

Close Up


MAGAZINE

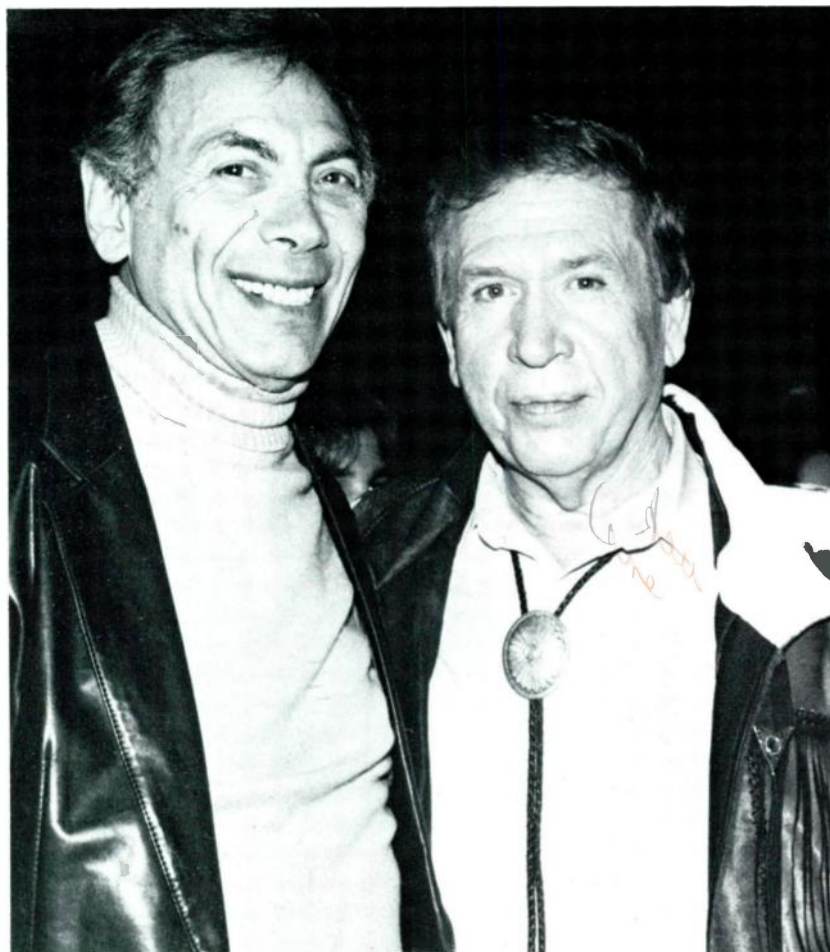
March 1989



Buck Owens was through with Country Music 10 years ago. He decided to let the younger artists wrestle with the ever-changing style and finicky charts. Besides, he'd made plenty of money, invested it smartly and could exit as grandly as he'd entered.

Then a long-legged rebellious sort walked into his office one Friday afternoon at nearly 5:00 p.m. with no letter, phone call or appointment and changed Owen's life. That "sort" was none other than Dwight Yoakam. The two did an impromptu performance that night and later a duet rendition of "Streets of Bakersfield" on CMA's 30th Anniversary Show in January of '88.

The result of these unsolicited events is a new recording contract with his old label, Capitol Records, a current lp titled *HOT DOG!* and nearly 80 bookings of his own this year along with his band The Buckaroos. 



Capitol Records artist Buck Owens recently performed a special showcase at the Roxy Theater in Los Angeles. Buck strolled out and gave the VIP audience a taste of *HOT DOG*, his new album, as well as classic Owens country that has spanned the decades. Singer/actor Ed Ames enjoyed the show.

— Photo by: Henry Diltz

CONTENTS

Cover Story	2
CMA Reinstates Video Award	3
Legend Series	5
Horizon	6
Baillie and The Boys	
Liner Notes	8
Don Potter	
Side Bar	
I Write The Songs	10
Guy Clark	
Aircheck	12
WDGY	
Phil Williams	
Behind The Lens	14
International	16
Newsbreakers	18
Television	19
Update	20
Newline	
Signings	
Media	
Awards	
On The Move	
New Companies	
Fact File	26
Datebook	28

CMA Board Reinstates Music Video Award

The Country Music Association Board of Directors has voted to reinstate the CMA Music Video of the Year Award. The award will now go to the video director instead of the artist. The decision was made at the board's first quarterly meeting February 2 in San Diego.

CMA's first music video award was given on the 1985 awards show. The award was discontinued last year amid discussion that members were voting on the artist's name recognition and not necessarily on the video's creative excellence.

"Music videos have become a more meaningful artist development tool and the new level of creativity in these videos needs to be recognized," said Bruce Hinton, chairman of the awards criteria committee and president of MCA.

In other awards related business, the Hall of Fame Panel of Electors was increased from 200 to 350. The panel elects members into the Country Music Hall of Fame. The additional 150 electors will make the panel more diverse. Electors must be current CMA members and have at least 10 years experience in Country Music.

In other business, a publicity committee was formed to develop and recommend new publicity/public relations efforts. "We want to raise the visibility of Country Music and what CMA is doing throughout the world," said Donna Hilley, committee chairman and chief operating officer of Tree International.

One of the first projects the committee will work on is a series of luncheons for each CMA membership category.

The international committee announced that U.K. offices of the six major record labels — Capitol (EMI), CBS, MCA, PolyGram, RCA (BMG) and WEA — will coordinate their efforts on Route 89. This is CMA's fourth promotion and merchandising campaign to spotlight Country Music in Europe.

The Fan Fair committee approved two price increases. Tickets for Fan Fair were increased from \$60 to \$65, the first hike in five years. Fees for booth spaces will be \$40 instead of \$30, the rate since 1982.

Board members also viewed CMA's new sales video and leave behind piece. The video and color handout will be used to sell advertising agencies on the benefits of Country Music.

Both selling tools are based on the CMA-commissioned 1988 Arbitron study, "The Country Music Radio Listener . . . A New Profile."

The board approved 34 new organizational members. They also heard a report on the Country Music Foundation from director Bill Ivey. Ivey said recent surveys of visitors to the museum revealed the Hall of Fame is a bigger draw than previously thought. Ivey outlined for CMA's newer board members the difference between CMA and CMF which are frequently confused as being the same. CMF operates autonomously with a separate staff and board of trustees.

The next CMA board meeting will be in Amsterdam, Holland May 3-4. CMA board members receive no compensation for serving and pay their own expenses to attend meetings.



CMA Chairman of the Board Roger Sovine (right) presents Admiral Jack Fetterman with a plaque for his support of CMA and Country Music.



The McCarters get some coaching at the Top Gun school from a Navy pilot.



Michael Johnson (right) receives a remembrance of his performance aboard the USS Independence.



Dwight Yoakam didn't have to travel far to San Diego for his part in the show.
— Photo by: Petty Officer Barbara Vega



RCA recording artist Lorrie Morgan sings "Trainwreck of Emotion" for about 3,000 service people.
— Photo by: Petty Officer Barbara Vega



Alabama member Randy Owen sits in the cockpit of a Navy fighter jet and gets a quick lesson from Admiral Red Best at the Top Gun school. — Photo by: Petty Officer Barbara Vega



Keith Whitley performs some of his hits for a receptive crowd.
— Photo by: Petty Officer Barbara Vega



Connie Bradley, CMA president, gets a cap and a plaque from Capt. Buzz Needham on board the USS Independence.

cma
COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Close Up

MARCH 1989
Vol. XXIV No. 3

Editor:

Kelley Gattis

Editorial Assistant:

Teresa George

Research Assistant:

Suzanne Gibson

Art Director:

Bob McConnell

McConnell Graphics/Nashville

Circulation Assistants:

Pam Frazier

Jeanette Gölter

Interns:

Fronza Throckmorton

Vanderbilt University

Jamanda Wilson

Belmont College

Country Music Association Staff: EXECUTIVE:

Jo Walker-Meador, executive director;

Ed Benson, associate executive director;

Peggy Whitaker, administrative assistant;

Marilyn Weldin, executive department

secretary; **ADMINISTRATIVE:** Tammy

Mitchell, administrative services coordi-

nator; Ruthanna Abel, Communications

Services Supervisor; Dennis Simpson,

word processing specialist; Jack Hice, mail

clerk; **MEMBERSHIP:** Janet Bozeman,

director; Pam Frazier, membership develop-

ment assistant; Jeanette Gölter,

membership services assistant; **PUBLIC**

INFORMATION: Kelley Gattis, coordi-

nator; Teresa George, editorial assistant;

Suzanne Gibson, research assistant;

SPECIAL PROJECTS: Helen Farmer,

director of programs and special projects;

Bobette Dudley, senior program assistant;

Deirdre Volpe, program assistant; **EURO-**

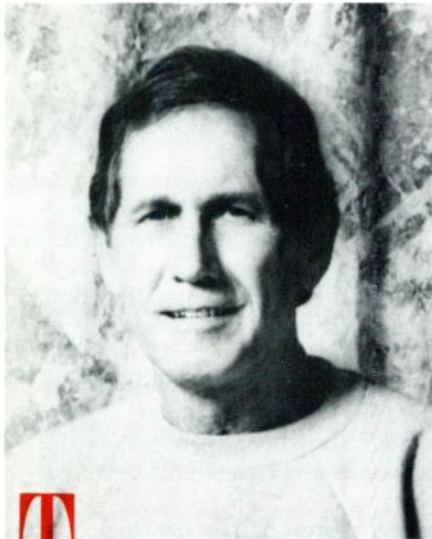
PEAN OFFICE, LONDON: Martin

Satterthwaite, director.

Statements of fact and opinion are made on the responsibility of the contributors alone, and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers, directors or members of CMA. Copyright: 1989 by the Country Music Association, Inc. Materials may not be reproduced without written permission.

CLOSE-UP MAGAZINE (ISSN 0896-372X) is the official monthly publication of the Country Music Association, Inc., 7 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203-4383. (615) 244-2840. Available to CMA members only. CLOSE-UP's subscription price of \$12.00 per year is included in membership dues. Second Class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CMA CLOSE-UP, P.O. Box 22299, Nashville, TN 37202-2299.

Legend Series



Three living legends have been confirmed for CMA's Legend Series. Master guitarist Chet Atkins, producer Owen Bradley and entertainer Brenda Lee will participate in a question and answer session open to the music industry Thursday March 23 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Belmont College's Massey Auditorium. One other guest will be announced soon.

CMA members and music business students will be admitted free. Non-members will pay a small charge at the door.

David Conrad, 1988 CMA president and current membership subcommittee chairman, said the seminar will benefit those new to the music industry as well as experienced professionals.

"Some of the most innovative people in the business will tell us what they did right and what they would change if they could. They'll show us how the Nashville music industry has evolved", Conrad said.

"It's well known that Chet and Owen are two of Nashville's most important driving forces. They helped shape the Nashville recording community during its formative years in the 50s and 60s, and Brenda is the world's biggest selling female recording artist."

Bradley grew up around Nashville and began playing piano in local bars when he was 15. Ten years later, he produced his first record for Red Foley. As chief producer for Decca Records from 1947 to 1977, Bradley was responsible for some of Country's biggest records by such artists as Patsy Cline, Ernest Tubbs, Loretta Lynn, Brenda Lee, Kitty Wells and Conway Twitty. He also built the first Music Row recording studio, the Quonset Hut.

Atkins, probably the world's most famous guitar player, has won numerous Grammys and CMA awards and his

genius as a stylist has been recognized in several musical genres. Atkins not only plays music — he's shaped dozens of artists' careers. He was named head of RCA/Nashville in the mid 1950s. The first person Atkins signed was Don Gibson. Atkins went on to produce Jim Reeves, Dottie West, Waylon Jennings, Perry Como, Eddy Arnold and Al Hirt. He's also been credited as the principle architect of the "Nashville Sound".


Lee was called "Little Miss Dynamite" when she began her singing career at age 12. Her voice and lively stage performances have spanned more than three decades making her a cornerstone in the music industry. Lee is known for hits such as the million-selling "I'm Sorry", "Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree", and "I'm All Alone", among others. She has performed throughout her own nation as well as some 52 foreign countries often breaking the record for box office returns. Lee has honors from the U.S. music community as well as those in Britain, Mexico and Belgium for her musical talent and original style.

"Owen, Chet and Brenda have been in the business for decades and are still enjoying thriving careers", Conrad said.

Atkins has a new CBS album and his music is not only enjoyed by Country fans, but jazz and new age as well.

Bradley produced k. d. lang's SHADOWLAND album (which also features Lee in the "Angels' Medley"). Lee will star in Opryland U.S.A.'s "Music, Music, Music" for a second season.

Bill Ivey, of the Country Music Foundation will interview the "Legend Series" guests. Then the session will be open to questions from the audience.

For more information, contact CMA's Membership Department, P.O. Box 22299, 7 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37202; (615) 244-2840. 



Baillie and The Boys



Kathy Baillie and Michael Bonagura know that good things come to those who wait. It took Baillie and Bonagura seven years of dating before they married. Four years of fertility tests to have a baby. And 13 years of singing the Ramada Inn circuit before they hit the big time.

Although the couple is on the road together, they don't get much time alone, especially as new parents of 10-month-old Alyssa.

