

SGIN SCOOPS

MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 2016



THE LEFEVRE QUARTET

ALSO FEATURING

MARK BISHOP, KRISTEN BEARFIELD OF HIGHROAD, OLD TIME PREACHERS QUARTET
JASON CRABB AT WILSON FAIR



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

PUBLISHER'S POINT

by Rob Patz

Welcome to the October Publisher's Point. I hope that you are enjoying the Fall season and have already had a chance to have a pumpkin spice latte, much like I did on the first day that you could order a pumpkin spice latte at Starbucks. I was there at the airport in Seattle and ordered the first one from that barista, at 5:30 in the morning when they open. I know, it's the little things in life that make me happy.

Over the past few months of the Publisher's Point, I have been talking about restoration. I was watching a show on the History Channel the other night. There was a gentleman who restores things for clients and brings them back to life. He was looking at a piece of rusted metal and kept saying how amazing it was going to look. All I could think of was that this person had brought him a piece of junk, and there was no way it was going to turn out to be anything more than a piece of junk, maybe with new paint.

As the show continued, it hit me that the way he viewed that piece that he was restoring, is how God looks at us. As humans, we might see a piece of junk not even worth saving, but God sees us as something amazing. I know that at the end of the show this person was so excited to get their possession back all shiny and new, nothing like it had looked at the start of the show.

It really got me to thinking about how God sees us. He sees the finished product, not the product that we are right now. There are many times in life where we fail and we may look like a rusty piece of junk, but God sees the end product. He knows the beginning and the end, He knows the number of hairs on your head, and He knows exactly where you are. I have watched God begin the restoration process in my own life. I know He knows what the end is going to look like. In fact, He is already there. Isn't that amazing! I may not see where the future is leading like He does, but He knows my future and I trust in the fact that He will be there for me. God is a Restorer not only of our life and relationships but He is the Restorer of our hope.

You may be reading this today and He isn't your personal Savior. You don't know Him the way I've been writing in this article. If you don't, please contact me or someone on my staff. We would love to share with you about the love of Christ and what accepting Him as your Savior can do to change you and begin the restoration in you!

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



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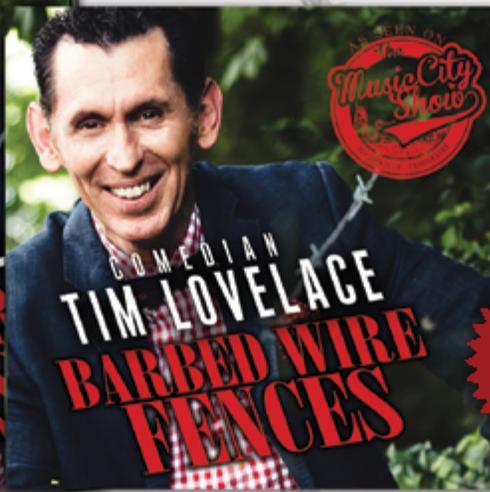
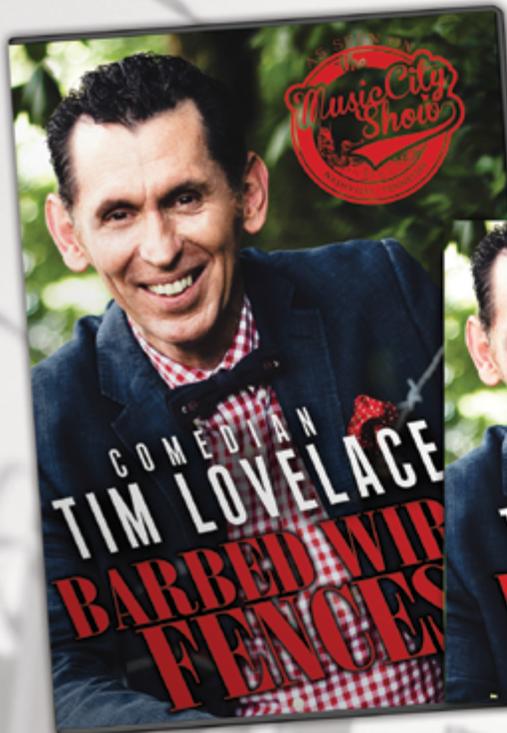
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WISDOM FROM WELLS

by Dusty Wells

Getting Through The Times Of Blah

Do you ever have those times where you feel *blah*? I mean really *blah* and sometimes just *yucky*. You don't feel happy, you don't have any sign of joy, the smile is so hard to give and yet you're not sad, you don't feel angry or depressed either. **Nothing is horribly wrong in life, no one has ticked you off, you are just feeling *blah*.**



Ahhhh, my friends, come on now. Be honest. You have felt that way before. I am fairly certain you have. Doesn't mean that you are a horrible, bad person; it really doesn't. Every one of us on this journey of life at one point in time has had a case of the *blahs*. Yup,

we have. You may be in the midst of one right now.

Well, guess what? **Mr. Positive Encourager, happy all the time, *me...yup me...the DUSTY WELLS is in the midst of the *blahs* right now.*** Yup, I am. I'm not really sure why. I cannot even tell you how long it's been. I'm just having one of those seasons. I'm not thrilled with it, but I am so glad I've come to that place where I recognize it and I somewhat will embrace it.

The great truth that I have found for me, when in the midst of these *blah* times, is that with the right attitude, striving to keep my mind on Him, staying focused, it will pass. Of course, **I have learned that God, in all of His great compassion, mercy, grace, strength, unconditional love and forgiveness is walking right beside me in these times of *blah*.** He is. And He is walking right alongside of you as well during your own time of *blah*. He assures us over and over again in His Word, that He will never leave us nor forsake us. What a promise of truth that is for both you and me. He's got us. He will not fail us.

It's in these moments of *blah* that I have discovered some of the greatest healing in my own life and I have made the choice to at least give it my very best to grow during these times. As much as I don't understand or even as I question the times of *blah*,



I do know that I can grow and go through these hard times with Him right by my side. I assure you, you can too.

We have the choice to either let these times make us stronger or defeat us. Now, I have failed miserably at times during my *blah* times with my own attitude, actions and all. It's not an easy path while walking down these times, but we can pick up, dust off, shake it off and press on while learning along the way.

So, today as I am dealing with my own *blah*, I am going to do my very best to re-focus on all that is good in my life.



I am going to choose and remind myself, that the good always outweighs the bad. I will do my very best to encourage, challenge and push others with words of kindness and sensitivity. **I will rise above the *blah*, and know that "this too shall pass".**

It will. I've been here in this *blah* place before and I have walked out of it many times, a little stronger and wiser.

Are you ready to deal with your *blah* season? Come on, let's go, we can do this. **We will make it and we will be in a much better place and be ready for the next time the *blahs* come around.**

Don't forget: You are loved, you are valuable and there is so much destiny and purpose for you.

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A Family Legacy: A Look At **THE LEFEVRES**

By Justin Gilmore



The LeFevres was formed in 2005 by Mike LeFevre, a member of one of Gospel music's most celebrated and influential families, The LeFevres. The name LeFevre has been a mainstay in Southern Gospel Music for decades. Mike LeFevre continues this legacy with his own fan favorite quartet.

Jeremy Peace, the group's tenor singer, explains, "The original LeFevres began back in 1921 as a trio. By 1931 Eva Mae married Urias LeFevre and began singing with the family group. The group saw major success during the mid 20th Century, introducing singers such as: Rex Nelon, Kelly Nelon, Janet Paschal, and many more. The name was retired when Eva Mae left the road in 1977 and the remaining singers became known as the Rex Nelon Singers. **Today, with the family blessing, the group name *The LeFevres* continue on the tradition through second and third generation LeFevres, Mike and Jordan.**

"In the early 2000's, Mike, who previously sang with Gold City in the '80's and early '90's, and co-founder of Brian Free and Assurance in the mid-'90's, started a group called "One Voice" with several singers from his hometown. By 2005, this formation then became known as The LeFevre Quartet. The group traveled

as The LeFevre Quartet for many years until recently transitioning to The LeFevres." **The original lineup of the group consisted of Stephen Sigmon on tenor, Stacy Bragg singing bass, David Staton at lead, and Aubrey Stevens on piano with Mike LeFevre singing baritone.**

The group's style blends the traditional with a more modern or progressive sound which captivates audiences all over the country. The quartet cites several of the classic groups as influences on their sound. "Obviously the classic LeFevres play an intricate part in our music stylings," Peace asserts. **The Blackwood Brothers, The Statesmen, and the Hinsons are also major influence in terms of "precise vocals and stage performance," as well as "their ability to move an audience."**

The original lineup had great success with songs such as "Big Mighty God," which was nominated for a Dove Award in 2009. They were named Horizon Group of the year in 2006 just one year after formation. The group has quickly become a fan favorite and continued to churn out great music, with a rich bass; powerful tenor, commanding lead, and of course, Mike's signature smooth baritone. In 2016, they have been nominated in



the top five for the Diamond Award Quartet of the Year. A measure of their success has been in having a strong team, which also includes their office manager, Marcie Gray, one of the exceptional writers on the SGN Scoops roster, and Terry Stewart, who handles the product table.

The current lineup maintains the group's signature sound and style. **The LeFevres are comprised of Mike**



Lefevre (baritone), Jordan Lefevre (lead), Jeremy Peace (tenor), and newest members Trent Adams (bass) and Josh Townsend (pianist). “Each member brings their own abilities and history to this ministry,” Peace states. “Mike and Jordan both come from the LeFevre lineage. Mike spent time with his Uncle Alphus LeFevres’ group during the ‘70’s, then moving on to sing with The Singing Americans, before joining Gold City and later Brian Free and Assurance. Jordan began with The LeFevres as their drummer at the age of 13, and now at age 25 is the group’s lead vocalist. **Not only does Jordan sing lead for the group, he also manages the bus driving and mechanical responsibilities as well as our resident prankster!**”

Jeremy Peace adds his signature ultra high tenor notes to the quartet’s stellar blend. Peace “began traveling at age seven, joined the Kingsmen at age 21 as their tenor for more than three years before spending eight years with The Old Paths Quartet. Jeremy also manages the group’s publicity, social media and recording production.”

Trent Adams is no stranger to Southern Gospel Music having sung bass for the Old Paths, Hope’s Journey, Blackwood Quartet, and the Dixie Echoes. This talented bass adds a smooth anchor to the group’s sound.

In 2010, Adams was nominated for the Singing News' Horizon Individual and continues to excel as one of the strongest young bass singers in the industry.

At just 18 years old, Josh Townsend is already impressing audiences with his ability on the keys.

Peace praises the young pianist exclaiming that he "is advanced beyond his years." Peace adds that Townsend is also "our resident comic relief!" Their road manager Terry Stewart "handles all the road and product responsibilities as well as our office duties when we return home each week."



This talented quartet is known for exciting and fresh recordings that convey the Word of God while also entertaining listeners. The group currently has two incredible projects available: a mainline release and a tribute record. Peace exclaims, "We currently have two new CDs: *Home* and *Old Gold*. **The *Home* CD contains a more progressive sound that is parallel to what the original LeFevres produced as times and music styles changed during the height of their success.** While staying true to four-part quartet harmony, the music and lyrics are relevant for the current times.

"The *Old Gold* CD pays homage to Mike LeFevre's time spent with Gold City during which many timeless songs were first introduced. We picked out 10 of our favorite songs that Mike performed with Gold City during his tenure there. We strived to stay true to the original music and vocal production while adding our own signature sounds as well." Both projects are great examples of the top notch quality that this quartet releases.

Now in the last half of 2016, this group shows no signs



of slowing down and continues to spread the Good News through song all across the country. **They are serious about their call to minister to the people of the world and show God's love to all people.** They strive to do

their very best for Him who blesses them.

The LeFevres were nominated in the top five for the 2014 Diamond Awards, with fans voting for them as Favorite Quartet, Album of the Year (*But for the Cross*), Song of the Year ("Come and See") and Favorite Group Website.

