

# SGN SCOOPS MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2016



## IVAN PARKER

ALSO FEATURING:

KINGSMEN, EMMA CARTER OF JAY STONE SINGERS, ALLEGIANCE, AND  
PHOTOLOG OF KAREN PECK AND NEW RIVER



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## OUR MISSION

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

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# PUBLISHER'S POINT

by Rob Patz



## *Jeremiah 33*

Greetings and welcome to the August edition of SGNScoops magazine. So many great things going on this month. You will find me in the beautiful state of Tennessee for Christian Country Expo, August 15th through the 18th. We are going to have an awesome time listening to some of the best Christian Country artists in the country. Also, for the first time we will be giving out the Christian Country categories in the Diamond Awards on Thursday evening, August 18th. I want to see you there and if you haven't made your reservations yet, you still can. Email [info@macrecords.net](mailto:info@macrecords.net) or contact Dennis McKay at 662-889-2829.

I've been studying a lot about *restoration* and what it means to be restored. I have been intrigued by the book of Jeremiah in chapter 33 where it talks about the restoration of Jerusalem. I find it interesting to think that Jeremiah, at the time of the start of chapter 33, is in prison, yet God is talking to him about restoring Jerusalem, bringing back what at that point had been lost. This rings true in all of our lives, especially mine, as there are things that I've lost and I pray that God will restore.

Sometimes we have to go through a season much like what was happening to Jeremiah to see what God has in the future. I encourage you to read Jeremiah 33; dive into the facts and find out about restoration. I have been praying over the last few months for restoration. I may not see it in this moment, but I believe God. Much like He spoke to Jeremiah about the restoration of Jerusalem, God is working for my good to restore the things that I have been seeking and asking for.

I know you may be living in a situation where you feel things have been taken from your life that you believe wholeheartedly in and want so badly. I want to tell you today that you should begin to pray, seek God in Holy Scripture and ask for restoration. We truly serve a God that is in the restoration business.

I hope to see you on September 9th and 10th in Alabama for Vernon Alabama Gospel Music Weekend. It's going to be an amazing time and I hope you come and hang out with us in the great little town of Vernon, Alabama.

And until next time, this is the Publisher's Point.

# RICHARD HYSSONG



Thank you for nominating me  
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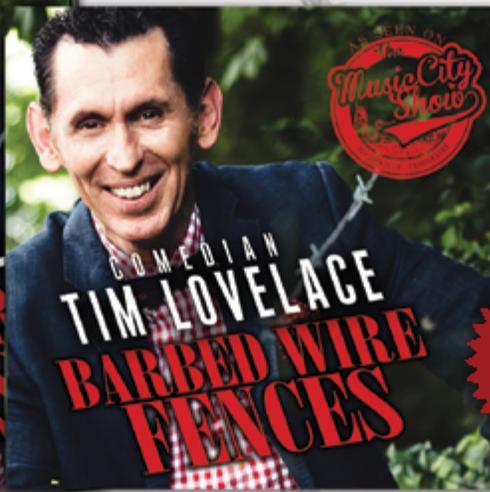
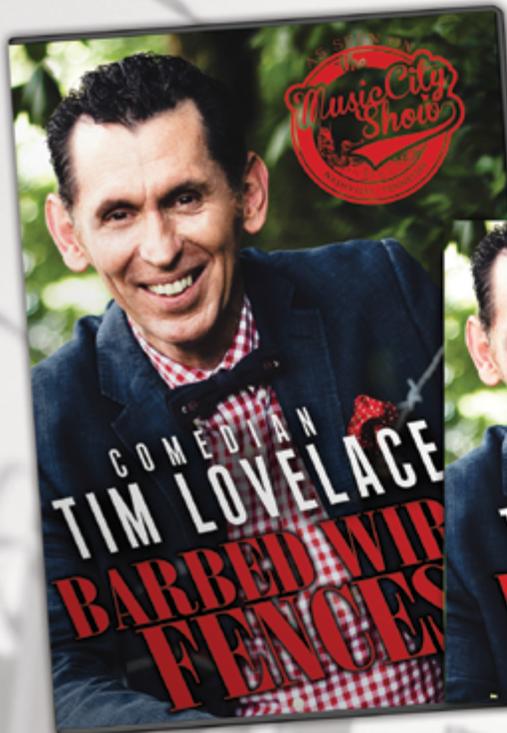
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Memphis

# The Kingsmen

## Over Fifty and Still Faithful

By Justin Gilmore

The talented Kingsmen came from humble beginnings and with God's blessings have become one of the premiere quartets in all of Southern Gospel Music. "[The Kingsmen Quartet was] founded in the mountains of North Carolina, by Raymond and Reese McKinney," recalls group owner and bass singer Ray Dean Reese. Brothers Raymond (Baritone), Louis (Lead), and Reese McKinney (Bass) with the addition of tenor Charles Collier and pianist Charles Matthews made up the original Kingsmen, dedicating their lives to spread the Gospel through song.

The group drew inspiration from many other quartets in these early days. "Back in the day, the influences were Mighty Clouds of Joy, Blackwoods, Statesmen, Oak Ridge Boys and the Rebels," says Reese. These influences are evident in each lineup.

### **The '70's Decade**

Many of Southern Gospel Music's most popular and

celebrated artists have been members of this incredible group. The 1970's brought artists such as: celebrated tenors Johnny Parrack (1971-1977) and Ernie Phillips (1977-1983), lead singers Jim Hamill (1971-76, 1977-1993, 1995-56) and the great songwriter Squire Parsons (1976-1977), also sang baritone 1975-1979), and baritones Eldridge Fox (1965-1975, 1976, 1979) and Mark Trammell (1979-1980) who would go on to join the Cathedrals.

The incredible virtuoso Anthony Burger joined the group in 1978 as pianist. Burger's amazing talent would be a major part of the group's continued success. Burger would stay with the group until 1993 when he left to join the Gaither Vocal Band/Homecoming Tour.

### **The Eighties and Nineties**

The 1980's brought more great artists through the Kingsmen bus. Tenor Garry Sheppard (1984-1993),

# Memphis

and baritones Wayne Maynard (1980–1983), Ed Crawford (1983–1988), Arthur Rice (1988–1989), and Parker Jonathan (1989–2002) would join Hamill (Lead), Fox (Owner/occasional Baritone), Reese (Bass) and Burger (Pianist). The group won several Singing News Fan Awards over the decade with Anthony Burger winning the Favorite Musician Award 10 years in a row.

The 1990's featured the additions of Chris Collins (Tenor, 1993–1998), Tim Surrett (Lead/Baritone, 1989–1996, 2002–2005), Bryan Hutson (Lead/Baritone, 1996–2001, 2007–2010, 2010–2011), and Jerry Martin (Tenor, 1998–2002). Throughout the 1990's, Randy Matthews, Tim Lovelace, and Andrew Ishee served as the group's pianists. The group continued to experience great success with songs such as "Wish You Were Here," which featured Surrett's bluegrass twang voice.

## **A New Millenium**

The 2000's brought about more changes with the passing of longtime owner and vocalist Eldridge Fox in 2002. The Kingsmen name was retired in 2001 and the remaining group members toured under the name Carolina Boys Quartet under the leadership of longtime bass Ray Dean Reese.

The group had a hit song called "God Sits On High,"

which featured tenor Jerry Martin. Martin left the group in 2002 and was replaced by Derrick Boyd who joined the quartet in 2003. Former lead singer Tim Surrett returned to the group after a brief absence as the new baritone in 2002 following the departure of Parker Jonathan. Surrett left again in 2003, but promptly returned in 2004. During his brief absence Jason Selph served as baritone.





Randy Crawford, formerly of Brian Free and Assurance, joined the group in 2001 as the new lead singer following Hutson's departure. However, he left the group in 2003 and Phillip Hughes joined the group in 2004 at lead.

In 2004, Ray Dean Reese acquired the rights back to the Kingsmen name and the Kingsmen Quartet was reborn. At this time, the quartet's lineup was Jeremy Peace at tenor, Phillip Hughes at lead, Tim Surrent at baritone, Reese at bass, and Nick Succi on piano.

The quartet found a renewed sense of energy and drive and released several great CDs with previous hit songs such as "Excuses," "Beautiful Home," "When I Wake Up To Sleep No More," and many more. Surrent left the group in 2005 and was replaced by Tony Peace who would also serve as emcee.

### **The More Things Change...**

The group experienced even more change beginning in 2007 with the departures of tenor Jeremy Peace and baritone Tony Peace. Harold Reed joined the group in the tenor position and blew fans away with his three octave supersonic classic Kingsmen tenor sound. Former lead/ baritone singer Bryan Hutson returned to the group as the new baritone replacing Tony Peace. Nick Succi also left a year later and was replaced at the keys with young pianist Cody McVey who remained with the quartet until 2011. During this time, the group released several incredible recordings including *When God Ran* in 2008 and *Miss-*

*ing People* in 2009 both featuring greats song such as "When God Ran," "God Saw A Cross," and "When It's All Said And Done."

### **A New Decade, A New Energy**

In 2010, lead singer Phillip Hughes left the group and Bryan Hutson switched back to lead. Former lead/ baritone Randy Crawford returned to the group as the new baritone. This lineup released the hit project *Grace Says* in 2011 which included the number one song "He's Everything I Need (That's All I Need)."

Tenor Harold Reed left the group in 2011 and then joined the LeFevre Quartet. Also at this time, Bryan Hutson announced his departure from the group. He later joined Soul'd Out Quartet as their lead/ baritone singer. Chris Jenkins of the Vintage Quartet was hired as the new tenor in 2012. Jenkins brought the energy and incredible range to the group and fit the mold of the classic Kingsmen tenor. Bob Sellers joined the group as the new lead singer in 2011 and continues the tradition of powerful leads for the quartet. Joined by Randy Crawford and veteran Ray Dean Reese, this lineup was one of the strongest in the group's history.



In 2012, they released a CD featuring previous hit songs called *Once Again*. The quartet released another live project the following year featuring performances from the National Quartet Convention.

### Still Ready For Battle

Most recently, the group released their latest recording called *Battle Cry* which features the classic Kingsmen sound and powerful lyrics and catchy tunes. Reese takes pride in the album saying, “[The latest recording was *Battle Cry*] which is the Kingsmen’s first recording to have multiple number one songs.”

“Our new project *Battle Cry* is full of incredible songs with a traditional Kingsmen sound and songs with a fresh feel that will appeal to all listeners. The songs are blessings to us and uplift the spirit and glorify the Lord,” adds baritone Randy Crawford.

Now in 2016, Jenkins has departed the group for a position with the Anchormen. Today’s lineup carries on the tradition of this great music. “Ray Dean Reese has been singing bass for the group for 50 years. Ray’s son, Brandon Reese has been with the group for almost 20 years playing drums and running sound. Randall Crawford sings Baritone and has been here or for going on 11 years. Bob Sellers has been singing lead for the group for 5 years.



“The new guy is Joshua Horrell filling the tenor position. He brings a great new sound to the group with his rich full tone,” adds Crawford. This year is sure to be a great one for the quartet. Reese says the year brings “excitement with [our] new recording with the new tenor.”

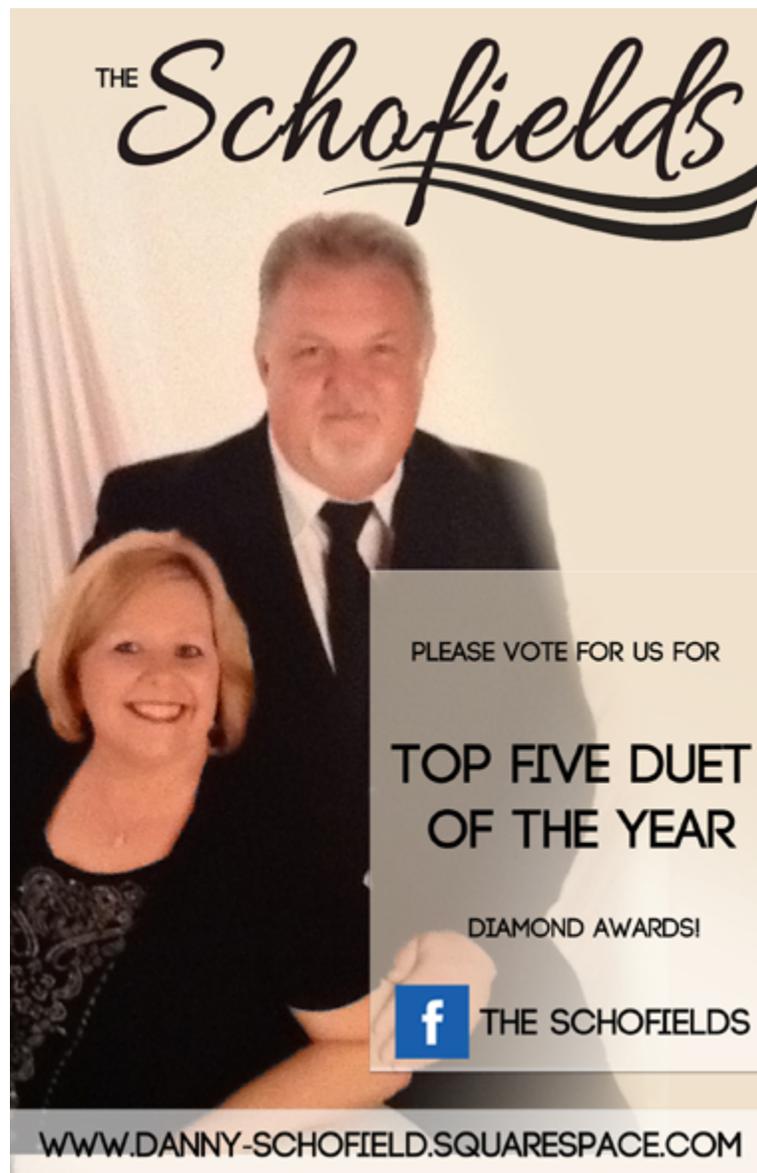
This group shows no signs of slowing down and

under the leadership of Ray Dean Reese, the quartet stays true to classic sound. They have been truly blessed by God and their 59-year career is a testament to God’s faithfulness.

Reflecting on the group’s long history, Ray Dean Reese offers this advice to those who wish to sing Gospel music professionally, “Start singing in your church. Make sure you bathe what you do in prayer. Use the gifts God has given you. Psalms 33.3 - Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.”

There is no doubt that God has blessed this group as they honor Him with their talent. For over 50 years, the Kingsmen Quartet has remained faithful to Christ as expressed in their mission statement: “To bring Christ to a lost and dying world.”

Photographs courtesy of Memories by Modesty.





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## WISDOM FROM WELLS

by Dusty Wells

### **The Good Outweighs The Bad**

I've been asked so many times, "Dusty, are you always Mr. Positive? Are you really always smilin' and happy?" And then if I've heard it once, I've heard it a hundred or more times, "You look like you have the greatest of lives and not a problem in the world!"

Well my dear friends, let me assure you that I am not always Mr. Positive and I wholeheartedly promise you I am not always happy or smilin'. Yes, I do have a wonderful life and I am so richly blessed, but along with this good life that I've been so graciously entrusted with, comes its share of problems, struggles and issues just like so many (well most likely all) of you encounter.

What I have found to be true and learned to embrace along the way is this: There is a beautiful nugget of

truth that daily reminds me and pushes me to think on the good, and at least strive to put the bad aside. It doesn't mean that I am off in la-la land, just ignoring the pressures of life or the bad that I have to encounter, but I have found the more I praise Him in the midst of both bad and good, the more I allow Him to dwell in my heart and mind, the more I allow the good to push aside all the other junk, crud, garbage that I have to deal with daily, then truly the better I feel.

I've said this so many times: "The good outweighs the bad." It does; it really does. It doesn't mean it always feels good, but it does help my mind, energy, relationships and my focus. Two of my favorite songwriters and also treasured friends, wrote and strived to live out songs that spoke about this very thing.

Lanny Wolfe wrote, during one of his darkest times of pain and suffering, "In the good times praise His name

and in the bad times do the same. In everything give the King of Kings all the thanks.”<sup>1</sup> Oh, I have sung that song over and over in the midst of both the bad and the good. Again, I have to say it: the good along the journey so overtakes all the bad.

Then my precious Dottie Rambo wrote and sang, “It’s dark as a dungeon and the sun seldom shines, and I question, Lord why must this be? But He tells me there’s strength in my sorrow, and there’s victory in trials for me...In the valley He restoreth my soul.”<sup>2</sup> Now, I am fairly certain many of you have sung this song, or you’ve heard the song or even quoted those lyrics a time or two. Once again, it’s during those darkest times that we learn to praise Him and thank Him. It’s during those times of hurting and questioning that we make the decision to focus on the good.

Yes, we recognize and acknowledge the bad, but we know in the end, there is a promise. His promise is to be there with us at all times. Friends, He will not leave us nor forsake us. His love is never ending and His care for each one of us is constant. His plans are for us to succeed.

God’s purpose and destiny is far greater than we can ever fathom or imagine, so why not think and focus on the good, instead of letting the bad rule, reign and destroy our lives.

Today remember once again, you are loved, you are valuable and the good always outweighs the bad.

1. Wolfe, Lanny. “In Everything Give Thanks.” 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). Rec. by Lanny Wolfe Trio, 1977 Have A Nice Day (Impact Records/R3482)

2. Rambo, Dottie. “In The Valley (He Restoreth My Soul.)” 1970 New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Rec. by The Singing Rambos “Soul Classics”, 1971. (Heart Warming/HWS3100)



THE millers  
www.MillerMusicGroup.org

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The image shows four people (three women and one man) standing in front of a green wooden wall. In the foreground, there is a CD cover for 'The Millers Glad' featuring the same four people. The text 'THE millers' is at the top in a white, lowercase font, with 'www.MillerMusicGroup.org' below it. At the bottom right, the name 'BECKY MILLER' and phone number '540-664-2470' are displayed in white text on a dark background.



CARLA & REDEMPTION  
Ministries

CARLA & REDEMPTION  
BOOKING INFO CARLA MONDS: 910-736-1226  
MINISTERING SINCE 1993

The image features a group of six people (three men and three women) smiling and standing in front of a wooden wall with white curtains. The text 'CARLA & REDEMPTION Ministries' is at the top in a white, serif font. At the bottom, there is a Facebook icon followed by 'CARLA & REDEMPTION', 'BOOKING INFO CARLA MONDS: 910-736-1226', and 'MINISTERING SINCE 1993' in white text on a dark background.

