

February, 2015



TRHoF

E-Waves

NEWSLETTER



est 2010

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Ladies and Gentlemen, your President

OFF MIC

by Gary Beaty



It took a couple of elections, but we now have a **Legendary Station** for 2015's induction! Nashville's **WLAC** emerged as the pick in a run-off election in late January. I'm happy to report that almost 60% of the advisory council participated in the run-off; however, it would be fantastic to see that figure improve to 100%.

And, now...on to the induction banquet. The planning is now underway for the May 2nd induction in Mur-

reesboro and members you will soon have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the event. New this year are Sponsorship Packages for the event which ranging from \$250 to \$5000! Contact us for all the details about the packages, and/or provide us leads to contact.

Sadly, once again we must mark the passing of Knoxville's "Your Dave Young" and another Mid-Tn radio stalwart. **Charlie Scott**, 84, who passed away in mid-January was a widely known and respected radio news professional for many, many years. Our condolences to his family and close friends. Charlie attended our early organizational meetings and was a great supporter of our efforts. Keep Calm... Gary

Knoxville Recollections - Compiled by Cindy Arnold

"YOUR" DAVE YOUNG

"**Dave Young** was so good to us. When we took over for Claude in 1991, he was the first to welcome us and tell us the history of Knoxville radio. He shared countless, hilarious stories of him and **Bobby Denton**, The Cat and all the wonderful characters that made Ktown such a wonderful radio market. We were truly blessed to have earned his friendship. We love you and will miss you Dave!" (**Wilhite and Wall**)



"Dave was truly one of the kindest hearted genuine people I have ever known. Every time we'd get together we'd tell old Knoxville radio war stories. If in your lifetime you have merely one friend like Dave Young, you've had a

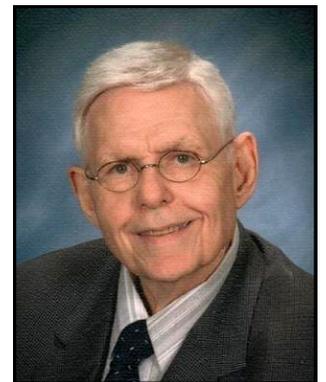
"Your Dave Young" Continued on Page 2

Final Sign Off: TRHOF Founding Board Member

CHARLIE SCOTT

by Melissa McDonald

Charles B. Scott, better known to the broadcasting industry as Charlie, has passed away. He was a newsman who was respected by his peers. He was also a member of the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame and has been nominated twice for induction.



Scott served the Nashville community for 57 years in radio and television broadcasting. He began his career in 1953 as a staff announcer at WSIX Radio and WSIX-TV (now WKRN), as host of "The Tennessee Hay Ride" country music show and as announcer for Pat Boone's nightly show on WSIX. He moved on to news and deejay positions for radio stations WKDA and WMAK. From 1956 to 1962, he

"Charlie Scott" Continued on Page 2

Time Flies when you're having fun!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February

Betty Bennis
Marcia Campbell
Cam Cornelius
Vicky Cutrer
Donna R. Davis
Miranda Davis
Dale Deason
Eric Disney
Larry Doxey
Bill Hagy
Dottie Hale
Kirk Harnack
Jim Hicks

Michael King
Melissa McDonald
Tom Rains
Patrick Reilly
John Stracener
Dennis Thibodeaux
Chris Tramel
George Valalides
Richard White
Jeremiah Wiser
Lee Wray



(continued from Page One)
"Your Dave Young"

good life. Rest in Peace my friend. You had a great air shift. Tell Bobby, Claude and Jim hello from all of us still to join you." (Jeff Jarnigan)

(From Paul Lyle:) "I had put this on Facebook on Jan. 8: Spent about an hour with the Legendary Your Dave Young today. As many of you know Dave has lost his voice to a serious tumor and is having it tough right now. But today we had a blast. We listened to some air checks. Including one that I couldn't have ever identified as YDY. Many that I could. Since he can't speak anymore he writes you notes on a pad. Thru that and me having the floor with no interruptions we had a great time! Ha! Love Dave Young. We talked about some of you. Those great folks we've gotten to work with and get to know over the years in Radio. About Radio now, Dave wrote...Radio Sux. I agreed that while many of the companies do there are still great people still working in the industry. It's great to sit with such a legendary figure of our industry. There was only one YOUR DAVE YOUNG!!!!"