The awards and accolades are not what are important to these men of God. "We've had many honors thus far in the ministry, [including] awards, nominations, keys to various cities and city proclamations. **But there is nothing more memorable than watching a lost soul walk down an aisle under conviction, receiving Jesus Christ as their Savior and seeing their anguished face turn into a contenance of peace and joy!** You



never forget those moments."

This is why they sing Gospel music. Their mission is "to proclaim the liberating power of the Gospel as we



sing, serve, and go.” They continue to achieve great success and have exciting things in store for the future.

Peace teases, “We have many exciting things in store this year. A new project with some amazing songs; an amazing Christmas concert production with lights and video, plus much more that we wish we could share but I guess everyone will just have to wait until the official press releases!” The LeFevre legacy will live on through this talented quartet as they praise the Lord through song.

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By Lorraine Walker

It's Almost Time

Yes it's almost time for Creekside Gospel Music Convention at Pigeon Forge. We hope you have already made your plans to be there. The tickets are free but must be reserved through www.creeksidegospelmusic-convention.com. Creekside runs October 31st through November 3rd, 2016, at the Smoky Mountain Convention Center, Pigeon Forge. If you are still looking for accommodation, please contact Salina Clay for hotel reservations at hotels@sgnscoops.com or by phone at 256.239.7716. Daytime showcases and special events, afternoon exhibit hall and jam sessions, evening concerts and midnight prayer ensure that your days and nights will be filled with good Gospel music.



Extra Special Monday! Don't Miss October 31st

Monday, October 31st will begin with a bang, as Creekside salutes our Veterans and holds the first Creekside Gospel Music Talent Search! Creekside will begin the day with an outdoor hotdog roast at the Ramada Inn - Smoky Mountain Convention Center at 11:00 and all our Veterans will be able to eat for free. And what better to accompany a hotdog than great Gospel music.

The Creekside Gospel Music Talent Search will be held outdoors at 11:00 a.m as well. The entry fee is \$175. Everyone is invited to come out and support the contestants. There will be a Grand Prize and Runner-Up winner that will be announced at the Monday night Creekside Concert.

The Grand Prize package includes a six song EP valued



at \$3,000 and includes studio recording time at Studio 115A in Columbus, MS, engineer/producer, mixing/mastering, and two copies of the final mastered project. Studio musicians and product/CDs are not included. This incredible package also includes three months of full page advertising valued at \$3,000 in SGNScoops Magazine plus three months of national radio promotion for one song by Hey Y'all Media and a featured interview on Vonda Easley's radio show, Simply Southern, valued at \$3,000. In addition, the grand prize winner will perform on Thursday night at the prestigious Diamond Awards show.

The Runner-Up package includes a certificate for \$300 off a 10 song recording project at Studio 115A in Columbus, MS, one month of advertising in SGNScoops Magazine valued at \$250, and a single digital song release by Hey Y'all Media valued at \$99.

The Creekside Gospel Music Talent Search is open to all Gospel music artists, including solos, duos, and groups. Each participant will have eight minutes to showcase their musical talent via track or live music. The entry fee is \$175. To register for the Creekside Gospel Music Talent Search, call Leslie McKay at (662) 312-4146.



The Monday Evening Concert Will be Better than Halloween!

Monday afternoon the Exhibit Hall will 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. The evening concerts begin at 5:00pm with Scott Roberts and the Five O'clock Band! Following this will be a great lineup of Gospel music.

Some of the artists performing at Creekside include: **Mark209, The Plath Family, The Riders, The Pine**



Ridge Boys, Shellem Cline, Alliance Quartet, Drummond Family, Heart's Song, Sharps Quartet, Jordan's River, Griffins, McKay Project, Surrendered, Chandlers, Connells, The Hyssongs, Ava Kasich, The Williamsons and more.

Our featured artist for Monday evening will be none other than **Gold City Quartet**. Since 1980, this Quartet has been one of the leading artists in Southern Gospel, with numerous awards and charting songs to their credit. Current members include Chris West - Bass, Daniel Riley - Baritone, Scott Brand - Lead, Thomas Nalley - Tenor, Bryan Elliott - Piano and Dillan West, Sound Engineer. Their latest charting songs, "Farther Along" and "Victory In Jesus" are off of their *Hymn Revival* album, with another project currently in the works.



And that's not all...

Every Monday evening during Creekside week, we honor a leading member of the Gospel music community and this year 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. SGNScoops is thrilled to join with host Dr. Jerry Goff in recognizing 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. Don't miss this auspicious beginning to Creekside 2016.



Tuesday, November 1: Extra Special Guest coming to Creekside!

Pigeon Forge will be the site for a special breakfast on Tuesday morning. Join us for Breakfast with Tim Greene, on November 1st during Creekside 2016. We are thrilled that Tim is planning to join us. For just \$10,



attendees will enjoy an intimate concert experience with one of Southern Gospel music's beloved singer/songwriters. More information can be found on the Creekside Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Creeksidegospelmusicconvention

This special breakfast will feature the music of this vocalist who began singing with his father Everette, brother Tony and sister Kim Greene Hopper in 1979. The Greenses still minister today, traveling and sharing the Gospel and Tim's experiences of healing. "The Greenses are excited to be singing at Creekside Tuesday morning Nov 1," says Tim. "I know the Lord will do great things!"

The Diamond Awards Presentation on Tuesday Evening

The 2016 Diamond Awards will be presented on Tuesday night, November 1st, 2016, during a celebration hosted by Dr. Jerry and Jan Goff. Special musical guests and industry personnel will be on hand for the gala. The winner from Monday's Talent Search will also be performing on this special evening. The evening will not only be a time to honor the best in Gospel music but also the time to praise the Maker of music and life, Jesus Christ. Midnight Prayer will give you a chance to respond to the message in song.



Wednesday, November 2: 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.

Following the Creekside Classic '16 will be 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: More Great Music

Morning showcases, afternoon Jam Session with The Five O'clock Band and a special Evening Concert will finish Creekside 2016 with a bang! Other surprises are in the works to make your attendance worthwhile and a

chance to worship the Lord.



Fifth Anniversary VIP Passes Still 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!

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What You Need To Know

Your Creekside fifth anniversary tickets must be reserved here: Creeksidegospelmusicconvention.com.

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

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Old Time Preachers Quartet

Singing

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WAY



By Justin McLeod

Many times, in Gospel music circles, at concerts and events, and sometimes even in publications like this, there will be references to the *old-time way* of Gospel music. There have been songs written about it, but never before has a group made the ideal their motto and midpoint of their group. Until now. **Enter The Old Time Preachers Quartet.**

The group made a splash immediately with legendary *Inspirations* bass singer Mike Holcomb holding down the quartet's low end and former Singing News publisher Les Butler taking on the baritone role. But it was their Rebecca Peck-penned inaugural single that vaulted them to immediate A-list status and has already defined the OTPQ's role and goal.



As great as “The Old Time Way” is, it’s the way the single wound up as the Quartet’s anthem that’s even better. “I sent Tom Peck a Facebook message on night, telling him about the quartet,” shares Butler. “I told him that we would like to have a song from Rebecca [Peck] that fit what we’re doing...he said, ‘You won’t believe this, but she just finished a song called “The Old Time Way”.’” **An exchange of audio later, the song became the headliner of the group’s inaugural recording and ended up at #29 on the Singing News chart in the month of August 2016.**

A traditional, four-voice, no-stack vocal lineup, the *Old Time Preachers* are aptly named, as each member serves in a ministry role outside of his membership in the quartet.

Tenor singer Jeremy Ballinger is the pastor of a Baptist church in Dyersburg, Tennessee. A veteran of both the



Butler, who owns Butler Music Group and Family Music Group managing and promotional agencies, is best known as a former publisher of the *Singing News* magazine and currently as host of the daily video blog SouthernGospel365.com.

pulpit and Gospel music, he has pastored since 1998 and also sang with the Brashears earlier in his vocal career. “We all want to see the body of Christ get back to the old paths and the landmarks that God has established,” Ballinger shares about the group.

A fresh face to the industry Lee McNeill handles the lead vocals for the group. A pastor and minister like his fellow group members, this is not McNeill’s first foray into Gospel music as he sang with the Lumber River Quartet previously, but it is predominantly his introduction to many of the industry’s mainstream fans. **“We as a group want to keep the ‘main thing the main thing,’ and that is the Gospel message!”** McNeill states.



Group founder, owner and industry veteran Les Butler is the group’s baritone singer. It was from Butler’s experienced mind that the idea for the quartet began to generate. **“The Lord had planted the thought of a quartet of preachers who could sing, preach, and focus on evangelism,”** he says. “I first shared that vision with Mike Holcomb a few years back and it wasn’t the right time [but when I] brought it to him again a couple of years later, he felt good about it.”



Gospel legend Mike Holcomb needs little to no introduction to fans, as his 40-plus years as the bass singer for the Inspirations Quartet made him a household name in the industry. Holcomb left the Inspirations in 2013 to go into full-time evangelism and the Old Time Preachers is his first entrance back into the quartet scene since that time.



Six times voted as the *Singing News*’ Bass Singer of the Year, Holcomb retains popularity in the industry and is a highly sought-after evangelist. “I love the reaction of the folks we get to sing to when the presence of the Lord begins to move them, bless them, and help them forget about some of the burdens they are dealing with even if it’s just for a short while,” Holcomb says. **“Our purpose is to present the message of the Gospel in the most sincere and simply way, that it may be clearly and powerfully discerned. JESUS is our joy, our hope, our peace, our salvation, our song.”**



With each member of the group working full-time ministry jobs outside of the quartet, the Old Time Preachers operates on a severely-limited travel schedule. In



fact, their entire schedule for 2017 is almost entirely full already. You can find more information on the Old Time Preachers Quartet at www.oldtimepreachersquartet.com, where you can view their touring schedule and purchase their new CD. The recording can also be found on iTunes.

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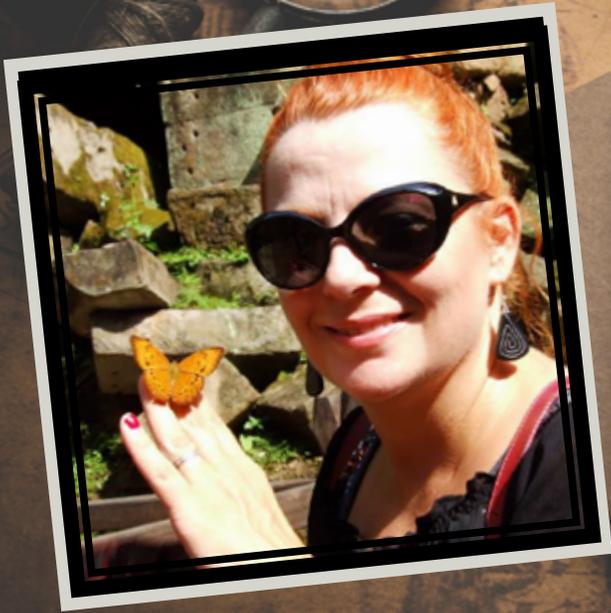


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Day By Day

I Am Blessed

By Selena Day

“I am blessed, I am blessed, everyday that I live, I am blessed.”(c.1980. Words and Music by C. Jerry Goff.)

These are the lyrics of an old worship song and I wonder how many of us really and truly believe this for ourselves.

For the past nine years Chuck and I have been working with a ministry that deals with a person’s self-discovery while following the path of missions. During this season I have discovered some wisdom about human nature.

We all have this internal dialog going on inside of us. This is the place where we tend to dream about our life. It is very strong within us during our childhood and before we are given much responsibility we give it a license to grow and thrive. Remember those childhood days of playing? Boys could turn a stick into a gun battling giants and all sorts of enemies and little girls could take a cup pretending to have tea with a king and queen. We dreamed and our dreams were filled with all sorts of possibilities

As we become adults we exit a war-torn time in our life called *childhood*. We usually carry many wounds from that season, and spend so much energy trying to hide the scars. I have discovered that most adults are strug-

gling to overcome the scars that childhood brought.

