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Country's Brightest Stars Highlight CMA October Activities

It is unmatched for excitement, pageantry and splendor anywhere else in Country Music. It is the night when Country Music's brightest stars are celebrated and honored from the hallowed stage which represents all that is revered in Country Music. It is truly Country Music's finest hour.

October is Country Music Month throughout the United States, and Monday, October 14 is the 19th Annual Country Music Association Awards Show. Hosted by Anne Murray and Kris Kristofferson, two of the industry's most gifted and exciting entertainers, the evening's activities will center around the stage of the Grand Ole Opry where Country Music's finest will be honored for their stellar artistic achievements during the past year. The initiation of a new award in 1985—The Music Video of the Year Award—will focus attention on the expanding technology in the industry and recognize achievement in the medium.

Among the artists who will perform on the annual extravaganza are: Alabama, Johnny Cash, Crystal Gayle, Emmylou Harris, Waylon Jennings, The Judds, Kris Kristofferson, Dave Loggins, Loretta Lynn, Gary Morris, Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Kenny Rogers, Ricky Skaggs and Hank Williams, Jr. and the 'Bama Band. These outstanding artists, representing all facets of the industry, are in addition to the rainbow of stars who will attend. Following the Awards Show telecast, the performers and guests will attend the gala post-awards party in the magnificent Presidential Ballroom at Opryland Hotel.

The entire nation can enjoy the festivities through the live telecast on the CBS Television Network and a stereo radio simulcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System, as well as a pre- and post-awards radio special carried on Mutual. Viewers in major Canadian cities will also enjoy the Awards Show on a satellite distributed network of independent television stations. Additionally, attention will be focused on the Awards when DIR Broadcasting produces its third Horizon Award Special

scheduled to air the weekend prior to the show on the Silver Eagle Network.

The CMA Awards Show is always the highlight of the Country Music calendar, and its superb performances and professional production have been factors in the increased viewer awareness and positive perception of Country Music. A special promotional effort between CMA and NARM has resulted in a highly successful point of purchase campaign designed to publicize Country Music Month and increase Country sales activity during the entire month of October. With the theme "Bring Home Country's Brightest Stars", merchandisers' requests for P-O-P promotional pieces numbered 900,000.

Country Music Month, celebrated each year by Presidential proclamation in October, is also marked by several other important events. Talent Buyers Entertainment Marketplace, held this year on October 11-13, is sponsored by CMA for the benefit of all those involved in live entertainment in the Country Music industry.

"The Fast-Foward March" is the theme chosen by the Coalition to Save America's Music for their rally and reception on Tuesday, October 15 at 2:30 p.m. at the Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel. Jointly sponsored by CMA and the National Music Publishers Association for the Coalition, the forum will focus attention on the grass roots campaign for the home taping legislation now pending in Congress and will feature leading authorities on the subject. Appearing at the rally, which is open to members of CMA, NSAI, NMA and NMPA will be: Louise Mandrell, Roger Miller, George David Weiss, Ralph Peer and Stan Gortikov.

The Country Music Association's fourth quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors is also scheduled for Tuesday, October 15. The final CMA event will be the election of new Directors at the Annual Membership Meeting on Wednesday, October 16 at 9:00 a.m. at the Opryland Hotel.

(Continued on page 16)

HORIZON

In 1981, the Board of Directors of the Country Music Association established the Horizon Award to honor that artist who for the first time in the field of Country Music demonstrated the most significant creative growth and development in overall chart and sales activity, live performance professionalism, and critical media recognition.

The Horizon Award is **not** a new artist award, but rather is intended to recognize an outstanding artist development effort. Although the award goes to the artist, others share credit for the success. The artist's manager, agent, producer, publicist and record label personnel are some of the elements which must function effectively to create a star. Today's star on the horizon may be tomorrow's superstar.

Previous winners Terri Gibbs (1981), Ricky Skaggs (1982), John Anderson (1983), and The Judds (1984) have all exemplified the type career development the award is meant to honor.

The outstanding artists nominated for the 1985 CMA Horizon Award are:

RAY CHARLES CBS Records

Superlatives seem trite when applied to a man of Ray Charles' musical ability and genius. He is the embodiment of greatness, with respect from his peers that borders on reverence. His music transcends all barriers of language, culture, and musical genres and runs the gamut of musical styles, making rhythm and blues, rock, and Country all uniquely his element.

Of himself, Ray says, "I was born with music inside me; music was one of my parts... it was a necessity for me, like food or water." An accomplished musician, he



Photo by: Ron Keith

taught himself how to play and write for every brass and wind instrument in an orchestra, specializing in piano, organ and sax. He composes and arranges, and his proficiency in a recording studio has given rise to the rumor that Ray Charles really can see. And see he could, until glaucoma effected his sight, and at the age of six, darkness closed in.

He began to play music professionally at the age of 15 when he joined a dance band, and signed his first major recording contract in 1954 with Atlantic Records. His first hit was the classic "I Got A Woman", followed in rapid succession by "Hallelujah, I Love Her So" and "What'd I Say". But his Country/soul records, beginning with MODERN SOUNDS IN COUNTRY & WESTERN MUSIC, recorded in 1962, became his signature songs. "I Can't Stop Loving You", "You Don't Know Me", "You Are My Sunshine", and "Take These Chains From My Heart"—all became classics from the golden throat and special treatment of the "genius". A second volume of the album was recorded in 1965; both were certified gold, and today remain two of his most remembered accomplishments. "Georgia" and "America The Beautiful" were immortalized by Ray Charles' mastery—his rendition of the latter was one of the highlights of CMA's Twenty-fifth Anniversary Special performed in Washington, D.C. in 1983. His FRIENDSHIP offering for Columbia Records, with whom he signed in 1983,

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paired Ray with 10 musical greats and produced a number of chart-topping duets, including the poignant "Seven Spanish Angels", his collaboration with Willie Nelson. The singles from this album marked Ray's first broad acceptance by Country radio and helped garner the Horizon Award nomination, attesting to his first time career development in the field.

MEL McDANIEL Capitol Records

In a day when stars sometimes become egomaniacs, Mel McDaniel has a modesty that is as refreshing as it is honest. The singer/songwriter who signed with Capitol Records nine years ago only now seems to be approaching the zenith of his career, and his face wears a broad grin and his eyes flash and sparkle when he speaks of number one records and standing room only crowds.



But this Tulsa, Oklahoma native is anything but a flash in the pan. A string of memorable tunes such as "Have A Dream On Me", "Louisiana Saturday Night", "Right In the Palm of Your Hands" and "I Call It Love" established his name long before "Baby's Got Her Blue Jeans On" took him to the top of the charts for the first time in 1985. But that Bob McDill tune set off a chain reaction of events in his life that very often happens only once in the career of an artist. "Blue Jeans" is fast becoming the signature song for the big, friendly blonde, although his follow up, "Let It Roll (Let It Rock)" became an enormous hit and acclaimed video. Not only did "Blue Jeans" have direct and predictable impact on Mel's booking picture, but suddenly huge turn-away crowds were jamming his shows and promoters were racing to re-order the act. It's a dream come true for the music industry veteran who criss-crossed the highways of America in a van, pulling a trailer loaded with equipment to one-night stands in one honky-tonk after another.

Mel McDaniel and his success story are what the Country Music dream is all about. It still happens, and it's something wonderful to behold.

EDDY RAVEN RCA Records

Known by his many admirers as one of the most creative and sensitive writers to hit the Nashville scene,

Eddy Raven continues to gain success after success. Winner of 14 ASCAP awards for songwriting, Eddy was a destined hit when in 1974 Roy Acuff, singing the Raven-penned "Back in the Country", made his first charted hit in 19 years. His creative writing ability led him to an even higher stature in 1982 when the Oak Ridge Boys topped the Country charts with another of Eddy's compositions, "Thank God For Kids".



Eddy's new RCA album, LOVE AND OTHER HARD TIMES, is proof positive that this Louisiana native is hot. The album is a combination of seven self-penned compositions plus three from other writers. With the LP's first single, "Operator, Operator" hitting the top ten, and Eddy's most recent release "I Wanna hear It From You" bulleting up the charts, Eddy's popularity is not soon to die.

It wasn't until some of his best songs were turned down that Eddy knew he would have to be a singer to get his musical message across. Sing he did—hit after hit—such songs as "I Should've Called", "Who Do You Know in California", "She's Playing Hard to Forget" and "I Could Use Another You". His first number one single, "I Got Mexico" in 1984 indeed proved that Eddy knows what is best for him. His surging career has propelled him into the Horizon Award category for 1985.

(Continued on page 16)

Trivia Quiz

Many of the great cities of America have been highlighted in Country songs. Can you identify the ARTISTS who have made these songs hits?

- "El Paso"
- "Backin' To Birmingham"
- "Detroit City"
- "Down In Nashville, Tennessee"
- "Oklahoma City"
- "Eight More Miles To Louisville"
- "By The Time I Get To Phoenix"
- "Sioux City Sue"
- "Jackson"
- "Columbus Stockade Blues"

Answer To Trivia Quiz On Page 10

Annual Membership Meeting . . . Update

The annual CMA Membership Meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16, in the Knoxville Room of Opryland Hotel.

Several items of importance will be considered during the meeting, including the election of new Directors, a vote on Bylaws amendments, presentation of several awards and the President's Annual Address.

Polls will open at 8:00 a.m. with the call to order at 9:00 a.m. If approved, Board representatives for two new categories will be elected along with the other Directors.

The following nominations to the Board of Directors have been made by the current CMA Board. Additional nominees may be made from the floor at the Membership Meeting.

Nominees include: **Advertising Agency:** Kathy Gangwisch, Kathy Gangwisch & Associates, Kansas City, MO; Dick Gary, The Gary Group, Venice, CA; Bill Hudson, Bill Hudson & Associates, Nashville; Dick McCullough, J. Walter Thompson, Chicago, IL; **Artist/Musician:** Louise Mandrell, Nashville; Randy Owen, Fort Payne, AL; Richard Sterban, Hendersonville, TN; **Artist Manager/Agent:** Steven Greil, Greilworks, Nashville; Stan Moress, Scotti Brothers, Moress & Nanas, Santa Monica, CA; David Skepner, Loretta Lynn Enterprises, Nashville; **Broadcast Personality:** Les Acree, WTQR-FM, Winston-Salem, NC; Lee Arnold, Mutual Radio of New York, Inc., New York, NY; Al Snyder, WTKC Radio, Lexington, KY; **Composer:** Gary Morris, Franklin, TN; **International:** Hiroshi Kanai, CBS/Sony Family Club Inc., Tokyo, Japan; Leonard Rambeau, Balmur Ltd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada; **Publication:** Russ Barnard, New York, NY; Marty Feely, BILLBOARD, New York, NY; Elma Greer, THE GAVIN REPORT, San Francisco, CA; Ed Konick, COUNTRY SONG ROUND-UP, Derby, CT; **Publisher:** Buddy Killen, Tree International, Nashville; Bill Lowery, The Lowery Group, Atlanta, GA; Jay Morgenstern, Warner Brothers Music, Los Angeles, CA; **Radio:** Jeff Davidson, Gannett Broadcast Group, Atlanta, GA; Hal Durham, Grand Ole Opry, Nashville; Charlie Ochs, Ochs Broadcasting Consultants, Scottsdale, AZ; Bill Sherard, WPKX Radio, Alexandria, VA; **Record Company:** Joe

Galante, RCA Records, Nashville; Bruce Hinton, MCA Records, Nashville; Frank Jones, PolyGram Records, Nashville; Lynn Shults, Capitol-EMI Records, Nashville; **Record/Video Merchandiser:** Bruce Carlock, Music City Records Dist., Nashville; Randy Davidson, Central South Dist., Nashville; Jim Powers, Handleman Company, Troy, MI; **Talent Buyer/Promoter:** Sonny Anderson, Disneyland/Walt Disney World, Anaheim, CA; Jerry Garren, Helen Cornelius Enterprises, Nashville; Bill Luther, Von Braun Civic Center, Huntsville, AL; Hap Peebles, Hap Peebles Agency, Kansas City, MO; **Television/Video:** Kevin Metheny, Video Hits One, New York, NY; Kitty Moon, Scene Three, Nashville; Dick Thrall, Multimedia Entertainment, Nashville; Lloyd Werner, Group W, Stanford, CT; **Directors-At-Large:** Connie Bradley, ASCAP, Nashville; Howard Stark, MTM Music Group, Nashville; Irving Waugh, Irving Waugh Productions, Nashville; E.W. Wendell, Opryland USA, Inc., Nashville; Tim Wipperman, Warner Brothers Music, Nashville; Lee Zhito, BILLBOARD, Beverly Hills, CA.

