

February, 2016



TRHOF E-Waves NEWSLETTER est 2010



[ENTER THE TENNESSEE RADIO HALL OF FAME WEBSITE](#)

OFF MIC

by TRHOF President Gary Beaty



Early in this new year, it's appropriate for us to consider where we are as an organization, and perhaps more importantly, where we're headed. With that in mind, I'd like to share (with his permission) some thoughts from Hall of Fame inductee John Young. In some recent emails shared with a few other members, John wrote:



"Some may think the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame spends all its time looking back, but I think in so many ways in looking back, we can see and inspire a few to take a chance and change our future. There are some young guys in my life now that I think will far exceed what I've done and not just in radio. I'm hopeful."

It's my hope that many of our younger members and supporters will find John's words inspiring. We need your support! Also, elsewhere in this issue, John has written about another memorable figure in Tennessee radio history, Dick Kent, who passed away last month. It's another inspirational career.

"I was thinking last night where the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame will be in a few years and trying to guess what inspires old radio folks and what they expect from this organization. I've just heard a story about a man named Philip Beal, Rogersville Tennessee. Google that and you see stories about a man who at the age of 71, died this past December 29. He was the only owner a little station in Rogersville...and you go back to his life and dedication ... just like Bob McKay in Columbia, that station brought the world to his hometown, and they were IT. Nobody on Nashville TV or radio really gave attention to those towns, but as I see new generations of folks who run in, voice track a shift, and run out, I'm aware of guys who inspired me to go in ...sign on...or sign off, do more in four hours than some folks do in eight...and carefully listen and relate to a city and be a true friend and to loyal listeners."

"I don't have an answer, but trust sharper minds than me can look at our agenda, our programs, newsletters, website, and capture the heart of good people who came, not to be big deals or stars, but...to serve. It was all about...serving... Remember our early licenses: 'LICENSED TO S E R V E the public interest.'

Keep Calm...

Gary



Betty Bennis
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Marcia Campbell
Cam Cornelius
Vicky Cutrer
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Miranda Davis
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Eric Disney
Larry Doxey
Bill Hagy
Dottie Hale
Kirk Harnack

Jim Hicks
Michael King
Melissa McDonald
Tom Rains
Pat Reilly
John Stracener
Dennis Thibodeaux
Chris Tramel
George Vavalides
Richard White
Jeremiah Wiser
Lee Wray

2016 Banquet Tickets Go On Sale February 15



It's not that long until we gather together again to honor the finest in Tennessee radio. Saturday, May 14 is the date for this year's induction banquet. Once again, we'll gather in the state's geographic center, Murfreesboro, at the Embassy Suites Hotel. With another slate of outstanding honorees from East, Middle and West Tennessee to be honored, as well as a legendary radio station, the evening promises to be an exciting one.

Members of the Hall in good standing (with your membership dues up to date) can buy tickets for the event beginning February 15. Watch for an email notice that ticket sales have been opened. Individual ticket prices remain the same as last year at \$85 per ticket. Tables of 10 will be sold for \$800.

Plan early to get your own tickets, or contact friends so you can put a

**TENNESSEE RADIO HALL OF FAME
ANNUAL INDUCTION BANQUET**
Saturday, May 14, 2016
Embassy Suites Hotel, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

MEMBERS CAN BUY TICKETS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15.
WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR NOTIFICATION!



Speech bubbles include: "I enjoy seeing old friends there.", "A celebration of radio.", "Be there!", "I can't wait!", "We never miss it.", "Do NOT miss it!", "Always a great show!", "Love it!", "It's a truly special event.", "Fab-u-lous!", "Radio people and radio stories. What's better?", "It's great!"

table together. We promise, the evening is going to be entertaining, and all who attend will enjoy a fabulous night of entertainment.

Ticket sales to the public will begin March 1.

We Extend Our Sympathies

This month, the Hall learned of the deaths of two broadcasters who gave years of dedication to radio listeners in Tennessee.