Baillie toured until she was seven-and-a-half-months pregnant, went to an RCA Records party aboard Opryland's General Jackson showboat two weeks before delivering and sang the vocals for "Long Shot" two days before giving birth.

"On the night of the boat party, I had on my stock outfit which was a black skirt, yellow shirt and black jacket. My legs were real swollen and I'd gained a lot of weight. Naomi Judd, who used to be a nurse, came up to us and said, 'Don't worry, I can deliver the baby if she has it on the boat tonight!'"

A new baby makes life on the road even more complicated.

"When the nanny traveled with us, Kathy and the nanny stayed in one hotel room and Alan (LeBoeuf) and I were in the other," Bonagura said. "We were trying to save money on rooms because we didn't want to go in the hole on certain shows." So much for the glamorous road life.

The band piles into one bus. The back section has been converted to a nursery and Baillie's mother Kay travels with them to babysit.

"We went up to Cedar Rapids, Iowa when Alyssa was 3 weeks old. I thought how am I going to juggle my career and a new baby at the same time? And I just did it. I remember doing a show with T. Graham Brown and then saying, 'I'll be right back' and going to nurse the baby and going back for an interview."

Bonagura says proudly, "She never cancelled one job and never missed one interview."

They've traveled the country singing their tunes, but they haven't seen much of it. Bonagura loves flea markets and Baillie says she's a "shopaholic" but they rarely have time to explore the cities they're in. Both said they stocked up on souvenirs when they went to Disneyland and the Redwood Forest.

Baillie and The Boys' new lp is titled *TURN THE TIDE*. It included bassist/singer Alan LeBoeuf. But in late January, LeBoeuf quit.

Back in 1968, Bonagura and LeBoeuf started singing together in school. Baillie joined them several years later.

"Alan looked at the dates and said, 'We're going to be really busy. I want to spend more time at home, more time writing and have more time to myself,'" Bonagura recalls. "Alan said he quit now because in six months he wouldn't be able to, we'd have too many commitments."

Baillie and The Boys — with new bassist/singer Lance Hoppen — are opening for George Strait's 50-city tour. But, Baillie and Bonagura still find time to write songs even on the road.

Their latest single "She Deserves You" was written about Baillie's sister, who recently went through a divorce.

"Her son saw his father with another woman, and finally told her. 'It's been a long time ago that I saw this but I thought I should tell you, that I saw dad with another woman.' To make a long story short," Baillie said, "My sister went through this for a couple of months knowing her husband was having an affair and then finally came to the conclusion that if the other woman wants a man like that, she deserves him. So we said, 'Could you tell us that again please?'" That idea sparked the song.

*And if she wants a man
Who'll take a ring off his hand
And then turn around and say that he'll be true
Then she deserves you.*

"She's very proud of me for writing it," Baillie said. "It's her favorite song in the world right now."

Bonagura said they've been surprised at their songs' impact.

"My aunt, who's in her 70s, had a heart attack and called me after she recovered and said, 'I listened to 'Oh Heart'

over and over and kept telling my heart just hold on, you're gonna be stronger, just a little bit longer and you're gonna make it.' And she did and she said the song was such a comfort to her."

Bonagura said the song went to number nine but the fan response was just as good as a number one record.


With their chart success, Bonagura and Baillie are helping break the stereotype that you've got to be from the South to be Country.

"Randy had just signed with Warner Bros.," Baillie recalls, "and Kyle Lehning (his producer) said to us, 'I have an interesting voice I want you to hear and maybe you'd like to do backups on it. His name is Randy Travis.'"

The pair has sung backup for every Randy Travis song except one.

"I guess it was because we're from the North, but when we first came out people would say, 'You're not Country,' and we'd be thinking, 'Wait a minute. Listen to the voices on a Randy Travis record. Are you saying that doesn't sound Country?'" Bonagura said.

With a new family and a hectic schedule, Baillie and Bonagura could feel overwhelmed but they don't.

"We love each other," says Bonagura, "and we love traveling on the road and being home so we really enjoy each aspect of our lives. I try hard not to do things I really don't like to do. If I can't have my heart in it, it's not worth it." 

— Teresa George

"She Deserves You" by Don Schlitz, Michael Bonagura and Kathy Baillie. © 1986 Don Schlitz Music & Colgems EMI Music Inc. All rights administered by Almo Music Corp. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

Back-To-Back Breakers

The Bama Band



(L to R Billy Earheart, Jerry McKinney, Wayne "Animal" Turner, Ray Barrickman, Eddie "Cowboy" Long, and Bill "Tommy Gun" Marshall up front)

- ★ The Bama Band is branching out. They just recently debuted *SOLID GROUND* on Mercury/PolyGram Records. And, not only do they back Hank Williams, Jr. during 150 roudy performances each year, they are fast becoming an up-front act.

Member Anecdotes

- ★ Billy Earheart (keyboards) — As fate might have it (as well as his parents) he was forced to take piano lessons at age 7.
- ★ Jerry McKinney (saxophone) — His first musical "experience" was hearing "Hey, Good Lookin'" on the radio.
- ★ Wayne "Animal" Turner (lead guitar and vocals) — He found his first guitar at age 9 while snooping for his birthday presents.
- ★ Ray Barrickman (bass guitar, vocals) — He plays the piano, guitar, harmonica, drums and fiddle as well.
- ★ Eddie "Cowboy" Long (steel guitar) — He broke his neck several years ago and during his recovery period honed his skills practicing 18 hours each day.
- ★ Bill "Tommy Gun" Marshall (drums, vocals) — He once played alongside Ringo Starr at a Washington, DC concert packed with 750,000 people.



Don Potter

Don Potter was a man with a mission — to rid himself of every person he loved. He figured they would all leave him sooner or later anyway. He might as well make it sooner.

"My parents split up a lot of times and had lots of wives and husbands between them. My father married six times, my mother four. It doesn't seem to affect you much as a child, but it affects you a whole bunch as an adult. It completely screws you up. You don't know who to trust, so you don't — you don't trust."

"You get into relationships that have built-in failures. You make that person's life miserable until you've fulfilled what you believed. That's what a relationship is. They start and then, of course, they stop. If this one doesn't, then I must stop it."

Potter was single-handedly ruining his life, building a barricade so sturdy even the indelible sounds of his guitar strings couldn't escape the walls in which Potter confined himself.

Somewhere there was a softly wrinkled woman sitting quietly with folded hands and tightly closed eyes. She was praying for this shell of a man. And, miraculously her prayers were answered. "I had a praying grandma," Potter reveals thoughtfully. "And, if you have a praying grandmother, you're in good shape. My second wife and I were

married for probably 10 or 11 years and it was real rocky. I just kept running into myself. Sooner or later I just gave up trying to make it my way. There had to be something more and luckily my wife never gave up. After many years, I began to turn around."

While Potter was living in upstate New York, he visited Nashville and attended a small church. "It was the first home I felt like I'd been in. Nobody there knew I was a musician and they still liked me. To them I was just another human being. They sang touching music and sang it strongly. That church was really the main reason I wanted to come to Nashville."

A job opportunity opened for Potter in Music City, so he and his wife Christine packed their things and journeyed South. "When we got here the job disappeared," Potter remembers. "It just evaporated overnight. I knew two people in town, Brent Maher and Rob Galbraith. Both of them were doing well in the music business but that didn't mean I would do well. Besides, I didn't think it was a good idea to wear friends out with favors they might not be able to back up."

DON POTTER: Guitarist, Singer, Songwriter, and Producer

- Began his career playing on the "Cowboy Chuck Ryan Show" with his father in California in 1958.
- Went on to sign with CBS Records in the early 60s with a rock 'n' roll band and later to Epic as a folk band member.
- Worked with Chuck Mangione, Dan Hill ("Sometimes When We Touch") and now, The Judds.
- Has written songs such as "Falling In Love Tonight", "Sleeping Heart" and "Why Don't You Believe Me" all recorded by the mother/daughter duo.
- Married to Christine for 17 years and has a daughter from a previous marriage, Donel, 25.

Potter did what many aspiring artists have done for centuries — he improvised. "I spent two years remodeling studios. Yeah, I hooked right up with those big producers!" Potter says with a laugh. "It was the best time of my life. I realized those were the most important two years I ever had musically because there was no music. It broke me of feeling that I've gotta have music or die. I put music above my life and everybody else who was really important. As long as music was god in my life, it had to be crushed. Music is not god. It's a vehicle to get you somewhere.

"I began to realize that if I die tomorrow music will still be here and it'll go on and be great. Getting that perspective adjusted broke me a thousand ways. I've always remembered the day when I stood back and looked at this building I'd remodeled and thought 'This is great, I don't

have to go back into the music business.' Then I was invited over to Brent Maher's house for Thanksgiving a few years ago and he told me about 'these girls'."

"These girls" were Naomi and Wynonna Judd. At that time — 1983 — they were two of hundreds of talented Country Music hopefuls around Nashville.

"Brent wanted me to help out on some ideas for them and play my guitar. So I went to their house and sat around the living room and sang. They were so strong even just sitting in the living room. They weren't saving up for a studio or a stage, they sang real all the time. My hands were crippled up as a carpenter, but the girls thought it was perfect for their sound. So, we made a demo tape of 'Blue Nun Cafe' and 'Mama He's Crazy'.

"When we took these songs to RCA executives they thought that I was part of the act. They said, 'Oh, what a fresh idea to have an acoustic guitar player be a key figure in this act!' In reality, the only reason I was there was to help them remember the ideas we'd had originally."

Intentionally or not, Potter did become a part of the act, but not without some serious doubts and in-depth soul-searching. "It was so painful to lay music down that I didn't think I could ever pick it up again.

"The day The Judds were recording their first album Brent called and said, 'Are you ready to cut?' I wondered why he was calling me. He said, 'You're gonna come down here and lead the band, make the arrangements and help me with the vocals. I told him I was a carpenter and I didn't know if I could do all that. I needed some kinda sign that it was what God wanted. I started getting calls from producers to do sessions and I'd been here two years and had never been phoned once. So I did the first Judds album with 'Mama He's Crazy' which was a smash and then things exploded."

What began was a four-way love affair, a kind of honorable affection that develops between four people who have shared a condensed lifetime of experiences good and bad. "It's been great!" explains Potter. "I'm with people who are straight and honest. They mean what they say and do what they say. We've cried together, died together and laughed together. You're real with them and they're real with you."

Needless to say, Potter is a religious man. Not only is he a strong believer himself, but he's influenced a few others along the way — Wynonna Judd for one. "The Judds are very tender people. I led Wynonna to the Lord while we were on the road. She was really searching and she knew there was more to life than people screaming at you and praising you. I don't mean she doesn't enjoy all that, but she wanted some of the peacefulness I carry around."

So where does this foursome go from here? And, are their tasks any more difficult considering the mother-daughter duo's success?

"We're still making records and that's very much the same. We're still doing what we started. Brent's job of searching for and writing songs is far harder than it ever was. If you've had a great song it's wonderful, but another great song is tougher and nine or 10 per record is really a challenge. Brent finds them all. He knows what's gonna work. It's a process of guiding. Then we get together and 'Juddicize' it to and make it feel like it suits them. The song must feel like they wrote it."

(continued on page 18)

Side Bar



Bass guitarist **Bob Wray** has been keeping busy in the studios. Wray is currently working with **Dan Seals**. In addition, he just completed work on the theme song for **Patrick Swayze's** new movie. Wray's future projects include sessions for **Marie Osmond** and **David Slater**.



Producer **Barry Beckett** just finished work on **Eddy Raven's** first Universal Records lp, **TEMPORARY SANITY**. Aside from producing the album, Beckett played keyboards. The project also featured the skills of **Reggie Young** on lead guitar, **Eddie Bayers** on drums, **Paul Franklin** on steel guitar and **Michael Rhodes** on bass. The album is tentatively scheduled for release in May.



Gary Hooker and **Chuck Glass**, both members of the **Gary Morris Band**, have been working in new outlets since the artists' touring schedule has slowed down. Hooker and Glass have joined with former **Outlaws** member **Steve Grisom** to form **The Generators**. The band has been working on demos for **Milsap Music**.



The **Jim Horn Horn Section** has been featured on albums by **Don Williams**, **Sawyer Brown** and **Barbara Mandrell**. The group consists of **Jim Horn** and **Quitman Dennis** on saxophone, **Mike Haynes** on trumpet, and **Jack Hale** on trombone. Recently the group completed work on **Keith Richards'** new album as well as **U2's RATTLE AND HUM** lp.



Shure Brothers Inc. recently introduced two new high-performance dynamic microphones. The **Shure Beta 58** is intended to improve vocal sounds while the **Beta 57** is used to mike musical instruments. The Beta 58 has the ability to cut through heavily amplified backgrounds and bring greater clarity to vocals. The Beta 57 is able to pick up instrumental sounds with greater detail and provide excellent isolation of each musical instrument being performed.



Producer **Jerry Crutchfield** has been busy in the studio. Crutchfield recently finished work on **Tanya Tucker's** new album. In February Crutchfield joined **Marie Osmond** to begin production on her upcoming album release. This album will mark the first time Osmond and Crutchfield have worked together.



