook, or at kenny-amandasmith.com.



The banner features two men, Larry and Rick, smiling. Larry is on the left, wearing a grey suit and glasses. Rick is on the right, wearing a dark blue suit and glasses. Below them is a yellow banner with a logo on the left that says "NC NEW COVENANT" and "NEWCOVENANTMUSIC.COM". To the right of the logo is a white rounded rectangle with the text "NEW SINGLE 'SING'" and "Call Your Local Radio Station And Request Us Today!". On the far right is a small image of a CD cover for "NEW COVENANT" featuring the two men.

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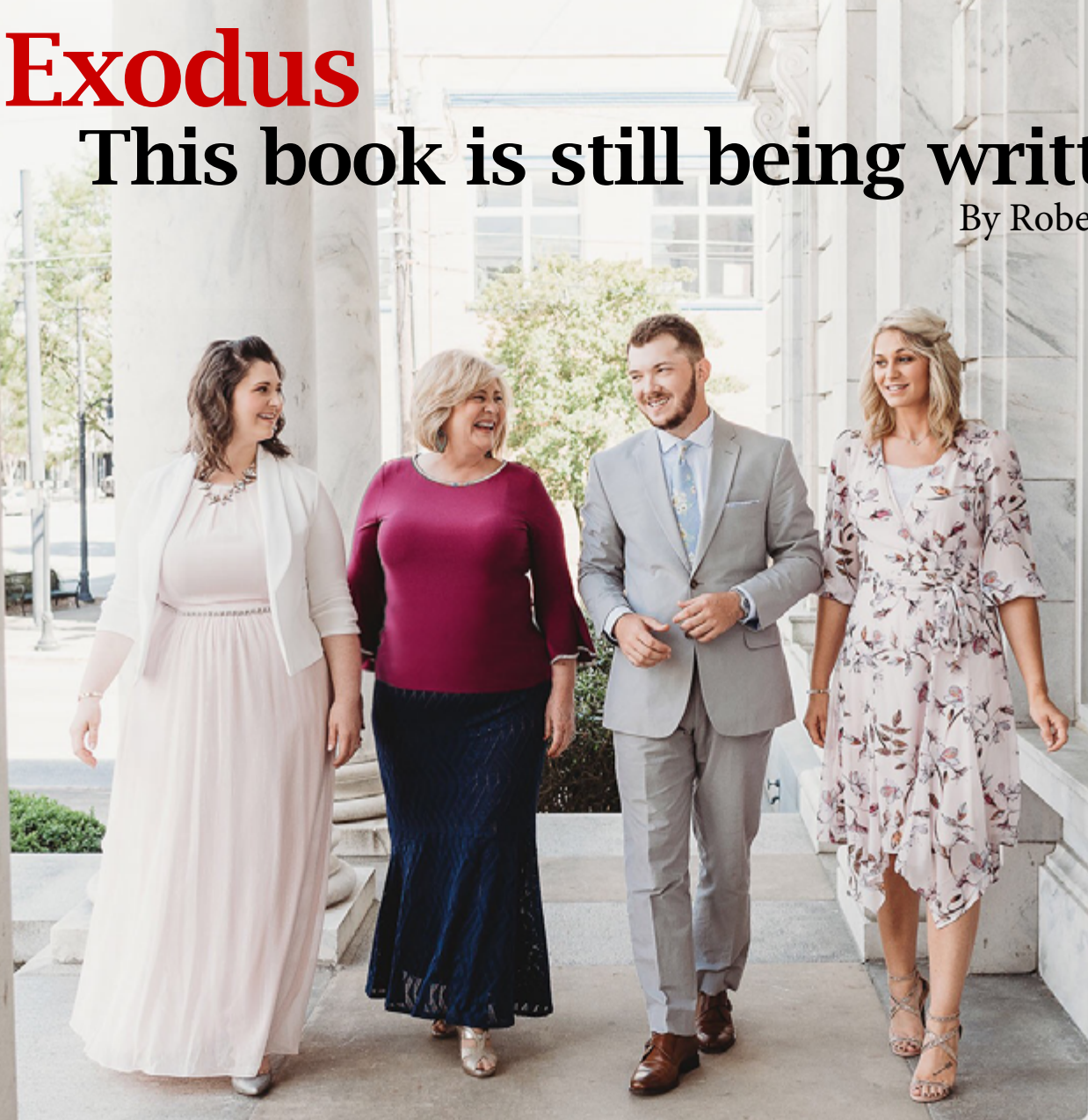
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Exodus

This book is still being written

By Robert York



Easter was coming in late April, 2011, and Rev. James Wallace, pastor of Higher Ground Baptist Church, in Gadsden, Alabama, was looking for someone to sing at the Easter Sunday morning service. He contacted Mary Scott about singing a song at the service on April 29. Mary invited Susan Brady and Mike Watson to join her in the song. While rehearsing one evening, they began talking about a name for their group, all agreeing upon Exodus.

