

CloseUp



The 33rd CMA Awards



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CMA premieres its first-ever pay-per-view special "CMA AWARDS BACKSTAGE PASS"

"CMA Awards Backstage Pass," the first-ever pay-per-view event produced in conjunction with a music awards telecast, was broadcast live September 21. From the comfort of their own homes, Country Music fans throughout the U.S. and Canada were treated to "CMA Awards Backstage Pass," which aired one night prior to the CBS network telecast of the "33rd Annual CMA Awards."

"CMA Awards Backstage Pass" served up a truly unique viewing experience. Noted comic Bill Engvall and Mercury recording artist Terri Clark hosted the live event. During the evening, fans were able to enjoy an "insider's look" at preparations for Country Music's biggest night, including behind-the-scenes rehearsals, "a day in the life" celebrity preparation for the big night, a look at great moments from past CMA Awards telecasts, and all the excitement that goes along with this major event. Viewers were also treated to live performances from CMA Award winners Mary Chapin Carpenter and Deana Carter from Nashville's 328 Performance Hall.



1 & 2 - Deana Carter and Mary Chapin

Carpenter rocked the house at 328

Performance Hall for the winners of the annu-

al CMA Awards radio listener promotion.

3 - 1999 CMA Board President Lon Helton

(second from right) and Board Chairman Bud

Wendell (far left) surprise Martina McBride

with the Connie B. Gay Award as Terri Clark

looks on. The award is given in recognition of

that person (or persons) who is not currently

serving as an officer or director, and who, in

the board's opinion, has rendered the most

outstanding service to the Country Music

Association in the current year.

4 - Co-Host of "CMA Awards Backstage

Pass," Terri Clark, cuts it up with backstage

guest Martina McBride.





Alabama and 'N Sync



Brooks & Dunn



Jo Dee Messina



Alan Jackson



Beth Nielsen Chapman, Annie Roboff & Robin Lerner



Dolly Parton & Vince Gill
Dixie Chicks

33RD CMA AWARDS



winners & highlights

The winners of the "The 33rd Annual CMA Awards" are:

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR:
SHANIA TWAIN

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:
MARTINA MCBRIDE

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:
TIM MCGRAW

HORIZON AWARD:
JO DEE MESSINA

SINGLE OF THE YEAR:
"Wide Open Spaces," DIXIE CHICKS
Produced by Paul Worley and
Blake Charcey

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR:
BROOKS & DUNN

MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR:
"Wide Open Spaces," DIXIE CHICKS
Directed by Thom Oliphant



Faith Hill



Jewel & Merle Haggard



Dwight Yoakam



Tim McGraw



Trisha Yearwood



Randy Scruggs



Shania Twain

SONG OF THE YEAR:

"This Kiss"

Written by

ANNIE ROBOFF, ROBIN LERNER and
BETH NIELSEN CHAPMAN

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR:

"My Kind of Woman/My Kind of Man"
VINCE GILL with PATTY LOVELESS

ALBUM OF THE YEAR:

A PLACE IN THE SUN, TIM MCGRAW

Produced by Byron Gallimore,
Tim McGraw and James Stroud

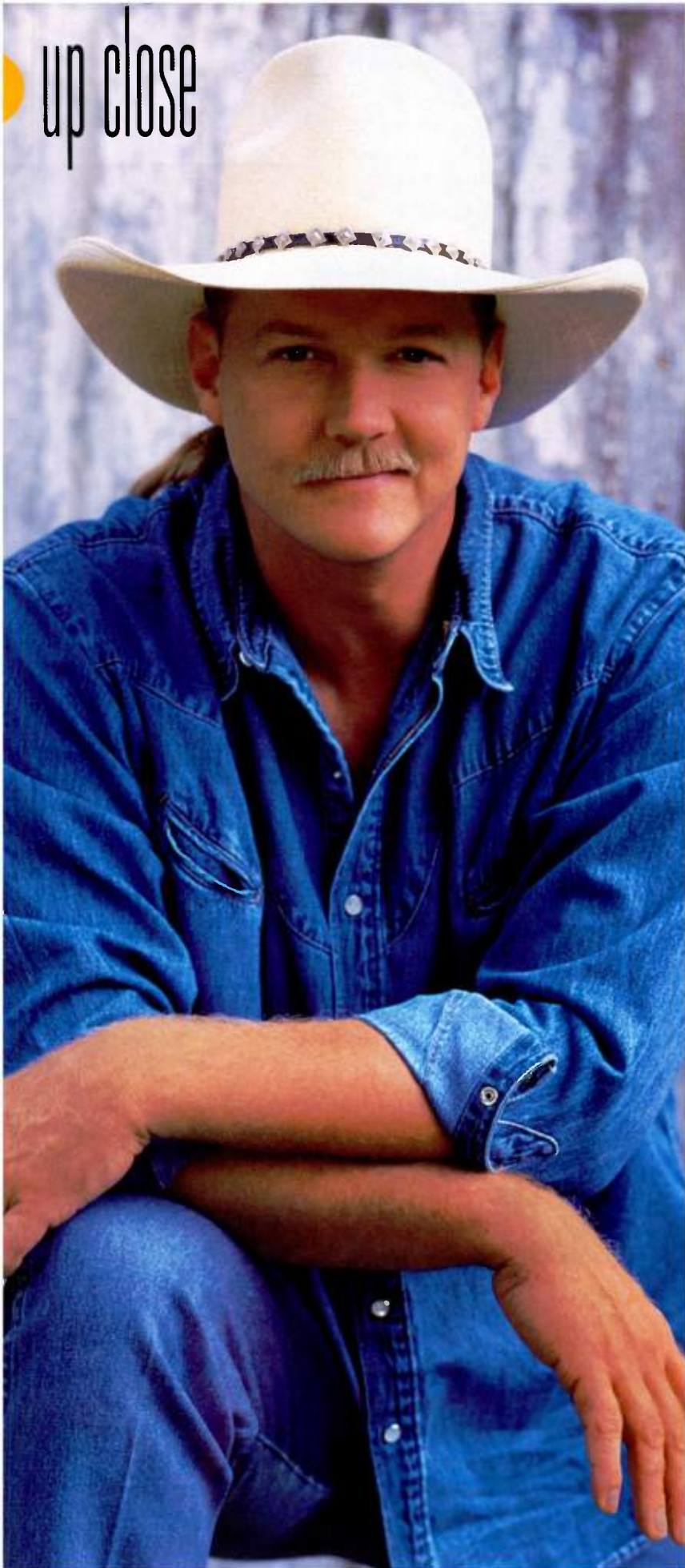
MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:

RANDY SCRUGGS

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR:

DIXIE CHICKS ◀▶

photos by Halo Photography



Trace rounded the corner and met all of my expectations in a glance. We had pushed the stubby, plaid couch all the way against the wall so he could stretch his legs without hitting the coffee table. I was told to wait in the tiny, dimly lit room until I heard him come in. How would I know it was him? "His voice carries," his publicist told me, a little agitated that I had to ask. When he leaned into the room, slumping through the doorway so as not to hit his head, he filled it with a very definable presence. Buck Owens once compared Trace to Johnny Cash, saying you didn't have to turn around to know he was there. That claim is not only accurate, but it impresses Trace as much as it did me.

"I have the utmost respect for Cash. He's always demanded respect and always gotten it. He has this presence about him, almost like a mystical figure. He's created this thing that is Johnny Cash, that transcends his music and transcends who he is in his personal life. He's a monster and a hellion. He's always done things the way he's wanted to do them, and I just love that about him."

One of the qualities that sets Adkins apart is the balance he embodies between being a famous Country Music star and being the son of a hardworking, swing shift employee of International Paper Company in Louisiana. In response to Buck Owens' quote, Adkins displays the humility that makes him as easy to talk to as a long lost friend.

"I don't deserve those kinds of accolades. I don't know why Buck was that way. I'll never forget the first time I met him. I was doing a radio tour and I went in this radio station there in Bakersfield. I sat down in the conference room, and he got the whole staff, everybody that worked there, to come into this big conference room. I sat down, and he was the master of ceremonies, and he said, 'OK, play me a Merle Haggard song.' I said, 'OK,' and played him a Merle Haggard song. 'Now, don't play your single, but play me something you like off your album, something you think should have been the single.' It was incredible. And then when I finished, he stood up in the middle of the room and announced, 'Thank God they finally sent us someone who can sing!' I thought, 'Oh God, this is too cool! Is there anybody videoing this?'"

The most current groundbreaking experience in Adkins' life is the release of his new album MORE. The title song is written by Thom McHugh and Del Gray and is described by Adkins as a fun song with a positive message about love. "I like it because it's kind of a mature love song with a groove to it that just makes you feel good. I enjoy performing it." The first single off the album strikes a more personal chord with Adkins. It's called "Don't Lie" and was written by Chet Biggers and Frank Rogers.

"Most everything I sing, in one way or another, I've experienced, and I've been this guy. I've been the guy where she's telling him she wants to remember him and all that kind of stuff, and he knows she's leaving him for another man. I'll never forget, I had a woman one time stop right in the door and as she was leaving she said, 'You know I'm always gonna love you.' And I was like, 'I don't want to hear that. That's the coldest thing you could've said to me right now. Are you that cruel? Just leave!' This song hurts me every time I sing it, but that's what a good song should do."

Throughout the album and throughout his career, Adkins admits to being vulnerable in his music.

"I am sharing something about myself. If not, there's no passion, no honesty. I need that to be able to sing a song. To be able to sing with passion or conviction, it has to be something I've experienced or I've seen somebody else experience. There's only one song on this album I had a part in writing. Nobody shoved anything down my throat on this album. Nobody said, 'You need to sing this because it's a radio hit.' There

"I'm not a musician. I'm not a songwriter. I'm a singer, and not even a good singer or a great singer."

was nothing like that. There's nothing that I didn't personally say 'I like this. I want to do this.' That's what was totally cool about this album. They said, 'Here's the money. Here's the budget. Make us a good album and bring it to us when you're done.'"