Incumbent directors who are now serving the second year of their term include: Dennis Brown, David Conrad, C. Paul Corbin, Jerry Flowers, Lon Helton, Rhubarb Jones, Brenda Lee, Sam Lovullo, Bob Montgomery, Dennis Morgan, Jim Ed Norman, Dianne Petty, Don Romeo, Janice Wendell, and Roy Wunsch.

CMA Lifetime Board members are: J. William Denny, Nashville Gas Company, Nashville; Ralph Peer, II, Peer-Southern Organization, Los Angeles, CA; Frances Preston, Broadcast Music, Inc., Nashville; Wesley Rose, Acuff-Rose/Opryland Publications, Inc., Nashville; and Joe Talbot, Precision Record Pressing, Nashville.

During the meeting, awards will be presented to the Broadcast Personalities of the Year, and plaques to the producers of the CMA Award-winning Album and Single of the Year. There will also be newly designed plaques presented to the producers and the directors of the Award-winning Music Video of the Year. The Founding President's Award (established by Connie B. Gay) will be presented to an individual, not serving on the Board of Directors, who has rendered outstanding service to CMA during the past year.

The Tri Star Pictures, Inc. release "Sweet Dreams", starring Jessica Lange as the late Patsy Cline, was released in September. The film, with Ed Harris who plays Charlie Dick, traces the life of Cline—her struggle to establish herself in the music industry and her volatile marriage to Charlie Dick. Also released in September was the novelization of the film, written by George Vecsey with Leonore Fleischer (Pinnacle Books), and the soundtrack album from MCA Records.





E.W. "Bud" Wendell was recently honored during a 35th Anniversary Party to commemorate his years of service to Country Music through his tenure at WSM, Opryland and the Grand Ole Opry. Gathered at the party, given by Edward Gaylord, Chairman of the Board, Oklahoma Publishing Co. (which owns Opryland), are (L to R) Jerry Bradley, Bradley Productions; Wesley Rose, President, Acuff-Rose / Opryland Music Inc.; Wendell; Connie Bradley, ASCAP Southern Executive Director; and Gaylord.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Country Music Month, 1985

I am pleased to join so many Americans in celebrating "Country Music Month" this October 1985.

Country music has long been a major cultural force in the life of our nation. Its origins can be traced to our earliest settlers and its influence is deeply imbedded in the grass roots of America. No form of musical expression can claim a greater place in our history, especially in recent years.

Much of country music's role in this society has to do with its melodic beauty and with the fact that its lyrics recount the experiences of the vast majority of our people. All Americans appreciate moving ballads from the nation's heartland. They entertain as well as enrich so many lives.

It is altogether fitting that we should set aside a period in which to recognize the significance of country music and to commend the individual artists, writers and all others who are a part of this vital area of our national culture.

Nancy and I are confident that country music will remain close to the hearts of many people in the years ahead.

Ronald Reagan

P-O-P Campaign Off To Good Start

The Country Music industry has displayed an incredible amount of support in this year's Point of Purchase campaign, with close to 900,000 promotional pieces shipped to retailers and rack jobbers representing more than 3,000 locations. Orders from such national rack jobbers as Handleman, Lieberman, Western Merchandisers, Sight & Sound Distributing, Interstate and Arrow Distributing were placed.

Themed "Bring Home Country's Brightest Stars", the purpose of the merchandising campaign is to establish higher visibility for the October 14th CMA Awards Show, as well as, boost sales and awareness of Country product both before and after the show. To aid in promoting product after the show, two posters, one depicting the Entertainer of the Year finalists and one with the covers of the Album of the Year Finalists (see separate story for list of 1985 Awards finalists) are available to retailers. Additionally, divider cards, which are available to retailers and racks, are designed to highlight the CMA nominees, finalists and winners. All the P-O-P graphics will prominently display the CMA, Kraft and Give the Gift of Music logos.

A display contest conducted in each division—rack and retail—is a feature of the 1985 P-O-P campaign. Deadline for entering the contest, sponsored by NARM (National Association of Record Merchandisers), is November 15, 1985. According to Pam Cohen of NARM, "The contest combined with the exceptional graphics of the campaign should generate some super viewing of the show."

Roy Wunsch, Chairman of CMA's Retailers/Record Merchandisers Committee said about the 1985 campaign, "CMA and NARM's combined efforts on behalf of the industry, plus a graphic theme that is representative of where Country Music is today should produce the most successful fall marketing season we have ever achieved," concluding, "This approach works for all labels and can, and will, work for all participating accounts."

Lomax Responds To *Times* Article

The following letter to the editor was written by John Lomax III, a Nashville free lance journalist and author, in response to the September 17, 1985 *New York Times* article entitled "Nashville Sound: Blues for Country Music".

To The Editor:

As a longtime member of the Nashville music press I was very disturbed by Robert Palmer's article in yesterday's paper (9-17). I feel that Mr. Palmer chose to present only one side of the coin. In so doing he overlooked several salient points:

Country sales are down when measured by the all-time highs posted in the 1979-1982 period. When viewed against the 65 years of recorded country history, they are very healthy.

The "Nashville Sound", begun by Chet Atkins, Owen Bradley, Don Law, Anita Kerr, Floyd Cramer and others in 1958 has been "dead" for at least ten years, replaced by many different styles.

Country Music is not a style which appeals exclusively to an over 50 crowd. Recent studies have shown that, if anything, the country audience is getting younger thanks to the recent radio breakthroughs of Sawyer Brown, Kathy Mattea, Restless Heart, Vince Gill, John Schneider and Southern Pacific.

I'm sure that if Mr. Palmer attended a concert by George Strait, Reba McEntire, Exile or Steve Wariner he would notice the majority of the crowd to be under 35.

Some of the stars are losing their grip on the buying public but this is a common occurrence in show business. The examples given: Conway Twitty, Crystal Gayle, Barbara Mandrell, Mickey Gilley and Waylon Jennings are all artists who made their recording debuts in the 1960's and all have benefitted from intense airplay for at least ten years.

Country Music is in a period of transition common to any musical form. The older acts are being replaced by the acts mentioned in the fourth and fifth paragraphs.

I don't believe that The Judds or the Forester Sisters feel that the Nashville dream has died. Neither had previously recorded before coming to town yet both acts hit No. 1 with their second single. (The Foresters are #1 this week in *BILLBOARD*). The Judds have gone on to post a gold album.

Jason and the Scorchers may have "opened doors" for such talented Nashville artists as Webb Wilder and The Beatnecks, Walk The West and Will Rambeau and the Delta Hurricanes but the fact remains that none of them have gained a recording deal as a result. Better Mr. Palmer should have mentioned Tim Krekel & The Sluggers (recently signed to Arista) or Billy Chinnock (CBS).

If Country Music is in such bad shape why are such former rock or pop artists as Neil Young, Dan Fogelberg, Ray Charles, Jimmy Buffett, Dan Seals, Nicolette Larson and John McFee rushing onto the bandwagon?

The finalists for the upcoming Country Music Association Awards (CBS TV, October 14) clearly show the emergence of many new artists. All five of the nominees for "Entertainer of the Year"—Alabama, Lee Greenwood, Reba McEntire, Ricky Skaggs and George Strait—enjoyed their first big hit in 1980 or later.

How could any article like this one fail to mention Rosanne Cash?

In light of the above I feel justified in saying that Mr. Palmer's article was short on balance. Country Music has existed as a recorded entity since 1920. The form has been through slumps before and each time it has rebounded to even higher levels.

Just because Mr. Palmer has dug a grave for Country Music and "the Nashville dream" does not mean we are going to lie in it.

John Lomax III
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NASHVILLE: MUSIC CITY USA, my first book, was published his week by Harry N. Abrams Inc. of New York City.



Hertz is now offering a 10 percent discount on affordable daily rates with unlimited free mileage to CMA members. To request your group membership discount rate, call Hertz at 1-800-654-2200. (Be sure to give your Hertz Association I.D. number—94174). The Hertz representative will confirm your reservation and quote you the lowest applicable fare. Remember, you must show your identification card to the Hertz representative when you pick up your car.



October Activities

October is Country Music Month, and to celebrate, the Grand Ole Opry and the Country Music Association will sponsor a host of events. Following is a schedule of the activities for the Grand Ole Opry's annual celebration, an "invitation only" affair.

October is Country Music Month

Thursday, October 10

Early Bird Bluegrass Show, Acuff Theatre, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Music Country Network Showcase, Grand Ole Opry House, 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Friday, October 11

Artist/DJ Tape Sessions, Opryland Hotel, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Reception & cruise aboard the General Jackson, and the 1985 DJ Hall of Fame Awards presentation, General Jackson Showboat, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

Enjoy Opryland Entertainment Park, 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Grand Ole Opry Birthday Celebration Show, Grand Ole Opry House, 9:30 p.m. - midnight

For more information, write the Grand Ole Opry, 2804 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214; (615) 889-7503.

Other events scheduled around the CMA Awards Show in October include:

Tuesday, October 1

The Recording Academy's "Fashion Crossroads" fashion show, Hyatt Regency, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 11

Talent Buyers Entertainment Marketplace (TBEM) Registration, Hyatt Regency, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TBEM cocktail reception, Hyatt Regency, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

TBEM, Hyatt Regency

Sunday, October 13

TBEM, Hyatt Regency

Nashville Songwriters Association International Dinner, Hyatt Regency, 6:30 p.m. (reception) 8:00 p.m. (dinner)

Monday, October 14

CMA Awards Show, Grand Ole Opry House, 8:30 CDT

Post Awards Party, Opryland Hotel, 10:00 CDT

Tuesday, October 15

CMA Board of Directors Fourth Quarterly Board Meeting, First American National Bank, 9:00 a.m.

CMA/National Music Publishers Association Rally/Reception, Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16

CMA Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Board of Directors, Opryland Hotel, 9:00 a.m.