Children are very resilient and do not come equipped to understand what is happening around them. In many cases when children become adults and discover that their coping mechanisms are destructive for them, it begins this negative internal dialog. You may not consciously say these things, but we begin a self-hatred relationship with ourselves that you either say or feel; “I’m ugly, I’m fat, I’m stupid, I’m poor, I’m not enough, I’m not _____”. I am sure you can fill in the blank for yourself.

In so many cases these thoughts result in turning to vices that handicap and destroy our lives. Religion tends to propagate this by telling the church that we are so unworthy. How could a Savior love someone like me? I am just a lowly sinner.

We are stomping on the blood of Jesus when we evangelize this type of message. His blood was enough to cover everything! God loved us so much that He gave His one and only Son, so obviously He believes we are worthy. 2 Corinthians 10:5 says that we take captive our thoughts to obey Christ. In the Voice translation it says; “*5 We are demolishing arguments and ideas, every high-and-mighty philosophy that pits itself against the knowledge of the one true God. We are taking prison-*

ers of every thought, every emotion, and subduing them into obedience to the Anointed One.”

I believe this is a great example to show us that we need to change that internal dialog from a negative destructive chatter to what Christ says about us. After many



years of my self-discovery with God, I am beginning to see myself as an artist, a creative force that has been placed in this world to influence those around me to press into the creative force in God. But it took many years

and a lot of changing my own internal narrative to realize this, and then step out to begin operating in the ways God designed for me to use my gifting.

If you are reading this, you must recognize that you need to capture your thoughts and emotions so that you

can fully be ALL that God has called you to be. The next time you begin to feel or think anything negative about yourself, change something. Get up and move, put on an uplifting song, try to draw a picture. Go hang out with someone and listen to his or her story. What has God been saying to them? You will usually find that thread with in their narrative you will be hearing the voice of God speaking to you as well. There are things in the earth that only you can carry out and God is just waiting on you to say; “Yes! Yes, I can do it!”

You may not have the skill-set yet, or you could be in a season of solitude with God so you may not feel or see fruit; but when you begin to see yourself blessed, you will begin to see that favor surrounds you wherever you are, and God can and will open the doors to propel you into your destiny.

Begin the journey today by singing over your life; I am blessed!

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A Look Through The Lens of Craig Harris: Cana's Voice, The Talleys, Jason Crabb

Photographs by Craig Harris



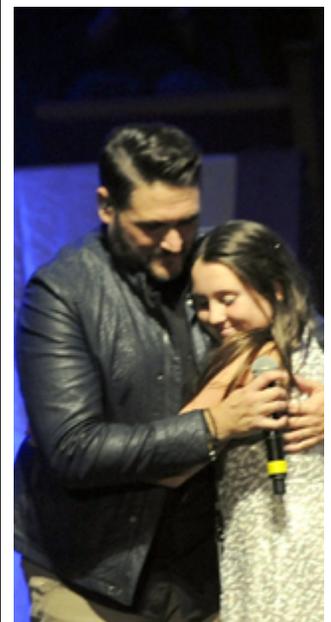
Craig Harris has had a busy summer, attending concerts and capturing all the live, spontaneous moments that happen when artists sing the Gospel. He caught Cana's Voice in their Nashville Debut at Christ Church Nashville, along with the Christ Church Choir. Jody McBryer, TaRanda Greene and Doug Anderson lit up the stage and energized the audience with their fantastic harmonies and passion for the Lord. The Christ Church Choir was outstanding in their accompaniment of the songs of Cana's Voice. We hope this photospread will give you some sense of this incredible evening.



This is the time of year for fairs, and Craig Harris travelled to the Wilson County Fair to catch the Talleys and Jason Crabb in concert. The Talleys presented their usual well-presented, vocally dynamic program to an appreciative crowd. Lauren, Debra and Roger are able to reach out and connect with their audience regardless of venue, bringing the good news of the Gospel wherever they go.

Grammy and Dove Award winner, Jason Crabb, is a fantastically gifted and charismatic vocalist. He proved this yet again on the stage at the Wilson County Fair, joining the Talleys for a song and as well as moving through his own set with ease. Gospel, Pop, Country and Blues all influence Crabb's songs, along with an ability to touch the hearts of his listeners with the love of Jesus. Crabb was joined onstage by his daughter Ashleigh, a beautiful budding Gospel singer.

Enjoy these pictures of great artists serving the Lord with their tremendous talents, as we look Through The Lens Of Craig Harris.



HOPE TO THE HILL

By Nathan Kistler



It is hard to believe that October is already here! Congress has been in session during the month of September, but everyone is gearing up for the big day in November by working in their respective districts and states. I have been hard at work in DC with the help of my family to prepare the new office space for the busy time ahead. God has been so good to allow us as a ministry the opportunity to have a base of operations here in the city of Washington DC.

I must say that it is such a blessing to see our prayers answered on a daily basis. I can hardly fathom how good God is. Recently, I was praying for the Lord to give opportunity to meet new friends in ministry and for Him to open new doors of ministry on the Hill. The very morning I prayed that prayer while commuting into town, God answered it by bringing some wonderful people into my path for ministry. He is truly good to us.

We are doing a 40 days of prayer schedule for the elections coming up, with daily prayers for our leadership, our nation, and the hearts, souls, and minds of our children. Daily, we are begging God for mercy on our nation as we are a wretched people who have become subservient to the things of this world.

I for one do not want to be a worshipper of anything. Let it be politics, stuff, fear, or anything that would take the place of our dearest Lord Jesus Christ; I want noth-

ing of it. Listen to what God says in Joshua 1:9: “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”



As we enter these next days of uncertainty, let us not be afraid or dismayed, but let us trust that God is working always and nothing ever surprises Him. This never negates our duty to be vigilant or knowledgeable, but



What we do in Washington will affect the entire world, because the world comes to Washington, DC. My heart's desire is to do everything I can to share the Gospel.

I ask that you pray for us and with us for our leaders and potential new leadership. We desperately need your help here and would love for you to come visit us and see what God is doing. If you would like to know more about our work, please visit www.hopetothehill.com or write me an email at nathankistler@gmail.com. You can contact us at 202-770-7300 as well for more information. You can donate to our work online or by phone if you feel led to do so. Please feel free to write me with your thoughts, questions, complaints or anything you choose to share. I love to know what you as the readers are thinking about.

it does give us hope for today, tomorrow and whatever may come. Just as the great song says, "When peace like a river, attendeth my way. When sorrow like sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say. It is well, it is well with my soul".

We must be able to say as Christians; that no matter what happens, *it is well*. I hope each of us can say this during the coming days.

The daily struggle in Washington is and continues to be a struggle for truth. Either people lack truth in their speech/lives, or some others have difficulty in finding truth in life. My goal is to try to give them the truth of God with His dear help. His truth, bundled with His love is the most powerful force we ever release. To give that to the city of Washington, DC. will be the greatest of gifts and will bring the greatest of God's good news to this lost and dying world in which we live.

As always, one of your missionaries in Washington,

Nathan Kistler,
Director at Hope To The Hill



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YOUNGER PERSPECTIVE

Kristen Bearfield

BY ERIN STEVENS

A word from the writer...

Here's another new face I'd like to welcome to the Younger Perspective corner. Kristen Bearfield has quickly become a favorite among listeners since joining the HighRoad gang. Her story is powerful, her voice is angelic, and her testimony will resonate with young and old alike. So without further ado, please make welcome, Miss Bearfield...

Erin: When did you first discover your love for music?

Kristen: As far back as I can remember, I've always loved music. Early on in my childhood, I would sit on the piano bench with my aunt, and pick out the congregational hymns for our church services that day. At three years old, I sang my first solo in church and from that day on, my passion for singing has continued to grow. As a child, in the mountains of East Tennessee, I was surrounded by the sounds of acoustic music from an early age. This musical influence sparked my interest in learning to play guitar, mandolin and later on, the banjo. My love for music originated as a little girl, and God has continually increased my passion for worshiping Him through instrument and song.

Erin: How did you come to join HighRoad and what were you pursuing beforehand?

Kristen: I was already pursuing music ministry before moving to Nashville. Shortly after the move, God placed Sarah Davison in my path, which opened the door for me to join HighRoad. I am so grateful to be a part of such a special ministry!

Erin: For those that don't know your miraculous story of healing, please share with the readers how the Lord touched your body.

Kristen: Several years ago, I was in a terrible car accident that could have taken my life. During the wreck, I suffered a severe neck injury that affected my spinal cord, and as a

result, many doctors told me I would soon require wheelchair assistance and eventually be unable to walk. The neck injury also led to my inability to sing and play instruments for a period of time. There were certainly days that I didn't understand why this was happening, but there was never a moment that I didn't feel God's hand on my life. In fact, I can honestly say that I physically felt God's arms wrap around me as my car flipped end over end through the air! I know undoubtedly He was there with me in that car, and I've never felt His presence more strongly than I did during that



Very moment.

The weeks, months, and years to come were certainly not an easy road. However, along the way, God placed several specialists in my path who helped my family and I understand how my body was responding to the trauma of the wreck, and find alternative methods of treatment. With the help of my sweet family, some very caring doctors, and most



of all God's healing hand...I slowly started gaining back my strength, joint movement, and voice as I journeyed through my recovery process!

Since that time, the Lord has restored my health tremendously. Although I still physically battle some effects from the accident, I praise the Ultimate Healer for restoring me to where I am today. If you're facing a difficult road, I pray my story encourages you. Remember God is always faithful, and He has a purpose for your pain that can bring greater blessings into your life than you could ever imagine. Even on the toughest days, trust His plan and continually hold on to His unchanging hand!

Erin: Who are some of your biggest musical influences?

Kristen: A few of my biggest musical influences include my great uncle Clarence "Tater" Tate (who played bass and fiddle for Bill Monroe), The Isaacs, The Greenes, Hillsong United, and Ricky Skaggs.

Erin: What are some things the Lord has been teaching and showing you through reading His Word as of late?

Kristen: As of late, God has been teaching me to live in the moment and be content in every situation, big or small. I truly believe that God does great things through surrendered people, and that surrender must happen every day as we trust Him. Each and every moment of our lives are granted for purposes that we've yet to even see. Trusting Him in the small things, even when we can't see the end purpose, leads to greater rewards than we could ever plan for or desire. As Romans 8:28 teaches us, "And we know that all things work together for the good of those who love Him, who have been

called according to His purpose."

Erin: Coffee or tea, chocolate or strawberry, Canon or Nikon, lake or beach, dresses or jeans, movies or book?

Kristen: Coffee, chocolate, Canon, lake, dresses, book!

Erin: What is something quirky no one would ever guess about you?

Kristen: I LOVE going to Sam's Club. You can buy in bulk, save money, and get free samples!

Erin: How has Christ been making Himself evident to you in 2016? And how would you encourage someone who is struggling in their walk this year?

Kristen: 2016 has been a year full of changes in my life, and Christ has made Himself so evident through the doors of opportunity that He has opened. I can think of several occasions where His sovereignty was so crystal clear that my heart just paused right then and there saying, "Thank you, Lord!" Along with those opportunities have come various changes, which can appear overwhelming at times; however, the Holy Spirit has continued to give me peace and direction throughout the process, growing me as I continually place my trust and dependence on Him.



If you're struggling in your walk today, I'd like to encourage you to *trust Him through the struggle*. In the midst of changes, hardships or life's disappointments, it is easy to feel overwhelmed or discouraged. However, always remember that God sees the puzzle, not the piece, and He holds our tomorrow in the palm of His hand.

Closing words from the writer...

