



October 15, 1977

COUNTRY MUSIC

The Sounds Heard 'Round The World

Record World Presents
A Country Music Spectacular

In Conjunction With
WSM's Grand Ole Opry Birthday Celebration

GREG SPEIRS © 77

**THEY'LL
NEVER GET
THIS CITY BOY
OUT OF THE COUNTRY**



Congratulations
BMI

On the
25th Anniversary
of your
COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

Al Gallico
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COUNTRY MUSIC**

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LOS ANGELES
6255 SUNSET BLVD., LOS ANGELES, CA. 90028
(213) 462-2251



52nd Annual Grand Ole Opry Birthday Celebration & DJ Convention 1977 Agenda

October 7-10 Friday-Monday

CMA Talent Buyers Seminar (Hyatt Regency)

October 9 Sunday

6:00 p.m.—Nashville Songwriters Association Banquet (Sheraton South)

October 10 Monday

8:30 p.m.—11th Annual Country Music Association Awards Show—Telecast live from the Grand Ole Opry House.

October 11 Tuesday

9:00 a.m.—CMA Fourth Quarterly Board Meeting (First American National Bank Center)
7:00 p.m.—BMI Awards Banquet (BMI Building) (Invitation Only)
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.—Gusto/Starday Cocktail Party (Hilton Inn Central) (Invitation Only)
9:00 p.m.—Gusto/Starday Show (Hilton Inn Central)

October 12 Wednesday

8:30 a.m. —Chellman/Twitty Radio Invitational Golf Tournament Breakfast
9:30 a.m. —Golf Tournament (Crockett Springs Golf and Country Club)
2:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.—Early Bird Bluegrass Concert (Opry House)
5:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.—WSM & Grand Ole Opry Dinner (Opry House)
6:00 p.m. —ASCAP Awards Banquet (Hyatt Regency) (Invitation Only)
7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.—The Grand Ole Opry Spectacular (Opry House)
7:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.—Ovation Records Dinner & Show (Captain Ann Riverboat) (Invitation Only)
9:30 p.m. —Sho-Bud/Baldwin/Gretsch Birthday Show (Opry House)

October 13 Thursday

9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—CMA Annual Membership Meeting (Opryland) (Election at 9:30 a.m.)
11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.—RCA Records Luncheon & Show (Opry House)
3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.—MCA Records Show (Opry House)
5:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.—DJ Cocktail Buffet (Opryland) (Invitation Only)
7:00 p.m. —Playboy Records Dinner & Show (Four Guys Harmony House) (Invitation Only)
8:00 p.m. —United Artists Records Show (Municipal Auditorium)
9:00 p.m. —SESAC Awards Party (Woodmont Country Club) (Invitation Only)

October 14 Friday

8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—Artists/D J Tape Session #1 (Lower Level Municipal Auditorium)
11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.—ABC Dot Records Luncheon & Show (Municipal Auditorium)
6:00 p.m. —CMA Anniversary Banquet & Show (Municipal Auditorium)

October 15 Saturday

8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—Artists/DJ Tape Session #2 (Lower Level Municipal Auditorium)
Noon - 3:00 p.m.—Capitol Records Luncheon & Show (Municipal Auditorium)
5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.—CBS Records Dinner & Show (Municipal Auditorium)
9:30 p.m. —Grand Ole Opry 52nd Anniversary Show (Opry House)

October 16 Sunday

10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.—Opryland, U.S.A.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Country Music Month
October, 1977

As a native of rural America, I grew up with country music and join with great enthusiasm with all those who celebrate Country Music Month.

Anyone who has spent time living and working on a farm or touring the rural areas and small towns of our nation has learned to appreciate the musical legacy of this part of our country. It embraces the joys, sorrows, experiences and hopes of daily life. It echoes the greatness, goodness and diligence of hard working men and women.

Along with millions of fans, I salute the creative genius of those to whom country music owes its ever-growing popularity.

Jimmy Carter

WE'RE STILL HAVING FUN AND

*You're Still The
One*

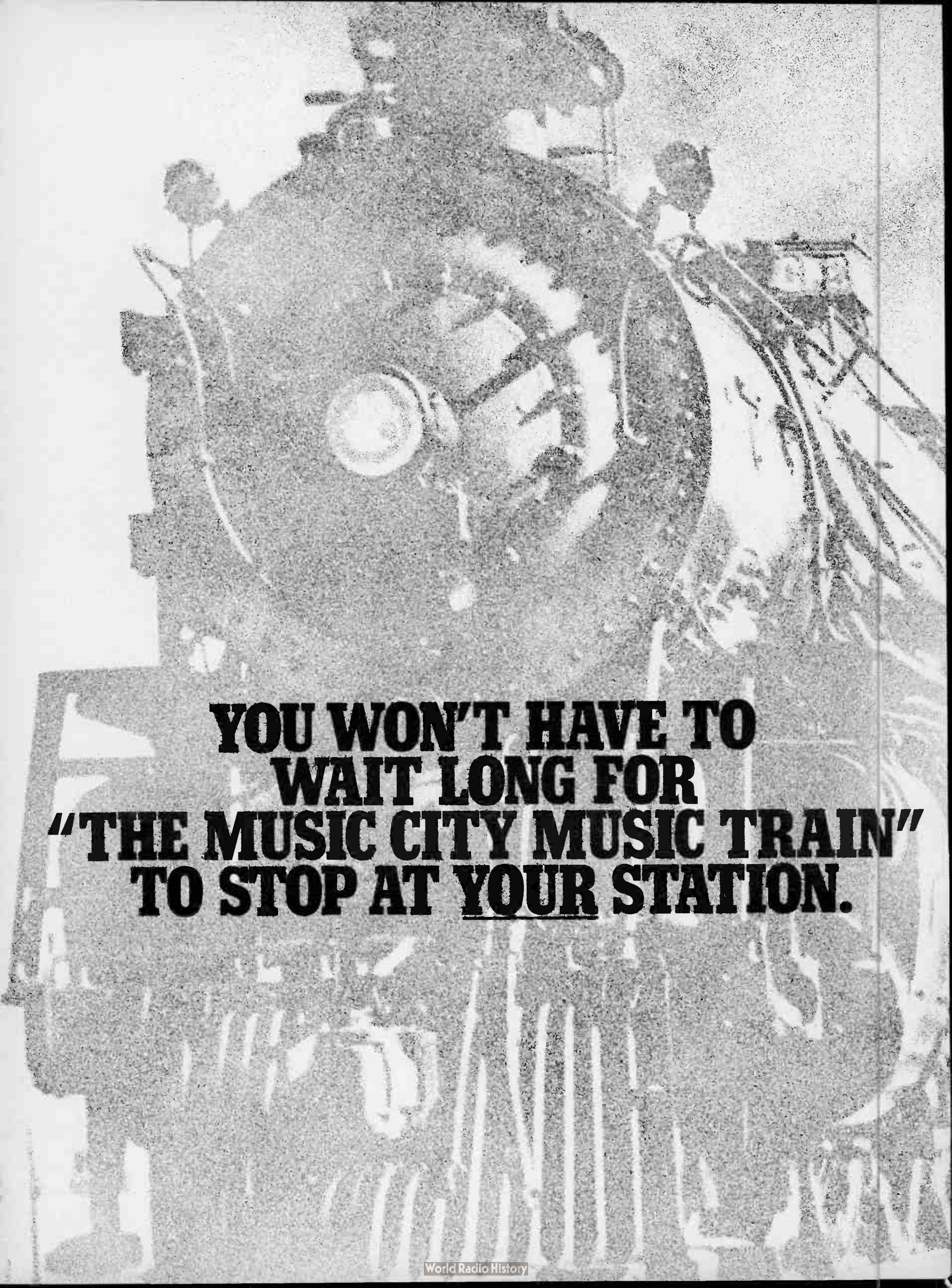


Thanks DJ's
BILL ANDERSON

THE BETTER SEX *on ABC-TV - Weekdays*

"Still the one" from the "SCORPIO" LP.

"BILL & MARY LOU" CMA Duet of the Year Nomination




**YOU WON'T HAVE TO
WAIT LONG FOR
"THE MUSIC CITY MUSIC TRAIN"
TO STOP AT YOUR STATION.**

KRIS KRISTOFFERSON
SONGS OF KRISTOFFERSON
including:
Me And Bobby McGee
Help Me Make It Through The Night For The Good Times
Loving Her Was Easier (Than Anything I'll Ever Do Again)
Stranger



PZ 34687

TANYA TUCKER
YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL
including:
Spring/Can't Be Your Lady?
There Is A Place / I Still Sing The Old Songs
The Best Of My Love




PC 34733

DAVID ALLAN COE
TATTOO
including:
Just To Prove My Love For You
Face To Face / Play Me A Sad Song
Just In Time (To Watch Love Die)
San Francisco Mable Joy




PC 34870

LYNN ANDERSON
I LOVE WHAT LOVE
IS DOING TO ME HE AIN'T YOU
including:
Desperado/The Angel In Your Arms
It's Your Love That Keeps Me Going
We Got Love/Right Time Of The Night



PC 34871

WILLIE NELSON
RED HEADED
STRANGER
including:
Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain
Bandera/Tone Of The Preacher
Hands On The Wheel/Red Headed Stranger




KC 33482

Mickey Gilley
First Class
including:
She's Pulling Me Back Again
Honky Tonk Memories
Five Foot Two Eyes Of Blue
(Has Anybody Seen My Girl)
Wednesday Night Poker / Chains Of Love




KZ 34776

THE EARL SCRUGGS
REVUE
STRIKE ANYWHERE
including:
Muhammad Ali/Bring It On Home To Me
Dreaming As One/Landslide
You Really Got A Hold On Me




PC 34878

BOBBY BORCHERS
including:
Cheap Perfume/And Candlelight / Shawn
They Don't Make 'Em Like That Anymore
Whisper / Someone's With Your Wife Tonight, Mister




KZ 34829

JOHNNY DUNCAN
including:
Thinkin' Of A Rendezvous
Ain't You Something Else/Atlanta Georgia Stray
I Couldn't Have Been Any Better/Denver Woman




KC 34442

MOE BANDY
Cowboys Ain't Supposed To Cry
including:
Up To Now I've Wanted Everything But You
Misery Loves Company
She Just Loved The Cheatin' Out Of Me
All I Can Handle At Home
I Could Never Be Ashamed Of You



PC 34874

JOHNNY CASH
THE RAMBLER
including:
Hit The Road And Go/Lady After The Ball
A Wednesday Car/Calico



KC 34833

BARBARA FAIRCHILD
Free & Easy
including:
She Can't Give It Away
The Other Side Of The Morning
Someone Loves Him
Love Me Like You Never Will Again
Painted Faces




PC 34868

Teresa Neal
including:
Loneliness Kills / Hold Me
In The Cradle Of Your Loving Arms
Do What You Feel / Love Grows




PZ 34861

Willie Nelson
To Lefty From Willie
including:
Mem And Dad's Waltz
I Love You a Thousand Ways
She's Gone, Gone, Gone
That's The Way Live Goes/Railroad Lady