So long Willie! Waylon Jennings and Sesame Street's Big Bird are currently being featured at theatres nationwide in the first ever Sesame Street movie, "Follow That Bird". Along with a Jennings' and Big Bird duet entitled "Ain't No Road (Too Long)", the movie's soundtrack features Alabama and Ronnie Milsap.

NEWSLINE

Hoyt Axton recently completed filming a two-part guest appearance on "Trapper John, MD". In addition, Axton has been cast in a movie based on the Yoblosky murders with Charles Bronson. The movie, "An Act of Vengeance" started shooting in September in Toronto.

THE NASHVILLE SONGWRITERS GUIDE, published by Lon-Bren Music, 44 Music Square East, Ste. 104, Nashville, TN 37203, is now available. For additional information, call (615) 244-1010 or 1-800-251-3464. Also available is a book which details how to take a song from concept to contract, **THE COMPLETE HANDBOOK OF SONGWRITING: AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAKING IT IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY**. Written by Mark and Cathy Liggett, the book is published by New American Library, 1633 Broadway, New York 10019.

Busch Gardens, The Old Country, a 360-acre outdoor entertainment park located in Williamsburg, VA, is now offering its entertainers for year-round nationwide performances to businesses, resorts, conventions and trade shows. The pre-packaged, pre-produced shows include those shows already featured at the park, such as German bands and folk dancers, bluegrass bands and "Razzmatazz". For companies needing a more individualized program, Busch Gardens can create an entirely new entertainment extravaganza. Furthermore, **Busch Gardens, The Dark Continent**, located in Tampa, FL, is conducting open auditions the last Monday in every month to cast talent for its park shows. Auditions are conducted on a reservation-only basis. Reservations can be made by calling Busch Garden's entertainment office at (813) 988-5171, ext. 302.

Summit '86, the Sixth Annual National Convention and Trade Show for The Professional Live Entertainment Touring Industry, will be held January 23-26, 1986 at the Fountainbleau Hotel in Miami. A highlight of the summit will be the nationally televised PERFORMANCE Touring Industry Awards Show. Panel sessions, including topics of the changing roles of promoters and facilities, corporate sponsorship, mega tours, technical services, merchandising, video, artist promotions, and an agent/promoter/manager roundtable will also be offered during the event. The conference will begin with a golf tournament, and wrap up with a Super Bowl party. For more information, contact: Mack Long, Summit '86, 1020 Currie Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107; 1-800-433-5569.

Tom T. Hall, Country Music's famed storyteller, acted as TV spokesman for the September 22 FarmAid benefit concert in Champaign, IL. Hall's stories about the plight of the American farmers were done in a series of 10/12 TV spots which were cut in Middle-Tennessee, and utilized area farms, farmers and agribusiness personnel.

Ronnie Milsap recently announced the establishment of The Ronnie Milsap Foundation, designed to help the blind and visually impaired of this country. The foundation will provide educational assistance in the form of scholarships for talented blind students in all fields of study, develop and expand career opportunities for the blind and the visually impaired and provide financial aid in the area of eye research.

Melissa L. Davis, associate producer at Argonaut Productions, Inc., Piqua, Ohio, has recently had her first book published. The book, **COUNTRY MUSIC U.S.A. TRIVIA**, is available from M.L.M. Distributing, P.O. Box 568, Wooster, Ohio 44691-0563.

Sawyer Brown is currently touring Japan with their 1985 U.S. tourmate, **Kenny Rogers**. The bow in Japan marks the first performances in that country for both acts. The tour kicked off with a September 26 press conference in the city of Osaka, followed by seven concert appearances scheduled in Osaka, Nagoya, Tokyo and Yokohama. **SHAKIN'**, Sawyer Brown's second career album has been released in Japan to coincide with the tour.

Hank Thompson's 39 years in Country Music—plus his 60th birthday—was recently commemorated when Oklahoma Governor George Nigh and Tulsa's Mayor Terry Young declared Saturday, September 14, 1985 as Hank Thompson Day. A gala celebration was held at Tulsa's Excelsior Hotel, with entertainment provided by Hank Thompson, accompanied by the Original Brazos Valley Boys. Proceeds from the event went to the Tulsa Songwriters Association and to the Hank Thompson School of Country Music.

Marlboro Country Music will launch its fall tour October 18 in Houston, TX. Headliners of the 10-city tour include **Alabama, Hank Williams, Jr., Merle Haggard, Ronnie Milsap, Eddie Rabbitt, Ricky Skaggs, Kris Kristofferson, George Strait, John Anderson, The Judds** and **Exile**. Before coming to a close in San Diego, CA in November, the tour will make stops in Dallas, TX; Milwaukee, WI; Minneapolis, MN; Tallahassee and Orlando, FL; Portland, OR; Tacoma, WA and Los Angeles, CA.

Alabama was ranked the number four favorite of young people in a Gallup Youth Survey of 5000 teenagers nationwide between the ages of 13 and 18 years old. The survey, released in July, showed Alabama ranked ahead of such popular groups as The Police, Men at Work, Air Supply and Duran Duran; and was topped only by Def Leppard, Journey and Quiet Riot.

Cover Entertainment Company has relocated to 2501 Bristol Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221. The new telephone number is (614) 457-8036.

The Sue Brewer Fund of The Songwriters Guild Foundation has announced Phase II of the fund, allowing songwriters who may have had chart success in previous years to utilize an hour of 16 track studio time. Initially, writers could only utilize two tracks. Established last fall by **Waylon Jennings**, the fund aids struggling songwriters with free studio time for demos. For additional information, call The Songwriters Guild in Nashville at (615) 329-1782.

The Acoustical Society of America will hold its fall meeting November 4-8 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Nashville. The convention will bring scientists to Nashville from more than 25 foreign countries and the United States to present some 400 lectures on subjects ranging from "Sound in the Early Universe" to "Digital Recording Techniques" to "String Excitation by Plucking, Bowing or Striking". For more information, please contact: Dr. Robert Benson, Bonitron, Inc., Nashville, (615) 244-2825.

Robert K. Oermann will be the subject of a "poor man's" roast on October 29th at 7:01 p.m. at the Nashville Palace. Tickets to the event, which includes dinner, are \$9.99. Proceeds from the event will go to the National Entertainment Journalist Association's scholarship fund. For further information on this event, please contact Sarah Sherrill at (615) 255-8855.

COUNTRY MUSIC GUIDE TO VINTAGE HITS/1950-1980 is currently being offered by The Music Director Programming Service. The most authoritative guide to Country oldies ever developed, the publication includes a Top 1000 all-time Country hits section. Also available is **COUNTRY MUSIC GUIDE/1980-1984**, a supplement to the original book. The latter includes documentation on 1,344 different Country hits from 1980 through 1984, plus an updated Top 1000 Country hits section. Furthermore, the Programming Service has available in stereo or mono with 25Hz toning, **Country Gold Oldies**, 48 reels comprised of more than 1,400 Country hits. Contact Budd Clain, general manager, for more information at: (413) 783-4626.

The **TMG** affiliated companies—**Terrace Music Group, Inc.**, **The Management Group** and **The Media Group, Inc.** have moved their offices to 818 Eighteenth Avenue, South, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203. The companies' phone numbers remain the same: (615) 242-2094 and (615) 242-8785.

BILLBOARD's Video Music Conference will be held November 21-23 at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel in Universal City California. Topics to be discussed at the conference include "Video Music: From Promises To Profits", "Rolling The Credits", "Listening To The Screen" and more. The conference will also feature exhibit rooms and video music screenings, limited to independent and foreign productions. For additional information, please write: Kris Sofley, **BILLBOARD's Video Music Conference**, 9107 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 700, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; or call (818) 842-1212.

The Floyd Tillman Columbia Historic Edition was released by CBS Records, Nashville in July. The album highlights material from a period between 1946 and 1950. Tillman penned seven of the album selections, which include his biggest song as a writer, "I Love You So Much It Hurts". In the tradition of the Columbia Historic Edition series, the album contains previously unissued performances or takes. Also released at the end of the summer were two additional sets featuring **Roy Acuff** and **Maddox Brothers and Rose**. The Columbia Historic edition was debuted by CBS Records, Nashville in March of 1982 with the intent of revitalizing the sounds and styles of some of Country Music's most influential artists.

Lee Greenwood has been drafted by the Army National Guard as their national TV spokesman and by Academy Life Insurance Company as the company's national spokesman. Adding to the list of Country artists' endorsements are **Sawyer Brown** for J. D'Addario & Company, a manufacturer of instrument strings, and Schecter Guitar Company; **Bobby Bare** as national spokesman for all radio commercials produced by Red Man Tobacco; and **Minnie Peal** as national spokesperson for all television commercials produced by the Food Lion Chain in the south.

Direct Video Marketing of Nashville is currently offering a limited number of two Memphis newspaper special editions, published on August 17, 1977, the day after the unexpected death of **Elvis Presley**. The original and authentic special 12-page editions of *The Commercial Appeal* and the *Memphis Press-Sinclair* are filled with detailed accounts of Presley's life and public reaction to his death. The editions, which are being offered for sale nationwide through direct response television advertising, also include more than 100 black and white photographs. For more information about the special Elvis Presley newspaper editions, call 1-800-331-2000, or write to P.O. Box 1555, Nashville, TN 37202.

Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, and Johnny Cash began recording an historic reunion album September 16. The sessions, dubbed the "Homecoming", took place at Memphis' legendary Sun Studios, the site where each made their initial splash into the music scene in the late 1950s. Chips Moman is producer of the album.

The Knoxville News Sentinel will sponsor, in commemoration of its 100th anniversary and in conjunction with **Homecoming '86**, "The East Tennessee Tribute to Country Music". This project will bring together many Country Music legends, contemporary performers and friends of Country Music for a March 22, 1986 concert at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum. Proceeds from the event will be used to build "The East Tennessee Tribute to Country Music" monument that will adorn the main entrance to Knoxville's downtown area. Chairman of "The East Tennessee Tribute to Country Music" is **Archie Campbell**.

(Continued on page 21)

MEDIA

George Strait's concert at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will be televised October 30 on The Nashville Network (TNN) as part of its celebration of Country Music Month. Taped before a record-setting 47,000 fans, the concert features Strait performing many of his recent hits including, "Amarillo By Morning" and "Right or Wrong". Futher, **The Willie Nelson Special**, a one-hour concert featuring **Willie Nelson** and **Ray Charles** will be telecast over TNN during Country Music Month. The special marks the first time Nelson and Charles have performed on stage together and features the only live performance of their hit "Seven Spanish Angels".

WMZQ AM/FM, Washington, D.C., broadcast their morning show from the banks of the Potomac River at Great Fall Park in Virginia on August 2. Air personalities Jim London and Mary Ball were on location to impress upon the listening audience the danger of the river.

KEBC FM, Oklahoma City, OK, meteorologist Lloyd Tidwell was recently chosen to speak at the 14th Conference on Severe Local Storms and Sixth Conference On Hydrometeorology in Indianapolis, IN, on October 29, 1985. Tidwell was chosen from 140 candidates worldwide for his paper on "Analyzing The Public Response To Severe Weather Events By Using An Arbitron Aid Survey". In addition, KEBC News has been recognized by the managing editors of the Associated Press for its coverage assistance on several local stories that gained national attention.