Let's not overlook those "Thank you, Lord!" moments we all experience, no matter how bleak the here and now might temporarily be. I love what Kristen said, "God sees the puzzle, not the piece..." We may not know what's coming up ahead, but the God who holds all our pieces together sees



the bigger picture - after all, He created that picture before we were even born. Let's trust Him with our struggles and fears, and know that tomorrow is just around the bend...

Until next month, Scoops fans.

And that's my take on it.

Connect with Erin:

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Randall Reviews It - October 2016

by Randall Hamm

October, Fall, the month of pumpkins, changing temperatures, colorful leaves and three new CD reviews. I've just finished with NQC and have come back with many new CDs that will be previewed in the upcoming columns of Randall Reviews It. Thanks to all the labels and groups who make possible these projects for review. Many thanks from this reviewer and broadcaster.

And as always, pick up a copy of these CDs wherever you get your good Gospel Music.

Randall

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

Now. Let the reviews begin!



Isaacs

Nature's Symphony In 432

Producers: Ben Isaacs and the Isaacs
Executive Producer: Terry Bradshaw
Daywind Records

Songs:

Nature's Symphony (Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/Sonya Isaacs Yeary); Fields (Tony Wood/Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary); I Love You More (Kenna West/Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary); Lord Of My Heart (Sonya Isaacs Yeary/Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/Joel Lindsey); This Is The Year (Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary/ Tamara and Carmen Mariea); Bird On The Wing (Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Jimmy Yeary/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary); Keep Breathing (Sonya Isaacs Yeary/ Liz Hengher); I Find It All In You (Sonya Isaacs Yeary/ Jimmy Yeary/ Rebecca Isaacs Bowman); Rocks (Jimmy Yeary/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary/ Rebecca Isaacs Bowman); If That's What It Takes (Sonya Isaacs Yeary/ Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Jimmy Yeary); Yours Amen (Benji Cowart/ Rebecca Isaacs Bowman/ Sonya Isaacs Yeary); God Is Still With Me (Kenna West/ Rebecca I. Bowman/ Sonya I. Yeary); Dining With The King (Rebecca I. Bowman/ Sonya I. Yeary/ Jimmy Yeary); None So Lovely

(Sonya Isaacs Yeary/Benji and Jenna Cowart); Great is Thy Faithfulness (Thomas Chisholm/ William H. Runyon) ft. Terry Bradshaw

The Isaacs have recorded many CDs in their years together, but none any better than their latest: *Nature's Symphony In 432*. It's not just a CD, it's a masterpiece and an album that transcends any they have done. The album was recorded in 432 frequency which is the natural frequency of the universe. It promotes healing and it is soothing among other things. The Isaacs have created an album that will stand for generations and an album that others will be judged by in the future. The CD is destined to be a possible Grammy and Dove Award winner when all is said and done.

From the first cut, "Nature's Symphony," to the last cut, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," this album has the Isaacs' heart and soul poured into it. Songs written out of pain and despair. Songs that came of situations that Ben, Becky, Sonya and Mama Lilly have gone through and it is on this album that healing comes and we get to share in that healing.

The first release was the obvious "This Is The Year," the year of Jubilee, which comes every 50 years for God's people and according to Sonya, "if we were ever to release it as a single, the time is now, because it is the year of Jubilee." Sonya's testimony song, "I Love You More," written by Becky and Sonya with Kenna Turner West, came out of the baby daughter that was stillborn to Sonya almost two years back. No matter what the circumstance God is there and will keep us through.

On the lighter side, "Rocks" and its lyrics, based on the story of Jesus and the adulterer, makes the statement: "He who is without sin cast the first stone." Don't be throwin' any "Rocks," you're no better than anyone else, and if you do, careful of that ricochet. "Rocks" is my favorite on the project and hopefully will be singled out.

Other standout cuts are: "Dining With The King," "I Find It All In You," and "If That's What It Takes." The Isaacs of late have been known for some great albums, but with this, they have finally cut the album by which the rest of their albums will be measured. Heartfelt singing, some great picking and lyrics that get to the heart of the matter. But most of all it is sung sincerely, because they've lived the lyrics and situations. You add all that up, you get a CD that must be in your collection.

To get a Copy visit <http://www.theisaacs.com/p/store.html> or get it where ever you get your good gospel music.

Strongest Songs "Rocks," "If That's What It Takes," "Dining With The King."



Chandlers

He Does

Producer: Shane Roark
Upper Room Records

Songs: He Does (Lana Jellison Chandler); Somebody Give Him Some Praise (Tim Chandler-Lana Jellison Chandler); He Knows The Way (Tim Chandler); I'm Thankful (Tim Chandler-Lana Jellison Chandler-Tiffany Chandler); Sun's Still Shinin (Tiffany Chandler); Old Time Meetin' (Tim Chandler); Reach The Children (Lana Jellison Chandler); I'm Ready (Lana Jellison Chandler); Whole (Tim Chandler); Softly and Tenderly (Will Thompson, Arranged Geron Davis)

Tim and Lana and their two daughters Tiffany and Lyndsey comprise the group known as the Chandlers. I met up with them at NQC last year and there they took folks by storm, winning their showcase and having the opportunity to perform on Main Stage of NQC. Following their performance, Chapel Valley Records came to talk with them and they were the first artists signed to the new Upper Room records imprint.

Well, it's now almost a year later and their first CD has been released, *He Does*, 10 great songs from the pens of Tim, Lana and daughter Tiffany. All but one song, "Softly and Tenderly," were written by them.

The CD gets underway with the title track "He Does." I don't know how He does it but He does. That's our God; always there and He will be there and answer when we least expect it. Getting our praise on with "Somebody Give Him Praise," is a great way to get a morning started. This would be a great song for AM drive programmers. "He Knows The Way;" in the road of life, detours, obstacles and other things cloud our way, but I'm thankful that indeed God knows the way. "I'm Thankful" is a great song reminding that God is still blessing and is so good to us.

The one lone song penned by daughter Tiffany is: "Sun's

Still Shining,” We’ll never ever be alone because the “Sun’s Still Shining”. The first single is “Old Time Meetin” with one of the funkiest intros of late in a Southern Gospel song. My pick for the next single is the most insightful song on the project: “Reach The Children,” dealing with children that are dealing with life’s problems that they shouldn’t. A really powerful song and the highlight song of the project.

“I’m Ready”, “Whole” and an a cappella rendition of “Softly and Tenderly” close out the project.

Overall this is a solid first effort of many more albums to come for the Chandlers. Get your copy of *He Does* at <http://www.timandlanachandler.com/store> or where ever you get your good Gospel Music.

Strongest Songs: “Old Time Meetin”, “Reach The Children” and “Somebody Give Him Some Praise.



Paul’s Journey
Keep Keepin On
 Producer: Shane Roark
 Inspire Records

Songs: Praise; That’s God Story; Even Now; Make me A Blessing; Resist and Draw Nigh; Keep Keepin’ On; Bring Me Back; What A Mighty God; I Needed A Savior; I’m Gonna Rise

Paul’s Journey, a group led by owner and bass Rod Treme has released their latest CD, *Keep Keepin’ On* and that’s what Paul’s Journey is doing. The latest edition of Paul’s Journey is lead, Jamie Streetman; baritone, Brad Davis; tenor, Matthew Esquivel and bass and group owner Rod Treme. The first track is “Praise;” a great song that sets the tone for the CD.

He’s coming back again; “That’s God’s Story” and I’m sticking to it. A fun song about a truth that’s oh so true. “Even Now,” a pretty ballad about a wonderer asking, ‘where is He now?’ “Even Now” He is here, He’s holding

the stars in place. He’s here, He’s all around.

Our prayer as a Christian is to always “Make Me A Blessing” to someone around and to let Jesus shine through us. Their bass Rod Treme gets lead on “Resist And Draw Nigh.” When the old devil attempts to get to you, just “Resist and Draw Nigh”. Track six is the title track, “Keep Keepin On” about staying the course and keeping the faith and one of my favorite songs on this project. “Bring Me Back”, “What A Mighty God” and “I Needed A Savior” are great songs as well.

Closing out the project is the current Top 60 Singing News chart single “I’m Gonna Rise,” which is one of their fastest rising chart singles ever. One day we’re gonna rise to be with Jesus and see our loved ones who have gone home before us. Going home to live in Heaven some sweet day, one day “I’m Gonna Rise!”

To get your copy of this project go to <http://paulsjourneymusic.com/store/> or get a copy where ever you get your good Gospel music

Strongest Songs: “I’m Gonna Rise,” “Keep Keepin On,” and “Make Me A Blessing.”



Olivia Collingsworth

What Love Looks Like

By Faith Lore

Olivia Collingsworth is a young woman of grace and poise. She lights up each room that she enters with her contagious smile. Her voice is unmistakably recognized by Southern Gospel fans. And, it is almost always accompanied by the iconic harmonies sang by her family, The Collingsworth Family. Through the years, The Collingsworth Family has gained recognition in the Southern Gospel Music world. Not only do their fans love them because of their incredible harmonies, but more so because of their genuine hearts. As you learn more about Miss Olivia in this article, I'm sure that you will see her loving spirit. You will also see that she is the perfect candidate to teach us more of *What Love Looks Like*.

The Southern Gospel Industry was introduced to The Collingsworth Family over 20 years ago. As The Collingsworth Family has gained recognition throughout the nation, Southern Gospel fans have watched Olivia "grow up" into a young woman. Olivia tells us, "My favorite part of the ministry is definitely being able to encourage people in some way with our music. I know there are so many hurting people out there, and to be able to encourage them with a song is so rewarding."

One of those encouraging songs that The Collingsworth Family sings is called "You're About to Climb." Olivia

shared with me that she loved to sing this song with her family. "It's my favorite because it talks about taking a step of faith out into the unknown and to just trust Jesus to help you climb those mountains in your life that look impossible. It is so encouraging." It most definitely is a song of inspiration and beautiful vocals.

When you hear The Collingsworth Family sing, sometimes it can be difficult to know who is singing which part! Olivia tells us she mostly sings soprano. Families almost always have well blended harmonies, but the excellence shown by The Collingsworth Family doesn't just happen. It takes a lot of practice. And, practice isn't always easy to do, especially when singers live in different homes. Olivia said that her family usually congregates in the music room in her Mom and Dad's home, to practice for a little while before a big tour. They also practice almost every day on the weekends, when they go into sound check before a concert.

For a long time, The Collingsworth family was made up of Phil and Kim Collingsworth, and their four children, Brooklyn, Courtney, Phillip and Olivia. However, audiences across the nation have recently been "wowed" by the newest addition to their group. She may only stand to her

Aunt Olivia's knees, but when she takes the stage, all eyes are on this little bundle of sweetness. Of course, I am talking about Emma Blair, Brooklyn (Collingsworth) Blair and William Blair's daughter. When fans see The Collingsworth Family, they see a genuine family of love. That love especially shines through when they see the family interact with Emma on stage. Emma is 22 months old.

Olivia shared with me that Emma's job, as of now, is to come out on stage during one song, "Show A Little Bit of Love and Kindness." Olivia said that Emma "breaks the ice" with the audience. "Emma has such personality on stage. When she is there, the crowd pays no attention to the rest of the family because all eyes are on Emma".

"I think the funniest stage moment we have had with her (Emma) so far, is we were teaching her how to bow to the crowd. One night, she came out on stage, turned her rear end to the crowd, pulled her dress up and bowed. LOL I'm sure it won't be the last time something like that happens."

The love of a child is the purest kind; however, the epitome of love is the love of God. In this month's edition of "What



Love Looks Like", we will be taking a closer look at the latter part of 1 Corinthians 13:4- "... Love vaunteth not itself, it is not puffed up". The NKJV says, "Love does not parade itself, is not puffed up". Throughout Jesus' life on earth, we can

read about how He lived a life of humility. This should be an example for all Christians to follow. I asked Olivia to share with readers how Christians could display a humble type of love to others.