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# Ivan Parker

## Focuses on the Finish Line



By Craig Harris

### **Veteran soloist develops a fresh outlook as a new project is unveiled**

Ivan Parker has witnessed a host of changes over his 34-year tenure in Southern Gospel Music.

“I think back to how our industry has changed, just say over the last 20 years,” Parker says. “They say everything sort of makes a complete circle every 20 years or so. I think we’re having to learn a lot about the music industry as a whole. Now, we have the internet, iTunes, digital radio ... there’s so many new things that have fallen into this pot of how we do things today. It’s a totally different way of how to market yourselves and your songs.”

“It’s like, every six months, things have changed. There’s always something new going on with social media, new things that are coming along.”

### **Addressing the Changes**

However, the more that things change, the more that some of Parker’s fans would like things to stay the same. “The way I approach it in the concert level, most of those people who come to my concerts, they have followed Ivan since the beginning,” Parker points out. “They like things to stay relatively similar, not any drastic changes.”

“Eighty percent of what I do is made up of consistency, but I always leave an ounce out there for anything that needs to change. If there’s new ideas, I’m always open. I’m always looking for new angles to approach things from a marketing standpoint.”

### **Encouraging the Christians**

Parker’s focus has been firmly on those fans – and fellow Christians – as of late. “I look at the seriousness of worship ... I look at it a lot more serious now than I ever have,” Parker – who previously sang with the Singing Americans and Gold City Quartet before embarking on a solo career in 1994 – explains. “As I get older, it seems like the world is getting more and more into a confused state. A lot of Christians are seeing so much change in the way they live their lives. They watch these news channels and see all of these things going on in the world today, and it does present fear even into a lot of strong Christians. Part of what I like to do in my concerts is to encourage people.

“God really laid this on my heart about three years ago. We need to make sure people are coming to know Christ, but at the same time, we have a lot of people getting exhausted before they reach the finish line. Who is going to encour-



age them to keep the race to the finish line? That's what I like to do in my music ... to present a positive message of hope. For those who are already believers, I want to instill hope in them. This is not it. The battle has already been won. We just have to hang in there and enjoy life and be encouraged."

### **Dancing In The Rain**

Parker is encouraged by his latest project, "Dancing in the Rain." It released on July 29.

"This project is maybe just a little different stylistically," Parker notes. "There's a little Country flavor in some of the songs. All of the other songs stylistically are pretty much patterned after all of the records I have done, but there is a different flavor. It's pretty much the same thing, but it's a little different flavor."

It's the first project that Parker has released since "Threads of Mercy" was unveiled two years ago, and it's his debut project with Difference Media.

"Out of that (partnership with Difference Media) are some great out-of-the box things," Parker explains. "If you throw enough stuff against the wall, something is going to stick. Their approach is a whole, new fresh approach to distribution and presenting the gospel. There's a whole other audience there that I'd love to see come to know Gospel Music and love it like we do."

### **Changing the Playbook**

"That's one of the things I love about being a part of Difference Media. It's a different playground. They love and know what we do, but yet, there's still another side ... a church audience that needs to hear Southern Gospel. That's why I think God has led me to this point."

The project was produced by Parker's former Gold City cohort Garry Jones and includes 10 songs, penned by veteran

songwriters such as Sue C. Smith, Tony Wood, Robert Sterling, Gina Vera and Marty Funderburk. It also includes guest vocal appearances by Difference Media label-mates Canton Junction and Parker's daughter-in-law and Difference Media representative Sandy Parker.

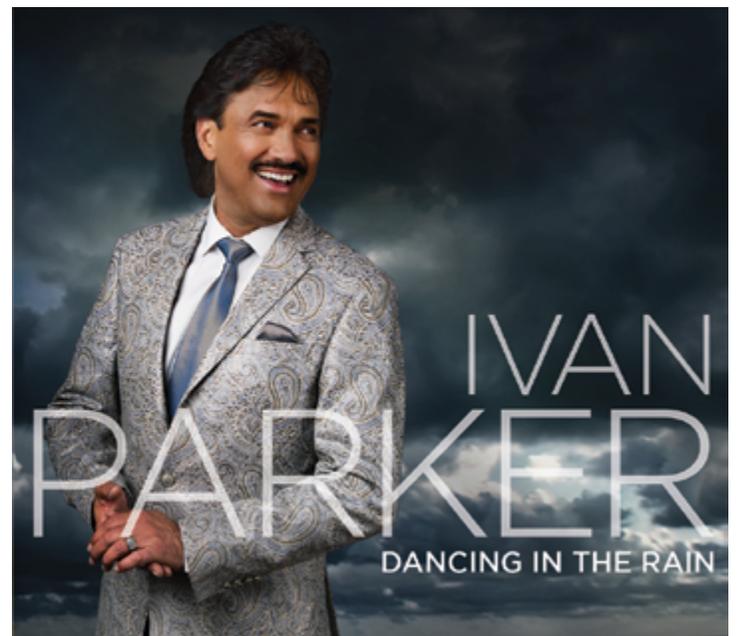
"Whenever I start looking at new material, I'm looking for great songs," Parker shares. "A lot of times, I have noticed, sometimes, it takes on what your mindset is ... what is speaking to you or what you are going through. If that blessed you, you have to give credit back to God. That's pretty much the way I approach it. Once you get the 10 songs and you go back and study the lyrics, you sort of realize that God had me in this place and wanted me to hear this message."

"As an artist, we always get excited about our creativity. We start from scratch, and you hear the finished project. We're like 'wow, that's good.' I get very anxious to have some of these songs ready for the stage. You have to sing songs several times before you actually know how to present that song. I get very excited about presenting these songs, whether it's on stage, listening to a CD or hearing it on the radio. Once we start getting feedback, that's sort of when you find out (and ask), 'did I really present that well?'"

### **Timeless Gospel**

The relationship with Difference Media has also contributed to his opportunity to host a weekly, online television program that airs on Global Evangelism Television (GETV), "Timeless Gospel." Content for the program comes exclusively from past footage of artists' Cornerstone Church appearances.

"I've always enjoyed the part of the media aspect of television," Parker says. "You go right into the comforts of everybody's home and do what you do, so I've always enjoyed



TV.

“The Gaither Homecoming stuff, we’re still enjoying stuff we did 20 years ago. People come up at the concerts every night and say, ‘wow, I saw you on Saturday night on TV.’ Television is an important part of the outreach of what we’re doing. Any way we can promote our music and promote Jesus most importantly, I think we need to do it.”

### **Like Father, Like Son**



Parker is still accompanied on the road by his son, lead guitarist Josh Parker. The 28-year-old – who was married last December – has toured with his father for the last four years, and the duo embarks on approximately 175 dates per year.

“He’s wowing the multitudes with that guitar,” Ivan Parker points out. “He has this natural spirit about him. He’s so charismatic in what he does. After just watching him play the guitar and what you get out of it, you almost wouldn’t care if he could play or not. You could just watch him. He gets so excited when he’s presenting his instrument and gift among the people.

“It’s a lot of fun, but it’s also a lot of pressure from a dad. (Recently), we were coming in from West Virginia. I was driving, and Josh comes up there and sits in the buddy seat. I got tears in my eyes. I never dreamed that I would be driving a bus, (that) my son would be sitting there and we would just be having good conversation. Some of his responses, I can’t help but think, ‘wow, he’s just like me.’ Even in some of his thinking, I could almost tell you what he’s going to do before he does it. That gets really scary. I have to be on my Ps and Qs. That means he’s watching me very closely.”

### **Mixed Influences**

While Josh Parker has been influenced by his father, Ivan

Parker has been influenced by a variety of artists.

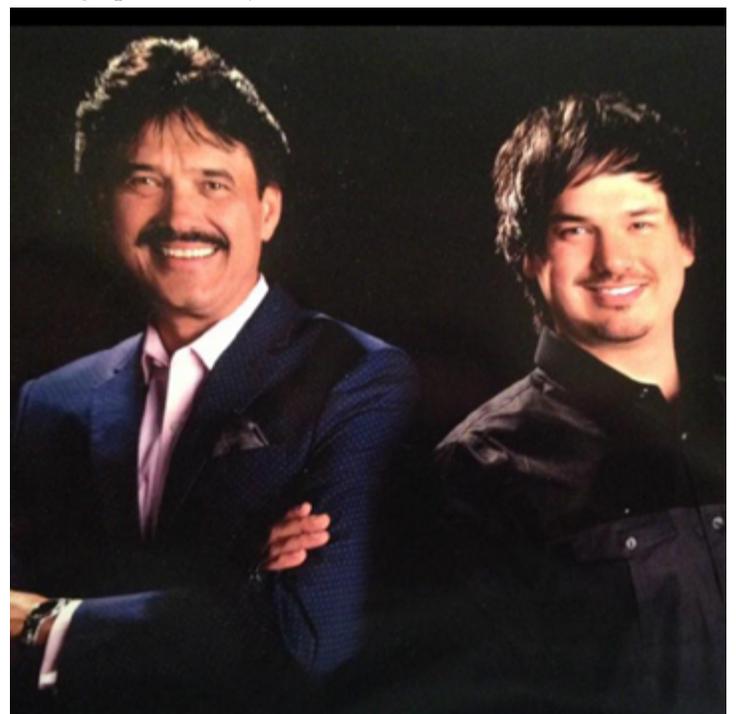
“I’m a mixed breed,” Parker explains. “Pat Hoffmaster ... he sang tenor years ago for the Blackwood Brothers. He took the time to sit down and talk with me about Gospel Music, what I wanted to do and who I wanted to be. He told me one time, ‘As many people as you will meet in Gospel Music, find those people who you can pull nuggets from. Take some of the things they offer as a singer and incorporate it into what you do.’

“I’ve been listening to Gospel Music and wanting to do it since I was a little boy. Jake Hess would probably be number one on my list. I always loved his expression when he would sing a song. The Oak Ridge Boys ... whenever I was growing up, the Oak Ridge Boys were singing gospel. I thought, ‘if I were to ever sing in a quartet, I would want to sing in a quartet like this.’

“Duane Allen (of the Oak Ridge Boys) one of my favorite lead singers of all time. I always loved Russ Taff with the Imperials ... I loved the sound in his voice. I could have a list a mile long. Then, when I started with the Gaither Homecoming Tour, I could pick out something in each one of them. I loved the charisma and spirit that Vestal Goodman brought to the stage, and Bill Gaither is a pretty good business person ... (understanding) what is the proper way to handle things.”

Parker is taking all things in stride as the award-winning soloist unveils his 16<sup>th</sup> recording over the last 22 years. Look for Ivan Parker’s “Dancing In The Rain” on his website at <http://www.ivanparker.com/>

Photographs courtesy of Difference Media.



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## “Can You Handle It”

America and God’s Will

By David Staton

If you follow me on social media, or know me personally, you know that I do not shy away from social issues or politics. I do not base my view on political parties, or personal bias, I simply speak truth based on scripture concerning those topics. If you think that scripture does not apply or should be kept out of those issues based on separation of church and state, **I would advise you to open the Bible and take God out of the box that you have Him in.**

We are quickly approaching an election that will have long lasting effects on our future, and even more so on our children’s future. One of the things that make America that greatest nation on earth is the fact that we the people can control the direction of our country. We all have a voice and a choice, and both are heard through elections.

What concerns me among so many of my Christian friends, I hear comments that come from bad teaching

and bad theology. Much of this comes from relying on catch phrases that we hear in church that are never challenged by opening up the Bible and discovering what scripture says. **The title of this article is, *Can You Handle the Truth*, so let’s see if you can.**

Many places in scripture, God appointed leaders. I remember when David was appointed and anointed to be King over Israel. That was a great account, but here is what we have to realize about how and why things were done the way they were in those days. First, Israel was not a republic where everyone voted for their king. Second, the Israelites all believe in the same God and they trusted the prophets and priests when God would reveal His will through them. So when David was chosen, appointed and anointed to be King, he was accepted by the people.

Today, we live in a republic, under the Constitution and Bill of Rights that give *We the People* a choice and

a say in who our leaders will be. Sometimes we get it right and sometimes we get it wrong. **Whatever we do, WE make the choice, and WE reap the consequences.**

Every election, I hear many church-going people say things like, "God is in control and whoever is meant to be in charge will be elected." That sounds good if you don't want to take any responsibility and blame everything on God. The result of this belief is keeping the overwhelming majority of Christians from showing up on election day and making their choice count and their voice heard.

Let me remind us all of where mankind went wrong in the Garden of Eden. Just because God knew that our choice would be rebellion, did not excuse or eliminate the consequences from the choice that was made. God's will was for man to not rebel against Him, but we did. Every time I attend a funeral, I'm reminded of the consequence of that wrong choice. **Our choices either advance the Kingdom of God or the rule of Satan.**

God gave Adam and Eve dominion over the earth. That dominion allowed them to name every living thing, and

it also allowed sin's curse to be put on all of mankind. Today, we still have dominion over the earth. You will not find anywhere in scripture where that dominion was reversed or taken away from mankind.

In America, we have choices. While a small number of atheists wanted prayer to be removed from our schools, the church chose to be silent. While millions of babies are murdered every year, the church chooses to be silent. When Christians around the world are being persecuted, beheaded and killed, Christians in America choose to be silent. **All it takes is for some atheist or politician to say, "Separation of church and state," and the church chooses to cower down.**

This year we are given a choice. What will we choose? What will we blame God for that was really our choice?

Can you imagine what God's response would be if Adam and Eve ever asked God why He allowed so many bad things to happen on earth? They knew the consequences before they made the choices they made. **Scripture clearly tells us what happens when the wicked rule over the people, and yet the choice is ours.**



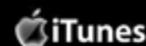
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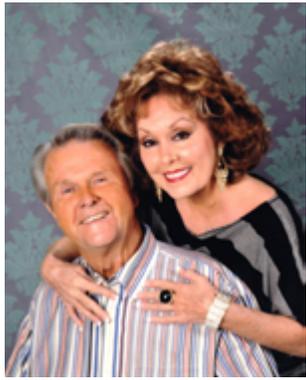
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We have a full schedule of church services, concerts, and senior programs for the remainder of the year. Lil' Jan and I have also scheduled personal times with two weeks in the Smokey Mountains, a week in New York, and a week in London, England. Please check our schedule for the times and dates of a program near you. We love sharing time with our Gospel Music Friends. (DrJerryGoff.com)

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# Joel Lindsey

Passionate Songwriter, Artistic Craftsman



By Nathan Kistler

I have had the joy of singing with some of the greatest vocalists in the world over the past few years, but I think my greatest joy has been to write with some wonderful songwriters and learn from them. Joel Lindsey would have to be my all-time favorite. He has real passion in his writing and his songs have ministered to me through the years before I even knew or knew of him. I have had the honor of getting to write with him and just spend time talking about God and the art of songwriting.

I am getting ready to cut one of Joel's songs. It is my favorite song I've ever heard and I'm so thankful to Joel for allowing me to use it. I love that Josh Groban sound and so does Joel, so we really hit it off quickly during our first chat. I wanted to take you all into his mind and the world of writing. For those of you who are interested in writing, you may be able to glean a few things from the words of Joel Lindsey.

*Nathan: When did you realize you had the gift of writing?*

Joel: I have always been moved by songs, especially lyrics, and grew up listening over and over to great

songs. Being so affected by music made me want to write things that would move someone much like the songs I grew up loving.

*Nathan: Do you have a process for writing music?*

Joel: Typically, I will start first with the lyric although that changes sometimes when I'm co-writing. Wayne Haun will often bring me a musical idea and I'll write lyrics to it. But every song is different and so I try to keep an open mind about the process and let it unfold as naturally as possible. I never want to be so formulaic that I miss out on what is best for the song. Because I truly believe that, as much as I love the rules of the craft of songwriting, it's when the rules are broken that oftentimes make the most beautiful songs.

*Nathan: How many songs have you written and which one is your favorite if you have a favorite?*

Joel: I have no idea how many songs I've written, but I'm sure it's over 1500. One of my former publishers told me that I have over 900 songs in their catalog alone, so I think 1500 would be a good guess.

Like most songwriters, I think I would say my favor-



ite song is the next one I'll write! [Smile] But if I had to choose, I would definitely consider "Orphans Of God" a song that I feel is my message to the world. It was originally recorded by Avalon but has also been recorded by The Talleys, Candy Christmas and a bunch of other artists. I have a new song called "This Is A Son" that Jody McBrayer recorded on his new project that I feel just as strongly about. "Calvary Answers For Me," (Perrys, Ernie Haase and Signature Sound) is also a song that I am very proud to have written and really love the message of.

*Nathan: Who is the biggest artist to ever sing one of your songs?*

Joel: As far as sales go, definitely Point of Grace. I was fortunate enough to be on several of their early records when they were going platinum (a million units) and that was a really great career time for me. Sandi Patty also recorded several of my songs and I'm very proud of that. But I grew up on Southern Gospel, really, so when The Goodmans recorded one of my songs that was just an unbelievable joy for me.

*Nathan: What would you say to any aspiring writers out there?*

Joel: Well, there are no shortcuts. You have to perfect your craft and that means working on it and really studying what makes a great song great. A lot of young-

er writers seem to think that networking is the most important thing, that if they co-write with this writer or that writer, then they'll be on their way, but when you get in that room with an experienced writer, you have to know what you're doing.

There is a great songwriting conference that I teach at every year called *Write About Jesus*, hosted by Sue C. Smith, who is, of course, one of the industry's finest writers. If someone is serious about learning the craft of songwriting, this is the best place to start. Sue was a high school english teacher for many years and she really has a heart for educating and encouraging.

I also think it's important for younger writers to study the music of the generation before them. There is much wisdom to be handed down and it's important to glean from their successes as much as possible. To learn what moves people and what doesn't.

It's also good to go hear live music as much as you can because that's where the rubber meets the road. Sometimes songs will work well on a record but not necessarily live in concert so it's good to soak in as much as you can.