KC 34695

EDDIE MIDDLETON
including:
Midnight Train To Georgia
Don't It Make You Want To Go Home
Don't Say Let's Wait
After The Love / All For The Love Of A Girl
Born To Lose




PE 34882

THE BEST OF BARBARA MANORELL
including:
Scarlet Water
Treat Him Right/The Midnight Oil
This Time I Almost Made It
Do Right Woman, Do Right Man




PC 34876

JOHNNY PAYCHECK
SLIDE OFF OF YOUR SATIN SHEETS
including:
Slide Off Of Your Satin Sheets
Hank (You Tried To Tell Me)
I'm The Only Hell (Mamma Ewe Raised)
I Did The Right Thing/Woman (You Better Love Me)




KE 34693

CHARLIE RICH
ROLLIN' WITH THE FLOW
including:
Night Talk / That's What Love Is/Windsong
Beautiful Woman
Somebody Wrote That Song For Me




PE 34891

Joe Stampley
SAT. NITE DANCE
including:
Saturday Night Dance/What Would I Do Then
Afraid To Be A Woman
What A Night/Baby, I Love You So




KE 34732

GOLDSBORO
including:
I Think You're Losing The Feeling
Black, Foot's Gold/He'll Have To Go
I Love Music/The Cowboy And The Lady



PE 34703

Sonny James
In Prison, In Person
With His Tennessee State Prison Band
including:
In The Jailhouse Now/Abilene/Walkin' Tall
Pistol Packin' Mama/Amazing Grace



KC 34708

GEORGE JONES
I WANT A SING
including:
Please Don't Sell Me Anymore/Whiskey Tonight
They've Got Millions In Milwaukee
I Love You So Much It Hurts
Rest In Peace/Bull Mountain Lad



PE 34717

CBS Nashville is about to launch the biggest and most long-range promotion in its history.

On "The Music City Music Train," every single album has a reason for being. And whether your station is on the radio dial, in a warehouse or in a store, "The Music City Music Train" will be stopping by with plenty of quality music for you.

COLUMBIA, EPIC AND PLAYBOY RECORDS AND TAPES.





Ace Cannon



Bill Black Combo



C.W. McCall



Rod Hart

1977 Country Singles Awards

Most Promising Progressive Group

1. SHYLO—Epic
2. ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL—Capitol

Top Instrumentalist

1. FLOYD CRAMER—RCA
2. CHARLIE McCOY—Monument
3. LARRY BUTLER—United Artists

Most Promising Instrumentalist

1. ACE CANNON—Hi

Top Instrumental Group

1. BILL BLACK COMBO—Hi
2. DANNY DAVIS & THE NASHVILLE BRASS—RCA

Top Novelty Artist

1. C. W. McCALL—Polydor

Top New Novelty Artist

1. ROD HART—Plantation

Encore Award

JOHN WESLEY RYLES—ABC Dot

Special Achievement

KENNY ROGERS
NEIL RESHEN
JIM HALSEY

Ambassador of Country Music

ROY CLARK

Hottest Record Company (Most #1 Records)

1. RCA
2. CBS
3. MCA

Most Active Record Company (Most Charted Records)

1. CBS
2. RCA
3. MCA
4. ABC Dot

Top Songwriters

BOB McDILL
WAYLAND HOLYFIELD
CONWAY TWITTY

Top Label Producer

BILLY SHERRILL—CBS
JERRY KENNEDY—Mercury
EDDIE KILROY—Playboy
JERRY BRADLEY—RCA

Top Independent Producer

OWEN BRADLEY
TOM COLLINS
LARRY BUTLER
BRIAN AHERN

PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

HOTTEST ACTIVITY—Most Charted Songs
TREE INTERNATIONAL

HOTTEST ACTION—Most #1 Songs
HALL-CLEMENT PUBLICATIONS

An open letter to Tom T. Hall...



Andrew M. Wickham
Director of Country Music

May 6th, 1977

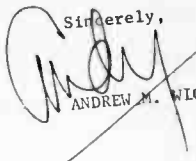
Tom T. Hall,
Fox Hollow,
Brentwood,
Tennessee.

Dear Tom,

It's been almost two years since Mo and I visited you at your digs in Fox Hollow. At that time you advised us to put up a neon sign since nobody knew we were in town. We took your advice and now everybody knows!

Thank you.

Sincerely,


ANDREW M. WICKHAM.

AW:cc



Warner Bros. Records/Reprise Records 3300 Warner Boulevard

Rex Allen, Jr.
Guy Clark
Rodney Crowell
Donna Fargo
Howdy Glenn
Emmylou Harris
Debi Hawkins

Larry Hosford
Com Hunley
Doug Kershaw
Baker Knight
Nicolette Larson
Buck Owens
Sandy Posey

Pal Rakes
Jeannie C. Riley
T.G. Sheppard
Margo Smith
Ray Stevens
Hank Williams, Jr.
Chuck Woolery

WARNER COUNTRY

Where seldom is heard a discouraging word...



1976-'77: Country Hits Keep On Comin'

By RED O'DONNELL
OCTOBER

■ It was a mere coincidence that **Mel Tillis** shaved off his mustache—and was voted CMA's Entertainer of the Year . . . **Calm Kitty Wells** calmly was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame . . . **Jerry Kennedy**, production vice president of Phonogram, Inc./Mercury Records, renewed his contract with the label. (He's a 10 year veteran.) . . . "Dropkick Me Jesus" was a potential hit for **Bobby Bare** . . . **Johnny Duncan** was "Thinking of A Rendezvous"—and his career was on the launching pad ready to takeoff.

Radio listeners and record buyers were taking notice of **Marty Robbins'** Columbia single of "Among My Souvenirs," the golden oldie done country-pop style . . . **Porter Wagoner** was introducing **Linda Moore** as his show's new songstress . . . **Merle Haggard** did a dramatic role on one of NBC-TV's "The Waltons"—a country music singer (type-casting?) . . . The state of Alabama and Gov. **George C. Wallace** proclaimed "Jeanne Pruett Day" and the MCA recording artist was honored in her hometown of Pell City! . . . **Bill Ficks** was named professional manager of Famous Music Co.'s Nashville office.

Early in the month "Golden Ring" by **Tammy & George** (Wynette & Jones) was the No. 1 album on the **RW** chart . . . Meanwhile, **Freddy Fender's** lp of "Before the Next Teardrop Falls" was among the top 75 for the 77th consecutive week . . . MCA's **Andra Willis'** chest was described as "the brunette answer to blond Dolly Parton" . . . "Love Is Thin Ice" sang **Barbara Mandrell** for ABC/Dot.

Willie Nelson's "If You've Got the Money, I've Got the Time" was a No. 1 single . . . **Roy Acuff** wore a pair of white boots. The oldtimer's first boot-iful appearance on the Grand Ole Opry . . . **Tanya Tucker** celebrated her birthday and announced she planned to vote in the November elections . . . **Roy Clark's** Tulsa home was on the tourist bus schedules. The house has 34 rooms—18 of which are bathrooms! The question was: "Does Roy have a resident plumber?"

Lynn Shults, who has been around, got around the assuming position of national country sales manager at UA . . . **Ronnie Sessions** confessed that he was a pinball addict—with numerous "tilting sessions" to his credit. (When you're hooked, you're hooked?) . . . **Marie Ratliff's** Fearless Forecast: **Tom T. Hall's** "Fox On the Run" is no slow mover.

Don Williams' "She Never Knew Me" was on target as a sure-shot . . . Acuff-Rose bought Greenback Music's catalogue from **Liz and Casey Anderson**. (Greenbacks for Greenbacks?) . . . **Eddie Kilroy** at Playboy came up with **Chuck Price** to go with two other Prices—**Kenny and Ray**—working the country music circuit.

Tanya Tucker's "Here's Some Love" was No. 1 as October edged toward November . . . **Billy Deaton** was touting his client **Faron Young's** Mercury single of "The Worse You Ever Gave Me Was the Best I Ever Had"—but protested that the title should be R-rated! . . . A Los Angeles based label called Greedy Records announced the signing of country music singers **Rebecca Lynn** and **Danny Zargoza** . . . **Dave Dudley** was sidelined with two broken arms, suffered in an accident.

Gourmet **Arthur Godfrey**, here to tape a TV guest shot on "Music Hall America" series, said: "Grits is a terrible thing to do to an ear of corn." (Grits lovers of the world; unite!)

Tommy Cash appeared on five shows in three states during a 24-hour period. Two in Nashville, Tenn., two in Louisville, Ky. and one in Cincinnati, Ohio. (Just call him Speedy?) . . . West coaster **Snuff Garrett** produced an album with **Brenda Lee**—in an L.A. studio . . . **Kris Kristofferson** signed to appear in the "Semi-Tough" movie—a starring role with **Burt Reynolds**.

Deflation Note: ABC/Dot cut price of its country albums from \$6.98 to \$5.98 . . . **Vern Gosdin's** "Hangin' On" for Elektra was a "pick" in **RW** . . . Mid-month found "The Games Daddies Play" by **Conway Twitty** tops on the country music singles chart . . . **Linda Ronstadt's** "Hasten Down the Wind" was beginning a stay as numero one on the hot lp list . . . Pioneer producer **Owen Bradley** credited an aunt with first exposing him to music. "She played the guitar," explained Bradley, who is best known as a pianist.

Guy by name of **Red O'Donnell** was presented SESAC's "Outstanding Journalistic Achievement" trophy—and accepted with his usual humility? . . . **Eddie Rabbitt's** "Two Dollars in the Jukebox" was hopping along quickly to popularity . . . **Lynn Anderson** signed for starring role in a "Starsky & Hutch" ABC-TV episode . . . The word was out on Music Row: **Larry Gatlin's** "Statues Without Hearts" was gonna be a winner.

Sunday Sharpe's debut on Playboy was "A Little at A Time." It was

released on Monday! . . . Halloween wasn't too many pumpkins away when **Tammy Wynette's** "You and Me" became a No. 1 recording. (Even the goblins enjoyed listening) . . . **Luke Lewis** was named southeastern editor of **Record World**, a successor to **Don Cusic**, who resigned to join **Fred Foster's** Monument Records as a producer-publicist . . . **Hank Snow** announced he was going to "popularize my music style." Hank was movin' on? . . . **Brenda Lee** (32) celebrated her 20th year with MCA.

Roy Acuff underwent surgery for removal of gall bladder. "I'll be back on the Opry in six weeks," he said, missing by four . . . **Crystal Gayle's** "You Never Miss A Good Thing Till He Says Goodbye" was a crystal clear single . . . When the month ended **Charley Pride's** RCA single of "A Whole Lotta Things to Sing About" gave him a whole lotta things to sing about. It was at the top of the charts.

NOVEMBER

Marshall Chapman's first release for Epic was "Somewhere South of Macon" . . . **Loretta Lynn** had a heavy complaint: "I weigh 136. I'm trying to lose at least five pounds." (Loretta remembers when she only weighed 100) . . . **Red Sovine's** right leg was still in a cast, suffered during a fall at a personal appearance in, of all places, Deadwood, S.D. (It could have been Broken Bow, Okla., Red?) . . . **Bill Anderson** celebrated a birthday.