One of the aspects of Trace's personality that carries over into his music is his willingness to be transparent with the audience or with anyone else for that matter. He recognizes the need to make songs enjoyable and to embrace the pleasure that makes songwriting and performing such a sought after, enviable occupation, but he also feels the need to express deep, meaningful summaries about human nature. He keeps a watchful eye on the world around him and studies the way people think and act. That's one of the reasons being a Civil War buff isn't an isolated hobby that has nothing to do with his music. It actually carries over into his songs.

"If you look back at the Civil War, it makes you realize how much human nature has changed. You don't really realize that unless you study history."

It takes a certain depth of character to appreciate events and people who aren't in the here and now. Still, most of Trace's songs are about tangible joys, pleasures and heartaches that anyone can relate to.

When asked to discuss "Can't I Want Your Love" from MORE, Trace responded, "It's sex. It's totally about sex." But more abstract ideals occupy his mind, things that aren't necessarily guaranteed to have mass appeal and are therefore not as likely to show up in his albums.

"There's a balance you have to try to keep. If I didn't care about the longevity of my career, my albums would be much darker. They would be very dark. What would end up happening is that I would get no airplay and sell no albums. Nobody would hear any of it. So what I have to do is try to balance it a little bit so that there's some stuff in there that I still

"If I didn't care about the longevity of my career, my albums would be much darker."

believe in and still can sink my teeth into, but it's a little more commercial. I can put some deeper, darker stuff in there that people will get to hear anyway. . . I'm not a giddy, happy person. That's just not me. I have to purposely put a little happiness and levity in there."

Maybe giddy isn't a good word to describe Trace, but when he starts talking about his wife, Rhonda, there's definitely a glow about him.

"Relationship-wise I don't think you can do much better. I'm happier now than I've ever been and more secure and whole. The relationship I

have with Rhonda is the best relationship I've ever had with a woman, ever. Thank God for that. At least that task is finally put to bed. I don't have to worry about that anymore."

Again, there's always a balance. Sarah and Tarah, his daughters from a previous marriage, are entering their teenage years. Being a father is one of the most fulfilling roles in his life, but making decisions about what's best for them is a difficult task.

"I feel guilty and kind of sorry for my first two daughters because I know how to be a father now. Fourteen years ago when my first daughter was born I was just ignorant as hell, pretty much out of control.

"I have custody of them, but if they didn't want to (live with me) what would I have achieved? You know, I may be doing the wrong thing - I may be. But unfortunately there's no wise old man who has all the answers that you can go to in this world and say, 'Hey, wise old man, what should I do?' and he gives you a perfect, correct answer. There is nobody to do that, so you have to rely on your own feeble wisdom. So one day I might look back and go, 'Wow, I really screwed that up.'" Trace has the same attitude with his music. There are some things he feels are simply out of his control. He knows his strengths and weaknesses and admits he can't do everything.

"I'm not a musician. I'm not a songwriter. I'm a singer, and not even a good singer or a great singer. I think my strong point is on stage. That's the take I



Trace Adkins

have on it. I'm my best when I'm on stage. I've written a couple songs and have done okay, but I don't consider myself a songwriter. A songwriter is one of those guys who goes down there on 16th Avenue everyday and writes songs from nine to five. That's a songwriter. It's a craft for them. Me? When the spirit moves me, I do it. When I've got something to write about, I do it. I have the utmost respect for those guys. Somebody comes to them and says, 'Hey, here's this movie that I've done. I need a song for the title song track for this movie.' And somebody can sit down and write that! That is a songwriter."

So what does Trace Adkins identify as his purpose in life?

"As far as why I'm here and if I'm here for a reason, I have no idea. I don't know. Do I think about it from time to time? Maybe every once in a while, but I don't dwell on it because I don't know. Nobody knows. I think the only reason that I can see is to be a father, and other than that, what's the point?"

One point is to grace the world with good music, to "get down in that lower register" as he describes himself doing on "I Can Dig It" from MORE. He's been granted a mysteriously wonderful talent that must have been given for a reason.

"It's hard to explain, but I'd make all the sacrifices that I've made in my life trying to become successful in the music industry and go through it all again. There's something about that hour or 90 minutes or whatever the show length is that I get to be on stage, that is a place for me. I'm very comfortable on stage; I'm very relaxed there because, for me, it's a sanctuary." ◀▶

Weslea Bell

ASCAP



1. ASCAP Country Song Of The Year "This Kiss" writers: Annie Roboff and Beth Nielsen Chapman, publishers, Almo Music Corporation, Anwa Music and BNC Songs. (left to right) Almo's Bobby Rymer, Mary Del Scobey, Roboff, Almo's David Conrad, Chapman and Almo's Lance Freed.

2. Garth Brooks is honored with ASCAP Founders Award. ASCAP CEO John LoFrumento, right, and his wife Barbara, left, congratulate Brooks on his award.

3. ASCAP Songwriter Of The Year Phil Vassar and ASCAP Publisher Of The Year Sony/ATV Cross Keys. (left to right) ASCAP Senior Vice President Connie Bradley, Vassar, President & CEO of Sony/ATV Cross Keys Donna Hilley and ASCAP CEO John LoFrumento.

SESAC

1. Steve Mandile, writer of Tim McGraw's "For A Little While," was named SESAC's Country Songwriter of the Year. The hit song, published by Glacier Park Music, Family Style Publishing and Curb Magnatone Publishing, also received Country Song of the Year honors. Glacier Park Music and Family Style Publishing were named SESAC's Country Co-Publishers of the Year. (left to right) Curb Magnatone's Tommy Williams, SESAC President and COO Bill Velez, Glacier Park Music's Brent Maher, Family Style Publishing's Caroline Bienstock and Robert Bienstock, Mandile, Glacier Park Music's Michael Martin and Dianna Maher and SESAC Sr. VP/Writer Publisher Relations Pat Rogers.

B M I



1. BMI VP Roger Sovine, BMI Senior VP Del Bryant, Universal Music Publishing Group President David Renzer, BMI President & CEO Frances Preston, Shania Twain, Universal Music Publishing Senior VP Pat Higdon, Warner/Chappell Music Executive VP & GM Tim Wipperman, and Warner/Tamerlane Publishing Corp. President Rick Shoemaker gather on stage at the 47th Annual BMI Country Awards. Twain was named Country Songwriter of the Year and claimed Country Song of the Year honors with "You're Still The One"; the song was published by her company Loon Echo, Inc. and Universal-Songs of PolyGram International, Inc. Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. received the trophy as Country Publisher of the Year.

2. Charlene & Billy Sherrill, with his President's Award - he was named BMI Songwriter of the Century for his 65 BMI Country Awards, the most accumulated by any writer.

3. BMI's Frances Preston, Craig Schelske and wife Sara Evans and Vince Gill admire the newest member of the BMI family: one month old Avery Jack Lyons Schelske. Sara won her first BMI Country Award for writing her number-one hit "No Place That Far."



Timeline

Dolly Parton was a 15-year-old girl in rural Tennessee when the Country Music Hall of Fame was introduced in 1961. Three Country legends were inducted that year, all posthumously - performers Jimmie Rodgers and Hank Williams and songwriter/music publisher Fred Rose.

Even for a girl with Parton's ambition and determination, the Hall of Fame must have seemed hopelessly out of reach back in the '60s.

For one thing, the Hall of Fame was, for many years, a virtual mens' club. No women were admitted until 1970, when voters selected the original Carter Family - a legendary trio featuring Maybelle and Sara Carter. Three years later, Patsy Cline became the first solo female inductee, but the honor came a decade after her death. In 1975 and 1976, Minnie Pearl, then 62, and Kitty Wells, then 57, were admitted, but they must have seemed like venerable historical figures to Parton, who was just 30 in 1976.

Twelve years elapsed until the next woman, Loretta Lynn, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988. Lynn was 53 at the time, making her the youngest woman voted into the Hall to that point - and just 11 years older than Parton. Though Lynn was certifiably a Country legend, Parton was fast becoming a legend in her own right. The Hall of Fame suddenly became a real possibility for the girl from Locust Ridge, TN.

Parton's prospects brightened even further in the '90s when the door to the Hall of Fame finally burst wide open to women. Between 1991 and 1998, seven women were honored - songwriters Felice Bryant and Cindy Walker, executives Frances Preston and Jo Walker-Meador, pioneer female performer Patsy Montana and two women who were more or less Parton's peers - Brenda Lee and Tammy Wynette.

So it was hardly a surprise a few months ago when Parton was announced as one of this year's Hall of Fame honorees. Parton is 53, the same age that Lynn



1979
Hank Snow

was when she was inducted, and a year older than Brenda Lee was in 1997 when she got the nod.

Parton's election also reflects the inevitable march of time: she is the first Hall of Fame honoree who was born after World War II.

Two male performers are also being inducted this year. Conway Twitty and Johnny Bond are being admitted posthumously. Both began their careers long before Parton burst on the scene in 1967. Bond recorded his first Country hit in 1947; Twitty first made the pop chart in 1957.

Counting this year's honorees, 72 acts have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. All but four are individuals. The exceptions are two performing groups (the original Carter Family and the original Sons of the Pioneers), one performing duo (Flatt and Scruggs) and one songwriting team (Boudleaux & Felice Bryant).

Roy Rogers is the only person who has been inducted twice - as an individual and as a group member. Eddy Arnold was just 48 at the time of his induction, making him the youngest honoree. Wesley H. Rose is the only son or daughter of a Hall of Fame member (Fred Rose) to make the Hall - though Hank Williams Jr, June Carter Cash, Roseanne Cash, Lorrie Morgan and Randy Scruggs are among those hoping to one day follow suit.