*Nathan: Joel, you have had so many artists you have worked with but most recently, you have told me about a new project you are so proud of with some people we all know and love. What did you enjoy about the process with them and what are your favorite songs on the record?*

Joel: What I love about Cana's Voice's record is that there is something for everyone. Obviously they're some of the best talent in the industry, vocally, but they've really chosen songs that I think will reach a wide range of people. I know they really slaved over what to record and listened to hundreds of songs to narrow it down to just a few and I think they did a great job of choosing songs that not only convey the messages they want to convey but also showcase their vocal abilities. I'm really proud of them and their producer, Wayne Haun, for raising the bar a little on this project.

I wrote the song "Same Hands" with Jeff Bumgardner, who writes for Sunset Gallery, a publishing company that I own with Wayne Haun. This was the first song we wrote together five years ago and we've pitched it to a lot of different artists who passed on it, so that sometimes make you wonder if it's a good song. BUT! I got to be in the studio with Cana's Voice when they were recording it and I realized that this was the artist



for the song! They really connected with the lyrics so much so that at times they had to stop recording because TaRanda couldn't sing through her tears. I can still make out places in the song where I know she was crying and that is so rewarding for a songwriter to have written something that moves not only an audience but the group singing it.

"On Mountains Alone," is another song I wrote with Jeff Bumgardner. Jeff brought me the idea and I jumped on it immediately! I really love the message of this song and was thrilled to be a writer on it. Coincidentally, TaRanda actually sang the original demo on the song so that was a fun treat for me that she would be the singer to do it.

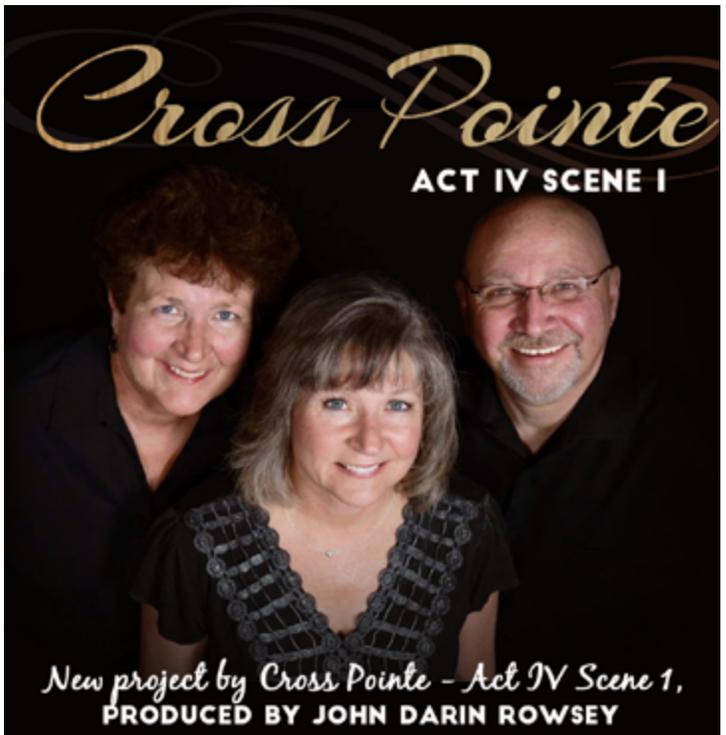
"All My Reasons Are You," is a song I wrote with Wayne Haun many years ago. LordSong recorded it back in the day so it's gratifying to hear Cana's Voice re-make it with their spin on it.

Joel Lindsey is an absolute craftsman in songwriting, and is one of the most definitive cross-genre writers of our time. If you read the liner notes from your favorite albums, chances are you will find at least one of his songs there. We salute the Christian songwriters who help to take the message of Jesus to the world, one song at a time.



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# CHRISTIAN COUNTRY EXPO UPDATE - CCX '16!!

By Rob Patz

## **It's HERE!**

Christian Country Expo 2016 begins this month, August 15<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to a great time of Christian Country music. If you haven't reserved your VIP bracelet yet, contact Rob Patz today. They will only be available until August 8th. You can contact Rob at 360-933-0741 to reserve your VIP spot.



## **More Exciting News!**

Red Hen Records is presenting a special showcase during CCX '16. We are thrilled to welcome this label and the A&R director, Rick Schweinsberg, to this



year's Expo. Red Hen has signed Christian Country acts Michael Lee, Zach and Rodney, Ryan Watkins, The

Tacketts, and Macy Dorris and Glad Heart. Be sure to attend this concert of exceptional Christian Country Music. Find out more about Red Hen Records here: <https://www.facebook.com/RedHenNashville/>

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## **Christian Country Diamond Awards**

We will be giving out the Diamond Awards in the Christian Country categories at Christian Country Expo. Voting is closed and we are so proud to present

the Christian Country Diamond Awards at CCX '16!



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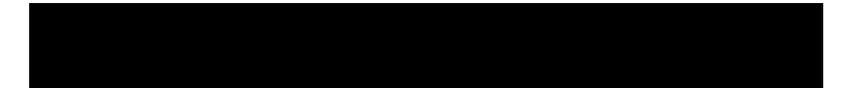


Like us on Facebook and be sure to check there for pictures, news and all the action: <https://www.facebook.com/christiancountryexpo/>



Artists appearing at this year's event include: **Wanda Osborne, Trinity Wennerstrom, Debbie Bennett, Epp Mevin Walls, Tommy Brandt, Kevin Rowe, The McDougal Family, Chuck Day, Kenny Gardner, Carol Barham, Ava Kasich, the Jordan Family Band, De La Croix, Pace Brothers, Shirley Carter, Shellem Cline, McKay Project, Bev McCann, Arkin**





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# JAMES MARVELL



By Paige Givens

Few people can boast of a career in music that's lasted over 50 years. Yet even though James Marvell, who started singing in the 1960's, has enjoyed a long-lasting journey in many music scenes, you won't hear boasting from his humble spirit. He has experienced many changes in the constantly shifting world of the music industry, but through it all, one thing has remained the same: James Marvell's music has a touch from heaven that has touched the souls of people across the globe. And that's how he wants it to be!

Growing up in Tampa, Florida, James started both his musical and spiritual journeys early in life. "The first time I sang was probably for my mom Emily and our family. She bought me my first guitar when I was twelve. My mother truly encouraged me and so did my dad Sal, who recently passed at 103 years of age.

"When I was a young teen, the Beatles came on the scene. I was influenced by them (they were innocent then with their musical delivery.) Spiritually speaking, I think I began to search for meaning in my late teens and early 20's. Searching can become confusing in our world because of the pressures of growing up in this anti-God society, but thank God, my search led me to Jesus Christ when I heard a minister known as the Chaplin of Bourbon Street, preach the Gospel at a Nashville, Tennessee Crusade around 1973. Bob Harrington got my attention and I accepted my Savior.

"I think I became ministry-minded in my 20's, about the time I was searching for the answer to life. I would listen on the radio and TV to an evangelist by the name of Leroy Jenkins out of Delaware, Ohio, who seemed to preach with authority. I decided to attend a few of his crusades. He was lead to hand me a microphone to sing at one of his meetings and then invited me back. This motivated me to finish a song I was writing titled 'Prophecy'

"The Lord has used the song 'Prophecy' for 40 years. I've been blessed to appear on TBN by request of Paul and Jan Crouch and on TCT, CTN, The Inspirational Network TV, and aired on many 50,000 watt clear channel radio stations on a daily basis throughout the '90's into the new millennium as the theme song for NEWSWATCH Magazine hosted by the late David J. Smith. I would like to credit that Dan Duncan, current president of International Country Gospel Music Association (ICGMA), is the narrator heard on the English version of my composition 'Prophecy,' which has been done in three major languages including English, Spanish, and Farsi. My hope is to have it recorded in many of the world's languages."

James' career took off early on, when he became a member of the band Mercy, an American Pop group. "In the late '60's, as I was learning the ins and outs of Country music (I enjoyed Country even though I was a teen influenced by the Beatles), Bobby Bare's uncle Johnny, who happened to

be performing in Tampa, took Buddy Good and myself under his wing to teach us more about Country music. Buddy Good and I were young kids who formed a few garage



bands in the '60's.

"It was during that time that a band from the Tampa, Florida, area by the name of Mercy approached Buddy, myself, and our drummer Roger Fuentes to join them. They were on the brink of a major hit with a song titled 'Love Can Make You Happy.' Buddy, Roger and I immediately went into the studio with Mercy. The rest is truly history! In 1969, we topped Billboard, CASHBOX and Record World



with Elvis, Frank Sinatra and the Beatles! There I was with Mercy at Number Two, second only to the Beatles with our solid gold hit."

When their time with Mercy had come to an end, James and Buddy Good went on to pursue Country music. "We had a vision to bring good, family-style Country to families and anti-drug messages to the youth. Many can find our appearances on YouTube. The duo was known as The Country Cavaleers. Buddy Lee Attractions agent, John Centinaro (who managed us then) got us major shows with the greatest country legends of all time from a young Hank Williams Jr. to Grand Ole Opry Stars like Little Jimmy Dickens, Porter Wagoner, Del Reeves, Loretta Lynn, and many others.

"On one show, The Cavaleers were doing a Freddy Fender impersonation at a Toledo, Ohio concert. Buddy was really getting into it sounding and acting like Fender when all of a sudden from behind the curtain a voice started to sing along with Buddy. Little did he know it was Freddy Fender himself! The crowd was cheering and yelling as Freddy came out but Buddy didn't notice, at first thinking all the excitement was for him! Suddenly, Buddy turned and there was the real Freddy Fender singing 'Before The Next Teardrop Falls.' Buddy's eyes got as big as silver dollars and everyone had a great time."

Over the years, James has had songs produced on many labels like MGM, Colt Records, and Daywind, as well as producing his own music. He mentions that JD Sumner began to have a great influence on him during his ministry. Today, he is still performing at shows and at churches.

John R. Miller, pastor of God's Diving Purposes, Inc. recently commented on a night of worship with James Marvell at his church. "His presence on stage is refreshingly full of charisma. Accompanied by his guitar, many of the songs have been written and composed by him, and they carry the message of Christ with beautiful melody and at times, foot-tapping rhythm.

"James' wife, Faye, blessed us with songs of worship and hope. She also sang with James in duets which were well thought out and truly delightful to hear. She brought this congregation to a point of worship which is seldom seen in many Gospel concerts."

As for James, the "show" is not really a show at all! It's all about true life experiences and changing hearts. "You can expect a real experience because of my love for God and the very real trials I've been through in life which I know can only bless my fans once they hear me. It's all about souls as Jesus surely would want it to be."



On July 17, Christian songwriter Gary S. Paxton passed away, a man known and loved by many in the music industry. James notes, "Gary S. Paxton was truly a musical visionary. I knew Gary since the early '70's and always hoped to record one of his great compositions. I plan to do that in the future. A song Gary Paxton himself pitched to me a few years back,



which I sang on the national TV Show 'Spirit Of America' filmed in Branson around 2006, I hope to record in his honor."

If you want to hear James Marvell on the air today, check out the ICGMA. "Hear a re-release of a song that became the official/exclusive theme song of the ICGMA in the '90's, thanks to

former ICGMA president Wendy Duvall and co-founder Billy Holcomb, titled 'Only Christian Country.' The Gospel Music Today TV program hosted by Ken and Jean Grady recently brought it back as an archive video hit and were nice enough to add a promotion about the International Country Gospel Music Association with my song."

James Marvell will be appearing at the 60th Anniversary of the ICGMA at the West Plains Civic Center in West Plains, Missouri, on August 4th through 6th, as well as several churches in the surrounding area, with the help of



Billy and Donna Hale of the CGMA.

After a whirlwind of musical experiences that span over 50 years and are still going on today, James Marvell sums up his life with just a few beautiful words. "Though I felt blessed to top Billboard in the late '60's with the band Mercy, to me it's far greater to be written in The Lamb's Book of Life."

For more information about James's music and schedule, follow him on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/james.marvell.12>.

Photos courtesy of Paula Miller.



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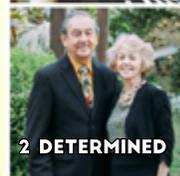
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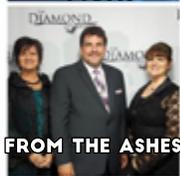
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# YOUNGER PERSPECTIVE

## Emma Carter of the Jay Stone Singers

BY ERIN STEVENS

A word from the writer...

It's been a pleasure to watch this young lady elegantly grow up over the years. She has epitomized class as she puts her heart into every endeavor she explores. At still such a young age, Emma Carter has accomplished much, while always giving honor and glory back to The One who put the song in her heart. Let's find out what she's been up to lately in her busy life. Time to take the stage once again, Miss Carter...

*Erin: What does a typical day in the life of Emma Carter look like?*

Emma: My typical day consists of class, the gym, and the fire department! I am an EMT and a full time student at Methodist University. My days are usually spent studying and serving our community. On days that don't involve school, you can find me in the pool, at TJ Maxx (sorry mom), or spending time with family and friends.

*Erin: For those that may not know the backstory, how would you sum up your years of involvement in the pageant world and how they impacted you and your future?*

Emma: Pageantry definitely helped me evolve into who I am. It's typical to say, but that is because it's truer than true. I developed public speaking skills, a heart for service, and interview skills through my involvement that will help me through the rest of my life.

*Erin: What are the differences between juggling homeschooling while traveling, to now pursuing your college career and being a roadie at the same time?*

Emma: The difference has been pretty drastic, to be very honest. As a homeschooler, I could just up and go whenever my family traveled, but now there are times when my family has to carry on without me. It was a difficult transition for all of us, but we make it work. I am so proud of how my family continues to carry on the message of our Great Father even

when obstacles have been placed in their way. I'm grateful for their support as I pursue my passion.

*Erin: Is there a profound moment during a JSS concert that stands out as having a huge impact on you personally?*

Emma: I can't put my finger on one particular moment, but I can tell you that there have been many times when adversities have come my way, and I've felt the Lord wrap His arms around me as I sang to Him. Those are special, intimate moments that I will hold onto forever.



*Erin: What has the Lord been teaching you through your spiritual walk so far this summer?*

Emma: To trust Him, follow His plan, and believe in His guidance.

*Erin: Other than singing, what other roles do you play on the JSS bus?*



Emma: I am the bus cleaner, movie picker and product manager.

*Erin: Pick your favorites. And...GO!*

*Pink or red? Lifting or running? Makeup or no makeup days? Romance movies or comedy? Dresses or yoga pants? Home bed or bunk? High heels or flip flops? Fishing or four wheeling? Coffee or tea?*

Emma: Red. Lifting. No makeup days. Comedy. Dresses. Home bed. Flip Flops. This country girl simply cannot choose between fishing and four wheeling. COFFEE.

*Erin: What is the weirdest thing a fan has ever said to you?*

Emma: "Honey, you are a spitting image of my granddaughter!" I get this comment everywhere I go. Not even kidding.

*Erin: What's a silly quirk about yourself that no one would ever guess?*

Emma: I am OBSESSED with farm animals. Especially cows.

*Erin: If you could decide, where would you want to see yourself in 10 years?*

Emma: A Physician Assistant working in Pediatric surgery at Duke.

*Erin: As a girl who has spent so much of her life in the spotlight, how do you relate to and encourage young girls who*

*look to you for counsel and advice?*

Emma: Just because I have spent my entire life on stage,



does not mean that I am exempt from the struggles of life. I am always willing to open up to any young ones who feel comfortable enough to confide in me. Also, encouragement always comes through prayer. I love to take

the time to pray with others for whatever they need.

Closing words from the writer...

Prayer still changes lives. Don't let anyone tell you differently. Just as Emma shared, there is no greater encouragement we can give to one another than the power of prayer - whether that be standing in the check-out line at Walmart, in the locker room at school, or in the middle of a restaurant. All it takes is caring enough to drop what you're doing, and invest a couple of minutes into the life God has placed before you. In the process, it could change you too! Stepping out in faith can sometimes be a frightening thing, but with the Lord's guidance, there is NOTHING you can't do! So go ahead, Prayer Warrior, go impact a life for the Kingdom of Heaven. And thanks to Emma for brightening our day with her presence.

Until next month, Scoops fans.

*And that's my take on it.*

Connect with Erin:

Twitter - @photosforkeeps

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Who would YOU like to see Erin interview next?