Grand Ole Opry Live, a 30-minute segment of the Saturday night performance of the Grand Ole Opry which is carried on The Nashville Network, is now available for simulcast by radio stations in the United States and Canada. The Nashville Network premiered Grand Ole Opry Live in April, 1985.

KFDI Radio in Wichita, KS, in conjunction with a local television station, McDonalds Restaurants and the Wichita Area Builders Association constructed a house in one day on August 17th. The project, a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald houses in Wichita, raised \$82,500 for the homes away from home for families of critically ill children. The clock started ticking at 7:30 a.m., as nearly 600 craftsmen went to work on building the house. After seven hours and 31 minutes of intense building, framing, painting, wiring, plumbing, carpet-laying, landscaping, and bricking, the house was officially finished—breaking the old world's record of seven hours, 35 minutes. All proceeds from the auction were given to the Ronald McDonald Houses, underwriting the cost of running both houses for an entire year. In other fundraising efforts, the KFDI Sheriff's Super Sunday on August 11th raised more than \$4,000 for the Sheriff's Benefit Fund, a fund that helps pay medical expenses that their insurance won't cover.

ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT magazine, a 120 page weekly devoted entirely to the entertainment industry—music, movies, video, books and television, debuted September 30th. Harriet Fier, formerly with ROLLING STONE magazine and the *Washington Post*, is the magazine's editor in chief. Martha Hume is senior editor. The magazine's address is: Simon & Shuster Bldg., 1230 Avenue of the America's, New York, NY 10020. The telephone number is (212) 245-6400.

The Weedeck Radio Network has produced two Country radio specials to be aired in observance of Country Music Month. "**Celebration**" is a series of 62 three-minute vignettes which outlines the history of some of Country Music's top performers. Written by Country Music historian Hugh Cherry, "Celebration" features discussions of both the music and the lives of the performers. The second special, "**The Top 100 All-Time Favorite Country Songs**", is a six-hour program containing the top 100 songs selected through a research poll conducted among the listeners of Weedeck's COUNTRY REPORT. The program also includes interview segments and trivia related to the songs, writers and performers. Ron Martin will host both specials.

"**Sweet Dreams: The Radio Special**", a one-hour radio special based on the movie "Sweet Dreams", is currently airing nationwide on radio stations. "Sweet Dreams", starring Jessica Lange and Ed Harris, is the true story of the legendary Patsy Cline. The radio special, produced by the Weedeck Corporation, features Cline's music and interviews with those who knew her best and with those whose lives and careers were influenced by her music and personality.

"**Mountain Fever**", a one-hour radio show featuring live bluegrass concerts with occasional interviews and acoustic Country Music, is heard weekly by over half a million people in 23 markets in the U. S. and Canada. Hosted by Bob Brandon of WSOC-FM in Charlotte, NC, the show is aired on subscribing stations between 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. every Friday, Saturday or Sunday. For more information about the show, a product of Umbrella Productions, Inc. of Charlotte, write: Bruce Hensley, 1101 South Blvd., Suite 206, Charlotte, NC 28203. The telephone number is (704) 332-0534.

Answer To Trivia Quiz From Page 3

Marty Robbins; Lester Flatt; Bobby Bare (Billy Grammer did it as "I Want To Go Home"); Cowboy Copas; Paul Howard; Grandpa Jones; Glen Campbell; Dick Thomas (Gene Autry also did it); Johnny Cash & June Carter; Darby & Tarlton (Jimmie David might also count).

Trivia Quiz courtesy of the Country Music Foundation, 4 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203, (615) 256-1639.



Photo by: Melodie Gimple

WNOX of Knoxville, TN, launched its live "New Tennessee Barn Dance" on September 20 as part of the events for the Tennessee Homecoming '86. The original Country Music show, which ran from the late 1930s and the mid-60s, is credited with the discovery of dozens of Country Music stars. Each Saturday evening's Barn Dance, hosted by Archie Campbell, is performed in the refurbished Lowell Blanchard Auditorium. Pictured is Campbell discussing the premiere night's program with Country Music superstar Chet Atkins and John Lack, right, president of Elf Communications, which owns WNOX Radio.

Outstanding Talent Buyer To Be Honored At TBEM

The 1985 Talent Buyers Entertainment Marketplace, scheduled for October 11, 12 and 13 at the Hyatt Regency in Nashville, will feature for the first time the presentation of the SRO (Standing Room Only) Award. The SRO Award will be presented to an outstanding talent buyer or promoter who has substantially contributed to the advancement of Country Music through the buying and selling of talent. Nominees for the award, which will be bestowed annually on the individual judged as most qualified under the guidelines of the criteria, are Keith Fowler, Fowler Productions, Nashville, Tennessee; George Moffett, Variety Attractions, Zanesville, Ohio; Harry "Hap" Peebles, Harry Peebles Agency, Kansas City, Kansas; C.K. Spurlock, North American Tours, Hendersonville, Tennessee; and Lon Varnell, Varnell Enterprises, Nashville, Tennessee. July 1 to June 30 of each year is the time span for eligible activities by the nominees.

"Turning Problems Into Opportunities" is the theme for the 1985 TBEM. Highlighting the event will be two educational panels, three showcases and the Agents Marketplace, where actual business and bookings can take place. Lewis Grizzard, syndicated columnist and best selling author, will serve as keynote speaker of the event.

A host of industry leaders will speak at the educational panels on the business of buying and selling Country Music talent. Providing their expert opinion at the first panel, "The Process From First Phone Call To Curtain Call", scheduled from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 12 will be Jim Halsey of the Jim Halsey Co., Inc., Barry Fey of Feyline Presents, Inc., Mark Rothbaum, Willie Nelson's manager, Charlie Daniels, Don Zimmerman of Capitol Records and Phil Kaufman, Emmylou Harris' road manager. Loris Smith of Meadowlands Arena and Giant Stadium will act as moderator of the discussion.

On Sunday, October 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, the second panel, "The Promotion—Putting Bodies In The Seats", will feature comments from panel moderator Dick Gary of The Gary Group, Donna Jean Smith of the Oak Ridge Boys, Inc., Elizabeth Thiels of Network Ink, Inc., Vicki Krone of Pace Promotions and Steve Shafer of the Adolph Coors Co. Each of the educational panels will last two hours.

Three showcase performances will be held at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. The featured showcase performers include: Karen Brooks, Mason Dixon, Allen Frizzell, Nicolette Larson, Doug Swander, Dobie Gray, Williams and Ree, Judy Rodman, Tina Carol & Nashville Satin, Karen Taylor-Good, Clyde Foley Cummins, The Forester Sisters, Pam Tillis, Bill Monroe and the Maines Brothers.

Bill Ivey of the Country Music Foundation and Jo Walker-Meador of the Country Music Association will address the past and present status of the Country Music industry during the TBEM orientation on Saturday, October 12. TBEM registration will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 11. The deadline for early bird registration was September 16. The late, or on site, registration fee is \$175 for CMA members and \$225 for non-members. For additional information, write: TBEM, P.O. Box 22299, Nashville, TN 37202.

Awards Show Finalists Announced

The Country Music Association has announced the five finalists in each of the twelve categories for excellence in artistry. Jo Walker-Meador, Executive Director of CMA, announced the finalists on August 22, and the winners will be announced from the stage of the Grand Ole Opry during the live telecast of the 19th Annual CMA Awards on October 14. Final ballots were mailed to CMA members on September 3 and must be returned to the accounting firm of Deloitte Haskins & Sells no later than October 7.

Considered a vote of excellence by professional members of the Country Music industry, the CMA Awards are highly coveted. The voting consists of three ballots: the first to determine nominees; the second to determine finalists; and the third to elect winners. Balloting is conducted by the international accounting firm of Deloitte Haskins & Sells.

Following are the finalists by category:

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Alabama
Lee Greenwood
Reba McEntire
Ricky Skaggs
George Strait

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Lee Greenwood
Gary Morris
Ricky Skaggs
George Strait
Hank Williams, Jr.

SONG OF THE YEAR

Baby's Got Her Blue Jeans On

Written by Bob McDill/Published by Hall-Clement Publications

Does Fort Worth Ever Cross Your Mind

Written by Sanger D. Shafer and Darlene Shafer/Published by Acuff-Rose/Opryland Publications

God Bless The USA

Written by Lee Greenwood/Published by Music Corp. of America and Sycamore Valley Music

Mama He's Crazy

Written by Kenny O'Dell/Published by Kenny O'Dell Music

Seven Spanish Angels

Written by Troy Seals and Eddie Setser/Published by Warner-Tamerlane Publications, WB Music Corp. and Two Sons Music

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

Baby's Got Her Blue Jeans On

Recorded by Mel McDaniel/Produced by Jerry Kennedy/Capitol Records

Country Boy

Recorded by Ricky Skaggs/Produced by Ricky Skaggs/Epic Records

Does Fort Worth Ever Cross Your Mind

Recorded by George Strait/Produced by Jimmy Bowen and George Strait/MCA Records

Highwayman

Recorded by Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson/Produced by Chips Moman/Columbia Records

Why Not Me

Recorded by The Judds (Wynonna and Naomi)/Produced by Brent Maher/RCA Records

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

Country Boy

Recorded by Ricky Skaggs/Produced by Ricky Skaggs/Epic Records

Does Fort Worth Ever Cross Your Mind

Recorded by George Strait/Produced by Jimmy Bowen and George Strait/MCA Records

40 Hour Week

Recorded by Alabama/Produced by Harold Shedd and Alabama/RCA Records

My Kind Of Country

Recorded by Reba McEntire/Produced by Harold Shedd/MCA Records

Why Not Me

Recorded by The Judds (Wynonna and Naomi)/Produced by Brent Maher/RCA Records

MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

All My Rowdy Friends Are Comin' Over Tonight

Performed by Hank Williams, Jr./Produced by Tom Thacker/Directed by John Goodhue/Warner Bros. Records

America

Performed by Waylon Jennings/Produced by Joanne Gardner/Directed by David Hogan/RCA Records

Country Boy

Performed by Ricky Skaggs/Produced by Bob Jason/Directed by Martin Kahan/Epic Records

Highwayman

Performed by Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson/Produced by Jon Small/Directed by Peter Israelson/Columbia Records

Second Hand Heart

Performed by Gary Morris/Produced by Joanne Gardner/Directed by Mark Rezyka/Warner Brothers Records

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Rosanne Cash

Janie Fricke

Emmylou Harris

Reba McEntire

Anne Murray

HORIZON AWARD

Ray Charles

Mel McDaniel

Eddy Raven

Sawyer Brown

John Schneider

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

Alabama

Exile

The Judds (Wynonna and Naomi)

Oak Ridge Boys

The Whites

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

Moe Bandy & Joe Stampley

Ray Charles & Willie Nelson

Barbara Mandrell & Lee Greenwood

Anne Murray & Dave Loggins

Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers

INSTRUMENTAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

Alabama

Exile

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

Ricky Skaggs' Band

The Whites Band

INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR

Chet Atkins

Floyd Cramer

Johnny Gimble

Hargus "Pig" Robbins

Buddy Spicher



Photo by:
Bill Preston

"Million-Airs" . . . BMI Nashville held an invitation-only luncheon in August to honor its writers and publishers whose songs have achieved 1,000,000 or more air plays. The Nashville event was the first of three affairs hosted by the performing rights organization nationally to honor 75 new inductees to its million and multi-million-air plateau. Frances Preston and Roger Sovine, hosts of the occasion, presented Certificates of Achievement to songwriters and publishers representing the 40 million-air, 6 two million-air and 2 three million-air tunes which are affiliated with the Nashville division of BMI. Pictured from left to right are: Preston, BMI Sr. Vice President, Performing Rights; Even Stevens, receiving his seventh million performance award; David Malloy, who received his sixth million performance award; DebDave Music, Inc.'s Jim Malloy, accepting their seventh Million-air Award; and Sovine, BMI Vice President, Nashville Operations.