In addition to artists and songwriters, the honorees include label and publishing executives, record producers, broadcasters and Grand Ole Opry comedians. All have made Country Music history. To illustrate the point, here's a Country Music timeline, with one entry for each of the 72 honorees.



1995
Jo Walker-Meador

1923 December 8, 1923 - Fiddlin' John Carson's "The Little Old Log Cabin In The Lane" - produced by **Ralph Sylvester Peer** - becomes the first commercially successful Country recording. In 1927, Peer discovers Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family. The following year, he forms Southern Music Publishing Co. - the first major Country publisher.

1925 1925 - **Vernon Dalhart's** "The Prisoner's Song" becomes Country's first million-seller. The saga reportedly sells a phenomenal 7 million copies, making it one of the biggest hits of the era. Dalhart dabbled in everything from Hawaiian music to light opera before his influential move to "hillbilly" story songs.

December 26, 1925 - **George D. Hay** creates the Grand Ole Opry radio program for WSM. Hay models the show after the "National Barn Dance," a hit show at WLS in Chicago, where he previously worked. The WSM show was simply known as the "Old-Time Music Program" until 1927, when Hay dubbed it the Grand Ole Opry.

1927 November 30, 1927 - **Jimmie Rodgers**, widely hailed as the "Father of Country Music," records "Blue Yodel," also known as "T For Texas." The classic becomes a crossover smash the following spring and spawns a dozen sequels. Rodgers was just 35 when he died of tuberculosis in 1933.

1928 April 28, 1928 - The original **Carter Family** releases its first hit, "Bury Me Under The Weeping Willow." The trio follows it with such classics as "Wildwood Flower" and "Can The Circle Be Unbroken (Bye and Bye)." The Carter Family - consisting of A.P. Carter, his wife Sara and her cousin Maybelle - later becomes the first group inducted into the Hall of Fame.

1929 1929 - **Arthur Edward Satherley** joins the American Record Corporation, which is later purchased by Columbia Records. Satherley remains with Columbia until 1952, recording such stars as Gene Autry, Bob Wills and Bill Monroe. Satherley, who was born in Bristol, England, is the only Englishman in the Hall of Fame. The former executive was 82 at the time of his election, which also makes him the oldest honoree.

1934 December 15, 1934 - The original **Sons of the Pioneers** - formed in 1933 as the Pioneer Trio - land their first hit with "Tumbling Tumbleweeds." Founding member Bob Nolan wrote the song, as well as a later classic by the group, "Cool Water." Roy Rogers,

another founding member, leaves in 1937 to sign with Republic Pictures in Hollywood.

1935 - At the ripe old age of 22, Louis Marshall Jones adopts the stage name **Grandpa Jones**. Bradley Kincaid, a Country radio star of the era, gives him that nickname because Jones sounds old and grouchy on an early morning radio show in Boston. Grandpa Jones joins the Grand Ole Opry in 1946 and becomes a household name on "Hee Haw" in 1969.

January 25, 1936 - **Patsy Montana** & the Prairie Ramblers' "I Wanna Be A Cowboy's Sweetheart" becomes a crossover hit. Montana wrote the song, which is the first big hit by a female Country star. Montana, who was known for her yodeling flair and cowgirl costumes, was born in Hope, AR, the same town that gave us President Clinton.

1937 - **J.L. (Joe) Frank** helps land Pee Wee King and his Golden West Cowboys a berth on the Grand Ole Opry. The following year, he does the same for Roy Acuff. He even suggests changing the name of Acuff's band from the Crazy Tennesseans to the Smoky Mountain Boys. Such savvy moves enable Frank to become known as Nashville's leading concert promoter; "the Flo Ziegfeld of Country Music."

December 24, 1938 - **Roy Acuff** lands his biggest hit with "Wabash Cannonball." Four years later, he teams with Fred Rose to form Acuff-Rose Publications, Nashville's first major Country publishing house. In 1962, Acuff becomes the first living person to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Acuff is a top star at the Grand Ole Opry from 1938 until his death in 1992.

April 1939 - Sarah Ophelia Colley makes her first professional appearance as **Minnie Pearl** at a womens club function in Aiken, SC. She delights audiences with the character for the next 52 years, becoming not just the queen of Country comedy but one of the most beloved entertainers of our time.

June 3, 1939 - **Bob Wills** & His Texas Playboys release their breakthrough hit, "San Antonio Rose." The following year, they release a new recording of the song, which becomes an even bigger hit. Wills and his band are the top Country group of the '40s. Wills is also the undisputed "King of Western Swing."



1997
Cindy Walker

1940

1940 - At age 70, **Uncle Dave Macon** provides one of the highlights of the Republic film, "Grand Ole Opry" - an exuberant performance of "Take Me Back To My Carolina Home." Macon, who was born just five years after the end of the Civil War, was over 50 when he was discovered performing for customers in a Nashville barber shop. He gained a reputation as a master showman, banjo player, singer and comedian.

1941

February 15, 1941 - Songwriter **Cindy Walker** lands her first hit with "Lone Star Trail" by Bing Crosby. Walker goes on to write number-one Country hits for Bob Wills & His Texas Playboys, Eddy Arnold, Webb Pierce, Jim Reeves, Sonny James and Jack Greene. Her most enduring song is "You Don't Know Me," recorded by Eddy Arnold and later Ray Charles.

1942

1942 - Comedian **Benjamin F. Ford** begins a five-year run as the star comedian on the Grand Ole Opry's NBC network segment. "Whitey" Ford is best known for his rube character "The Duke of Paducah." Ford compiles a vast library of jokes, which he later sells to "Hee Haw."

October 13, 1942 - **Fred Rose** teams with Roy Acuff to form Acuff-Rose Publications. The two men also collaborate on such songs as "Be Honest With Me," which is nominated for an Academy Award in 1941. Rose later writes or co-writes number-one Country hits for Gene Autry, Eddy Arnold and Hank Williams. In 1975, Willie Nelson tops the Country chart with a sublime version of Rose's "Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain."

1944

June 6, 1944 - On "D Day," the day the Allies invade Europe in World War II, **Grant Turner** joins the staff of WSM in Nashville. Turner soon joins George D. Hay's stable of Saturday night Grand Ole Opry announcers. Turner goes on to serve on the Opry announcing staff for 47 years.

1944 - **Jimmie H. Davis** is elected Governor of Louisiana. Davis' day job doesn't slow down his music career: He has a series of Country hits during his term. In 1940, Davis released "You Are My Sunshine," which has since become a standard. Davis has a co-writing credit on the song, though some historians suspect that he merely bought the copyright. Davis serves a second term as Governor from 1960-64.

1945

1945 - **Cliffie Stone** takes a job at Capitol Records as assistant to Country A&R chief Lee Gillette. Stone signs Merle Travis to Capitol and co-writes several of Travis' hits, including "Divorce Me C.O.D." Stone also records a few hits of his own for the label.



Stone later manages Tennessee Ernie Ford and produces Ford's TV show. Stone is the first California native to be voted into the Hall of Fame.

1945 - **Stephen H. Sholes** becomes head of Country and R&B recording for RCA Victor Records. Sholes is instrumental in guiding the careers of Hall of Famers Eddy Arnold, Chet Atkins, Hank Snow, Jim Reeves and Pee Wee King. Sholes, who started at Victor in 1929, makes his greatest contribution to the company in 1955, when he buys out Sun Records' contract with a young up-and-comer named Elvis Presley.

1945 - **Roy Rogers**, the beloved "King of the Cowboys," makes his first appearance on Quigley Publications' annual list of the nation's top 10 box-office stars. (Gene Autry had made the list from 1940-42.) In 1988, Rogers becomes the only person to be inducted into the Hall of Fame as both an individual and as a group member. Rogers had been admitted with the original Sons of the Pioneers in 1980.

1946

1946 - **Red Foley** replaces Roy Acuff as the emcee of the "Prince Albert Show," the network segment of the Grand Ole Opry broadcast. Foley remains in that slot for seven years. In 1950, Foley tops the pop and Country charts with "Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy." In addition to his solo hits, Foley teams with Ernest Tubbs, and later, Kitty Wells for a long string of hit duets.

March 23, 1946 - **Bill Monroe** and his Blue Grass Boys land their first hit with "Kentucky Waltz." Monroe, a Kentucky native, wrote the song and another classic, "Blue Moon Of Kentucky." His band takes its name from Kentucky's state motto, "the Blue Grass State." Monroe, who started out with his brother Charlie in the Monroe Brothers, is universally regarded as "the father of bluegrass."

HALL OF FAME TIMELINE

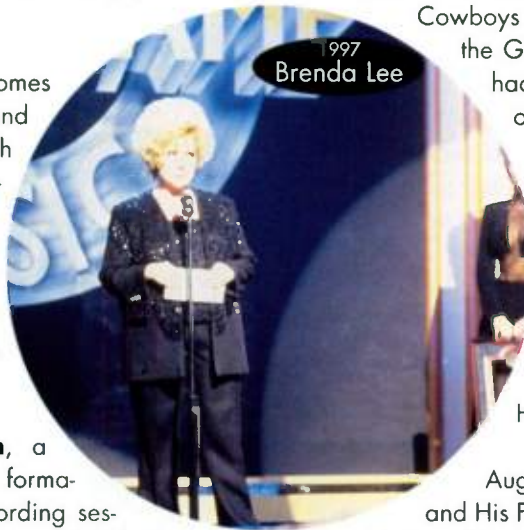
October 12, 1946 - **Merle Travis** lands his first number-one Country hit with "Divorce Me C.O.D." Travis goes on to write two of the biggest hits of the era - Tennessee Ernie Ford's "Sixteen Tons" and Tex Williams' "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke! (That Cigarette)." Both records reach number one on both the pop and Country charts.

CMA's first Entertainer of the Year. "The Tennessee Plowboy" is the number-one Country hitmaker of all time, according to Joel Whitburn's "Top Country Singles."