Philip Beal, owner of WRGS in Rogersville, passed away recently. He had been a fixture at the station since purchasing it in 1972. The *Rogersville Review* called him, "...a well-known and well-liked community presence."



Dick Kent (Withers) was a well-known air personality at WMAK, Nashville, and later at WLAC, Nashville. Although he also took some gigs out-of-state, he is still remembered well in Music City. Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame Inductee John Young shares some memories of his friend on page three of this issue.

The Hall extends sympathies to the families of both.

Top: Philip Beal.

Bottom: Dick Kent.

Kid, there are heroes and there are legends. Heroes get remembered, but legends never die

- Babe Ruth (The Sandlot)

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.

Remembering Dick Kent



Editor's note: This article was submitted by Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame inductee John Young, who shares memories of his longtime friend.

A lot of memories hit me upon hearing of the death of Dick Kent January 8. I couldn't believe he was 74 years old, and I also couldn't believe so many years had passed since seeing him. Where has the time gone? It all seems so recent.

The outpouring of memories from so many is a tribute not only to Dick, but a reminder of the impact of personality radio. Now, years later, warm memories of things he said, and friendships he faithfully kept, are a lasting tribute to a kind, decent man. We "live in the moment" doing an air shift and never know who's listening or what they'll remember. His impact on air added to the charisma of WMAK in a big way. WMAK's success, starting with his morning show, was a part of the excellent placement of the right personalities in the right time slots. Nashville had never heard a personality like Dick in morning drive.

Our purpose at the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame is to honor and thank people like Dick who impacted audiences and other radio professionals then, and later. I don't think Dick fully understood how admired he was or his impact. While some larger than life personalities made WMAK, Joe Sullivan made sure our roles were professional with no grandstanding, but as a team and with unified spirit. With that, Dick was totally professional and a big encouragement to younger talent like myself hoping to succeed.

While I'm optimistic he will be inducted into our Hall of Fame, I am sad that his death has preceded the



WMAK IN NASHVILLE, salutes singer/songwriter Bobby Russell recently, airing phone calls from such performers as Andy Williams, Roger Miller, and Chet Atkins. Gathered in the WMAK office, from left, Buzz Cason, Russell-Cason Music; Dave Carrico, Bell Records; independent promotion man Bob Holladay, WMAK program director Joe Sullivan; WMAK deejays Dick Kent and Allen Dennis. Russell is seated.

opportunity to be thanked and honored for his contribution to our business.

If you didn't know Dick, I'd like to invite you to join those of us who lived so many moments of his time at WMAK and later, at WLAC. The Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame has placed air checks from January 1969 at WMAK, and a WLAC air check that allows you to hear better than I can say, some of his natural, personal, real personality. At our annual banquet, a highlight are the air checks and "hearing" the person about to be inducted, from the past of making impact. The memory lane moments bring so many warm thoughts of people we celebrate at the banquet. To be "in the moment" and hear this audio of Dick Kent, just go to Google and type in "Dick Kent Radio Personality." Then enjoy the talent many of us will never forget.

Dick Kent's funeral will be Saturday, February 13, at Ford & Sons Funeral Home in his hometown of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.



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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 is part of your radio history.

We love radio stories. Please, tell us yours.

Just email it to starmagic@comcast.net.

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 1,100 members, and our YouTube Page with over 58,000 views of air checks, inductions and other audio/video memories.



Check Your Calendar

Saturday, February 27, 2016, 1:00 p.m., CST
Meeting of the Board and Advisory Council.

Location: Fridrich & Clark Realty,
3825 Bedford Avenue, Nashville, TN 37215

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Saturday, May 14, 2016, Time TBA
2016 Induction Banquet

Location & Time: To be announced

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To check the TRHOF event calendar anytime, go to the home page of our website:

<http://tennradiohalloffame.org>

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TRHOF is a 501(c)3 entity.

Get details at: tennradiohalloffame.org

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