# Houston's Southern Gospel Station



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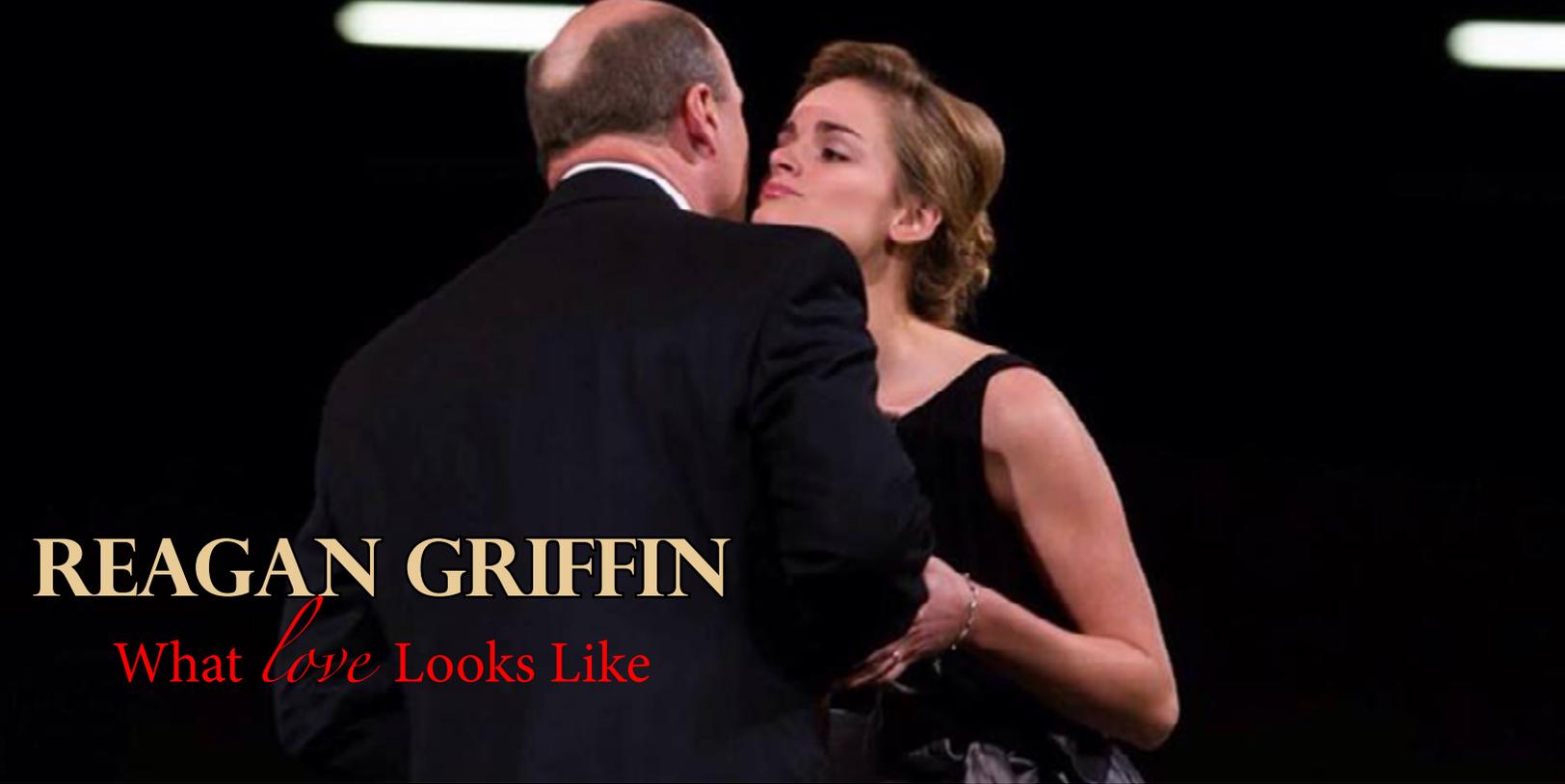


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**PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE IN THIS ISSUE!**



# REAGAN GRIFFIN

## What *Love* Looks Like

Hey, Everyone! My name is Fayth Lore. I am a part of The Lore Family Ministries, and I'm excited to start a four-part series for SGN Scoops. These articles will be informative, inspiring and hopefully encouraging.

In each article, you'll be introduced to an exceptional young woman involved in the Southern Gospel world. I, along with my featured guest, will share our thoughts on God's Love Letter. I pray that God will speak directly to you through these articles.

The message God has given for this first article is important for us to understand. Is it possible, in a world being overtaken by hate, for us to overcome with love? What can we offer the hateful, the spiteful and the angered individual that can change their life and eternity? How can we make a difference? How can we be the catalyst for real change?

I believe that the answer is found in a four letter word: L-O-V-E. **In order for our society to find healing, we need to find out *what true love looks like.***

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (KJV) "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

For most Christians, love is the first thought that comes to our mind when we think about Jesus. We cannot

separate the message of God's Son without remembering His cross. In many Christian churches, behind the pulpit, you'll find a cross. The cross is pointing Heavenward on our church steeples. But, why do we want others to view the cross? What is the message in its symbol that we need to share?

The message shining through the cross is LOVE. John 3:16 reveals to us God's sacrificial love. Love is a sacrifice. Our generation must learn to share this love.

In John 13:35, Jesus taught His disciples and told them that they should be known by their love. Paul wrote an entire chapter (1 Cor. 13) on the importance of love. In essence, a person may have faith to move mountains. But, without love, they are nothing.

I had the honor of exchanging thoughts on this topic with my dear friend, Reagan Griffin. I first met Reagan at the National Quartet Convention in 2015. Reagan is the daughter of Rodney Griffin of Greater Vision. She and I met while she was helping out at Greater Vision's product table. I was encouraged to meet another young lady who loved God, Southern Gospel music and laughter.

When Reagan and I discussed this topic, I asked her to share a time in her life when she felt a selfless kind of love was displayed. Reagan said, "The supreme example of love that I think of was when our Heavenly Father assumed the worst position imaginable. He gave His Son to suffer and die the worst type of death. To

think, Jesus Christ voluntarily gave up His precious life for a world that didn't want Him. And, many today still don't want Him. That is what love looks like."

I couldn't agree more with Reagan! My heart breaks as I see our *#selfie* driven world becoming more consumed with Me, My and Mine. Many times, this attitude is even found in our churches. We'll never love like Christ loves until we learn to put others before ourselves. It is this type of love that calls us into servanthood. It is our calling to serve others as Christ has shown us.

One prime example of serving others is in the work of missionaries. Whether a person is serving as a long-term missionary or they've embarked on a week-long trip, their main cause is to lovingly serve others. Every person that I've spoken to who have gone on a missions' trip, always say that they come back a changed person. Reagan recently went on a missions trip to the Dominican Republic. She told me why she wanted to go. She also shared a story of her experience there.



"I always wanted to go on a mission trip," Reagan said. "I wanted to experience what others were experiencing. I wanted to share my own experiences with others. I could tell several stories of what I learned.

"One special event happened when we visited Monte Christi. We were visiting an elderly home in the Dominican Republic. Our group separated into small groups. We went room to room ministering and singing to those who were bedridden. One room held a very precious lady. As I approached her bed, I wasn't quite sure that she was still living. Her eyes were cloudy, mouth opened, and she had no visible body movements. We asked if we could sing to her.

"I can't sing," she quietly replied. We sang 'Jesus



Loves You' and 'I Have Decided To Follow Jesus' in Spanish to her. We received a sweet blessing when she began to sing along. Her voice was a moaning whisper. She was appearing so pitiful to us. But, not in God's eyes. He could see that she was giving absolutely everything she had to praise Him. I learned that we shouldn't hold anything back from God. Let's give Him all we have."

1 Corinthians 13:4 teaches that "Charity suffereth long and is kind" (KJV). When you study the meaning of "suffereth long" it means to be patient in times of suffering. Some versions interpret this Scripture to read "Love is patient and is kind." At first glance, that Scripture may seem too easy to understand. But, I believe it has a deeper meaning.

My generation lacks patience. As a result, we lack loving kindness. Our impatience boots kindness out the door. *Patience and loving kindness go hand in hand.* Kindness is a reflection of the heart of one who is filled with God's love. That same person will have a patient spirit. But, let's be real. Patience is not easy. When we need something, we need it now! A society that is ab-



sorbed with selfishness and intolerance needs to see the Church showing God's love.

Too many times, we *lose our patience* with others. Then, we turn our aggravation into a social media war. We rant and tear a person apart in 20 words or less. Then, our next post or tweet is a picture of Jesus with the caption, "Smile, God loves you". Friend, we won't win the world by those actions.

Let's be an example of God's love. God has placed you and I an arm's distance from the broken and hurting. Through Christ, we can lovingly make a difference.

I encourage you to share this article with your friends. Be watching for my next article, featuring Olivia Collingsworth. I encourage you to make an effort to show patience and share loving kindness today.



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Help Spread the news  
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



# A Look Through The Lens of Craig Harris: Tribute Quartet

Photographs by Craig Harris



At the end of June, the award-winning Tribute Quartet was in Solid Rock Baptist Church in Greenbrier, Tenn. SGNScoops' photographer, Craig Harris, was on hand to capture the energetic performance of Riley Harrison Clark, Josh Singletary, Gary Casto, and Anthony Davis. Tribute is known for such numbers as "I Remember The Day," "Those Who Know Me Know," and "Good News From Jerusalem," displaying their ease in presenting both old and new Gospel with finesse.

We hope you enjoy this view of an extraordinary night of quartet music, as we Look Through The Lens Of Craig Harris.



# Karen Peck and New River



SGNScoops' photographer, Craig Harris, was quite busy attending concerts last month, as no doubt many of our readers were as well. Harris attended a concert held at Plum Springs Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on Friday, July 8th. Karen Peck and New River shone that night with vibrancy and joy.

Karen Peck Gooch's lovely soprano soars to the rafters it seems, but the other members of New River also deliver great vocals and enthusiasm. Karen's sister, Susan Peck Jackson, and Karen's daughter, Kari Gooch, join newest member Ricky Dale Braddy, presenting crowd favorites like "Four Days Late," "Pray Now," "Revival" and many more from their latest projects. Matthew Gooch joins the group onstage to add his instrumental talents as well.

As a special surprise, Karen called Reba Rambo McGuire onstage from her seat in the audience. Reba joined the group in the standard, "We Shall Wear A Robe And Crown." We hope you enjoy a few scenes from an outstanding musical evening, as we Look Through The Lens Of Craig Harris.





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By Lorraine Walker

Creekside Gospel Music Convention is almost here and we trust you have made your hotel reservations. Creekside runs October 31st through November 3rd, 2016, at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center, Pigeon Forge. Remember that the Creekside tickets are FREE but must be RESERVED! Do it today at [www.creekside-gospelmusicconvention.com](http://www.creekside-gospelmusicconvention.com).



### **SGNScoops Honors Archie Watkins**

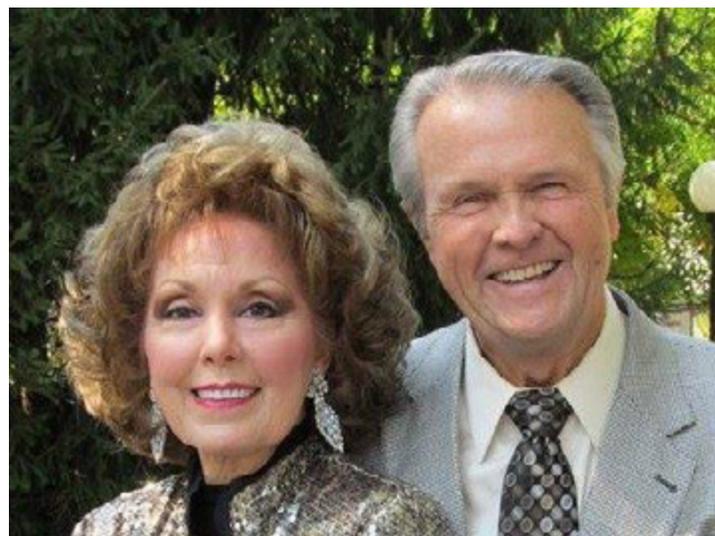
Every Monday evening during Creekside week, we honor a leading member of the Gospel music community who has spent most of their lives promoting this music and lifting up the Name of Jesus. This year on October 31, we will honor Mr. Archie Watkins.

For those of you who may not be familiar with this gentleman, he is one of the founding members of The

Inspirations from Bryson City, North Carolina. At the age of 15, Archie was travelling with this mountain-born, traditional quartet and singing such hits as “Jesus Is Coming Soon” and “Touring That City,” and appearing on the Gospel Singing Jubilee.

After 45 years with the Inspirations, Archie moved on to other projects. One of these is appearing several times a year with Archie Watkins and Smoky Mountain Reunion, singing alongside friends Marlin Shubert, Jack Laws, Troy Burns and Eddie Deitz. Archie also has a full touring schedule of his own.

SGNScoops is thrilled to join with host Dr. Jerry Goff in honoring this distinguished gentlemen. Many of Archie’s friends will be joining us that evening, to remember stories from days gone by and to indeed honor Archie by their presence. Among these will be Troy



Burns and Eddie Deitz. We might even get Archie to sing a number or two.

“Archie Watkins is one of the most recognizable voices in Southern Gospel,” says Dr. Jerry Goff. “He was *the sound* that identified the Inspiration Quartet. His committed life to Christ is another great quality of the man. He deserves to be honored by his peers.”

### **Be There or Be...**

Don't miss this auspicious beginning to Creekside 2016. Reserve your accommodations at one of Pigeon Forge's finest lodgings, the Ramada Hotel at the Smokey Mountain Convention Center, now. Rates start as low as \$182 per person (based on double occupancy) for reservations call Rob at 360.933.0741 or contact Salina Clay for hotel reservations at hotels@sgnscoops.com or by phone at 256.239.7716.

Don't miss the special events happening every day and night, including the Diamond Awards, Hymn Sing, daytime showcases, afternoon jam sessions and midnight prayer. For more information click on the Creekside website or Facebook page.



Some of the artists performing at Creekside include: **The Pine Ridge Boys, Shellem Cline, Alliance Quartet, Drummond Family, Heart's Song, Jason Runnels, Sharp's Quartet, Jordan's River, Griffins, McKay Project, Surrendered, Chandlers, Connells, The Hyssongs, Ava Kassich, The Williamsons** and more.

### **Creekside Classic '16**

Reserve your spot at the newest Southern Gospel Golf Tournament on Wednesday, November 2nd, for men and women of all ages. Reservations are \$25 per person. Contact Russell Wise to register yourself or a team



at 256-458-6943.

### **Something Special**

**Monday, October 31st:** SGNScoops and Dr. Jerry Goff honor Mr. Archie Watkins. Monday afternoon, the Exhibit Hall is open, filled with artists' booths and singers waiting to chat with you. The Hall will be open every day and is part of your free admission to Creekside.

**Tuesday, November 1:** Creekside presents daytime showcases every day to fill your mornings with music.



In the afternoon, Scott Roberts and the Five O'Clock Band will be headlining a stellar cast of artists to warm up the listeners for an evening of song.

**The Diamond Awards** will be presented during the Convention on Tuesday night, November 1st, 2016, during a celebration hosted by Dr. Jerry and Jan Goff. Make sure your favorite artist is recognized. Vote today! The Top Five nominees are waiting to be voted on

by you! <http://www.sgnscoops.com/the-2016-diamond-award-nominations-2/> Midnight prayer returns each night before you head to your room to rest up for the following day.

**Wednesday, November 2:** Joseph Habedank will be our special guest on the Wednesday showcase. Following this is the Creekside Classic '16 and then the afternoon Jam Session with The Five O'clock Band. Wednesday night and Thursday night also have special events happening during the evening program, so plan to stay the entire time. Don't forget to attend Midnight Prayer!

**Thursday, November 3:** Morning showcases, afternoon Jam Session with The Five O'clock Band and a special Evening Concert will finish Creekside 2016 with a bang!



### **Fifth Anniversary VIP Passes Available**

This is going to be a special year with exciting things going on all four days and we want to encourage you to purchase your \$25 VIP ticket for ALL four days! That works out to a little over six dollars a day. There is nowhere else that you can get such a great value and see so many fantastic Southern Gospel Groups. And VIP means preferred seating, special gifts and backstage events. If you are interested in purchasing your \$25 VIP ticket call Rob at 360 933 0741 or for information on purchasing online go to [www.sgnscoops.com/can-vip-25-creekside-2016](http://www.sgnscoops.com/can-vip-25-creekside-2016)

### **What You Need To Know**

Your Creekside fifth anniversary tickets must be reserved here: [Creeksidegospelmusicconvention.com](http://Creeksidegospelmusicconvention.com).

For more information, latest news and artists scheduled to appear, visit the Creekside page on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/Creeksidegospelmusicconvention> .

***Fall Tree Photo Courtesy of Wolfgang Staudt***



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# Allegiance Trio

## Still Standing

By Jaquita Lindsey

The Nashville, Tennessee-based group of guys, known as Allegiance Trio, happily gains this month's spotlight. Although founding members Kasey Kemp and Jake Sammons have both been a part of the Southern Gospel industry for quite some time, together they formed what is now Allegiance Trio, back in July of 2011.

This group of guys has received numerous award nominations, including New Trio of the Year for Singing News and the Sunrise Award for SGN Scoops. Allegiance has made appearances at the National Quartet Convention, as well as Creekside, both held in Pigeon Forge, TN. Allegiance Trio is known on radio for song titles such as "It Wasn't Me," "(Lighten Up) Lean On Jesus," and "I Will Stand."

### I Will Stand

Kasey, Jake and, recently-added Heath Pannell, are currently in an eight-city run with their patriotic themed *I Will Stand* tour, featuring Country Music legend T. Graham Brown. The tour is an idea that stemmed from the song "I Will Stand" off

of their project, *Time To Sing*, which released the first part of June. This project includes songs such as "Heaven Is Real," "The Sound of Amazing Grace," and the title cut "Time To Sing," that was released to radio mid-July. Allegiance Trio is excited to recently have the privilege of signing with Song Garden Music Group.

### A New Name

Allegiance Trio originally started out under the name Declaration Trio. "Jake and I served together in another group before stepping out and starting our own," Kasey tells us. "Our friendship and views on music ministry led us to form Declaration Trio. After a couple of years, we had to abandon that name, and in some ways start over, due to a Rock-n-Roll band that owns the U.S. trademark to the name 'Declaration'."

The guys did a nation-wide poll on the weekly syndicated radio show, *The Gospel Greats* with host Paul Heil. Voters favored the name Allegiance Trio. "I am so glad that we de-



cided on this name. As a group and as Christians, we believe that our *allegiance* lies in God the Father, our families, our churches, and the calling that He has placed on our lives,” Kasey shares.

### **In The Beginning**

Every artist has their own story of their musical upbringing and influences. Kasey sang locally with a few different groups from his home state of Illinois before joining Naomi and the Segos for a six-year stint. Jake grew up singing with his family. During his teenage years, he had a Christian Rock band. Jake later joined the Toney Brothers out of Dallas, Texas. Heath has sung with a few regional groups out of Mississippi and Alabama.

Collectively, the three members have a wide range of musical influences from Southern Gospel favorites such as the



Cathedrals, Greater Vision, and the Booth Brothers to the styles of Ronnie Milsap, the Gatlin Brothers, the Eagles, and the Statler Brothers. Allegiance Trio toured with the Booth Brothers in their early days and attributes much of their musical impact to the Brothers.

Kasey Kemp is originally from Marion, IL and began singing at the age of seven. He now makes his home in Hendersonville, TN, along with his wife, Haley. The couple was married in April of 2015. Kasey and Haley are thrilled to be expecting their first child. They joyfully await the arrival of their daughter,

Avaline, due in October. Kasey is an avid superheroes fanatic and a talented trumpet player. Kasey incorporates his trumpet skills on stage from time to time, and serves as lead singer and group emcee.



