JUNE 2022

MAGAZINE



BOOTH BROTHERS

PURE HARMONY THE SNEED GIRLS

GOSPEL HARMONY BOYS











For more information, bookings and music visit www.thehyssongs.com CHECK OUT OUR SCHEDULE IN THE PERSONAL APPEARANCES SECTION TO SEE OUR MAY DATES!



Table of Contents

5	Publisher's Point
7	DJ Spotlight with Chris Fritz
10	The Booth Brothers by Rachel Harris
15	Beyond the Song: Sneed Girls by Jantina Baksteen
20	Pure Harmony by Charlie Griffin
26	Heart of Worship by Toni M. Walker
29	SGNScoops Gospel Music Top 100
32	SGNScoops Bluegrass Gospel Top 10
32	SGNScoops Christian Country Top 40
35	Gospel Harmony Boys by Robert York
39	Readers Room: Give Yourself Some Grace Reviewed by Melina Pylant
41	On Center Stage: Shellem Cline by Jimmy Reno
46	Courage for this Hour by Jacqueline Arnold
49	Readers Room Part 2: Life on the Altar Reviewed by Melina Pylant

Our Mission

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

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52 Contributors

Have a SCOOP to share? For news consideration, email us at

news@sgnscoops.com



JUSTIFIED QUARTET















FOR BOOKING INFORMATION CONTACT:



PUBLISHER'S

POINT



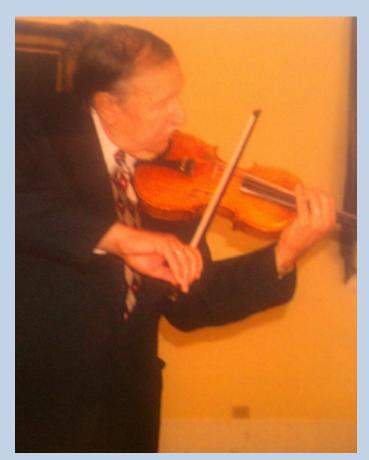
In the month of June, more so than in any other month of the year, my mind focuses in on Dads. June was not only Father's Day, but it was also my dad's birthday.

I was blessed with an incredible father who taught me about life and God's love on a daily basis. I remember when I was five years old, I was frustrated because I couldn't hit the ball the way the major league players could. So, with the love only a dad could show, he put me on the top of his brand new car, shoes and all, and

pitched the ball to me so that I could hit it farther. In that moment, he was only interested in giving me what I needed: confidence.

As a preacher's kid I was often the object lesson of my dad's sermons. My dad told one particular story on a regular basis. Evidently when I was about two years old, he would call after me to come. But instead of coming towards him, he would see a head of little blonde curls running the opposite direction. He would explain how instead of us coming to God when he calls us, we will run the other direction – either because we do not want to face what God is asking us to do or we do not want to face the correction God is making in our lives.

Our Heavenly Father loves us so much that he sent his son to die for us. If you're a Father, can you imagine sacrificing your child for someone who doesn't even like you? Well, that's what God did. And beyond that, he shows His love for us each day by giving us the beauty in creation, the confidence through a kind word or action, direction for each day of our life, encouragement to press on, and He not only meets



every need we have but gives us an abundance.

Even though my father, perhaps like many of yours, has passed on, I am glad each day for his example of Christ's love. And now, I have been blessed to be given another dad in my life in my father-in-law, and I get to see how he loves and gives to his children and grandchildren.

This Father's Day, we want to wish all our readers who are dads a very Happy Father's Day. And if you don't have children, be a father figure to someone around you by showing the love of God.

Join us June 30-July 2 in Branson, Missouri, at the Stone Castle Conference Center, and in Cave City, Kentucky, August 11-13, at the Cave City Convention Center for some special gospel music events and be a part of our audience for an Abundant TV filming. If you aren't watching Abundant TV yet, you can find us free on Roku, Amazon Fire, Apple TV, or take us with you by downloading our app to your favorite mobile device. We also hope to see you this fall for Creekside Gospel Music Convention, October 23-27 in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Due to the rising gas prices, we will continue to offer free general admission to any guest who would like



to come and receive a love offering to help offset our cost for the event. And as always, weekly VIP passes will be available for just \$30 (preorder) or \$35 (at the door) to receive a special gift and preferred seating. Please call or text me at 425-754-1147 for more information or to purchase your VIPs.

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



DJ Spotlight

Chris Fritz

Chris Fritz is the go-to guy to get your morning started off right if you're a New Life Radio listener (WCLC 105.1/WGSN 90.7 Jamestown and Newport, Tennessee). This morning show DJ does more than just spin some tunes – he hopes to encourage his listeners with the truth about Jesus Christ.

SCOOPS: Tell us about yourself:

CHRIS FRITZ: I am 51, have a wife, and two kids (ages 12 and 9). I also teach at a Christian School and do some work for my church. I am pursuing a master's degree in Seminary currently. I grew up in Kingsport, Tennessee, but moved to Jamestown, Tennessee 20 years ago for ministry reasons.

SCOOPS: How did you get into radio?

CF: When I moved to Jamestown in 2001, one of the jobs I was asked to do was radio. I started working as a DJ for the first time then and I have been doing it ever since. I love Southern Gospel music, both the classic stuff and the new stuff as well. I really enjoy the morning shift. I like the idea that I am helping people get going in the morning! Yes, I am a morning person.

SCOOPS: If you could interview anyone in history, who would it be and why?

CF: Well, I would have to say Jesus, I mean, come on! Not just His life on earth but I could ask Him questions about creating the universe! And, hey, wouldn't you like to know if He ever played a prank on the disciples?! Lol

SCOOPS: When people listen to your radio show, what are two things you want them to take away from their time with you on the radio?



by Scoops Staff

CF: That's tough to narrow it to two. I want them to be encouraged both through the music itself and the message of truth that it carries. The message has such robust meaning for so much of life compared to the emptiness found in secular music. Similar to that, I want to inform them or remind them that Christianity really is true and God and His Word (and what It says about Jesus) are the foundation to build, not just their life on, but the very day they are listening – those are the foundation for this very day. I think the sound of Southern Gospel is a great vehicle for the best message in the world.

SCOOPS: Tell us a story about an artist or a fan who has impacted your life because of your time in southern gospel radio:

CF: Well, I can't just name one song or artist, but many have impacted me for sure. But I am reminded of a day a listener called and told me how the Ken Hamm spots we play every day during the morning shift had totally changed his thinking and, thus, his life. I was blown away by that and it reminded me how important Christian radio is. Unlike just playing songs or telling a joke, which you can get from secular radio, the things we DJ's say, the songs we play, and the ministry spots or programs we air each day hold the potential to impact someone's life in a major way, through the power of Christ! Now isn't that a pretty cool job?!



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NEW ALBUM from the WILLIAMSONS

"Above Everything" is the Williamsons' debut album on the REAL Southern Gospel Records label!

Featuring 14 powerful songs from the top writers in Southern Gospel music, such as, **Kyla Rowland**, **Gerald Crabb**, and **Dave Clark**, Plus, multiple songs penned by **Lisa Williamson**.

Above Everything was produced by Les Butler and features Nashville's top, award-winning players, Johnny Brown, Brent Mason, Milton Smith, Kris Krunk, Matt Butler, Andy Leftwich, and the late Robb Tripp!



"The Williamsons are everything you want in a mixed Southern Gospel group...They check all of the boxes as a group and this album checks all of the boxes for a monumental Southern Gospel recording!" -Les Butler, Real Southern Gospel Records



"...I'm sitting here a bucket of tears listening to "*The Story*."

I can't thank you enough for not only cutting the song, but the passion in the vocals. You blessed this old songwriter's heart tonight."

-Dave Clark, Multi-award-winning songwriter

COMMENTS FROM 4 1/2 STAR REVIEW FROM JAMES HALES, ABSOLUTELY GOSPEL

"...it was refreshing hearing a recording with 14 songs on it, and each song making a strong statement both musically and lyrically; definitely one of the best so far for 2022!"

"The Williamsons, despite changes in their vocal line-up, have put together an excellent recording filled with powerful songs that will definitely make an impact to the listener."

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The Booth Brothers were first formed in 1957 by four Brothers Ron Booth, Sr., Charles Booth, James Booth, and Wallace Booth. The group was disbanded in 1963 and then reformed in 1990 by Ron Booth, Sr., an original member, and two of his sons Michael and Ronnie Booth. Ronnie Booth left the group in mid 2021, and the group is currently made up of Michael Booth, Buddy Mullins and Jim Brady.

Although the group has gone through a few changes over the years most members have been with the group for several years. Michael Booth explained, "Ronnie sang with the group for 32 years! Jim Brady was here 12 and a half years and is now back with the group, and Paul was with us for 7 years. So to have two personnel changes in one year is quite exceptional for this group." According to Michael, "God has assembled the right men at

the right time to proceed and the work continues very effectively (to this day)."

Rachel Harris: What is it like to be a Booth Brother at this time during the Booth Brothers history?

Michael Booth: This season is one of excitement and joy. Every man on this team is having a great time and we are very fulfilled by the effectiveness of the whole.

RH: Are you working on a project or have you just completed one? Do you have any new single releases?

MB: We are re-releasing an album titled Take Another Step. Jim Brady went in to record his part, and we also replaced two songs with three new cuts



that fit this combination better. Next we will start our first album for StowTown Records.

RH: What concerts or events are you looking forward to over the summer or in the future?

MB: October 10-13 will be the Booth Brothers retreat. Ronnie and Paul will be joining us. Having all five of us on stage together is a wonderful experience.

RH: What do you think the future looks like for the Booth Brothers?