INTERNATIONAL

The Tommy Hunter Show, seen by approximately two million viewers on CBC-TV, recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. The show is hosted by "Canada's Country Gentleman" Tommy Hunter.

Japanese Country artist **Charlie Nagatoni** recently celebrated his 30th anniversary in show business by performing on the Grand Ole Opry.

Dennis Davidson Associates Ltd., a leading European firm specializing in public relations for the entertainment industry, has been chosen to exclusively represent the **First Annual International Music Video Festival** in London. A first-time international festival and market in London, IMV '85 is owned and operated by International Trade and Exhibitions Ltd. (ITE). IMV '85 will be held concurrently with **MUSEXPO '85** and **VIDEXPO '85** from October 16 through 18 at the Kensington Rainbow Exhibition Centre, London. For further information please contact Ireen Avidan or Kathy Bloom, International Trade & Exhibitions (UK) Ltd., 553/579 Harrow Road, London W10. The telephone number is (01) 968-4567, Telex: 29603 ITEXPO G.

Starblend Records, London has debuted the "Coun-

try Store" album series. The series includes 10 albums, each containing 14 tracks and a £3.99 rrp. Featured in the initial releases are **Tammy Wynette, Eddie Rabbitt, Charlie Rich, Glen Campbell, Kris Kristofferson, Dr. Hook, Marty Robbins, Crystal Gayle, Slim Whitman** and **Billie Jo Spears**. The "Country Store" series will be available in all record stores and multiples, with distribution by PRT Distribution.

Canada's **Academy of Country Music Entertainment** now boasts a membership of 812, an increase of five percent over 1984 figures.

"Sing Country", a Country Music show featuring the top names in Country Music, is airing weekly on South Africa's TV 4. The show, presented Sunday evenings at 11:30 p.m., is hosted by Clive Bruce, with alternating appearances by Radio Highveld's Wessel Germeshuzen and Springbok Radio's Lance James.

Sandy Kelly of Ireland was proclaimed the winner of the Euro Country Music Masters held in Antwerp, Belgium this past summer. Kelly took in 81 of 100 possible points, setting a three-year winning streak for her country. Placing second and third was the Swedish band **Kentucky** and Switzerland's **John Brack**.



True love! T.G. Sheppard's "Fooled Around and Fell In Love" video, in which the singer enjoys a relationship with an orangutan, was the subject of a six week T.G. Sheppard promotional campaign in August. The campaign, launched by The Nashville Network, CBS Records and the K-Mart Corporation, marked the first time in music history that such leading Country Music merchandisers have joined hands in a single promotion. The "Foolin' With T.G. Sheppard Sweepstakes", termed after his music video, included several promotional spots on TNN, sweepstakes entry blanks at K-Mart record departments, T.G. Sheppard appearances on TNN shows, in-store video play at K-Marts, racing jackets, a family vacation in San Diego, print ads in 29 regional editions of TV GUIDE and T.G. Sheppard albums. Winners of the sweepstakes will be announced October 3rd on "Nashville Now".

1st UK Album Sales Charts Show Broad Product Mix

CMA's United Kingdom Country Album Chart debuted August 17 in MUSIC WEEK, the UK's major trade magazine (see story September CLOSE UP). Reprinted here are the first two charts. The charts are compiled for CMA by Gallup, the organization which also compiles the British pop charts. Released every two weeks on Thursdays, the chart ranks the top 30 Country releases in combined sales of LP's, cassettes and compact discs. The charts are compiled using Gallup's computer-based panel of 350 record outlets combined with 30 Country Music specialist shops who complete diaries.

Following are the first two charts published:

July 22 - August 3, 1985

- 1 THE KENNY ROGERS STORY
Kenny Rogers Liberty
- 2 THE BEST OF THE EAGLES
The Eagles Asylum
- 3 DREAMLAND EXPRESS
John Denver RCA
- 4 LONE JUSTICE
Lone Justice Geffen
- 5 DR. HOOK'S GREATEST HITS
Dr. Hook Capitol
- 6 THE VERY BEST OF BRENDA LEE
Brenda Lee MCA
- 7 JOHN DENVER COLLECTION
John Denver Telstar
- 8 HIGHWAYMAN
Jennings/Nelson/Cash/Kristofferson CBS
- 9 LOVE STORIES
Don Williams K-tel
- 10 DOLLY PARTON'S GREATEST HITS
Dolly Parton RCA
- 11 LOVE HURTS
Everly Brothers K-tel
- 12 THE VERY BEST OF DON WILLIAMS
Don Williams MCA
- 13 THE BEST OF TAMMY WYNETTE
Tammy Wynette CBS
- 14 CENTERFIELD
John Fogerty Warner Brothers
- 15 DOES FORT WORTH EVER CROSS YOUR MIND
George Strait MCA
- 16 THEIR GREATEST HITS 71-75
The Eagles Asylum
- 17 THE KENNY ROGERS SINGLES ALBUM
Kenny Rogers United Artists
- 18 KERN RIVER
Merle Haggard Epic
- 19 KING OF THE ROAD
Boxcar Willie Spartan
- 20 PARTNERS IN RHYME
The Statlers Mercury/Phonogram
- 21 MAGIC MOMENTS
Jim Reeves RCA
- 22 HOTEL CALIFORNIA
The Eagles Asylum
- 23 20 GOLDEN GREATS
Glen Campbell EMI
- 24 EYES THAT SEE IN THE DARK
Kenny Rogers RCA
- 25 NATIVE SONS
The Long Ryders Zippo/Demon
- 26 LOST AND FOUND
Jason and The Scorchers Capitol/EMI
- 27 EVERLY BROTHERS REUNION CONCERT
The Everly Brothers Impression
- 28 THE VERY BEST OF THE EVERLY BROTHERS
The Everly Brothers Warner Brothers
- 29 20 OF THE BEST COUNTRY DUETS
Various RCA
- 30 LONG LONG AGO
Marty Robbins CBS

August 5 - August 17, 1985

- 1 THE KENNY ROGERS STORY
Kenny Rogers Liberty/EMI
- 2 THE BEST OF THE EAGLES
The Eagles Asylum
- 3 LONE JUSTICE
Lone Justice Geffen
- 4 DR. HOOK'S GREATEST HITS
Dr. Hook Capitol
- 5 DREAMLAND EXPRESS
John Denver RCA
- 6 THE VERY BEST OF BRENDA LEE
Brenda Lee MCA
- 7 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Slim Whitman Starblend
- 8 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Tammy Wynette Starblend
- 9 DOLLY PARTON'S GREATEST HITS
Dolly Parton RCA
- 10 TURN THE PAGE
Waylon Jennings RCA
- 11 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Billie Jo Spears Starblend
- 12 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Dr. Hook Starblend
- 13 GREATEST HITS
The Eagles Asylum
- 14 COLLECTION
John Denver RCA
- 15 CENTERFIELD
John Fogerty Warner Brothers
- 16 HOTEL CALIFORNIA
The Eagles Asylum
- 17 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Crystal Gayle Starblend
- 18 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Glen Campbell Starblend
- 19 BEST OF THE BELLAMY BROTHERS
Bellamy Brothers MCA
- 20 SIMPLY DIVINE
Philomena Begley/Ray Lynam Ritz
- 21 HIGH COUNTRY SNOWS
Dan Fogleberg Epic
- 22 HIGHWAYMAN
Jennings/Nelson/Cash/Kristofferson CBS
- 23 AT THE COUNTRY STORE
Marty Robbins Starblend
- 24 LOVE STORIES
Don Williams MCA
- 25 SINGLES
Crystal Gayle CBS
- 26 THE BEST OF THE EVERLY BROTHERS
Everly Brothers Warner Brothers
- 27 JIM REEVES
Jim Reeves Cambra
- 28 THE VERY BEST OF JIM REEVES
Jim Reeves RCA
- 29 KERN RIVER
Merle Haggard Epic
- 30 DOES FORT WORTH EVER CROSS YOUR MIND
George Strait MCA

Compiled by Gallup for the Country Music Association © 1985 CMA, Inc.



Photo by: Greg Gorman

SAWYER BROWN Capitol/Curb Records

The group Sawyer Brown burst onto the Country Music scene with all the subtlety of a hurricane. Discounting their meteoric rise to fame, their story is one of determination and unfaltering belief in God-given musical abilities and natural inclination for entertaining people. The group members have gained their success the best possible way—they've earned it.

The members first united on stage in 1981 as the touring group for recording artist, Don King. When he stopped touring, the band decided to stay together.

Taking the name of a Nashville street, the members booked themselves as Sawyer Brown. A chance audition in October, 1983 for the nationally-syndicated "Star Search" television talent hunt, landed them in Los Angeles for five months. After winning the competition for 12 straight weeks, the quintet walked away from the finals as "Best New Star Musical Group" and pocketed \$175,000 in accumulated prize monies.

A recording contract with Capitol/Curb Records followed as well as tours with Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton, Crystal Gayle, the Oak Ridge Boys and Eddie Rabbitt. Their debut album, SAWYER BROWN, is full of upbeat songs that just make people feel good, as well as a couple of pretty tunes like the third single, "Used to Blue". Their sound is unique and their style infectious; talent is the main ingredient, but their success also stems from the bubbling, fun-loving personalities they project from the stage and in their music. Lead singer Mark Miller, who also writes material for the group, is an incredibly energetic dancer whose antics carry him all over the stage.

All gifted instrumentalists, the group consists of Miller on lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Bobby Randall on lead guitar, fiddle, steel guitar, harmonica and vocals, Gregg Hubbard, keyboards and vocals, Jim Scholten on bass and Joe Smyth on drums and percussion. They are a combination of different musical backgrounds and styles who have come together to form one of Country's most exciting new sounds.

JOHN SCHNEIDER MCA Records

Within only a few short years, John Schneider has earned the reputation as one of the entertainment industry's most prolific creative talents. As an actor, he created the role of "Bo Duke" on the long-running CBS television show, "Dukes of Hazzard", and has starred in made-for-television movies, several specials and full-length feature films. In addition, he is a capable producer, screenwriter and director, with his own production company devoted to creating and producing promotional videos.



Although he has been performing most of his life (he started acting at the age of 9), his multi-faceted career is only beginning to reach its full potential with his venture into Country Music. John had recorded four albums for Scotti Brothers Records in the early 1980's and enjoyed some success with hits such as "It's Now Or Never", "Them Good Ol' Boys Are Bad", and "Dreamin'". But it was not until signing with MCA Records in 1984 that John hit his full stride. His first single for the label, "I've Been Around Enough To Know", (test-mailed in a white, unlabeled jacket) reached number one on the national Country charts, and his debut MCA album, TOO GOOD TO STOP NOW, quickly became his best-selling product to date, thanks in part to the follow-up single, "Country Girls".