"When you listened...You knew he was indeed "OUR DAVE YOUNG" as George Vavalides said.

~ Cindy Arnold

(continued from Page One)
"Charlie Scott"

served as news director for WLAC Radio and covered the Tennessee Legislature. As recognition of his excellence in covering Tennessee government, he was awarded the honorary Colonel Aide de Camp by Governor Winfield Dunn in 1973.



He returned to WSIX in 1962 working simultaneously in radio and television. He moved to television exclusively in 1983 as the news Assignment Editor for WKRN, and held that position until his retirement in 2004. During his career he covered major local news events including the 1957 Nashville school integration violence, the 1960 downtown Nashville lunch counter sit-ins which led to the desegregation of public facilities, the Tennessee State Prison hostage crisis in 1960, the Maxwell House Hotel fire in 1960, and more recently the discovery of the Clarksville and Nashville serial killings by Paul Reid from 1994 to 1997. He received numerous Associated Press honors throughout his career and two Emmy nominations for his coverage of the deadly December 24, 1988 Franklin-Brentwood tornado. In 2001, his contributions to broadcasting were recognized by the National Academy of Television Art and Sciences as a recipient of the Silver Circle Regional Emmy Award.

He was born in Nashville, Tennessee in 1930, graduated from East High School in 1948 and served in the United States Army during the Korean War. After discharge in 1953, he attended the Tennessee School of Broadcasting in Nashville.

~ Melissa McDonald

From Cookeville, Chattanooga and Nashville:

TN's ACM RADIO NOMINEES

By Melissa McDonald

Cookeville's own **Philip Gibbons** has been nominated for Academy of Country Music Small Market Personality of the Year. Gibbons has worked at The Country Giant (**WGSQ-FM**) for 40 years. An additional bit of good news is that the station is nominated for Small Market Station of the Year. Gibbons is a member of the Tennessee Radio Fame, and was nominated for induction into the Hall this year.



Competing for the



same honor as Philip, are **WUSY-FM/Chattanooga's Gator Harrison, Styckman, and Cowboy Kyle**. They won the CMA's equivalent award late last year.

The **Crook & Chase Countdown**, hosted by 2013



TRHOF Inductee **Charlie Chase** and his on-air partner, **Lorianne Crook**, is nominated for ACM National Air Personality of

the Year.

Congratulations to these ACM nominees with ties to the Hall! The winners will be announced at the annual awards ceremony in September.

RUMINATIONS



Kenny Rogers has been on my mind. Recently I heard one of his great songs on the radio, and then I read a wonderful story about him in a new book.

"The Time of My Life" is by **Bill Medley**, remember him? He was the deep-voiced half of the Righteous Brothers (with tenor Bobby Hat-

field). Back in 1964, they recorded the most-played song in the history of radio. "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling" sounds like no other song. Deejays wouldn't play it when it came out, because when Bill sang those opening words, "You never close your eyes any more, when I kiss your lips..." they thought it was recorded at the wrong speed! Eventually they figured it out, listeners loved it, and it sold millions.

The Righteous Brothers became one of the hottest acts in the nation. They befriended a newcomer named Kenny Rogers, and helped him in the early days of his career.

A few years later, it was Kenny having all the hits, while

the Righteous duo faded from the charts.

In Bill's book, he writes about falling on lean financial times, after making some poor investments. By this time, Kenny was pumping out gold records like "Lucille," "Coward of the County," and "The Gambler". Bill asked Kenny for a \$20,000 loan. "I promise to pay you back as soon as I

can," he said. Kenny pulled out his checkbook, and wrote him a check for \$20,000. "This is not a loan, it's a gift," he said. Bill protested, but Kenny said in a non-boastful way, "Do you know how much money I'm making? You would do the same thing for me."