MB: I am getting close to not thinking very far out. The way the world is changing so quickly has caused me to view things in a much closer way. So we will look to the next concert and the next group of songs then see what God is up to. It's actually very liberating.

RH: The Booth Brothers are considered an American Southern Gospel trio. Would you consider your group Southern Gospel?

MB: When we started singing we sang in Fundamental Baptist Churches. We served that audience with the music that would speak to them. That led us to a recording contact in the SG world and

promoters from the same. So we continued to serve the people that we were placed in front of. The definition of Southern Gospel is too loose and wide for me to sign off on. It could mean anything from mountain music to contemporary. I will leave the definition of what we are up to someone else.

As Michael stated, Southern Gospel isn't exactly what it used to be. The definition of Southern Gospel now

includes many different musical styles. The Booth Brothers are not worried about whatever title is placed on their musical style; they are concerned with their service for the Lord.

The group was recently at Singing in the Sun by Abraham Productions at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Let me tell you they were real, they were fresh, their vocals were dynamic, their message was clear. They are not there to simply entertain, they are on stage to proclaim the name of Christ.

When asked what his most memorable concert has been throughout the years Michaels answer was somewhat unexpected to me. He said, "I would say it was the very first time I sang with Ronnie and our Dad. We had no idea what was starting. It was just a simple song in a small church for a simple Sunday service. The innocence of it still speaks to me."

Songs in general have the ability to harness the power of messages, memories and emotion and release them to the listener. An old song can take us back to a simpler time and remind us of more than familiar lyrics and melody. A song can help us relive the past.

As I was looking at the albums and projects that The Booth Brothers have done over the years my eyes stopped on the title of the CD called Room for More. Then I stumbled across one of their older songs called "Faithful One". I asked Michael to tell me about what inspired the song. He explained: "That goes back a long way. Simple answer is God is always faithful. The promises that are kept are the ones He makes. Jim Brady wrote that song and did a fantastic job joining the fun of the music with the hope found in God's faithfulness."

This simple yet powerful lyrics spoke to my heart:

He'll always do what He's always done

He's the faithful One

We're in His care whatever comes

He's the faithful One

Protector, Provider, Sustainer, God's Son

I'm standing on His promises

He's the faithful One

God is always faithful. In the middle of this journey He also showers us with blessings. Michael described some of the ways God has blessed him. "God made the voices and created the notes. He allows me to be used by Him to love on people He created and died for. That is a blessing. Acknowledging, agreeing and proclaiming God for who He is and what His Word says about Him is the highest

form of worship and exaltation."

It's that straightforward childlike faith -- that lack of questioning God -- that gives Michael his drive to serve the Lord. We all need to trust the Lord with that type of Faith and we all need to remember that Jesus loves every single person and that he died for every single one of us. Keeping that in perspective will help all Christians to serve the Lord with gladness in our hearts.

So what does ministry mean to the Booth Brothers? According to Michael, "Our focus is on theological truth in song and spoken word. After that, it is the work of the Holy Spirit to minister to the people on an individual level. It's always fascinating to see how God uses what we so uniquely share in each listener's life."

On their website, www.boothbrothers.com, I was genuinely excited to see a statement of faith. The Booth Brothers just tell it like it is. I love how upfront they are about their faith and their service to the Lord. My favorite one of their statements of Faith says this: "We believe that living the Christian life is not about a religion of rules but rather a relationship with Jesus Christ. The strength of this relationship will dictate the degree to which we are willing to pursue a life that is pleasing to God."

For the Booth Brothers, it comes down to one simple concept: Simply trust Him. And one way that we can learn to trust in the Lord is by the reading of his Word. So you may be wondering what some of Michael Booth's favorite Bible verses are. Maybe they are some of your favorite verses as well. Michael said, "I could fill up the pages with Scripture verses I like. Proverbs 3:5-6, John 17, Psalm 139 to



name a few."

Whether it's the Booth Brothers on stage or you at your home speaking with a family member or neighbor, share the message of Christ and simply trust him. Michael Booth said it this way,

"I am not responsible for the results once a Biblical truth has been proclaimed. I always try to remember to serve the people God has placed us in front of. We make music for them and not for our own personal likes."

How do we reach the younger generations? Michael responded, "I am not going to try and figure this one out. The fact of the matter is our genre of music has always lent itself towards a more senior audience. The subject matter in our songs speaks to people with more years for the most part. It's a music that people typically grow into. I am also very content to serve this group of people. Each generation should have someone to encourage them. Someone who knows how to speak their language and connect. My skill set speaks to a mature audience and I could not be more grateful for the privilege of serving this group of people. I want them to know that we do not view them as fans. We view them as individual people with needs who are friends and family. We hope God will use our music to encourage them right where they are."

The Booth Brothers not only recognize their niche but also their primary audience and love serving them by ministering to them through song. But the Booth Brothers do not stop with just encouraging the believers. For the unbelievers that come to the concerts, Michael wants them to know that God is seen in every aspect of creation. "Creation shouts the existence of God and He can be known through the Bible. It's amazing that the One who spoke an immeasurable universe into existence can be found in the pages of a small book."

To the Booth Brothers the message of Christ is "eternal hope, joy, peace, power, contentment, freedom, security and everlasting life."

If you read between the lines the message of the Booth Brothers is clear: they don't have all the answers, they love serving the Lord and are happy and excited with the place God has them in right now . The Booth Brothers are excited to serve the audience that God has blessed them with and they invite you to know and enjoy a relationship with Christ in every lyric, every song and in every moment.

Have you trusted in Jesus as your Savior and the Lord of your life? If not, what are you waiting for? The Bible clearly states that today is the day of salvation and does not promise tomorrow or even our next breath. I invite you now as the Booth Brothers do at their concerts that you would come to know the Christ that they know and have built their lives upon. You can see the difference in them and Jesus can create in you a new and clean heart. I invite you today to simply trust Him!

Booking Information for Booth Brothers is:

The Harper Agency

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Goodlettsville, TN 37070

Phone: 615-851-4500

Email: info@harperagency.com

Website: www.harperagency.com











This month we had the opportunity to sit down with a fabulous young group known as The Sneed Girls. We hope you enjoy this behind the scenes look as we go beyond the song.

JANTINA BAKSTEEN: Tell us a little bit about who you are.

SNEED GIRLS: Hello, my name is Katelynn Sneed. At 24, I am the oldest of the group. I am the organizer and business brains behind the group. I organize, manage (or "boss," since I am the older member?), as well as do a lot of the "behind the scenes" type work for our group. Although I don't write songs, I do help out in the song "editing" process. I tell Abigail and Lydia what sounds good and what sounds awful.

Hi, my name is Abigail Sneed (but you can call me Abbi). I am the middle child and I am 20 years old. I am the songwriter of the group and have written many songs. The 3 songs I have written for our

Victorious album are "Victorious", "In Heaven", and "Go". My goal is to play every instrument – I can play piano, guitar, and mandolin now.

Hey, my name is Lydia Sneed. I am the baby of the group at 16 years old. I am the harmony arranger of the group. Although I don't talk very much, I help wrangle my other two sisters in. Someone has to keep them in check! I also have helped Abigail wrIte a few songs (which have not been released yet. I can play the piano, and a little bit of mandolin. Together as the Sneed Girls, our goal is to spread the love of Jesus to any and every one that will hear it. We hope that through each and every song, lives will be changed and souls saved.

We are so excited to announce that we have been working on a new album called Victorious. We recently just released a single for our original song called "In Heaven". It was written by Abigail Sneed. She wrote it when she was 17 years old after 10



people we knew (and 2 of our family's dogs) passed away all in one month. It was written to give hope to those who have lost loved ones and to those who are struggling with grief. Our goal is to show that even in trials, heartbreak, grief, and death, hope can always be found in Jesus. That was the theme of our single and our theme for our album that will be releasing soon.

JB: Could you share some information about your journey towards starting the group?

SG: Honestly, we started singing as soon as we could talk! Our mom put us on a stage and handed us a microphone when we were 2 years old, and we went from there. Since our grandpa and our dad are Baptist pastors, we grew up singing in church all of our lives. Being related to pastors meant that we were involved in a lot of events in and outside the church. We have visited shut-ins and sang songs to encourage them, as well having sung at so many funerals. We have probably sang at every funeral home in our county, to be completely honest with you. Our

parents also started a Christian School in 2012 called Galilee Christian Academy, so we did a lot of singing and playing for the choir at that school. Before our dad became a pastor, he evangelized and we sang at the different churches he went to. At this time, we did not really imagine ourselves as being "Gospel singers." We just sang when and where we were needed. Around 2017, Abigail started writing songs. Once people heard them, they became really interested in our music. They started asking us for CDs. We even had someone say they would really love to hear what we sounded like in a professional music studio. Fast forward to 2021 and we got to do that! We would say, we started to get serious about our music and our potential to be Gospel Singers in 2020. We had no idea what we were doing (and still don't, haha) or what we were getting into. God is opening doors (and shutting some) and we are following Him through the open ones. We are just following the Leader.

JB: What are your musical Influences?

SG: Since we are from the South, we have a more country sound. We have family that has deep ties to





the Bluegrass style music. We have a family member that has won multiple awards for both Bluegrass and guitar, and also taught Abigail the guitar. That definitely helped us set our base style of music. Also another influence we had was the music our mom played all our life. Our mom would play JOYFM in the car all the time, and we knew it was a cleaning day when that would play through the house at 7 am. As we got older, KLOVE and more contemporary style music started to be an influence for us. We would say our style of music is neither strictly Bluegrass nor contemporary, but a mixture of the two.

JB: Is there a road story to tell that will stay with you for a long long time?

