

June, 2015



TRHoF E-Waves NEWSLETTER



est 2010

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OFF MIC

by TRHOF President Gary Beaty



The Night That Was...

Memories in Pictures

Looking back.

Looking ahead.

That's where we are as we head full blast into summer. At our most recent board meeting following our 4th annual induction ceremony, we looked back on the event and carefully considered the results and the comments of those who attended, and submitted suggestions via an online survey on what they considered would be important to change, or at least, "tweak," for our next annual event.



We were very pleased to hear that for most, the evening and the banquet were very positive experiences. We also realized that we still have opportunities to make the event even better. As we go forward, we will strive to improve in every area, Planning for next year is now one of our prime areas of focus. Thanks to all who worked, and attended, this year's ceremonies and helped set an attendance record!

Looking ahead, in the coming months, we will be announcing some dates and places for board and membership meetings across the state. We'll be visiting East and West Tennessee, and I sincerely hope that your schedule will permit you to join us as we reach out across the state. Also, look for updates regarding the next nomination and election schedule for the 5th anniversary of commemorating Tennessee's radio legacy!

Keep Calm and sunscreen.

Gary

May 2, 2015 was a night to remember — not only for our inductees — but for all of those who attended the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame's fourth annual induction banquet. Two pages of photos are included in this issue of the newsletter, and there are even more to see online.

The Hall's Official photographer, Leslie Pardue, has made his photos available. You can view them online at: <http://red4.smugmug.com/TRHOF/TRHoF-2015-banquet/n-rLv2Fq/>

Quality prints can be purchased for a nominal fee. So relive the evening, and the fun of this year's event!



Karen Gerson Duncan, Carlos Clemente and Donna Brake were among the friends and colleagues who caught up on old times at the banquet.



Don Benson
Harry Forrester Chapman
Chuck Chellman
Danny Crouch
Leon Griffin
William Hearn
Genma Holmes
Kevin Lee
Ken Mabry
Robert McKay, III

Mike Medley
Jerry Minshall
Dave Nichols
Robert Robison
Max Templeton
Marty Theurer
David Tower (Milstead)
Boyd H. Webb, III
David Widener
Iris Wray

The 4th Annual Induction Banquet Was a Blast!



Left side, top to bottom: Inductees John Young, Johnny Dark (aka Dude Walker), Al Voecks.

Center: Bob Kesling (accepting for the late Bobby Denton).

Right, top to bottom: Inductee Stacy Mott (center) with daughter Betsy Mott Galliher, Mike Medley, Martin Medley and daughter Melinda Mott Leftwich.



Above: Nathaniel Jones (accepting on behalf of his late grandfather, Nat D. Williams).



Right side, second photo: Inductees Keith Bilbrey and Spider Harrison.

Don Green, accepting on behalf of his late wife, inductee Jill Green.

Seated: Dan Endom, general manager of Legendary Station of the Year WLAC, Nashville; and inductee Jack Parnell. Standing: Lowell Blanchard III, grandson of Legacy inductee Lowell Blanchard, accepting on behalf of his late grandfather.

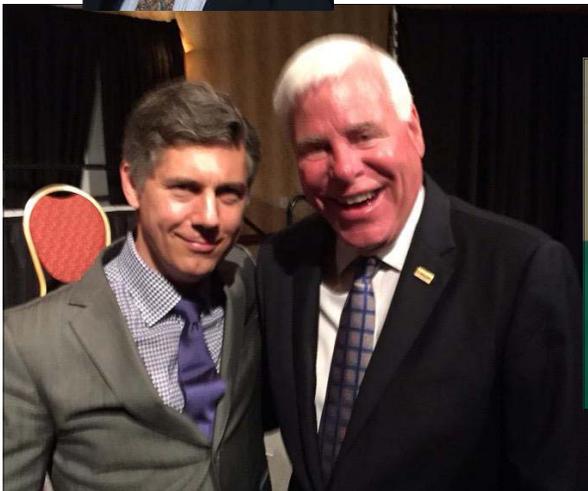
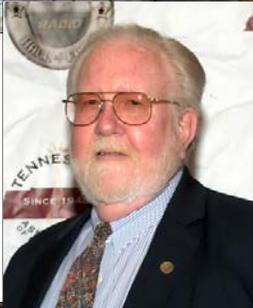
Not pictured: Murray Miles, who accepted on behalf of Legacy inductee John McDonald.



Right: Susie James (accepting for her late stepfather, Bill Barry).



The 4th Annual Induction Banquet Was a Blast!



Six Questions with Larry Stone



by Cathy Martindale

1. How and why did you first decide to get into radio?

People often ask and the truth is....I do not remember a time I did not want to be in radio. I had a 45 collection as a kid and my favorite Christmas gift of all time....a CBS Sports Mr. Microphone from JC Penney and I practiced radio. Finally at 16, it started paying.