Detroit, Michigan native, Jake Sammons, started singing at age five. He typically sings the baritone part, switching up the lead with Kasey occasionally. Jake and his wife, Anjie, were married in 1996. They reside in Nashville, TN along with their two daughters, Allison, age 15, and Cadie, age 13. Jake has written several of the songs that Allegiance Trio sings and have recorded. He plays the acoustic guitar for select songs during their concerts. Jake enjoys working with computers and recording equipment in his free time.

### **The New Guy**

Heath Pannell is the new tenor singer for Allegiance Trio. He is from Ripley, Mississippi. Although he has been a member for only a few months, Heath has already been a great fit for the team. Before taking the tenor position for the trio, he was employed by AT&T. Heath also enjoys being the assistant chief for a volunteer firefighter unit in his community. He has a passion for anything dealing with firefighting. Heath and his wife, Amanda, have been married since March of 2007. Together, they have three children: Noah, age seven, Stetson, age four and Presley, age two.



Upon meeting the guys of Allegiance, you will meet an added face, that of Corey Lackey. This 22-year-old, Detroit native now makes his home in Hendersonville, TN and makes every mile with the trio. Corey assists wherever he is needed, mainly with the group's office work and sound during their concerts. Corey filled in with the guys, singing tenor, during the time that they were searching for a named replacement.



He grew up following Southern Gospel, helping an area promoter, Victor Seaton, when he was asked.

Kasey shared this sweet story with me about Corey: "Corey came to us a little over a year ago. He has been a great asset in the office as well as on the road. Back in March, he and I were cleaning out our sprinter van. He stopped and had tears in his eyes. Corey told me that he needed to be saved. He shared with me how he had prayed a prayer when he was a child and all that time, he thought he was saved. I was so honored to be able to pray the prayer of salvation with him that day." Corey now shares that testimony from the stage and sings a song that Jake penned, "I Know He Loves Me."

### **Pain and Professionalism**

Jake recalls a lighter, yet painful moment that happened to him during one of their appearances at Creekside. "When your name is called during those type of events, I suppose everyone shoots for a grand entrance. As we took the stage, I got just that," Jake laughs. "My foot caught the top step, causing me to fall on to the stage from behind the curtain. I literally slid onto the stage. Kasey motioned his arms like a baseball umpire and yelled 'SAFE!' The audience got quite a laugh out of that. Unfortunately, all I got was a fractured ankle."

Having each experienced the mercy, forgiveness and love of Christ in their own individual ways, these guys are compelled to share the message of salvation with the world through the gift of music. "We believe that God created music. He created voices and the instruments in which to praise Him. He inspires songwriters to write according to His Holy word. We are honored to serve the Lord with our talents of singing, writing and preaching," Kasey says.



Be sure to catch this trio with their new tenor when they come to sing in your area. Visit Allegiance online at [www.allegiancetrioo.com](http://www.allegiancetrioo.com).



# Day By Day

Whose report will you believe...  
I will believe the report of the Lord

By Selena Day

In light of the past few weeks, with the bombing in Orlando and the shootings in Dallas, Texas, I have decided to use my platform to speak from my heart and share what I believe about all the condition of our world.

I know that in my lifetime I have not seen our country so divided. The voices from a variety of people and their agendas, not wanting to hear the other side but digging firmly into the belief that their thought is right and everyone else is wrong, has caused division. Division between male and female, division between racial groups, division between economic classes and political parties; the list goes on and on. Everyday you see it on social media, even Christians bashing non-Christians, and I often wonder where is the love we are called to show to the world.

Haggai 2:6.7 “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens, the sea, and the land. I will rattle all the nations, and all that is valuable in the eyes of the world will be willingly brought to My house. I will see to it that it is filled to the brim with My glory.”

I believe that in the midst of all that is going on we should be holding up the banner of Christ and His love even higher and shouting, “Follow me! I know the way.”

We travel a lot and every time we fly, a demonstration is given about the emergency procedures for a crisis, should they be needed, and somewhere in the demonstration it is said: “In case of emergency, don’t panic. Stay calm.”

If this world is sinking, shouldn’t we who are believers be the first ones to show by example that Christ is the truth the light and the way? Shouldn’t we be the first to say, “Hey, I have the solution for this emergency!”

I love to read all forms of books. I love novels, I love self-help books, I love books about Christian living, and I love

art books. I just love to read. I am usually reading two or three books at a time. I found a book that I have read about leadership and turning negative situations into positive ones by changing the culture or environment we live in. The author said that our experiences shape our beliefs. What we believe determines how we act. Our actions then in turn produce the results in our lives.

If you have an experiential relationship with Christ, you will believe with all your heart that Christ is alive and loves you very much and holds the answers in your life. Then in turn, your actions reflect that belief that everything in your life works for your good so you act like a son or daughter instead of a slave. You then get the results of a spirit filled life. Love, joy, peace, kindness, patience, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control is the rule in our lives when we live this type of reality.

It is my belief that we have turned into a society with churches entertaining us on Sunday with a mini-concert and a pastor that gives a great motivational speech and we call that *God showing up*. We walk away every week feeling like the good Christian for going to church but we never meet the great big mighty God that changes lives, and so our experiences are more about behavior modification than a life changing encounter.

Which I’m not saying is bad, but without an encounter with Christ, we live not by the spirit but by the fruits of our flesh. Love becomes hatred; joy becomes depression, peace becomes strife, kindness become anger, patience becomes impatience, goodness becomes evil, gentleness become aggressiveness, faithfulness become disloyalty, self-control becomes self-indulgence. Does this not sound familiar? It really is describing our culture during these times.

Philippians 4:8 ”And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable,

and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

When we see these horrible events happening around us we must remember this scripture and focus on what is true, what is honorable, what is right, what is pure, what is lovely, and what is admirable.

I love that during this season the quote from Mr. Rogers has been going around social media; “My mother always said when there was a tragedy or catastrophe to always look for the helpers. There are always helpers.” This is a perfect example of focusing on Philippians 4:8.

I Cor. 5:20 “So we are now representatives of the Anointed One, the Liberating King; God has given us a charge to carry through our lives—urging all people on behalf of the Anointed to become reconciled to the Creator God.”

During these difficult times when it can be so easy for us to become angry and defensive, we must remember that we are ambassadors for the Kingdom of God and as an ambassador we have a mandate to bring life and light into every situation that God brings us to.

John 8:12 “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’”

Over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I led a short-term missions retreat to Hilton Head, South Carolina, and during the day we went to the beach to just do random acts of kindness for the people on the beach. We brought them water, we took pictures for them, we sat and listened to their stories and some of us went to help people tie down their tents.

It amazed me that these little acts of kindness really moved the people and when we asked to pray with them they said yes and were receptive to us talking about Christ. It challenged me that during these difficult times in our country, this may be what we all need to turn our country around: To love my neighbor as I do myself, to act kindly to someone that may not deserve it, to show patience with those around me; to spend time with my Savior so that I have peace in my heart during the day; to do acts of random goodness to everyone; to be faithful in my job and with my family and friends; to operate in self-control and not allow greed or comparison to rule my life.

I would like to challenge you as well during this time to set the example for those around you and when someone comes to ask, and you know they will, just introduce them to Jesus.

Selena Day is a motivational speaker and is available to speak at your conference or event. You may contact her at [selenaday@me.com](mailto:selenaday@me.com) <http://www.queenliving.org> <http://facebook.com/queenismsbyselenaday>

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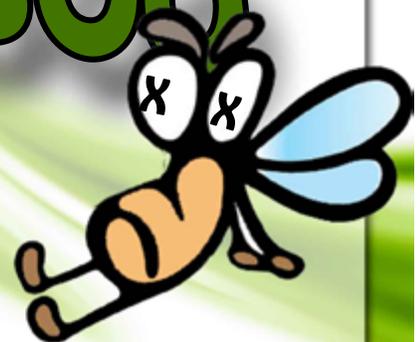
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# DAVID INGLES

## Driven By Faith in Music, Ministry and Radio

By Charlie Griffin

Born in the little Oklahoma town of Cleveland, David Ingles became an innovator in Gospel music, church planting and related music ministry fields. His music history is well rooted in Southern Gospel music with such acclaimed artists as The Plainsmen, Weatherfords and the Vanguards. David is best known for his solo ministry, being a pastor and being the founder of the Oasis Radio Network.

In the seventh grade, the family moved to Bristow, Oklahoma. Ingles says, “Even as a little boy, I enjoyed singing. I remember when I first heard the Blackwood Brothers, in my heart I want to sing just like them.” **Bob Wills was a strong musical influence as David listened to the Texas Playboys on KOOO Radio.** That Texas Swing sound touched with Country music soon became an Ingles favorite. Yes, the music bug hit David at an early age.

Saved in church at the age of 13, his family (mom and sisters) sang for fun. The Ingles family was not active

in the church at that time. But in later years his mom accepted Christ through Ingles’ leading. That moment is still a highlight for him.

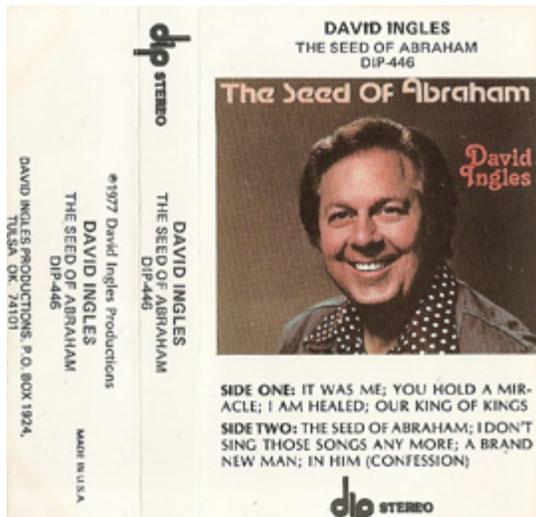
### In Pursuit of Music

Singing in elementary grades, his love for music was coupled with art. He says, “**Singing, you were able to run, play, whistle and sing. But art, you had to sit down. So singing won out.**” After high school, David Ingles attended Bethany College, where singing took on a new meaning. He started a singing group. They sang in revivals during the summer months. Over the years, Ingles anchored the lead vocal for the Plainsmen Quartet with Thurman and Erman Bunch, Fulton Nash and Hal Tomlinson. He was also a graduate of the Stamps Baxter Singing School.

David Ingles answered the call that came from Earl Weatherford as he was looking for a lead singer and wondered if Ingles would be interested. He was and remained with the group until being drafted into the

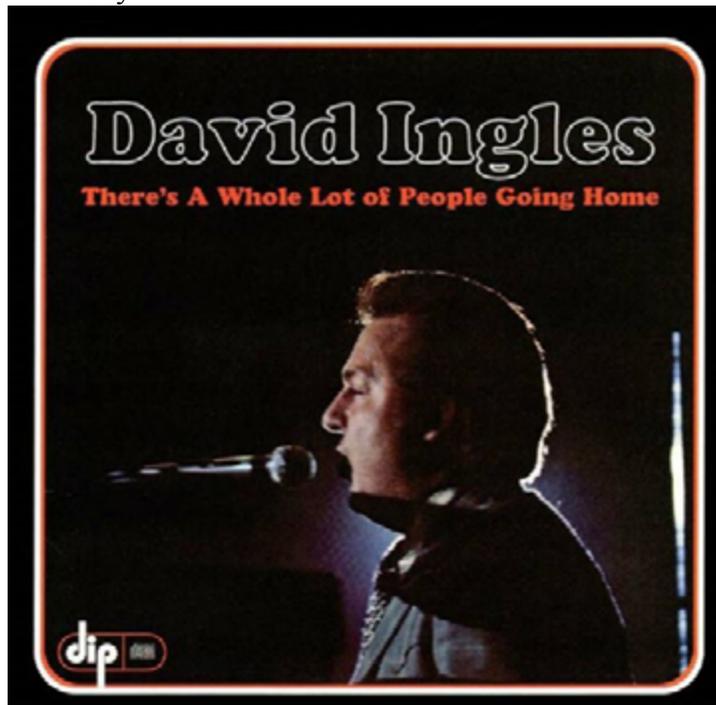
war. But even in the service, the music never left him. He was always singing. Music just helps pass the day to

most Gospel singers.



During his time with the Van-guards, Ingles became known as one of the smoothest lead singers in Southern Gospel

music. Their music was polished and their harmony rivaled that of the Goss Brothers to many. **The music energy and staging of their music stylings kept Ingles, Claude Zumwalt, Jim Toliver and Paul Craft in demand.** The album liner notes from their project *Contemporarily Yours* lets you get to know them “back in the day.”



Upon returning from military service, Ingles was in Tulsa, Ok., where he took a job at a Country radio station at KFMJ 1050 AM radio. The station at that time played a variety of music styles. Of course Gospel and Country were mainstays. During this time he began to focus on Country music, writing songs and recording. He shares, “I turned my attention to singing once again, this time as a Country music artist. After some unsuccessful attempts at recording popular Country tunes,

written and recorded by others, I began to write my own Country songs.” He landed a record deal on Capitol Records. Even being on the big record label, he did not have the success he desired.

Ingles says an unfulfilled desire caused him to devote his time and energies to bible study in the same manner and devotion as his job. So he took one week of vacation to start his in-depth bible study. After that vacation week of bible study, he and his wife began a community study group. “I began to study the bible like I never had before. **I knew that God had a plan for my life and if I was going to find out what it was, I was going to have to search His Word for direction.** That direction was finally revealed as I began to write about a new kind of love.” After receiving a prophetic blessing, things began to fall in place in divine order for David Ingles.

Songwriting took on a new and fulfilled direction inspired by Kingdom living. Words and tunes began to flow from his pen by the inspiration of God, songs like “Garment of Praise,” and “Oasis of Love.” “There’s a Whole Lot of People Going Home” became one of his signature songs recorded by many groups and sung by church choirs worldwide. Today, his songs have been recorded by such popular names as Governor Jimmie Davis, Richard Roberts, Kenneth Copeland, Cheryl Salem, Jimmy Swaggart, Dixie Melody Boys, Heaven Bound, John Matthews Family, and many others.

In the 1975 David Ingles was scheduled to sing at a Kenneth Hagin campmeeting. From this campmeeting, doors began to open worldwide. He later toured with Hagin Ministries at various events. As he began to travel and sing all around the world, his music took on new focus while being rooted in the Word.

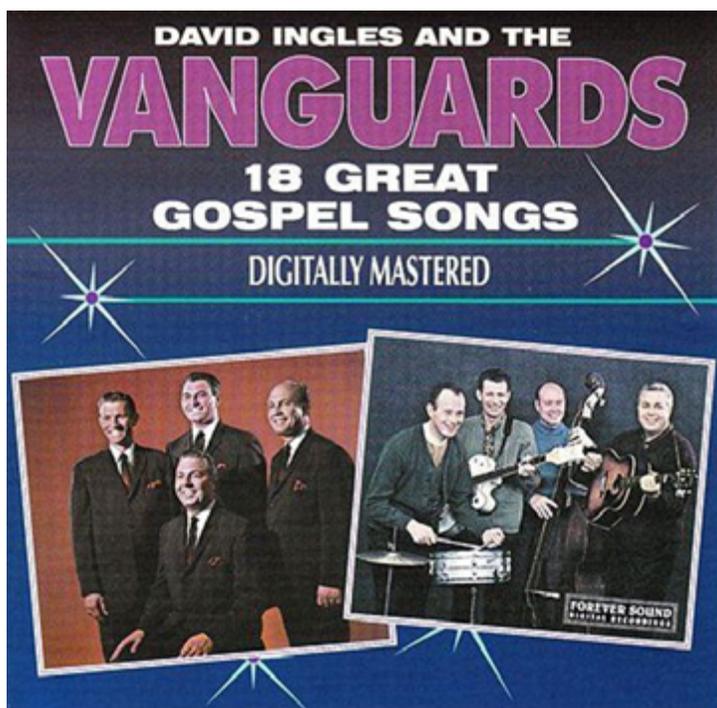


## Tuning Into Radio

Ingles states, “As an announcer, I used to dream of one day owning my own station. I told the engineer there about my dream. He said it would be impossible due to the lack of radio frequencies in Tulsa. I would later learn to check things out for myself, but for then I gave up on my dream, until many years later.” Among the doors that began to open, was the opportunity to acquire a new frequency for an FM radio station in Tulsa, a former impossibility.

In 1986, he signed on to KNYD radio, heard at 90.5 FM in Tulsa, and then a few years later came others. **These full-power stations, together with their translator sites across the United States make up what is called “The Oasis Network.”** The Network includes the following stations, predominantly in the mid-west region.

- KNYD Broken Arrow/Tulsa, OK  
90.5 FM
- KDIM Coweta/Tulsa, OK  
88.1 FM
- KMSI Moore/Oklahoma City, OK  
88.1 FM
- WYCS Yorktown/Hampton, VA  
91.5 FM
- KOZO Branson/Springfield, MO  
89.7 FM / 93.7 FM
- WOFN Beach City/Canton, OH  
88.7 FM



## Delving Into Ministry

Ingles is also the founder of the Walnut Grove Church in Broken Arrow, Ok. The church is located off the Creek Turnpike at the Olive exit. This spirit-filled church is community oriented and evangelical since its creation in 1976. The church vision is best summarized by the words of Jesus in Luke 4:18-19: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”



**Ingles and the WGC staff “are flowing out to their community, state, and to the world by making their God-given gifts available to others through music, the written and spoken word, and evangelism.”**

As you can see David Ingles’ desire to sing turned into a life-long ministry that is impacting young and old alike today. From the stellar recordings of yesteryear in Southern Gospel music, to his solo appearances and songwriting while founding Walnut Grove Church and serving as Senior Pastor, Ingles is not slowing down. Add his love of radio and good radio programming on the Oasis Radio Network which he founded and now operates, you now see why David Ingles continues to be an innovator and mentor in the Christian community and Gospel music.

Family is important in his journey. He and his wife Sharon and three grown children, David Warren, Julia and Shelly. And they are integral parts in all of David Ingles outreaches. **His never-ending faith in God and family provides the strong foundation that has directed David Ingles in music, ministry and growing the Oasis Radio Network.**

Driven by faith. That’s David Ingles.

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# DJ SPOTLIGHT

## Scott Peek



This month we talked with our DJ friend, Scott Peek. He comes to us from Savannah, Missouri on the KNMG Station.