A promoter, Pat Adkinson, heard them sing, and he began including them at his concerts which he held at the Top of the River, in Gadsden. And thus begins the story of this unique, talented group.

Since 2011, Exodus has continued singing all across the southeast, making appearances at Dollywood and other major concert events including the National Quartet Convention. Recently, they recorded two shows for Gospel Music USA, at WATC TV in Atlanta, Georgia.

The group remained a trio until October, 2016. Exodus opened for Three Bridges in October 9, 2016, and that night Mike's son, Cole, was called on the stage and the group sang, "He Will Hide Me." Thus began the next chapter of their story: The launch of Exodus, the quartet.

In January 2018, Mike Watson went home to sing in the Heavenly Choir. Susan's daughter, Hanna Brady, then joined the group, keeping the four-part harmony. Susan is the songwriter of the group and writes a lot of their

songs. The Down East Boys recorded one of her songs on their newest CD. Exodus' current project, entitled "Happy", was produced by Phil Cross, and he and Susan wrote several songs together on the CD. The group's current single from the project is, "Singing The Blues Away".

Mary Scott has enjoyed singing since she was 17. When she was 21, Mary recalls, "(I) had a group called the Victory Trio. Susan's (Brady) mother Doris, and Audrey Cole sang with us. We sang with live musicians and sang on the local radio station on a weekly bible study." Often they would sing with a Gospel Bluegrass group called the Gospel Highway

An active church member, Mary shares, "It's wonderful how God places people in your life to help and encourage you. One of my highlights (has been) singing with many top groups at Top of The River."

Susan Brady is a native of Alabama, being born and raised in Gadsden, where she is a graduate of Grace Christian Academy. She is also a member of Higher Ground Baptist Church. Married to Bill Brady for 27 years, they have four children and six grandchildren.

Susan says of her musical talent, "The apple didn't fall from the tree, Mom was the pianist at church." She sang a lot with her family, then with a group called High Praise, and Refuge, and now with Exodus.

Susan tells us that if she wasn't singing she would probably be a Sunday School teacher. Susan comments, "Singing was as natural to me as eating. Before I could even read, I sang. My first solo song was "Sheltered In The Arms of God." Living the Pigeon Forge area and eating a ribeye steak at Longhorn is one of her favorite



things to do.

Newest member, Hannah shares: "I started singing gospel music in 2017 but I've been around gospel music my whole life." She was saved at six but didn't answer the call to serve until years later, beginning the chapter of Exodus: The next generation.

If Hannah wasn't singing she jokes, "I would probably be competing in hot dog eating contest, or be famous for getting kicked out of most buffets for staying too long."

Hannah has two children. Perhaps we will see a fourth generation of singers in the Brady family.

Cole is the 25-year-old son of Mike, and he described himself saying, "I used to be super shy, wouldn't talk, wouldn't sing for anything, but always wanted to. I just kept praying that God would allow me to sing one day and take away my shyness and fear of singing and being on stage and he did."

Cole's dad raised him on music which included the Eagles along with Southern gospel, and many more. "When I saw the Eagles I fell in love with music," recalls Cole. He is a great sports fan, loving baseball, golf and anything outdoors. For future reference to fans of Cole, he says, "If you want to take me out to eat, I love Olive Garden and any Italian place." Joseph Habedank, Pat Barker, and Andrew Goldman have been a big influence in this young man's life.

Gospel music singers learn to take the unexpected in stride while on stage. For example, Susan says, "My half slip fell off around my ankles, I had to kick it off my feet and keep right on singing." Cole did something a lot of





male singers do, when he got on stage with his pants unzipped. You can rest assured these moments may have been an embarrassment at the time, but you can bet it was funny to the audience. Laughter is not only cathartic but helps create a bond between the singer and the listener. And likely only the singer will remember.

One of the most powerful recollections of the members of Exodus during this interview, was from Susan Brady. "I had heard the word of God all my life," says Susan. "Even went to the altar many times, but I never fully trusted him as my Savior, until one Sunday morning

when I was 18 years old, I asked the Lord to save me and he did. I knew without any doubt I had been born again. I've never regretted that day and I've never been the same."

God is still writing the story of Exodus.

Want to keep up with Exodus and their schedule? Visit their website www.exodus-southerngospel.com or email exodus.southerngospel@gmail.com. Exodus is booked by The Dominion Agency.



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We are bringing Southern Gospel Music
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Introducing Bob and Joyce Spamer of Spencerport, NY. They have a mission to bring Southern Gospel Music back to the Rochester, NY area and are asking that you pray God's blessings on what they are doing. It has been a real struggle they say, as there has not been anyone in the area to promote Southern Gospel for years and with God's help and your Prayers they believe this will be a success. Do you know someone in area? Tell them about SGNY and join us in prayer for Bob, Joyce and Southern Gospel NY.