SG: For Katelynn and Lydia this is their most memorable road story:

When we went to do the actual singing for our new album Victorious, we also decided to try to squeeze in getting the pictures for the album too (not a good

idea, haha). We wanted to get our pictures taken at a place called The Pretty Place in South Carolina. We tried to get there before the sun went down, but by the time we got there it was too dusky for good CD pictures.

Well, we were bummed out by that big time. We had an hour or so ride back down an unfamiliar mountain in the dark to our hotel in Asheville, North Carolina. Our dad drove us down the mountain and through the city of Asheville. We got to the city at a time it was getting kind of sketchy and we were not familiar with the roads. Well, our dad was trying to follow the GPS and it told him to turn right at a crossroads. Well, he did, and as soon as he did we were staring into about 4 pairs of headlights!!! It was honestly hilarious. We're serious, the way those cars came slowly to a stop and just looked at us like we were crazy was hilarious. He had to back up to get back to where he needed to be. The funny thing is, if those cars would not have stared us down, we would have traveled that road going the wrong way. We would have kept driving, and wondering why all the signs were backwards. Moral of the story...don't drive in unfamiliar roads and towns at night!

Abigail's most memorable road story was when we went to our first concert where we were performing. There was a man there that knew every single one of our songs on a CD we had just released. He said that one of our songs actually kept him from committing suicide. He said the song Abigail had written had given him so much hope that he decided to continue living. He actually came to our concert just a few days later. The pastor had given him a free copy of his own personal CD and told him to listen to it, that it would help him during his dark time. He cried during every single song, and laughed during the concert at everything we said, which we loved! It's a story Abigail will never forget and it motivates her to keep going in music because it changes lives and gives people hope.

JB: What is the message of hope you want to share to those who have no hope and reading your file?

SG: Most people do not know this, but the past 2 years have been REALLY hard for us. We have had all kinds of trials we have had to get through. This is the 100% truth. We have had to fight the devil really hard to get this Victorious CD project done. Things

you wouldn't even think of we have had to overcome. We've had deaths, discouragement, and completely hopeless days. Days where all you can really do is cry. We have almost had a little sampler of suffering. To be honest it's been a terrible two years. However, God allowed us to live through every single song on the album, and because of that, we can testify that they are so true. God has also provided us glimpses of hope during the suffering. You just have to be willing to look for them. You must rely on God to get you through, and you just have to keep going, leaning on Him day by day. He WILL get you through, even if you don't feel it at the time. You have to remember (and sometimes remember to remember) that as long as you have Jesus, you are ALWAYS victorious. That is our entire theme for our album. God reminded Abigail of this message while she was walking her dog outside. Two weeds had blown over in the wind and had formed a cross. Through something as simple as weeds in a horse pasture, God gave us a message of hope, not only for us, but for whoever listens to our music. We believe that no matter what has happened, is happening, or will happen, God will get you through it. BECAUSE OF JESUS, WE ARE ALL VICTORIOUS - and don't forget it.

JB: Where do you see yourselves ministry-wise or personally in 5 years?

SG: Honestly, our answer is wherever God wants us to go. We would love to be able to do this music ministry professionally, so we can fully focus on it. Our prayer is that God will allow us to do this full-time, but at the moment, we are just going day by day, and seeing where He leads us. With God, it is

Greg Sullivan Ministries

"Masterpiece"

#27

Thanks

D9:

always an adventure, so who knows where we will be or what we will be doing in the next 5 years.

They'll be happy to get in contact and share their ministry at your church or event.

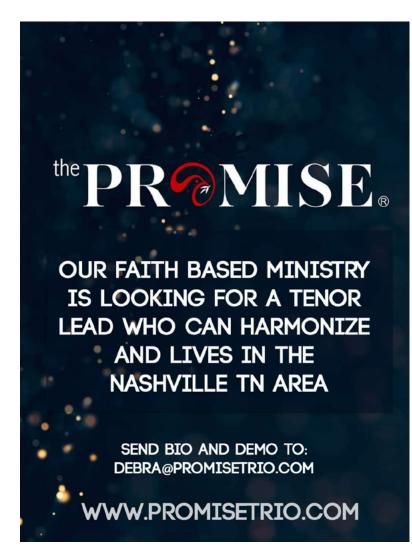
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Written By: Lee Black

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Gospel Music According to the Ladies...Pure Harmony!

By: Charlie Griffin

So often people have this automatic reaction that Southern Gospel music is a group of men singing with a high tenor and low bass parts. Truthfully, the demographics would support that as there are more men traveling than women. Most would assume mixed groups would be the second grouping as women are in the mix. Yet there is an unappreciated segment of gospel music with just the voices of the ladies...just Pure Harmony.

There are many females that have made their mark on gospel music. These icons include Vestal Goodman, Dottie Rambo, Mom Speer, Lily Fern Weatherford, Eva Mae LeFevre, Connie Hopper and the list goes on. All of these women were part of mixed or family singing groups.

Over the years, there is a different collection highlighting the talents of the ladies. Many all-female groups made their marks in our genre of music as shown through our music history.

From Atlanta, Georgia, the Harmonettes toured extensively singing throughout the south in the sixties, seventies and early eighties. Barbara, Merle and Sue were staples in camp meetings and churches. Their LPs were played often on Christian radio. Many Baptist pastors were quick to recommend them for revivals, concerts and special association events. Smooth harmonies with classic arrangements were their trademarks.

From Alabama, starting in the mid-fifties, The Johnson Sisters (known as the Sweethearts of Gospel Music), embraced a style unlike any other gospel groups of their day. Although their sound was uniquely their own, they were often compared to the popular McGuire Sisters. The original group consisted of Mary, Margaret, Judy and Anna Johnson, daughters of L.C. and Maedeen Johnson. Margaret was seven years younger than Mary. The youngsters in the group, Judy and Anna, are twins born about a year after Margaret. The sisters recorded their first album on the Sing label when the twins were at the ripe old age of nine! "The Sweethearts of Gospel Music" soon became one of the





best-selling albums in the Sing catalogue. At the time, Mary was the pianist and arranger, Margaret sang the low contralto part, Judy supplied the alto, and Anna sang a beautiful soprano.

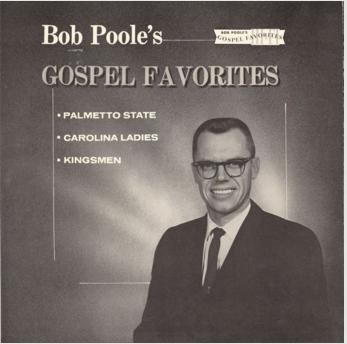
Greta Campbell was saved at the age of fifteen on July 13, 1946, and she joined the Sandy Springs (SC) Pentecostal Holiness Church in 1947. In the following years, whenever possible, Greta and her brother, Arthur, would travel to wherever their sister, Evangelist Inez Campbell, was conducting revivals and join her in singing and worship.

By 1951, Greta knew God was calling her into the ministry. In that same year, Pat Welch, a gifted pianist and singer, joined Greta and they became a team, ministering in many churches throughout mostly the southeast.

In 1961, Ramona Ready from Mobile, Alabama, joined Greta and Pat and they formed the Greta Campbell Trio, which became known primarily as an evangelistic music group. They traveled across the country ministering in Word and song until 1973, during which time they recorded eleven long play albums. In later years, Greta's brother, William (Willie) Campbell became the third person of the trio and they continued singing together until Willie's health no longer allowed him to sing. Greta and Pat had recorded two albums as a duet and then a CD with Willie.

In addition to the revivals, crusades and gospel singings, Campbell is noted as the first host of Niteline on WGGS TV-16, a popular Christian television station in Greenville, South Carolina. The program debuted in 1972. She continued hosting Niteline on Thursday evenings for 43 years until 2016.

Throughout the broadcast time of Bob Poole's Gospel Favorites Television program, the Carolina Ladies remained an anchor on his shows. From the very beginning the Carolina Ladies carried the torch singing traditional quartet style gospel music. They were also regulars on radio and Poole's vinyl recordings in the 1960's. Bob Poole quipped, "They are always nagging at me til I get it right."



At an early age, three sisters – Sharon, Judy and Linda Peck – began harmonizing with the music on the radio while listening to the Blackwood Brothers, winners on the Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout show from New York City. Over time the Peck Sisters were also known as the Sunshine Sisters. For seven years the California based trio toured full time sharing their brand of gospel music. In later years Judy





married Rex Nelon and now owns the Judy Nelon Group, a PR marketing company based in Nashville, Tennessee.

Shorty Bradford is known as a gospel singer and character associated with LeRoy Abernathy. Yet his wife carried a female trio named after their

marriage. Jean Bradford shared, "After working with Homeland Harmony and LeRoy Abernathy, the Shorty Bradford trio was formed. It was Shorty, Lorena Jones (Shorty's cousin) and me. Sue Gray played the piano. Shorty loved this trio because of the personal, spiritual touch."

The Bradfords had three children, a boy and two girls. Their son Marshall (14) died in 1966 because of an accident at school. Shorty was still making TV shows with the Happy Two but had a heart attack in 1967. He never quite recovered from Marshall's death. Shorty died from a subsequent heart attack in 1969. After Shorty's death, Jean started an evangelistic singing ministry with their girls, Carolyn and Louise, shortening the name to the Bradford Trio. Jean is also noted as an accomplished songwriter. The Speers, Cathedrals, Gold City Gaither's, Jerry Goff and others have recorded her songs.

The Ballew Sisters were staples in the 60's with several recordings to their credit on Skylite and LeFevre Sound records. The sisters were popular in the recording studio as back up vocalists in addition to their concert schedule.