We found out that Scott loves to cook. Check out his answers to our questions below.

*Vonda: What is your current radio position, station, and station website?*

Scott: Station Manager, from 2011 to present, at KNMG, Savannah, Missouri. Website: <http://www.knmgradio.com/>

*Vonda: At what age did you know you wanted to work in radio? Why?*

Scott: Honestly, I never saw myself working in radio. I have loved Southern Gospel as far back as I can remember, but was not blessed with a singing talent. About five years ago, I starting have a desire to bring more of this amazing music to my little corner of the world. Little did I know God had much bigger plans.

*Vonda: If you could visit any place in the world, where would you go?*

Scott: I love to cook. I had two amazing grandmas that shared that love with me. So if I could travel anywhere, I would love to visit Italy and learn to make some traditional pasta dishes.

*Vonda: Tell us about your family. Wife? Kids?*

Scott: I'm a single dad with three amazing children. My oldest, Jessica, is a sophomore at Missouri State University. Connor, my middle child, is a sports nut, from baseball to basketball, and even soccer. He's full

of energy and I've been told he's my *mini-me*. Then I have my little one, Logan. She is three and a half going on seven, I think. She's extremely active and loves to be outdoors. I'm a very blessed dad.

*Vonda: What is your favorite restaurant?*

Scott: As I mentioned, I love to cook, but occasionally you do have to go out to eat. If I can have one restaurant, I would have to go with this little hole in the wall BBQ joint in Tulsa called Big Anthony's. His ribs are simply amazing!

Be sure to visit the website of KNMG in Missouri, listen to the station and leave your prayer requests for Scott. Next time you are in Savannah, maybe he will invite you to dinner!



**Written By  
Vonda Easley**

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# HOPE TO THE HILL

## Dealing With The Heart Issue

By Nathan Kistler



I do not know where to begin with what has happened in our country over the past month. A heartbreaking time for our nation. The race baiting, hate and division is at an all time high in America. I cannot help but think that we need God more than ever in America and our world today. How can we be the change our country needs?

I believe that the love of God is what is needed to bring peace to this land, but we must truly and fervently pray for the continuing of revival in our nation. I pray for a humbling and repentant spirit in my own life but also in the lives of those who live in our great nation. So many want to put the blame of violence and so forth on guns, video games, and so on, **but we only put a bandaid on needle prick of our nation's problem when we have a cancer of the heart.** We must deal with the heart issue of our nation.

In these moments when our leadership will not lead and our election cycle seems to be in a state of disaster, we can be encouraged that God's people are still working and praying on our behalf. I spent the evening a few nights back at the **Chaplains Alliance for Religious Freedom** special ceremony for those who have championed the right of chaplains to share their faith.

On this specific night, one special senator was being honored for his endurance in the fight for what is right.

I listened to senators, congressmen, a general and chaplains speak of what this man had done for the cause of Christ during his time in the senate. He brought bible studies, prayer meetings and real leadership that was truly evident by the end of the evening.



I was so encouraged by that one evening and I just had to share it with you all. **God truly has His people in our government and they are fighting for what is right.** How could we ever not pray for them and encourage them? Let us not forget to pray continually for those who serve us and our Lord.

I am starting a new bible study in the coming weeks



for staffers on the Hill and I am so thrilled for this endeavor. **DC is full of young people and I aim to reach them with the Gospel.** God brings so many young people into my life on the Hill and I am grateful for their friendships. I am praying for a fruitful return to this endeavor, planting seeds and letting the Holy Spirit water them.

**Hope to the Hill** is now in our own office right behind the Supreme Court. I share a space with my colleagues at **Faith and Action** and I love ministering with these folks. Rev. Rob Schenck, and Peggy have been truly incredible friends and partners in ministry over the last five years. I am so thankful to be a part of God's work with them on a daily basis.

There are so many ministries like Faith and Action, Hope to the Hill and **The Center for Christian Statesmanship** who need the help of the church to continue in ministry on the Hill. I ask that you would pray for us every day that God would supply our needs through His people.



As one of my close friends former Congressman Paul Broun of GA always says, "God owns the cattle on a thousand hills. We just need Him to round some cattle up!" If you would like to know how you can help us, you can visit [www.hopetothehill.com](http://www.hopetothehill.com) for more information.



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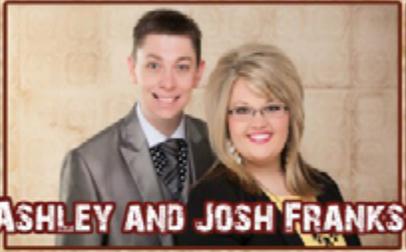
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# Randall Reviews It - August 2016

by Randall Hamm

It's August and welcome to another edition of Randall Reviews It. Are you ready for the National Quartet Convention? If not, better start getting ready, it's just around the corner. I'm already getting my ducks in a row and artists scheduled to visit and chat with. Here's three new CDs that I hope you'll decide to add to your collection, to maybe play on your way to Gospel Music's biggest showcase.

*Please send your latest releases for review to Randall Hamm, c/o Q-100 WFLQ-FM, P.O. Box 100, French Lick, IN 47432.*

And remember: Pick up a copy of these releases, wherever you get good Gospel Music.

Let the Reviews begin!



Blackwood Brothers  
*Classics: Volume One*  
2016 Daywind  
Producer: Trey Ivey

I'd Rather Have Jesus (George Beverly Shea-Rhea Miller ASCAP); He Touched me (William Gaither BMI); If That Isn't Love (Dottie Rambo SESAC); Who Am I (Charles Goodman ASCAP); Without Him (Mylon LeFevre BMI); Sweet Beulah Land (Squire Parsons BMI); What A Day That Will Be (Jim Hill SESAC); The Eastern Gate (PD); The Love Of God (PD)

What can you say that's not been said of this legendary group, the Blackwood Brothers? Over 80 years they've been singing the praises of our Lord and I must say, after many albums, this could be their finest ever recorded. They say the more the better, but in this case, the less the better.

Their latest CD *Classics: Volume One* showcases the voices and not the instrumentation. Only a piano accompaniment, to showcase one of the finest lineups of the Blackwoods. The current lineup is Michael Helwig, lead; Billy Blackwood, baritone; Wayne Little, tenor; and Butch Owens, bass vocalist. Everyone gets a moment to shine and do they ever shine through.

The CD begins with "I'd Rather Have Jesus" and Michael gives one of the best renditions of this classic that I've heard in awhile. Bass Butch Owens gets the lead on the Rusty Goodman written "Who Am I." Tenor Wayne Little gets the lead on "Beulah Land," and Billy gets the lead on "He Touched Me."

These are songs that Billy Blackwood says are truly songs that are classics in Gospel music, not just the Blackwood catalog. As many now know, Michael is fighting ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease, at this time an incurable disease.

Michael is a winner either way in fighting ALS and looks at it this way. According to him, "If I lose I win and if I win I win." Prayers are certainly appreciated for Michael as he continues to fight, for strength for every day as he continues to sing the praises of his Lord.

Michael has never been in better voice and this CD showcases him and the other three members in a intimate setting that really draws you in, envelopes you and soothes you. Hopefully according to the title, there will be more Volumes in this series.

To get a copy of this CD go to the Blackwood Brothers website at <http://www.blackwoodbrothers.com>

Strongest Songs: "Who Am I," "I'd Rather Have Jesus," and "Beulah Land."



Ernie Haase and Signature Sound  
*The Favorite Hymns Of Fanny Crosby*  
2016 Stowtown  
Producer: Wayne Haun

Songs: Praise Him, Praise Him; Redeemed How I Love To Proclaim It; Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior; Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross; Blessed Assurance; I Am Thine O Lord; He Hideth My Soul; Tell Me The Story Of Jesus

One of the most prolific writers of hymns was Fanny Crosby, who in her lifetime, according to sources, wrote 5,500 to a possible 9,000 hymns in 71 years between 1844 and 1915. The exact count is obscured by the numerous pseudonyms, as many as 200, according to some sources, she employed to preserve her modesty.

Well, Ernie Haase and Signature sound narrowed it

down to the top eight songs in the Crosby catalog, and according to Ernie, to preserve the songs and for a new generation to discover. As many churches shy away from the classic hymns, Signature Sound is determined to preserve some great classic hymns of Crosby. Kudos to Ernie and the group. Maybe a whole series could be started by this with other songwriters' hymns preserved as well.

"Praise Him, Praise Him, Jesus Our Blessed Redeemer" kicks off the CD and gets going in fine fashion. Throughout the CD, many of the songs have a Celtic/Scottish feel. "Redeemed How I Love To Proclaim It;" the group has given this hymn an almost Rap feel, with a call and respond chorus. One of my favorite songs on the project is "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior" and the group sings it beautifully and with feeling.

Ernie sings with feeling on "Jesus Keep me Near The Cross," my second favorite selection on the CD. Overall the group did a great job with the CD, but the music choice and feel on some the hymns have me puzzled. Where the group stuck with true Gospel arrangements and nothing out of the ordinary, they really are great. But when they decided to fancy up some songs with a little out of the ordinary arrangements, well, maybe I'm not as young as I used to be....

Get your copy of this CD by going to <http://www.erniehaase.com/>

Strongest Songs: "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior," "Keep Me Near The Cross," and "He Hideth My Soul."



Troy Burns Family  
*Somebody Go Get Jesus*  
2016 Chapel Valley/Inspire Records  
Producer: Shane Roark

Songs: One Way, One Name, One Door (Roger Duncan BMI); Somebody Go Get Jesus (Roger Hodnett BMI);

Roses In December; (Roger Birch BMI); Gonna Move On Up The Mountain (Paul Craven ASCAP); The Unseen Hand (AJ Sims BMI); Somebody In Me (Roger Duncan BMI); God's Amazing Grace (Rebecca Peck-Dianne Wilkinson-Thomas Peck BMI); Take A Stand (Scott Inman-Daryl Williams BMI); That Is Where The Scars Are (Rusty Golden-Dianne Wilkinson BMI); Patriotic Medley

Newest Inspire Records (a division of Chapel Valley Records) label artists, the Troy Burns Family, have just released their debut album for the label. The CD titled *Somebody Go Get Jesus*, is a wonderful first effort for their new label home.

Troy and his wife Tammy Burns and newest member Shane Mathis have put together 10 selections that will have you singing, tapping your foot and proclaiming "Hallelujah". There's also moments where you'll be brought in prayer and thoughtfulness. A great mix and one this reviewer loves.

Kicking off the CD is a great cover of the latest Top 20 Down East Boys' single "One Way, One Name, One Door," written by Roger Duncan and they also cover another of his songs, "Somebody In Me." The next song and one I have been listening to a lot, is their first single from the project "Somebody Go Get Jesus," and the title track. If you love Inspirations/McKameys style singing, you'll be wishing there was a another chorus. By the end of the song, it leaves me wanting more and wanting an encore or two. This song should be their first Top 20 song. Also, they do a great version of the Rambos classic "The Unseen Hand."

One of my favorite songs as well is "Roses In December." An older lady is talking about her beautiful roses to a friend, and she remarks her garden is not as full as it used to be due to deaths. She says her mind is bursting at the seams as God allows her to remember, so she can have "Roses in December." As an analogy to those she has lost in life, beautiful friends and loved ones, God allows her to remember them and have "Roses In December" in her later years. A beautiful song written by Rodney Birch.

The CD concludes with a medley of Patriotic tunes America; God Bless America; Battle Hymn Of The Republic and the National Anthem. A wonderful first effort for their new Label Inspire and a CD worth listening to, over and over again.

Strongest Songs: "Somebody Go get Jesus," "Roses In December," and "Gonna Move On Up The Mountain."

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# David Huntsinger

## *Musician Extraordinaire*

By Auke Bijlsma

David Huntsinger is a kind, intelligent, funny, and inquisitive guy. He has been married to Bonnie for over 35 years; Bonnie, who is an artist in her own right. David and Bonnie are full partners in every aspect of life. She takes an active role in co-producing, writing, and has comprehensive music production abilities and skills. Bonnie is involved in everything a production entangles like: art and photography of CD's, as well as the development of themes, series of products, marketing concepts and strategies.

David and Bonnie have both accomplished music production from A to Z as team players and separately. When you write a piece about any man or woman who has had a great career thus far, you can't leave out their significant other. In this case, Bonnie is a very active partner, one that deserves every bit of recognition as the actual subject.

As some of you may know, David was the piano player for The Rambos from 1976 until 1979. It was Andrae Crouch who was instrumental in getting him the gig with The Rambos. Huntsinger says, "Andrae Crouch saw me on television playing with a Gospel quartet and recommended me to The Rambos. Changed my life. Gave me a direction. I almost was not in music but was blessed that Andrae saw me and made that call".

Huntsinger is a gifted writer, composer, arranger and producer. He co-wrote "Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome,"

with the late great Dottie Rambo. The Queen of Gospel music had been an inspiration for David, even before he got to play for her. As a youngster he loved music and wanted to compose and play, but never thought he would do so professionally. Once in the business, playing on the road, he witnessed first hand the vibrant, stimulating music community Nashville was. He was eager to learn to play every style, to pursue songwriting, arranging, producing – all of which he was blessed to get to do. In his 30's he was able to make recordings as an artist (or concept album producer) and this opened up, as Huntsinger puts it, "a delicious new world".

Here's a part of the "delicious" menu of whom David has worked with: Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Shirley Caesar, Chip Davis, Dolly Parton, Desmond Child, Donna Summer, Randy Travis, Wynonna Judd, Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Aretha Franklin, Shirley Jones, Pat Boone, Carman, Reba Rambo-McGuire, and Broadway composer Stephen Schwartz. David also worked on hundreds of choral and orchestral projects, with great Gospel artists including Gaither Vocal Band, The Nelons, The Cathedrals, and Bill and Gloria Gaither.

For those readers who wish to hear more of David's talent, Carman's I Surrender All-30 Classic Hymns is an album that David produced, arranged, and played keys on. That album will give you a good impression of this man's incredible talent. Also take special note of the background vocalist Chip Davis on that same album.

When asked if he has any regrets about choices he made, or didn't make, David says, "Any regrets center around wishing, in general, I had taken more risks earlier in creating my own music. That said, it was collaborating with so many great artists and producers early on that gave me the vocabulary I have now to express myself." His favorite quote is one by writer Robert Hughes (The Fatal Shore) may hold the reason for his lack of taking risk earlier in his career. It might have been doubt. Hughes said; "The greater the



artist, the greater the doubt, perfect confidence is granted to the less talented as a consolation prize."<sup>1</sup>

David's playing has a certain lyrical quality and finesse, much like Schubert, Arensky and Mendelsohn. Music with a slightly melancholic quality, expressing emotions in a dramatic yet subtle way. Just listen to one of his solo albums, like the hauntingly beautiful Autumn in New England.

About his musical education and how he learned to play, David notes: "Church, public school, classical and jazz radio, self-study in composition and orchestration, hours and hours of just playing the piano as a kid, lots of listening and what I call a 'Google scholarship' (reading about artists I already admire, and discovering new ones.) I also asked a lot of questions to talented people." People like that are usually good listeners, and thus a more effective communicator than most people who love of the sound of their own voices.

What is so intriguing about David is that somebody who is already considered an 'A-player' in and around Nashville is still eager to discover, risk, live and learn. He is not the sort of man who is complacent or blasé. He talks about what he loves in his life. "Producing a vocalist in the studio, playing for my 50-member church, progress, mystery, change, facing fear, Scrip-



ture, guarding against smug prejudices, old movies, accepting uncertainty, enjoying quirks and differences in others, prayer when it's more than whining for help, people who just do it without crippling analysis, walking, YouTube, new music, honest lyrics, discovering the connections between various arts, truth, my cats, years of memories with Bonnie, making new friends at the grocery check out. I could fill pages."

David Huntsinger answers in specific and in no uncertain terms when he continues to talk about love, life and inspirations. "My parents, my siblings, life, people, church, discovering the piano at 10, art, language, the King James Bible, Bonnie (his wife), bodies of water, night skies on camping trips away from city lights, beautiful friendships, Oscar Wilde's fairy tales, the perfect songs of Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers and Oscar



Hammerstein, the Rambos early recordings, classic movies, Chip Davis's singing and songs, Foxe's Book of Martyrs, the agony and ecstasy of the Psalms, Richard Smallwood's 'Total Praise' and 'I Hasten to the Throne,' the first Chapter of the gospel of John, the Parable of the Good Samaritan." This eclectic answer will reveal that he is indeed anything but complacent.

All these years of playing, producing or arranging has filled his storehouse of memories pretty well. His reply on a question about his most precious memories is so eloquent, and so heartfelt, that it would be an injustice if it were paraphrased. David's memories are made of these: "In talking about my creative and career life, I can only say I am so blessed to get to make music. I love the intensity of the studio, the experimenting, the going for it, the ability to edit and perfect, the bonding. I espe-



cially love those times when everything just happens beautifully. It can be eerie. Sometimes when recording we are just overwhelmed at what the good Lord is rendering through our hands. The feeling is not pride. It is a mixture of 'I am grateful to be a part of this' and 'This ain't just us!' For me, these moments are stark evidence of God. I love being awestruck, being suddenly aware of God's presence."

David continued with some of his fondest memories: "As a producer, recording Andy Griffith singing 'There Is A Fountain' in a studio on Sunset Boulevard for a hymns project in the '90's. I was exhausted from weeks of long days. When Andy sang the second verse: 'The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day/And there may I though vile as he wash all my sins away,' - I lost it. I held back tears but they flowed anyway, so moved was I by the poetry, simplicity and utter grace contained in that verse."

He remembers: "Recording with Damaris Carbaugh (artist and frequent soloist on early Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir albums). On many albums we recorded at least one song with just piano and voice. She is powerful and emotionally raw. Most times we recorded these with no arrangement worked out in advance of recording other than determining the number of verses. I would play an intro, she would start the first verse and we would go on an adventure with no plan but to be sensitive to

the spirit, to each other and to the song. We took risks and you can hear the passion and vulnerability on those tracks. Dan Smith orchestrated beautifully every time, never clobbering us (all too common).