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DJ SPOTLIGHT

Brian Rothell



By Vonda Armstrong

This month our DJ Spotlight shines on Brian Rothell, of WCON in Georgia.

Vonda Armstrong: Brian, please tell us about your current radio position.

Brian Rothell: My current position is Sunday afternoon host and personality on WCON FM 99.3, Cornelia, Georgia. We are a 100,000 watt station nestled in the foothills of the northeast Georgia mountains. The signal reaches in portions of four states, including Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee and South Carolina. Gospel music programming can be heard on Sundays, 5:00 a.m. until midnight.

VA: Do you have a favorite interview?

BR: One of my favorite interviews I've ever done was with Jim Hamill, of the Kingsmen. I interviewed him in a side room of a church where they were set to perform that evening. That was in 1977, I was very nervous, but Jim treated me very well and answered every question I asked him. By the way, that interview was done on a cassette recorder.

VA: Will you share your testimony?

BR: I thought I was saved in December of 1968. I later made sure of my salvation lying in bed one night in April, 1973. I have never regretted accepting Jesus as my personal savior. He has brought me through some difficult times in my life, as we all have faced.

VA: When did you know that you wanted to work in radio?

BR: I knew from an early age that I had an interest in radio. My family and my Uncle Chuck used to play the radio quite frequently, and I think that's where I derived


my interest. Also, a longtime family friend, Jerry Mote, encouraged me to get into radio. He told me who to talk to and the rest is history. I've now been involved in radio for 40 plus years.

VA: Tell us about your family.

BR: My family consists of my wife Sherry, and we have three grown children and two grandchildren. We are active members of Helen First Church, Helen, Georgia.

Be sure to tune into WCON this Sunday afternoon to Brian Rothell of Cornelia, Georgia.



A full-page photograph of Sammy Ward crouching on a large, flat rock in a dry, desert-like landscape. He is wearing a black quilted jacket, dark pants, and black sneakers with red accents. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background shows sparse, dry vegetation and distant hills under a hazy sky.

Sammy Ward

Hymns Anew

By Dixie Phillips

The wait is over for the fans of singer/songwriter Sammy Ward. His new recording, “Hymns Anew,” was released on January 31 of this year. The last time Sammy recorded was in 2011. At that time his hometown in northwest Georgia had been hit by a tornado, and he recorded a benefit EP to help the victims of the storm.

Sammy first appeared on the Christian music scene 20 years ago with his critically-acclaimed 40Records/Gotee debut, “My Passion,” but creativity isn’t limited to just his music. He is a gifted entrepreneur, having launched and managed several successful tech startups, and continues to do so. Even though his businesses keep him busy, music is still a top priority. He continues to write songs and lead worship at his church when he is able.

“Hymns Anew” was produced by Nathan Nockels, who has also worked with such artists as Chris Tomlin and Keith & Kristyn Getty. This Vibraslap Records’ release includes six classic hymns and an original title-track written by Sammy. He stated, “Hopefully ”Hymns

Anew” will be as influential as “My Passion” and touch many hearts for God’s glory.”

Hymns have always been a part of Sammy’s life. He grew up in church and came to a personal relationship with Jesus at an early age. He shared, “I gave my heart to the Lord when I was six and have lived for him ever since.” Not only was the Lord becoming more real to young Sammy at this time, but he was giving him songs to sing and a voice to sing them with.

By the time Sammy reached high school, he had an emotional tug-of-war over his future going on in his heart. “At first, I really thought I should pursue sports, but one time right in the middle of my baseball game I was having a hard time concentrating, because I kept getting song ideas on the field and couldn’t shake them.”

Sammy’s faith continued to grow, and he was hungry to learn more about the Lord and share what Christ had done in his life with others. “During college I would read the Bible and be inspired by the living, breathing



Word of God. I started putting my thoughts on paper and singing songs that would encourage my faith. I was also telling others about the good news of the gospel before, during, and after my classes.”

Sammy and his wife Angela have two little girls, nine and 11. He credits his family for the inspiration and direction for “Hymns Anew.” Sammy said, “When I would pray over my daughters before bedtime, they’d want me to sing them a song and it was like my heart and mind defaulted straight back to the old gospel truths of the hymns. They loved the hymns and still do. I realized how much those songs blessed me too, and that inspired me to bring hymns back into my own music. My hope is to reintroduce some of my favorites to a new generation, making these ‘hymns anew,’ carried into the next generation. They are too good to be forgotten, too strong to not be sung and too transformative not to be heard.”



Fresh inspirations come from a vibrant faith. Sammy is still in awe of what God is teaching him. He said, “God’s been reminding me that we are supposed to be doers of the Word, and not just hearers. The title track, ‘Hymns Anew,’ is a reminder that we should let amazing

songs of worship from the past continue to encourage our faith. It also makes the point that we need to sing a new song to the Lord as well.”