June 1949 - **Hank Williams** with His Drifting Cowboys make their first appearance at the Grand Ole Opry. Williams, who had just notched his first number-one Country hit, "Lovesick Blues," is a sensation. Williams goes on to write and record such enduring hits as "Your Cheatin' Heart" and "Jambalaya (On The Bayou)." Williams was just 29 when he died in 1953 - the shortest life span of any Hall of Fame member.

1947

1947 - **Rod Brasfield** becomes the premier comedian at the Grand Ole Opry, where he performs both as a solo act and, most memorably, in tandem with Minnie Pearl. Brasfield plays the part of a hapless Country bumpkin to the hilt. In 1957, he plays Andy Griffith's sidekick in the movie, "A Face In The Crowd."



1997
Brenda Lee

August 1947 - **Paul Cohen**, a Decca executive since the label's formation in 1934, begins regular recording sessions at Castle Recording studio in Nashville. Cohen's insistence on Nashville as a recording location helps him build Decca into a Country powerhouse. Cohen's signings include Hall of Famers Red Foley, Kitty Wells, Bill Monroe, Patsy Cline, Bob Wills, Loretta Lynn and Brenda Lee.

August 20, 1949 - **Floyd Tillman** and His Favorite Playboys land a top five Country hit with the Tillman composition "Slipping Around." That's a strong showing, but it's eclipsed by Ernest Tubb's cover recording, which becomes a number-one Country hit, and by an even more successful version by Margaret Whiting & Jimmy Wakely, which hits number one both pop and Country.

September 18, 1947 - **Ernest Tubb** headlines the first Grand Ole Opry show ever to play Carnegie Hall. Tubb, nicknamed "The Texas Troubadour," has been turning out hits since 1941, when he wrote and recorded "Walking The Floor Over You." Tubb goes on to record hit duets with the Andrews Sisters, Red Foley, the Wilburn Brothers and Loretta Lynn.

January 7, 1950 - **Gene Autry** and the Pinafores' "Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer" tops the pop and Country charts. The single reportedly sells 8 million copies, which at the time was second only to Bing Crosby's "White Christmas." Autry, a recording and movie star since the '30s, scores with two other holiday songs, "Frosty The Snow Man" and "Here Comes Santa Claus (Down Santa Claus Lane)."

1950

1948

September 25, 1948 - **Little Jimmy Dickens** joins the Grand Ole Opry and signs with Columbia Records. Dickens promptly lands a string of hits, including the 1949 novelty "Take An Old Cold 'Tater (And Wait)." Dickens has his biggest success in 1965 with another novelty single, "May The Bird Of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose."

1949

February 26, 1949 - **George Morgan** kicks off a long string of Country hits with the number-one smash "Candy Kisses." Morgan's song triggers one of Country's all-time cover battles. Five cover recordings make the Country chart in 1949. All become hits; though none equals Morgan's success.

May 21, 1949 - **Eddy Arnold's** "Bouquet Of Roses" logs its 54th week on the Country chart - a longevity record that stands to this day. In 1966, Arnold becomes, at 48, the youngest person ever inducted into the Hall of Fame. The following year, he becomes



1996
Ray Price

December 16, 1950 - "I'm Moving On" by **Hank Snow** and his Rainbow Ranch Boys logs its 21st week atop BILLBOARD's Country chart. That puts it in a three-way tie as the longest running number one Country hit of all time. Snow is one of only two Canadians in the Hall of Fame. The other: Bob Nolan of the original Sons of the Pioneers.

1951 1951 - **Jack Stapp** teams with Louis G. Cowan to establish Tree Publishing Co., one of Nashville's most successful music publishing firms. Stapp, who also makes his mark as a highly successful program director for WSM and WKDA in Nashville, finally joins Tree on a full-time basis in 1964. Ten years later, he becomes Tree's chairman and CEO.

1952 1952 - **Hubert Long** forms Hubert Long International, which becomes a publishing, management and booking giant. Long's management clients include such top stars as Webb Pierce and Faron Young. Long later becomes the first person to serve as both President and Chairman of CMA.

January 5, 1952 - **Frank "Pee Wee" King** and his Golden West Cowboys top the pop and Country charts with "Slow Poke." King co-wrote the song with Chilton Price. The two men also collaborate on two other number-one pop hits of the early '50s - Patti Page's "The Tennessee Waltz" and Jo Stafford's "You Belong To Me."

May 10, 1952 - **Hank Thompson** and His Brazos Valley Boys' "The Wild Side Of Life" begins a 15-week run atop the Country chart. The song includes the line, "I didn't know God made honky-tonk angels." That line inspires Kitty Wells' "It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels." Thompson is an enduring force in honky-tonk and Western swing, landing top 10 Country hits in the '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s.

August 23, 1952 - **Kitty Wells'** "It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels" tops the Country chart. Four decades later, Hall of Famers Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn and Tammy Wynette use the song as the centerpiece of the album HONKY TONK ANGELS. Wells - the first of three Nashville natives to be voted into the Hall of Fame - is Country's top female singles artist of the '50s and '60s.

1953 1953 - **James R. Denny** teams with Webb Pierce, the number one Country hitmaker of the '50s, to form Cedarwood Publishing Co. Three years later, after being forced out at the Grand Ole Opry, Denny forms the Jim Denny Artist Bureau. By 1963, the year of Denny's death, the company books nearly 4,000 Country shows annually.

March 19, 1953 - **Tex Ritter** performs the theme from the Gary Cooper classic "High Noon" on the Academy Awards. The ballad, "Do Not Forsake Me, Oh My Darlin'," wins as Best Original Song, making it the first Country song to be so honored. Ritter later becomes the first native Texan to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. The Lone Star State has spawned 18 Hall of Fame members - more than any other.



1985 Earl Scruggs

July 1954 - **Elvis Presley** releases his first single on Sun Records - "That's All Right," backed with Bill Monroe's "Blue Moon Of Kentucky." It fails to make much noise, but Presley lands two top five Country hits the following year, "Baby Let's Play House" and "I Forgot To Remember To Forget." Presley has to wait until 1956, after he moves to RCA Victor, to make an impact in the pop market.

1955 - **Chet Atkins** is named manager of RCA Records' new Nashville studio - a stepping stone to a vice presidential appointment. Atkins produces major hits for such artists as Jim Reeves, Don Gibson, Eddy Arnold, Bobby Bare and Floyd Cramer. Atkins is also a legendary guitarist. Between 1967 and 1988, he wins the CMA Award for Instrumentalist of the Year a record nine times.

August 6, 1955 - **Lefty Frizzell** headlines the first Country concert ever held at the Hollywood Bowl. Frizzell kicked off his recording career in 1950 with the lively honky-tonk number, "If You've Got The Money I've Got The Time." It was the first of six number-one Country hits for Frizzell, whom Merle Haggard once called "the most unique thing that ever happened to Country Music."

March 1, 1956 - **Ray Price** records "Crazy Arms," which many regard as the pivotal recording of his career. During the next several years, Price develops the 4/4-shuffle rhythm that becomes his trademark. In 1971, Price wins the CMA Award for Album of the Year with I WON'T MENTION IT AGAIN.

1956



1992
Frances Preston

October 4, 1956 - **Tennessee Ernie Ford's** weekly variety show begins a five-year run on NBC. The series premieres just nine months after Ford's smash single "Sixteen Tons" tops the pop and Country charts. In 1957, "the Ol' Peapicker" demonstrates his serious side on his best-selling inspirational album, *HYMNS*.

1957 April 6, 1957 - Twelve-year-old "Little Miss Dynamite" **Brenda Lee** lands her first pop and Country hit with "One Step At A Time." Lee goes on to be one of the top pop stars of the 1960s. She re-ignites her Country

career in 1969 with a remake of Willie Nelson's "Johnny One Time." Lee was just 52 at the time of her election, making her the youngest female inductee.

1958 1958 - **Connie B. Gay** becomes the founding President of CMA. Gay, a veteran broadcaster and artist manager in the Washington D.C./Virginia area is credited with driving the change in terminology from "hillbilly" to "Country." In 1974, Gay becomes president of the Country Music Foundation.

1958 - **Frances Williams Preston** opens BMI's first Southern regional office in Nashville. Within six years, she is named Vice President - a rarity for a woman in those days. In 1986, she becomes the company's President and CEO. *FORTUNE* magazine has called Preston "one of the true powerhouses in the pop music business." That's true, but the Nashville native's heart is still in Country.

1958 - **Owen Bradley** is named head of Decca's Nashville division. In that capacity, he produces hits for such Hall of Famers as Kitty Wells, Patsy Cline, Brenda Lee and Loretta Lynn. Bradley, who works for Decca from 1947 to 1976, later produces the soundtracks to the biographical movies "Coal Miner's Daughter" and "Sweet Dreams."

September 8, 1958 - The Everly Brothers land their fourth number-one Country hit in less than 15 months with "Bird Dog." All four songs are written by the

husband-and-wife team of **Boudleaux & Felice Bryant**. Boudleaux had previously written number-one Country hits by Carl Smith and Red Foley. In 1991, the Bryants become the only songwriting team to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

April 12, 1961 - **Marty Robbins'** "El Paso," **1961** the first number-one hit of the 1960s on both the pop and Country charts, wins a Grammy for Best Country & Western Performance. Robbins, who was born near Glendale, AZ, is the first person born west of the Continental Divide to be voted into the Hall of Fame.

December 25, 1961 - **Patsy Cline's** "I Fall To Pieces" logs its 39th week on the Country chart - the longest run of any hit in the 1960s. The singer is killed in a plane crash less than 15 months later. In 1973, Cline becomes the first solo female to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

September 26, 1962 - "The Beverly Hillbillies" **1962** begins a nine-year run on CBS Television. Bluegrass legends **Lester Flatt** and **Earl Scruggs** perform the theme song, "The Ballad Of Jed Clampett." In 1985, Flatt & Scruggs become the only performing duo to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

November 6, 1962 - **Jo Walker-Meador** is named executive director of the four-year-old Country Music Association. During her 29-year tenure, Walker-Meador is instrumental in establishing the annual CMA Awards, the Country Music Hall of Fame and the International Country Music Fan Fair.