In 1967 the Ballew Sisters were featured on the Skylite Cavalcade television program. A.O. Stinson was the producer with production by Hal Smith Television productions. They were also represented by the Skylite Talent Agency with manager Eufaula Cain. Many compared their sound to McGuire sisters. Yet in many instances that comparison is made to most female trios of the time.



In recent times all female artists have emerged in the last 30 years as combinations of individual talents merging to form all female groups. Heirloom was such a group, a studio group for all practical purposes. The original group consisted of Sheri Easter, Tanya Goodman Sykes and Candy Hemphill. When Sheri Easter left the group Barbara Fairchild took that slot. Five recorded projects are to their credit with a loyal following still today.



There are a few artists that are currently creating waves as all female touring artists. Sisters (formerly known as the Ruppes) continue to be innovative in their songs, staging and performance. These sisters began their music ministry before they were out of elementary school, along with parents Leo and Brenda Ruppe. It was in 1974, when Kim was nine and Heather was eight, the two daughters and Brenda began singing as The Ruppes. Valerie was also a part of the ministry at the early age of four. As with all things there were changes, yet the door for them came full circle to sing together as Sisters and they are loving every minute of it. Today the Sisters are traveling all over the country sharing their dynamic harmonies and deep love for Christ. Their magic on stage in combination with incredible songs and amazing harmonies is absolutely unstoppable.

The Perry Sisters are one of the true consistent mainline all female artists touring today. With twenty-five recordings and thirty-four top forty hit songs to their credit their history is rich. Their musical legacy began more than 42 years ago when three sisters from Huntington, West Virginia, Diana, Bonnie, and Carol began their journey. The Perry Sisters made their first national TV appearance in the late eighties on the PTL Network, which launched their career in a new direction. In 1990 Bonnie and



Carol retired from the road. Diana had the desire to continue what the three sisters had begun. In 1992 Diana signed with Sonlite Records, so the vacant positions were filled with other family members. The Perry Sisters bring a unique gift into the mix that contributes to a rich family heritage that has stood the test of time.

In today's gospel music world, there are several other groups that are receiving critical acclaim. High Road, Sacred Calling, Sweetwater Revival, Point Of Grace, the Hall Sisters are among the hot artists on radio, television and in concerts. Most hold true to the original foundations of southern gospel music. Others shine with their country/ bluegrass stylings, while many artists can bridge the gap with contemporary worship music.

But there are more artists that are getting their foot in the door too. Three For Thee, Exodus, The Bowling Sisters, Lori Jonathan Trio among others are making waves as all female artists.

Each of these artists now and then possess and share their talents excellently. They offer unique stylings, interpretations and deliver a positive polished program on any stage at any time. When you take a moment to listen, you will quickly find there is none better than the gospel music according to these ladies. Just listen closely and hear their Pure Harmony.







"JOY IS A FANTASTIC SINGER, AND BROKEN TO BEAUTIFUL IS AN AMAZING RECORD! SHE KNOCKED IT OUT OF THE PARK! WHAT FABULOUS SONGS AND PLAYERS. A MUST HAVE FOR GOSPEL MUSIC FANS!!"

- LES BUTLER

"WORKING WITH JOY WAS SUCH A BLESSING. SHE IS A STELLAR SINGER
AND A GENUINE CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE. SHE SINGS GREAT
SONGS THAT TOUCH THE HEART!"
- PHIL CROSS



Have you ever just had one of those weeks? Everything that can go wrong does. You are pulled in ten different directions at once and even though your days are filled to overflowing, you just don't feel like you are accomplishing anything. That has been my life recently. It's been a tough couple of weeks, and I found myself becoming weary.

So often, we get so caught up in our work, families, and our day-to-day responsibilities that we do not take the time to come into His Presence, to just sit and worship Him, to meditate on the Word of God, to pray, or to offer up our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. When these things are lacking it is easy to become overwhelmed.

Sometimes we need to just stop, be still and know that He is God. We need to stop making our time with God an afterthought, rather, make Him our priority, put Him first – remember our First Love.

Matthew 22:37-38 says this,

"Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment."

In this Scripture we see that the greatest com-

mandment – the most important direction that is given to us – is to love the Lord your God. This is not a suggestion. It requires a deliberate action on our part to put the Lord God above everything; to recognize Him for Who He is and what He has truly done for us.

I want to encourage you to listen for His still small voice; take the time to be in His Presence; and ask the Lord for His guidance and direction as you move through your day.

Remember when you accepted Jesus as your Savior? Remember when you confessed with your mouth that Jesus was Lord and believed in your heart that God raised Him from the dead? At that moment, you were saved. But your salvation, while a gift from God, came at great cost. God sent His only begotten Son to the cross for you and for me. He took upon Himself the sins of the world so that you and I could be reconciled to God. It cost Him everything. Is His sacrifice not worth our worship? It is my friend.

In Isaiah 53:5 we read, "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities..."

I want to challenge you to make Him your priority, put Him first. Ask God to guide your decisions, to guard your heart, your mind, and your mouth. His ways are higher than our ways.

As a worshiper I want to share a song with you that has touched me and helped to renew my mind. "Heart of Worship" by Matt Redman is one of my favorites. I pray that it will touch your heart as well.

Today's Prayer:

Precious Lord,

Thank you for this day. Thank you, O God, for loving me so much, for feeling that I was worth dying for, for saving me, for protecting me, and for providing for my every need. Thank you for those I love and thank You for Your promises, Father. I can never repay you Lord, except to say thank you. I do love you. Thank You for Your mercy and grace. You are so, so good to me.

Father, I confess that I have let the cares of the world take my eyes off of You and I have not always put you first. I know that You have already forgiven me, but today I am saying I am sorry. I want to reignite my passion for You. I long to be in Your Presence, O God. I want to show You how very much I love You Lord, not just for what You have done for me, but for Who You Are. You alone are worthy of

my praise and worship.

Father, You have always been faithful, even when I have strayed, even when I have taken my eyes off of You and looked to the world for answers. I do not want to do that anymore. Without You Lord, I am nothing, I can do nothing.

Today is my turning point. Today, I choose to put You first. Today, I choose to listen for Your voice to guide and direct my steps. And Lord, if for some reason I cannot hear You, I commit to following Your Word and Your Ways. Guide me Lord and show me the way that You want me to go. I am rededicating myself to You. Thank You for taking me just as I am and transforming me into the person You want me to be.

I ask this is the blessed Name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen and Amen.

Thank you for taking the time to read this devotional. Please know that I am praying for you. If you have a personal prayer, send me a private message. Jesus loves you and so do I.

Until next time, should the Lord tarry...blessings to you always.



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SOUTHERN GOSPEL'S OFFICIAL NATIONAL CHART



Position Song Title Artist/Label		
1	ANOMED IC TROUG	KAREN PECK & NEW RIVER/DAYWIND
1 2	ANSWER IS JESUS CHURCH OF THE GREAT I AM	KINGSMEN/CROSSROADS
3	LOOKS LIKE JESUS	BRIAN FREE & ASSURANCE/DAYWIND
4	GOODNESS OF GOD	TRIUMPHANT/STOWTOWN
5	OUT OF HARMS WAY	WILLIAMSONS/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
6	BREATHE IN, BREATHE OUT	GUARDIANS/STOWTOWN
7	MY FEET ARE ON THE ROCK	GAITHER VOCAL BAND/SPRINGHOUSE MUSIC
8	THEN AND THERE	MASTER'S VOICE/INDEPENDENT
9	CHILDREN SING	NELONS/DAYWIND
10	YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN	DOWN EAST BOYS/CROSSROADS
11	YOU ARE MY KING	GREATER VISION/DAYWIND
12	JOHN 3:16 IS CALLING OUT TO YOU	PERRYS/STOWTOWN
13	GRACE AND GODNESS	Sunday Drive/StowTown
14	GOOD GOD ALMIGHTY	OLD PATHS/CROSSROADS
15	I HAVE GOD TO THANK FOR EVERYTHIN	
16	WHAT YOU COULD NEVER GET OVER	KINGDOM HEIRS/CROSSROADS
17	ALL I GOT, ALL I NEED	THE WISECARVERS/CROSSROADS
18	HE'S GOT A WAY	SOUTHBOUND/DAYWIND
19	HE HAS A WAY OF TURNING THE TIDE	CHRONICLE/BUTLER MUSIC GROUP
20	THE WELL	FIELDS OF GRACE/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
21	LONG LIVE OLD TIME RELIGION	OLD TIME PREACHERS QT/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
22	My Jesus	LeFevre Qt/Daywind
23	NOT MY WILL	TRIBUTE QT/DAYWIND
24	ENOUGH FOR ME	LEGACY 5/STOWTOWN
25	I BRING YOU JESUS	THE LORE FAMILY/CROSSROADS
26	HOMELAND	JUSTIFIED QT/BIG PICTURE RECORDS
27	I LOVE HIS LOVE	LANCE DRISKELL/INDEPENDENT
28	I GIVE YOU ME	TIM LIVINGSTON/INDEPENDENT
29	THIS IS THE CHURCH	THE STEELES/STOWTOWN
30	Never Be A Mountain	Hyssongs/Independent
31	GOOD TO BE HOME	Ernie Haase & Signature Sound/StowTown
32	LEAVING ON MY MIND	Kim Hopper/Daywind
33	STANDING ON THE WORD	JOYAIRES/INDEPENDENT
34	LETTERS FROM HEAVEN	11TH HOUR/CROSSROADS
35	STILL STANDING AFTER THE STORM	MARK TRAMMELL QT/CRIMSON ROAD
36	GRANDMA'S PRAYER	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
37	GREATER GOD	KRAMERS/STOWTOWN
38	GONNA TAKE IT AND LEAVE IT	GOLD CITY/SONY MUSIC
39	WHERE THERE'S NO FIRE	DUNAWAYS/INDEPENDENT
40	NEVER AGAIN	LIBERTY QT/INDEPENDENT
41	LIVE FORGIVEN	GORDON MOTE/NEW HAVEN
42	HE NEVER GIVES UP ON ME	MICHAEL BOOTH/DAYWIND
43	JUST A SIMPLE THANK YOU HOMELAND	MARK DUBBELD FAMILY/SONG GARDEN
45	I Wanna Go	MYLON HAYES FAMILY/UIA
45	I'VE COME TOO FAR	JORDAN FAMILY BAND/ARS
46	ALL OF MY HELP	BROWDERS/DREAM BIG
47	THAT SWEET LAND	ERWINS/STOWTOWN PRIMITIVE QT/MOUNTAIN HERITAGE
49	SWEET HELLOS	JEFF & SHERI EASTER/GAITHER MUSIC
50	IN JESUS NAME	MATCHLESS GRACE/INDEPENDENT
50	IN JESUS INNIVE	WIATCHLESS GRACE/INDEPENDENT