I WRITE THE SONGS



Guy Clark

Texas songwriter Guy Clark is a painter. You don't just hear his songs — you see them.

In "Watermelon Dreams" off his new album, he paints a handful of dusty kids enjoying a lazy summer afternoon. Using soft warm colors, Clark paints the sun hot and hazy, a lush elm tree, watermelons bobbing in an icy washtub, sticky-sweet hands and faces, yellow jackets buzzing greedily close by and a backyard baseball game.

Ain't nothing sweeter than a watermelon dream

'Cept sittin' on the front porch eatin' that peach ice cream

When life is really sweeter than it seems

That's what you've got to call a watermelon dream.

Clark's lp *OLD FRIENDS* lets you drink in some acoustic guitar picking and sweet, clear singing. Rosanne Cash, Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell and Vince Gill join Clark on "To Live Is To Fly", "All Through Throwin' Good Love After Bad" and "Come From The Heart".

His lp doesn't use drums. But the songs sound so good you won't miss the rap-tap-tap of the snare or the solid, steady thud of the bass.

MUSIC ROW and GAVIN REPORT have praised the lp. Still, Clark admits *OLD FRIENDS* probably won't get much radio airplay. Clark is a poet not met with ready acceptance. A song he co-wrote with Rodney Crowell "She's Crazy For Leaving" recently went number one. But that song came out on one of Clark's albums in the early 80s without a ripple.

And you won't find *OLD FRIENDS* across the aisle from the tennis shoes and under the blue light special at K-Mart. The album is on the small but sturdy Sugar Hill label so devotees will find it in record stores.

“I used to just sit around and wait for inspiration. I thought it was magic but it wasn't.”

Although Clark hasn't found a niche in radioland, he won't change even after six albums. He spent his own money to cut *OLD FRIENDS* "which makes you stop and think a little bit about your self-indulgences," he says, stuffing English tobacco in a cigarette paper at his cluttered Music Row office.

"It's pretty eclectic stuff that I do." But British audiences love it. He's already made tours of the U.K., Australia and New Zealand this year, and OLD FRIENDS is being released in England and Ireland on Mother Records, owned by the rock band U2.

His songs come from experiences — either his own or friends. "Doctor Good Doctor" was written about fellow Texas songwriter Townes Van Zandt.

"Townes went a little crazy in New York one time years ago and this guy he was working with said, 'Man, calm down. Just go see my shrink. He's the best guy in New York. He'll help you.' Townes said, 'O.K.' and went to this office in Manhattan. He sat there pouring his heart out to this guy, on and on for an hour. Finally at the end of that hour, Townes said, 'Man, whataya think?' The guy just looked at him and said, 'You got any insurance?'"

*Doctor good doctor I'm grabbin' at loose ends
And I haven't felt like I used to since I don't remember when
Yesterday got passed me; today is all the same
And tomorrow really scares me and I just can't play the game
He said quit whinin'; He said straighten up and fly right
He said life is not a piece of cake
He wanted to know if my insurance was paid up
Well I'm O.K. You're O.K. if the check's O.K.
Second best hundred dollars I ever spent.*

Clark met Van Zandt in 1967 in Houston.

"Townes was the biggest inspiration to me. He had just started writing. It was something about the way he approached it — as poetry, as an art form to be taken seriously. It wasn't just rhyming moon, June and spoon. Serious stuff, you know. And I had always kinda been into poetry. I just had never actually seen somebody do it close up."

Clark writes down ideas and saves them — sometimes for years — before he transforms them into songs.

"I used to just sit around and wait for inspiration. I thought it was magic but it wasn't. I got to the point where I wasn't doing anything but puttering around the house."

Now he comes into town every day and writes for a couple of hours.

What was the first song he wrote?

He opens a desk drawer and pulls out a crumpled page scribbled with red ink.

"Jerry Jeff Walker called me the other day because he's always liked this song. It's called 'Step Inside My House'."

Clark's music is influenced by his childhood. He was born to Ellis and Frances Clark in the small West Texas town of Monihan between Pecos and Odessa.

"You have a certain attitude growing up in Texas, a certain independence that you can do anything you say you can do. All the musical forms in Texas are a real inspiration too — Blues, Mexican, German, Czech, Polish — a potpourri of influence. The first year I played guitar, the only songs I knew were Mexican songs." Then he learned folk music.

“You have a certain attitude growing up in Texas, a certain independence that you can do anything you say you can do.”

In the early 70s, Clark was playing folk songs in Oklahoma City when he met his wife, Susanna. She was teaching painting. Now they both paint and write.

Susanna wrote "Quarter Moon In A Ten Cent Town" and she and Harlan Howard penned "You're A Hard Dog To Keep Under The Porch". Clark says he and Susanna have written at least a dozen songs together.

She's also painted album covers for Willie Nelson's STARDUST and Emmylou Harris' QUARTER MOON IN A TEN CENT TOWN.

Clark painted his self-portrait for the cover of OLD FRIENDS.

"Painting is a nice contrast to the intellectual exercise of writing. But I couldn't paint without Susanna. She's really studied it. I'm just kinda faking it. I always have to say, 'What color is that?' and she'll say, 'You take a little bit of this and mix it with a little gray and put a touch of green in it.'"

Whether it's painting mental pictures or canvases, Clark includes

Songs Written Or Co-Written By Guy Clark

"Heartbroke"

Ricky Skaggs

"L.A. Freeway"

Jerry Jeff Walker

"Desperados Waiting For A Train"

The Highwaymen, Jerry Jeff Walker

"Oklahoma Borderline"

Vince Gill

"The Carpenter"

John Conlee, Guy Clark

"Baby I'm Yours"


Steve Wariner

"She's Crazy For Leaving"

Rodney Crowell, Guy Clark

the tiny details that breathe life into his work. But he says he hasn't written the song yet.

What would the song be?

"White Christmas," Clark says and lets out a laugh. 

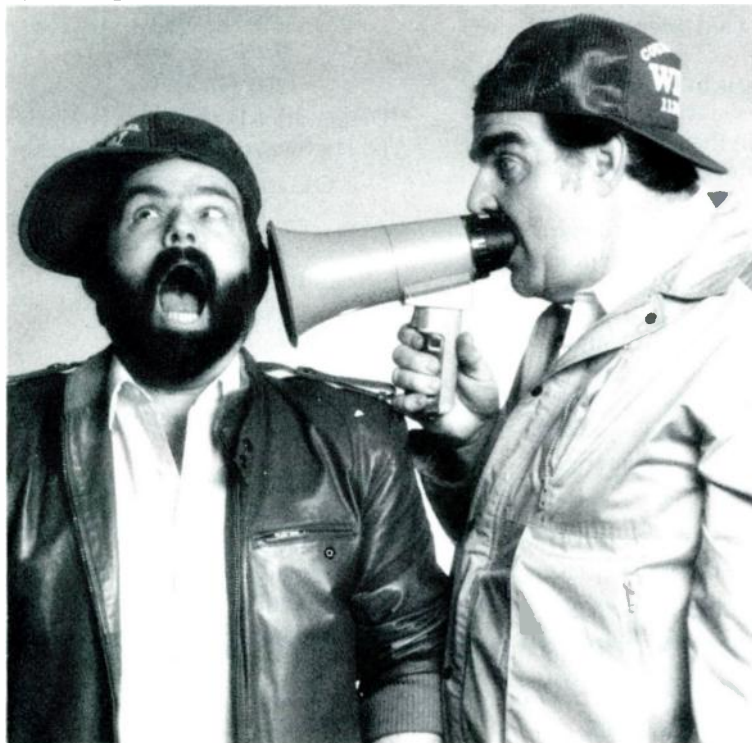
— Teresa George

"Watermelon Dreams," "Doctor, Good Doctor" by Guy Clark © 1986 SBK April Music Inc. / GSC Music. All rights controlled and administered by SBK April Music Inc. All rights reserved. International Copyright secured. Used by permission.



Now this looks like fun! Louise Mandrell takes time off from her busy schedule for a run down the Aspen slopes. Photo by: Sue Jackson

WDGY



WDGY AM 1130

What comes to mind when you think about Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota? Mary Tyler Moore clad in a red coat merrily tossing her hat in the air? Snow, snow and more snow? WDGY-AM program director Rick Stephenson explained to CLOSE UP via telephone that there is a great deal more to this beautiful city than cold weather and old sitcoms.

CU: Tell me some of the general history of your station.

RS: Well, WDGY is the oldest commercial radio station in Minnesota, licensed in 1923. It was very big in the 60s doing rock 'n' roll and was number one in the market. It was the first station in the Twin Cities to have big giveaways and cash prizes. 'DGY sort of got everybody around here to start doing that. As ratings started to subside, they went to a Country format in 1977. They've been Country ever since.

CU: What style of Country?

RS: We play more traditional Country. In the past year we went to Trans Star, a satellite programming service which covers our daytime from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Our rotations come down from Trans Star for middays, afternoons, and evenings. I very rarely follow it though. The only rules we have in the mornings are there are no rules! (Laughs)

I get tired of this debate with contemporary or traditional Country Music. I've been in Country Music a long time and I grew up with rock 'n' roll and I still listen to Country. When I was working at my first Country station my boss used to come in and scream at me for playing too much Brenda Lee and Everly Brothers. I thought so what! It fits and works well! My theory is pick what fits you and quit gettin' into the debate. It's always been there, it'll be there today and it'll be there tomorrow.

A lot of people try to influence listeners or steal them with crossover

Country. You know your Lionel Richie and Bob Seger types. But people who are diehard Country fans don't like it. People who are not Country fans still think of it as twang no matter what you play, so they may not leave their stations to come to us anyway and the real fans are sick of all the sugar-coated stuff. You'll end up not getting anybody.

CU: What have your station's ratings been recently?

RS: Out of the 15 stations there are only three AM stations. This place is dominated by FM. Our sister station K-102 does really well. They are Country, too, but more contemporary. We take the team standpoint — both stations are sold in combo. You buy one and get both. Individually our ratings are not that great, but we don't pursue it that way because we don't sell the stations individually. We get the people who like Country and may not like pop mixed in. They prefer the traditional stuff. Plus, we do a lot of personality. 'DGY and K-102 dominate the market when it comes to Country.

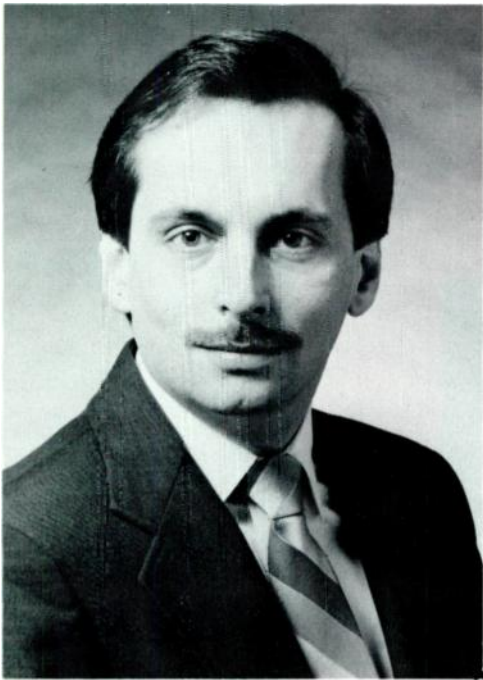
Rick Stephenson

Rick Stephenson has a four-and-a-half-year history at WDGY-AM. Working in Country Music since 1970, Stephenson began his radio career at KNEW in Oakland, California, where he remained for 10 years. In 1985, he teamed up with morning man Charlie Bush, a 20-year broadcast expert.

Thirty-eight-year-old Stephenson has a big year planned — better ratings and his first child (due in July). He practices diapering on his cocker spaniel, Indiana Jones.

CU: What's your morning show like?

RS: We do a lot of lifestyle programming. Outdoor activities are very popular out here whether it's snow or something going on in the summer. You don't stop doing things here because of the weather. If you didn't do something because of the weather you'd never do anything. We have a show called "In Fisherman Radio" when it's winter outdoors. We offer tips for any kind of outdoor winter activity.



Phil Williams

When his 4-year-old daughter Laura was born, Phil Williams, WYNK air personality, decided it was time to get a "real" job. Although he's spent over 18 years in radio and has learned every facet of the business, he now attends Louisiana State University majoring in engineering. To him, the reasons are obvious. He's attracted to the guaranteed starting salary of \$42,000. But Williams' heart is still with radio. After all, he's loved it since he was 15.

Williams' parents wanted him to be an engineer; he wanted to be an air personality. Maybe someday he'll do both. So far he's been in the sales department and served as WYNK's music director and program director.

Williams began his career at a rock 'n' roll station in Baton Rouge. He wanted an engineering job, but there was a catch. He had to be the air personality from midnight until 6:00 a.m. He declined the offer, explaining, "I'm not an on-the-air kind of guy." But, he had to accept being in front of a mike as part of the job. "I became an air personality in the beginning because I had to. For the first little while there, I couldn't stand it. My jokes weren't funny. I didn't have a good voice. As a matter of fact,

I had a real Southern Mississippi accent. My friends would tease me about how terrible I sounded."

But he took the job and polished his act. "After I got on the air, the bug bit me!"

