

Starday's Trust Fund Pays Employees \$380,000

NASHVILLE — Don Pierce and Hal Neely of Starday-King announced that 22 employees of Starday received in excess of \$380,000 in cash payouts representing full share funding of each employee's interests in Starday's profit sharing & pension retirement trust fund.

The trusts were established 10 years ago by the Ed Neville Company, actuaries, of Fort Worth, Texas. All contributions were made by the Starday corporations, solely owned by Don Pierce.

The recent sale of Starday-King to Lin Broadcasting enabled Pierce to effect the payouts on a full vested basis to each employee regardless of the length of employment. Many new opportunities, increases in salary and other employee benefits have resulted for Starday-King employees resulting from the sale to Lin.

Don Pierce stated, "I am pleased to reward the faithful people who had worked shoulder to shoulder down through the years to establish Starday as a leader in the field of Country Music. We now look for-

ward to maximum effort to make the expanded Starday-King operation a much greater factor on the record and music publishing scene featuring such headliners as James Brown, Red Sovine, Hank Ballard, the Willis Brothers, Guy Mitchell, Snooky Lanson, the Lewis Family, Arthur Smith and others famous in both C&W and R&B. An all-out effort is under way to build the several labels and music catalogs with exciting new talent. Acquisitions of music catalogs continue."

Hal Neely reported a record fourth quarter 1968 gross and net for Starday-King operations. The plant at Cincinnati is almost completely remodeled, including the offices and the Starday plant is also scheduled for complete cleanup, painting and re-alignment of executive office locations.

Breakout Signings

Breakout Management President Phil Basile has signed two new groups, the Dream Merchants and the Rosicrucian.

Baldwin Intro's Imperial Pair

HOLLYWOOD — Author James Baldwin introduced new Imperial Records artist Jimmie and Vella Cameron to the press at a party held at P.J.'s recently.

Jimmie and Vella—19 and 17, respectively—had so impressed Baldwin that he penned liner notes for their initial album release on the label, Imperial National Sales and Promotion Director Eli Bird stated.

Nearly all of the material in the LP was written by Jimmie who had an assist from sister Vella on some selections.

Imperial National Promotion Director John Antoon stated that reception of the album has been equally strong from all types of radio stations. Some of the cuts are strictly R&B; others are suited to easy listening stations, he said.



Author James Baldwin who presented Imperial recording artists Jimmie and Vella Cameron to the press is pictured with them at the introductory event. Shown are (from left) Baldwin; Vella Cameron; Ron Bledsoe, Executive Assistant to Liberty/UA President Alvin S. Bennett; and Jimmie Cameron.

Of the young artists, Baldwin said, "I suggested that whoever will, can learn much of life, and love, and himself, and our common history from this performance of a black brother and sister . . . if you listen, you will hear the beating of our hearts."

Stone Stars At Fests

Sly and the Family Stone, winners of a gold record for their single, "Everyday People," are embarking on a personal appearance tour and will be headlining the leading American pop music festivals.

The Stone will top the pop music festivals at Forest Hills in New York in June and in Detroit and Laurel Park, Md., in July. On the July 4 weekend they will close the Newport Jazz Festival. In August, Sly and the Family Stone will showcase at the Woodstock Music Festival in Woodstock, N.Y. Among the other festivals on their summer agenda is a starring appearance at the Duke Ellington tribute at Hampden-Sydney College, in Hampden-Sydney, Va.

The septet also will star on national television shows, including their second appearance within three months on "The Ed Sullivan Show" on March 23.

Here's Johnny's Restaurants

NEW YORK—Johnny Carson is lending his name to a chain of franchise restaurants to be called "Here's Johnny's," it was announced last week.

Carson will be chairman of the board of the corporation called Johnny's American Inns. The chain is being formed by Swanson's Foods, creators, appropriately enough, of the TV dinner.

Canadian Distrib For Remember, Rama Rama

Hy Mizrahi, President of Remember and Rama Rama Records, announced that the two record companies have made a deal with Art Young, president of Trans World Record International of Montreal, Canada, to be exclusive distributors of both labels in Canada.

Norwood LP Breaking

Savoy Records reports that the new Dorothy Norwood with the Angelic Choir of Nutley, N. J. album is breaking in Columbus, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

NARM Scholarships

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total of NARM scholarship winners to nineteen.

Applications for NARM Scholarships to be awarded at the 1970 NARM Convention can be obtained by contacting the NARM office, Trianon Bldg., Bala Cynwyd, Pa. Both employees of NARM member companies and children of employees of NARM member companies who will be entering college in September of 1970 are eligible for the next group of scholarships. Scholarship awards are based on academic achievement, potential, and financial need.

Col, Epic Star at NARM



Columbia and Epic outdid themselves with an all-star show at the recent (3) NARM Convention at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles. CBS label President Clive J. Davis (top left) emceed and introduced acts from both Columbia and Epic labels: Donovan, Blood, Sweat and Tears and Joel Grey.