Wynn Stewart was getting hot with a single of "Sing A Sad Song" . . . Old pro **Bob Jennings** joined Acuff-Rose as public relations director . . . **Little Jimmy Dickens'** released a single about CBers—"The Preacherman" . . . Capitol disc group **Asleep At the Wheel** were traveling fast with "Miles and Miles of Texas" . . . **Linda Ronstadt's** "Hasten Down the Wind" was still the No. 1 album . . . And leading the top 100 singles was **Marty Robbins'** "Among My Souvenirs."

Mary Ann McCready was promoted from second desk on right to director of press and public information at Nashville's CBS Records . . . **Stonewall Jackson** underwent eye surgery. (I see he got all right) . . . **Dolly Parton** cancelled all personal appearances until the first of the year. The trouble? A severe throat condition it was reported and reported. (25 concerts that would have grossed \$100 thousand in fees, the booker of the date, **Tandy Rice**, estimated) . . . One of **Marie Ratliff's** "Sure Shots" was **Conway Twitty's** "I Can't Believe She Gives It All to Me." (Marie sure knows how to shoot straight).

Brenda Lee attended a "by-invitation-only" party in Atlanta on the night **Jimmy Carter** was elected President . . . **Barbara Mandrell** returned from a trip to Florida—with some piscatorial specimens—\$500 worth of tropical fish she had bought . . . **Tanya Tucker's** "Here's Some Love" was rated the No. 1 album in **RW's** Nov. 13 issue . . . **Tom T. Hall's** "Fox On the Run" was still running . . . **Tammy Wynette** became ill during a tour of Great Britain and her former husband **George Jones** winged it to Blighty to offer comfort and aid. (Ain't love Grand?) . . . The slightly risqué "C. B. Savage" by **Rod Hart** was generating appeal.

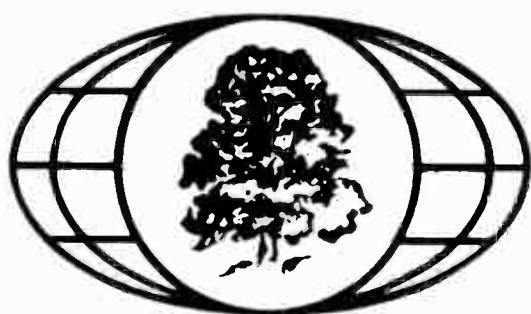
MCA signed **Geof Morgan** . . . Guitar Magazine named **Roy Clark** "Guitar-player-of-the-year" in its annual survey . . . **Roger Sovine** was tapped as vice president at BMI . . . **Little Jimmy Dickens** inked a pact with Little Gem Records. (Little Jim with Little Gem? Sounds like some of **Charlie Lamb's** double-talk?) . . . It was almost Thanksgiving, but **Marty Robbins'** "El Paso City" was no turkey. It was rated No. 1 in **RW's** listings.

Loretta Lynn's "Somebody Somewhere" galloped into the winner's circle . . . **Jackie Franz** announced she was going to leave the popular **Dave and Sugar** group. What she didn't announce was that she and **Don Cusic** were going to wed! . . . **Ken Dudley's** gifted wife **Barbara Mandrell** with a floor length ranch mink and a Russian sable coat. (The fur was flying—and Christmas was a month away.)

Tompall Glaser signed with ABC . . . There was talk that **Elvis Presley** was coming to town for a recording session. (He did a month or so later—but cut short the recording due to illness) . . . **Billy (Crash) Craddock** gifted his wife with a Cadillac Coupe de Ville on their wedding anniversary. Craddock described its color as "passion red" . . . **Bill Anderson** was singing "Liars One, Believers Zero" . . . **Mickey Gilley** announced plans to build a recording studio in Pasadena, Tex. . . . On the 28th of this month the Grand Ole Opry celebrated its 51st birthday. Such a hot cake? 51 candles . . . The sotto voce on Music Row that **Bobby Borchers** had a goodie in "Whispers."

Crystal Gayle's "Somebody Loves You" had been on the charts for a year . . . As the month wound down, **Willie Nelson** wound up with a
(Continued on page 30)

**thanks from
NUMBER
ONE!**



Tree International

8 Music Sq. West Nashville, Tenn. 37203

JACK STAPP, Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer BUDDY KILLEN, President DON GANT, Vice President

**WORLD'S LARGEST
C&W PUBLISHER.**

Columbia: A Trendsetter in Country Music

■ Columbia Records: Consistent in chart-topping activity, constant in focus on maintenance and development of artists' careers, creative in the acquisition and production of new talent, and concrete in its status as leader, innovator and trendsetter in the country music industry. "With a roster full of incomparable, explosive talent," emphasized Joe Casey, director, national sales and promotion, Columbia country, "Columbia Records this past year saw sales rise to an all-time high, as we continued to produce and market product that appeals to the total spectrum of the country music-buying audience."

One of the foremost examples of "explosive" Columbia talent is Willie Nelson, who, during this past year's CMA Awards Show, added numerous awards to his credit. Willie has seen both phenomenal album and singles successes this past year, with his "If You've Got The Money Honey, (I've Got The Time)" single, as well as his spiritually-flavored "Troublemaker" album charting #1. "Uncloudy Day," Nelson's hit single from the "Troublemaker" lp, landed top 5, and already having attained the number 2 position is Nelson's "To Lefty From Willie" album. Album gold was struck this past year by Nelson with his "Sound In Your Mind" lp reaching that status. Nelson's current single, "I Love You A Thousand Ways," is following his consistent hit pattern. Again in 1977 Willie finds himself among the CMA award nominees, this year nominated with Waylon Jennings for vocal duo of the year. Nelson's "Red Headed Stranger" lp is now platinum.

"During the course of less than one year, Columbia recording artist Johnny Duncan has experienced a popularity explosion at both country radio and sales levels," reveals Casey, "that has resulted from the culmination of carefully selected recording material, extensive airplay and a widely-increased and expanded touring schedule." Duncan's recent success has been led by hits "Stranger," "Thinking Of A Rendezvous" and "It Couldn't Have Been Any Better," all of which received substantial MOR and top 40 airplay.

Currently preparing her second album, Mary Kay Place debuted with her #1 hit, "Baby Boy," and Columbia anticipates much future success for her.

Co-hosting this year's Country Music Awards show is a stalwart on the Columbia roster, Johnny Cash. The highlight of Johnny's
(Continued on page 89)



Columbia's country roster features (top row, from left): Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Mary Kay Place, Sonny James; (bottom row): Lynn Anderson, Marty Robbins, Barbara Fairchild, Moe Bandy.

Epic: Multi-Format Development

■ In the past 12 months, Epic Records has successfully pioneered multi-format development of the diverse musical talent existing not only on the roster, but in Nashville. Roy Wunsch, director, national country sales and promotion, Epic and CBS Associated Labels, commented on the progress attained in this area: "Epic has demonstrated relentless effort to enhance the superior prominence of its 'mainstays' while at the same time developing new talents which have served to strengthen Epic's hold on the ever-broadening musical spectrum. Subsequently the result has been the emergence of a roster with an incomparably high energy level."

Epic's number one success story of this past year has been country music's "First Lady," Tammy

Wynette. "This past year saw Tammy make a strong mark on contemporary audiences," Wunsch commented, "without losing popularity in the mainstream of country music." With such #1 releases as "You And Me" and "Let's Get Together (One Last Time)" Tammy climbed to new heights, and with the release of what many term the finest single of her career, "One of a Kind," the Wynette musical explosion is gaining momentum. Now well over the 19 million mark in record sales, the country superstar keeps rising.

Charlie Rich

With success of his #1 record, "Rollin' With The Flow," Epic entertainer Charlie Rich gained marked recognition from not only country radio, but top 40 as well. This past year saw Rich's "Very

Special Love Songs" album reach the gold status while his "Silver Fox" lp is approaching the same gold sales rating.

Johnny Paycheck won critical acclaim for his #1 record, "Slide Off Your Satin Sheets." This Epic talent then repeated his hit-producing formula with "I'm The Only Hell My Mama Ever Raised," and with its success saw his audiences explode in numbers.

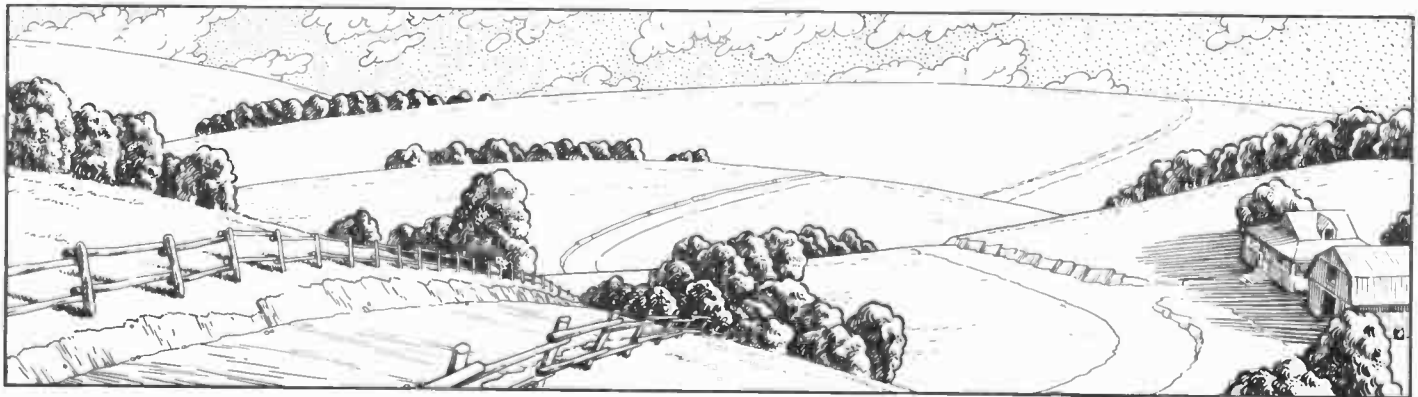
"Sat. Nite Dance" starring Epic artist Joe Stampley advanced his album sales level to the highest of his career. With continued brilliance in production with cohort Norro Wilson, Stampley's endeavors this past year have brought him multiple chart successes such as "There She Goes Again" and "She's Long Legged."

The legendary, traditional ap-
(Continued on page 92)



Epic country artists include (top row, from left): Tammy Wynette, Charlie Rich, Johnny Paycheck and Charly McClain. Bottom row: George Jones, Joe Stampley, Tom Jones and Bobby Goldsboro.