Today, Williams holds the number 16 position among the top 25 list of drivetime dominators, according to the R&R Ratings Report. "What you have to do, is find a great radio station like I did. It's not so much my ability to draw the numbers, it's just the radio station — great people to work for."

WYNK is the number one ranked station in Baton Rouge for audiences 12 to 64 years old. "It's a team effort. Our program is tight and we play what the listeners want to hear."

Classes at L.S.U., work, and study make Williams' life hectic. Since he leads a busy life, Williams understands the listener.

"People have been talking and conducting business all day. Keeping this in mind, I don't use a rapid tight delivery or try to sound like the 'big d.j.' It needs to be a more relaxing sound so I just keep things moving."

Williams' first heroes weren't engineers, but air personalities. "I used to tune in to WLS, a big AM station out of Chicago. I guess if I was

trying to sound like anyone, it was Tommy Edwards — a great air personality. Back then, you had to have a deep voice, pronounce your words plainly and show no regionality." Air personalities don't have to fit into a mold anymore.


Williams has seen lots of changes in Country Music radio. "Country Music just a short time ago didn't appeal to anyone under 25 years of age. Now we're seeing big numbers in the 12+ range. We're blessed with artists who are appealing to all ages. When you turn on the radio and listen for yourself, there is some good stuff there that people can enjoy."

What was his most embarrassing moment on-the-air?

"One time I left the microphone on when I was talking to a girlfriend. We were talking and carrying on when my *other* girlfriend, the one whom I liked better, called in and reminded me to turn the microphone off. That was the end of that relationship."

His job's biggest fringe benefit came in 1975 when he was answering WYNK's request line. "I took the request of a girl who I thought at first was a real nut. But we ended up talking to each other on the phone several times after that. I finally asked to meet her. Wary of air personalities, she said 'No way'. I finally convinced her to meet me." He married that same "nut", Cathy, a few years later. "I've got a great wife, I really do. I wouldn't have met her if I hadn't been in radio."

Williams hopes to apply his engineering degree to radio. Maybe some day his parents' dream of Phil Williams the engineer will come true. Right now, he's enjoying playing his favorites like Hank Williams Jr., Earl Thomas Conley, Alabama, and ZZ Top.

Looking back, Williams claims, "I wouldn't change a thing." His buddies at the rock 'n' roll station once warned him not to go to work for WYNK. "You go there and you're gonna have to stay there. Once you get in Country Music, you can't get out. You don't want that on you." Those same buddies would love to trade places with him now. Williams followed his heart and has never regretted the decision. "I've had a blast." 

— Fronda Throckmorton



BEHIND THE LENS



▲ Center stage attraction Kathy Mattea works on her latest video "Come From The Heart". The single is from her new Mercury lp, *WILLOW IN THE WIND*, and is set for spring release. The video was produced by Joan French and Mary M. Matthews for Studio Productions and was directed by Jim May.



▲ Hank Williams, Jr. meets the actors who portray his father, Hank Sr. and the Drifting Cowboys in his latest video, "There's A Tear In My Beer". The song is a duet featuring Hank and his legendary father singing an original Hank Sr. tune that was recently discovered after being forgotten for over 35 years. Director Ethan Russell (third from left) makes the introductions.



▲ On stage of the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, Scene Three director John Lloyd Miller (foreground) watches the monitor during the shooting of George Strait's video "Baby's Gotten Good at Goodbye".



▲ Capitol Records artist Dan Seals films a scene from his latest video to "They Rage On" while the production crew from Vivid Productions records the action. The video was directed by Neil Abramson and produced by Nina Dluhy. It is also the title-track from his current album.

— Photo by: Bonnie Rasmussen

CBS recording artist Rodney Crowell's latest visual project is "After All This Time", a release from his DIAMONDS AND DIRT lp. Joanne Gardner produced the piece and Bill Pope directed the Acme Pictures production.

Steve Forbert's "On The Streets Of This Town" video was released earlier this year. The Catherine Smith/Dean Lent effort was shot in downtown LA. It depicts the life of street people.

Heartland band members recently finished their debut video, "Keep The Faith", shot throughout the Southeast.

Hank Williams Jr., through the miracles of technology, joins his late father in a family video of "There's A Tear In My Beer". Williams' video begins with him sitting in a recording studio. The shot switches to a storm coming over a house and the audience sees Hank Sr. first in silhouette and then in a duet with his son. Joanne Gardner worked as producer of the project with Ethan Russell directing.

Atlantic America's Billy Joe Royal recently completed shooting "Tell It Like It Is" video. The clip was shot in various locations around Nashville with Kitty Moon producing and John Lloyd Miller directing.

Mack Abernathy puts his "Different Situations" recording to video using Visible, Inc. as the production company, Jim "Taco" Gerik as producer and J. Michael McClary as director. The project was shot in Palestine, TX.

Herb Sudzin's "Sudzin Country" idea has become the third largest Country video outlet in the country, behind TNN and CMT. "Sudzin Country", three years old next June, is an outgrowth of its host's weekend Country radio show on the Rutgers College station, WRSU FM which offers classic Country hits as well as bluegrass music.

U.K. Country Album Chart

Charley Pride has been in Ireland promoting his album, **MOODY WOMAN**. In February Pride left for a 34-city tour of Australia and New Zealand.

The **Eighteenth Tokyo Music Festival International Contest** will be held at Nippon Budohkan Hall, Tokyo June 2, 1989. Songs are judged on the basis of musical quality, international appeal, and prospective popularity. Sponsors of the contest hope to introduce Japanese musical compositions to the world, as well as international compositions to Japan.

The **International Festival of Country Music** will be held March 25-27 at the Wembley Arena in London. The festival is the largest Country Music event in Europe and attracts an audience in excess of 30,000. Celebrating its 21st anniversary in 1989, the festival will feature such acts as **Tammy Wynette**, **Waylon Jennings**, **Jessi Colter**, **Boxcar Willie**, **Roger Miller**, **Earl Thomas Conley** and **Rosie Flores**. In addition, **Buck Owens** will make his first appearance in the United Kingdom in 15 years. The 1989 festival will also feature debut UK appearances by **Larry Boone**, **Suzu Bogguss**, **Keith Whitley**, **Billy Joe Shaver** and **Pinkard and Bowden**.

Reba McEntire will give European fans a chance to see her in concert. Beginning April 29, McEntire will kick off a six-city tour of Europe. The tour begins in Dublin, Ireland and will include England, Holland, Switzerland and Germany.

Country singer **Ross Lewis** will tour Europe in March to promote his new single "Love In Motion". His debut album is slated for release in several foreign markets. In addition to the European tour, Lewis also has planned a concert appearance in Japan for September.

The annual "Keep It Country" music festival will be held at Nasrec, Johannesburg, South Africa Saturday, April 1. The show will feature 28 artists and two bands, including **Ken Mullan**, **Barbara Ray**, **Sally Vaughn**, **Gene Rockwell** and **Joanna Field**.

RTL Plus, a German cable tv network premiered a Country Music series in February. The show featured such German and Swiss Country acts as **Truck Stop**, **Nicki**, **Heidi Gehlert**, **Greyhounds**, **Lewis Nidermann** and **Tom Astor**.

Zug Switzerland will be the site for a Country Music Festival May 6. The event will feature **Highway 101**, **Rodney Crowell**, **Johnny Cash** and **Reba McEntire**. TNN plans to air the event six weeks later.

Del Wood will leave February 19 for Australia and return March 19. While she's there, Wood will record an album and perform in various cities.



*Mervyn Conn promoter of the International Festivals of Country Music is pictured with two of this year's stars **Boxcar Willie** and **Bobby Bare**. Backstage are (l to r) **Willie**, **Bare**, **Conn**, CMA's **Jo Walker-Meador** and CMA (London) **Martin Satterthwaite**.*

CMA's United Kingdom Country Album Chart appears bi-weekly in **MUSIC WEEK**, the U.K.'s major trade magazine. It is featured on BBC Radio and in numerous consumer publications in the U.K. and Europe. The charts are compiled by Gallup, the organization which also compiles the British pop charts. Released every two weeks on Monday, the chart ranks the top 20 Country releases in combined sales of lps, cassettes and compact discs. The charts are compiled using Gallup's computer-based panel of 500 record outlets.

THIS WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	February 4, 1989
1	1	COPPERHEAD ROAD Steve Earle — MCA
2	2	FROM THE HEART Daniel O'Donnell — TelStar
3	3	ONE FAIR SUMMER EVENING Nanci Griffith — MCA
4	5	SWEET DREAMS Patsy Cline — MCA
5	4	OLD 8 X 10 Randy Travis — WEA
6	7	DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
7	14	ALWAYS AND FOREVER Randy Travis — WEA
8	10	I NEED YOU Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
9	6	LONE STAR STATE OF MIND Nanci Griffith — MCA
10	16	EXIT O Steve Earle — MCA
11	11	SHADOWLAND k. d. lang — WEA
12	8	LITTLE LOVE AFFAIRS Nanci Griffith — MCA
13	15	WATER FROM THE WELLS OF HOME Johnny Cash — PolyGram
14	12	BUENOS NOCHES FROM A . . . Dwight Yoakam — WEA
15	9	STORMS OF LIFE Randy Travis — WEA
16	RE-ENTRY	GUITAR TOWN Steve Earle — MCA
17	RE-ENTRY	GIVE A LITTLE LOVE The Judds — RCA
18	13	TWO SIDES OF DANIEL O'DONNELL Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
19	20	PONTIAC Lyle Lovett — MCA
20	18	WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD Willie Nelson — CBS

Country Music Association © 1989

Top 30 U.K. Country Albums of 1988

- 1 FROM THE HEART
Daniel O'Donnell — *Telstar*
- 2 COPPERHEAD ROAD
Steve Earle — *MCA*
- 3 DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER
Daniel O'Donnell — *Ritz*
- 4 OLD 8 X 10
Randy Travis — *WEA*
- 5 LITTLE LOVE AFFAIRS
Nanci Griffith — *MCA*
- 6 LONE STAR STATE OF MIND
Nanci Griffith — *MCA*
- 7 I NEED YOU
Daniel O'Donnell — *Ritz*
- 8 ALWAYS AND FOREVER
Randy Travis — *WEA*
- 9 PONTIAC
Lyle Lovett — *MCA*
- 10 ONE FAIR SUMMER EVENING
Nanci Griffith — *MCA*
- 11 BUENOS NOCHES FROM A LONELY ROOM
Dwight Yoakam — *WEA*
- 12 SHADOWLAND
k. d. lang — *WEA*
- 13 TWO SIDES OF DANIEL O'DONNELL
Daniel O'Donnell — *Ritz*
- 14 TRIO
D. Parton/E. Harris/L. Ronstadt — *WEA*
- 15 GUITAR TOWN
Steve Earle — *MCA*
- 16 STORMS OF LIFE
Randy Travis — *WEA*
- 17 THE LAST TRUE BELIEVERS
Nanci Griffith — *Demon*
- 18 EXIT O
Steve Earle & The Dukes — *MCA*
- 19 TRACES
Don Williams — *EMI*
- 20 SWEET DREAMS
Patsy Cline — *MCA*
- 21 LYLE LOVETT
Lyle Lovett — *MCA*
- 22 HILLBILLY DELUXE
Dwight Yoakam — *WEA*
- 23 WATER FROM THE WELLS OF HOME
Johnny Cash — *PolyGram*
- 24 HIGHER GROUND
Tammy Wynette — *CBS*
- 25 GUITARS, CADILLACS, ETC., ETC.
Dwight Yoakam — *WEA*
- 26 GIVE A LITTLE LOVE
The Judds — *BMG*
- 27 ONE TIME ONE NIGHT
Sweethearts of the Rodeo — *CBS*
- 28 I PREFER THE MOONLIGHT
Kenny Rogers — *BMG*
- 29 COMIN' HOME TO STAY
Ricky Skaggs — *CBS*
- 30 WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD
Willie Nelson — *CBS*

(continued from page 12)

We also have what we call our "B.S. Petting Party". I know it sounds awful, but it's not. There's a local non-profit organization called the Animal Relief Fund and they pick up stray cats and dogs and we put those people on the air once a week to talk about what pets are available.

We also had our limited edition designer toilet paper. That caused more rumbling than anything else. Everybody loved it and tried to call in and win. Our corporate boss thought it was disgusting having our call letters on a roll of toilet paper. As soon as we ran out that was it. We always billed it as giving our listeners a chance to get even. (Laughs)

Of course, we do all the usual news, traffic, weather and sports. My partner Charlie does his newscasts in a real different way. He does most of them in alliteration and rhymes. He's nuts! You sit there and listen to him and wonder how he came up with this stuff. He once did a story on National Pickle Week and it was a 40-second story that had nothing but "P"s.

CU: *From your listeners standpoint, what are their Country likes and dislikes when it comes to radio?*

RS: I have found that our listeners like just about everything there is to like as far as Country Music goes. Every weekend last year, just about, we had a concert here and so it was hard to gauge who was popular and who was not. People can't afford going out every weekend spending \$35 to \$40 a night for dinner and concert tickets.

This is pretty well mainstream America. These people like Steve Earle and Lyle Lovett as well as other newcomers. They are a little conservative as far as displaying their likes and dislikes. They are not in the habit of calling you up and demanding this or that.