A few weeks later, Bill tried to pay him back. Kenny handed back the envelope. "What's this?" he asked. Bill said, "I'm paying you back, you loaned me 20 grand." Kenny repeated, "No I didn't. I refuse to take it back." What a guy.

That reminded me of another first-hand report of Kenny's kindness. In the **WFLI** "Jet-FLI Spectacular" days of all-star concerts at Memorial Auditorium in Chattanooga, radio station manager **Johnny Eagle** recalled how difficult it was to

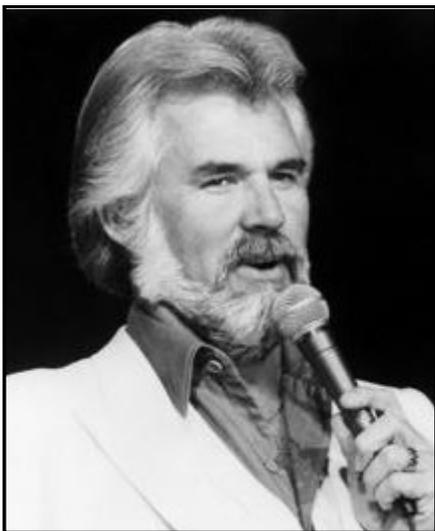
get someone to open the show. They all wanted to be the headline act, and close the show. Johnny said, "Kenny Rogers made it easy for me. He was among the nicest stars. He even carried his own equipment. I'd go up to Kenny, kind of embarrassed, and ask him if he would be kind enough to open the show, and he'd say absolutely, whatever you need. He had more hits than anybody, but he didn't act like it. It was no surprise to me that he went on to be more successful than any of them."

In the early 1980s, when I was music director for KZ-106, Kenny released a new album on Liberty Records. A promoter for the label, **Bob Alou** would visit the station, and ask us to play Kenny's songs. Bob was well known in the industry as a bit of a wild man. Still, one afternoon, I accepted his invitation to take a ride through Red Bank, just long enough to hear Kenny's new album (on cassette) on his car stereo. As he drove down Dayton Boulevard, he decided to light up a joint. The more he inhaled, the louder the music got. He would take long, deep drags, and he was determined to finish the joint before we returned to the radio station. He'd crank up Kenny's songs even louder, saying "Man, that sounds good!" Thankfully, we were not stopped by the Red Bank police. Even though I wasn't smoking, I was probably high by association, and my clothes smelled like pot. **My wife Cindy** understood. She had been in radio, too.

In fact, that record promoter scored big points with Cindy just a few weeks later. Kenny performed at the UTC Arena, and Bob arranged for us to meet Kenny backstage. Cindy, by then a seasoned news reporter, started thinking about what she would ask him. "What will your next record be?" "Tell us about your new baby boy." "What do all those Grammy nominations mean to you?" She was prepared, as always.

After the show, we were escorted backstage, and there stood Kenny Rogers. Tall, trim, tanned and handsome in his white suit. We exchanged pleasantries, and he thanked me for playing his songs. I nodded to Cindy, as if to say, "Your turn." She was so taken aback by his good looks, she could not speak. A few words came out, but not in the right order. She was starstruck. Kenny smiled and said, "Well, it sure was nice to meet you." Cindy turned three shades of red, and said, "Kerfuffle perdunkin," or something like that. I'd never seen her speechless, before or since. ("I didn't expect him to be so handsome," she would say later.)

Kenny Rogers then walked away, sporting a big smile. It probably wasn't the first time he'd made a pretty girl blush.