**THANKS TO OUR
ARTISTS FOR
THEIR SUCCESS
IN ALL PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY.**



**ELEKTRA/ASYLUM COUNTRY
GROWING EVERYWHERE.**





TOP COUNTRY SINGLES OF 1977

TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL	PRODUCER	PUBLISHER	WRITER
1. LUCKENBACH, TEXAS	Waylon Jennings	RCA	Chips Moman	Baby Chick	B. Emmons & C. Moman R. Bowling & H. Bynum
2. LUCILLE	Kenny Rogers	United Artists	Larry Butler	Brougham Hall/ Andite Invasion	Alan Toussaint
3. SOUTHERN NIGHTS	Glen Campbell	Capitol	Gary Klein	Warner-Tamerlane/ Marsaint	R. Greenaway & B. Mason B. Sherrill & G. Richey
4. SAY YOU'LL STAY UNTIL TOMORROW	Tom Jones	Epic	Gordon Mills	Dick James	Lola Jean Dillon
5. YOU AND ME	Tammy Wynette	Epic	Billy Sherrill	Algee	S. Throckmorton & B. Braddock
6. SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE	Loretta Lynn	MCA	Owen Bradley	Coal Miners	Kent Robins
7. THINKIN' OF A RENDEZVOUS	Johnny Duncan	Columbia	Billy Sherrill	Tree	Fred Imus & Phil Sweet
8. (I'M A) STAND BY MY WOMAN MAN	Ronnie Milsap	RCA	Tom Collins & Jack Johnson	Pi-Gem	Razzy Bailey
9. I DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO MARRY YOU	Jim Ed Brown/ Helen Cornelius	RCA	Bob Ferguson	Blackwood/Imusic	Hal David & Archie Jordan
10. 9,999,999 TEARS	Dickey Lee	RCA	Roy Dea & Dickey Lee	Lowery	Wayland Holyfield
11. IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A SONG	Ronnie Milsap	RCA	Tom Collins & Ronnie Milsap	Chess/Casa David	Cindy Walker
12. SOME BROKEN HEARTS NEVER MEND	Don Williams	ABC Dot	Don Williams	Maplehill/Vogue	Dave Kirby
13. CHEROKEE MAIDEN	Merle Haggard	Capitol	Fuzzy Owen & Ken Nelson	Chappell	Ray Griff
14. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT PLANNED TONIGHT DIANA	Merle Haggard	Capitol	Fuzzy Owen & Ken Nelson	Tree	J. Roberts & R. Mainegra
15. IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY BETTER	Johnny Duncan	Columbia	Billy Sherrill	Blue Echo	B. McDill & W. Holyfield
16. HERE'S SOME LOVE	Tanya Tucker	MCA	Jerry Crutchfield	Screen Gems-EMI	Mark James
17. I'D DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN	Crystal Gayle	United Artists	Allen Reynolds	Hall-Clement/ Vogue/Maplehill	Donna Fargo
18. MOODY BLUE	Elvis Presley	RCA	Felton Jarvis	Screen Gems-EMI/ Sweet Glory	Dallas Harms
19. THAT WAS YESTERDAY	Donna Fargo	Warner Brothers	Stan Silver	Prima Donna	Bob McDill
20. PAPER ROSIE	Gene Watson	Capitol	Russ Reeder	Doubleday/Quality	E. Rabbitt & E. Stevens
21. YOU NEVER MISS A REAL GOOD THING	Crystal Gayle	United Artists	Allen Reynolds	Hall-Clement	P. Yarrow & P. Jarrell
22. I CAN'T HELP MYSELF	Eddie Rabbitt	Elektra	David Malloy	Briarpatch/DebDave	Wade Jackson
23. TORN BETWEEN TWO LOVERS	Mary MacGregor	Ariola America	Peter Yarrow & Barry Beckett	Muscle Shoals Sound/ Silver Dawn	John Adrian
24. DON'T BE ANGRY	Donna Fargo	ABC Dot	Stan Silver	Acuff-Rose	Glenn Martin & S. Throckmorton
25. BROKEN DOWN IN TINY PIECES	Billy "Crash" Craddock	ABC Dot	Ron Chancey	Pick-A-Hit	D. LaSalle & F. Miller
26. IF WE'RE NOT BACK IN LOVE BY MONDAY	Merle Haggard	MCA	Fuzzy Owen & Ken Nelson	Tree	John Schweers
27. MARRIED BUT NOT TO EACH OTHER	Barbara Mandrell	ABC Dot	Tom Collins	Ordena/Bridgeport	Ken McDuffie
28. LET MY LOVE BE YOUR PILLOW	Ronnie Milsap	RCA	Tom Collins & Ronnie Milsap	Chess	Conway Twitty
29. GOOD WOMAN BLUES	Mel Tillis	MCA	Mel Tillis & John Virgin	Sawgrass	
30. THE GAMES THAT DADDIES PLAY	Conway Twitty	MCA	Owen Bradley	Twitty Bird	

Catch the '77 season on
MCA Rainbow Country



RAHI!

- Bill Anderson
- Hoyt Axton
- Vassar Clements
- Jerry Clower
- Joe Ely Band
- Peggy Forman
- David Frizzell
- Jim Glaser
- Merle Haggard
- Jessica James
- Brenda Lee
- Joni Lee
- Loretta Lynn
- Dan McCorison
- Geoff Morgan
- Bill Monroe
- New Riders Of
The Purple Sage
- Olivia Newton-John
- Ernest Rey
- Ronnie Lee Sessions
- Cal Smith
- Kenny Starr
- Nat Stuckey
- Charlie Tango
- Mel Tillis
- Tanya Tucker
- Mary Lou Turner
- Conway Twitty
- Jerry Jeff Walker
- The Wunderfuls

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MCA RECORDS

World Radio History

A Power-Packed Roster Scores for RCA

■ 1977 has been yet another banner year for RCA Records' Nashville operation. The results of the streamlining and modernization begun in 1973 have been visibly evident, enabling the label to firmly entrench itself at the top of the country field.

A lion's share of the year's success was provided by Waylon Jennings. Riding the crest of the wave that began with his platinum "The Outlaws" album, Waylon's "Luckenbach, Texas" single debuted on the charts at the highest number ever accorded a new entry, and once it reached the coveted number one spot, it held the position for six straight weeks. His "Ol' Waylon" album debuted as number one, and owned the spot for 17 consecutive weeks. Dolly Parton's "New Harvest-First Gathering" album was also widely received, and greatly furthered her reputation as an artist and writer of the first magnitude. The year also furthered the career of Ronnie Milsap. With two number one singles, "Let My Love Be Your Pillow" and "It Was Almost Like A Song," and a number one album, "Ronnie Milsap, Live," Ronnie has definitely proved himself to be one of the leading artists in the industry. His "It Was Almost Like A Song" held the number one position for three straight weeks, and was nominated on the final ballot of the 1977 Country Music Association Awards for both "Song of the

Year" and "Single of the Year," an honor it shares with Waylon's "Luckenbach, Texas." And the popularity of all three artists isn't confined to only the country charts: all three have had both singles and albums on the pop charts as well, enabling their names to become instantly recognizable to pop radio audiences.

Awards

1977 is also the third year in a row that RCA artists have dominated the major categories when the finalists for the Country Music Association's Awards were announced. In addition to Waylon and Ronnie, RCA is represented by three of the five finalists for "Entertainer of the Year" (Dolly Parton, Ronnie Milsap, Waylon Jennings), two of the five for "Single of the Year" ("It Was Almost Like A Song," "Luckenbach, Texas"), three of the five for "Album of the Year" ("Ol' Waylon," "I Don't Want to Have To Marry You," "Ronnie Milsap, Live"), three of the five for "Song of the Year" ("I'm A Stand By My Woman Man," "It Was Almost Like A Song," "Luckenbach, Texas"), two of the five for "Male Vocalist of the Year" (Waylon Jennings, Ronnie Milsap), and two of the five for "Vocal Duo of the Year" (Jim Ed Brown/Helen Cornelius, Waylon Jennings/Willie Nelson). In addition to these nominations, the following RCA artists were among the finalists: "Female Vocalist of the Year," Dolly Parton; "Vocal Group of

the Year," Dave & Sugar; "Instrumental Group of the Year," Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass; "Instrumentalist of the Year," Chet Atkins. In all 10 categories, RCA was represented by at least one artist, a statement no other label can make.

"Keyboard Kick Band"

1977 is the year that introduced Floyd Cramer's "Keyboard Kick Band" album, the band consisting solely of Floyd demonstrating his versatility on seven separate keyboard instruments. The year also saw the release of Chet's "Me And My Guitar," with Chet both singing and playing the James Taylor title song. The year marked the release of the 104th album by the legendary Hank Snow, "Hank Snow #104-Still Movin' On," and move on it did, attracting both public and industry attention. Dave & Sugar, Dotsy and Dickey Lee all continue to enjoy the success that began for them in 1976, with consistent top ten chart records. The top of the charts is a familiar position to Charley Pride, too, and he has 12 gold records to prove it. The year has seen the continuing popularity of the great Jim Reeves, not only his current product, but in a re-vitalization of his entire RCA catalogue. Jerry Reed, too, has enjoyed renewed success with the release of his "East Bound And Down" album. Jerry has also furthered his screen career with his latest movie, "Smokey And The Bandit," and expanded his

field of interest to include his own nightclub that was recently opened near Opryland.

"Our continuing success can be credited to the efforts and enthusiasm shown by each member of the Nashville staff," says Jerry Bradley, division vice president, Nashville operations. "The feeling of excitement generated by the entire staff of Chet Atkins, Joe Galante, Roy Dea, Bob Ferguson, Dave Wheeler, Paul Randall and John Olsen, and that of our regional country promotion team of Gaylen Adams, Wayne Edwards, Carson Schreiber and Alan Resler, for the product, has made itself felt throughout the country. This excitement has extended to our entire country roster—Eddy Arnold, Chet Atkins, Jim Ed Brown, Helen Cornelius, Floyd Cramer, Dave & Sugar, Danny Davis, Dotsy, Bill Eldridge, Beverly Heckel, Waylon Jennings, Dickey Lee, Ronnie Milsap, Dewayne Orender, Dolly Parton, Charley Pride, Ronnie Prophet, Jerry Reed, Johnny Russell, Hank Snow, Gary Stewart, Porter Wagoner, Steve Young, and the latest additions to the label, Wilma Burgess, Paul Craft, Zella Lehr and Steve Wariner — creating eager, receptive markets for each artist. The continued support and interest of RCA internationally has done a great deal in the forming of the enthusiastic and knowledgeable team we are privileged to have working with us here at RCA."



RCA packs country power in a roster that includes (top row, from left): Waylon Jennings, Dolly Parton, Charley Pride, Ronnie Milsap, Porter Wagoner; (bottom row): Chet Atkins, Helen Cornelius & Jim Ed Brown, Danny Davis, Dave & Sugar, Hank Snow.

KENNY ROGERS IS HOT!



ON TELEVISION:

the "Tonight Show" NBC-TV

October 3: (with host John Denver & guests George Burns and Richard Pryor)

October 7: "Dinah Shore Show"

October 7: Hosting "Midnight Special" NBC-TV

October 10: CMA Awards Show CBS-TV

October 13: "Today Show" (Live from Nashville) NBC-TV

WITH AWARDS:

Voted: "Artist of the Year"
"Record of the Year" ("Lucille")
"Country Record of the Year"
("Lucille")
by the AMOA (Jukebox Operators)

Nominated: "Entertainer of the Year"
"Best Male Vocalist"
"Single of the Year"
"Song of the Year"
"Album of the Year"
by the Country Music Association

Voted: Special Achievement Award
By Record World Magazine
Best Country Single & Bill
Williams Memorial Award
By Billboard Magazine

ON RECORDS:

"Lucille" a gold record in the U.S., continues to hit number One all around the world.