1994
Merle Haggard

July 31, 1964 - **Jim Reeves**, one of Country's **1964** top stars since 1953, is killed in a plane crash in Nashville. Within a month, Reeves' song "I Guess I'm Crazy" is number-one and that's just the start of an unprecedented run of posthumous hits. In the 10 years after his death, Reeves has an unbroken string of 19 top 20 hits. It was like he never left.

1983
Little Jimmy
Dickens



1965 February 6, 1965 - **Johnny Bond** lands one of the top Country novelty hits of the 1960s with the drinking song "10 Little Bottles." Bond wrote and first recorded the song in 1951. Bond and his Red River Valley Boys recorded a string of Country hits beginning in 1947. Bond also wrote a biography of fellow Hall of Famer Tex Ritter.

1966 March 26, 1966 - Eight years after topping the pop charts with "It's Only Make Believe," **Conway Twitty** launches his Country career with "Guess My Eyes Were Bigger Than My Heart." The single reaches the top 20 on the Country chart. Between 1968 and 1986, Twitty amasses a record setting 40 number-one Country hits. Five of them are duets with Loretta Lynn. Twitty is Country's number-one singles artist of the '70s.



1992
George Jones

1967 March 1967 - As CMA board chairman, **Roy Horton** presides over the opening of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Horton worked for Peer-Southern Music for more than 40 years, promoting songs by Jimmie Rodgers, the Carter Family and Bill Monroe, among others. In 1978, Horton becomes president of the Country Music Foundation.

March 15, 1968 - **Buck Owens** & His Buckaroos' "It Takes People Like You To Make People Like Me" tops BILLBOARD's Country album chart. It's Owens' 11th consecutive number one Country album (excluding a 1965 instrumental release) - a streak that holds the record to this day. Owens, the number-one Country artist of the 1960s, later records duets with Emmylou Harris and Dwight Yoakam.

February 16, 1969 - **Tammy Wynette** and George Jones are married. One song they can't avoid on their honeymoon: Wynette's "Stand By Your Man," which went top 20 on the pop chart earlier in the month. The success of the song comes amid Wynette's three-year reign as Best Female Vocalist at the CMA Awards. Wynette and Jones are divorced in 1975, but they remain one of the legendary duets in Country Music history.

June 7, 1969 - "The **Johnny Cash Show**" debuts on ABC-TV. The series gives network exposure to such Country greats as Roy Acuff, Minnie Pearl and Merle Haggard. Two months after the show's debut, the live album JOHNNY CASH AT SAN QUENTIN tops both the pop and Country charts. In October, Cash takes home five of the 10 CMA Awards that were presented that year.

October 1970 - On the strength of his classic hit, "Okie From Muskogee," **Merle Haggard** receives a record-setting nine CMA nominations. He wins four Awards, including Entertainer of the Year. Haggard has had 39 top 10 albums, more than any other artist in the history of BILLBOARD's Country charts. Hag, who hails from Bakersfield, CA, is the only Southern California native in the Hall of Fame.

October 1972 - **Loretta Lynn** becomes the first woman to win the CMA Award as Entertainer of the Year. Lynn is Country's top female album artist of the '60s and '70s. Lynn's 1970 song "Coal Miner's Daughter" provides the title of her 1976 autobiography and a 1980 movie based on the book. Actress Sissy Spacek wins an Academy Award for her portrayal of Lynn.

1978 - **Bud Wendell** succeeds Irving Waugh as CEO of WSM. Three years later, Wendell is named president and CEO of Gaylord Entertainment. Under Wendell's watch, Gaylord launches the Nashville Network, acquires Country Music Television and establishes the Opryland Music Group. Yet Wendell retains a common touch. As journalist Jack Hurst put it, "He's the kind of guy who never got too big to be called Bud."

May 13, 1978 - **Willie Nelson's** "Stardust" enters the pop and Country charts. The album remains on the Country chart for 551 weeks, which remains the all-time longevity record. Nelson is the number one Country album artist of all time according to Joel Whitburn's "Top Country Albums." He is also the only artist to have won the CMA Award for Single of the Year more than once.

October 13, 1986 - **Wesley H. Rose** becomes the first son or daughter of a Hall of Fame member to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Rose, the son of Fred Rose, ran Acuff-Rose Publications from 1945 until 1985, when he and Acuff sold their catalogues to Gaylord Broadcasting. Rose was also the first Nashville publisher on the national boards of ASCAP and the Music Publishers Association.

1980 July 5, 1980 - **George Jones'** "He Stopped Loving Her Today" reaches number one, en route to multiple CMA Awards in October. The classic ballad is named Single of the Year and Song of the Year and pushes Jones to his first victory as Best Male Vocalist. (Both Jones and the song win again the following year.) Jones has placed more albums and singles on BILLBOARD's Country charts than any other artist in history.

1994 1994 - **Harlan Howard**, the dean of Country songwriters, walks off with BMI's award for Most Performed Country Song of the Year - "Blame It On Your Heart" by Patty Loveless. Since his career took off in 1958, Howard has written or co-written 38 top five Country hits, including Patsy Cline's "I Fall To Pieces," Buck Owens' "I've Got A Tiger By The Tail" and The Judds' "Why Not Me."



1982
Marty Robbins

1985 April 25, 1985 - **Roger Miller's** "Big River," a musical adaptation of Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn," opens on Broadway. The show runs for more than 1,000 performances and wins seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Score. "This is a pretty good deal," exclaims Miller on receiving his Tony.

PAUL GREIN IS A VETERAN JOURNALIST AND ANNOTATOR BASED IN LOS ANGELES. HE WROTE THE LINER NOTES FOR THE BOX SET, "HAVE A NICE DECADE", WHICH WAS NOMINATED FOR A GRAMMY EARLIER THIS YEAR.



Author's Note: Joel Whitburn's authoritative "Top Country Singles," "Top Country Albums" and "Country Annual" books were helpful in the preparation of this timeline, as was "The Encyclopedia of Country Music," compiled by the staff of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

1986 May 1986 - **Dolly Parton** opens the Dollywood theme park in Pigeon Forge, TN. Against the advice of her accountants, Parton sinks \$6 million of her own money into the park's construction. It proves to be a sharp investment. In its first season, Dollywood attracts 1.3 million visitors. In her spare time, Parton adds to her standing as the number one female artist of all time on BILLBOARD's Country charts. (Elected 1999)

“It’s about the things that matter,”

Paul Brandt says as he crosses his hands across his chest, giving a grin that could light up the darkest of rooms. “My job is about making people smile and making people laugh and letting them escape a little bit. I believe in what I’m doing, I’ve seen it work when I go out and play. I see people wiping tears away on certain songs and people dancing and having fun. What is most important to me is that I can stand behind that and believe in it and say, ‘these are the things that matter.’”

The Canadian singer is seizing the moments that matter most to him. Since he came to Nashville four years, three albums and numerous awards ago, he has grown in his music and his personal life. “All of the things that happen to people in their lives that cause major stresses happened to me. I bought a house, I got married, I moved 2500 miles away from home...all in a matter of a few years,” he explains.

Those momentous events in his life are reflected on his latest Reprise release **THAT’S THE TRUTH** as well as his perception and ideas on the music business, society and his relationship with his family.

“In the beginning, I was looking for the best songs that I could find. I just wanted to find songs that moved me and therefore would move people who listened to the music. It turned out that I took a step back from it and really looked at what had come together. It all had a common thread, but I didn’t know what that common thread was until I wrote the song ‘That’s The Truth.’”

“I joke with people and tell them the song was inspired by Bill Clinton. But the whole Columbine shooting had happened and I was getting ready to go on my trip to Bosnia... I’m listening

Paul Brandt

Dolly Parton

by Barbara Mandrell



Everyone knows what an enormous talent Dolly Parton is. She has written songs that are already classics, that will be around and enjoyed forever. God gave her such a beautiful voice that is recognized instantly, on any song she sings, because he made her voice one of a kind. Her wisdom, charm, sense of humor, delivery, spontaneity, wit, sensitivity and sincerity are unmatched by anyone. I admire Dolly's glamour, great beauty and pizzazz. Her presence is always felt, not just on stage, but anyplace she is. She can walk into a room and fill it with her vivaciousness. She's electric! I want to tell you just a couple of examples of what an extraordinary person Dolly is...

Soon after I first moved to Nashville and was still very much, "Barbara who," my daddy and I met Dolly. A couple of weeks later, we were walking to our car in the CMA parking lot and we heard this "Hi Barbara. Hi Mr. Mandrell." It was Dolly yelling to us. Well, she sure made us feel important and so happy that day.

A few years ago, after about 18 months of recovery from a serious car crash, I was going to have a "comeback" performance at the Universal Amphitheater in Los Angeles, California. Dolly volunteered to open for me that night and believe me, I shall never forget her unselfish and loving gift to me.

When Peter Guber of Mandalay Entertainment did a movie of my life for CBS ("Get To The Heart"), the Linda Bergman script opened and closed with a shot of Dolly and me. Dolly told them that she wanted to play herself...so she did, and I played myself in those two scenes. Dolly has done great movies and television shows. She has written and performed in great shows, and she has recorded great songs. The world is blessed by the gift of her endless talents that she shares with us.

Thank you Heavenly Father, for letting me be on this earth at the same time as Dolly Parton.

Sincerely,
Barbara Mandrell



● *January 19, 1946* - Dolly Rebecca Parton is born in Locust Ridge, TN.

● *1964* - The day after Dolly graduates from high school, she packs her bags and moves to Nashville.

● *1966* - Dolly signs to Monument Records.