SGN SCOOPS HOME OF THE DIAMO

POSITI	ON SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
51	THE GOD OF GIDEON	FORESTERS/INDEPENDENT
52	GOD IS REAL	THE SOUND/NEW DAY RECORDS
53	JUST LIKE THAT	Don Stiles/Independent
54	JESUS IS STILL THE ANSWER	Troy Burns Family/Chapel Valley
55	You are God and I am Not	WILBANKS/INDEPENDENT
56	COME HOME KIND OF GOD	ENDLESS HIGHWAY/CROSSROADS
57	LET US PRAY	PAID IN FULL/STOWTOWN
58	CHILD OF THE KING	Joseph Habedank/Daywind
59	American Christian	CLEARVISION/CHAPEL VALLEY
60	OPENING SOON	BIG MO/INDEPENDENT
61	GIVE HIM WHAT YOU GOT	ISAACS/HOUSE OF ISAACS
62	In Your Hands	Zane & Donna King/StowTown
63	WHATCHA GONNA DO	VILLINES TRIO/INDEPENDENT
64	EVERY MOVE I MAKE	Austin & Ethan Whisnant/UIA
65	HE CARRIED THE CROSS	Pylant Family/Independent
66	NOTHING HE CAN'T DO	GLORYWAY QT/INDEPENDENT
67	TROUBLE THE WATERS	JOURNEYS/CHAPEL VALLEY
68	THERE'S STILL POWER IN THE BLOOM	VOICE OF TRUTH QT/INDEPENDENT
69	DEVIL GIVE UP	Tonja Rose/Mansion
70	FAITH WINS	PHILLIPS FAMILY/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
71	THE BIDDING	BIBLETONES/INDEPENDENT
72	SONG OF THE REDEEMED	THE BATES FAMILLY/INDEPENDENT
73	I Know He Can	GREG SULLIVAN/RESTING PLACE
74	CITY OF GOLD	BATTLE CRY/CHAPEL VALLEY
75	COUNT IT VICTORY	THREE BRIDGES/CROSSROADS
76	Too Near Well Done	SOUND STREET/INDEPENDENT
77	SHUT HIM UP	Lauren Talley/Horizon/Crossroads
78	I'm Gonna Fly	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
79	WHEN LIFE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE	FOLENIUS/INDEPENDENT
80	ISN'T IT ENOUGH THAT HE DIED	THE FROSTS/MANSION
81	ARE YOU SAVED	RIVER'S EDGE/INDEPENDENT
82	I'm Gonna Make It	EPPS FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
83	HEAVENLY RESOURCE	ISBELL FAMILY/CHAPEL VALLEY
84	JESUS CAN	SILER FAMILY/PENN STREET RECORDS
85	HOLD ON	AUTHENTIC UNLIMITED/INDEPENDENT
86	LORD GOD ON HIGH	Lee Black/StowTown
87	WE'RE OUT OF HERE	LES BUTLER/RONNY HINSON/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP
88	GOD DO IT AGAIN	Taylors/StowTown
89	It's Gonna Be A Great, Great Day	CHOSEN 4:13/INDEPENDENT
90	EVERYBODY'S SONG	POET VOICES/BERRY HILL RECORDS
91	ARISE	PORT CITY QT/INDEPENDENT
92	WORTH CALVARY	Whisnants/UIA
93	ALL MY TEARS BE WASHED AWAY	MARK BISHOP W/SONYA ISAACS YEARY/CROSSROADS
94	LET'S ALL TELL THE WORLD ABOUT J	
95	REDEEMING BLOOD	Griffins/Independent
96	GLORIOUS APPEARING	HOPPERS/HOPPER MUSIC
97	MY GOD IS STILL ABLE	Purpose/Chapel Valley
98	THERE WAS JESUS	THE SWOR FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
99	WHEN THEY SEE ME	Freemans/Goldvine
100	God's Amazing Grace	David Gresham/Independent







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SCOOPS BLUEGRASS TOP 10 CHART

POS	SITION SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1	GIVE HIM WHAT YOU GOT	ISAACS/HOUSE OF ISAACS/NEW DAY
2	RIVER OF FORGIVENESS	JSTEELDRIVERS/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
3	DEVIL GIVE UP	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
4	HOLD ON	AUTHENTIC UNLIMITED/BILLY BLUE RECORDS
5	DON'T YOU WANT TO GO	GOSPEL PLOWBOYS/INDEPENDENT
6	HAPPY ON MY WAY	LORRAINE JORDAN & CAROLINA RD/FMG
7	THERE'S NO NEW WAY HOME	JOE MULLINS & RADIO RAMBLERS/BILLY BLUE
8	KNEEL, STAND, WALK, RUN & FLY	EAGLE'S WINGS/INDEPENDENT
9	GOD'S BEEN GOOD	LITTLE ROY & LIZZY SHOW/MOUNTAIN HOME
10	I AM THE ONE	DRY CREEK/FAMILY MUSIC GROUP

SCOOPS CHRISTIAN COUNTRY TOP 40 CHART

• • • • • • • • • • MAGAZINE	
POSITION SONG TITLE	ARTIST/LABEL
1 I WANNA GO	JORDAN FAMILY BAND/ARS
2 WHEN THEY SEE ME	FREEMANS/GODSEY MEDIA
3 GROW UP SLOW	SCOTTY INMAN/INDEPENDENT
4 STRAW BOTTOM CHAIR	DEBBIE BENNETT/RED COUNTRY
5 ALWAYS SOMETHING	CALEB HOWARD/MANSION
6 DEVIL GIVE UP	TONJA ROSE/MANSION
7 THIS DAY	SHELLEM CLINE/RED COUNTRY
8 FLY	LISA DAGGS/INDEPENDENT
9 FAMILY AND FAITH	MITCHELL WHISNANT/INDEPENDENT
10 TAKE YOUR PLACE	DERRICK LOUDERMILK BAND/CHAPEL VALLEY
11 JUST LIKE THAT	DON STILES/INDEPENDENT
12 I LOVE HIS LOVE	LANCE DRISKELL/INDEPENDENT
13 HE WON'T LEAVE ME IN THE DUST	CRYSTAL ELAM/INDEPENDENT
14 IS THERE OIL IN YOUR LAMP	JOY HOLDEN/INDEPENDENT
15 HE CARRIED THE CROSS	PYLANT FAMILY/INDEPENDENT
16 GRACE AND GOODNESS	SUNDAY DRIVE/STOWTOWN
17 SWEET HELLOS	JEFF & SHERI EASTER/GAITHER MUSIC
18 THAT SILVER HAIRED DADDY OF M	INE JOYAIRES/INDEPENDENT
19 RAINBOWS	CORI AND KELLY/INDEPENDENT
20 GOSPEL TRAIN	MARK209/INDEPENDENT
21 ALWAYS ENOUGH	JAMIE TRENT/INDEPENDENT
22 GRANDMA'S PRAYER	MELISSA EVANS/CHAPEL VALLEY
23 LAY IT ON THE ALTAR	TIM DAVIS/INDEPENDENT
24 WHATCHA GONNA DO	VILLINES TRIO/INDEPENDENT
25 IT'S A GOD THING	CHRIS GOLDEN/24K RECORDS
26 FINISH STRONG	JACKSON HEIGHTS/INDEPENDENT
27 MY DECISION	DEAN/CHAPEL VALLEY
28 SUNDAY SERMONS	ANNE WILSON/INDEPENDENT
29 THANK GOD FOR SUNDAY MORNIN	
30 BETTER THINGS	MITCHELL WHISNANT/INDEPENDENT
31 BEHOLD	REX ROBARDS/RED COUNTRY
32 THE ONLY BIBLE SOME PEOPLE REAL	,
33 I'M GONNA FLY	BLOOD BOUGHT/INDEPENDENT
34 I'VE CHANGED MY MIND	CHUCK WAGON GANG/CROSSROADS
35 WALK AWAY	BILLY WALKER/MANSION
36 LETTERS TO HEAVEN	11TH HOUR/CROSSROADS
37 GIVE HIM WHAT YOU GOT	ISAACS/HOUSE OF ISAACS/NEW DAY
38 HE IS GOD	FREDDY REDMON/INDEPENDENT
39 DOES HEAVEN HAVE A DIRT ROAD	SHELLEM CLINE/RED COUNTRY
40 BE WITH ME	JIMMY RENO/INDEPENDENT
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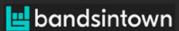
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Gospel Harmony Boys



by Robert York

The year was 1952 -- seventy years ago.