"Daytime Friends" is Number One on the Country Charts

Just Released: "Sweet Music Man" from the LP, "Daytime Friends"



Management III



ICM

Representation
International Creative Management

Rogers & Cowan, Inc.

Public Relations

ABC/Dot Goes 'Beyond Country Limits'

■ Perhaps more than any other single phrase, "Beyond Country Limits" characterizes the efforts of ABC/Dot Records and its artists during 1977. While continuing to produce top country recordings from the wide variety of established and immediately recognizable artists on the label, ABC/Dot focused much of its effort toward spreading country music beyond what have been regarded as traditional borders of country music's popularity and success.

Kicking off the marketing year with a comprehensive country product campaign in the spring, the "Beyond Country Limits" campaign included special sales, marketing, merchandising and advertising programs on top new country product and on the ABC Collection series which featured outstanding previously-released product from some of country music's top stars. Additionally, specially-priced pre-packs of many ABC/Dot and ABC-distributed Hickory Records country lps were assembled for the campaign. Included in the marketing program were a number of special merchandising aids, including large point-of-purchase floor displays and a country music sampler display featuring 13 of Dot's top country acts.

As part of its effort to take country music into new markets, ABC/Dot cooperated with radio station WMAQ in Chicago in presenting country music in a live concert series. The first performance was in January and featured Billy "Crash" Craddock and Don Williams in two shows from the Ivanhoe Theater. In addition, Billy "Crash" Craddock's performance was recorded and

released as a live album on Dot.

New York was next on the list of major metropolitan areas to which a major country music merchandising program was to be spread. In May, Roy Clark, Freddy Fender, Hank Thompson and Don Williams invaded prestigious Carnegie Hall for a sold-out performance presented by the Jim Halsey Company of Tulsa and New York promoter James Nederlander in cooperation with New York radio station WHN. To the accompaniment of cheers and applause from an enthusiastic audience, the four Dot artists shared a bill which brought an evening of country entertainment not only to those in the hall, but to a worldwide radio network as well.

A double-pocket album and tape of the show, produced by Dot president Jim Foglesong and Huey Meaux, was released in late summer to enthusiastic critical and public acclaim and very heavy initial orders approaching 100,000 units.

As in the past, however, it was the consistent performance of Dot's solid roster of artists which provided the foundation for the company's efforts to spread country music to new audiences. Dot averaged eight bulleted and 14 charted singles overall per week on the national country trade charts, a figure which Dot vice president Larry Baunach believes exceeds that of any other country label.

Don Williams continued his string of eight consecutive number one records and charted new territory this year when his appearances in England attracted such stars of pop music as Eric Clapton, Pete Townsend and Van Morrison. Don's "Visions" album

shipped gold, and at one point all six of his currently-released albums were in the top 20-four of them holding the numbers one, three, four and five slots. He also received silver-disc awards for his "You're My Best Friend" and "Harmony" albums.

As Roy Clark had done the previous year when he became the first country artist to headline his own show in the Soviet Union, Barbara Mandrell opened Saudi Arabia to country music. Late in the summer, she and Tommy Overstreet made the second foray into New York City by Dot artists when they headlined a show sponsored by Exxon at Lincoln Center. The show was also carried live on WHN radio.

In November, Freddy Fender picked up his second consecutive "Record Of The Year" award from the Music Operators of America for "Wasted Days And Wasted Nights." Roy Clark was again named country "Picker Of The Year" by the readers of Playboy magazine, and Clark, Barbara Mandrell, Don Williams, The Oak Ridge Boys and Jimmy Buffett were all named finalists in the balloting for the coveted Country Music Association Awards.

Additionally, a team composed of Barbara Mandrell, Tommy Overstreet, O. B. McClinton and Narvel Felts represented ABC/Dot in competition on the "Anything Goes" television show to air this fall. In December, Barbara, Tommy, Johnny Carver and Red Steagall headlined a benefit show in Nashville in cooperation with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Proceeds were funneled into a "Toys For Needy Children" program.

In addition to the weekly record of bulleted singles, seven different Dot artists managed to rack up top 10 recordings this year, and six of them enjoyed top 5 hits. During the course of the year the company had about 20 singles which shipped more than 100,000 units each. In addition to those artists already mentioned, Johnny Carver, Billy "Crash" Craddock, Roy Head, Hank Thompson and Buck Trent contributed significantly to Dot's success this year.

Two new success stories involved John Wesley Ryles and The Oak Ridge Boys, both signed to Dot this year. Ryles' first record was released in January, moved onto the charts in the B0s and fell off. The Dot promotion team continued to work "Fool," however, and a while later it re-entered the charts with bullets. Eventually, the record was brought home to the top 10 after Dot took it to the number one position in many major markets. Ryles' second release, "Once In A Lifetime Thing," was a similar success.

Signed in mid-year, The Oak Ridge Boys—under the production of Dot vice president of artists and repertoire Ron Chaney—completed their move into mainstream country music with their first Dot Release. "Y'all Come Back Saloon" easily went into the top 5 on the national country music charts and established The Oaks as a name to watch in country music. Others signed this year and from whom much is expected in the future include Tom Bresh, John W. Conlee, Allen Frizzell, George Hamilton IV, O. B. McClinton and Randy Gurley.



Among the ABC/Dot Records country artists are, top row, from left: Roy Clark, Barbara Mandrell, Billy Crash Craddock, Narvel Felts and Freddie Fender. Bottom row, from left: Don Williams, Tommy Overstreet, The Oakridge Boys, John Wesley Ryles and Johnny Carver.

CAPITOL COUNTRY'S COOKIN'!

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
MARCIA BALL
LARRY BALLARD
R.W. BLACKWOOD
NORTON BUFFALO
GLEN CAMPBELL
CONNIE CATO
MICHAEL CLARK
LEE CLAYTON
JESSI COLTER
KENNY DALE
DUSTY CHAPS
STEPHEN FROMHOLZ
RAY GRIFF
LINDA HARGROVE
FREDDIE HART
DR. HOOK
LA COSTA
LONNIE MACK
MEL McDANIEL
ANNE MURRAY
JUICE NEWTON & SILVER SPUR
ORIGINAL TEXAS PLAYBOYS
COLLEEN PETERSON
PAM ROSE
RAY SAWYER
RON SHAW
JAMES TALLEY
GENE WATSON
DIANA WILLIAMS



NSAI: 'It All Begins with a Song'

■ The Nashville Songwriters Association International has, from October to October, made significant moves toward its ongoing and ultimate goal of total recognition of the songwriter and his work. Most notable of such steps is the growth in membership which is now approaching the 1500 mark.

With years of work behind, NSAI was rewarded for its part of this effort when then President Gerald R. Ford signed the revised Copyright Law into law on October 19, 1976 to become effective on January 1, 1978.

Hall of Fame

Earlier, within that same week of October 1976, the association added six songwriters to its Hall of Fame: Mel Tillis, Carl Belew, Dallas Frazier, John D. Loudermilk, Curly Putman and Moon Mullican, with a special award to "every writer's co-writer at one time or another," Stephen Foster.

Seminars

The enactment of the new copyright law brought about many seminars in order to explain changes and additions in the law. NSAI held a seminar for its membership in January, led by music attorneys R. David Ludwick and

Mike Milom. Ron Peterson, NSAI's president, and Maggie Cavender, the executive director, participated in and attended numerous other seminars to make possible dissemination of information to the membership. It is yet a constant educational endeavor by the board and the staff to keep abreast of this data as it progresses out of the Copyright Office and other sources until January, and, after.

Achievement Awards

In February NSAI honored 19 songwriters for significant achievement within the year passed and as voted by the entire membership. Of this number, Bob McDill was so elected Songwriter of the Year.

'Songwriter Night'

In March more than 25 songwriters participated in a first for NSAI when "Songwriter Night," a four and a half hour live television presentation by Nashville's public TV outlet, WDCN-TV, was highly acclaimed by the viewing public. This great amount of public interest has led to negotiation for possible syndication of a Songwriter Show.

On Easter Monday, April 11, the entire music community was

saddened by the death of NSAI's co-founder, Eddie Miller. Eddie had worked hard and long for the organization and was an active member of the board of directors at the time of his death.

New Building

June was the month that the first physical housing for NSAI's Songwriter Hall of Fame came into being. In the newly decorated lower level of its office building at 25 Music Square West, the general public for the first time is becoming aware of those famous songwriters who are members of the prestigious Hall. Sixty-six in number, charcoal portraits are hung, original manuscripts are displayed, and personal effects of all Hall-of-Famers are shown. It is proving extremely interesting to many people who are fast becoming aware of the songwriter as the originator of the entire scope of the international language—music. "It All Begins With A Song" is the long utilized slogan of NSAI.

Fan Fair Booth

Also in June, NSAI's booth and "Songwriter's Hit Parade Show" at Fan Fair '77 was well attended, resulting in a surging of interest and membership in the organiza-

tion.

WKDA of Nashville sponsored its annual Songwriter Night in August. Approximately 40 songwriters participated, playing to an SRO audience at the local George Jones Possum Holler, a club which seats more than 500.

Showcase

Another notable milestone was crossed in September when the first show was presented by NSAI for the Tennessee Performing Arts Foundation. The show was held at TPAF's Advent Theater, the facility which has been readied for the Arts Foundation's use until its huge downtown building is completed in 1978. This showcase for songwriters will be a monthly event, now and when the foundation moves into the new downtown location.

NSAI's From October to October culminated on the evening of October 9, when in a regal ceremony, four songwriters were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

October To October

It has been a very eventful year and it can be easily determined that the entire board and staff of NSAI has been working very hard on behalf of songwriters everywhere.

JOE TALBOT AND ASSOCIATES

Number Two Music Circle South, Nashville, Tenn. 37203 (615) 244-7954

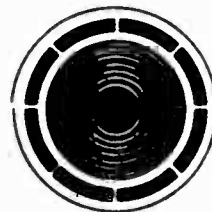
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NIXON ★ ROY ORBISON ★ JIMMIE PETERS ★ BOOTS RANDOLPH ★ RED,
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WOOD ★ ARTHUR SMITH ★ CONNIE SMITH ★ STATLER BROTHERS
★ CHUCK STEWART ★ JACKY WARD ★ SHERRIE WILLIAMS ★ LARRY
JON WILSON



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CMA Takes Country Around the Globe

■ A major long range goal of the Country Music Association is the expansion of country music throughout the world. And, in keeping with this objective, 1977 was a very productive year.

A foreign development committee, set up within the CMA's framework, and with a nucleus of music industry leaders from around the world in Cannes, France during MIDEM. The meeting produced an international country music development committee which is now at work in Australia, Belgium, England, Germany, Holland, Italy, Sweden, Japan, Africa, Norway and New Zealand.

In the fall of '76 CMA sponsored a two-hour country music show for an international audience of well over 800 registrants at Musexpo '76. The huge success of this show prompted the CMA international committee to produce a country show at the 1977 IMIC on May 17. Again, another well received show with an added benefit: the show was taped and later televised by TROS-TV in Holland.

Then, during this year's Fan Fair, CMA brought together top country acts from seven countries to perform before a very receptive audience. The show was taped in its entirety, and aired on WDCN, Channel 8, in Nashville on September 11.