CU: *How would you say their tastes might differ from another region of the country?*

RS: I think the bottom line is that Country people like good music — good Country Music. It's like any format — there's some good and some bad. This is a very dominant pop market. There are four oldies stations!

CU: *What are some of your station's goals for 1989?*

RS: We're excited about the NBA coming back to Minnesota. Minneapolis had the Lakers many years ago and they moved to Los Angeles. Our new team will be called the Minnesota Timberwolves. Right now everything's being organized. They're building a new arena in Minneapolis about 10 minutes from the station. We've been selected to be their radio station. That'll be a real shot in the arm for us! I think that will definitely improve our ratings. The sports enthusiasm up here is just phenomenal. Already we carry what we call the WDGY Timberwolves NBA updates twice a day. So we're getting real active with the community and we're doing some things for charity.

CU: *Sum up your job in three adjectives and don't use the words good, great or terrific.*

RS: Rewarding, frustrating, and enlightening. **CU**

— Suzanne Gibson

The Ryman Auditorium, just three years shy of its 100th birthday, is getting a million dollar facelift. Renovation started in mid-February and will continue for about six months. The restoration will include installing a new shingle roof similar to the original, replacing broken and missing bricks and repairing windows. The Ryman opened in 1892 as the Union Gospel Tabernacle and was renamed in 1904 to honor colorful riverboat captain Tom Ryman. It was the home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943 - 1974 and is now owned by Opryland U.S.A., Inc.

Kids' first choice for celebrity grandparents are Bill Cosby and Mary Poppins followed by Ronald and Nancy Reagan, Papa Smurf, Queen Elizabeth and Carol Burnett, according to *The Shockley Report*.

Meredith Corporation in association with TNN and Group W Satellite Communications has a new venture — a life-style magazine for Country Music fans and those who enjoy the country way of life. The publication is called COUNTRY AMERICA magazine and will have an initial circulation of 400,000. The magazine will go on sale at newsstands in October 1989 for \$1.95 or \$14.97 for a 10-issue subscription.




ASCAP recently hosted a luncheon at Nashville's Heartthrob Cafe for the Nashville Entertainment Association (NEA) and out-of-town guests. Awaiting food are (l to r) Jonathon Love, ASCAP/New York; Michael Todesco, Zomba Music; John Briggs, ASCAP/Nashville; Rob Gordon, EMI/New York; Josh Deutsch, Capitol Records/Los Angeles and Michael Galleli, Atlantic/New York.

(continued from page 9)

Potter's talent has oftentimes left him a confused man. After all, when you're a gifted singer, songwriter, musician and producer there are some serious choices to be made. Potter's guide is "the fire" he feels inside. "I sit down and play with other musicians and something goes off inside and I really begin to feel that energy. That's when I feel the fire.

"I guess the main thing I always try to do is to cease striving to get a superior position. If I strive to make an artist think I'm good so they'll hire me again then I'm not letting things happen. That means I'm struggling. I continually have to stop myself."

This onetime lonely and hollow individual is now filled with love of both music and family. "I'm successful now," Potter says softly. "I have people who love me and now I can love them back. Whether I ever make enough money to survive or do great isn't the point anymore. I feel secure because God loves me even though at times I haven't earned His love. It takes a long time to get used to that." 

— Suzanne Gibson



Jethro Burns

Veteran entertainer Kenneth "Jethro" Burns, 68, died February 4 following a lengthy illness. Burns, one of the world's most respected mandolinists, enjoyed a career that spanned more than half a century. He began playing professionally at age 12 in The String Dusters hillbilly band on Knoxville's WNOX radio with his close childhood friend Henry D. "Homer" Haynes. By 1936, Homer and Jethro were developing a duo style of skillful picking and madcap humor. Homer and Jethro had stints on most of the big Country radio shows. After serving in World War II, they signed with Cincinnati's King Records. Then in 1949, RCA Records lured them to Nashville. The hit they're most remembered for is "The Battle Of Kookamonga" in 1959. It won a Grammy Award and made them headliners in Las Vegas. Haynes died in 1971, but Burns kept on entertaining and educating others on the mandolin. In the late 1970s, Burns toured with Steve Goodman and worked on various instrumental projects, some with his brother-in-law Chet Atkins. Burns also recorded a series of acclaimed jazz lps. Burns is survived by wife Lois, son John, daughter Terry and two grandchildren.

W. Arthur Rush

W. Arthur Rush, 81, Roy Rogers' longtime manager, died January 1. In the 1930s Rush was West Coast manager of RCA Victor. He produced hundreds of albums with such stars as Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Jeanette MacDonald and Perry Como. At William Paley's suggestion, Rush became director of CBS' giant talent agency. In 1939, Rush founded his own talent agency, Art Rush Inc. He managed the careers of Nelson Eddy, Rogers, Dale Evans, the Sons of the Pioneers and others. He also helped establish the Roy Rogers Family Restaurant chain. For 29 years, Rush served as a trustee of Bethany College in West Virginia.

Television's Role In Country Music: 1948 - 1987

Since the early 1920s, when Country Music recording and broadcasting began, Country performers have been quick to exploit mass media in search of public acceptance and financial gain. Sound recordings, radio, movies, and television have combined to build artists' careers and make fortunes for many entertainers and many of the entrepreneurs who have promoted them. Throughout 1988 and into 1989, *CLOSE UP* is featuring excerpts from the study, "Country Music Television Programming, 1948 - 1987: A Preliminary Survey", commissioned by The Nashville Network and Group W Satellite Communications. The study surveys relationships between television and Country Music during the period 1948 - 1987. Although the sources examined for this project are by no means exhaustive, they reveal much about programming trends, artists' and executives' use of media, the development of the Country Music industry, the role of Country Music in advertising, and, to a lesser extent, the Country Music audience. The following is the final installment of the study.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIPS OF THE 1970s AND 1980s

During the past two decades, television has become a major force in the Country Music industry. To a degree scarcely imaginable 25 years ago, Country performers now reach mass audiences through visual media — television, motion pictures, and music videos — as much as through sound recordings and radio. Most anyone who cares to see Country stars perform can do so by watching one of the Country channels on cable.

Television has continued to provide an alternative to the lock-step relationship that links the radio and recording industries in uneasy alliance. Often a singer's popularity depends heavily upon radio airplay, which can drastically affect record sales and concert attendance. Most radio stations have such limited playlists that they have left many performers out in the cold. More than ever before, it is possible for an entertainer to achieve national recognition without radio airplay or extensive record sales — essential ingredients of stardom before the tv era.

Televised marketing of Country records is now big business. Cable networks and independent stations alike carry "per inquiry" ads for record albums made specifically for television and available solely through mail order. By these means Christy Lane, Boxcar Willie, and Slim Whitman (to cite only three examples) have sold millions of records while almost never getting radio airplay or chart action. On the other hand, artists whose records have done well on radio and in retail sales charts have typically received the greatest exposure on nationally televised specials. (Witness the many tv appearances Kenny Rogers, Barbara Mandrell and Crystal Gayle made early in the 1980s.)

The relationship of television to Country Music concerts has evolved considerably over the years. Today Country stars seldom plug upcoming personal appearances from the local tv studio, as performers did on radio and, to a

lesser degree, on early television programs. Instead, the cameras have to a great extent gone out to the road show. Porter Wagoner took his syndicated series outdoors by the mid-1970s, taping his shows at various spots in the Opryland theme park. Following his lead, Show Biz inaugurated "Nashville On The Road" in 1975, which took what was essentially a stage show to locations throughout the United States. Today live programming abounds, from studios — "Nashville Now" to nightclubs — "New Country", "Church Street Station".

Country Music still packs a hefty punch in the advertising field. Some sponsors exhibit a market loyalty to Country Music television. For two decades, Kraft sponsored the CMA Awards Show. Others maintain successful relationships with individual stars. Wrangler Jeans has run tv ads featuring Willie Nelson ("a legend in jeans"); Loretta Lynn has done Crisco's tv commercials for several years; and, of course, Jimmy Dean plugs his own Jimmy Dean Sausage on nationally broadcast commercials; and The Judds are in Oldsmobile commercials.

Prospects for the Future

If the past 40 years are any guide, the future of Country Music telecasting seems assured. Television will not replace radio and sound recordings, but it will probably become an increasingly important means of enhancing these media, as well as a growing force in its own right. Country videos are already mushrooming, and marketers will continue to push them while using tv to sell conventional albums, tapes, and recorded discs. Television will continue to build acts who now enjoy substantial radio airplay and record sales, but it may also prolong older artists' careers and help newcomers gain footholds in these highly competitive endeavors.

NEWSLINE

Singer/songwriter **Fred Knobloch** will lead ASCAP's ninth **Country Songwriter Workshop** March 14 at the Nashville office. The workshop meets on six consecutive Tuesdays from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and features composers, lyricists, publishers, producers, performers and arrangers. The panelists will also review participants' material. Sponsored by the **ASCAP Foundation**, the free seminar was open to all writers, regardless of performing rights society affiliation or non-affiliation. Writers sent in two original songs for review. Forty writers were accepted into the program in late February.

Jo-El Sonnier's *COME ON JOE* lp was picked by **PEOPLE** magazine as one of the best 10 albums of 1989. The lp was the only Nashville title to make the list.

More than \$274,000 was distributed to various charities from **Alabama's June Jam** last summer. The announcement was made during a recent press conference in Fort Payne, AL. That brings the total contributions from all seven June Jams to about \$1.7 million. **Sawyer Brown, Mel Tillis, Charlie Daniels, Eddie Rabbitt, Southern Pacific, Canyon, Moe Bandy, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Ricky Van Shelton, Skip Ewing, Three Dog Night, Charley Pride, Jo-El Sonnier** and **Buck Owens** are some of the acts confirmed for the 1989 event scheduled for June 10.

Restless Heart's number one hit "Wheels" will be used by **Wheels Across America** as the theme song for the 5,000 mile cross-country journey by wheelchair athlete **Bill Duff**. **Wheels Across America** helps raise funds for the Miami Project spinal cord injury research. Radio spots and video coverage of the event will include the **Restless Heart** hit.

The **Oak Ridge Boys** and the **Moody Brothers** are helping spread the message about protecting and preserving America's resources. Both groups are part of the **Take Pride in America** team.

Singer/songwriter **Stella Parton** has been named regional chairperson of **Job Project for Tennessee**. She is promoting the **Association of Retarded Citizens/Job Project** in conjunction with **Kroger** stores. Her picture will be on **Kroger** shopping bags and banners. She's also doing radio and television public service announcements about the project which develops job opportunities for disabled citizens.

George Strait and his manager **Erv Woolsey** have been named trustees of **Southwest Texas State University**, their college alma mater in San Marcos, TX. Strait holds a degree in agriculture. Woolsey's degree is in business administration. Two years ago, Strait was named **Outstanding Alumnus**, the school alumni association's highest honor and in 1985 he established the **George Strait Endowment Fund** to operate and develop the school's **Freeman Ranch**.

Keith Whitley cut radio spots for **Exxon** in February that will be used for a national campaign.

Entries are now being accepted for the second annual **BILLBOARD Song Contest**. Winners will share more than \$100,000 in cash and prizes. The competition is open to anyone who earns less than an average of \$5,000 per year from songwriting. Contestants compete in seven categories including **Country**. Winners in each category will receive a \$5,000 cash award. A \$25,000 grand prize will be presented to the writer selected as the best of the seven winners. **Roy Clark, Julio Iglesias** and **Tammy Wynette** are among the contest's judges. Anyone wanting an entry form should write to Contest Processing Center, P.O. Box 35346, Tulsa, OK 74135-0346.

Singer/songwriter **Larry Gatlin** has become a partner in the Nashville based **Affiliated Publishers Inc.** Other partners in the venture are **Tony Harley** and **API** co-founders **Johnny State** and **Danny Morrison**. Gatlin will be adding several of his own compositions to the **API** catalog.

RCA Records/Nashville will move its album production and single manufacturing to one plant, **Precision Record Pressing** in Nashville.

Romeo Ridge, a four-piece band from Saginaw, MI won \$50,000 and a CBS recording contract at the seventh annual **True Value Country Showdown National Finals** in Nashville in January. The band was chosen over five other regional winners. More than 100,000 Country artists entered local level competitions from across the U.S. **Tammy Wynette, Charley Pride, Mickey Gilley, John Conlee, Ronnie McDowell, Jim Ed Brown, Helen Cornelius, Jeannie C. Riley, The Girls Next Door, Pinkard & Bowden, Tom Wopat, Paul Williams, Bobby Allison, Bobby Bare** and **Charlene Tilton** participated in the show as either performers or to introduce new talent. The showdown was taped for tv syndication with host **Jim Stafford**.

California-based **OL Records** has relocated to Nashville. **Pat Murphy** will oversee the label's operations and will also represent **Overton Lee's** publishing division, **Bobby Depot Music** and **Burning Love Music**. The publishing and record companies are located at 806 18th Avenue South, Music Square 101, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 255-1182.

Galaxy, a worldwide subscriber base of radio, tv, syndication and special programmers, has moved. The new address is 1097 D Bar K Drive, Durango, CO 81303; (303) 247-5082.