"Jesus said, 'The greatest among you is a servant.' I personally believe one of the most effective ways to show love is by serving those around you. Sometimes that does not come easy when as humans we tend to be self-centered; but to go above what is required of us and to humbly serve people is one of the greatest ways to show that we love them.

"I definitely believe humility in the Church is important, but



more important than my opinion, Jesus thinks it's important. In Proverbs 6:16 the Bible says, 'These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him.' Interestingly enough, the very first thing mentioned out of the seven is a proud look. We all understand that a proud look and humility are miles apart."

Humility is reflected in many different ways. Could it even be reflected in how a person dresses? The Collingsworth sisters have remained faithful in their advocacy for modesty. Olivia shared with me why modesty is an important part of their life. And, that modesty is not only about one's outward appearance.

"Modesty is definitely a passion that me and my sisters have, (one of the reasons we started our blog). The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, that our bodies are a temple and that we are to glorify God with our bodies. He also said that a meek and quiet spirit is of great value to Him. With that in mind, I believe that modesty of spirit and outward modesty are both important to God. If we had more space and time, there is so much more we could discuss here. My prayer is that God will be glorified in my life through both the spirit that I portray and the way I present myself outwardly."

Recently, The Collingsworth sisters, including Sharlenae (Philip's wife), have started a new blog called *C-Fam Sisters*. "We were on the bus on our way to California for our western tour, and a few of us girls were sitting in the front lounge talking about our favorite fashion bloggers and such. We had gotten hundreds of questions about our clothing and where we get all of our modest pieces. We decided that to answer everyone's questions we would start our own fashion



blog based on Modesty since we all have a passion for it.

“Readers can expect to find outfit inspirations with links to all of our modest clothing pieces, our favorite recipes, hair tutorials, and sometimes even Emma will make an appearance on the blog.”

Speaking of modesty and humility, I once heard Kim Collingsworth share with my parents, Darren and Sandy Lore, “I have no superstars in my household.” She was sharing with our family about the importance of keeping an attitude of humility, in the industry that we work in. For those who regularly sing on stage, I asked Olivia how we can maintain a humble attitude while also being confident of the gifts God has given us.



“This made me smile when you mentioned my Mom! She has told me and my siblings for as long as I can remember that Jesus is the only Superstar and we are just privileged to be a very small part of His great big Kingdom. I personally think it is important to keep Jesus the center of our daily lives and to stay in His Word... which is where He speaks to us, instructs us, and reminds us that we are mere humans placed on this earth with the only purpose being to bring glory and honor to Him, not to ourselves.”

In closing, I thought it would be fun to get a bit personal with Olivia. There is one question that I have always wanted to ask her, and I’m sure you have too. I’ve always wondered where her beautiful strawberry blonde locks came from. I’ve

never seen any other family with three sisters who all had different color hair.

Olivia said that for a long time, they didn’t know where her red hair came from. Until one day, they saw a colored picture of her great-great-Grandfather on her dad’s side of the family. They had only ever seen black and white pictures of him. When they saw the colored picture, he had red hair, so they figured that’s where she got it from. There is no one with red hair on her Mother’s side of the family. So, there you have it!



I also asked Olivia a few “would you rather” questions.

Question: Would you rather eat at a cool hamburger restaurant, or dine in for a fancy dinner?

Olivia: I definitely appreciate a good hamburger, but I would have to say dine in for a fancy dinner.

Question: Would you rather dress for style or comfort?

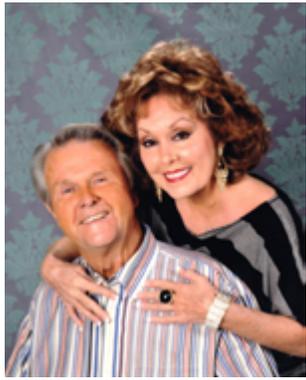
Olivia: Dress for comfort for sure. But I usually always try to shop for stylish pieces that are comfortable, that way I can have best of both worlds. My favorite go-to shopping place is Marshalls.

Question: Would you rather take a vacation to in the mountains or be lazy at the beach?

Olivia: I’d say a lazy vacation on the beach sounds good right about now.

I believe it is encouraging to see so many young faces in Southern Gospel music. More encouraging than that is to learn about how much that they are in love with Jesus, and how they love to serve others. Truly, this is a challenge for each of us. This is a challenge to make sure that we are living in humility and loving like Jesus. For more fun conversations and words of inspiration with the young ladies in Gospel Music, watch for the next issue of What Love Looks Like.

Looking forward to a great Summer and Fall of Worship



Services, Concerts, Relaxing Trips and Family Time, and of course we'll climax the year with **SGNScoops Diamond Awards Nov 1, 2016!**

We had a great Winter with friends, ministers, and promoters during our stay in Florida.

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)

Check out our Singing at Sea Cruise for 2017. Make plans to go with us. It's the best vacation you'll ever have. - Dr. Jerry & Lil' Jan

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Good Ideas

By Roger Barkley Jr.

We all have what seem to be good ideas at the time of conception. Some come in the middle of the night. Mine sometimes are written as illegible chicken scratch it seems on a piece of paper beside the bed at 2:00 or 3:00am. It's a brilliant thought that in the light of day (after good night's sleep) may not be as brilliant as once was thought.

Back when I was growing up I had one of those brilliant ideas. I had been watching a movie of a hero using a lasso to capture a bad guy. I thought it was the coolest thing ever. Being a preacher's kid, I knew we could not afford to send off for one through the mail, much less my mom going for the idea of it anyway.

I did the next best thing. I made my own. I found enough rope and tied it as I could remember it looked like in the movies. I proceeded to twirl it round and round my head. I let it fly and to my amazement it worked. It wrapped around the fence post just like I aimed on the very first try. I thought to myself this has to be beginner's luck so I tried it three or four more times and was astonished that the fence post, the tree, and the bicycle had all succumbed to the newly acquired weapon in my arsenal.

Not leaving well enough alone, as boys usually do, I thought I needed a moving target. Since there were not many bad guys around, I knew I needed to draft someone, so I looked at my youngest brother and just said, "Hey Curtis...Run!" Once again my little invention and good idea worked.

There was one minor flaw in my thought process however. I did not count on my dad seeing this part of the research and development of my invention.

Dad was not as impressed with the use of the tool as I would have hoped. He did, however, come out to speak with me about this idea process, the development thereof and the use of it on my baby brother. The conversation we had I will not forget to this day.

A lot of times we have these fantastic ideas that we dream up in our minds, without ever consulting our Heavenly Father, just as I never consulted my earthly father. If we would have consulted Him, He would have maybe given us a better idea, a better way of getting our idea done, a better way of reaching the result, than we had figured out on our own.

Just as my earthly father and I discussed my decision, we have a Heavenly Father ready to listen to our repentance as well. Just as my dad was watching, not to see if and when I messed up, but to see if I would make the better decision, our Heavenly Father watches over us, ready to help us make those hard decisions when we ask.

So the next time you have a brilliant idea, talk to God about it before putting into action. That way maybe you won't be given so much rope you will get into trouble.



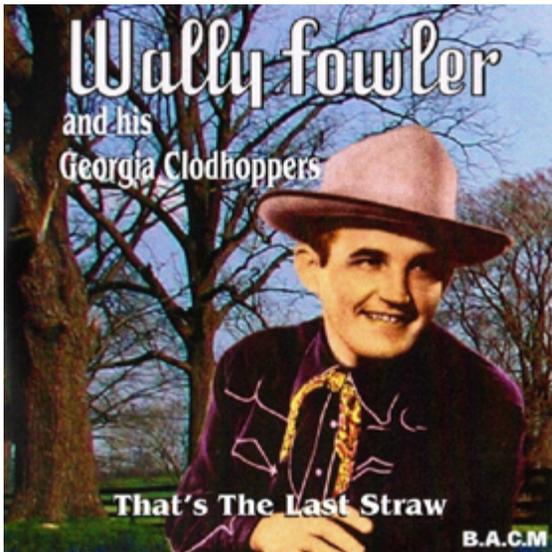
Wally Fowler

Mr. Gospel Music: The Man with A Million Friends

By Charlie Griffin

John Wallace Fowler, *Wally Fowler*, was often a man in a concert of his own. He is considered to be an innovator of Country and Gospel music. His ideas laid ground to the Gospel music revolution of the late '50's and '60's and is still affecting artists today. Wally Fowler was known as the Man With a Million Friends and as Mr. Gospel Music for many years.

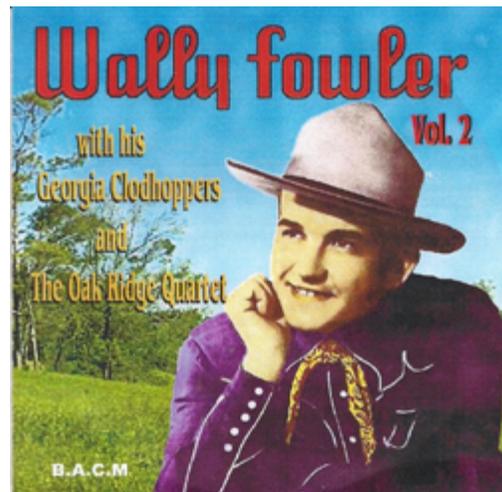
Born to a cotton farmer near Adairsville, GA, it was said that Wally's dad was the Cotton King of Bartow County, Ga. Fowler grew up in the Great Depression of the '20's and '30's. The Great Depression caused hard times on the Fowler family, so bad that he worked in a florist to support his family, making \$7.20 each week.



Wally began his music career as a teenager in 1936. His first quartet experience was as lead/ baritone singer for the John Daniel Quartet from Alabama.

In time, the group moved to Texas with Fowler. Their music expanded as he began to write songs. His song, "I'm Sending You Red Roses," was a hit for Jimmy Wakely. The quartet later moved to Nashville, TN appearing on the Grand Ole Opry on WSM-AM Radio.

In the early '40's, Fowler began his climb in music, by



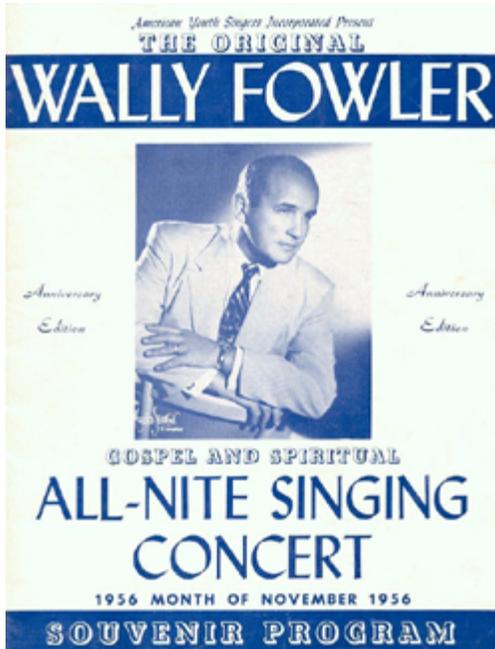
moving to Knoxville, TN and working as a live entertainer on WNOX-AM Radio. He formed a group called The Georgia Clodhoppers. Chet Atkins was a part of this group and they were regulars

on the Mid-Day Merry Go Round. He formed the Harmony Quartet singing in Oak Ridge, TN and surrounding areas. This group was the forerunner to the Oak Ridge Quartet. Lon Freeman, Curly Kinsey and Johnny New with Fowler made up this group. As one of the regular bookings, the Quartet sang for the workers on the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, TN during World War Two. Then they changed the name to the Oak Ridge Quartet, and, well, the rest is history.

Fowler was one who embraced the age and that radio was *where it was at* in the '40's He moved back to Nashville, TN working on the Prince Albert Show segment of the Grand Ole Opry with Red Foley. At that time the Opry was on NBC Radio. He was often in demand for personal appearances around the radio listening area. His personality and smile made him one of the more popular entertainers in the music field at the time. The Oak Ridge Quartet was a mainstay.