In Huntington, West Virginia, a young man by the name of Harold Lane got some men together and formed a group. The name of the group? The Gospel Harmony Boys.

Leonard Adams would sing tenor for the group, Harold the lead, Jon Embry the baritone and J. B. Short would sing bass. In 1953, they added Martha Ramey on the piano. The Gospel Harmony Boys were also pioneers in producing gospel recordings, releasing their first 78 and 45 rmp in 1953 and then they recorded their first LP in 1963.

They were the first gospel quartet to appear on a live network tv show as guest of Dave Garroway on The Today Show. Lane left the group in 1967, joining the Speer Family and remaining there until 1989.

Harold Lane was honored in 2009 as he was inducted into the Southern Gospel Music Hall of Fame. During his career he was blessed to write numerous songs like "I'm Standing on the Solid Rock" and "Touring That City." Lane arranged songs for many gospel groups during his career.

Down through the years the group has seen many changes in their line-up, and in 1971, Dr. Clacy Williams joined the group.

"A friend heard that the Cathedrals were looking for a tenor singer and talked me into calling Glen Payne. Glen told me he had just hired Roger Horne from the Gospel Harmony Boys, and he was sure they were looking. I called Homer Fry who arranged an audition and subsequently hired me on July 4th, 1971," Williams stated. He is from Flat Top, West Virginia, and currently lives in Charleston, West Virginia, where the group currently calls home. He first started a group at the age of 18 called The Kinsmen. Vietnam came along and the group had to break up. Later he sang with a regional group gaining some wonderful experiences and from there he became part of The Gospel Harmony Boys where he has been a part of for fifty years. Clacy stated, "There have been

several who influenced my life -- the most my mom. Then I had an older brother and sister. I practically grew with my mom as dad traveled on his job. She was a strong Christian and loved quartet music... I had the opportunity to work with some of the greatest when I started with the GHBs, including Gary Johnston, Sonny Sites, Harold Patrick and Homer Fry. Along with Glenn Payne those were my mentors and heroes."



Clacy grew up as a farm boy, went to a country church, the neighborhood was all kinfolk and was a tight family. Growing up he attended Shady Springs High School, Concord University and obtained a doctorate at Virginia Tech. He said, "I've attended school most of my life but some of my greatest experiences were being named to TDK and graduating from VA Tech as well as being named to WVU's alumni Honor Society." He met his wife at their job and in 1976, they got married in 1984 in Gallipolis, Ohio. They have two grown children (Chip and Myla) and two grandchildren (Dezi and Lexa). In addition Williams has a Doctorate Degree in EdD. He has worked in numerous school facilities building projects.

Born in Huntington, West Virginia, the son of Charles and Karen Adams, was Scott Adams the baritone for the group. He said, "I grew up in a small country community just outside of Huntington, West Virginia, where I spent my childhood. At the age of four I sang my first song in public, "Jesus Loves Me" one Sunday night at church. I have been listening to gospel music since I was a small child. My parents and grandparents loved to attend concerts and would take me with them."

Scott graduated from Vinson High School in Huntington in 1988. He was very fortunate to have a wonderful choral director who taught him voice. He

was a member of the All-State Chorus for two years. He stated, "I sang in the choir as a teenager and on rare occasions would sing solos. I met my lovely wife as a teenager at church. We were friends for several years; however, we didn't start dating until several years later. We were married in Ashland, Kentucky, on September 25 and have two sons Morgan and Mason. When Adams was 19 he and his uncle, along with another friend, started a group called the Southern Gospel Boys, singing all over the tri-state area and even as far north as Boston and still singing for 33 years."

In a brief testimony he said, "I was saved at the age of six. Some say that a child that age doesn't have the understanding to make that decision. All I can say is I did. It's still good after 46 years. There have been times that I shook upon the rock, but HE's never shaken beneath me. HE has been so good to me. It is my prayer to draw closer to HIM and to continue to be used to reach the lost and encourage the Christian."

Adams has sung with several groups including The Southern Gospel Boys. Witness, Forgiven 4, and filled in with the WV Couriers. He said, "I was singing with Forgiven 4 and the Gospel Harmony Boys were singing also. Not long after, I left them and the Gospel Harmony Boys was looking for a baritone. They remembered me but still called me for an audition. I went and auditioned for them and knew right away this was the place for me. I've been with them for six years now."



Like they say, to have a quartet there has to be a bass singer. Henry William Riffle is that person for the group. Growing up in Lodendale, West Virginia, a bit of Mayberry, he can relate everything to Andy Griffith Show having a Barney Fife, Aunt Bea and Ernest T. He said, "Growing up I lived with grandparents, aunts, un-

cles and anyone that was available. I always had a raft or boat near our creek which was right at the beautiful Kanawha State Forest where I spent as much time as possible. I attended George Washington High School and West Virginia State. School was just a horrible distraction for me. It kept me from the things I loved. I was saved at 14 and immediately started singing in a quartet, I was told I was a bass singer, so I became a bass singer and have done so for 46 years."



Henry met his lovely wife, Kelly, in Mt. Nebo, West Virginia. He was singing there with a quartet and they later married in 1983 and have one son, Andrew William. He has sung with several groups including Homer Fry, a former member of GHB for more than 30 years. Regarding experiences and embarrassing things he stated, "We broke down on our way back home, 2:00 am in Dayton, Ohio, and was towed to the nearest garage, spent a couple nights there, in the bus, in the garage. I was walking up to the mic, stepping on the base of the stand and punching myself in the mouth with the mic. Hearing the mic hit my teeth and watching the people try not to laugh."

Scott Brooks takes the lead part of the group. From Mallory, West Virginia, his dad, Ray, taught shaped note singing school classes in many churches, He explained, "Athleen Brooks, my mother, sang alto. She along with my father and two others formed the Mallory Quartet. I was too young to ever have the opportunity to hear this group. Growing up I had a wonderful childhood in the coalfields of southern West Virginia. I was the youngest of six children. My next sibling is eight years older than me so I spent a lot of time by myself. I grew up in a singing family. Sometimes I'm asked when I began singing. I honestly don't remember. There's a tape of my family singing that was made

back in the 50's and I sang two songs on the tape."

Attending high school he had the opportunity to excite his father as he played a trumpet solo. The love of his life is his wife Anita. She sang in a girls trio and they met when she sang at his home church. They have a son Richard who is the band director at Nitro high school and is worship leader at his church. Richard's wife Sharon is a school principal. They have two children Jonathan, Austin and Lindsay.

Brooks said, "My first gospel music experience was standing beside the piano watching and listening to my siblings sing gospel music. My teeth marks were on the end of the piano. I was absolutely mesmerized, that's what I wanted to do." Singing for 49 years in organized groups including New Life Singers, Conrad Cook and Calvary Echoes, Crossmen and The Scott Brooks Family, he has landed up with The Gospel Harmony Boys. "I began filling in with the group in 2005. In 2008 there was an opening and I felt the Lord's calling to be a part of the group. I have long admired them and the remarkable history of the group."

John Snograss, called the 5th wheel, has been filling in on the lead or baritone for 17 years. He states, "I seen them go through a lot of joys and sorrows, challenges and blessings. But they stay faithful through it all. I take being called the 5th wheel as a compliment in that they are always great to help me find a part or remember a phase when I am filling in. I appreciate the heritage that the GHB has, and also the fact that the four of them are so dedicated to keeping the high standard of quality singing that Harold Lane started back in 1952, as well as remaining as a group that isn't fitting the mold and singing the same material that the listener could hear on the radio all day long. It makes the concert an event, knowing that you'll hear a new song with a fresh new way of telling the old story.. The experience has helped me a lot in helping me with harmony technique, but mainly in getting to meet great people in the areas they go to."

You can find more about the Gospel Harmony Boys and schedule them at www.gospelharmonyboys.org or on Facebook.



it with Larry, while spending the afternoon in the studio with him was a day we will always cherish and remember. We are thankful that Les Butler knows just about everyone in or around Nashville. It was the highlight of the recording for sure."

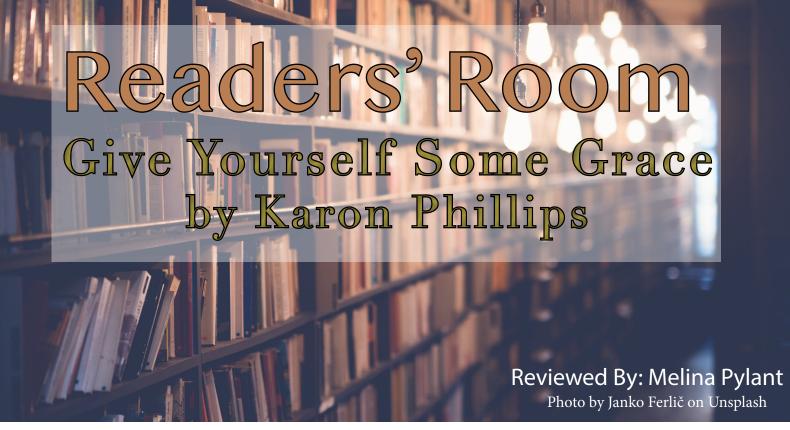


BAMA BLU-GRACE AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF OTHERS...