Chris Hillman, former founding member of The Byrds and current leader of the Country band, Desert Rose, was honored recently by BMI for 21 years of outstanding songwriting, including three consecutive number one hits for Desert Rose. Pictured (l to r) are Desert Rose band members Herb Pedersen, Steve Duncan, Chris Hillman, Jay Dee Maness and John Jorgensen. Photo by: Lester Cohen

SIGNINGS

Freddy Fender to CRITIQUE/Atlantic Records . . . Jimmy C. Newman to Bobby Brenner Associates . . . Jerry Vandiver to Little Big Town Music . . . Michael Dee Graham to Evergreen Records . . . Henny Youngman to Top Billing International . . . Vicki Bird, Joni Harms, David Slater, and Russell Smith to Bobby Roberts Entertainment.



Larry Gatlin and Patrick Swayze went on KKBQ Radio in Houston to promote their concert in suburban Katy, Texas that debuted the song "Brothers" which Gatlin wrote for Swayze's latest film "Next of Kin". Gatlin and Swayze performed together at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center that night and are now teaming to write more music for the picture. The pair sang the duet "Brothers" for the motion picture. Photo by: Kathy Gangwisch



Country Music duo The Judds and Dwight Yoakam recently joined "Nashville Now" host Ralph Emery for an evening of non-stop entertainment. Pictured (l to r) are Wynonna, her mother Naomi, Yoakam and Emery. Photo by: Jim Hagans

MEDIA

TNN recently announced that it will have exclusive North American telecast rights to the "Crook and Chase" television series beginning April 1st. This agreement will remove the 30-minute weekday entertainment series from concurrent syndication in 72 markets making the program "cable exclusive".

Marie Osmond and Merle Haggard will be featured on TNN in two 60-minute concert specials. The features will be produced by Paul Corbin and Rusty Wilcoxon with Dennis Glone directing and are scheduled to air in early April and May. The project was taped at the Cheyenne Saloon and Opera House at Church Street Station in Orlando, FL which attracts over 2 million visitors each year.

Ricky Skaggs visits the San Miguel, Subic Bay, Wallace, and Clark military bases in the Philippines during a USO special to be telecast on TNN March 9th at 7:00 PM.

Irlene Mandrell proves that "real men" do eat quiche even if she has to call it "spinach pie". The youngest of the Mandrell sisters shares her recipe secrets with TNN "Holiday Gourmet" host, Sylvia, this month.

TNN viewers can escape to the Caribbean for 60-minutes Thursday, March 23 with the Gatlin Brothers in their "Great Gatlin Getaway". Larry, Rudy and Steve mix Country Music with scuba diving, parasailing, jet skiing and other water sports.

"The Roger Miller Special" will air Monday, March 6th on TNN and takes place on the Mississippi Queen, America's largest steamboat. Artists such as Tanya Tucker, Lyle Lovett, Williams and Ree and newcomer Libby Hurley will join Miller.

TNN's half-hour weekday series, "VideoCountry" and "American Magazine" will be expanded to 60 minutes in April due to the shows' tremendous support from viewers.

Country Music Television (CMT) currently reaches more than 8.5 million cable homes, a 32 percent growth in the past nine months. It may soon reach even more. Vice president Stan Hitchcock, announced recently that the 24-hour video channel has signed an affiliation agreement with the National Cable Television Cooperative, based in Overland Park, KS. Hitchcock expects the agreement will enhance viewership in cities across the country.

Country Music's top entertainers will present their favorite recordings each week on a new program from the Mutual Broadcasting System titled "Listen In With" hosted by RADIO & RECORDS Country editor, Lon Helton.

AMUSEMENT BUSINESS recently published its 1989 "Directory of North American Fairs, Festivals and Expositions", an annual sourcebook which lists over 6,500 state and county fairs, festivals and public expositions in the U.S. and Canada. Copies of the publication are available for \$41.50 which includes postage and handling. Prepaid orders must be sent to: AMUSEMENT BUSINESS, Single Copy Department, Box 24970 Nashville, TN 37202 or call (615) 321-4251.

RIAA CERTIFICATIONS

Country LPS

January

Platinum

A DECADE OF HITS . . . Charlie Daniels Band . . . Epic
HEARTLAND . . . The Judds . . . RCA

Gold

BUENOS NOCHES FROM A LONELY ROOM . . . Dwight Yoakam . . . Warner Bros./Reprise

The Walt Disney Company and Dick Clark Productions, Inc. have signed a five-year agreement to stage the **Academy of Country Music Awards** television special. Disney will provide venues and production facilities for the special, while Dick Clark Productions will continue to produce the annual event. The ACM special is scheduled to air on NBC, April 10th from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM EST.

Montgomery and Associates recently published "Country Lives", a trivia book featuring 30 of Country Music's biggest names. Copies are available for \$5.99 and prepaid orders may be sent to M&A, P.O. Box 11537, Burbank, CA 91505.

The RIAA has aimed its new slogan "When You Play It, Say It!" at radio announcers in hopes of encouraging them to inform listeners of song titles and artists' names. The organization is waging a campaign for back announcing in response to the findings of a recent survey which confirmed that many listeners are dissatisfied with the lack of song and artist identification.

Starlite Entertainment is offering a one-hour radio countdown of the top 12 songs published each month in THE GRASSOMETER, a monthly bluegrass trade magazine. Stations wishing to purchase the weekly package or the countdown only should contact James "The Giant" Croft at Starlite Entertainment, P.O. Box 56, Olustee, FL 32072-0056. The telephone number is (904) 752-1563.

Dwight Yoakam was featured in the February issue of the trendy new MODEL magazine. The publication listed Yoakam among the latest newcomers to the entertainment industry. Young artists were featured with their "dream" cars. Yoakam was pictured in a sly pose in front of a 1959 Cadillac Deville parade car — a gift from none other than his idol Buck Owens.

The radio industry ended 1988 with revenues of \$7.829 billion, an increase of 7.4 percent over 1987. The figures were based on a new analysis by the Radio Advertising Bureau. The total industry figure was comprised of \$6.048 billion in local radio advertising sales, \$1.404 billion in market-by-market ads (national spot radio) and \$377 million in network radio revenues. These estimates were based on actual figures collected by RAB's Local Revenue Pool, Radio Expenditure Reports (RER) and The Radio Network Association (RNA) over a 10-month period.

According to a January issue of VARIETY, "Coal Miner's Daughter", Loretta Lynn's life story, is ranked among the "All-Time Film Rental Champs" in the U.S. and Canadian markets. The total number of rentals has reached 35,030,225 which does not count the video cassettes sold!

Skeeter Davis, Marty Haggard, Little Jimmy Dickens, Jimmy C. Newman and Jean Shepard are doing commercials for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The ads will run at approximately 2,000 locations all over America.



While in the studio putting the finishing touches on his latest album, STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED, Ronnie Milsap was surprised by a piano-shaped cake to celebrate his birthday. Joining in the excitement are (l to r) Bruce Shindler, RCA/Nashville national Country promotion manager; Mike Sirls, RCA/Nashville national Country promotion director; Milsap; Don Reeves, Milsap's manager; Joyce Milsap and Phran Schwartz, RCA/Nashville product development director.

A W A R D S

The 16th Annual American Music Awards held January 30th honored Randy Travis in the Country category as *Favorite Male Vocalist*, *Best Album* — ALWAYS AND FOREVER and *Best Single* — "I Told You So". Also honored were *Favorite Female Vocalist* — Reba McEntire, *Favorite New Country Artist* — Patty Loveless, *Favorite Country Group* — Alabama.

The TNN Viewers' Choice Awards will be held at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry House Tuesday, April 25th. The nominees are: *Favorite Male Vocalist* — Rodney Crowell, Ricky Van Shelton, George Strait, Randy Travis, Hank Williams, Jr. and Dwight Yoakam; *Favorite Female Vocalist* — Rosanne Cash, Emmylou Harris, Kathy Mattea, Reba McEntire, K. T. Oslin and Tanya Tucker; *Favorite Group* — Alabama, Highway 101, The Judds, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, The Oak Ridge Boys and Sweethearts of the Rodeo; *Favorite Album* — CHISELED IN STONE, Vern Gosdin/CBS; IF YOU AIN'T LOVIN' YOU AIN'T LIVIN', George Strait/MCA; LOVING PROOF, Ricky Van Shelton/CBS; OLD 8 X 10, Randy Travis/Warner Bros. and THIS WOMAN, K. T. Oslin/RCA; *Favorite Song* — "Don't Close Your Eyes", Keith Whitley (Bob McDill); "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses", Kathy Mattea (Paul Nelson); Gene Nelson, "If You Ain't Lovin' You Ain't Livin'", George Strait (Tommy Collins); "I'll Leave This World Loving You", Ricky Van Shelton (Wayne Kemp); "Streets Of Bakersfield", Dwight Yoakam, Buck Owens (Homer Joy); "Strong Enough To Bend", Tanya Tucker (Beth Nielsen-Chapman); Don Schlitz; *Favorite Video* — "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses", Kathy Mattea (Clarke Gallivan); Jim May, Coke Sams, "Gonna Take A Lot Of River", The Oak Ridge Boys (Ken Walz); Larry Boothby, "I'll Leave This World Loving You", Ricky Van Shelton (Mary Matthews); Jim May, "Streets Of Bakersfield", Dwight Yoakam, Buck Owens (Victoria Golden); Marcus Stevens, "Strong Enough To Bend", Tanya Tucker (Marc W. Ball); John Miller, "Young Country", Hank Williams, Jr. (Preacher Ewing); Bill Fishman; *Favorite Newcomer* — Baillie and the Boys, Skip Ewing, David Lynn Jones, Shenandoah, Jo-El Sonnier and Keith Whitley; *Favorite Entertainer* — The Judds, Reba McEntire, Ricky Van Shelton, George Strait, Randy Travis and Hank Williams, Jr. The public will determine the winners and is invited to cast votes for two categories each week, beginning March 7th. More information is available on TNN and in USA Today newspapers.

The Academy of Country Music has announced initial nominees for its 24th annual Hat Awards Poll. Five final nominees will be announced in each category. Winners will be honored in a NBC telecast Monday, April 10th. The nominees are: *Entertainer of the Year* — Alabama, Reba McEntire, Kenny Rogers, Randy Travis, Conway Twitty, The Judds, The Oak Ridge Boys, George Strait, Tanya Tucker and Hank Williams, Jr.; *Top Female Vocalist* — Rosanne Cash, Crystal Gayle, Kathy Mattea, Juice Newton, Marie Osmond, Holly Dunn, Patty Loveless, Reba McEntire, K. T. Oslin and Tanya Tucker; *Top Male Vocalist* — Earl Thomas Conley, Merle Haggard, George Strait, Conway Twitty, Hank Williams, Jr., Vern Gosdin, Eddie Rabbitt, Randy Travis, Ricky Van Shelton, and Dwight Yoakam; *Top Vocal Duet* — Bellamy Brothers, Rodney Crowell/Rosanne Cash, The Judds, Gary Morris/Crystal Gayle, Sweethearts of the Rodeo, Earl Thomas Conley/Emmylou Harris, Foster and Lloyd, Ronnie Milsap/Mike Reid, The O'Kanes and Dwight Yoakam/Buck Owens; *Top Vocal Group* — Alabama, Desert Rose Band, Highway 101, The Oak Ridge



Recognize these guys? They're the Hager Twins, portraying, you guessed it, Abraham Lincoln and George Washington for a television commercial taped recently. Reviewing the script (l to r) are director Bob Hasentufel, Jon Hager, Jim Hager, and producer Bob Archer.

Boys, Sawyer Brown, Charlie Daniels Band, Exile, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Restless Heart and Statler Brothers; Top New Female Vocalist — Vicki Bird, Cee Cee Chapman, Kim Grayson, Marcia Lynn, Donna Meade, Suzy Bogguss, Linda Davis, Jill Jordan, Cali McCord and Lynne Tyndall; Top New Male Vocalist — David Ball, Rodney Crowell, Skip Ewing, Tim Malchak, Kevin Pearce, Jeff Chance, J. C. Crowley, David Lynn Jones, Paul Overstreet and David Slater; Single Record of the Year — "Bluest Eyes In Texas, Restless Heart/RCA; "Change Of Heart", The Judds/RCA; "Cry, Cry, Cry", Highway 101/Warner Bros.; "Don't Close Your Eyes", Keith Whitley/RCA; "Eighteen Wheels and a Dozen Roses", Kathy Mattea/PolyGram; "Fallin' Again", Alabama/RCA; "I Told You So", Randy Travis/Warner Bros.; "I'll Always Come Back", K. T. Oslin/RCA; "I'll Leave This World Loving You", Ricky Van Shelton/CBS and "Strong Enough To Bend", Tanya Tucker/Capitol; Song of the Year — "Bluest Eyes In Texas", Dave Robbins, Van Stephenson, Tim Dubois; "Change Of Heart", Naomi Judd; "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses", Paul Nelson and Gene Nelson; "I Know How He Feels", Rick Bowles, Will Robinson; "I Won't Take Less Than Your Love", Paul Overstreet, Don Schlitz; "I'll Always Come Back, K. T. Oslin; "Set 'Em Up Joe", Vern Gosdin, Hank Cochran, Dean Dillon, Buddy Cannon; "Strong Enough To Bend", Beth Nielson-Chapman, Don Schlitz and "What She Is", Bob McDill, Paul Harrison; Album of the Year — ALABAMA LIVE, Alabama; BUENOS NOCHES FROM A LONELY ROOM; Dwight Yoakam, CHISELED IN STONE, Vern Gosdin; IF YOU AIN'T LOVIN' YOU AIN'T LIVIN', George Strait; KING'S RECORD SHOP, Rosanne Cash; LOVING PROOF, Ricky Van Shelton; OLD 8 X 10, Randy Travis; REBA, Reba McEntire; THIS WOMAN, K. T. Oslin and WILD STREAK, Hank Williams, Jr.