Throughout the year, CMA also worked with foreign journalists and television networks in the preparation of several major foreign magazine stores and television documentaries. One documentary, three hours in length, covered the entire country music industry, and was shown on Swedish, Norwegian and Danish TV. It will also soon air in Northern Ireland and Switzerland.

Fan Fair '77 was held June 6-12, and was the biggest and most successful ever. A record breaking crowd of over 13,000 registrants from the United States and 10 foreign countries was on hand for the festivities. Next year's Fan Fair is set for June 5-11.

In March, a new CMA Radio Station Broadcaster's Kit was sent to member radio stations and organizations in the United States and Canada. An organizational membership benefit, the kit provides radio stations with the latest ideas and statistics in the areas of sales, promotion and programming.

A special Arbitron study, analyzing income, household and buying characteristics of those people who listen to country music in 26 major markets was com-

missioned by the CMA for the benefit of organizational members. Copies of the study were mailed during August of 1977, and reports indicate that this study has become one of the single most important sales tools in the hands of member radio stations.

The first quarterly CMA board of directors meeting was held in New York on January 18-19. The meeting was adjourned to Cannes, France where many of the CMA board members attended MIDEM and took part in business discussions with the newly appointed members of CMA's foreign development committee.

Tulsa, Oklahoma was the site of the CMA's second quarterly

meeting on April 20-21, and the third meeting took place on July 12-14 in Seattle.

As always, the fourth quarterly CMA board meeting will be held in Nashville on October 11, during the "October Is Country Music Month" celebration.

1977 October activities will officially begin on October 7 with the convening of CMA's Sixth Annual Talent Buyers Seminar at Nashville's Hyatt Regency Hotel. This year's event, which runs through October 10, will be the most comprehensive and innovative seminar ever.

The 11th Annual CMA Awards Show, hosted by Johnny Cash, will be telecast live on Monday night, October 10, at 8:30-10.00

p.m. CDT on the CBS-TV Network. Sponsored by Kraft Foods, the 1½ hour show will take place at the Grand Ole Opry House.

CMA's annual membership meeting is set for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 13, at Opryland. The artist/DJ tape sessions will take place on Friday, October 15 (8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. both days) at the lower level of the Municipal Auditorium. The annual CMA anniversary cocktail party (6:00-7:00 p.m.), banquet (7:30-9:00 p.m.), and show (9:00 p.m.) is scheduled for Friday evening, October 14 at the Municipal Auditorium. The winners of this year's CMA DJ Awards will be announced during the anniversary Show.

E/A 'Kicks in the Country'

■ The past year was one which saw Elektra/Asylum become more firmly established as a viable country label in Nashville. Eddie Rabbitt has come on to become one of the most consistent recording artists in country music, and the label broke Stella Parton and Vern Gosdin as serious country artists both in airplay and sales.

E/A country has developed a progressive attitude over the past years in the release of their product. In July of this year they released an album by Even Stevens, aimed at the FM stations. E/A's

Jan Rhees was quoted as saying, "Just because an artist records in Nashville doesn't necessarily mean that the product is country."

There have been several top 10 hits, such as Eddie Rabbitt's recordings of "Two Dollars In The Jukebox," "I Can't Help Myself" and "We Can't Go On Living Like This." Vern Gosdin has scored with "Hangin' On," "Yesterday's Gone" and "Till The End." Rabbitt's album, entitled "Rabbitt," got into the top 10 as well. In recent months he has also been receiving significant airplay on pop stations.

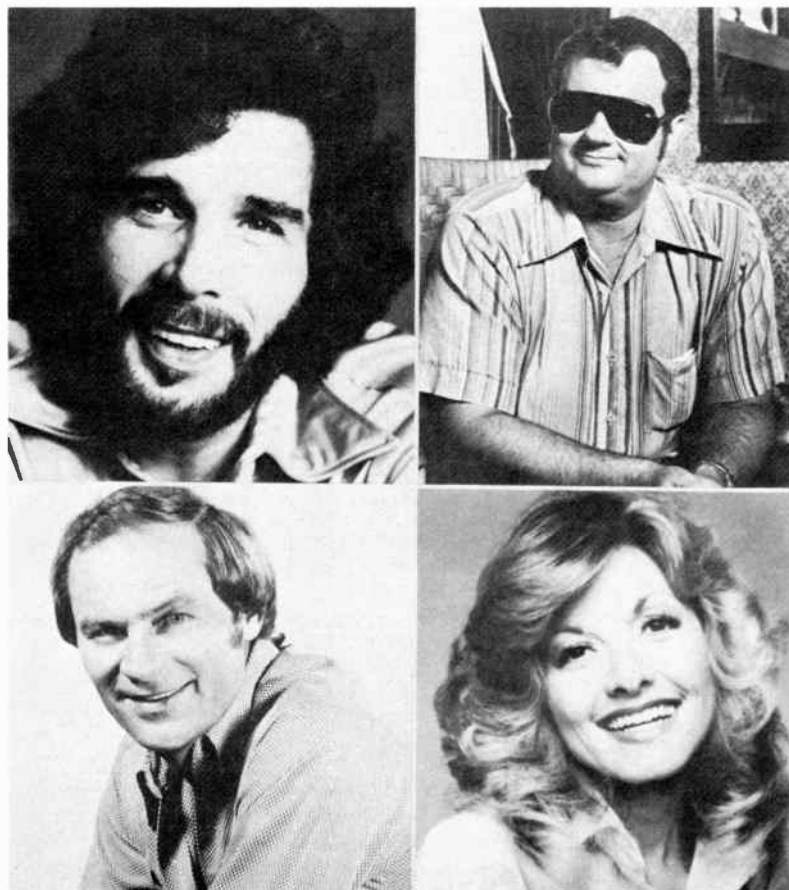
In June, Mike Suttle, marketing director, and Jan Rhees, who is involved in sales coordination and artist development, along with the entire Nashville staff at E/A country, initiated "E/A Kicks In The Country," the first major sales and promotion campaign for the label. Five albums were released simultaneously: Eddie Rabbitt, "Rabbitt;" Stella Parton, "Country Sweet;" Hargus "Pig" Robbins, "Country Instrumentalist of the Year;" Vern Gosdin, "Till The End;" and Sammi Smith, "Mixed Emotions." The catalogue on Eddie Rabbitt and Sammi Smith was part of the campaign. There was total support from WEA distribution on the radio level and with the rack jobbers at the one-stops.

"E/A Kicks in the Country" represents a major turning point in the three year history of E/A country. The campaign succeeds in establishing the label firmly in both the radio level and in store merchandising. The campaign dramatically demonstrated that E/A is behind the artist and product.

The success of the campaign has been phenomenal. To this date there have been zero returns on albums. For the first couple of months Rabbitt's "Eddie Rabbitt" and "Rocky Mountain" albums experienced heavy sales. The "Rabbitt" album is currently selling very heavily.

The label is looking to continue that same magic with Carmol Taylor, Arleen Harden and Jerry Inman.

The staff of E/A country also includes Jim Malloy, director of country music; David Malloy, director of a&r; Norm Osborne, national promotion; The Brokaw Company, public relations; and Betty Miller, secretary of operations.



Elektra's country roster includes (top row, from left) Eddie Rabbitt and Hargus "Pig" Robbins; and (bottom row) Vern Gosdin and Stella Parton.



**NUMBER
ONE
IN
THE
COUNTRY**

World Radio History

**UNITED
ARTISTS
SALUTES
OUR
AWARD-
WINNING
COUNTRY
ROSTER**



Mercury Country Continues To Grow

■ A recent banner year in country music for Phonogram, Inc./Mercury Records has been capped by the acquisition of Monument Records' distribution and its artist roster, which includes several top selling country artists.

Larry Gatlin and Charlie McCoy are two of the Monument artists who have had new albums released recently under the distribution pact. The Gatlin album, "Love Is Just A Game," has already spawned one top 5 single, "I Don't Want To Cry," and his latest single, the title track, is well on its way to being a hit pop single as well as a country monster.

For the Mercury label itself, the year has been spectacular, with top 10 singles being scored by the Statler Brothers, Tom T. Hall and Johnny Rodriguez.

The Statlers, perennial winners of every award for Top Country Vocal Group, scored the first gold album of their career with "The Best Of The Statler Brothers" certified in February of this year. Additionally, the quartet enjoyed three top 10 singles, all from their successful "The Country America Loves" album. Their latest album, "Short Stories," re-



Mercury's country roster includes (from left): Johnny Rodriguez, the Statler Brothers and Jerry Lee Lewis.

leased in July, has already spawned one hit single, "Silver Medals And Sweet Memories."

The Statler Brothers also celebrated their seventh consecutive successful July 4th America's birthday picnic in Staunton, Va. The event drew nearly 50,000 people.

Everybody's favorite storyteller, Tom T. Hall enjoyed top 10 status with "Fox On The Run," from the "Magnificent Music Machine" album, and "Your Man Loves You, Honey," from "About Love." At this writing, "T." is just shy of the top 10 with his latest single, "It's All In The Game." Additionally, his own celebrity

golf tournament, held each spring, enjoyed its finest year yet.

Of course, Johnny Rodriguez enjoyed a few top 10 singles. In fact, he has enjoyed 16 consecutive top 10 records since debuting on Mercury in 1972. His latest album, "Practice Makes Perfect," has already produced one hit (the title track, written by Gatlin, incidentally) and his latest single is an all-Spanish version of the former pop hit, "Eres Tu."

In October, Jerry Lee Lewis will be represented with "Country Memories," a retrospective album covering some of his big hits the past few years.

During the summer months,

Mercury released debut albums of three artists: Jacky Ward, Nick Nixon and Reba McEntire. Jacky is currently enjoying one of the biggest hits of his career, "Fools Fall In Love," taken from his album.

In all, the Phonogram/Mercury country division is in fine shape. Frank Leffel, national promotion/country, oversees his field staff in promotion, while Jerry Kennedy, vice president/a&r, Nashville, and Jerry Gillespie, a&r/country music, handle the production end in Music City.

Country music, as always, continues to prosper at Phonogram/Mercury.

A Concentrated Effort Wins for WIG

■ World International Group, one of Nashville's largest independent promotion and distribution companies, is beginning its second year of operation under new ownership and keyed to a more concentrated effort on behalf of its clients.

WIG was founded in July, 1976 by a small group of independent record label executives who saw a critical need for a solid promotion/distribution outlet geared to helping the smaller labels.

The original guiding force in bringing WIG together was Joe D. Lucas, WIG general manager. "It was my belief that by combining our strength we would be more forceful in the area of promotion and distribution. By doing this we would be able to do a better job for all concerned," Lucas pointed out.

In June, 1977, the controlling shares of stock in the corporation were purchased by Gene and Linda Kennedy. Kennedy, president of Door Knob Records, was one of the original investors in WIG.

WIG was recently retained by Pinnacle Records, the new label formed by Bill Blackwell and Tommy Overstreet, to promote and distribute all of its product.