"It's true; I am their producer and radio promoter. But, long before that, I was a fan. Now that I've gotten to know them, I'm an even bigger fan! We laugh and cry together and more importantly, we worship together. There's so much more to them than their #1 songs and large stage and festival appearances. They're genuine. I love BBG! -Les Butler, Butler Music Group

"Anytime I hear a group of young people carrying on the story of Jesus through music, it thrills me. I especially love it when they sing songs of encouragement to God's people who may be experiencing a valley in their life. Bama Blu-Grace is a group that is doing just that, and I recommend them to be a blessing to your church." -Reagan Riddle, Primitive Quartet

"From two sets of best friends that will touch your heart with their testimony for Christ, then bless your soul with their music, a band I love and honored to call my friends." -John Sentell, The Bluegrass Gospel Hour syndicated radio show



Book: GIVE YOURSELF SOME GRACE Author: KARON PHILLIPS Publisher: BARBOUR PUBLISHING Publish Date: MAY 1, 2022 Review by: Melina Pylant

Beautifully written and inspiring. 100 devotions to lift the spirit and help to understand what grace really means.

I knew from the title I would love this book because I am never giving myself enough grace and never forgiving myself like I should. We are our worst enemy and critic sometimes aren't we? Author Karon Phillips brings to light the lives and faults of people found in the Bible to help us more understand how Christ forgives. We have our struggles but so did some of the people closest to our Lord and if He forgave Peter for his unbelief, Paul for his sins, King David and the list goes on and on, don't you know he forgives us? Shouldn't we do the same for ourselves?

If we focus on our faults and not Christ's love and forgiveness, we will never reach the full goodness of our relationship with Him. Sometimes we teach forgiveness of others so much that we lose sight of the fact we need to do the same thing for ourselves. That's where giving ourselves much needed grace comes in. We all fall short of God's glory. Isn't it a

blessing to know that He understands and forgives us again and again?

I would recommend this book to anyone that is struggling with guilt, shame and just life struggles in general. It's a great book to keep close at hand for those days we are extra hard on ourselves. We all need to know we aren't alone.

Full disclosure: all scripture references in this book are from the NLT version of the Bible.



I was
given an
advanced
reader's
copy of
this book
by NetGalley in
return for
my honest
opinion.





Shellem Cline knew from an early age that music was going to be the path he followed. Now with a Christian country award winning career, he has shown he was moving down the path God laid before him.

"I have been singing since I came out of the womb! I traveled on the part time level for years but always knew I wanted to sing. In 2015, God allowed me to go full time and we have not looked back since. I literally have the best job in the world and can share the greatest story that's ever been told," he said.

His career as a recording artist has also included the talent for writing multi-charting original songs. His songs come from what has always made country music relatable.

"Real life! The songs I write are real, and they connect with the people that are facing not only the good, but the bad and the ugly of life as well."

As with most songwriters, there's usually some songs that hold special meaning to the writer. Out

of all the successful tunes Shellem has written, there are two that hold a very special place in his heart.

"Every song has a special place but in all honesty, there are 2 that really get me, 'Little Pink Glasses' and 'Pineapples and Flamingos.' These two were written for my 6 year old Ella and my 4 year old Lena and they are just great daddy daughter songs."

When fans attend a Shellem Cline concert, there are two things they are guaranteed to experience – his Christian country/Positive country songs and him sharing real life experiences from his heart. There's one main thing Shellem wants fans to expect:

"Something Real. I not only share the Christian and Positive Country, but I also share my story. The good, the bad and the ugly and let folks know that even on the worst day of your life, God is still in control. You are gonna laugh, you're gonna cry but at the end of the concert, I hope that you are left being challenged and encouraged."



In 2020, Shellem started Red Country Music Group. Red Country is a multi-faceted business that offers artists recording packages, the potential opportunity to be placed with the RCMG label, Red Country Records, and radio promotions for the artist's single release.

Being an artist himself, Shellem saw the need for a promotional company that worked to get artists real spins on stations with real listeners.

"I have dealt with several companies when it comes to recording and promotion and honestly in several of them I was disappointed. I had heard from numerous artist how things did not go the way they should and I decided to partner along with 2 other people to create a promotions company people can believe in. "Its a sin to do less than your best" is the motto we live by and I believe that God gave his best for us and since he has given me the talent to not only sing and write but also to help promote others that He has

called, then that is what I need to do to the best of my ability," he explained.

"We offer Nashville Quality recording, and national Christian Country and Country Gospel Radio Promotion. We also work closely with publishing companies to find the best songs for the artist. If music comes out of our studio, you can bet that it will be state of the art and our writers are the best in the business."

Shellem enjoys the opportunities to help other artists achieve their goals. There's one aspect of it he particularly enjoys.

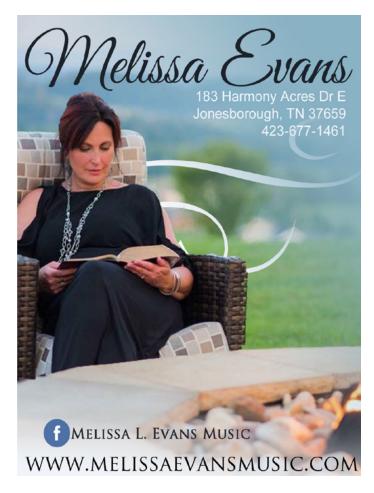
"Seeing them grow and catch their dreams! I get phone calls all the time from artists that just want to say thank you and they get so excited when they hear their song or see their name on the legit charts. It's awesome!"

When he's working with other artists to assist them

with their ministry goals and when he's on the stage sharing his music and testimony, ultimately there's the message that Shellem wants people to hear.

"I want the folks at my events to be inspired to be the best version of themselves. I want them to realize that God made them special and that they have a purpose and sometimes that purpose is to share their story! Even if it is the bad and the ugly because God uses that just as much, if not more, than the good and who knows? Their story may be what God uses to lead someone to Him."









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guest vocalists participate on the recording. We are having a contest with some great prizes. See if you can guess who the featured vocalists are on the second verse.

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Courage for this Hour



The King is Coming

By Jacqueline Arnold

When the Lord brought me to Isaiah 54:2 nearly 18 years ago, I did not realize "stretching my tent pegs wide," would bring me across America, from crown to crushing, from America to the Nations.

Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. -Isaiah 54:2

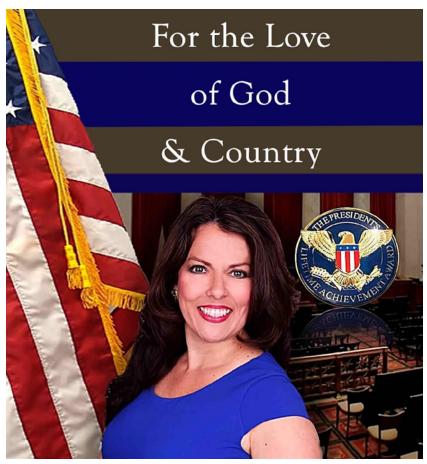
It all started with The Prayer of Jabez, a most dangerous prayer, as I competed for Mrs. International. Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory...-1 Chronicles 4:10

And then a crown, Mrs. Virginia International, which I soon traded to Follow Him, the One most worthy of every crown, worldly achievement, degree, or award. As titleholder of this prestigious pageant system, my heart's cry and public platform was to awaken my fellow countrymen and cry out for a return to unity, peace, harmony, patriotism, and Americana, all for the glory of God. I placed top ten and did not win the international crown in that hour, but a decade later, in 2015, the Lord wove that experience together for His good purpose and set the soles of my feet to gain territory for Him across this land. He made the impossible

way for me to travel across America and write more about my passion for patriotism in God & Country: All Things Are Possible (an AAE Award Winner, 2021).

I completed a 50 state God-adventure and published the book of my miracle-filled journey across America. God was igniting my heart so that I could ignite His people for a time such as this. The hour is near when the Lord will come. It is time to prepare now. The harvest is ripe, and the world is quickly changing, I'm here to equip and prepare you with messages I have pressed in to receive.

Courage for America, (available on Amazon), is the word of the season. The Lord has not left us without hope. He wants us to Return to Him, Commune with Him, Covenant with Him, and Gather with Him. He wants to restore right relationships in our marriages and our families. He is calling His Bride. He has empowered me with passion to wake up the people. I charge you to join me, to walk boldly in faith and trust the One who is faithful. The storm is coming, it is near - grab your families, return to your first love, and prepare for the changes ahead. God still has a plan for you, me, and America. We are but one piece of the



puzzle. God is calling His bride – souls of every nation. This is the hour, the hour of dire attention to take God at His word. He has sent His prophets ahead to awaken, instruct, guide, lead, inspire, and warn. America is at a crossroads; heaven's timeline is unfolding. It is time to awaken and arise and shine, as it says in Isaiah, the nations are now depending on this. It is time for God's people, and for America, to shine one more time. It's time to agree with God's plan for America, for the nations, and for the hour.

God is calling His bride, the closing scripture in Courage for America: The Bride has made herself ready.
-Revelation 2:7

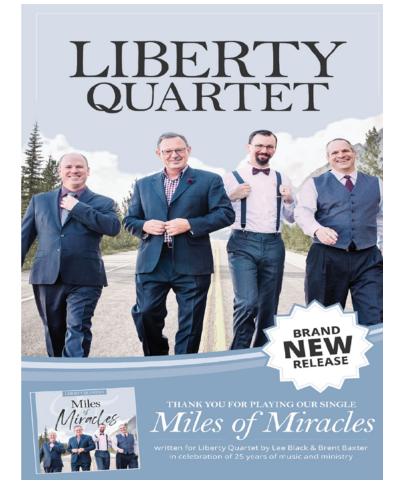
Here we are, full circle as I approach seven years since I began my journey to warn America, "The King is Coming" - igniting America and souls from coast to coast. We all play a role as part of God's production to reach souls and to agree with heaven.