2) Tell us about your earliest radio years and some of the responsibilities you had (and did you have to convince your family it was a "real" job?)?

I worked in high school at 3WC Radio in Wilkesboro, NC running NC State Football and Basketball – and doing the Saturday afternoon obituaries. I was “promoted” (they said) to working Sunday morning all-religious shift.

3) Any memorable "faux pas" on air?

I buried someone with masochistic rites (not Masonic)... Later, I did not notice the Protestant Hour skipping on “and God said...and God said...and God said...” 10 minutes later.....

4) Tell us about working with the Titans.

Never imagined it...never dreamed of the NFL. Got a call in 1997 from Capital Broadcasting in Raleigh who had partnered with Dick Broadcasting to talk about the Tennessee Oilers. My question: what in the hell are the Tennessee Oilers? I met Steve “True Stories” Dickert two days later. A month later I walked into WKDF/WGFX – two rock and roll radio stations - to begin work on the network. The first day, I asked where the tape recorder was so we could cover an Oilers appearance in town. I got a lot of blank stares. It was truly starting from scratch – but it was amazing...some of the greatest memories and personal friendships of my life.

5) How did you build your current radio empire?

Approaching 40, I decided it was time to do the ownership thing or I might not do it. Steve Newberry of Commonwealth Broadcasting in Bowling Green told me: pick two places in the world you would like to live and write the owner there about selling. I picked my hometown and Cookeville. A couple of months later, I got a call from the Wilmoth family about the four stations here in Cookeville and we started down the road toward purchase.

6) Where do you see the future of radio?

Locally-focused radio stations have a great future – and we have all these digital tools to share the content we create. We are focused on being content providers and not worrying so much about the means of distribution. Content is king. The worry is, will the big-city jukeboxes damage the industry to the point that radio stations cannot be sold – or major advertisers move away? Hopefully, the big companies will understand they have to put money into content. There are MUCH BETTER appliances in today’s world for playing 25 in a row – and no one has any interest in, “Those were the Beatles with Can’t Buy Me Love and here is Elvis with Hound Dog,” content in a world that produces tweets, posts and texts that are more interesting.



Larry Stone in a studio at his facility in Cookeville.





What Are TRHOF Members Doing?

Mike Medley, Nick Archer, Doug Combs & Skip Woolwine

After the recent TRHOF Meet n' Greet in Cookeville, Mike Medley took Archivist Nick Archer and Board Members Doug Combs, Melissa McDonald and Skip Woolwine to the Medley Farm in Putnam County...where they discovered a treasure trove of broadcast equipment the Medley family has donated to the Hall.

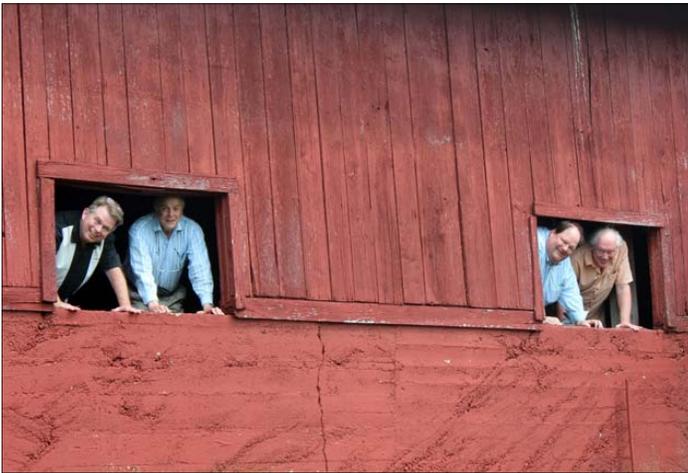
the equipment will be stored for future use when the Hall establishes a museum. The rest will be placed for sale by the Hall to support its programs.

Ralph Emery



Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame inductee Ralph Emery entertained a crowd at the Nashville Public Library on Sunday, May 31. The former *Nashville Now* host, who is also an inductee of the Country Music Hall of Fame, shared an afternoon of memories.

Thanks to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Nashville Public Library has access to video vaults of the original broadcast of *Nashville Now*. The show aired its pilot episode from Opryland in 1983, and during its 10-year run, helped launch the careers of some of the biggest stars in country music.



Doug Combs, Mike Medley, Skip Woolwine and Nick Archer in one of the barns at the Medley Farm.

Reel-to-reels, board consoles, vintage speakers and racks were among the goods the group selected. Part of

Cookeville Meet n' Greet

The Board held its April meeting at StoneCom Broadcasting in Cookeville before adjourning to popular local restaurant El Tapito for lunch with a group of regional broadcasters. There was a good turnout and lots of great fellowship.