In addition, WIG also promotes and distributes BMA Records, whose artists include Jerry Wallace and Ken Shelton; Door Knob Records, the label Peggy Sue and Sonny Wright record for; Taylor and Stone's Friday Night At Home Records; Bob Harrington's Chaplain Records and Society Records.

Among the records charted by WIG this year are: "I Miss You Already," by Jerry Wallace, BMA Records; "I Just Came In Here (To Let A Little Hurt Out)," "Every Beat Of My Heart" and "Good Evening Henry" by Peggy Sue on Door Knob Records. Heavy radio action was garnered on Taylor and Stone's "Where Are They Now" on Door Knob Records.

In addition to heavily promoting chart singles, WIG, Inc. also promoted and distributed these albums:

Bob Harrington, Chaplain of Bourbon Street Goes "Cross Country" on Chaplain Records. This lp marks the first time Harrington ever used music on one of his albums; previous ones were sermons and inspirational stories.

Peggy Sue Featuring Sonny Wright on "I Just Came In Here (To Let A Little Hurt Out)" on the Door Knob label.

The Walking Tall Sheriff "Buford Pusser" Talks With W.R. Morris. This Compass Records lp features live interviews with the legendary sheriff while he was still alive.

The Singing Blanton Family, a gospel lp on Door Knob Records. Jerry Wallace, "I Miss You Already" on the BMA label. This lp marks Jerry's first album release in more than two years.

WIG, Inc. is very selective in the product it takes for promotion/distribution. The product must be good, commercial and marketable. "We don't accept just any record, it must meet our criteria," Kennedy said.

Music City Scores

■ 1977 has been a most rewarding year for all the crew at Music City Recorders. Some of the projects have included the re-working of the old Jim Reeves masters, under the supervision of producer Bud Logan, who is also actively working with John Conlee, an ABC/Dot recording artist.

Music City is proud of its latest gold record, "The King Is Gone," a tribute to Elvis Presley. This phenomenal record turned gold within eight days.

Prairie Dust Packs Country Music Power

■ Prairie Dust artists have made the national charts seven times in the past 12 months. The artist roster includes Ann J. Morton, Bill White and Con Hunley.

Ann J. Morton has won three ASCAP awards during the past year for the songs "Poor Wilted Rose," which she wrote, and the standard, "You Don't Have To Be A Baby To Cry." She currently has a new release, another standard, "Blueberry Hill." Ann J. has also written many hits for other artists.

Bill White, a newcomer to country music, has his first release on the label, "Mary Ann." Bill has performed with groups like Black Oak Arkansas and Cottonmouth. He also lives in Arkansas and is a talented writer.

Con Hunley has had four consecutive nationally charted records on Prairie Dust. His latest is "Breaking Up" (Is Hard To Do)," which Con wrote.

Looks like Prairie Dust has been kickin' up some dust, thanks to all the deejays and everyone that has had a hand in Prairie Dust. Prairie Dust Records is distributed and promoted nationally by Nationwide Sound Distributors.



THANKS!

Playboy Records
Nashville

1. Sunday Sharpe 2. Mickey Gilley 3. Bobby Borchers 4. Teresa Neal 5. Little David Wilkins
6. Benny Barnes 7. Mack Vickery 8. Wynn Stewart 9. Eddie Kilroy

Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 14)
No. 1 lp in "The Troublemaker."

DECEMBER

George & Tammy were in business with "Near You," an old song with a new popularity . . . **Diana Trask** said: "I think **Don Williams** is one of today's finest talents." No word on what Don thought about Diana. Don's the silent type.

Harlan Sanders recorded "A Southern Star in a Northern Sky"—about newly-elected President **Jimmy Carter** . . . **Rex Allen, Jr.** had one of his best: "Two Less Lonely People" . . . The title of **Dickey Lee's** latest for RCA—"9,999,999 Tears"—sounded like a computer miscue. But it wasn't . . . Those pictures of **Kathy Barnes** in **Record World** were eye-catching. The good-looking Kathy was moving with "Good'n Country" via the Republic label.

Boots Randolph soloed with the San Antonio Symphony and then took off for a 12-day tour of Japan. (It wasn't that Boots had anything against San Antone, that's just the way his schedule flew.) . . . **Loretta Lynn**, visiting Universal Film Studios, met her screen idol **Gregory Peck**—and absolutely swooned!

BMI's **Frances Preston** attended her 567th party and/or luncheon or/and meeting of the Bicentennial year and held an 87-brunch lead over ASCAP's **Eddie Shea**. (Eddie demanded a recount. Meanwhile SESAC's **Brad McCuen** was on a diet.)

Top Billing Agency boss **Tandy Rice** was looking ahead to a blue Christmas. **Dolly Parton**, one of his box office mainstays, quit to join a west coast agent. (That's the way the Dolly bounces?) . . . **Marie Ratliff** listened to **Tom Jones'** rendition of "Say You'll Stay Until Tomorrow" and predicted, "It'll be a hit yesterday."

Radio stations were playing "Jingle Bells" and **Johnny Duncan** was celebrating because his "Thinkin' of A Rendezvous" was rated No. 1 . . . **Charlie Daniels** and his manager, **Joe E. Sullivan**, became partners in Hat Band Music. Charlie has a large hat and a popular band . . . **Elvis Presley's** "Moody Blue" was a bright prospect for a profit. (Felton Jarvis produced for RCA.)

Waylon Jennings shaved off his beard, got a haircut and was ap-

pointed honorary chief of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Dept. (Show 'em your badge, Waylon.) . . . **Mac Davis** came to town for a recording session . . . Yule trees and holly wreaths were hanging out all over Music Row. Parties were being planned. **Mae Boren Axton** wrote a letter to Santa—and son Hoyt replied.

Then there were the political angles: **Tom T. Hall**, **Charlie Daniels**, **Hoyt Axton** (again, Mae), **Johnny Cash** and **June Carter Cash** accepted invitations to attend President Carter's inaugural ball . . . **Hargus (Pig) Robbins** made his bow as a record producer, after years and years of being a session pianist . . . **Bobby & Jeannie Bare** teamed on a single of "Vegas," written by **Shel Silverstein**. (Never a gamble on a Shel song.)

Jim Pelton wondered if Casino's **Don Drumm** was a bass or snare Drumm? . . . Good ole **Hank Thompson** was swinging with "Honky Tonk Girl" . . . It was almost the night before Christmas and **Ray Stevens'** holiday offering was "In the Mood" by **The Henhouse Five Plus Two**. The "Plus Two" were identified as **Eggy Arnold** and **Chick Atkins** . . . Sleigh bells were ringing and **Mel Tillis** was sizzling with "Good Woman Blues" for MGM.

Frances Preston's lead over **Eddie Shea** in the "function attendance" race had been reduced to 46. Eddie had picked up some votes via visits to cocktail parties in outlying precincts, especially among independent labels.

Mae Boren Axton went gift-shopping and bought 100 gift-wrapped releases . . . **Johnny Cash's** Christmas special on CBS-TV finished 9th among the more than 60 network programs surveyed during Dec. 6-12 by Nielsen.

Kenny Starr invested some of his "Blind Man in the Bleachers" royalties in a farm not too far from Tanya Tucker's ranch . . . Tree International Music hosted a party and announced it had enjoyed its best year in history . . . **Don Williams'** "She Never Knew Me" was No. 1 . . . **Olivia Newton-John's** lp of "Don't Stop Believin'" was likewise . . . **Charley Pride** asked **Record World** to help him find a new piano player for his band. . . **RW's** chief here, **John Sturdivant**, asked, "Will a used piano player fit the bill?" (Sell the ads and watch the bottom line, John.)

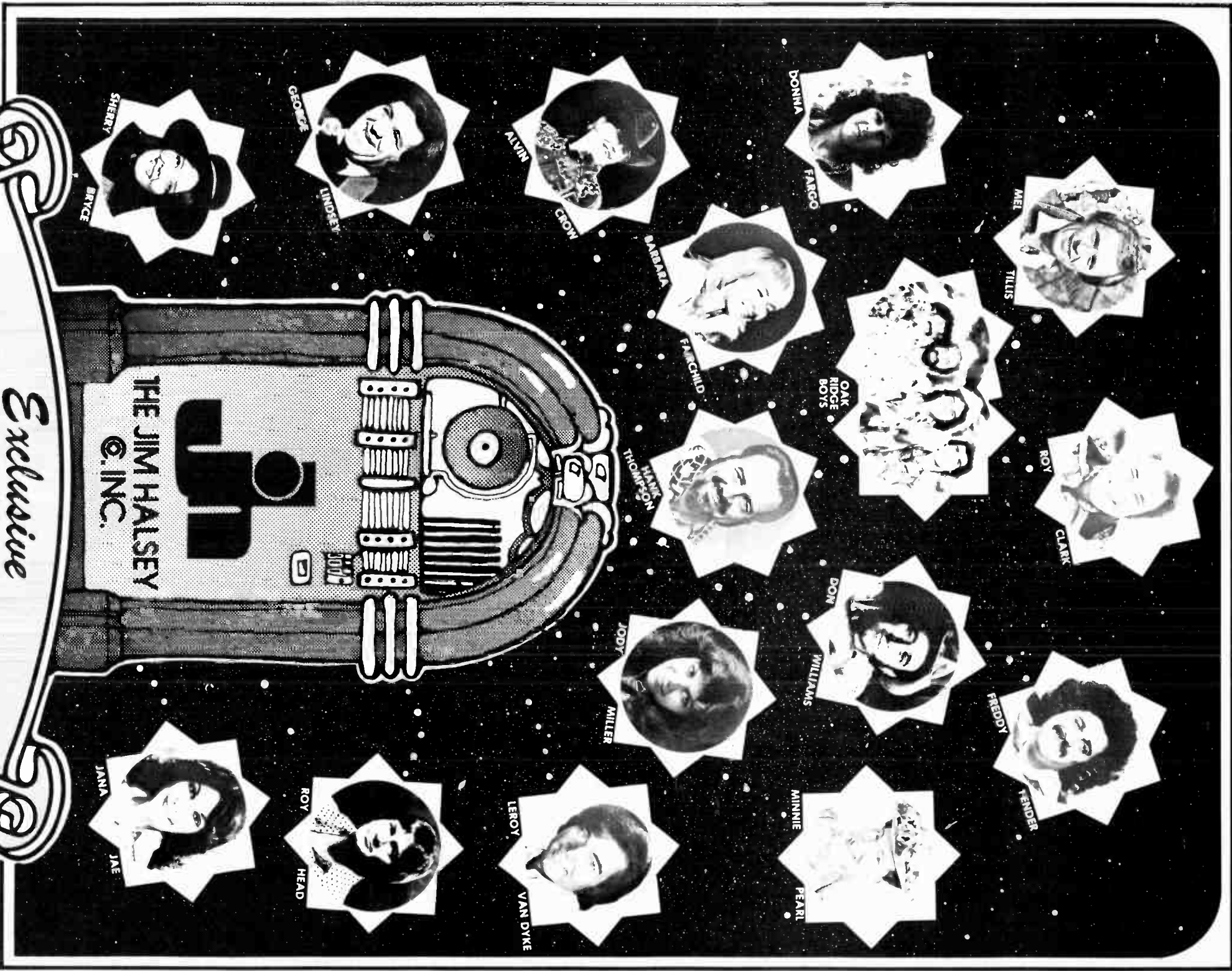
(Continued on page 40)

Thanks for a
Great Year!