As an entrepreneur, Wally Fowler was always looking to expand. In 1948, he booked the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville promoting the All Night Gospel Sings. By the spring of 1949, those All Night Sings were a staple of the

first Friday of each month at the Ryman, and soon they spread throughout the South, the Southeast, and the Southwest.

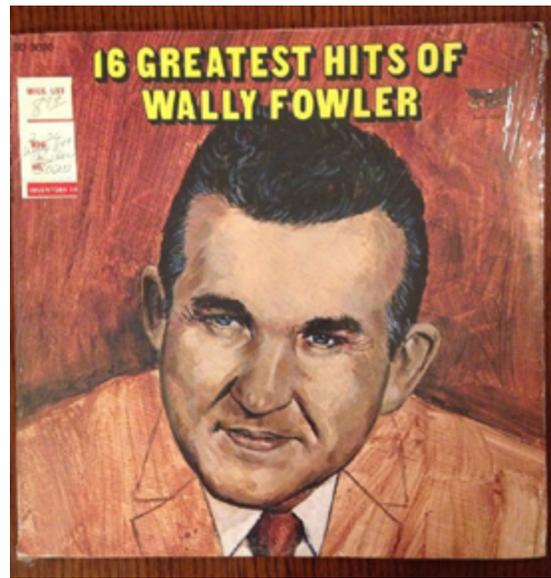


Now, it has been said he got this concept from V.O. Stamps All Night radio programs in Dallas, TX. Yet his promotional abilities, personality and musical talents lead the All Night Gospel Sings to major cities across the south for more than 20 years. Crowds

were capacity in the major cities, as people would drive for miles for the Sings. Nashville, Knoxville, Asheville, Charlotte, Greenville SC, Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis, Dallas, Little Rock, Jackson MS and other cities were home to his concerts.

One of the big news items of the day in 1949 was that the Oak Ridge Quartet went through a significant change when three members left the group. Fowler hired the Calvary Quartet from Winston Salem, NC reforming the Oak Ridge Quartet.

Personnel changed over the years, but in 1957 the group was signed over to Smitty Gatlin who changed the name to the Oak Ridge Boys in 1961. This paid a debt owed to Smitty Gatlin, who had been managing the group since 1956. In later years, after litigation in 1964, Fowler did not use the Oak Ridge name; however, there were projects released as Wally Fowler and the Oak Ridge Quartet. The



last release was 1965 with Two Roads on the Songs of Faith label. Wally continued to record some solo projects in the '60's and '70's. In 1984 he had some success with a Country song, "Lo

and Behold."

Not only was radio Wally Fowler's medium, in the 1950's he began a television program, *The Wally Fowler Show* featuring Wendy Bagwell and the Sunliters, Speers, Statesmen and special guests. The show was broadcast throughout the south.



His prowess was not just Gospel music, Fowler wrote Eddy Arnold's first million selling record, "That's How Much I Love You," and Willie Nelson recorded his song, "I Couldn't Believe It Was True," in 1974. Some of his noted Gospel songs include, "Jesus Is Mine," "Nearing the Shore," and "May the Lord Bless You Real Good." Perhaps his best Gospel song, "Wasted Years," became a Gospel classic, recorded by numerous artists. One fact many people do not know is Bea Packer was his pseudonym on some of the songs he wrote and published.

In the early '80's, Wally Fowler was promoting concerts and fundraisers in the Carolinas. His love of Gospel music remained central to those concerts. He often booked The



Singing Americans, The Harvesters, Statesmen/ Masters Five and other artists to those events. These ticketed events raised money for several civic organizations on an annual basis.

Writer's personal note: I remember one late evening in the early '80's, Wally Fowler came to the office of the Singing Americans. That night the conversation and the "You should have been there" stories went on for hours. Charlie Burke, Ed Hill and Wally Fowler relived the heyday of Southern Gospel music. There was a glimmer in his eyes as he talked about the All Night Sings and the golden age of radio and television with Gospel music. There was pride in his eyes at the many accomplishments he had made over the years. As I sat in that office listening to every word, I was a sponge wanting to hear more stories. It was true; he never met a stranger and made you feel as if he had known you all of your life. But then it was Wally Fowler, the Man With a Million Friends; plus one more.

For a Georgia cotton farmer's boy, Wally Fowler impacted Gospel music in a positive way for several decades. Fowler was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1988. In 1997, he was inducted into the Southern Gospel Music Hall of Fame. He is known as the man who discovered Patsy Cline, Chet Atkins, and Smitty Gatlin while being a driving influence in the Gospel quartet golden era. The man who created the All Night Gospel Sings, founded the Oak Ridge Quartet that led to today's Oak Ridge Boys, a legendary Gospel singer, songwriter, promoter, with a bigger than life personality in concert, radio and TV; that's Wally Fowler. He never met a stranger and Mr. Gospel Music was the Man With a Million Friends!

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DJ SPOTLIGHT

Mike Stankovic



This month, I interviewed our friend Mike Stankovic. We had a great time catching up at the American Gospel Celebration in Louisville, Kentucky. I'm glad he stopped by the SGNScoops booth and we got to chat.

Vonda: What is your current radio position and station?

Mike: WFHB Community Radio 91.3/98.1FM Bloomington, Indiana, The Fire Escape program 6:00am to 8:00am every Sunday morning, Eastern Standard Time. We play a mixture of Southern Gospel and Contemporary Christian music.

Vonda: When you are traveling, what is your favorite restaurant?

Mike: That's easy. My favorite is Golden Corral in Bedford, Indiana.

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

Mike: I would go to Israel. I know I would enjoy that.

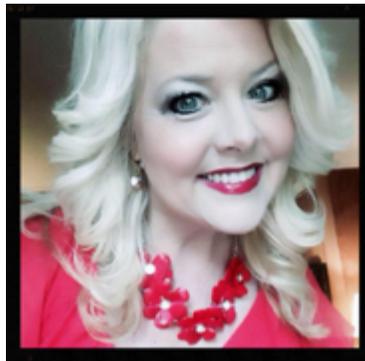
Vonda: Tell us about your family.

Mike: My family consists of my two grown daughters.

Vonda: Was there a certain age that you knew radio was something you wanted to pursue? Tell us about it.

Mike: God called me, I believe at the age of five. But, I went into the world. Later, He saved me and I started on the radio in 1995.

We hope to run into Mike again sometime soon at another great Gospel music event! If you are a DJ or you know one that should be recognized, please write to me at vonda@sgnscoops.com. We want to shine the DJ Spotlight on you.



**Written By
Vonda Easley**



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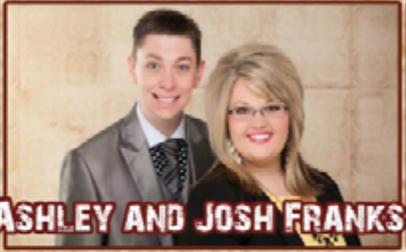
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LOGAN SMITH



PAGE TRIO



DRUMMONDS



THE BATES FAMILY



ANNETTE BINGAMAN



TO THE END



LINDA FOSTER



THE WALKERS



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

1	The Browders	New Song
2	Karen Peck and New River	Calling
3	The Talleys	After All This Time
4	Watts, Rowsey, and Beane	When Revival Comes To Town
5	Wilburn and Wilburn	It's What He's Done
6	The Perrys	Did I Just Hear The Thunder
7	The Hoppers	If We Ever Got A Look
8	The McKameys	That's Why There's A Cross
9	The Taylors	He Won't Fail You
10	The Bledsoes	Heaven Will Be Worth It All
11	The Troy Burns Family	Somebody Go Get Jesus
12	The Nelons	My Father's House
13	Shellem Cline	Yes Jesus Loves Me
14	The Mylon Hayes Family	One More Opportunity
15	The Guardians	My Hope Is In The Lord
16	Christian Davis	Just Show Up
17	The Booth Brothers	Dirt On My Hands
18	Tim Livingston	Without You
19	The Triumphant Quartet	Living In The Promised Land
20	The Jim Brady Trio	The Half That's Never Been Told
21	Josh and Ashley Franks	In The Midst Of It All
22	The Bowling Family	Mourning Into Dancing
23	Barry Rowland and Deliverance	Holy, Glory To The Lamb
24	Brian Free and Assurance	Somebody's Miracle
25	Gordon Mote	Only Jesus Can Heal This Hurting World
26	The Fowlers	What You Did For Me
27	The Chandlers	Old Time Meeting
28	Chris Freeman	Burdens Are Lifted Away
29	The Common Bond Quartet	God Made A Way
30	The Wisecarvers	Don't You Think You Ought To Worship Me
31	Whisnants	Grave Mistake
32	The River's Edge	I Keep Looking Up
33	Larry Ray	American Family
34	Jeff and Sheri Easter	Small Town Someone
35	Terry Davis and Ronnie Weiss	I'm Still Here
36	The Wards	This Is The Day Of The Lord
37	The Griffith Family	Give His Love Away
38	11th Hour	Can You Burn
39	The Old Time Preachers Quartet	The Old Time Way
40	Ernie Haase and Signature Sound	A Soldier Fighting To Go Home
41	Chronicle	Army Of One
42	The Anchormen	I Heard About A Man
43	Trinity 3	God Did It
44	The Down East Boys	Now A Witness Am I
45	Jordan's Crossroads	Three Rusty Nails
46	The Isaacs	This Is The Year
47	The Broken Vessels	American Christian
48	Rachel Taylor	What Would It Look Like
49	The Wilbanks	If It Ain't Broke Don't Fix It
50	Landon Villines	Better Days

51	Noah Hinshaw	Life's Rain
52	Georgia	The Road Less Travelled
53	Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver	Best Friends
54	Rejeana Leath	Walking Miracle
55	The Lori Jonathan Trio	Living By Faith
56	Heart To Heart	Looking To The Master Plan
57	The Hyssongs	It Doesn't Get Better Than This
58	Faith's Journey	One More Beautiful Day
59	The Kingsmen	Here I Stand Amazed
60	New Ground	Closer Than I Was Before
61	The Spiritual Voices	He's Already Been There, Done That
62	Joseph Habedank	Big Enough
63	Debra Perry And Jaidyn's Call	No One Loves You More Than Jesus Does
64	The Pruitts	God's Appointed Time
65	Keith Barkley and Family Tradition	We're Almost Home
66	The Blackwood Brothers	Forever Forgiven
67	The Lore Family	World Of Hurt
68	The Bates Family	That Day
69	Greater Vision	He Does
70	The Riders	All Of Our Hope
71	The Camerons	Promises of God
72	Trina Angel	She Loved
73	Kingdom Heirs	Saving Us A Place In The Choir
74	The Hyssongs	Prepare To Be Amazed
75	The Ball Brothers	Someday
76	Summit Trace	Heavy Loads
77	The Singing Epps Family	Heaven
78	The Brothers Redeemed Quartet	Standing On His Word
79	The Whisnants	I Love You This Much
80	Brian Free and Assurance	That's Just What Grace Does
81	Michael and Delilah	Last Breath
82	The Pruitts	You Don't Even Want To Make Me Pray
83	The Parsons Redeemed	Everything's Gonna Be Alright
84	The Gold City Quartet	Farther Along
85	Big Mo	I'll Walk You Home
86	The Carolina Boys	For Every Goliath
87	Steve Hess and Southern Salvation	Mercy Still Flows
88	Jason Crabb	Home
89	The Primitive Quartet	He's Been Better Than Good To Me
90	The Jay Stone Singers	Arise
91	Logan Smith	My Lord Will Send A Moses
92	The Erwins	Greater
93	The Isaacs	Leave It On The Altar
94	The Shepherds	He's Still In Business
95	Living Waters	God's Mercy and Grace
96	Greg Logins and Revival	Power In The Blood
97	The Kendricks	Just For You
98	The Victory Trio	What A Time
99	The Mylon Hayes Family	I Choose To Stand
100	Carla and Redemption	Goody, Goody Devil



SGN **SCOOPS** MAGAZINE

#getconnected

A New Season for *Harmony Road TV*



By Robert York

Coastal Media CEO, Robert Patz, has joined with Roger Spears to produce the fifth season of Harmony Road TV. The program is available to more than 90 million homes across the nation. It includes such networks as Heartland, NRB which is on DirecTV 378, Amazon Fire, ROKU, The Walk, and numerous other local networks. Check your local listings to find when the program is aired in your area.