For his second MCA album, TRYIN' TO OUTFRAN THE WIND, John became even more involved with his music, serving as co-producer with Jimmy Bowen, selecting material, and working on arrangements and mixes in addition to providing vocals. Country Music has opened its arms to welcome this multi-talented entertainer to the fold, and it looks as if his run will be a long one indeed.

CMA October Activities

(Continued from page 1)

The Grand Ole Opry will celebrate its 60th birthday with four days of festivities centered around the heritage of Country Music. A new format for the activities highlight this year's celebration, which will culminate on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry for the cutting of the birthday cake on Saturday, October 12. A complete schedule is listed inside.

October promises to be an exciting month for Country Music. A feeling of anticipation permeates the air as all eyes are focused on Nashville for a special week of activities.

Dorothy Ritter Honored

Close to 400 Country Music entertainers and industry leaders gathered at the Opryland Hotel September 7 to pay tribute to Dorothy Fay Ritter for her endless dedication and devoted support of the United Cerebral Palsy, Inc.

Wife of the late Country great Tex Ritter, Dorothy's tireless efforts on behalf of the handicapped began after she learned that her first born, Tom, had cerebral palsy. A pioneer advocate for the rights of the physically handicapped, Dorothy has traveled from as near as our nation's capitol to as far as South Africa spreading the word about the plight of handicapped people. She has been instrumental in raising funds for hospitals, care units, and support groups.

Joining in her struggle have been Dorothy's two sons, Tom and John. Tom, the host of a local television show in Los Angeles on KTLA-TV and announcer on KCSN-FM, has devoted his life to making others aware of the special needs and concerns of physically handicapped people. And John, who has become a household name since starring on ABC's "Three's Company" and "Three's A Crowd", is national spokesman and host for the United Cerebral Palsy "Weekend With The Stars" Telethon. Both Tom and John, along with John's wife Nancy Morgan Ritter, were in Nashville to share this special night with Dorothy.

Dorothy has been honored several times for her multitudinous contributions to the handicapped: she was the first woman ever elected National Vice President of United Cerebral Palsy Association, Inc.; she is listed in "Who's Who in America" and "International Who's Who of American Women" she has served on the President's Committee on Employment of the Handi-

A line up of top entertainers representing all genres of Music appeared at the September 22 concert fundraiser for troubled American farmers in Champaign, IL. The Nashville Network televised live 12 hours of the mammoth FarmAid benefit, which was organized by Willie Nelson, John Cougar Mellencamp and Neil Young. Prior to the event, Nelson, Mellencamp and Young met with farmers to discuss distribution of the concert proceeds. In addition to the TNN coverage, more than 70 television stations, including 17 of the nation's top 20 markets, carried a three-hour, prime time portion of the sold-out concert. And a special radio network of more than 100 stations aired the benefit. Country entertainers who performed at the benefit with Nelson and Young include: Merle Haggard, Kenny Rogers, Waylon Jennings, Loretta Lynn, George Jones, Charlie Daniels, Charley Pride, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, David Allan Coe, Lacy J. Dalton, Delbert McClinton, John Conlee, John Anderson, John Schneider, Johnny Rodriguez and Southern Pacific.



Photo courtesy of *The Tennessean*/Callie Shell

Dorothy Ritter (right), along with her son, John and daughter-in-law Nancy Morgan Ritter welcome guests to the black-tie, \$100-per-person Dorothy Ritter Tribute.

capped; and she has served both the states of Tennessee and California on numerous committees and councils concerning the physically handicapped. Furthermore, Dorothy was the first individual, and only woman, to have received President Eisenhower's Citation for Meritorious Service, "in appreciation for exceptional contribution in advancing the employment of the physically handicapped."

Long time friend and cowboy great Rex Allen, Sr. was master of ceremonies for this momentous occasion. Honorary chairmen were Minnie Pearl, and E.W. "Bud" Wendell. Sherry Bond was dinner chairman. Others included on the prestigious attendee list were Gary Morris, Bobby Bare, David Skepner, Irving Waugh, Winfield and Betty Dunn, Harlan Howard, Nashville's Mayor Richard Fulton, Mac Wiseman, Ralph Emery, former Tennessee Gov. Dunn, U.S. Sen. Albert Gore, Jr., Frances Preston, and Martin Rubenstein. Riders in the Sky added to the evening's enjoyment by playing renditions of Tex Ritter hits. Dinner tickets for the evening were \$100 per person, with all proceeds going to United Cerebral Palsy.

In Memoriam

Olan McDaniel, father of Country artist **Mel McDaniel**, died August 23 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, after a sudden heart attack. He was 62.

Ben Rosner, a founder and lifetime member of the Country Music Association, died of natural causes August 16 in New York. A developer of RCA Records Country roster, Rosner was also Chairman of the CMA Board in 1970. Rosner had most recently operated an independent consultancy firm specializing in the adult contemporary and Country formats. He is survived by his wife, Julie, and two daughters.

UPDATE

Awards

Michelle Scott was selected by the governing board of The American Biographical Institute to appear in the 13th edition of PERSONALITIES OF THE SOUTH. The award recognizes past achievements and outstanding service to the community, state and nation.

Kenny Rogers recently became the first recipient of the Roy Acuff Award, presented by The Country Music Foundation Board of Trustees to recognize the entertainer's service to mankind. The award, named in honor of the Grand Ole Opry star, was created by the Foundation's board to recognize outstanding service to mankind by Country Music artists. It is funded by *The Tennessean*, the Gannett Foundation and the Country Music Foundation. The cash stipend will be awarded to a charity designated by Rogers during official presentation ceremonies later this year.

Signings

Freddy Weller has signed with Evergreen Records. Weller is booked by World Class Talent and managed by Doc Field.

Don Williams has signed a long-term recording contract with Capitol Records.

Ronny Robbins has penned a new booking pact with Nashville's World Class Talent for exclusive representation on all of his personal appearances with the Marty Robbins Band.

Helen Cornelius has signed a recording deal with MCA-DOT Records.

Merle Haggard and **Freddy Powers** have signed with The Luckenbach Agency. Powers recently signed a contract with MCA Records.

Poco has joined Entertainment Artists for booking representation.

Greg Blackshear recently signed a booking agreement with Entertainment Planners.

Don Casper has signed a recording contract with SeaSide Records.

Sam West has signed with the Little Richie Johnson Advertising Agency.

David Houston is now on the roster of Texas-based CBT Records.

New Companies

C.P. International Promotions has been announced by Randy Bethune. The address for the new management company, headed by Chet Powers is: P.O. Box 141, Hermitage, TN 37076. The telephone numbers are (615) 889-6245 or 889-6016.

Songbird Digital announced the opening of offices at: 812 19th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203.

Breaker Wave Promotions, Inc., a full service national promotion company designed to assist both new and established artists gain early national chart action, has been opened. The company's address is 7020 Church Street, Suite 533, Brentwood, TN 37027. The telephone number is (615) 822-6391.

Bug Music, a Los Angeles-based independent publishing company, has opened a Nashville office located at 65 Music Square East, 37203. The telephone number is (615) 321-4593.

Appalachia Record Company, Inc. has been formed for the promotion of new artists, concerts, radio and video production. ARC's mailing address is 425 South Water, Gallatin, TN 37066; (615) 451-1916.

Nashville Sound Music Publishing Co. has been formed by Andrew Wilson Jr. The company is located at: 205 Westcott Street, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 2G8. The telephone number is (705) 742-2381.

Acclaim Records has announced the opening of offices at 425 J. C. Bradford Building, Nashville, TN 37219. Owned by Vernon Mataseje and Stan Campbell, the company's telephone number is (615) 331-8780.

Barnes Enterprises, which manufactures battery-operated wall clocks and plaques featuring illustrations of Country artists on the design, has been formed by Don Barnes. The manufacturer is located at 100 Oak Street, Ponteau, OK 74953. The telephone number is (918) 647-9459.

Partner Productions has been formed by Bobby Fischer and Dan Mitchell. The company, which features record productions, artist development and co-writing songs is located at 50 Music Square West, Penthouse Suite 902, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 329-2278.

Video Views

"**You're Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone**", Judy Rodman's new video has been released. The first ever music video produced for the MTM Music Group, the video features Rodman reminiscing over "times gone by" as she composes a farewell letter to her boyfriend. The video was produced by the Nashville-based production company, Scene Three, and is currently playing on such channels as VH-1, the Nashville Network and Florida-based Odyssey.

"The World Is Round", Doug Peter's new video was released in late August. The video marks Comstock Records first Country video. "The World Is Round" was produced by Patty Parker, A&R director for Comstock Records.

On The Move

Mark Sedgwick has been promoted to production supervisor for the Nashville-based film and television production company, Scene Three. In addition, **Joe Askins** has been elevated to post-production supervisor.

Eve Vaupel is now public relations representative for ASCAP, Nashville.

James V. Carlson has been tapped as associate director, product marketing for Columbia Records, Nashville.

Dan Mahoney has been employed by KEBC FM, Oklahoma City, OK, in the news department. KEBC has also named **Sue Spencer** to the 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. air shift and **Tom Furlong** as sales manager.

Ken Yates, former vice president of production at Kragen and Company, has been appointed president of Kragen Productions.

Mike Feurt has joined the sales staff of Top Billing International.

Susan Galardi has joined the Radio Advertising Bureau (RAB) as editor of SOUND MANAGEMENT. Also, **Ruth Friedman** has advanced to art director for the national sales and marketing arm of the radio industry.

William W. Traylor has been appointed executive vice president and manager of The Benson Company. **Philip M. Brower** is now executive vice president and general manager of Zondervan/Singspiration Music Publishers.

Donna Hilley, formerly a vice president of Tree International, has been promoted to executive vice president of the company. In addition, **Joe Huffman** has assumed the position of director of business affairs and **Harrienne Condra** has been named general manager of the company's copyright division.

Randy Nite is now heading Nite Records of America.

Paula Jackson, **Jean Kelly** and **Joyce May** have joined the sales department of KAJUN 103-FM, Baton Rouge, LA, as account executives. **Stephanie Bell** has also been hired as news director/producer for the station.

Barry Beckett has been named director of artist and repertoire of Warner Bros. Records, Nashville.

Hiram Negron has been named Latin repertoire manager for Peer-Southern Organization.

Garry Velletri has been chosen to head the Nashville office of Bug Music.

Robert G. Hall has been named programming manager for Satellite Music Network's four formats.

Jim West, president of The Jim West Company, a Dallas-based broadcast service company, has assumed the marketing and promotion representation of McVay Media.

Gary Overton has been appointed director of creative services for Charlie Monk Music.

Moon Mullins, former program director at WDAF, Kansas City, MO, has taken over as program director at WHN, New York. He replaces Joel Rabb.



The Country Music Association extends sincere congratulations to former CMA president Ken Kragen who will be honored by the Boys' Clubs of Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Santa Monica, California on October 16 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Ken is the recipient of the Fourth Annual Greater Los Angeles CITIZEN OF THE YEAR Award, presented in recognition of his community involvement and his singular accomplishment in spearheading the USA for Africa's "We Are The World" project. Ken has been the recipient of numerous honors in 1985 for his untiring efforts on behalf of the world's hungry. A dedicated humanitarian and champion of the hungry, Ken received the first-ever HUMANITARIAN AWARD from the National Academy of Video Arts & Sciences and was a major contributor to the Live Aid concert in July. He recently returned from a trip to Africa to view the famine plight and was on hand in New York to accept an award for "Best Group Video" during the Second Annual MTV Awards.