When asked to share one of his most memorable performances, Sammy said, “Singing in front of 60,000 people at a Luis Palau festival as one of the opening acts for dc Talk. That was a fun moment for sure. However, leading worship at a small church in Pennsylvania was equally special for me. Quite a contrast in terms of numbers, but seeing the Spirit move and lives changed will never get old. It’s always been surreal to hear a congregation worship the Lord through one of the songs he’s given me. I am very grateful and humbled every time I experience that.”

To learn more about Sammy visit SammyWard.com. All of his social media links are there.



Coastal Events Update

By Lorraine Walker

It's here: Southern Gospel Weekend, Alabama - March 19 - 21, 2020. Presented by Donnie Williamson, Vonda Armstrong, and Rob Patz.

Southern Gospel Weekend, March 19 - 21, 2020, in Oxford, Alabama, will present Southern Country Grass, a combination of Southern gospel, Christian Country, and Bluegrass gospel music. A great mix of quartets, live bands, soloists and wonderful music, fellowship, and fun will be enjoyed at each daytime showcase and evening concert.

Artists scheduled to appear include: The Freemans, East Ridge Boys, Master Peace Quartet, the Williamsons, Cross Ties Band, Hope's Journey, The Connells, New Ground, Eagle's Wings, Pardoned, ClearVision, Jessica Horton, The Bibletones, Mark209, The Dodsons, Melissa Evans, Rhonda Richardson, The Interstate Quartet, Chronicle, Kevin and Kim Abney, Hazel Sain, and Appointed Quartet. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. for each evening concert and parking is free.

SGW will be held at the Oxford Civic Center. A few rooms are still available at the host hotel, the Sleep Inn Oxford. Please call 256-770-4804 and mention that you



are a guest of SGW for a special event rate. General admission to the concerts is free but a love offering will be received. For more information or call 360-933-0741 or 256-310-7892. Visit the SGW Facebook page at facebook.com/southerngospelweekend/



Gospel Music Expo, Mississippi - April 23 - 25, 2020

Coastal Media invites you to Tupelo, Mississippi, on April 23 - 25, to the **Gospel Music Expo**. Gospel Music Expo (GME) is a two day event held annually at the Mall at Barnes Crossing in Tupelo, Miss., to showcase gospel artists and their ministries. The event is free to the public. Some of the artists appearing include John Penney, New Ground, Masters Quartet, Day 3, Jessica Horton, The Defreitas Family, and others.



Gospel Music Weekend—Michigan - June 4 - 6, 2020

Coastal Media heads up north for **Gospel Music Weekend—Michigan**, coming to Windham Garden Convention Center in Ann Arbor, on June 4 - 6, 2020. GMW -- MI will feature artists from the Great Lakes Region, such as Gloryway, Justified Quartet, Cami Shrock, MaSheba Webb, as well as some of the Creekside family of artists including the Dodrill Family, Livin' For-givin', Matchless Grace and Kristen Stanton.

"We are excited about offering artists not only the opportunity to sing and share their ministry but also the opportunity to learn and grow from workshops that are designed to help them be even more effective," says Rob Patz of Coastal Events. "These artists share so much of their passion to those around them that we hope they walk away encouraged and inspired."

Gospel Music Weekend – Michigan is also going to be a host location for a Creekside Artist Search. With over one hundred artists currently on a waiting list for **Creekside Gospel Music Convention**, this will be an incredible opportunity for artists from across the country to be considered for a coveted spot on the Creekside artist roster. The winning artist will sing on the main stage of the Saturday evening concert in Ann Arbor and be afforded the chance to also sing on the main stage at Creekside 2020 as part of the pre-concert festivities.

This event will be taking place on Saturday, June 6, 2020.

If you are an artist wishing to participate or if you would like more information, please send an email to rob@sgnscoops.com.

Ann Arbor, Michigan, is conveniently located on I-94 and US 23 and is only thirty minutes from Detroit Metro Airport.

For more information on Gospel Music Weekend – Michigan or

Creekside Gospel Music Convention, please call Rob at (360) 933-0741.



Gospel Music Weekend—Ohio - July 2020

Northern gospel music fans will enjoy **Gospel Music Weekend—Ohio**, coming to Mansfield, Ohio, on July 16 -18, 2020. Some of the artists appearing in GMW--OH are from the Great Lakes Region, including Gloryway Quartet, Ezekiel's Call, The Bobby Jones Family, New Promise, Kristen Stanton, Justified Quartet and Matchless Grace, among others. Look for more information at www.gospelmusicweekend.com.

There may be a few openings for gospel music artists in these areas who would like to become a part of these concerts; please contact Rob Patz at 360-920-4057. For more information on these events please visit gospel-musicconvention.com More information for VIP tickets, lodging, bus groups, and more, can be requested at events@sgnscoops.com.