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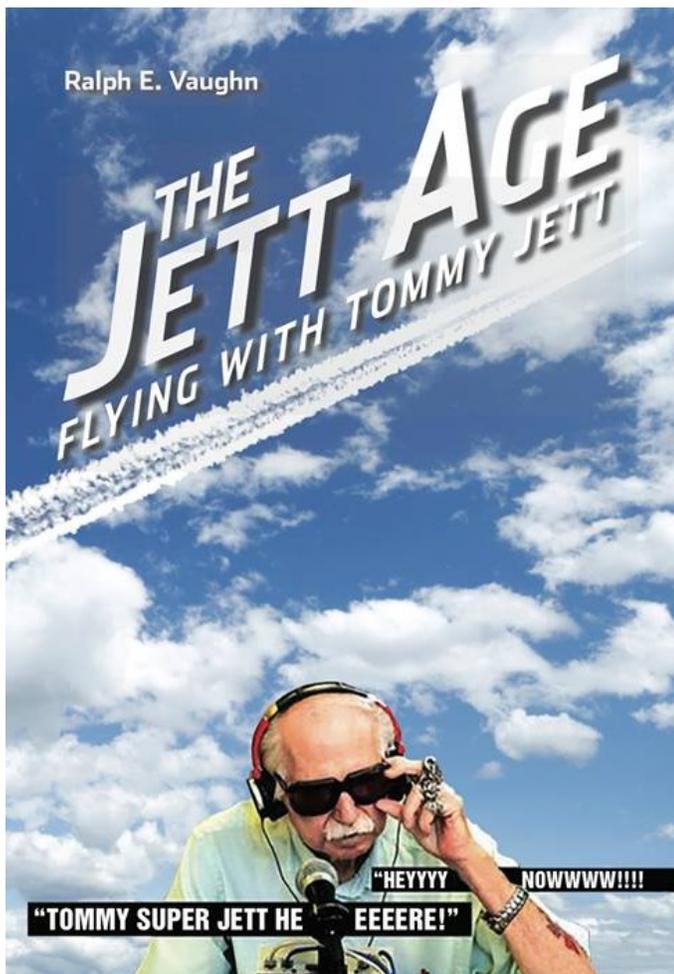


And write it off - We're a 501(c)3 entity!

Hey now! Hey now!

"THE JETT AGE" IS HERE!

The incomparable **Tommy Jett** has added another credit to his resume – published author. His memoir, **The Jett Age—Flying with Tommy Jett**, has spurred a book tour of the tri-state area of Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama where Jett was once the ruler of the air waves. The book focuses on achieving success, finding purpose and



the life and times of one of the greatest and most popular disc jockeys of all time.

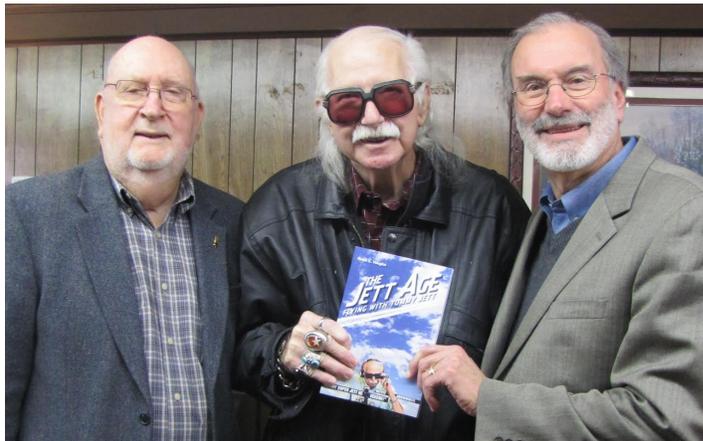
Jett was inducted into the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame in 2013, and brought one of the largest crowds of fans the Hall's banquet has ever experienced.

Former Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame President **Ralph Vaughn** assisted Jett in editing the book.

The project was begun almost three-years-ago after Jett survived a near-death experience in a traffic accident. Vaughn says, "The project was intentionally dedicated to God for giving Tommy a miracle and also to encourage my friend in his rehabilitation. With personal stories from Tommy and many by his friends, the book covers the good, the not-so-good and everything in between."