His tireless spirit and unflinching endeavors on behalf of his fellow man have brought hope to millions of starving people. We commend Ken and wish him much continued success.

HOME TAPING

The following article was written by Amy Longworth of the **Coalition to Save America's Music** in Washington.

Remember the old story about the king and the bright young fellow who invented the game of chess? The game so delighted the king that he promised the young man whatever his heart desired. The young man's request was simple: He asked the king to place a single grain of wheat on one square, then two in the next, then four in the next, continuing the doubling until all the chess squares had been filled. Long before the counting was done, the king's storehouses were all emptied. The number of pieces of grain the king owed the young man was two followed by 64 zeroes—a number so large there wasn't even a name for it!

The principle the young man applied to getting rich can just as easily be applied to getting information around. And that is what grassroots action is all about: multiplying contacts to achieve a wide distribution of a particular message, and using that message to enlist support for achieving a goal.

The coalition to SAVE AMERICA'S MUSIC (SAM) has mounted a grassroots campaign on the issue of home taping. The idea is to inform as many people as possible about the harm that home taping causes and the simple legislative solution that can benefit both those who want to continue to tape and those who are hurt by it.

How Grassroots Organizing Works

The SAM grassroots strategy is a fairly simple, six step process:

- (1) **DEVELOP A MESSAGE.** SAM has come up with a straightforward, three-part message: (a) Home taping is unfair to artists and others in the music industry. (b) There is an alternative. (c) We need your help in convincing Congress to make this alternative a law.
- (2) **ESTABLISH A NETWORK.** Find those persons and groups who are most directly affected by home taping. Inform them of the impact of home taping and enlist their support. SAM has enlisted the support of more than 20 trade associations affected by home taping. Fan clubs and other groups of music lovers have also been contacted.

- (3) **BUILD LEVERAGE.** Identify the key spokespersons who can participate in media interviews. Corporate leaders, recording artists and others have been recruited to help SAM spread the word.
- (4) **GET THE WORD TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE.** SAM has arranged for editorials, op ed pieces, interviews, and other activities that will raise the level of public interest in home taping and prompt others to join us.
- (5) **TARGET DECISION MAKERS.** Bring the message on home taping to decision makers from two directions; first, from those who have the most influence on them—voters, and second, from the key spokespersons, whose personal and professional credibility give weight to their opinions.
- (6) **GET FEEDBACK AND RETURN IT TO THE SYSTEM.** SAM serves as a clearinghouse for information on the home taping issue. They direct this information to decision makers to give them a sense of what people around the country think about the issue. To be most effective, SAM needs to hear about any action you take and should receive copies of the letters you write to Congress.

From Information to Action

There you have it. Grassroots organizing is simply a fancy term for decreasing the time and distance between getting information and taking action—then focusing that action where it is most likely to achieve results.

You can help the efforts of the SAM Coalition in the following ways:

- Identify those around you who are most affected by home taping and encourage them to help. Show them—concretely—how their interests are affected.
- Write letters to your Senators and Representatives about home taping. The SAM Coalition can help by providing sample letters and suggesting activities.
- Provide SAM with as much data and exposure as you can. In particular, the Coalition needs mailing lists and forums for getting the word out.

WANTED—Persons who live in or near Chicago, Nashville, Los Angeles or New York to represent Save America's Music (SAM) at national conventions and expos in these cities. Interested volunteers should call collect: (202) 872-3665. Ask for Margie or Amy.

Did you know . . . Nashville currently **actively** represents more copyrights than any other city in the United States.

Join the coalition to save America's music by attending a **Country Music Association/National Music Publishers Association Rally/Reception** supporting the recently introduced audio recording act, which is pending in Congress. "The Fast Forward March" will be held at the **Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel** in Nashville on **Tuesday, October 15, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Speaking on how the proposed law would work, and how each and every one of us can join the campaign to get it through Congress this session will be **Louise Mandrell, Roger Miller, George David Weiss of the Songwriters Guild, Ralph Peer of the Peer/Southern Organization and Stan Gortikov of the Recording Industry Association of America.** Americans tape the equivalent of **564 million albums annually, decreasing the royalties of lyricists, recording artists, publishers, musicians and vocalists, and cutting the income of record retailers, distributors, rack jobbers, manufacturers, pressers, printers and suppliers.** **PLEASE, DON'T LET YOUR MUSIC DIE, JOIN "THE FAST-FORWARD MARCH" TO SAVE AMERICA'S MUSIC.**

(Continued from page 9)

The Canadian Country Music Awards, sponsored by the Academy of Country Music Entertainment, were held September 8 at the Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton, Alberta. Canadian Country stars Carroll Baker and Dick Damron were joined by Charley Pride to co-host the show. Winners of the awards were: Dick Damron—Entertainer of the Year; "Riding on the Wind", Gary Fjellgaard and Slim Creek—Single of the Year; **THE CLOSEST THING TO YOU**, Terry Carisse, Savannah Records—Album of the Year; "Counting The I Love You's", Terry Carisse and Bruce Rawlins (composers)—Song of the Year; Carroll Baker—Female Vocalist of the Year; Terry Carisse—Male Vocalist of the Year; The Mercey Brothers—Group of the Year; Tim Taylor and Anita Perras—Duo of the Year; and Ginny Mitchell—Vista (Rising Star) Award. The top selling album in Canada was Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers' RCA effort, **ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS**.

Writers Group, a one-year-old song publishing company on Nashville's Music Row celebrated its first anniversary in September by having the three biggest hits on the Country charts—**The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's** "Modern Day Romance" was number one, **The Forester Sisters'** "I Fell In Love Again Last Night" was number two and hitting number three was **Sawyer Brown's** "Used To Blue". All three songs were penned by Writers Group songwriters.

CLOSE UP would like to acknowledge **Max D. Barnes** as co-writer of George Jones' single, "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes". The release is best described as a travelogue through the history of Country Music.

The Creative Radio Network has announced exclusive representation of TM's "The Story of Country Music". The show is sold as a 48 hour special, but special emphasis will be directed in the marketing of the show during Country Music Month. The program is available as either a weekend package (12 hours each weekend) or it may be featured daily, with Country Music Month tie-ins throughout the month of October. For further information, contact The Creative Radio Network at 1-800-392-9999 or 1-818-787-0410.

Charlie Daniels will host The Academy of Country Music's "3rd Annual Celebrity Golf Classic" for charity. The 18 hole tournament will be held October 28th at the De Bell Golf Course in Burbank, CA. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the T. J. Martell Foundation for leukemia and cancer research.

The National Entertainment Journalists Association will hold the Third Annual Entertainment Journalists Seminar Saturday, November 2 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music. Keynote speaker for the seminar, whose theme is "Entertainment Reporting: Its Place In Journalism", will be TV producer, screenwriter and author Chet Hagan. The seminar will also feature nationally recognized leaders in journalism and entertainment on four panel discussions: "Writing Hype or Reporting News", "Lookin' For Opportunities in All the Right Places", "This Business Called Music About Which You Write" and "Selling Yourself". Deadline for pre-registration is October 23rd. For seminar information contact Vernell Hackett at (615) 327-2484.

"Half Nelson", an album of duet projects by **Willie Nelson**, was released on CBS/Columbia Records in early September. A highlight of the album is a duet with **Hank Williams, Sr.** entitled "I Told A Lie To My Heart". The Williams' song, which has never appeared on a commercial record, was discovered by the staff of the Country Music Foundation in a collection of original demonstration recordings preserved by the pioneering Columbia Records staff producer Art Satherley. According to Bill Ivey of the Foundation, the demos were recorded by Williams in late 1946 or early 1947 when he became a staff writer for Acuff-Rose Publishing. "I Told A Lie To My Heart" includes some additional rhythm guitar measures added by Ivey, plus a guitar solo and harmony vocals featuring Nelson.

"Meet Me In Montana", **Marie Osmond** and **Dan Seal's** current Capitol Records duet, became the focal point of a promotion gimmick in September. Sponsored by Northwest Orient Airlines, the state of Montana, Capitol Records and key Country radio stations in fourteen major markets, the promotion was targeted at bringing attention to the single and encouraging skiers to visit Montana ski resorts this fall. The heart of the "Meet Me in Montana" campaign was a fourteen city promotion involving tie-ins with Country radio stations and local ski shops. Included in the promotion was the chance to win a vacation package to a Montana ski resort.

FACTFILE

(*denotes birthdays)

OCTOBER (Country Music Month)

- 1** ***Bonnie Owens**; Blanchard, Oklahoma
*President Jimmy Carter
*Julie Andrews
*Richard Harris
Beginning of the first baseball World Series, 1903
- 2** ***Leon Rausch**; Springfield, Missouri. Vocalist with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys
*Groucho Marx
*Mohandas K. Gandhi
Merle Haggard and the Strangers' "Okie from Muskogee" awarded Gold album, 1970
- 3** ***Eddie Cochran**; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
*Gore Vidal
Elvis Presley sings for the first time in public at age ten in a talent contest at a dairy show, 1945
Abraham Lincoln issues a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day, 1863
- 4** ***Lloyd Green**; Mobile, Alabama
***Leroy Van Dyke**; Flat Creek, Missouri
*President Rutherford B. Hayes
*Charlton Heston
Willie Nelson tops Country charts with "Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain", 1975
First airing of television series "Leave It To Beaver", 1957
- 5** ***Johnny Duncan**; Dublin, Texas
*President Chester Arthur
Eddie Rabbitt's "Step by Step" awarded Gold album, 1981
Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon, Jr. complete the first nonstop flight across the Pacific Ocean, 1931
- 6** YOM KIPPUR
The first spoken words in a full-length motion picture mark the birth of talking films in "The Jazz Singer", 1927
- 7** ***Uncle Dave Macon**; Smart Station, Tennessee
***Jim Halsey**; Independence, Kansas
Edgar Allen Poe dies, 1849
Waylon Jennings' "Ol' Waylon" awarded Platinum album, 1977
Tokyo Rose sentenced to 10 years in prison for treason, 1949
- 8** ***Pete Drake**; Atlanta, Georgia
Hank Snow and Hubert Long elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1979
Ralph Peer and Floyd Tillman elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1984
- 9** ***Goebel Reeves**; Sherman, Texas
*John Lennon
Gene Autry's first recording session, 1929
Grandpa Jones elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1976
Little Jimmy Dickens' "May The Bird of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose", enters the Country charts, 1965
Yale College founded, 1701
- 10** ***Tanya Tucker**; Seminole, Texas
***John Prine**; Maywood, Illinois
Uncle Art Satherley elected to Country Music Hall of Fame, 1971
Merle Travis elected to Country Music Hall of Fame, 1977
Tennessee Ernie Ford's "Spirituals" awarded Gold album, 1961
- 11** ***Dottie West**; McMinnville, Tennessee
***Gene Watson**; Palestine, Texas
*Eleanor Roosevelt
Kitty Wells and Paul Cohen elected to Country Music Hall of Fame, 1977
- 12** COLUMBUS DAY
Merle Haggard enters the Country charts with the controversial hit "Okie From Muskogee", 1969
Anne Murray's "Let's Keep It That Way" awarded Gold album, 1978
Roy Acuff employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1937
America discovered by Christopher Columbus, 1492
- 13** ***Marie Osmond**; Odgen, Utah
***Lacy J. Dalton**; Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania
***Anita Kerr**; Memphis, Tennessee
*Margaret Thatcher
Minnie Pearl elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1975
Johnny Cash and the Sons of Pioneers elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1980. In his acceptance speech, Cash notes that June Carter is the only person with a mother, uncle, aunt, and husband in the Hall of Fame.
- 14** ***Melba Montgomery**; Iron City, Tennessee
***Dorsey Dixon**; Darlington, South Carolina
*President Dwight Eisenhower
*Roger Moore
Carter Family and Bill Monroe elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1970
Glen Campbell's "Galveston" awarded Gold single, 1969
- 15** Gene Autry elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1969
Chet Atkins and Patsy Cline elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1973
Pee Wee King and Owen Bradley elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1974
Loretta Lynn makes her first appearance on the Grand Ole Opry, singing "Honky Tonk Girl", 1960
- 16** ***Stoney Cooper**; Harman, West Virginia
Jimmie Davis elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1972
First operation with the patient under ether anesthesia performed at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, 1846
- 17** ***Earl Thomas Conley**; Portsmouth, Ohio
*Arthur Miller
*Rita Hayworth
RCA formed, 1919
Glen Campbell's "Gentle On My Mind" awarded Gold album, 1968
Al Capone convicted of income tax evasion, 1931
Albert Einstein arrives in the United States, 1933
- 18** *George C. Scott
*Pierre Trudeau
Elvis Presley arrested in Memphis when he and Ed Hooper, a gas station attendant, engage in a fist fight, 1956
Bob Wills elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1968
- 19** ***Jeannie C. Riley**; Anson, Texas
***Art Satherley**; Bristol, England
***Jim Reeves**; Panola County, Texas
Debby Boone's "You Light Up My Life" awarded Gold single, 1977
"Star Spangled Banner" sung for first time in Baltimore, 1814
- 20** ***Grandpa Jones**; Niagra, Kentucky
***Stuart Hamblen**; Kellyville, Texas
***Wanda Jackson**; Maud, Oklahoma
*Mickey Mantle
*Art Buchwald
Red Foley, J. L. Frank, Jim Reeves and Steve Sholes elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1967
The New York Yankees baseball team arrives in Japan to play 16 exhibition games against Japanese professional teams, 1955
- 21** ***Owen Bradley**; Westmoreland, Tennessee
*Mel Street
Thomas Edison invents the first workable electric incandescent lamp, 1879