"Recording Autumn In New England. My label asked me to do an instrumental album of anything I wanted to do that would fit the title. I went into a fury of activity to get myself into a New England mindset -- exploring poetry, photos, whaling stories, Thoreau, Dickinson. It fired my imagination and was both exciting and calming. Bonnie had been diagnosed with Lyme disease and things were tough. The music was healing and that's the effect listeners report to me to this day when they listen."

Precious memories indeed! David takes reminiscing to a different level. He is a dreamer and hardworking realist. Realizing that the economic/artistic decline of the industry makes it harder to get his or anyone else's music to be heard, but he keeps working tirelessly nonetheless.

David comments on the current state of the music industry: "The business is cracking at its foundations. The economics do not work for far too many really talented people. Basic problem is that music in the digital age is a commodity, practically free. There are ways to maximize what is possible, but I fear for the industry as a whole if it stops attracting really talented people to be in the galleys -- songwriters, back-up singers, engineers, graphic artists, the army of unseen folks that make the engine run behind the scenes.

"What worries me about Christian music specifically is too much bad songwriting, not enough honesty. Where is the poetry, the craftsmanship, the originality? It's great to worship, and I like many worship songs, but where does the rubber meet the road as to Christian action in a world that needs light, not just swarms of uplifted hands swaying to praise and worship mantras?"

In spite of the magnitude of the crisis the industry is in, there's no bitterness or anger in David's words. There's still hope, dreams to dream, songs to be sung, and spirits to be lifted.

A grateful man and a profound communicator. David Huntsinger is what is called a renaissance man!

Get to know this renaissance man and his music for yourself visit <http://davidhuntsinger.com/>

1. Robert Hughes. (n.d.). BrainyQuote.com. Retrieved July 20, 2016, from BrainyQuote.com Web site: <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/r/roberthugh109166.html>

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This chart was compiled from a list of reporting stations. Each month we will be adding more stations.

1	The Kingsmen	I Know
2	The Mylon Hayes Family	One More Opportunity
3	Brian Free and Assurance	That's Just What Grace Does
4	Jeff and Sheri Easter	Small Town Someone
5	The Whisnants	A Grave Mistake
6	The Guardians	My Hope Is In The Lord
7	The Booth Brothers	Dirt On My Hands
8	The Tribute Quartet	I Remember The Day
9	The Nelons	Just Can't Make It By Myself
10	The Hyssongs	Prepare To Be Amazed
11	The River's Edge	God's Got A Better Plan
12	The Triumphant Quartet	Amazing God
13	The Kingdom Heirs	Pieces
14	Jason Crabb	Home
15	The Down East Boys	One Way, One Name, One Door
16	The Blackwood Brothers	Forever Forgiven
17	11th Hour	Can You Burn
18	The Bowling Family	I Was There
19	The Bledsoes	Heaven Will Be Worth It All
20	Georgia	The Road Less Travelled
21	The LeFevre Quartet	Something
22	Ernie Haase and Signature Sound	A Soldier Fighting To Go Home
23	Debra Perry And Jaidyn's Call	No One Loves You More Than Jesus Does
24	Tim Livingston	Without You
25	Linda Foster	An Unfinished Task
26	The Lore Family	Trace The Grace
27	Logan Smith	Come Spring
28	Keith Barkley and Family Tradition	We're Almost Home
29	The Bates Family	Going To Heaven Someday
30	The Isaacs	This Is The Year
31	Greg Logins and Revival	Until Then
32	11th Hour	Mountain Moving Faith
33	Sunday Drive	If There's a Rocking Chair in Heaven
34	The Blankenships	Hand On The Plow
35	The Carolina Boys	We Shall Rise
36	The Wilbanks	If It Ain't Broke Don't Fix It
37	The Dixie Melody Boys	Hello Mama
38	Chris Freeman	Burdens Are Lifted Away
39	Annette Bingaman	Splinters From The Cross
40	Shellem Cline	I'm The One
41	The Erwins	Greater
42	The Jim Brady Trio	The Half That's Never Been Told
43	The Old Time Preachers Quartet	The Old Time Way
44	The Perrys	Did I Just Hear The Thunder
45	Amber Nelon Thompson	Sing-a-long
46	Greater Vision	He Does
47	Terry Davis and Ronnie Weiss	I'm Still Here
48	Barry Rowland and Deliverance	God Delivered Me
49	HighRoad	Walk Beside Me
50	Karen Peck and New River	Calling
51	The Judith Montgomery Family	I Claim The Blood
52	Watts, Rowsey and Bean	When Revival Comes To Town

53	Karen Peck and New River	I Am Blessed
54	The Isaacs	Leave It On The Altar
55	The Taylors	He's My Guide
56	Terry Unthank	Take It To The Lord
57	Soul'd Out Quartet	What A Great Life
58	Christian Davis	Just Show Up
59	The Perrys	Keep On
60	The Browders	New Song
61	The Dunaways	When My Tears Wash The Scars
62	Canton Junction	Tumbling Down
63	The McMillans	Once Was Enough
64	The McKameys	That's Why There's A Cross
65	Joseph Habedank	Big Enough
66	Tim Livingston	I'm In Good Shape
67	Anointed	Cries From Home
68	The Collingsworth Family	When He Carries Me Away
69	Shellem Cline	Yes Jesus Loves Me
70	Joseph Habedank	Welcome Home
71	Hairline	He's Still Saving Me
72	The Common Bond Quartet	Do You Know Him
73	The Second Half Quartet	Cheer The Weary Traveller
74	The Baggy Bottom Boys	Do You Believe
75	The Singing Epps Family	Heaven
76	The McNeills	What A Friend We Have In Jesus
77	The Singing Cookes	The Church Has Moved Away
78	The Taylors	He Won't Fail You
79	The McKameys	What If
80	The Pine Ridge Boys	The Blood Still Flows
81	The Page Trio	What God Says
82	The Ascension Quartet	The Lord Knows What To Do
83	The Griffith Family	Give His Love Away
84	The Trinity Heirs	The Power Of Your Love
85	Trinity 3	God Did It
86	Sherry Anne	I Know My God Cares For Me
87	Lakeside	It's A God Thing
88	The Steeles	He Lives
89	Josh and Ashley Franks	In The Midst Of It All
90	The Riders	All Of Our Hope
91	Landon Villines	Better Days
92	Faith's Journey	One More Beautiful Day
93	Rachel Taylor	What Would It Look Like
94	The Camerons	Promises Of God
95	Brian Amer	When We Say Hallelujah
96	The Collingsworth Family	What The Bible Says
97	Mark Lowry	Everybody Wants To Go To Heaven
98	Ricky Atkinson and Compassion	He'll Never Forsake
99	The Hoppers	Jesus, The One
100	Rambo McGuire	Tears Will Never Stain The Streets Of That City



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MAGAZINE

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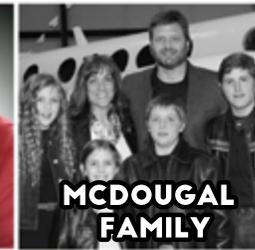
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**DE LA CROIX**



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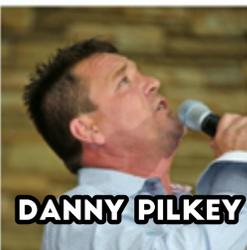
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**CHUCK DAY**



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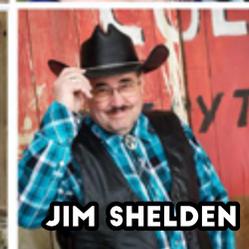
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*Pigeon Forge, TN*



**By Leslie McKay**

Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend will be held September 9th and 10th at the City Auditorium in downtown Vernon, Alabama.



This is a FREE event that is open to the public and everyone is invited. The weekend will feature multi-talented Gospel artists showcasing a variety of musical styles including Southern Gospel, Christian Country, Bluegrass, and Instrumental Worship.

The weekend will feature a concert each evening as well as a Gospel music showcase on Saturday afternoon. The lineup includes the artists of M.A.C. Records: Kenny Gardner, McKay Project, Trinity 3, Carol Barham, Amy Richardson, The Capstone Quartet, and Shane Cruse. Additional featured artists will be Chris Golden, The Hinson Family, The Drummond Family, Heart's Song, Ava Kasich, Purpose, Hope's Journey, Marcia Lovegren, Hazel Sain, Jesse Reece, Rocky and Gail Smith, Rachel

Taylor and more.



On Friday evening, the music will begin at 5:45 p.m. with a Community Choir made up of members from area churches followed with performances by all of the featured artists.

The multi-talented Chris Golden will conclude the concert on Friday night with his uniquely traditional style of Gospel music.



The fun will continue on Saturday afternoon with a Gospel music showcase from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. featuring select guest artists. On Saturday night,



the music will begin at 5:00 p.m. once again, with the Community Choir followed with performances by all of the featured artists. The Hinson Family will conclude the Saturday evening concert with their family harmony and wonderful sound which are familiar to so many.

artists that are participating in this event and can't wait for folks to meet them and hear their wonderful music. We hope everyone will make plans to join us at some point during the weekend," says Dennis McKay, owner of M.A.C. Records.

For more information and to keep up with the latest on Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend, visit the Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/macnightofworship](http://www.facebook.com/macnightofworship)). For information about participating in the event, email [info@macrecords.net](mailto:info@macrecords.net) or contact Dennis McKay at 662-889-2829 or Rob Patz at 360-933-0741.

"We are so excited about this event! This is the 4th year that M.A.C. Records has done this event in Vernon, but this year we have expanded it to a two day event, partnered with the City of Vernon and SGNScoops



Magazine, invited fantastic artists from several states, and changed the name to Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend. Being from Vernon, it just seemed natural to bring the event back home where my musical roots got their start. We have been welcomed by the Vernon community and the outpouring of support has been fantastic. We have an amazing group of talented



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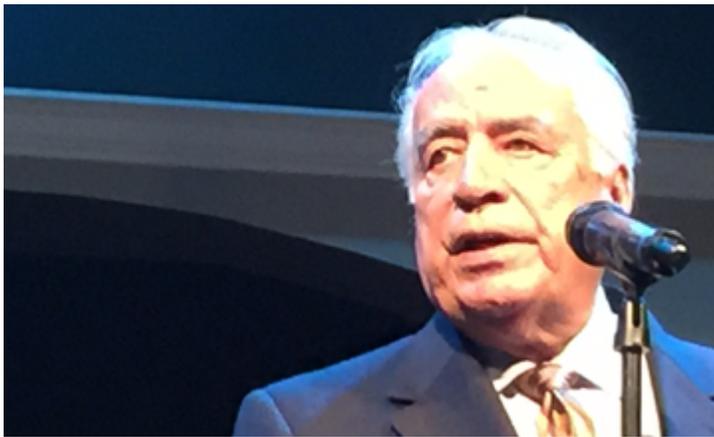
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# *A Tribute to the* Southern Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame

**By Robert York**

In the '90's, a group of Southern Gospel folks got together and were discussing how they could preserve the heritage of Southern Gospel music. The idea came up of having a Hall of Fame, but they needed funds to do it up right. They wanted a building and a museum but they were not financially able to provide that.



In 1997, these friends formed a group known as the Southern Gospel Music Association and from there they proceeded to complete the original plan. God answered their prayers and in 1999 at the graciousness of Dolly Parton, it was agreed upon that they could open the Hall of Fame and Museum at Dollywood.



The Hall of Fame is located at the entrance to Dollywood next door to the Showstreet Theater which is the home of Dollywood's Southern Gospel group, the Kingdom Heirs. There was a catch: Dollywood would furnish the building but it was up to SGMA to provide finances for the upkeep of the interior and this cost a lot

of money. The Association would have to provide volunteers and paid employees to manage the venue. So a membership program was opened to anyone that wanted to join SGMA for a small fee of \$20.00 per year. As well, the SGMA began holding fund raising projects to support the Hall of Fame and Museum.



Today the membership is still only \$20.00 per year and is open to everyone, and the SGMA continues to do projects to support the Hall of Fame and its upkeep. Recently, Board Member Travis Bridgeman put together a benefit concert to help raise funds to support it. The benefit was at North Lanier Baptist Church in Cumming, Georgia.



Travis put in a lot of work for the event, selling ads for a program, as well as putting together a great lineup. He chose Melvin Klaudt, member of The Klaudt Indian Family as his emcee. Melvin's mom, Lillian 'Little Soldier' Klaudt is a member of SGMA Hall of fame, and was inducted in 2004.

Bridgeman needed a group to sing, so he chose The

Bridgeman needed a group to sing, so he chose The



Nelons. Kelly is also a member of the SGMA board. The Nelons have a great heritage in Southern Gospel music. Her Dad, Rex Nelon, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1999. Rex was a member of The LeFevres until they retired and he took over the group. Eva Mae and Urias LeFevre were among the first group to be placed in the Hall of Fame in 1997. Alphus LeFevre was inducted in the class of 2002.

Melvin Klaudt began the concert by giving a little bible history about music in the bible. At age 84, he sang a couple of songs before introducing the Bridgemans. They paid tribute to a couple of Hall of Fame members by singing songs they had written, first being 'Over In The Glory Land,' by LeRoy Abernathy, who was inducted in the original class. Then 'His Hand In Mine,' written by Mosie Lister, and a tribute to Squire Parson's song, 'Greatest Miracle of All.'

Melvin introducing the featured artist The Nelons and told the story of how the Klaudts first met the LeFevres. In 1927, Mom Klaudt caught a bus from Minnesota to Sevierville, Tennessee and met Alphus LeFevre. Then



in 1949, she met Eva Mae and the trio again, and got involved in touring with them.

Rex Nelon was with the LeFevres for 22 years, the group which later became The Nelons, currently made up of Kelly Nelon Clark, Jason Clark and their daughters Amber and Autumn. Kelly related stories of the early days of The Nelons. When Kelly Nelon was 16, it took her Dad several tries to get her to record her first song. Kelly said, "After being asked and telling him no, the last time I wasn't being *asked*, I was being *told* to sing, 'The Sun's Coming Up In The Morning.'"



A video tour was shown about the Hall of Fame and a call was placed by Kelly and Travis to SGMA President Arthur Rice, who made the formal announcement of the members

of the Class of 2016 Hall of Fame Inductees, which includes Carroll McGruder, Lari Goss, Peg McKamey Bean and Ronnie Hinson. The artists sang several old classics, then ended the program with everyone onstage singing, "I'll Fly Away."



Current SGMA Board members are: Arthur Rice, President; Gary Casto, Vice President; Karen Peck Gooch, Secretary; Earl Eleton, Treasurer; and members Jerry Goff, Liz Autry, Bill

Bailey, Travis Bridgeman, Bob Brumley, Kelly Nelon, Sheri Easter, Josh Franks, Paul Heil, Richard Hyssong, Dean Hickman, Mike LeFevre, Randall McDaniel and Paul Pitts.

We hope that each of you reading this article will consider becoming members at a mere cost of \$20.00 a year. The Hall also features a Walk of Fame, where you can purchase a brick for \$100.00 and have it inscribed. To join, go to [www.sgma.org/store](http://www.sgma.org/store) and join online, or Text 20 to (865)264-2258. All donations are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated.

Concert photographs provided by Robert York.

Klaudt Indian Family photographs provided by Klaudt Indian Family Foundation.

Rex Nelon photographs provided by The Nelons.



# 2016 ICM Week®

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# The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

It's August and one of my favorite months because it's still summer, it's still hot and it's my birthday. For those wishing to send cards and large packages, please start today as my birthday is on the 24th. I am kidding, but be sure to write me for more information or to tell me what you like about SGNScoops: [lorraine@sgnscoops.com](mailto:lorraine@sgnscoops.com). Tell me you like SGNScoops more than ever and that will be a great birthday present.

It's also a great month because we feature Ivan Parker. We haven't talked to him for a few years so we thought it was time to catch up with Mr. Midnight Cry. If you are like me, you remember Ivan from his Gold City days. His voice seems to be smoother than ever, and with the addition of his son Josh, he is gaining more fans than ever. We hope you enjoyed this feature by Craig Harris.

I trust you have read the stories of other gentlemen you may not have been as well acquainted with. David Huntsinger and David Ingles are two you should know, as well as Joel Lindsey, James Marvell and the guys from Allegiance. The Kingsmen are always reader favorites and with their new singer, they always have a fresh sound. The ladies are well represented this month with Reagan Griffin and Emma Carter. I certainly hope you didn't miss the Photologs featuring Tribute and Karen Peck and New River. No doubt you have already seen many of these artists in person this season at the many outdoor concerts offered around the country.

I'd like to take this time to mention Gospel music media and my view of our role in Christian music. We are asked

from time to time why we posted one thing and didn't post something else on our news site, or about our features in SGNScoops magazine. If you haven't seen it yet, may I draw your attention to our mission statement by the Table of Contents. It says, ***"SGNScoops exists to promote the gospel by unveiling what is intriguing and real about Southern Gospel and Christian Country music. With integrity, we aspire to strengthen Christians, highlight people who are fulfilling a call to minister and emphasize the music that inspires audiences and glorifies God."***

I will be the first to admit that we don't always hit that mark but that is what we aspire to be. We want to emphasize what is positive as so many waste no time at all in sharing the negative. You only have to see your Facebook feed to know what I mean. We are not news reporters that have to share all the news and nothing but the news. We are more like a cross between reporters and journalists. You will find us sharing our thoughts often, or allowing an artist to share their thoughts without censorship. As long as something is done in love, we are good with that.

1 Peter 1: 22 (NIV) says: "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart." That is our goal. Not the prevailing winds of news sources or Facebook. If we don't hit the mark, feel free to share your views with us. Thank you so much for reading SGNScoops magazine this month.

# 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](http://SGMRadio.com). In 2009, Rob Patz acquired [SGNScoops.com](http://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](mailto:rob@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](http://www.christwillreturn.org).



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](http://Queenoq.blogspot.com)



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!



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](mailto:lorraine@sgnscoops.com)

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Dusty Wells is a man of many talents and multiple skills, from his speaking engagements across the country, to traveling and encouraging various artists in the Christian music genres. Dusty has a passion that is evident from the moment you meet him.