● *1967* - Dolly releases her first single "Dumb Blonde," and catches the attention of local television icon Porter Wagoner. He hires Dolly to sing on his show. Their famed duets and frequent appearances on the Grand Ole Opry make them a Country favorite.

● *1969* - Dolly becomes a member of the Grand Ole Opry.

● *1974* - Dolly tops the charts for the first time with "Jolene." That same year she resigns from the "Porter Wagoner Show" to strike out on her own - though she continues to record periodically with Wagoner.

● *1974 through 1980* - Eight of Dolly's singles reach the top of the charts.

● *1975* - Dolly wins her first CMA Award - Female Vocalist of the Year.

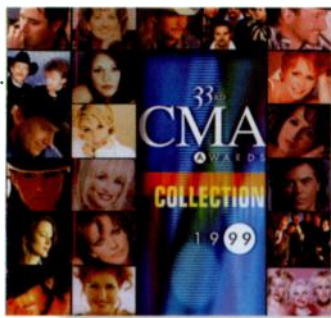
● *1981* - Dolly becomes such a media darling that she begins to land roles in motion pictures, including an Oscar-nominated performance in "9 to 5." She also provides the theme song for the picture and wins a Grammy for the song.

● *1983* - Dolly and Kenny Rogers reach number one with their duet "Islands In The Stream." Two years later they reclaim the number-one spot with "Real Love."

● *1986* - Dolly fulfills a dream when her corporation opens Dollywood, a theme park located in Pigeon Forge, TN. Also in that same year, MS. MAGAZINE recognizes Dolly as Woman of the Year.



cma awards retail campaign includes the UK, Holland, Germany and Australia



boosted by primetime TV coverage of the CMA Awards on BBC2, retail campaign efforts for the 33rd Annual CMA

Awards this year include the UK, as well as Holland, Germany and Australia.

The UK campaign, now in its fourth year, ran from 23 September -4 October. This year's campaign had over 1,000 stores participating, including HMV, Virgin, Our Price, W.H. Smith, MVC, Tower, Borders and key independents. Posters, end-racking, header cards, window displays, consumer ads and merchandise giveaways supported 32 nominated titles from most of the major labels. On 13 September, the first-ever CMA Awards compilation album was released by Universal in association with CMA's UK office.

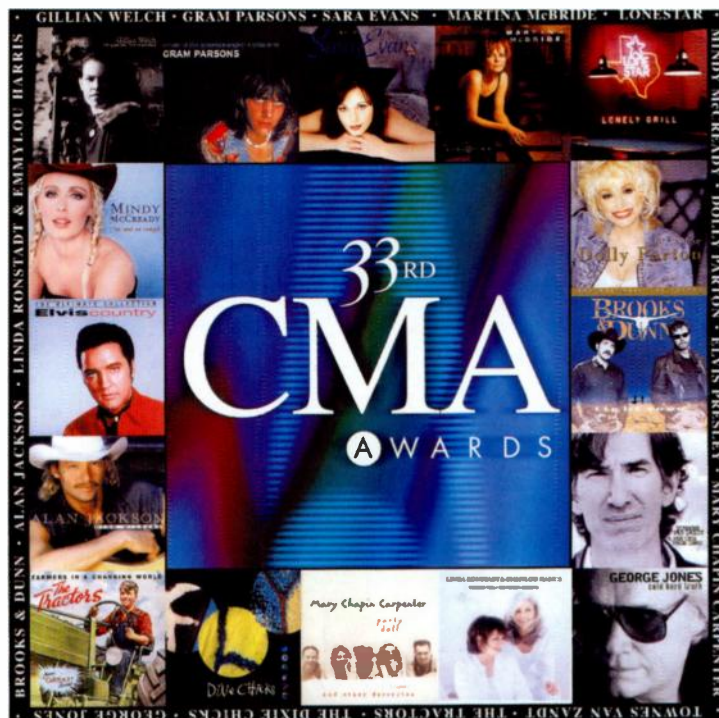
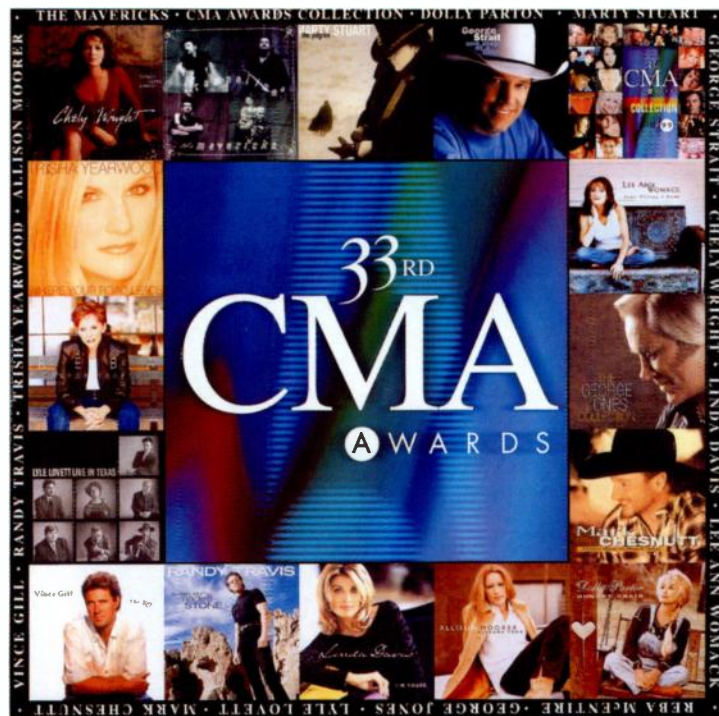
"The CMA Awards Collection" is a full-price disc containing 20 tracks. Among the artists included on the album are CMA Awards winners Brooks & Dunn, the Dixie Chicks, Faith Hill, Vince Gill, Martina McBride, Tim McGraw, and Jo Dee Messina. Several artists who have already made trips to the UK are also on the compilation, including Sara Evans, Steve Earle and the Del McCoury Band, the Mavericks, Reba McEntire, Allison Moorer, Dolly Parton and Chely Wright.

While complete sales figures for the duration of the campaign were not yet known at press time, several artists have seen significant sales spikes following the primetime telecast of the CMA Awards on BBC2 on 28 September. Virgin Megastores product manager Simon Coe noted increases of 300% on albums by the Dixie Chicks and Tim McGraw after the telecast. Coe is encouraged by the expansive coverage of the Awards and the growing acceptance of Country Music in Britain, saying, "The American Country market realizes it needs to export more so there are more acts coming over to tour. It's getting more profile in the media with BBC Radio 2 and (television) shows like 'The Lottery'."

Gary Rolfe, head of specialties and classical for retailer HMV, also noted huge sales increases for Male and Female Vocalist of the Year winners Tim McGraw and Martina McBride, respectively. The telecast was also beneficial to Shania Twain, as nearly 80,000 copies of "Come On Over" were sold the week after the telecast. That number buoyed sales of the album to over a million units, which is the highest-selling Country album ever in the UK.

Backed by similar materials, Holland debuted its first-ever Awards retail promotion, involving the Music House chain and other retailers in support of the KRO telecast and KRO Radio coverage. On average, participants saw their Country sales increase by 15-25% in the Netherlands, with the Dixie Chicks and Shania Twain garnering the highest sales.

Germany is planning its inaugural retail campaign in connection with a November Awards telecast. Also in the works for Germany is a 4-CD box set featuring CMA Awards nominees and other artists, which will be made



available for purchase only via television.

Australia will see "The Cream Of Country Vol. III 33rd Annual CMA Awards Collection" compilation released by Universal, timed with a retail campaign and national telecast of the Awards later this fall. ◀▶



Members of the Country Music Hall of Fame were the guests of honor at a luncheon hosted by Tennessee Governor and Mrs. Don Sundquist at the Executive Residence during CMA Week. The Hall of Fame's Board of Officers and Trustees also joined the guests of honor. Joining the First Lady and Governor Sundquist (first row, from left) Hall of Famers Brenda Lee and Jimmy Dickens, and Marty Stuart, president of the Hall's Board of Officers and Trustees; (second row) Hall of Famers Roy Horton and Cindy Walker, and Bruce Hinton, chairman, Board of Officers and Trustees; (third row) Hall of Famer Jo Walker-Meador; (fourth row) Hall of Famers E.W. "Bud" Wendell and Earl Scruggs; and (top) Hall of Fame Director Kyle Young.



Arista Nashville newcomer Brad Paisley is acting out the role of father of a newborn in his newly-released music video "He Didn't Have To Be." (produced/directed by Deaton Flanigen Productions)

awards

Tommy Collins ("You Better Not Do That"), A.L. "Doodle" Owens ("All I Have To Offer You Is Me"), Wayne Kemp ("The Fireman") and Glenn Sutton ("I Don't Wanna Play House") were recently inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall Of Fame.

The Wilkinsons won five awards at the Canadian Country Music Awards. They took home the award for Single of the Year for "26 Cents," Album of the Year for NOTHING BUT LOVE, SOCAN Song of the Year for "26 Cents," Vocal Duo or Group and the Wrangler Rising Star Award. Also taking home awards from the CCMA's were: Shania Twain (CMT Maple Leaf Foods Fans' Choice Award, Video of the Year "That Don't Impress Me Much," Female Artist of the Year, and Vocal/Instrumental Collaboration of the Year "From This Moment On" with Bryan White), Paul Brandt (Male Vocalist of the Year) and the Dixie Chicks (Top Selling Album of the Year). Ralph Murphy, ASCAP vice president-Nashville, received the Leonard T. Rambeau International Support Award during the Awards.

newsline

The Dixie Chicks have received an invitation to appear on an episode of "Sesame Street". The Chicks have also agreed to do an ad on behalf of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

According to BILLBOARD magazine, George Strait is the most-played Country artist in this decade. Strait has had over three million spins in the past 10 years.