MUSIC CITY NEWS recently announced nominees for its Awards Show to be held at the Grand Ole Opry House Monday June 5th. The following have been nominated: *Entertainer* — Reba McEntire, Ricky Van Shelton, Statler Brothers, George Strait, Randy Travis and Hank Williams, Jr.; *Male Artist* — Vern Gosdin, Ricky Van Shelton, George Strait, Randy Travis, Dwight Yoakam and Hank Williams, Jr.; *Female Artist* — Rosanne Cash, Kathy Mattea, Reba McEntire, K. T. Oslin and Tanya Tucker; *Vocal Group* — Alabama, Forester Sisters, Highway 101, Oak Ridge Boys and Statler Brothers; *Star of Tomorrow* — Rodney Crowell, Holly Dunn, Patty Loveless, Keith Whitley and Dwight Yoakam; *Instrumentalist* — Chet Atkins, Roy Clark, Charlie Daniels, Ricky Skaggs and Mike Snider; *Vocal Duo* — Bellamy Brothers, Everly Brothers, The Judds, The O'Kanes and

Sweethearts of the Rodeo; Comedian — Andy Andrews, Jerry Clower, Shotgun Red, Ray Stevens and Williams & Ree; Gospel Group — Cathedrals, Chuck Wagon Gang, Cumberland Boys, Fox Brothers and The Whites; TV Series — "Austin City Limits", "Dolly", "Hee Haw", "Nashville Now", "Crook and Chase/This Week In Country Music"; TV Special — "A Country Music Celebration: 30th Anniversary of the Country Music Association", "Grand Ole Opry Live Special", "Hee Haw Anniversary", "Merle Haggard: Poet of the Common Man" and "USO Celebrity Tour: Lee Greenwood"; Vocal Collaboration — Rodney Crowell/Rosanne Cash, Loretta Lynn/Conway Twitty, Ricky Skaggs/Sharon White, Tanya Tucker/Paul Davis/Paul Overstreet, Dwight Yoakam/Buck Owens; Video — "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses", "Gonna Take A Lot Of River", "I Told You So", "I'll Leave This World Loving You" and "Streets Of Bakersfield"; Single — "Chiseled In Stone", Vern Gosdin; "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses", Kathy Mattea; "Gonna Take A Lot Of River", Oak Ridge Boys; "I'll Leave This World Loving You", Ricky Van Shelton; "Let's Get Started If We're Gonna Break My Heart", Statler Brothers; Album — CHISELED IN STONE, Vern Gosdin; IF YOU AIN'T LOVIN' YOU AIN'T LIVIN', George Strait; LOVING PROOF, Ricky Van Shelton; OLD 8 X 10, Randy Travis; THE STATLERS, Statler Brothers.

Country humorist Jerry Clower received the 1989 Founder's Memorial Award presented January 30th by the Mississippi Religious Leaders Conference for significant interfaith contributions to denomination, community and state.

E. W. Wendell, president and chief executive officer of Opryland U.S.A., Inc., was honored last month as the Sales and Marketing Executives of Nashville's National Salesperson of the Year. Award recipients are chosen by the Sales and Marketing Executive Selection Committee.

He was also chosen as Middle Tennessee's ADVANTAGE Magazine's Man of the Year. His wife Janice W. Wendell, co-founder and head of Eric Ericson & Associates, was named Woman of the Year. She is the only female CEO of a company in the ADVANTAGE Private 100. The couple was featured in ADVANTAGE's February issue.

CMA Album Service

If you have difficulty receiving album releases, CMA has a new benefit to keep you up-to-date on the latest product. The CMA Album Service is available to Broadcast Organizational members. Stations subscribing to this program are placed on the selected record company's priority mailing list.

The labels participating in the service are Capitol Records, Warner Bros. Records, CBS Records, MCA Records, RCA Records, 16th Avenue Records and Door Knob Records. Each label has a separate fee for their products ranging from \$15 to \$80 yearly and CMA's processing fee is \$15.

The next annual enrollment period starts July 1, 1989. Checks must be received by CMA no later than June 9th, 1989. A brochure and order form will be sent to all Country stations in late April, but only CMA broadcast organizational members are eligible to participate. For more information, contact the CMA membership department at (615) 244-2840.

RCA's Jo-EI Sonnier received **PERFORMANCE Magazine's 1988 Readers Poll Award** for the New Country Act of the Year.

Patsy Bruce and her Nashville-based international company, **Events Unlimited**, took top honors from **SPECIAL EVENTS Magazine's 1988 Gala Awards**, January 12th in New Orleans. These awards recognize unusual and spectacular events within the party-planning industry. Bruce received Best Event Coordinated for a Corporation and Best Decorated Theme Event.

WOKQ FM in New England has been recognized by the **New Hampshire Bar Association** as the top electronic media entry in the **1988 Media Awards Competition**.

Employees of Shreveport LA's KRMD AM/FM took three major annual **1988 Stations Awards: Sales Consultant of the Year — Deborah Williams; Employee of the Year — Brandi Myers; and Tony Barrett Award; David Block.**



The Songwriters Guild of America (SGA) Nashville office honored its member **Randy Sharp** with a number one party for his recent hit "A Tender Lie" recorded by **Restless Heart**. Shown presenting Sharp with his honor is **Southern Regional Director Kathy Hyland**. Photo by: **Alan Mayor**

ON THE MOVE

Judith Regan recently joined the **Mass Market Division** as editor-at-large at **Simon and Schuster**. Regan will develop a variety of general interest titles.

Bill Catino, the newly appointed director of promotion for **Universal Records**, has assembled his regional promotion staff. The newly appointed regional promotion directors are **Sam Cerami, Jay Jensen, Terry Stevens** and **John Curb**.

Laura LiPuma has been added to the **Warner Bros. Record's** staff in Nashville as the creative director. LiPuma will oversee artwork for all album projects as well as editorial and advertising projects.

Buddy Cannon is the new **A & R manager** for **PolyGram Records** in Nashville. He will assist creative vice president **Harold Shedd** in all phases of the creative process for the label's Country division.

The **Woody Bowles Company** has upped **Beverly B. Sebastian** from **Woody Bowles'** executive assistant to director of artists relations for the company.



Top CMA Recruiter

Each month *Close Up* recognizes the CMA member who has recruited the most new members. This issue, CMA highlights **Roe Elkins**, part owner in **Roe's Videos** in **Clarksville, Indiana**. Others who have recruited members in February include **Shellee Morris, Joey Floyd, David Skepner, Jim Smith, Betty Morrison, Cathy Gurley, William Lee Golden, Victoria Shaw, Daniel Darwish, Dave Scoder** and **Jody Williams**.

Mel Hall of **Poplarville, MS** recently sold **WBOX AM/FM** located in **Bogalusa, LA** where he served as manager and owner and accepted a management position at **WRPM** owned by **Dowdy and Dowdy**.

Ray McClain has been added to the **Door Knob Records** staff to handle Country promotion to the **CASHBOX** reporting stations.

Carey Curelop was recently appointed program director of **WSUN/WYNE**, a CBS Radio affiliate in **Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL**.

NewMarket Media Corporation has appointed **Thomas R. Libby III** to the sales manager position and **Stacey Propps** to promotions director for **WSJS/WTQR** in **Greensboro-Winston Salem-High Point, NC**.

KMPS FM of **Seattle, WA** is undergoing some staff changes. **Mark Seignious** is the new promotion director. **Lorraine "Stubbs" Galbreath** is the morning show producer, **Dave Black, Brent Stier** and **Harry McKnight** are new part-time personalities, **Jennifer Wood** serves as traffic reporter and **Kirby Gallat** is the midnight personality.

Scott Shannon has been named vice president of **Westwood One Radio Station Group**. Shannon will be based in **LA** and will be responsible for overall programming for the network's radio stations.

Country station, **KROR FM** in **Yucca Valley, CA** has promoted **Sandy Rust** to local sales manager.

Alan Hopper was recently added to the **Denver-based Chuck Morris Entertainment** company as management associate.

NEW COMPANIES

Alan C. Bernard, former CEO of **MTM Music Group**, recently announced the opening for a new full-service management firm. He has worked with such artists as **Neil Diamond, Jim Croce, The Carpenters** and **John Davidson**. The **Bernard Company** is located at **Seven Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 242-0670** or **(615) 242-0679**.

New Organizational Members Approved

The CMA Board of Directors approved 17 radio stations as new broadcast organizational members at the February meeting.

KAGI/Grants Pass, OR
WCAZ/Carthage, IL
KJJC/Osceola, IA
WKKQ/Hibbing, MN
WCVL/Crawfordsville, IN
KAGY/Belle Chasse, LA
KMLE/Phoenix, AZ
WVKY/Louisa, KY
KEYB/Altus, OK
KSDZ/Gordon, NE
KICE/Bend, OR
WYRV/Cedar Bluff, VA
WYGO/Corbin, KY
KDUZ/Hutchinson, MN
WLLX/Lawrenceburg, TN
WGOH/Grayson, KY
Annapolis Valley Radio Ltd./Kentville, Nova Scotia, Canada

Also approved as new members are:
Sunburst Entertainment, Westwood, NJ
Appalacian Valley Songwriters Association, Pendleton, OR

J & R Music World, New York, NY
C-Koe Management, Euless, TX
Cabin Fever Entertainment, Greenwich, CT
The Gathering Country Music Hall of Fame, Bloomington, IN
Valley Record Distributors, Woodland, CA
MDL Records, Inc., Waipahu, HI
Bloom/Brown, Glendale, CA
Jack, Lyon & Jones, Little Rock, AR, Music Machine, Sneeds Ferry, NC
Cowboy's, North Myrtle Beach, SC
Brother Records, Los Angeles, CA
The Record Shop, Inc., Sausalito, CA
Roundup Music Distributors, Inc., Kent, WA
Sight & Sound Distributing Co., Burlingame, CA
American Gramophone Records, Omaha, NE.

Some of the many benefits available to organizational members include:

1. CLOSE UP, CMA's monthly magazine containing vital information about the Country Music industry.
2. CMA Awards Show tickets available for your purchase.
3. Group insurance rates available to many CMA members.
4. A new marketing/sales package which includes a recent CMA commissioned Arbitron Study "The Country Music Radio Listener . . . A New Profile", a sales video based on the study, and a leave behind piece.

For more information concerning membership in the CMA, contact the membership department at (615) 244-2840.

Nashville Prepares For Fan Fair

In less than three months Music City U.S.A. will once again be filled with thousands of Country Music enthusiasts. These visitors from across the U.S. and abroad will attend the 18th Annual International Country Music Fan Fair June 5 - 11 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds.

Co-sponsored by CMA and the Grand Ole Opry, Fan Fair gives Country Music fans the chance to meet their favorite artists and attend numerous events throughout the week. More than 30 hours of spectacular stage shows are planned, beginning with the Bluegrass Show on Monday, June 5.

Other forms of entertainment include picture taking and autograph sessions, two delicious lunches prepared by the Odessa Chuckwagon Gang from Odessa, Texas, a ticket to the Country Music Hall of Fame, Opryland U.S.A. and the Ryman Auditorium, plus large exhibit areas, featuring the latest Country Music records and other merchandise. Topping off the week's events is the Grand Masters Fiddling Championship on Sunday, June 11.

The 1989 International Show, scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, will showcase artists from six different countries.

At press time all exhibit booths had been assigned. Among those artists who have reserved booths are Alabama, Johnny Cash, Exile, Forester Sisters, Crystal Gayle, Highway 101, The Judds, Barbara Mandrell, Reba McEntire, Ricky Van Shelton, George Strait, Randy Travis and Hank Williams, Jr. The booths will be open from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 6. On Wednesday and Thursday, June 7 and 8, booths will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Friday, June 9, the booths will be open from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Following is a tentative schedule for Fan Fair '89. All

activities will be held at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds except as indicated.

Monday, June 5

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Bluegrass Show
9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Cajun Show

Tuesday, June 6

9:30 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
10:00 a.m. - noon International Show
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Independent Label Show
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. PolyGram Records Show
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. MCA Records Show

Wednesday, June 7

10:00 a.m. - noon Universal Records Show
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Warner Bros. Records Show
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. RCA Records Show

Thursday, June 8

10:00 a.m. - noon Capitol Records Show
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. 16th Avenue Records Show
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. CBS Records Show

Friday, June 9

10:00 a.m. - noon Songwriters Show
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Atlantic/America Records Show
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Airborne Records Show

Sunday, June 11

10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Grand Masters Fiddling Championship (Opryland U.S.A.)