Dusty is a man who remains passionate and secure in the calling and destiny upon his life. He has come to realize the importance of finding purpose and clear direction for not only his life, but also the lives of those he comes in contact with, no matter what stage of life they may be in. Growing up in a very dysfunctional home, surrounded by all types of abuse, Dusty had every excuse to be a failure in life. He grew up on welfare, having to steal his daily necessities of life at times, being surrounded by drugs, alcohol and pornography. He was raised by a mother who was married multiple times, living in a housing project on the wrong side of town. But in the midst of what seemed to be complete devastation, God had different plans of success for Dusty. At the age of 14, a precious couple took time out of their own lives to invest in Dusty...thus leading Him to the Lord. His life is a testimony of God's relentless love and deliverance, and is one of the most triumphant stories told in modern Christianity. Dusty is confident in the fact that if God can do it for him, He can do it for anyone, no matter the situation.

Dusty and his wife of 33 years have four children, and two grandbabies with one more on the way. They make their home in Nashville, Tn.



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.



My name is Tina Wakefield and I am currently Music Minister for Amazing Grace Worship Center in Alabaster, Al. I have led worship for over 18 years as well as teach adults how to live everyday life in Victory as a Christian. I enjoy playing and singing Gospel Music whenever and

wherever I am invited. I currently have three Cd s available on my website at [www.tinawakefield.com](http://www.tinawakefield.com) and just released my first music video with Godsey & Associates called, "The Choice" available on YouTube. I write a lot of the music we sing at church and also record my original songs. My family is very ministry oriented with Pastors, Teachers, Musicians, and Singers. My heart's desire is to spread the gospel of Christ through any and all open doors that I receive.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



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.



Erin Stevens is a uniquely talented shutterbug, singer, guitar player, writer, blogger, and social networker. She is the owner/operator of Photos For Keeps By Erin. Along with running her own business, she is the official photographer for Abraham Productions (API). You will find her behind the lens at all API events, along with working behind the scenes on their

social media. She also travels full-time on the road with her family's gospel group, The Stevens Family. Photography is her passion and singing for Jesus is her calling. For several years, you have known her as our very own "Younger Perspective" writer. Check out her photography website [www.photosforkeepsbyerin.com](http://www.photosforkeepsbyerin.com) and her ministry website [www.stevensfamilymusic.com](http://www.stevensfamilymusic.com).



Sherry Anne Lints, a Doctor of Chiropractic, singer, speaker, actress, writer and fitness trainer, was born with a bilateral hearing and speech impairment. She appeared in the films, Clancy and The Perfect Gift and was a special guest on 100 Huntley Street, in Ontario, Canada. She is a contributing author for the book, Modern-Day Miracles and

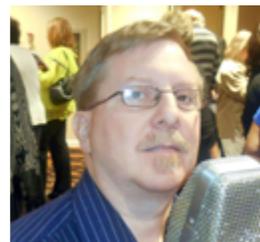
released her second CD, Keep on Prayin', July 2012 and has opened for many of the Gaither Homecoming Artists. Additionally, Sherry Anne helps lead worship and drama at her church. For more information, visit: [www.SherryAnne.com](http://www.SherryAnne.com).



Vonda Easley 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 executives 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.



Vivian is the marketing manager at KKGW in Dallas/Fort Worth Texas, as well as hosting a program on Sundays where she features national, regional as well as local artists. She also brings news of upcoming concert events in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and surrounding area. Vivian has promoted various artists in this area for over 10 years beginning with Phil Cross and Poet Voices and later Sharron Kay King and Jerry Bennett to name a few. She has spent the past several years promoting Southern Gospel, Inspirational Country Gospel and Bluegrass in this area in order to preserve this part of our heritage.



Hello, I'm Randall Hamm, Gospel Program Director of WFLQ French Lick Indiana, host of the Sunday Morning Gospel Show for the past 20 years on WFLQ French Lick Indiana and Singing News Top 10 Small Market DJ for the past three years. I now add something new to my resume! Record Reviewer, ok...

CD Reviewer. I'm Old School, having started in the days of LP's, 45's and Reel to Reel along with cassettes as the main form of music played. If you'd like to listen to my program, you can visit <https://www.facebook.com/TheSunday-MorningGospelShow> and listen to archived programs, plus I post various Southern Gospel news updates, uplifting music and Gospel-related items. If you're in the six-county area around French Lick Indiana, in the heart of Southern Indiana, tune in every Sunday 6:00am-12:00pm and listen to the Gospel Greats with Paul Heil, 6:00am to 8:00am and the Sunday Morning Gospel Show with Randall Hamm 8:00am to 12:00pm.

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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.



David's distinctive sound and his ability to blend perfectly with a variety of vocalists has made him a valuable commodity on live events as well as in the studio. His compassionate and gentle spirit makes him more than an artist, it makes him a great friend!

David began singing at age 6 with family. In 1990, he filled in for the Speer Family and later that year he became the lead vocalist for The Trailblazers. In 2002, Staton filled the lead position with Priority. While with Priority, the group was the resident gospel group at the Silver Dollar City theme park in Branson, MO and they performed for over one million people in one year. After the group disbanded in 1995, David continued to write for artists in many different genres of music while occasionally performing solo. It was during this time that his song, "Every Knee Shall Bow", recorded by Dottie Peoples, was nominated for a Grammy Award. His song, "Together We Can" was adopted as the national theme song to bring awareness to violence in schools. The music video (Together We Can) that featured many Atlanta based artists was shown at the 1999 Grammy Awards show, which helped launch the careers of artists like R&B's Jagged Edge, India Arie, and 4.0. In 2004, David partnered with Mike LeFevre to form The LeFevre Quartet. During the seven years that he was the lead vocalist, the group had many hit songs and won many awards. After leaving the LeFevre

Quartet in 2011, Staton began working on a solo project and also began singing with Palmetto State Quartet. The group appeared on television and toured with country music superstar, Wynonna Judd while Staton was there.

Through the years, artists like Gold City, Jeff & Sheri Easter, Kingsmen, Singing Americans, Dixie Melody Boys, Imperials, Dottie Peoples, Ball Brothers, LeFevre Quartet, Palmetto State Quartet, Priority, Trailblazers, The Greens, Ivan Parker, Brian Free and many more have recorded David's music. From 2005 to 2013, Staton was the Executive Vice President for Song Garden Music Group in Nashville, TN. In recent years, the National Quartet Convention has asked David to be a part of an industry advisory panel to help artists who need assistance and training. Not only has David made a mark as an artist, he is passing on his talent and knowledge to new artists, influencing and shaping the future of Gospel music.



Kelly Nelon Clark is the daughter of Gospel Music icon, the late Rex Nelon. As part of her father's group, The Nelons, she blazed a musical trail bringing a fresh new sound to the traditional Gospel quartet style. That sound and style influenced a generation of Gospel music performers and can be heard today in the styling of

groups like the Martins, Point of Grace, The Crabb Family and more.

As The Nelons broke new ground, the Gospel Music industry repeatedly recognized their excellence. The group won four GMA Dove awards as well as multiple awards from readers of Singing News Magazine. Kelly was named female vocalist of the year on four occasions and received favorite alto vocalist award 3 times. At one time, Kelly was the most awarded artists in the history of the Singing News Fan Awards. The music industry at large also recognized The Nelons with 3 Grammy nominations.

Today, Kelly currently performs throughout the United States, Canada and Europe with her husband and two daughters as The Nelons. The group is featured in hundreds of churches and concerts each year. The Nelons have been part of Gaither Homecoming concerts sharing their music with thousands of Gospel Music fans in sold-out arenas across the country. For more information, visit <http://www.kellynelon.com/>.

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## SGN SCOOPS



Marcie Gray was born and raised in sunny California, yet always dreamed of moving to Tennessee. She had planned to move to the south as a young adult and sing with a gospel group, after being inspired to do so by her Great Uncle, Alphus LeFevre. Though it took longer than she had expected, in 2011, her dream of moving

east finally came true when her husband, Don, retired from the CHP. They packed up their two youngest daughters, three dogs and two horses and headed east. What a blessing to finally be where the tea is sweet, the Southern Gospel music is plentiful and there's a Cracker Barrel on every corner!

Spend ten minutes with Marcie and you'll learn that she is rarely lacking for something to say. Her passion for Southern Gospel music, combined with her instinct to be behind the camera, makes journalism a very enjoyable outlet for that "Type A" personality she has been affectionately labeled with by her family and friends.

Marcie is a worship leader, vocalist and songwriter. She has directed choirs of all ages and given voice lessons for many years. Her solo CD, "Carry Me Home" was released in September of 2014.

Having family in ministry has given Marcie a desire to support those who are on the road sharing the gospel through song. Visit her website at [www.graydoveministries.com](http://www.graydoveministries.com) to learn more!



Lynn Mills is a talented writer who has a passion for music, specifically Gospel music. Lynn authors the site Lynn's Chronicles where she shares her experiences attending various concert events and what people can expect should they want to attend. Also featured are CD & DVD Reviews, Devotionals,

Photos, Video and News tidbits. Keep up with Lynn online at <http://lynnschronicles.com> or on facebook @ <http://facebook.com/lynns.chronicles>



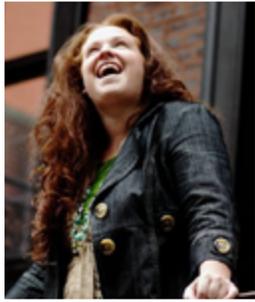
Hi, my name is Dean Adkins and I am honored to be a part of the SGN Scoops family. Perhaps some background information would be beneficial. I am sometimes called "Professor" because I was a Biology professor at Marshall University for 31 years and I retired in 2004. I grew up listening to gospel music (or as it is now termed Southern Gospel Music) and many of my relatives (Adkins, Toney, Booth families) are gospel singers/musicians. I collect records, primarily LPs, and SGM related items. Over the years I have studied the history of this genre. I would like to use these articles to describe events and the mind-set of the 1950s and 60s – sometimes called the Golden Age of Gospel Music.



Bethany Cook is a 26-year-old from the great state of North Carolina. In her early years, Bethany grew up on the road as the daughter of an evangelist. In her teen years, the family came off the road and made their home in Burlington, NC where her father is now a pastor. Being an avid Southern Gospel fan from an early age has enabled Bethany to meet many different artists and make many friends along the way. With a history of devotional writing for family and friends, she looks forward to sharing her writing and allowing her readers to see a little more into the lives of Southern Gospel Music artists. Bethany is a Medical Assistant for a large Cardiology Practice in North Carolina.

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## SGN SCOOPS



Sheri began singing while traveling with her abundantly talented family, led by her father John LaFontaine, a minister for over 48 years. In 1994 with Grammy nominated singer Jeff Easter producing, she recorded her first solo project, *Takin' My Place*.

Shortly thereafter, Sheri received a call from the top promoter in south-

ern gospel, Frank Arnold and was asked to join his group, The Arnolds on the road. After several years of traveling Sheri felt the Lord leading her to focus on her solo career and songwriting. In 2004 she signed a songwriting contract with one of the industry's top recording labels, Daywind Music. Her songs have been recorded by Kim Hopper, Karen Peck, Sue Dodge, Brian Free & Assurance, Misty Freeman, Three Bridges, The Whisnants, The Browns and many more.



Paige Givens is a Christ follower, wife, mother of two boys and kindergarten teacher to 18 five-year-olds. She is a writer, reader, singer, studier, and teacher of words. Paige lives in Hayden, Alabama with her husband of 10 years, Chris Givens, and their sons Parker and Peyton.

Paige loves to blog about faith,

writing, music, and teaching. Her goal is to serve the Lord by inspiring others to be who He has called them to be. You can listen to her music and read her devotionals at [www.paigegivens.com](http://www.paigegivens.com).



Jaquita Lindsey holds the alto position for the Southern Gospel group 11th Hour. The group was originally based out of Monroe, LA but recently relocated to Hendersonville, TN. She comes from the small town of Camden, AR. She is also a licensed cosmetologist. In her spare time, she enjoys being crafty and spending time with

family and friends. She's been singing since the age of eight, but realizes that it's much more than just singing. "Anyone can show off their talent. I'd rather hear someone that shows that they are anointed!" For more information on Jaquita, visit [11thhourgospelgroup.com](http://11thhourgospelgroup.com)



Matt Baker resides in Lenoir, NC with his wife, Ashley, and children, Bella and Bennett. A gospel music lover, Matt spent time on the road full-time with Promise of Murfreesboro, TN, before moving into church ministry as the music minister at Ambassador Baptist Church in Hudson, NC.



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.

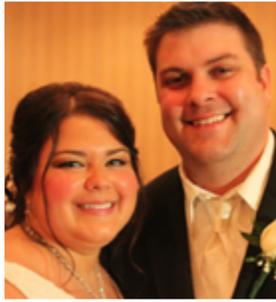


Roger Barkley Jr. is an award-winning Christian artist and musical evangelist. With multiple charting songs reaching to the top 10, his goals remain the same: to win souls for Christ, use Gospel Music of any kind to reach the world with the Good News, seeing lives changed and being an encouragement to the

saints. When asked about his ministry, Roger said, "I can remember the first time singing with my dad playing the guitar and standing beside my mom when I was four years old. I have always loved all types of music." His vision is to lead as many people to Christ through preaching, singing, sharing testimony, comedy, drama and technology as possible. Having been labeled a Christian Entertainer, he believes it is possible to minister in an entertaining way, and in over 35 years of ministry has found that he can utilize all different types of music to let people know the love of Jesus Christ. Currently he is Artist-In-Residence with his wife, Dianna, and daughter, Chelsea, at Leestown Gospel Church in Frankfort, KY, and Redemption Road Community Church in Stamping Ground, KY where he leads worship when not spreading the Gospel across America.

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## SGN SCOOPS



Brian Fuson is from the great state of Michigan, and although he is a Northerner, he certainly knows his Gospel music. He's been promoting concerts since he was 15-years-old and has worked with a diverse group of artists. He has been blogging about Southern Gospel music for the last few years on his site called Fuson's Findings. And

most recently, Brian has started singing with his wife Crysta and her parents, The Sammons Family. All of this information and more can be found on his website, [brianfusonmusic.com](http://brianfusonmusic.com).



Selena Day is from Atlanta GA. During her twenties she worked in the field of fashion, as both a make-up artist and model. Selena became a Christian in her early 20's and then quickly met her husband, Chuck Day, who is a songwriter and recording artist. Selena and Chuck have

been in the ministry for 26 years raising three daughters and homeschooling them while they traveled together as a family. During this time God taught her how crucial inter-generational ministry is for the furthering of God's kingdom. Selena travels the world speaking at conferences with the emphasis on empowering a multi-generation of women to rise up and become everything that God has called them to. Encouraging the next generation of the church to break the walls of limitations in their mind and rise to their full potential. Selena and her husband are life coaches for The World Race, which is an extreme missions trip for adults 21 through 35. They travel every two months somewhere around the world to mentor these missionaries. She and Chuck have been pastoring a home-church for 14 years where they have experienced God moving in community and seeing the body of Christ in action through each other.



Timmy Williamson is a 24-year-old singer and actor from Virginia Beach, Virginia. He graduated from Liberty University in 2014 with degrees in Worship and Theatre. Over the past several years, he has been given the privilege of singing in many churches and events as well as performing in professional theatre productions. He has been enjoyed by audiences at NQC's

Artist Showcases, Gospel Explosion at First Baptist Church of Dallas, and in the Virginia Beach Gospel Music Festival. Timmy currently lives in Lynchburg, Virginia where he is pursuing a full time career traveling and singing. He would love to come and share his music with your church or special event! For more information, please visit his website, [www.timmywilliamson.com](http://www.timmywilliamson.com).



Nathan Kistler was born on the road and was singing at the age of three years old. He has had the opportunity travel with groups like Southern Gospel's beloved trio the Nelons, and most recently for almost two years with Americas Favorite family of gospel music The Hoppers. Nathan has had the privilege to be in 49 states and 24 countries singing about the won-

derful story of Jesus Christ our Lord. He has also been a part of three crusades on the National Mall in Washington D.C. and while there, he had the privilege of singing in the Pentagon courtyard twice. Through his father's ministry in Washington, Nathan began his work on the Hill as a ministry partner with different Christian organizations like Faith and Action and more. Nathan is a missionary to Washington and continues to work there during the week while singing Gospel music on the weekends around the country and being an artist in residence at the American Mountain Theater in Elkins, West Virginia.

# Contributors

## SGN SCOOPS



Auke Bijlsma- I was born in Zaandam, The Netherlands on September 21st 1966. I'm Head of Operations for a major airline. My home is in the countryside of Holland where I live with my wife Patty, and our two kids: Jake who's 16, and Lexi who is 14, and our pack of dogs. My oldest children, son Jesse 23, and daughter Sarah 21, don't live with

me; they are all grown up building their own homes and lives.

In my childhood, I went to church with my family, and I fell in love with harmony singing. I sang in choirs, a Southern Gospel Trio, and made a few television appearances with that trio here in The Netherlands. At the moment I am not active in music anymore, but you never know what comes along.

In my teens, I started to listen to 50's Rock and Roll, and of course, Elvis Presley. Through Presley I was introduced to the great Gospel Quartets. I started looking for music by The Imperials, Jordanaires, and J.D.Sumner and the Stamps at first, because these were the quartets that backed Elvis for many years. My first love is Gospel singing, particularly Southern Gospel. I love groups like The Stamps, The Imperials, The Weatherfords, The Rambos, The Hinsons, The Cathedrals and many more.

Besides being a music lover, I love vintage cars, architecture, books, movies and writing. I hold a Masters in Journalism and Communication. I will write articles about anything; music, faith and life in general. Hope you will enjoy the views of an outsider. Thank you SGNscoops for giving me this opportunity.



Fayth Lore is a young woman from southern Ohio with a love for God and people. Although she enjoys chocolate, oldies music and spending time with friends around the bonfire, her passion is ministry. In January of 2014, after pastoring for 20 years, her family decided to follow God's call into music evangelism. In September 2015, they

launched into full-time ministry. The Lore Family travels the country, spreading the Gospel through songs, sermons and seminars. While Fayth loves to sing, she also has a heart for encouraging young women in Christ. She has spoken at various youth/women's events, as well as hosted her own blog for young ladies. To see more about The Lore Family,

visit their website at [www.thelorefamilyministries.com](http://www.thelorefamilyministries.com). To learn more about Fayth's blog, visit [www.truepurposegirls.weebly.com](http://www.truepurposegirls.weebly.com).