Billy Ray Cyrus, Lorrie Morgan, Sawyer Brown and Sherié Austin will participate in "Skating Goes Country". The event, which combines ice-skating and Country Music, will be hosted by Nancy Kerrigan and will be held at the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville, TN on November 23. The special that will air on TNN, December 14.

on the move

Atlantic Nashville has moved into their new headquarters in the Warner/Reprise building on Music Row. The contact information is: 20 Music Square East, Nashville TN, 37203; the main phone number is (615) 733-1880; the promotion department fax number is (615) 733-1873.

Ruth Hummel has been named director of business affairs and administration for Interactive Media at CBS Cable in Nashville. Hummel will be in control of strategic planning, which will include contracts, budgets and policy management for Country.com. Jim Pietrowicz has been appointed to the position of account executive in CBS Cable's Detroit sales office.

Donna Priesmeyer has been promoted to editorial director of Country.com. Priesmeyer will oversee direction of the site and develop business opportunities.

RCA Label Group announced that Cheri Lynn Martin joined the company as manager, radio and internet promotions.

Encore Entertainment recently announced staff changes: Keith Follesé to president of Encore Entertainment, Fred Conley to president of Encore Artist Management and Brad Allen to creative director.

Cindy Wunsch, formerly of Borman Entertainment, is now the manager for Lyric Street Recording group SHeDAISY.

Arthur Buenahora has been promoted to associate director of creative services at Sony/ATV Tree. Tree has also promoted Michael Riggs to income tracking manager.

Cory Gierman has been promoted to services director and Kristi Weaver has been promoted to executive vice president at Broadvision Publishing.

Mercury Nashville recently announced that Kevin Lane has

been promoted to senior director of media relations...Damon Morberly will be the new director of northeast regional promotions...Gina Weeks has been named promotions coordinator... Karen Naff has been promoted to creative service coordinator...Jill Boles is the new receptionist...Julie Johnson has been promoted to marketing coordinator.

Giant Records recently announced a new promotional staff. Senior Vice President John Brown; National Director/Midwest, Fritz Kuhlman; Promotion Coordinator, Tracy Collins; Northeast, Lee Adams; Southeast, Larry King; Southwest, John Trapani; West, Dick Watson. Kristi Brake will be moving to Chicago to begin her new job as director/communications for AMFM.

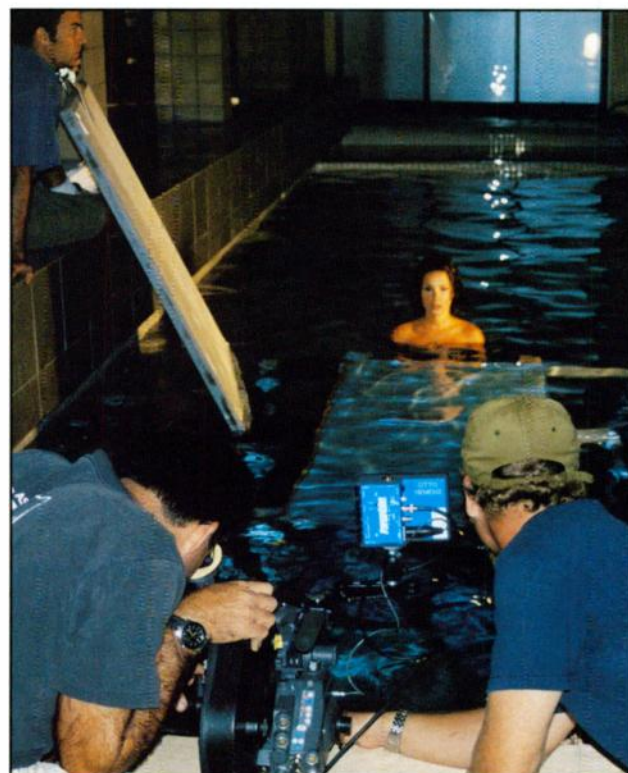
new companies

Emerald Entertainment and Best Built Songs have recently announced their joint venture to build a new studio on Music Row. The new studio, **The Parlor** will be located at 1317 16th Avenue South, Nashville TN 37212.

Opryland Hotel will become a partner with **AVW (Audio Visual, Inc.)** They are coming together to provide hotel customers with a complete range of audio and video presentation technology services. For more information, call the Opryland Hotel at (615) 889-1000

signings

BOOKING: Ken Mellons to *The Bobby Roberts Company*...Mullins-Black and Wild Horses to *Buddy Lee Attractions*...Asleep At The Wheel, Jerry Kilgore, Phillip Claypool, Rebecca Lynn Howard, Redmon & Vale, Sisters Wade to *William Morris Agency*. **PUBLISHING:** Alex Call and Donnie Skaggs to *March Music*...*Still Working Music* has signed Dennis Britt...Jennifer Hicks to *Warner/Chappell*...Claire Davidson to *Noble Vision Music*...Phil Madeira to *Bases Loaded Music*...Steve Nelson has recently joined **SESAC**. **RECORDING:** Elise Dallaire to *Comstock Records*...Joanie Keller to *Broken Bow Records*...John Anderson to *Sony Nashville*. **MANAGEMENT:** Phil Vassar to *Morey Management Group*.



Epic recording artist Shana Petrone recently went on location to a home in the hills of Los Angeles to shoot her new video "Something Real." (produced by Sherman Halsey and directed by Paul Holohan).

music videos

ARTIST/LABEL
 Kenny Chesney/ BNA
 Kenny Rogers/Dreamcatche
 Pam Tillis/ Arista
 Toby Keith/DreamWorks
 John Michael Montgomery/Atlantic
 Suzy Bogguss/Platinum Entertainment
 Brad Paisley/Arista
 Trace Adkins/Capitol Nashville
 Barbara Streisand/Columbia
 Vince Gill/MCA Nashville
 Oak Ridge Boys/Platinum Entertainment
 Clint Black/RCA

TITLE
 She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy
 Slow Dance More
 After A Kiss
 When Love Fades
 Home To You
 Goodnight
 He Didn't Have To Be
 Don't Lie
 If You Ever Leave Me
 Ain't No Short Way Home
 When I Say I Do

DIRECTOR/DIRECTION CO.
 Martin Kahan
 Shaun Silva
 Morgan Lawley
 Michael Salomon
 Jim Shea
 Tom Bevins
 Deaton Flanigen Productions
 Deaton Flanigen Productions
 Jim Shea
 Tom Bevins
 Clint Black



Pamplin reording artist Vestal Goodman recently completed a music video for her latest duet single "Angel Band." Asylum recording artist George Jones joins Goodman for her Southern Gospel duet. Pictured (left to right): Cindy Montano (producer), Goodman, Stephen Yake (director) and Jones.



Tracy Byrd went on location to Murfreesboro, TN to shoot his video for his debut single on RCA titled "Put Your Hand In Mine." (directed by Martin Kahan).

Unforgettable Performances



1991 Mary Chapin Carpenter pulls out all the stops as she performs "Twist And Shout."



1994 Reba McEntire sings the heart-touching song "She Thinks His Name Was John."



1981 Merle Haggard, along with Razy Bailey, Johnny Lee, Joe Stampley, the Bellamy Brothers, Bobby Bare and Lacy J. Dalton perform a rowdy "Good Ole Boys" medley.



1986 Linda Ronstadt, Emmylou Harris and Dolly Parton joined in their "trio" for the song "Dear Companion."



1987 Patty Loveless and George Jones sing their nominated hit "You Don't Seem To Miss Me."



1984 Legendary singers Willie Nelson and Kris Kristofferson perform "How Do You Feel About Foolin' Around."

1999 marks the end of an era, and over the past 33 years, the CMA Awards has had hundreds of performances. Take a look back through the years and remember these and many other of Country Music's unforgettable moments.



1996 Pop singer Michael Bolton joins Wynonna for the duet "This Is The Time."



1995 Faith Hill and Shelby Lynn perform a gospel-themed "Keep Walking On."



1995 Reba McEntire is joined by Linda Davis, Trisha Yearwood and Martina McBride for the vocal event "On My Own."



1988 Dwight Yoakam and Buck Owens sing "Streets Of Bakersfield."



1995 Ricky Skaggs and Patty Loveless accompany Vince Gill on "Go Rest High On That Mountain," a song he dedicated to his brother.

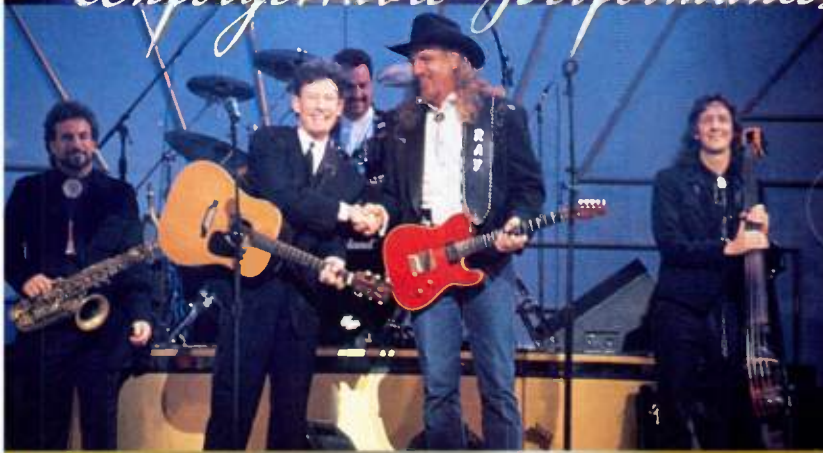


1997 Pop singer Sting joins Toby Keith, along with the Musician Of The Year nominees, for a song he wrote "I'm So Happy I Can't Stop Crying."