Vaughn adds, "The Jett Age was a period in time when Tommy ruled the airwaves in the Chattanooga/Mid-South market. He was almost bigger than life; flamboyant per-

sonality; witty charm; keen sense of music; knowing exactly what the audience wanted to hear; cool words that captured the imagination of listeners. There was no doubt that he was geared for show biz with rings on every finger and sun-



Left-Right: Former WFLI GM Johnny Eagle, Tommy Jett, Ralph Vaughn

glasses. His persona made him **THE MAN**.

"His career was further celebrated in 2013 when Tommy was inducted into the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame by another Chattanooga Hall of Famer, the beloved Luther Masingill."

Jett wants to personally autograph each copy, which is \$20 per book. Those interested may call or write:

Tommy Jett
(706) 820-8111
242 Fox Run Circle
Flintstone, GA 30725

Ralph Vaughn says Tommy will be donating a portion of the proceeds to his favorite charity and they've already ordered a second printing!

Recruit Your Radio Comrades! They'll get 5 months free!

NEW MEMBERS = BALANCE

One of our top goals is to recruit more members from East- and West-Tennessee to bring about a natural geographic balance state-wide of our HOF inductee classes and legendary stations. Actively recruiting new members from outside the middle Tennessee area is working, and having a positive effect.

We now have 335 Active Members in good standing. It's a record, and it keeps building. February 15th, you all will have access to our "Members-Only Pre-sale" of tickets to the 2015 Induction Ceremony and Banquet to be held Saturday May 2 next year. A special limited-time Hotel Rate is coming, too.

Right now, recruit NEW radio brothers and sisters, and we'll bonus them 5 extra months: That is, their new membership will last until June 30, 2016, a full 17 months.

Paul Randall Dickerson:

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

When radio is live, unrehearsed, and-oh-so human, it's at its best. That, of course, involves the goofs, the flubs and the occasional OMG moments. Here are a few.

Andy Pearson had a long and successful radio and TV news career before going into finance. At WSM in the 1980s, the format called for the newscaster to say something like, "WSM Radio News at 8:55. I'm Scott Shelton." Pearson's first story in a newscast was about a country singer and the first word in the story was "singer." His mind simply raced ahead of his mouth. "WSM Radio News at 1:55. I'm Andy Pinger" resulted. **Buddy Sadler** calls Pearson "Pinger" to this day.



PRD = Paul Randall Dickerson

WMAK had a short-lived piece of business in which the newscaster would start over the record fade by quoting what a piece of sound in the coming newscast would later say. Pity the late **Jay Foster**, who spoonerized the lead-in. "The prosecutor says the defense is as full of holes as a piss of Sweese cheese."

Know why the president's name is never used when he is introduced for formal speeches? It could have a lot to do with network announcer **Harry von Zell** and a grand-

daddy of a blooper he made on the Columbia Broadcasting System during a tribute program on the anniversary of President Herbert Hoover's birth. After correctly pronouncing "Herbert Hoover" several times, he slipped near the end of the introduction and called him "HooBERT Heever."

The copy read, "On special this week at Kroger, chicken; whole 78 cents a pound, cut up 83 cents a pound. The poorly-written commercial was live over a jingle music bed and poor **Joe Badger** ripped through it on **WTHI** in Terre Haute by saying, "On special this week at Kroger, chicken holes....."

And then there was mine on the same station, I was trying hard (and successfully, I might add) not to get broken up by a jock doing tawdry things in the studio when I read a kicker about a guy who spent a fortune and two weeks in the Canada woods on a hunt in which he never even saw a deer. On the way home, he hit and killed one with his car. Unfortunately, what came out on the radio was that he bagged "an eight-point duck," doing "\$350,000 damage to his car."

Gosh, I love live radio. Don't you?

Nick Archer:

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME (YOU)?

It was less than four years ago that the first meeting of the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame took place. I think the first topic of discussion was, "why are we here?"

The answer was that we all had a radio heritage that we were proud of and wanted to share.