NOVEMBER

- 22** *Annette Funicello
Ernest Tubb and Eddy Arnold elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1965
George D. Hay, Uncle Dave Macon and Jim Denny elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1966
- 23** *Johnny Carson
Charlie Rich's "There Won't Be Anymore" awarded Gold album, 1974
Maybelle Carter dies, 1978
- 24** UNITED NATIONS DAY
NATIONAL POPCORN WEEK
- 25** *Minnie Pearl; Grinders Switch, Tennessee
*Pablo Picasso
"The Johnny Cash Portrait/His Greatest Hits, Volume 2" awarded Gold album, 1977
The Charge of the Light Brigade, 1854
- 26** *Jaclyn Smith
Roy Acuff's first recording session, 1936
Anne Murray's "You Needed Me" awarded Gold single, 1978
Erie Canal opens, 1852
- 27** *Floyd Cramer; Shreveport, Louisiana
*Dallas Frazier; Spiro, Oklahoma
*Theodore Roosevelt
Ernest Tubb's first recording session, 1936
- 28** *Charlie Daniels; Wilmington, North Carolina
*Roy "Dusty" Rogers, Jr.
Bill Monroe employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1939
Harvard College founded, 1636
Statue of Liberty dedicated, 1886
- 29** *Sonny Osborne; Hyden, Kentucky
*Richard Dreyfuss
Hank Snow's first recording session, 1936
Sir Walter Raleigh executed, 1618
Wall Street Stock Market Crash, 1929
Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton's "Islands In The Stream" hits No. 1 on Country, adult contemporary and pop charts, 1983
- 30** *Patsy Montana; Hot Springs, Arkansas
*T. Graham Brown; Atlanta, Georgia
*President John Adams
*Henry Winkler
Roy Orbison's "Oh, Pretty Woman" awarded Gold single, 1964
- 31** HALLOWEEN
*Dale Evans; Uvalde, Texas
*Dan Rather
*Lee Grant
*Michael Landon
Alabama makes first Grand Ole Opry appearance, 1982
Harry Houdini dies, 1924
- 1** *Bill Anderson; Columbia, South Carolina
*Keith Stegall; Wichita Falls, Texas
Uncle Jimmy Thompson's first recording session, 1926
Bob Willis' first recording session, 1929
Two Puerto Rican Nationalists attempt to assassinate President Truman, 1950
- 2** *Charlie Walker; Collin County, Texas
*J. D. Souther; Detroit, Michigan
*Burt Lancaster
*President James K. Polk
Tennessee Ernie Ford's "Sixteen Tons" hits charts, 1955
Hank Williams, Jr.'s "Whiskey Bent & Hell Bound" awarded Gold album, 1981
KDKA radio station in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania becomes the first regular broadcasting service in the United States, 1920
Jimmy Carter elected President, 1976
- 3** Jimmie Rodgers, Hank Williams and Fred Rose become first members elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1961
- 4** *Kirk McGee; Franklin, Tennessee
*Delbert McClinton; Lubbock, Texas
*Walter Cronkite
*Will Rogers
- 5** *Roy Rogers; Cincinnati, Ohio
*Gram Parsons; Winter Haven, Florida
*Art Garfunkel
Johnny Horton killed in car accident, 1960
- 6** *Doug Sahn; San Antonio, Texas
*Stonewall Jackson; Tabor City, California
*John Fahey; Cecil City, Maryland
*Guy Clark; Monihans, Texas
*Sally Field
Tex Ritter elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1964
Abraham Lincoln elected President, 1860
- 7** *Archie Campbell; Bulls Gap, Tennessee
*Billy Graham
*Joni Mitchell
The Charlie Daniels Band's "Full Moon" awarded Platinum album, 1980
- A.P. Carter dies, 1960
- 8** *Patti Page; Tulsa, Oklahoma
*Scotty Wiseman; Spruce Pine, North Carolina
*Bonnie Raitt
Abraham Lincoln re-elected, 1864
Franklin D. Roosevelt elected President, 1932
- 9** *George D. Hay; Attica, Indiana
*Bob Gibson; New York, New York
*James Talley; Tulsa, Oklahoma
Hank Locklin employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1960
George Jones made his first appearance on the Country charts with "Why Baby Why", 1955
Roy Acuff elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, 1962
- 10** *Donna Fargo; Mount Airy, North Carolina
*Dave Loggins; Bristol, Tennessee
David "Stringbean" Akeman and his wife murdered, 1973
Gene Autry's "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer" awarded Gold single, 1969
- 11** VETERANS DAY
*Narvel Felts; Missouri
"God Bless America" first sung by Kate Smith, 1939
- 12** *Barbara Fairchild; Knoebel, Arkansas
*Neil Young; Toronto, Canada
- 13** *Jeannie Kendall; St. Louis, Missouri
*Ray Wylie Hubbard; Hugo, Oklahoma
Dolly Parton's "Great Balls of Fire" awarded Gold album, 1979
Del Wood employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1953
Segregation of the races on public buses is ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, 1956
- 14** *Colleen Peterson; Peterboro, Canada
*Mamie Eisenhower
Crystal Gayle's "We Must Believe in Magic" awarded Gold album, 1977
First streetcar makes its appearance in New York, 1832
Moby Dick first published, 1851
- 15** *C.W. McCall; Audobon, Iowa
*Petula Clark
Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union are adopted, 1777
Pike's Peak first sighted, 1806

(Factfile is compiled from *The Illustrated Country Almanac* by Richard Wootton (Dial Press), *The Illustrated History of Country Music* by the editors of *Country Music* magazine (Doubleday/Dolphin Books), *The People's Almanac #2* by David Wallechinsky and Irving Wallace (The Kingsport Press), *The Encyclopedia of Folk Country & Western Music* by Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon (St. Martin's Press), as well as from original research).

D ATEBOOK

Exhibit '85 convention and trade show/Hilton Hotel/Atlanta, GA

December

- 2-4** International Association of Fairs and Expositions/13th annual convention and trade show/MGM Grand Hotel/Las Vegas, NV
17 NMPA Board of Directors/New York, NY

January 1986

- 2-4** 10th Annual New Year's '86 Festival/Convention Center/Jekyll Island, GA
13-17 NAB Board of Directors/Mullet Bay Resort/St. Martin, Virgin Islands
23-24 CMA Board of Directors/London, England
23-26 The Professional Live Entertainment Touring Industry Summit '86, the sixth annual national convention and trade show/Fountainbleau Hotel/Miami, FL
24-26 Bluegrass Music Awards/Opryland USA Hotel/Nashville, TN
27-31 MIDEM '86/Cannes, France

March

- 22** "The East Tennessee Tribute to Country Music" concert/Knoxville Civic Coliseum/Knoxville, TN

April, 1986

- 6-9** Gospel Music Association "GMA '86"/Nashville, TN
15-17 CMA Board of Directors/Kansas City, MO

July, 1986

- 15-17** CMA Board of Directors/San Francisco, CA

October

- 1** NARAS Celebrity Fashion Show/Nashville, TN
10-12 Grand Ole Opry Birthday Celebration/Nashville, TN
10-12 National Association of Recording Merchandisers' Independent Distributors Conference/Sheraton Bal Harbour/Bal Harbor, FL
11-13 CMA Talent Buyers Entertainment Marketplace/Nashville, TN
13 Nashville Songwriter's Association International Dinner/Hyatt Regency Hotel/Nashville, TN
13 Sunday Morning Country featuring Barbara Fairchild, George Hamilton IV, Vernon Oxford, Connie Smith, The Baboocks, The Fox Brothers and Connie Smith/10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon/Opryland Hotel/Nashville, TN
14 CMA Awards Show/Nashville, TN
15 CMA Board of Directors/First American Center/Nashville, TN
16 NMPA Board of Directors/Nashville, TN
16 CMA Membership Meeting/Opryland Hotel/Nashville, TN

- 16-18** IMV '85, Musexpo '85 and Videxpo '85/Kensington Exhibition Centre/London, England
16-18 Musexpo '85 and Videxpo '85/Kensington Exhibition Centre/London, England
22-24 Gospel Music Association Board of Directors/Seattle, WA
24-25 Gospel Music Association Board of Directors/Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
25 Wild Turkey Battle of the Bands Finals/Tennessee Performing Arts Center/Nashville, TN
30-1 Amusement Business Seminar/"Entertainment Marketing In The 80's/Sheraton Premier Hotel/Los Angeles, CA

November

- 4-8** Acoustical Society of America/Fall meeting/Hyatt Regency Hotel/Nashville, TN
5-8 Adweek Global Creativity Conference/New York, NY
15 CMA Board of Directors/Commerce Union Bank/Nashville, TN
19 NMPA Board of Directors/New York, NY
21-23 International Associations of Amusement Parks & Attractions/

CMA
**Close
up**

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