In this hour, it is about the souls in America, more than the nation of America, from the young to the old, to the unborn who are gravely at risk. It is all about winning souls for Christ. We have been gardeners, planting seeds of faith and testimonies, but now it's time to harvest souls. It's time to bring in the multitude of souls and then to stretch our tent pegs and our reach

for the nations. We know one nation, Israel, holds a special place in God's plan. Today's events in Israel signal our end times and the coming of our Lord Jesus. Israel is His inheritance. Read all about it in Daniel to Revelations. No need to be alarmed. The Lord commands us in Joshua, "Do not be discouraged or afraid."

The events that happened suddenly between Russia and Ukraine are an indication of how rapidly things can change. We are in a new era. The writing is on the wall and now we see it unfolding before us. Turn off the television, get on your knees, gather your families; repent, and return to your first love – Christ the true King. Let go of this world where we are merely sojourners awaiting our King. Prepare your hearts and your home, and ready yourself, for the nations will see the hand of the Lord and hear the King's call when "the Bride has made herself ready." (Revelations 2:7).

Find your Courage with Jacqueline Arnold, Award-Winning Author, Event Speaker, & TV Host, at sweetlifeusa.com. Join the conversation on Facebook@CourageforAmericaNow. Books available at sweetlifeusa.com/books.





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Wow! This is a beautiful read. I would go so far as to say this book is more of a commentary or companion piece to go along with Bible study. I would definitely not call this book a devotional. It goes so much more in depth into our relationship with Christ and our worship unto Him!

I had more passages highlighted in this book than probably all other inspirational non-fiction I've ever read. LIFE ON THE ALTAR is so much deeper than "read a passage and quote a prayer each day". Stay with it, really read and absorb it and you will get so much more from it. You know, like that other inspired WORD we glean so much from?! I think that in itself is what I loved most about this book. You will find something new and eye opening each time you read it.

So much truth. So much knowledge

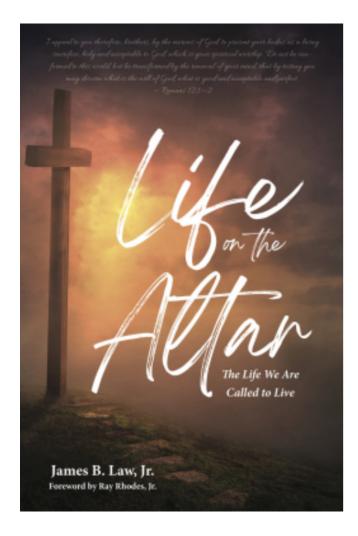
Bottom line: A great accompaniment to daily Bible reading.

5 stars

I was given an eARC copy of this book from NetGalley and Thomas Nelson Publishing for my honest review.

Full disclosure: all scripture references in this book are from the NLT version of the Bible.

I was given an advanced reader's copy of this book by NetGalley in return for my honest opinion.



CHAPEL CLASS QUALITY INTEGRITY VALITY INTEGRITY VALITY INTEGRITY

WHAT

MATTERS

MOST









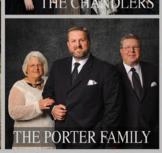
























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Rob Patz us the President and CEO of Coastal Media Group.



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 internets !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 programs as well. Rob does voice work for various outlets including fortune 500 companies as well as emceeing concerts and special events. Email Rob at rob@sgnscoops.com

Stephanie Kelly is a public speaker and owner of



Queen-O-Q, a blog featuring coupon match-ups, freebie, samples and information on frugal living. She is married, has three children and lives in Washington State. Queenoq. blogspot.com

Kristen Stanton is a dynamic singer, speaker, and writer. From discussions on Facebook, to live concerts on



any stage, Kristen's main focus is to share her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. She says: "I was saved when I was four years old. I've been in church my whole life. I went to a Christian college. I don't have the experiences of walking away from

God and how He brought me back. But I do have the experience of how God continuously reveals Himself to me... of how He answers prayer. I want people to understand who God is so that they can be more of a reflection of Him. My goal is to help others see God in a way that meets every need in their life." Following a trio of No. 1 songs from her debut project, "Destiny by Design," Kristen recently released her second solo project, "Love As Jesus Loves" and is current-

ly writing songs for her new album. Kristen is also an Attorney-at-Law, serving clients in Northwest Ohio.

Justin Gilmore is 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

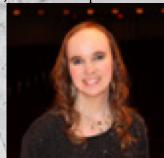
Spotlight in order to share his love of this great style of music.

Charlie Griffin is an avid gospel music fan, soloist,



teacher and speaker. He is a staff writer for SGN-Scoops featuring highlighting Southern Gospel Music hisory. You can follow Charlie Griffin on Facebook, Twitter or visit him at www.charliegriffin. net.

Jennifer Campbell is a singer, songwriter, musician,



and middleschool English teacher from McAlpin, Florida. Along with her passion of teaching, she has an even greater passion for ministering to others, sharing her testimony. To learn more about Jennifer visit http://jennifercampbell.net.

Pete Schwager is a web developer and graphic design-



com

er. He is behind the scenes making sure content is uploaded to the servers properly and that the monthly digital magazine can be properly downloaded each month. He and his family have a farm in East Tennessee. www.cloverleafhorses. Robert York's love for Southern Gospel music began



at a young age when his parents took him to Atlanta City Auditorium for concerts hosed by Warren Roberts. After retiring from USPS after 35 years, he decided to start promoting concerts. The goal was nit only to promote our concerts but to pro-

mote any Gospel concerts in our area. When his wife graduated to heaven in 2013, he was at a crossroad. After much prayer God led him to continue promoting concerts. He still very mush enjoys attending concerts and writing about the groups as well.

Staci Schwager enjoys design work of all kinds.



Whether its graphic design layouts or interior design she loves and has an eye for color and layout. In her spare time she can be found usually with a paint brush in hand doing some type of project. She and her husband Pete enjoy their farm

life in the East Tennessee mountains.

Christina Beightol is an ordained minister who has



a passion for Jesus, music, writing, travel and culture, and strives to do her best to teach and speak in such a way as to reach others on every level. She is excited about the release of her debut CD entitled, "One Day Jeff Lowe, from Massillon, Ohio, has been involved in



Southern Gospel Music for 46+ years. In 1974, at the age of 14, Jeff started singing bass with The Soulseekers, a mixed group from his hometown. There have been several groups since that time, and in 2009, Jeff started Mercy

River Quartet. Eleven years later, the group is still serving the Lord and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Having written for other publicationsaJeff is excited to be a part of the SGNScoops family!

Dixie Phillips is a Dove Award winning songwrit-



er. Her songs have been recorded by many popular gospel artists. Shis is also a Christian Editing Services Editor and Writer. She is an award winning children's author and ghostwriter. She has been published by Abingdon Press, Standard

Publishing, Eldridge Publishing, Gospel Music Publishing House, and Guardian Angel Publishing.

Jimmy Reno began singing at the age of four with



his family group. He has sung for The MysteryMen quartet, Florida Boys, and Mark209. Off the road, he enjoys spending time with his wife Christa, his three kids and one granddaughter.

Les Butler has been actively involved in Southern Gos-



pel Music for 40 years as a musician, producer, manager, former publisher of The Singing News, and as a nationally syndicated radio host. Butler started Butler Music Group in 1978, and purchased Family Music Group in 2003. He is a

past March of Dimes AIR award, as well as winner of the Paul Heil Broadcasting Award in 2011. Butler's syndicated radio show, Les Butler and Friends, is heard across America and abroad.

Carrie Hofmeister is a staff writer for SGNScoops



magazine, covering a wide range of stories that push her to step outside of her comfort zone. She has always had a passion for writing, whether stories, songs, feelings, or just what happened that day. When she isn't writing articles, she

and her husband, Mitchell, write and sing their own music, traveling to wherever God opens a door.



She began writing songs when she was 11 years old. She also enjoys writing poetry and feature articles. Aside from writing, she enjoys teaching and being a wife and mom.

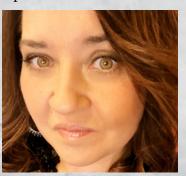
Lindsey Sipe heard God tell her that she would work



in country music when she was just 4 years old. Currently making her living as a publicist, artist/media consultant, and freelance journalist through her company LIT Nashville, telling stories is Lindsey's specialty, whether it's through writing, photogra-

phy, social media, or on camera interviews.

April Potter Holleman is a 24-year veteran in mu-



sic business serving in consulting, marketing, radio, publicity and most known for her booking and management agency April Potter Agency where she has had the privilege of working with numerous, multi award-winning artists

and speakers. She joins SGNScoops as a speciality guest writer. You can follow her www.apotteragency. com, FB www.Facebook.Com/aprilpotteragency or IG april_potter_agency

Rachel Harris is from the Port City of Wilmington, NC. I'm Jantina de Haan. A huge Southern Gospel Fan



from the Netherlands. I had a dream and a prayer to work in the Southern Gospel field. I was reading the Scoops for many years. God sure answered my prayer and allowed me to do the Beyond The Song article

which I do for several years now. A perfect fit. Catching up with artists who faithfully do the job they are called to do that is spreading the Gospel.

Rhonda Frye has been covering The Christian music



industry since 2010. Rhonda is also an ordained elder serving as a worship pastor in the Church of the Nazarene. She is a songwriter and also enjoys blogging and speaking. Rhonda and her husband of 34 years are blessed to have three grown

children and five grandchildren. The Fryes make their home in North Georgia. https://rhondafrye.com/

Melina Wray-Pylant lives in Alabama with her hus-



band, a minister and their two children. She is a business owner, YouTuber, a singer with The Pylant Family Ministries, songwriter and avid reader. Her greatest passion is being a committed follower of Christ and promoting the gospel in every way possi-

ble.