I was thrilled to sit between two PDs that had hired me, **John Young and Mark Damon**. Then I got to meet legendary people from around the state like **Johnny Pirkle, Luther Massingill, Jack Parnell, Bart Walker, and Ken Berryhill**.

Our meetings all over the state in the last two years let me make new friends, and see and hear radio stations that I'd only read about before.

We have actually done something unique with the Hall of Fame.

Marketing people will tell you if you want to cover Tennessee, you first split it into three parts. We've done the opposite, and created a seamless network across the five hundred miles of our state.

Anywhere I go in Tennessee, I can call a friend and go to lunch, and that's a wonderful thing. Going to the first three banquets, I've met even more stars, **Scott Shannon, Wink Martindale, Rick Dees**, and I think I've been adopted by **Noel Ball's** family. And I've reconnected with radio friends that I haven't seen in over thirty years, like **Carlos**



Nick Archer seated at the History of Country Music Museum's retro studio in Bristol, Virginia.

Clemente, Bob Robison, and Paul Randall Dickerson.

Like all organizations, the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame is part fellowship and part outreach. I encourage everyone to call your radio friends, come to the meetings and the banquet in May, and help us keep this growing. We have around 400 official members, and over 1000 on our Facebook page. Which of your friends are you ready to reconnect with? Join the party, we're waiting to hear from you.

Follow me - to Tennessee (Radio Hall Of Fame, that is...)

TWITTER FEED

About that "bird logo"...No, we're not giving you a rude hand gesture. We are on Twitter with the handle **@TENNRHOF**. Follow us, and learn things as they break...like the next set of Hall of Fame Inductees!

Check Your Calendar

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is open only to the Board of Directors. February 21, 2015 will be held at the Green Hills office of Fridrich & Clark Realty to focus on the May 2nd Induction Ceremony and Banquet in Murfreesboro. For the event calendar anytime, you can always check the home page of our website at <http://tennradiohalloffame.org>

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ONLINE DONATIONS NOW!

REMINDER: Because of our 501(c)3 IRS status, All donations to the Tennessee Radio Hall Of Fame are tax-deductible. On our home page there is a simple button that says DONATE. But If you have some items you want to donate (Tapes, Vintage Equipment, Vehicles, ANYTHING, contact **Skip Woolwine** or **Nick Archer**. Vintage broadcast gear is welcome, regardless of age or functionality.

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Mugs and Hoodies, and Sweats, Oh My!

WEB STORE IS NOW OPEN

Handsome merchandise with the Tennessee Radio Hall Of Fame logo is now available via our [WEB STORE](#).



Don't forget—(nudge, nudge)

REMINDERS

--- Please send any news, promotions, stories, trivia...maybe you have an old radio story you'd like to share with us....anything that may be of interest to our membership. Please email it any of the newsletter staff listed below. Our newsletter is published the first of every month and back issues may be viewed on our official website at tennradiohalloffame.org Please keep your email address current so you don't miss an issue!

--- A committee has been formed to collect and purchase Tennessee radio memorabilia, including old microphones, on-air signage, transmitter parts, and anything related to TN radio stations. If you have items you'd like to donate (or purchase on Ebay, Craigslist, etc.) please contact Nick Archer. Nick also oversees the TRHOF Facebook page which now boasts over 1000 members, and also our YouTube Page with over 150 airchecks (over 27,000 views!) and other audio/video memories

--- Looking for a gig in Radio, or do you have a spot to fill at your station? Post it HERE next month.

TRHOF's Got Talent—Put it to Work!

GET INVOLVED

Members are always wanting to know how they can do more for the organization than just pay dues and go to the annual banquet. We NEED your help and participation with the Hall of Fame. Projects and tasks, like creating a scrapbook of newspaper clippings or a timeline is vitally important to the organization. Is that a talent you have...or is there something else you can contribute? Maybe you have historical pictures or radio equipment you'd like to donate to the Hall. Let us know...we WANT your interaction! We'll find a place and task for you if you just let us know you want to help out!