Creekside Gospel Music Convention

The cornerstone presentation of Coastal Events is



Creekside Gospel Music Convention 2020, taking place Oct. 25 - Oct. 29, 2020, at the Grand Smokies Resort Convention Center, in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Creekside is an annual event, bringing hundreds of gospel music fans and over 50 artists to beautiful Pigeon Forge. The convention presents Southern gospel music showcases, evening concerts, and midnight prayer. Some of the great artists who appeared in 2019 were the Hyssongs, Down East Boys, 11th Hour, Gerald Crabb, Eagle's Wings, Bibletones, Sue Dodge, the Browders, Josh and Ashley Franks, and more. Keep watching this column for announcements regarding artists appearing in 2020.

2020 Diamond Award Nominations Close March 15, 2020

Coastal Media Group and SGNscoops Magazine are pleased to announce that the 2020 Diamond Award voting is now open on the SGNscoops website and ballots have been included with the SGNscoops print magazine.

Nominations close on March 15. The Top Ten nominees will be announced later and then voted upon. Everyone is invited to fill out the ballot or visit sgnscoops.com to enter the voting area and list their favorite picks for each Diamond Award category.

The 2020 Diamond Awards will be presented on October 27, 2020, during the 9th Annual Creekside Gospel Music Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. Many vocal performances and surprise guests will be included in the gala evening. Fans are encouraged to make their plans to attend today.

For more information on the Creekside Gospel Music Convention, the Diamond Awards ceremony, Creekside Bluegrass, as well as accommodations and VIP tickets, contact Rob Patz at 360-933-0741, email events@sgnscoops.com

sgnscoops.com or visit the website www.gospelmusic-convention.com.

Christian Country at the Creek

Christian Country at the Creek 2020 will take place Oct. 30 - Nov. 1 at the Grand Smokies Resort Convention Center located at 2385 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The event will begin the day after Creekside ends, with a special kick off on Thursday night at the close of Creekside, followed by evening concerts on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Special events and Midnight Prayer are also being planned as part of Christian Country at the Creek. "This is an event you don't want to miss. We can't wait to showcase these amazing artists," Patz adds. Admission is free to the public with VIP tickets available for just \$10.00 per night or \$25.00 for the entire weekend.



Bluegrass Gospel at Creekside

Keep watching this space for information on more great Bluegrass gospel concerts during Creekside Gospel Music Convention.

If you are an artist wishing to be included on the roster for 2020, or if you would like more information, please contact Rob Patz at (360)933-0741 or send an email to events@sgnscoops.com. For reservations, you may contact the Spirit of the Smokies Lodgedirectly at (865)453-4106 and indicate the group code of CCC20 or Christian Country at the Creek to get the group rate.



The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

March is here with warmer winds and brighter sunshine, and much-needed rain. It seems like every March is different, but most people just want spring to begin. We are looking forward to a new season here at SGN Scoops. I think I speak for all of my northern friends when I say we've had enough snow!

We are thrilled to bring March in like a lion as the saying goes, with a cover story on our friends the Browders who are celebrating 30 years of ministry. Thanks so much to Justin Gilmore who worked with me on this cover project. We so appreciate the authenticity of this family.

We hope you have thoroughly read through each of the features. Canaan Cauffman, Exodus, Kenny Smith, and so many others. It was a pleasure to highlight Paul Heil on his 40th anniversary in radio ministry. Thanks as well to Bill Dykes for introducing us to one of his favourite pastors, Dr. Keen.

Be sure to check the back of the magazine to find out more of each of our contributors this month. Writers may change from month to month, but we always strive to give you the highest quality, and the best delivery of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Since Easter doesn't fall in March this year, the whole month seems to be waiting in expectation for the event. For those who celebrate lent, or for any who may decide to commemorate this time of year in any special way, each day is a reminder of how much Jesus did for us. The days leading up to the cross, the

events taking place as recorded in the Gospels, all of this happened as Jesus must have been in some way preparing himself for what lay ahead. And yet, he was fully present with every event. He knew that the horrible death was just around the corner, and the end to his earthly walk. But we never see where he is walking away from ministry, letting the shadow of what was the head hang heavy over his heart. He was in between the wedding at Cana and the glorious Resurrection yet he never dwelt on either, according to scripture. He told his disciples what would happen, but he never told them to leave him alone so he could wallow in self-pity.

Many of us are in between two events. Maybe we are between something very happy and yet we know there is something on the horizon, such as death of a loved one. Perhaps you were in a good state of health, and now you are suffering, though you know at some point in the future you will be whole again. How are you handling this in between portion of life? Are you hiding, wallowing, or lashing out in anger? Or are you using this time to touch other people?

My prayer for you and myself, is that we use each day as a gift from God, and use the gifts that he has given to us, to bless others around us. Let's not forget to pray for others. Let's make each day count for him no matter where we are on our path to victory.