Harmony Road TV is well recognized by the Gospel music industry, being presented with the 2015 Diamond Award for Industry Website of the Year. They opened their fifth

season in late September, with Spears and Patz producing nine programs already, with more production planned. This season they will be using rotating hosts

on the program which viewers will find more exciting.

Rob Patz has a long history in radio and other media. He began in radio in 1989 and with his own syndicated radio program, *The Southern Styles Show*, in 1993. In 2004, Patz began his online experience with SGMRadio website, hosting a Gospel music internet radio station. In 2009, he acquired SGNScoops website, magazine and the Diamond Awards. Patz also produces numerous events throughout the year, including Creekside Gospel Music Convention and Christian Country Expo which are both held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, in addition to recently acquiring local and online radio Christian station WPILFM in Alabama. With more than 27 years of Christian media, his involvement with Harmony Road TV was the right fit.

“Harmony Road TV has a unique presence in Christian media and Gospel music,” says Patz. “I’m enjoying the opportunity to work with Roger and I’m excited about the future for Harmony Road and for Gospel music. I know we can extend our reach and through this music reach the lost for Jesus. That’s what Harmony Road is all



about.”

Roger Spears has been producing Harmony Road TV the past four years. Spears says, “Rob and I have been friends several years and we had looked for ways to work together. Both of us felt this was a great opportunity to start. Rob also adds a new level of professionalism and we both are concerned about Southern Gospel Music.” Rob Walls of Vanish Films is the new road technical director and taped the first series of programs at Mansion Studios. They plan to use Jim Oliver’s Smokehouse as well as other locations for future programs.

In addition to Harmony Road TV, Roger and Harmony Road are currently involved with the Gospel Music Dinner Theater at Jim Oliver’s Smokehouse in Montegale, Ten-



nessee. Their summer series included Mark Bishop and the Troy Burns Family, as well as The Williamsons from Oklahoma and Exodus from Gadsden, Alabama. Back in December The Williamsons had a number one song on the Singing News Charts, “Shout.” Exodus is an up and coming trio and are working on a new recording at Oaktree Studio. It will be released later this year.

Spears noted, “We will continue the Gospel Dinner The-

ater if it continues to grow.” The Smokehouse offers a buffet dinner and a Gospel Music Program for one low price. Scheduled artists this fall include Tammy Jones Robinette, Noah Hinshaw, Randy and Wendi Pierce, and the Lore Family.



The Smokehouse Gospel Music Dinner Theater is presented by Jim Oliver’s Smokehouse Resort, Harmony Road TV and TS-Promotions and Publicity. For tickets, see the Harmony Road TV website and find out more information at www.harmonyroadtv.com.

THE
WILLIAMSONS

We're so thankful for our first to thank you for voting for us Top 5 in these Diamond Award categories...

- * Mixed Group of the year
- * Song of the Year - *Shout*
- * Album of the Year - *Tell Somebody*
- * Gospel Music Video of the Year - *Monday*

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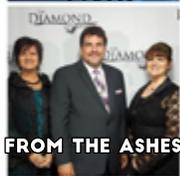
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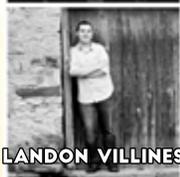
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SOUTHERN GOSPEL WEEKEND

Update 2017



By LORRAINE WALKER

While many are preparing for Creekside and for the winter season, some of us are already looking forward to Spring and the Southern Gospel Weekend 2017! March 23rd through 25th are the 2017 dates for all of the artists and fans to gather in Oxford, Alabama. The Oxford Civic Center is a lovely facility and we know that everyone attending the event will have a good time. Oxford has some great restaurants to visit and beautiful walking areas and green space. Best of all, SGW admission is free! What a delightful way to retreat from the hassles of life and be with God's people, listening to His music and His word. Start planning to be with us next year.



Journey, Midnight Prayer time and a Saturday Breakfast fill the days and nights with music. Many solo and group artists will be performing during the three-day festival, emceed by the well-known bass of the Second Half Quartet, Pat Barker.



As a special addition this year, Pat Barker will be offering classes on the ministry needs of Gospel music artists. From vocal coaching to stage presence, Barker will touch on everything the artist needs to present Christ in a way that is professional and polished, while still letting the love of Jesus shine through. We are calling this - what else? - Pat Barker University.

“SGW 2016 was completely over the top! Souls saved, lives changed and hearts touched! What an awesome event to be associated with. The artists this year were right on with the move of God. Can't wait to see what God has in store for next year!” says Ava Kasich, solo artist.

If you have never attended Southern Gospel Weekend, here is a taste of what you will experience at this year's SGW in Oxford. A great Exhibit Hall, Daytime Showcases with Ava Kasich and Vonda Easley of Hope's





“We had a great time at Southern Gospel Weekend 2016 in Oxford, Alabama. On Wednesday night before the event started, many of us met at the Oxford Civic Center Gazebo to bathe the convention in prayer. God truly showed up and showed out during the weekend. I am already looking forward to Southern Gospel Weekend 2017. I hope you will be there!” says Vonda Easley of Hey Y’all Media and Hope’s Journey.

SGW ‘17 will be providing a VIP seating section again this year. For \$25, true Southern Gospel fans can purchase a pass that will assure them the best view of all the concerts for the entire event. Not only will they have the preferred seating, but also VIP pass holders will receive a special surprise at the event. Anyone interested in purchasing a VIP pass should contact Vonda

Easley at 256-310-7892. Contact Salina Clay for hotel reservations at hotels@sgnscoops.com or call her at 256-239-7716.

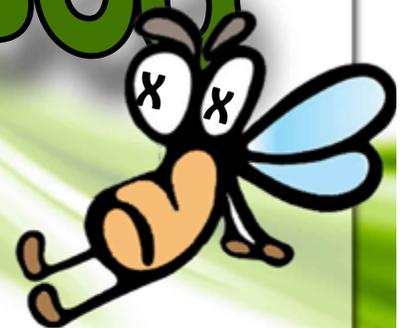
Remember, the tickets are free for SGW! Call Vonda Easley at 256-310-7892 for more information. If you are an artist that would like to participate in any of these events, please contact Vonda Easley.



Coastal Media’s Rob Patz, one of the Board Members of SGW, states, “Seeing people’s lives touched and changed through the music that I believe so strongly in, is the most fulfilling aspect of what I do. That happens at Southern Gospel Weekend.” For more information visit: www.SouthernGospelWeekend.com or <https://www.facebook.com/southerngospelweekend>.

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In Conversation With: The Joylanders

By Justin Gilmore



Family harmony is alive and well in 2016! Hailing from Trenton, TN, the Joylanders are an exciting mixed group that is sure to take Gospel music by storm. Though the group may be new to audiences, this talented family group (founded in 1971) has been singing (in this formation) since 1995. To commemorate the release of their new CD *Parables*, I interviewed group member Jason Griggs to find out more about this talented family.



Justin Gilmore:
Tell me about the formation of the group.

Jason Griggs: Before Perry and Nell Wimberley were saved, they played Country music in local bands. After they were saved, they quit playing Country music and became very involved in their local church. In 1971, Perry and Nell Wimberley felt the call of God on their lives to begin a Gospel music ministry and they started a group with their pastor, Conyer Walker, and another family member. The makeup of the group has changed over the span of 4 decades, but the current lineup has been ministering together since 1995.

Gilmore: *Awesome! What is the group's mission statement?*

Griggs: Our mission is simply twofold; We want to sow as much Gospel seed as possible to see the lost come to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus and secondly, go into the local church and edify, encourage, and uplift the church.

Gilmore: *Amen! The group has a great and unique sound. Who are/were the group's musical influences?*

Griggs: Early on The Song Masters were very influential in our lives and ministry. Joe and Marcy Kelsey sowed into our ministry and encouraged us. Years ago, we were influenced by The Rambos, The Hinsons, The Goodmans, The Cathedrals, Gold City, Truth, and The Lesters. Vanessa traveled with the Lesters for about three and a half years. More modern day influences include anything Lari Goss produced, Alison Krauss and Union Station, and Take 6.

Gilmore: *What a list of artists! What is the most memorable experience the group has had in its career singing Gospel music?*

Griggs: There are several memorable experiences, but one that always sticks out in my mind is of a particular church service in which we were singing, the Lord was moving, and the people at the church just couldn't seem to get enough. We eventually had to end the singing. We tore down our equipment and got it loaded up, but the people just kept lingering and didn't want us to stop. The people in the church said they would all go to their homes and bring back something to eat if we'd set up the equipment again and



sing some more. So off they went to get food and we set the equipment back up again. We all ate together and then we went back in the church and sang and worshipped the Lord for about another three hours until midnight! Those kinds of services just don't happen everyday!

Gilmore: Wow! That's incredible! Tell me about your latest CD release.

Griggs: We are so excited about our new CD, *Parables*. We have recently signed with Skyland/Crossroads and are so pleased with this new venture. This team of professionals is truly incredible. My wife, Vanessa, and I have wanted to do a major Southern Gospel recording like this for a few years. Over the past several years our children have become very involved in our ministry and now are a vital element. We made the decision three years ago to wait to do this type of major recording because our children were young and we wanted them to mature in age and to mature vocally. Our son, Jay, is now 20 years old and our daughter, Allison, is 16 years old. Their voices have matured and we sensed that now was the right time for this recording. I contacted Jeff Collins about recording and producing this project. I truly believe that Jeff and I could be brothers. We think a lot alike and now I know why I sensed God leading me to him. He captured everything that we wanted in this CD and he exceeded our expectations. We are blessed to know some great writers and are privileged that they entrusted us with a variety of well-written songs. We are singers and musicians. We love a variety of styles of music and that is evidenced in this project. You will not get bored listening to this

project. It's just us! I told the Skyland/Crossroads team that I don't know how they explain or market variety, but that's what we are!

Gilmore: I had the pleasure of reviewing it and I must say it is a fantastic CD! Tell me about the current lineup of talented vocalists.



Griggs: Perry and Nell Wimberley still travel with the group and represent the first generation. Perry and Nell's youngest daughter, Vanessa, represents the second generation in the group. Vanessa and [I], Jason Griggs, have two children, Jay (20) and Allison (16). Jay and Allison represent the third generation. The Joylanders stand and sing three generations strong at each concert. Currently Jason, Vanessa, Jay, and Allison handle the bulk of the singing and instrumentation

responsibilities at concerts.

Gilmore: A great team indeed! Any advice for aspiring groups or Gospel singers?



Griggs: I've been fortunate enough that some folks have given me good advice and I've also learned a lot through years of ministry and through mistakes. Here's what I have found to be true. I know it sounds like a cliché, but I truly believe that you have to learn to "bloom where you are planted." Many instantly want a larger venue, larger stage, or a larger audience, but the fact is if you can't hold the attention, entertain, or minister to few in number, you probably won't be able to minister to hundreds or thousands either. Learn your abilities, your strengths, and weaknesses. Hone the talents that you have to the best of your ability with the audience

God has given you now. Practice, practice, and practice. Learn what your limitations are. Sing within your range. Find the "sweet spot" in your range/voice and don't sing outside of that.

Quality singing is more important than saying you hit a certain high or low note. Quality is timeless. Strive for quality. Know your audience. Be *you*! The world doesn't need another Gaither Vocal Band, Kenny Hinson, Michael English, Jason Crabb, etc. Don't be a knock off of anyone else. Be who God made you to be!