Registration for the 18th Annual International Country Music Fan Fair is \$65.00 which includes the full schedule of events, plus two meals and a ticket to the Country Music Hall of Fame, Opryland U.S.A. and the Ryman Auditorium.

For more information or registration forms write Fan Fair, 2804 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214 or call (615) 889-7503.

MARCH

(* denotes birthdays)

- 1 **"Cliffie Stone"** (Clifford Gilpin Snyder); Burbank, California
***Jim Ed Brown**; Sparkman, Arkansas
***Janice Gill** (Sweethearts of the Rodeo); Torrance, California
 Johnny Cash and June Carter marry in Franklin, Kentucky, 1968
 Uncle Dave Macon's last appearance on Grand Ole Opry, 1952
 Barbara Mandrell signs her first recording contract, 1969
- 2 ***Arthel "Doc" Watson**; Deep Gap, North Carolina
***Larry Stewart** (Restless Heart); Paducah, Kentucky
 David Houston wins a Grammy for "Almost Persuaded" and Jeannie Seely for "Don't Touch Me", 1967
 Jim and Jesse McReynold employed by Grand Ole Opry, 1964
 The Whites join Grand Ole Opry, 1984
 Peace in Vietnam, 1973
- 3 ***Bob Di Piero**; Youngstown, Ohio
***Betty Jack Davis** (Davis Sisters); Corbin, Kentucky
 Waylon Jennings' WHAT GOES AROUND certified gold, 1980
- 4 "Coal Miner's Daughter", the film version of Loretta Lynn's autobiography, premiers in Nashville, 1980
 James "Sleepy" McDaniel dies, 1963
- 5 ***Tommy Cash**; Dyess, Arkansas
 Patsy Cline, Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas die in a plane crash, 1963
- 6 ***Bob Wills**; Limestone County, Texas
***Jerry Naylor**; Erath County, Texas
 THE BEST OF BUCK OWENS awarded gold record, 1968
- 7 ***Townes Van Zandt**; Fort Worth, Texas
 Ernie Ashworth employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1964
 Gid Tanner and Riley Puckett make first string band recording for Columbia, 1924
 Jack Anglin of Johnny and Jack killed in auto accident en route to Patsy Cline's memorial service, 1963
- 8 ***Lew DeWitt**; Roanoke County, Virginia
***Jimmy Stoneman**; Washington, DC
***Johnny Dollar**; Kilgore, Texas

Willie Nelson's "My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys" hits number one on Country charts, 1980



- 9 ***Mickey Gilley**; Ferriday, Louisiana
***Jimmie Fadden** (NGDB); Long Beach, California
 Grand Ole Opry moves from Ryman Auditorium, downtown Nashville, to Opryland Park, 1974
- 10 ***Kenneth C. "Jethro" Burns**; Knoxville, Tennessee
***Ralph Emery**; McEwen, Tennessee
 Patsy Cline's funeral attended by approximately 25,000 people, 1963
- 11 Crystal Gayle first appears on Country charts, 1982
 Merle Haggard & The Strangers' THE FIGHTIN' SIDE OF ME awarded gold album, 1971
- 12 Joe Stampley's "The Sheik of Chicago" enters charts in 1976; that year he had eight Country hits.
 Charley Pride's "She's Just An Ole Love Turned Memory" tops Country charts, 1977
- 13 ***Liz Anderson** (Elizabeth Jane Haaby); Roseau, Minnesota
***Jan Howard**; West Plains, Missouri
- 14 ***Zella Lehr**; Burbank, California
 Marty Robbins' "I'll Go On Alone" debuts on charts, 1953
 Merle Haggard pardoned as "fully rehabilitated" from San Quentin by Ronald Reagan, 1972
- 15 ***Carl Smith**; Maynardsville, Tennessee
***James Monroe**
***Andrew Jackson**
- 16 ***Jerry Jeff Walker**; Oneonta, New York

The new Grand Ole Opry House opens and Roy Acuff gives President Richard Nixon yo-yo lessons at the ceremony, 1974


- 17 **SAINT PATRICK'S DAY**
***Dick Curless**, "The Tumbleweed Kid"; Fort Fairfield, Maine
Susie Allanson; Las Vegas, Nevada
***Nat King Cole**
 Eddy Raven's first number one single, "I Got Mexico", enters the charts, 1984
 Hugh Garr of the original Sons of the Pioneers dies, 1980



- 18 ***Charley Pride**; Sledge, Mississippi
***Dennis Linde**; Abilene, Texas
***Smiley Burnette**; Summun, Illinois
- 19 **PALM SUNDAY**
***Martha Carson**; Neon, Kentucky
 Tom T. Hall marries "Miss Dixie", 1964
 Fiddlin' Sid Harkreader dies, 1988
- 20 ***Jerry Reed**; Atlanta, Georgia
***Tommy Hunter**; London, Ontario
***Carl Reiner**
***Hal Linden**
- 21 ***Bascam Lamar Lunsford**; Mars Hill, North Carolina
***Johann Sebastian Bach**
 Jessi Colter's "I'm Not Lisa" debuts on the Country charts, 1975
- 22 ***Charlie Pool**; Alamance County, North Carolina
***Bob Homan**; Tiffin, Ohio
***William Shatner**
 Hank Williams, Jr.'s stage debut in Swainsboro, Georgia, 1958
 Uncle Dave Macon dies, 1952
 Stoney Cooper dies, 1977
- 23 ***Fred J. Horrell**; Jackson, Missouri
****Fiddlin' "John Carson**; Fanin County, North Carolina
 Maybelle and Ezra Carter wed, 1926

- 24 **GOOD FRIDAY**
 *Peggy Sue; Paintsville, Kentucky
 *Steve McQueen
 *Harry Houdini
 Elvis Presley sworn into the U.S. Army and his pay drops from \$100,000 to \$78 a month, 1958
 Howard Dixon dies at 57 in Darlington, South Carolina, 1961
- 25 *Bonnie Guitar; Seattle, Washington
 *Hoyt Axton; Comanche, Oklahoma
 *Johnny Burnette
 BILLBOARD's first chart listing of "Hillbilly Records" appears, 1939
- 26 **EASTER SUNDAY**
 *Ronnie McDowell; Portland, Tennessee
 *Charly McClain; Memphis, Tennessee
 *Dean Dillon; Lake City, Tennessee
 *Larry Butler; Pensacola, Florida
- 27 *Aubrey Moon Mullican; Polk County, Texas
 *Leon Everett; Aiken, South Carolina
 *Homer C. Callahan (Callahan Brothers); Laurel, North Carolina
 Jan Howard employed at the Grand Ole Opry, 1971
 Brenda Lee makes her debut on the Country charts with "One Step At A Time". She was only 12 years old, 1957
- 28 *Charlie McCoy; Oak Hill, Virginia
 *Reba McEntire; Chockie, Oklahoma
 Tom T. Hall employed at the Grand Ole Opry, 1980
- 29 *Rick Henderson (Mason Dixon); Beaumont, Texas
 *Pearl Bailey
 Tootsie's Orchid Lounge opened, 1960
 Texas Ruby killed in a trailer fire, 1963
- 30 *Eric Clapton
 Ronnie Milsap's first number one record, "Pure Love", enters the charts, 1974
 Bobby Helm's "Fraulein" enters the charts where it remained for 52 weeks. It was the longest running chart record of the decade, 1957
- 31 *Lefty Frizzell (William Orville Frizzell); Corsicana, Texas
 *John D. Loudermilk; Durham, North Carolina
 *Hoyt Hawkins (The Jordanaires); Paducah, Kentucky
 *Anita Carter; Maces Springs, Virginia
 *Herb Alpert

APRIL

- 1 **APRIL FOOL'S DAY**
 *Authur "Guitar Boogie" Smith; Clinton, South Carolina
 *Bob Nolan (Sons of the Pioneers); New Brunswick, Canada
 *Narvel Felts; Malden, Missouri
 *Jim Ed Brown; Sparkman, Arkansas
 Country Music Hall of Fame opens at 4 Music Square West, Nashville, 1967
 Mark Herndon joins Alabama as drummer, 1979
 Crystal Gayle's "Ready For The Times To Get Better", hits number one on the Country charts, 1978
- 2 *Sonny Throckmorton; Carlsbad, New Mexico
 *Warner Mack (Warner MacPherson); Nashville, Tennessee
 *Leon Russell; Lawton, Oklahoma
- 
- *Emmylou Harris; Birmingham, Alabama
 Cliff Carlisle dies, 1983
- 3 *Don Gibson; Shelby, North Carolina
 *Johnny Horton; Tyler, Texas
 *Marlon Brando
 *Wayne Newton
 *Doris Day
 First Louisiana Hayride broadcast from radio KWKH in Shreveport, Louisiana, 1948
 Jesse James killed, 1882
- 4 *Steve Gatlin; Olmeyer, Texas
 *Gail Davies; Broken Bow, Oklahoma
 Bobby Goldsboro's "Honey" awarded gold record, 1968
 Sylvia's "Drifter" becomes her first number one hit, 1981
 Red Sovine killed in Nashville auto accident, 1980
 Ernest Tubb makes his first record for Decca, 1940

- 5 *Tommy Cash; Dyess, Arkansas
 *"Cowboy" Jack Clement; Memphis, Tennessee
 Darby and Tarleton's first recording session, 1927
 The Bellamy's "Sugar Daddy" hits number one on charts, 1980
- 6 *Vernon Dalhart (Marion Try Slaughter); Jefferson, Texas



- *Merle Haggard; Bakersfield, California
 *William Henry Whitter; Grayson County, Virginia
 *Dotsy (Brodtt); Sequin, Texas
- 7 *Cal Smith (Calvin Grant Shofner); Gans, Oklahoma
 *John Dittrich (Restless Heart); Union, New York
 *James Garner
 Jimmie Rodgers marries Carrie Williamson, 1920
 Kris Kristofferson's "Why Me" enters the Country charts, 1973
- 8 *Betty Ford
- 9 *Carl Perkins; Tiptonville, Tennessee
 *Con Hunley; Fountain City, Tennessee
 *Margo Smith; Dayton, Ohio

[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 and Western Music* by Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon (St. Martin's Press), *Another Beautiful Day* by Rod McKuen (Harper & Row), *INSIDE COUNTRY* by Marie Cracknell and Linda Cauthen, and the Country Music Foundation's OFFICIAL 1989 COUNTRY MUSIC CALENDAR, as well as from original research.]

MARCH

- 1-4 CRS/MIPS / Opryland Hotel / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 329-4487 for details
- 3-7 National Association of Record Merchandisers (NARM) Convention / New Orleans Marriott / Call (609) 596-2221 for details
- 16-19 South By Southwest Music and Media Conference (SXSW) '89 / Marriott at the Capitol / Austin, TX / Call (512) 477-7979 for details
- 17-19 Calico Hullabaloo 1989 / Calico Ghost Town / Barstow, CA / Call (619) 254-2122 for details
- 20-22 International Events Group "Sponsorship Next: Strategies for the Nineties" / Chicago Hilton / Chicago, IL / Call (312) 944-1727 for details
- 25-27 International Festival of Country Music / Wembley, England

APRIL

- 1 Radio Orion / The O.K. "Keep It Country" Concert / Johannesburg, South Africa
- 10 Academy of Country Music Awards / Walt Disney Studios / Burbank, CA

- 20-23 Festival International de Louisiane / Lafayette, Louisiana / Call (318) 232-8086 for details
- 25 1989 TNN Viewers' Choice Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 28-30 Second Annual Merle Watson Memorial Festival / Wilkes Community College Gardens / Wilkesboro, NC
- 30- Fourth International Music & Media Conference (IMMC) / Amsterdam, Holland

MAY

- 3-4 CMA Board Meeting / Amsterdam Hilton / Amsterdam, Holland
- 27-29 Lincolnshire International Country Music Jamboree / Grantham, England

JUNE

- 2 Eighteenth Tokyo Music Festival International Contest / Nippon Budohkan Hall / Tokyo, Japan
- 2-5 International Country Music Buyers Association / Hyatt

- Regency / Nashville, TN / Call (913) 596-2149 for details
- 5 MUSIC CITY NEWS Country Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 5-11 18th International Country Music Fan Fair / Tennessee State Fairgrounds / Nashville, TN
- 10 June Jam / Fort Payne, AL

AUGUST

- 4-6 WE Fest Camping and Country Music Festival / Detroit Lakes, MN / Call (612) 333-5577 for details

SEPTEMBER

- 19-22 International Bluegrass Music Association Trade Show and Fan Fest / Owensboro, KY / Call (919) 542-3997 for details

OCTOBER

- 9 CMA Awards Show / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 10 CMA Board of Directors Meeting
CMA Annual Membership Meeting



Cheers! Reba McEntire and Ricky Van Shelton celebrate their 1989 tour which began February 10th and will run through April. Shelton will be McEntire's "special guest". Photo by: Beth Gwinn

CMA
COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION
Close Up

P.O. Box 22299
Nashville, TN 37202-2299

25375 4 5 00 0889 7 2
WPMC
HAPPY BROADCASTING CO, INC
RAYMOND WOODFENDEN
P.O. BOX 189 -214 MAIN ST
DUMFRIES VA 22026

Second class postage paid at
Nashville, Tennessee