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This space could be yours!

contact Rob Patz via email at
rob@sgnscoops.com

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Contributors

SGN SCOOPS



Rob Patz is the President and CEO of Coastal Media Group. Rob has an 18 year history in radio hosting the nationally syndicated radio show, "The Southern Styles Show" since its beginning in 1993. Rob is also the owner of the internet's #1 Southern Gospel station, SGMRadio.com. In 2009, Rob Patz acquired SGNScoops.com, including the all- digital Scoops Magazine and the Diamond Awards. Rob has taken part in several Christian television projects working in front of the camera and also has helped create several syndicated television programs as well. Rob does voice work for various outlets including fortune 500 companies as well as emceeing concerts and special events. Email Rob at rob@sgnscoops.com.



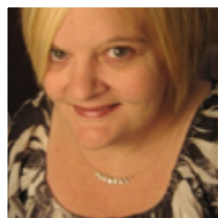
Stephanie Kelley is a public speaker and owner of Queen-O-Q, a blog featuring coupon match-ups, freebies, samples and information on frugal living. She is married, has three children and lives in Washington State. Queenoq.blogspot.com



Canadian-born Lorraine Walker has a love for Jesus Christ, music and writing. The combination of these passions has produced artist features and monthly columns for Southern Gospel publications including SGM Radio website and SGN Scoops Digital magazine. Lorraine desires that the power of the written word will glorify her Lord and bring readers closer to the love, peace and majesty of the Almighty. Email Lorraine at lorraine@sgnscoops.com



Jennifer Campbell is a singer, songwriter, musician, and middle school English teacher from McAlpin, Florida. Along with her passion for teaching, she has an even greater passion for ministering to others, sharing her testimony of how she was born lifeless and how Jesus raised her up to live for Him. Jennifer is a member of the Florida Worship Choir and Orchestra and has performed with them at Brooklyn Tabernacle, Carnegie Hall, Central Park, and Times Square. She serves as a group leader for Women of Faith, designs websites, and writes an inspirational blog at <http://jennifercampbell.net/blog.htm> and a food and travel blog at <http://jennifersjourneys.net> Learn more about Jennifer at <http://jennifercampbell.net> and www.christwillreturn.org.



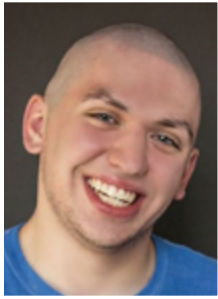
Joan Walker grew up with music in the house and first heard Southern Gospel in her early teens. With almost a quirky (some may say 'weird') need to make sure words are spelled correctly and the apostrophes are in the right place, she enjoys proofreading the articles for the SGN Scoops magazine each month...and looks beyond the letters and commas to the wonderful words each writer has written. Joan counts it as a blessing in her life to be part of SGN Scoops!



Justin Gilmore, 22, a resident of San Diego, California, graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University with a B.A. in History in June of 2014. Passionate about Southern Gospel music and its history, he decided to venture into the blog world in January starting Southern Gospel Spotlight in order to share his love of this great style of music.

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Justin McLeod is the founder of the Justin's World of Softball website, a site that he has built into one of the premier news outlets in the sport. Justin is a longtime Gospel music fan and enjoys researching the history of the genre, attending concerts, and reviewing recordings whenever possible. The son of a Southern Baptist pastor, he also works for a law firm as a legal secretary and is active in his local church. Justin is a native of Memphis and now resides in Northeast Louisiana.



Pete Schwager is a web developer and graphic designer with a passion for Christ. He was born in Santa Rosa, California and moved to Oregon where he spent most of his life. He now lives in the quiet town of Ringgold, Georgia and enjoys living in the country with his family. You can find him online at <http://peteschwager.com>



Staci Schwager helps with marketing and communication with her husband's web design company, Cre8able Media. Together they make a great team! Staci being the "talkative" one, loves being able to communicate one on one with clients and organizing ideas. While Pete on the other hand is diving into the design and coding aspects to make the real masterpiece! Most of Staci's days are filled with preparing homeschool lessons for her kids, couponing, gardening, tending to her chicken flock and spending as much time on the beautiful, country land God has blessed them with.



Vonda Armstrong is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Vonda draws on a vast knowledge of Southern Gospel Music for her expertise in the field. In addition to her many personal friendships within the industry she also hosts a weekly radio show which keeps her in touch with many of Southern Gospel's leading execu

tives and artists. It also allows her a fresh view of new music and the latest happenings inside the industry. Vonda is also a group owner and manager as well! A self starter Vonda has started and managed several "new" events in Southern as well as "Country Gospel" Music. These events are fast becoming trend setters within the industry. She is a graduate of The University of Alabama at Birmingham.



After graduating from Middle Tennessee State University with a Mass Communication degree, Craig Harris has been in the journalism field for more than 15 years, working daily as both a photographer and writer at one of the largest non-daily publications in the state of Tennessee. He has experience in feature writing, news writing, action photography, portrait photography, web-site maintenance and layout. Craig has been a part of numerous awards, both collective and individual honors in the journalism field. He has had articles published in numerous newspapers and magazines on a variety of subjects, most notably in the world of sports.