The Board in session at StoneCom.



Above: Part of the crowd that showed up for the TRHOF meet n' greet in Cookeville.



Right: Tim Scruggs, Mike Medley, Garry Mac, Paul Tinkle and Nick Archer. It's just iced tea and sodas.

Intimate Radio



by Paul Randall Dickerson
"Gray Eminence": WKGN
(Knoxville), WSM, WMAK,
WLAC (Nashville), Broadcast
Editor for The Associated Press'
Nashville bureau and on-air
correspondent for AP Radio
News (along with gigs in
Wichita, Charlotte, Terre Haute,
Orlando, Buffalo)

That one-on-one connection was evident in jocks like Bob Hale, John Records Landecker, Bob Dearborn, Ron Britain and Joel Sebastian.

Over the years, I've been privileged to work with Nashville personalities who had that same divine spark; people like Bill "Hossman" Allen, Grant Turner, Allen Dennis and my old sidekick, Skip Woolwine.

I fear that connection is becoming strained with satellite and syndicated programming. The further the jock is from the community he's trying to link to, the weaker the relationship.

Some things can't be done as well on a grand scale. Radio is one of them.

Years ago, I was driving during the early morning hours on my way to a large Midwestern city and listening to a clear channel radio station when the jock let me know, unconsciously, that he didn't have a clue about radio.

The guy had a pleasing voice, a nice delivery, was topical and was playing music that I could abide. But on the second or third break, he referred to his listeners collectively – called us his "little bushkies." I didn't have any idea what a "bushky" was and doubt he did either. I listened for about a half-hour and he repeated his sin a few more times.

What the way-too-full-of-himself jock didn't understand is people don't listen to the radio collectively. Even if the radio is playing on the team bus, people are listening individually. It's that intimate, one-way, over-the-back-fence conversation that makes radio work. He thought he was talking to a stadium full of people. There was only me in my car.

That was second nature to the great ones. I was cutting my radio teeth listening to a lot of Chicago radio.

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Don't forget — (nudge, nudge)

REMINDERS

What's Your Radio Story?

Do you have a radio story you'd like to share? It can be anything that may be of interest to our membership. Just email it to any of the newsletter staff listed below.

Keeping Up With the Hall

Our newsletter is published the first of every month. Back issues may be viewed on our official website: www.tennradiohalloffame.org

Let Treasurer Skip Woolwine know of any change in your email address so you don't miss an issue!

Collecting Our History

The Hall has a committee to collect and purchase Tennessee radio memorabilia, including old microphones, on-air signage, transmitter parts, promotional items and anything else related to radio stations in our state.

If you have items to donate (or purchase on Ebay, Craigslist, etc.) please contact Nick Archer via a message on the TRHOF Facebook page.

Our Facebook page now boasts over 1050 members, and our YouTube Page with over 150 air checks (over 27,000 views!) and other audio/video memories

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor: Cathy Martindale cathymartindale@comcast.net
Buddy Sadler bsuddy@bellsouth.net
Melissa McDonald starmagic@comcast.net
Paul Randall Dickerson tnbackcountry@gmail.com
Skip Woolwine woolwine@comcast.net

Contact email: TennRHOF@gmail.com

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The Tennessee Radio Hall Of Fame, Inc.
P.O. Box 158921
Nashville, TN 37215



Check Your Calendar

The next meeting is an open meeting of the Board of Directors, Advisory Council and full membership. It's scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 10:00 a.m., at Two International Plaza (TAB offices), Main Floor Conference Room, in Nashville.

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Saturday, August 22, 10:00 a.m.
It's an open meeting for the Board, all members, and all prospective members, in Memphis.
Location TBA.

•
Saturday, October 17, 10:00 a.m Eastern Time.
It's an open meeting for the Board, all members, and all prospective members, in Knoxville.
Location TBA. (No home UT game)

•
To check the TRHOF event calendar anytime, go to the home page of our website: <http://tennradiohalloffame.org>

Television contracts the imagination and radio expands it.
Terry Wogan

meetville.com

GET INVOLVED! HELP THE HALL!

DONATE YOUR TIME:

We NEED your help and participation with the Hall of Fame. Projects and tasks, like creating a scrapbook of newspaper clippings or a timeline, are vitally important to the organization.

DONATE GOODS OR CASH:

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 button that says **DONATE**.

If you have items you want to donate (tapes, vintage equipment, vehicles, **ANYTHING**, contact **Skip Woolwine** or **Nick Archer**. Vintage broadcast gear is always welcome, regardless of age or functionality.