The last big piece of advice that I would offer it this; elevated position comes with elevated praise *and* elevated criticism. If you can't handle the criticism, either learn to manage how you handle criticism or don't desire the elevated position. But, one thing I do know, there will always be criticism and the larger the platform, the greater the criticism.

Gilmore: Great words of wisdom! What can fans expect from the group this year?

Griggs: We are a bi-vocational ministry and a few of us still work regular jobs in addition to singing approximately 125 dates per year in about a 12-state area. I (Jason) am a City Manager and my wife (Vanessa) owns and operates a music store in our hometown. We want to remain faithful to do what God has called us to do and we pray that God expands our ministry and opens new doors for us to minister in new areas.

Gilmore: Thanks for your time! It has been a pleasure!

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By Leslie McKay

Vernon Gospel Music Weekend Review

Gospel Music is Alive and Well in Vernon, Alabama

On September 9th and 10th, folks from all over the country gathered for a weekend of Gospel music concerts, a talent search, and great fellowship and worship at Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend.

The festivities started on Thursday with Chris Golden and Dennis McKay making a trip to the Lamar County High School in Vernon to play and sing for the students. Chris shared stories and encouraged the students to follow their dreams and be a light to those around them.



On Friday and Saturday night, Gospel artists from all over the country came together at the Vernon City Auditorium to share their talents in two evenings of incredible Gospel music. The audiences enjoyed wonderful performances that ministered and had folks clapping and waving their hands.



On Friday night, the concert concluded with a performance by the multi-talented Chris Golden. He was joined on stage for a grand finale with all the artists in a medley of traditional favorites. On Saturday night, the concert concluded with a dynamic performance by The Hinson Family and special guest, Logan Smith.

On Saturday, the excitement continued with the 2016





The community of Vernon welcomed the artists and visitors to their town with open arms and the support was overwhelming. Todd's Smokehouse stayed open late both evenings and everyone was able to enjoy some great food after the concerts. Some of the artists had the pleasant experience of *home away from home* lodging at the Twin Gables Inn bed and breakfast. A few of the artists such as Ava Kasich had a fun time co-hosting the Saturday morning edition of *Party Line* with Mayor Glenn Crawford. Vernon, Alabama was definitely the place to be!

Here are some quotes from a few of the artists about Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend:

Gospel Music Talent Search. Thirteen incredibly talented contestants competed for a grand prize package that included a studio recording package with Studio 115A, advertising with SGNScoops Magazine, and song promotion to national radio by Hey Y'all Media. The title of the 2016 M.A.C. Records Gospel Music Talent Search Winner went to the group, Purpose, from Russellville, Alabama.

Thank you Vernon, Alabama! Already looking forward to 2017! Be blessed.- Rocky and Gail Smith

I am so thankful to have been a part of such a worthy event which focused on sharing the love of Jesus Christ through testimony and song! Met so many wonderful people and was blessed to be a part of helping as two people came to know Christ as their personal Savior! Can't wait til next year! – Debbie Bennett



I just want to say thank you for an amazing weekend in Vernon. It was so refreshing and fun too. I feel like it was a little taste of Heaven. We got to sit around and sing praises together to our Wonderful Savior and King! Thanks again! – Kenny Gardner



What an awesome time we had at Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend! Souls saved and all artists rejuvenated! A big thank you for allowing me to be a part. Can't wait till next year to see what God has in store! – Ava Kasich

We had a fantastic time in Vernon and are so thankful to all the artists that joined us and the people that came out for the concerts and the talent search. It was just a fun weekend and we can't wait to do it again next year! – Dennis and Leslie McKay

The dates have already been set for the 2017 Vernon Alabama's Gospel Music Weekend and plans are being made to return to Vernon on September 8th and 9th. Mark your calendar and we hope to see you there! For more information, visit the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/macnightofworship) or email info@macrecords.net.

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MARK BISHOP LIVE



By Paige Givens

On Sunday night, September 4, 2016, Mark Bishop was in concert at Mount Zion Baptist Church, a congregation in Warrior, Alabama, just north of Birmingham. The intimate gathering of around 200 made for a comfortable exchange between the artist and the audience throughout the entire night.

Mark Bishop is a Gospel singer and songwriter whose musical roots trace back to summer evenings of porch-singing in Irvine, Kentucky, surrounded by family harmonies. Starting out over 30 years ago in Gospel music as part of the renowned Bishop Family, Mark embarked on a solo career in 2001.

As a solo artist, Mark's work has taken him to the top of numerous charts, publications, nominations, and awards across the music industry. He has sung on stages from sold-out venues to spotlights on television appearances. He has shared from the Main Stage of The National Quartet Convention to the worn floors of humble country churches.

No matter where he is, no matter how large or small the crowd, one thing remains the same with Mark Bishop: He is a master storyteller who shares the story of Jesus in a most extraordinary way, and he does it through song. He says of Gospel music, "It can be a medicine in a person's life. God uses it to heal people."

Sunday night at Mount Zion was no different—the musical medicine flowed freely, and so did the healing. Mark began

the evening with several songs sung back to back. Muscles began to relax, toes began to tap, and hands began to clap as he shared his original songs: "I'm Listening for the Call," a song about the promise of Heaven, and "I'm Gonna Make It If I Can," a reminder that with God's help, we can press on through our circumstances and "make it" like Job and Moses in the Bible.

Mark went on to sing some of his "four-minute sermons," as he described them, songs that are rich in story and—yes—theology. "Let Me Tell You What He Did for Me," a testimonial, describes the amazing grace of our Lord while "You Can't Ask Too Much of My God," reminded us once again of God's faithfulness in biblical times and how it extends to us today.

"One Drop of Blood Became a River," is a powerful song that definitely touched the hearts of the audience Sunday night. Upon hearing the truth of God's sacrifice for our sins sung in such a powerful way, the listeners couldn't help but praise the Lord. The atmosphere definitely shifted from one of appreciative listening and even interaction to one of worship and praise.

The wonderful night continued with Mark's song "I Got Here as Fast as I Could," which tells the story of a brother who loses his twin early in life, suffers with his wife through her miscarriage later in life, and even later bids his wife an earthly farewell as she passes on to Heaven. The shift in the story comes when the man himself enters the gates of



says that he is responding to our Lord, the Great I Am.

As the concert came to a close, Mark had the audience on their feet in worship to God as he sang the powerful ballad “My Name is Jesus,” a song about the resurrection of Christ on Easter morning. And then, just when it seemed the night would be over, he led the congregation in a sweet time of a cappella hymn singing.

Heaven. With this shift came the tears and elation of the audience at Mount Zion, as listeners experienced the joy of the brother as he reunited with his twin, his wife, and his child for eternity.

Though the night continued on with more wonderful songs and stories, the concert truly felt as if it only lasted a few minutes, and the audience would’ve stayed for hours longer. Mark shared “Let Me Perfectly Honest,” “Let God Be God,” and “Your Easter Sunday is on Its Way.” He had the audience in stitches with his song “Bottled Water,” a fun song about the reality of our society paying to drink water in a bottle.



Through his artful storytelling, his faithful “sermon” sharing, and his friendly personality, Mark Bishop led his audience to the throne of worship to a holy God on Sunday night. While the music, laughter, and tears flowed, so did the medicine to the soul. It was truly a wonderful, healing experience.



Mark shared songs from his newest project, a family venture that includes daughters Courtney Isaacs and Haley Bishop. The self-titled debut is *Mark Bishop and Forget the Sea*. He sang two songs from the new album. “Pick Me Up and Carry Me” is a folksy, upbeat number that you couldn’t help but clap and tap to. “You Are, You Are,” is a worshipful, earthy ballad full of imagery that was so vivid, listeners could see the picture painted by the words.

Mark reiterated that when Moses asked the Lord what He should say to the Egyptians and Israelites in the days of old, God replied, “I Am Who I Am,” and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I Am has sent me to you,’” (Exodus 3:14). When he sings “You Are, You Are,” Mark

An advertisement for MyGospelMusic.TV. The background is a bright yellow-orange gradient. At the top, the text "MyGospelMusic.TV" is written in a large, bold, yellow font. Below it, "Most Unique Online Store Of Gospel Music" is written in a smaller, white font. In the center, there is a photograph of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue top, singing into a microphone. She has a joyful expression. To the right of the woman, the text "EZ KEY" is written in a large, stylized font, with "Accompaniment Tracks" written below it. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with the text "KARAOKE GOSPEL HITS" in white. Below the banner, the text "Classic Southern Gospel & Christian Country" is written in a large, white font.

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The Editor's Last Word

By Lorraine Walker

It is October and the leaves are turning and the pumpkins are getting yellow. Happy Fall and Happy Thanksgiving to our Canadian friends. It was good to see a lot of friends from both sides of the border at the National Quartet Convention last month and I'm sure we'll see many of you again at the end of this month at Creekside Gospel Music Convention.

I hope you have enjoyed this issue of SGNScoops and I'm sure you have read each article as you made your way through the magazine. I would like to know what you think! Do you like what you are reading and the artists we are featuring? We trust there is something for everyone but we are certainly open to your comments and suggestions. Write me today at lorraine@sgnscoops.com.

Around this time of year, as the hours of sunlight grow fewer and the days are cooler, many people begin to feel a dampening of their spirits as well. Seasonal Affective Disorder is like a hammer, pounding on the mental health of many. They need hope; a hope that brings them through the dark days outside and inside, a hope that brings a deep

joy that abides through happiness and sorrow. The music we promote has that story of hope and we trust you see that in the pages of this issue. Even more, the Word of God has the Hope we all need when things are tough.

I have been reading a daily devotional this year that centers on restoring hope to those who have suffered loss. There is a different focus every week, and each day brings a separate portion of Scripture to help the reader understand hope from God's point of view. So often when we suffer any kind of loss or heartbreak, we center our thoughts on ourselves and look for pity and affirmation from others. However, Jesus tells us to pick up our cross daily and follow Him. How do we follow Him? By doing what He did: Caring for others.

I hope that as this season flows into the holiday weeks ahead that you will focus on others and exchange self-pity for selflessness. Let's be aware of others who may be hurting and give them the hope, love and joy that can only be found in Jesus Christ.

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



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.



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



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

Contributors

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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 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 and her ministry website 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

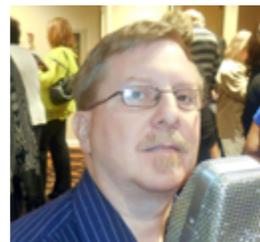
released her second CD, Keep on Prayin', July 2012 and has opened for many of the Gaither Homecoming Artists. Additionally, Sherry Anne helps lead worship and drama at her church. For more information, visit: www.SherryAnne.com.



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 KKGK 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.

Contributors

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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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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 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.

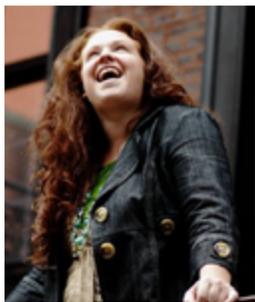


Bethany Cook is a 26-year-old from the great state of North Carolina. In her early years, Bethany grew up on the road as the daughter of an evangelist. In her teen years, the family came off the road and made their home in Burlington, NC where her father is now a pastor. Being an avid Southern Gospel 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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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.



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.



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.



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.

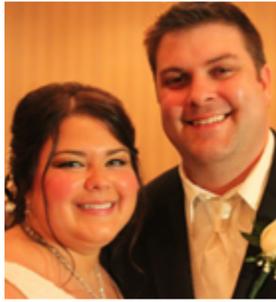


Jaquita Lindsey holds the alto position for the Southern Gospel group 11th Hour. The group was originally based out of Monroe, LA but recently relocated to Hendersonville, TN. She comes from the small town of Camden, AR. She is also a licensed cosmetologist. In her spare time, she enjoys being crafty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

Contributors

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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.



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.



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.

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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. To learn more about Fayth's blog, visit www.truepurposegirls.weebly.com.