Craig's Southern Gospel interest dates back for approximately the same time span, having closely followed the industry since the later portion of the 1990s. He also performed for seven years with a local trio prior to joining the SGN Scoops staff.



Charlie Griffin is an avid gospel music fan, soloist, teacher and speaker. He is a staff writer for SGNscoops featuring highlighting Southern Gospel Music history. You can follow Charlie Griffin on Facebook, Twitter or visit him at www.CharlieGriffin.net.

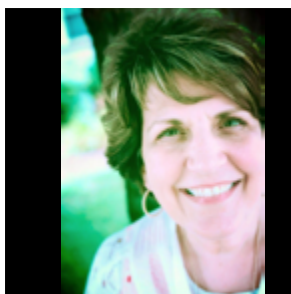
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Robert York- During my childhood days my parents took me to the Atlanta City Auditorium for concerts hosted by Warren Roberts. That was the beginning of my love for Southern Gospel music. After 35 years I retired from USPS, during which time I got married. My wife and

I often went to The Joyful Noise for dinner and concerts. Every known name in Gospel Music sang there at one time or another. After I retired, we decided to start promoting concerts. Our goal was not only to promote our concerts, but also to promote any Gospel concerts in our area and attend as many as we possibly could. I came to a crossroads in December 2013 when my wife graduated to heaven, not knowing what to do. After much prayer God led me to continue promoting concerts. Have promoted around 100 concerts and can't tell you how many I attended. I still enjoy going to concerts and writing a little about the groups.



Dixie Phillips is a Dove Award winning songwriter. Her songs have been recorded by The Talleys, Gordon Mote, The Williamsons, Doug Anderson, Susan Whisnant, The Erwins, Jay Stone Singers, Master Promise, Three Bridges, Endless Highway, 3 Heath Brothers, Fortress, and many other gospel artists.

Dixie is also an Christian Editing Services Editor and Writer. She is an award winning children's author and ghostwriter. She has been published by Abingdon Press, Standard Publishing, Eldridge Publishing, Gospel Music Publishing House, and Guardian Angel Publishing.



Les Butler has been actively involved in Southern Gospel Music for 40 years as a musician, producer, manager, former publisher of the Singing News, and as a nationally syndicated radio host. Butler started Butler Music Group in 1978, and purchased Family Music Group in 2003. He is a past March of Dimes AIR award, as well as winner of the

Paul Heil Broadcasting Award in 2011. Butler's syndicated radio show, Les Butler and Friends, is heard across America and abroad. Butler's playing and production credits include Palmetto State Quartet, Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers,

Fairfield Four, Steeles, Dunaways, Crabb Family, Easter Brothers, Marksmen Quartet, Earl Scruggs, Bowling Family, Jimmy Fortune, Marty Raybon, Larry Gatlin and many more. Butler's publishing companies are Hurry-Up Publishing/BMI and Hush Jean/ASCAP.



Derek Simonis began singing gospel music at an early age, around the piano with his sister,s at home and in church. His mother, an accomplished pianist and music teacher, was his inspiration to sing. Derek was saved at an early age due to the influence of godly, praying parents and a faithful Sunday School teacher.

Derek formerly served as a Youth Pastor and previously sang with Southern Harmony Quartet. For seven years, Derek also served as a Communications Repair Section Leader for the U.S. Army; he was member of the 1/160th SOAR (A) Night Stalkers and served several deployments overseas.

Derek is married to his sweetheart, Jana, and they have two boys, Daniel and Avery. The Simonis family resides in Boise, Idaho. Derek and Jana travel and sing gospel music, having recently released their debut album, "Blessed."

His life's verse is Romans 12:1 which says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Derek's ultimate desire is to give his all in the service of the Lord.



Jimmy Reno began singing at the age of four with his family group. He has sung for The Mystery Men quartet, Florida Boys and Mark209. Off the road, he spends time with my wife, Christa, with whom he celebrates 25 years of marriage with this year. Jimmy

also enjoys spending time with his three kids and one granddaughter.

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Kristen Stanton is a dynamic singer, speaker, and writer. From discussions on Facebook, to live concerts on any stage, Kristen's main focus is to share her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. She says: "I was saved when I was four years old. I've been in church my whole life. I went to a Christian college. I don't have the experiences of walking away from God and how He brought me back.

But I do have the experience of how God continuously reveals Himself to me... of how He answers prayer. I want people to understand who God is so that they can be more of a reflection of Him. My goal is to help others see God in a way that meets every need in their life."

Following a trio of No. 1 songs from her debut project, "Destiny by Design," Kristen recently released her second

solo project, "Love As Jesus Loves" and is currently writing songs for her new album. Kristen is also an Attorney-at-Law, serving clients in Northwest Ohio.