1996 Alabama and pop superstar Lionel Richie perform "Deep River Woman."

Unforgettable Performances



1994
Asleep At The Wheel and Lyle Lovett sing the blues on "Blues For Dixie."



1985 Ricky Skaggs and Bill Monroe entertain the audience with "Country Boy."

1988 k.d. lang, Brenda Lee, Loretta Lynn and Kitty Wells perform "An Angels Medley."



1991 Clint Black and the legendary Roy Rogers perform "Hold On Partner."



1984
Ray Charles sings the friendship medley ("Friendship," "Hang Up My Rockin' Roll Shoes," "Who Cares" and "This Old Heart") with his friends Ricky Skaggs, B.J. Thomas, Janie Frickie and The Oak Ridge Boys.

1983 Latin icon Julio Iglesias joins Willie Nelson for the duet "To All The Girls I've Loved Before."



1996
Trapeze artists perform alongside Martina McBride during her hit song "Safe In The Arms Of Love."



1989 Arne Murray and Kenny Rogers sing the love song "If I Ever Fall In Love Again."



1993 Mary Chapin Carpenter is joined by friends Patty Loveless, Kathy Mattea, Suzy Bogguss and Trisha Yearwood for her single "He Thinks He'll Keep Her."



1984 A saucy Tanya Tucker sings the duet "Somethin' Else" with pop star Little Richard.

1995 George Jones and Tammy Wynette join to sing a medley that includes "Golden Ring," "One" and "They're Playing Our Song."



1996
Teen star LeAnn Rimes performs her number-one hit "Blue."

1993 Three famous ladies in white, Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton and Tammy Wynette, vocalize on "Silver Threads And Golden Needles."





Nashville's Bluebird Cafe is now a television show on the new Turner South cable network. "Live From The Bluebird Cafe," a show "about the songs and stories behind them," started airing early October and features many Country artists and songwriters including (left to right): Ashley Cleveland, Amy Kurland (owner of the Bluebird), Tricia Walker, Jim May (director of the television program), Karen Staley and Pam Tillis.



More than 2,500 fans showed up at the Wal Mart Super Store in Moore, OK to help Clay Walker celebrate the release of his sixth Giant Records CD LIVE LAUGH LOVE.

on the big screen

Olivia Newton-John will star in an Independent film, "Sordid Lives," due out in spring of 2000. She will play Bitsy Mae Harlin, an ex-con who now has a job as a bar singer. Newton-John wrote the title song and also sings five other songs throughout the movie.

Reba McEntire's fall tour combines singing and acting. Her tour, "The Singer's Diary," is a musical-play that traces Reba's life and ends with a major music concert. McEntire also reveals her acting knowledge on the big screen, playing a psychiatrist in Michael Douglas's new movie, "One Night At McCool's."

Trisha Yearwood was recently profiled in a Lifetime cable-network documentary "I Am Beautiful." The film asked women of various backgrounds to share their thoughts on both inner and outer beauty.

Randy Travis has finished a film for Dimension Films/Miramax entitled "Texas Rangers." Travis will play a Texas Ranger/gunfighter named Bones in the film. The DreamWorks artist has also finished an independent movie, "John John And The Sky."

SHeDAISY appears on the Disney video "Mickey's Once Upon A Christmas." The Lyric Street group recently filmed a music video for "Deck the Halls" which will appear in the video.

Marty Raybon and Linda Davis will host the 5th Annual Christian Country Music Association Awards. The awards will be at the Ryman Auditorium on November 4.

love

Chad Brock recently got married. He met his wife, Marty, after he moved out of his apartment and she moved into it. She received some of Chad's mail...Marty delivered the mail to Chad...they started dating...the rest is history.

Brian Prout, drummer for recording group Diamond Rio, is engaged. His fiancée is Congresswomen Mary Bono, widow of Sonny Bono.

congratulations

The Chamber of Commerce of Carroll County, TN recently honored Jessica Andrews with the first-ever Youth Achievement Award. Andrews was presented with a plaque for her outstanding achievements and continuing support of her hometown communities.

Garth Brooks gets another career first. Until now, Garth has never had a top-10 hit on the pop charts. The single "Lost in You," from GARTH BROOKS IN THE LIFE OF CHRIS GAINES, hit the Billboard Hot 100 at number five.

Another congratulations to Garth. He was named to PLAYBOY magazine's top 10 "most stylish." Others who made the list were Richard Gere, Mel Gibson, Tom Cruise, Harrison Ford and Brad Pitt.

Marty Stuart has been chosen to perform at the White House Christmas Tree lighting ceremony on December 8.

set in stone

A life-size bronze sculpture of Owen Bradley was recently unveiled at Owen Bradley Park on the north end of Music Row in Nashville, TN. Created by nationally

renowned artist Gary Ernest Smith, the sculpture depicts Bradley at a grand piano with one hand on the keyboard and one hand raised as if he were directing one of the many Country Music legends he produced including: Patsy Cline, Brenda Lee, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty and Kitty Wells.

benefits

Neal McCoy's fifth annual golf tournament and concert benefiting East Texas Angel Network raised approximately \$200,000. Charley Pride, Lorrie Morgan, B.J. Thomas, Kevin Sharp, Nolan Ryan and Karl Malone appeared at the event. To date, the Angel Network has raised nearly \$1 million for seriously ill children.

The T.J. Martell Foundation raised over \$200,000 in their annual golf, tennis, bowling and billiards tournaments last September. The money will be donated to the Frances Williams Preston Laboratories at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. Vince Gill hosted, as well as played in, the Sprint Music Row Celebrity Golf Tournament held at the Governors Club. Other participants included Natalie Maines, Mark Wills and Clay Walker. Gary Chapman hosted the T.J. Martell Bowling Bash and Billiards Tournament. Participants of that event included Trisha Yearwood, Michael Peterson, John Berry, Peter Frampton, Marty Raybon and Lee Ann Womack.

Vince Gill helped the Make A Wish Foundation receive \$20,000. Gill donated a guitar, tickets and a meet and greet pass, so he could sign the guitar. The bidding ended at \$17,250. The winners main competitor donated an additional \$2,750. Bringing the total to \$20,000, this was the highest amount ever paid for a Gill autograph!

Tim McGraw held his 6th annual Swampstock Celebrity Softball Challenge and Concert on October 10 in Rayville, LA. The event raises money for local Little Leagues. 18,000 were in attendance to watch McGraw including wife Faith Hill, Rhett Akins, Asleep at The Wheel, Ty Herndon and Cledus T. Judd. <-3B>



Gary Chapman (center) and Trisha Yearwood (second from right) were on hand for the 9th Annual Music Row Celebrity Bowling Bash and Minnesota Fats Rack 'Em Up Billiards Tournament, which benefits the T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer and AIDS research. Pictured (left to right): Bridge Baughn, T.J. Martell Foundation Events Director; Crystal Caviness, T.J. Martell Foundation Executive Director; Guy Floyd, Chairman, Music Row Celebrity Tournaments; Chapman; Dr. Harold Moses, director, Frances Williams Preston Laboratories; Yearwood; and Tod Minnich, Chief Operating Officer, T.J. Martell Foundation.

Our apologies! Last month we printed a photo of Tracy Byrd with whom we thought to be George W. Bush. Wrong! It was former Dallas Cowboy quarterback Roger Staubach. Sorry guys!

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PS Form 3526, September 1998 (See Instructions on Reverse)

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15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

16. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	7,086	7,250
(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Based on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and shipping agency)	4,348	4,279
(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof and mailing agency)	2,002	1,963
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	0	0
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	n/a	n/a
b. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3) and (4))	6,352	6,242
c. Free Distribution by Mail (Include advertiser's proof and shipping agency)	37	37
(1) In-County as Stated on Form 3541	3	3
(2) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	n/a	n/a
d. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	300	685
e. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15d)	340	725
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15b and 15e)	6,692	6,967
g. Copies not Distributed	489	283
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	7,086	7,250
i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15b divided by 15h times 100)	95%	91%

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: **Angie Crabtree**, Editor, 9/13/99

18. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Publication required. Will be printed in the **Nov/Dec 1999** issue of this publication. Publication not required.

19. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in Items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In Item 11, if none, check the box. Use block letters if more space is required.
3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in Item 15. Free circulation must be shown in Item 15d, e, and f.
4. Item 15b, Copies not Distributed, must include (1) newspaper copies originally stated on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher; (2) estimated returns from news agents; and (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spolia, and all other copies not distributed.
5. If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publisher, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
6. In Item 14, indicate the date of the issue to which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
7. Item 17 must be signed.
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.

PS Form 3526, September 1998 (Revised)





ew directors have been elected to serve on the CMA Board of Directors. Lon Helton, RADIO & RECORDS, has been elected chairman of the board. Bud Wendell has been elected president of the CMA board. Directors, who serve two-year terms, were elected at the organization's annual meeting September 23 at the BellSouth Building in Nashville. CMA members from throughout the world were present for the 41st annual membership gathering. Officers, who serve for one year, were elected by the directors. CMA officers and directors serve gratis and pay their own expenses to attend meetings.

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cma events

november

4 MINT Networking Forum / Center For Economic Development / Nashville, TN

16 Town Meeting / Nashville Convention Center / Nashville, TN

17 CMA Board of Directors Meeting / Former St. Bernard Convent Bldg. / Nashville, TN

february

3 & 4 CMA Board of Directors Meeting / Orlando, FL

datebook

november

2 Educational Forum: Producing And Marketing Records On A Small Budget / NARAS offices / Nashville, TN

18 Educational Forum: The Power Of The Press / NARAS offices / Nashville, TN

december

7 Educational Forum: Selling Music In A Global Market / NARAS offices / Nashville, TN



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cma
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Sarah Brosmer and Kate Farmer were honored with the Jo Walker-Meador International Achievement Award at this year's Annual CMA Membership Meeting. The award recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual or company in advocating and supporting Country Music's market development in territories outside North America. Also pictured is MCA Chairman Bruce Hinton.