During his 40 plus year career, Bill has developed expertise in commercial banking, retail banking, sales and marketing, media, and financial consulting. After years of being bi-vocational, he was able to merge his professional expertise and his passion for ministry. Since 2010, Bill has been helping

churches and ministries with areas of operation. This includes financing (construction, permanent financing, re-financing). In addition, many organizations need help understanding how to market their ministries and how important it is to promote their ministries properly through media and social networking.

Over the past 40 years, Bill has become an accomplished gospel singer, having performed on 32 albums and produced over 200 albums for other performers. His extensive professional credits include singing with renowned gospel music groups including The Cathedrals, The Goffs, The Senators, and The Rhythm Masters, which performed four songs that reached No. 1 in the gospel music charts. In addition, Bill has received nominations for three Dove Awards and a Gospel Music News Award. He is also known for writing and performing the Gold Record winning song, "No Greater Love." Bill also performed in events led by Jerry Falwell, Pat

Robinson, Rex Humbard, Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, Dr. Paul Conn, and most recently, he performed with Governor Mike Huckabee.

Bill studied finance at the University of Cincinnati and vocal performance at the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. He also attended seminary at Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and he holds a Doctor of Divinity Degree at Heritage Baptist University in Indianapolis. Currently Bill serves on the Board of Trustees for Davis College in Binghamton, N. Y.



John Herndon is a Kentucky native who was raised listening to gospel music. As a child, the Sunday morning routine always included the Gospel Singing Jubilee and his summers were filled with all-day-singings-and-dinner-on-the-ground listening to local groups just about every Sunday. He remembers seeing The Prophets at his county fair when he was seven years

old and eventually, he became a huge fan of The Oak Ridge Boys, The Imperials and J.D. Sumner and the Stamps.

John spent 20 years in the located ministry and during this time, he began writing local sports for The Anderson News in Lawrenceburg, Ky. For the last 16 years, he has been the full-time sports editor of that paper. John has won over 100 awards from the Kentucky Press Association, the Society of Professional Journalists and Landmark Community Newspapers.

He loves listening to gospel music or playing one of his guitars.

John lives in Lawrenceburg with his wife, Stephanie, and 17-year-old daughter. He has three grown children and four grandchildren.

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Jantina Baksteen
I live all the way overseas in the Netherlands. I'm married and I have three adult children. I grew up in a Christian home and knew in my early years that I wanted to belong to Him. I surrendered my life to Christ was baptized one day before I turned 11 years old.

Somehow, the seed of loving gospel music was planted by the style of music my parents played at home. Around 2006/2007, I was listening to Gaither homecoming music that I found on the internet. The song, "Oh, What A Savior," by Ernie Haase hit me with the so-called Southern gospel bug.

From there, I've been reading /studying all I can find. I found the digital SGNscoops Magazine.

As I was spending so much time reading and listening about this industry, I started praying for God to please give me a job in the Southern gospel industry. Sometimes, I commented to Lorraine Walker on her posts. How could she know the longing of my heart?

But last year she asked me if I wanted to do something for SGNscoops: the Wacky Wednesday posts online. Now I do the "Beyond the Song" article that really has my heart as I am reaching out to artists, asking about a current song and having a sneak peak behind the scenes.



My name is Lyndsey Chandler. I sing with my family, the Chandlers. I have wanted to get something started to promote the youth in Southern gospel for a long time. I want to say a huge thank you to SGNscoops magazine for allowing me the

opportunity to do this. I will be sharing exclusive interviews in an effort to showcase the abilities, talents and dedication of young artists

in Southern Gospel music. I will be offering these monthly interviews to better acquaint you with young voices that are growing louder in our industry.

The Chandlers travel in a ministry of singing and preaching conducting concerts, revivals, camp meetings and conferences. Their travels have taken them all over the United States, Canada, Serbia, Poland, Slovakia, and The Philippines. The group consists of Tim, Lana, and their two daughters, Tiffany, and Lyndsey. Their ministry website is www.thechandlersmusic.com.



Cheryl Smith describes herself as a "passionate disciple and follower of Jesus Christ." She says: "I am married to the sweetest, most patient man for over 30 years...Mama to one miracle son God sent to us after 12.5 years of infertility...Home-

school Teacher who learns way more than I ever teach. I love to spend time with my husband and son in the mountains, sing and play Bluegrass music, and write. I am so thankful for your visit and hope you will visit my blogs: homedevotions.com/ and biblicalminimalism.com/ It is my goal to encourage you in your walk with Jesus and to inspire you to let go of this world for the sake of a higher call. It is His call that I hope you hear. So compelling, so intense, so far above anything this world has to offer. It is the call His disciples heard as they went about a normal, ordinary day, fishing. It is a call they could not refuse. A call that caused them to drop everything they had and walk away from life as they knew it, without a backward glance. Can you hear it? Are you listening?"

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