We're Proud of our Artists!

Gene Autry — Kathy Barnes — Muench
David Rogers — Ray Sanders — Nate Harvell





SHERRY
BRYCE

GEORGE
LINDSEY

MITV
CROW

DONNA
FARGO

MEL
TILLIS

BARBARA
FANCHILD

OAK
RIDGE
BOYS

ROY
CLARK

MARK
THOMPSON

DON
WILLIAMS

FREDDY
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A Diversified Roster Keeps Capitol Cookin'



The Capitol Records country roster includes, top row, from left: Jessi Colter, Faron Young, Ray Griff and Dr. Hook. Bottom row: Asleep At The Wheel, James Talley, Lacosta and Linda Hargrove.

■ In the past year Capitol Records has continued to strengthen its country division with a restructuring of the staff and several important additions to the artist roster, but the label's prominence in the field of country music is rooted in the diversification of its artists' styles. According to Frank Jones, vice president and general manager of the country division, "Many artists who have emerged from Capitol in the past year have found strong acceptance."

During the last year Capitol has had outstanding success with many of the new talents that have joined the label. Kenny Dale scored high on the charts with his first single, "Bluest Heartache of the Year," and he quickly followed the success with the current hitbound "Shame On Me," both taken from his best-selling album "Bluest Heartache." Mel McDaniel has had five Capitol singles released since mid-1976 and each one has done well on the country charts—"Have a Dream On Me," "I Thank God She Isn't Mine," "All The Sweet," "Gentle To Your Senses," and "Soul of a Honky Tonk Woman." His current album, "Gentle To Your Senses," was released September 12.

Other new artists to Capitol include Marcia Ball (her "Big River" single was just released), and the Dusty Chaps. There are also a number of acts that have both country and pop appeal, including Michael Clark whose "Free As A Breeze" debut album was released in August; Pam

Rose, whose self-titled debut album came out in July and whose "Midnight Flight" single hit the charts; Lonnie Mack, whose second Capitol album will be out in October; Juice Newton and Silver Spur, whose first Capitol album, "Come To Me," was released September 12; Linda Hargrove, whose third album for Capitol is "Impressions," Norton Buffalo; and the Rhead Brothers.

Capitol also has a long list of established stars who continue to maintain their popularity each year: Glen Campbell, with his "Southern Nights" album and single as well as his "Sunflower" single; Anne Murray and other successful Capitol artists who continue to maintain their strong following include Freddie Hart, with his single, "The Pleasure's Been All Mine"; Gene Watson, who had a good year with his "Paper Rosie" lp and single; Ray Griff, who had several chart singles and a chart album, "The Last of the Winfield Amateurs," James Talley; and Jessi Colter, recently high on the charts with her "Mirriam" album.

Other Capitol artists include Larry Ballard, R. W. Blackwood, Connie Cato, Lacosta, Dianna Williams, Stephen Fromholz and Ray Sawyer, one of the lead singers of Dr. Hook who has found acceptance with both country and pop music fans, as has the Dr. Hook group. Capitol also has an extensive Merle Haggard and Buck Owens catalogue with a brand new studio album released September 12 by Merle Haggard, "The Working Man

Can't Get Nowhere Today." In addition, the label recently released the album "Music From Outlaw Blues," with songs taken from the movie and sung by Peter Fonda, Susan St. James, Stephen Fromholz and Hoyt Axton.

Frank Jones states that Capitol Records recently restructured its country division. Vince Cosgrave, formerly with MCA, moved into a newly created position as director of country a & r/marketing, in which he will assist in west coast a & r help assemble product presentations, and help coordinate country product marketing. Chuck Flood, formerly special projects director, has been named director of talent acquisition, Nashville. Flood will work with Jones on a&r functions. Ed Keeley was appointed national country promotion manager and will be based in Los Angeles. This will allow Keeley and others to have more input in the promotional and marketing departments quartered in the Tower.

Cathy Rozell will be based in Nashville and has assumed the recently created position of southeastern press and artist relations coordinator.

Jones states the restructuring is a tremendous strengthening move all around. "Capitol Records has made a firm commitment to the country market," says Jones. "Its recent new addition of artists to the roster plus its already established artists will enable us to continue to maintain our position as a leader in the country music market."

Ben Peters Music Makes Things Happen

■ After a banner year in 1976, closing with hits by Freddy Fender ("Livin' It Down") and Freddie Hart ("That Look In Her Eyes"), Ben Peters Music kicked off '77 with "Lovin' On" by T. G. Sheppard followed by other chart items, including "If You Want Me" by Billie Jo Spears.

Charted Songs

Peters as a writer/publisher also had singles on Leroy Van Dyke ("Texas Tea") and Kathy and Larry Barnes ("If We Can't Do It Right"), and is currently represented on the charts with "Daytime Friends," a Kenny Rogers crossover smash, and "More To Me" by Charley Pride.

A prime project for '77 has been the writing of material for daughter Debbie Peters, whose debut single is soon forthcoming, as well as a new release by Tommy Cash. In the overseas markets, "Daytime Friends" and "If You Want Me" are currently enjoying success.

25 cuts

There are over 25 album cuts by various artists in the can and several forthcoming singles. Some of the artists who have recorded Peters songs this year are Johnny Rodriguez, Candi Staton, Dottie West, Helen Cornelius, Bobby Lewis, Dave and Sugar, Roy Clark, Jody Miller, Mel Street, Jerry Wallace and others.

Peters is the only writer with the company, and operates out of Brentwood, Tennessee.

ONCE
MORE
WITH
A
WORLD
OF
feeling...

Eddy Arnold

Chet Atkins

Jim Ed Brown

Wilma Burgess

Helen Cornelius

Paul Craft

Floyd Cramer

Danny Davis

Dave & Sugar

Dottsy

Bill Eldridge

Tom T. Hall

Beverly Heckel

Waylon Jennings

Dickey Lee

Zella Lehr

Ronnie Milsap

Dolly Parton

Charley Pride

Ronnie Prophet

Jerry Reed

Jim Reeves

Johnny Russell

Hank Snow

Gary Stewart

Porter Wagoner

Steve Wariner

Steve Young

thanks

FROM THE ARTISTS WHO SANG
THE SONGS - MANY, MANY THANKS.



RCA
Records

WB Experiences Phenomenal Growth

■ With Emmylou Harris (#1), Donna Fargo (#2) and Margo Smith capturing three of the top 10 slots in *Record World's* Country Singles Awards for Female Vocalist of the Year, one would definitely have to agree that Warner country continues to come on strong. In fact, Warner Bros. Records, growth in its country music operation has been nothing short of phenomenal over the past two years.

Andy Wickham, WB's Burbank-based director of country music, is more than enthusiastic about the company's performance over the last year and their plans for the future. "It's always difficult when a new company comes into Nashville and enters the country music field. You have to go through a period of adjustment and acceptance, not only with the music community, but with those people who buy country records. It hasn't been easy, but our persistence and hard work has paid off. We feel we have a well balanced roster of stars and artists we feel are potential stars. The period of adjustment is definitely over."

Wickham credits Stan Byrd, director of country sales & promotion (based in Nashville), and his superior regional promotion staff for an exceptional year. Twenty-six country singles have been released so far this year; over 90 percent have charted, 50 percent of the releases went top 30 and 25 percent of all releases went top 10.

In a year when several of the major record companies reduced the size of their country operation, Warner Bros. demonstrated its support to the country market with the additions of Sam Cerami (midwest promotion and sales), Dave "Mack" McClellan (southeast), Ann Tant (west coast) and Mike Sirls (secondary markets). Frank Anderson continues to cover the southwest region in sales and promotion. Warner Bros. also expands its country operation with the newly created artist relations and publicity department directed by Bonnie Rasmussen.

After joining Warner Bros. in 1976, Donna Fargo returned to the top of the country charts with a self-penned recitation, "That Was Yesterday," which was number one not only in the U.S. but also in Canada. Donna's recording of "Mockingbird Hill," a classic country tune included in the "Fargo Country" lp, was also a big success for her.

Emmylou Harris retained her title as one of the dominant female album selling artists with



Warner Brothers country artists include (top row, from left): Ray Stevens, Donna Fargo and Buck Owens, and (bottom row) Emmylou Harris, Hank Williams Jr. and Jeannie C. Riley.

her exquisite release of "Luxury Liner," which quickly rose to #1 and remains on the album charts after 35 weeks.

Ray Stevens once again proved he has a direct route to the listeners' funnybone. His creative mind provided radio with a monster promotional record — The Henhouse 5 + Too's "In The Mood"—which sold nearly a half million copies.

Margo Smith's "Happiness" lp proved to be a long-life album with four hit singles, including the current duet release, "So Close Again," with producer and co-writer Norro Wilson. The same longevity holds true for Rex Allen, Jr.'s "Rex" album, containing two top 10 singles, "Two Less Lonely People" and "I'm Getting Good At Missing You."

Norro Wilson, director of country a&r, has had a busy year as in-house producer working with Rex Allen, Jr., Margo Smith, Buck Owens, Chuck Woolery, Pal Rakes, Jeannie C. Riley, and Debi Hawkins.

Wilson points out the success of three new artists signed this year: Pal Rakes' first release, "That's When The Lyin' Stops," went top 25, as did Suzie Alanson's "Baby, Don't Keep Me Hanging On." L.A. based Howdy Glenn, produced by Andy Wickham, is enjoying the success of his first chart record, "Touch

Me." Wilson holds the same expectations for his most recent signing, Knoxville based Con Hunley.

Two well-known names added to the Warner Bros. country roster include the legendary Hank Williams, Jr. and T.G. Sheppard. Hank Jr.'s first album, "One Night Stands," indicates the new direction of "Bocephus & The Bama Band." Williams is currently in the studio working on his second album with co-producer Waylon Jennings. T.G. Sheppard, with a string of solid hits to his credit, is a welcome addition to the Warner Bros. roster.

Fifteen year veteran producer, songwriter and entertainer Norro Wilson reflects on the present music industry scene: "Today there are so many more pressures, different views on the direction of country music; it's an unreal battle. I suppose these pressures and changes are a part of the progress—and we can live with it. Country music is still fun. There's nothing like a great song, there's nothing like a giant record. I believe we have the right leadership, the right people and the right combination. Our Nashville operation is fortunate to have young, brilliant and hard working aggressive people who want to be the #1 country label. Together we'll make Warner Bros. country a successful reality."

Sound Lab Stays Booked Day & Night

■ The Sound Lab, Inc. (formerly Ray Steven's Sound Lab) reports that it has been booked day and night since its purchase in March of this year by David Kent and Harold Shedd (president and vice president of Louisiana Hayride Records).

Engineers Charlie Taffent and Jim Cotten have been working with such artists as Johnny Carver, Donna Fargo, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, The Cruse Family, Walt Mills, Bob Harrington, The Sharrett Brothers, Mylon LeFevre, Jeris Ross, The Cates Sisters, Shirley Caddell, Gary Vacca, Harold McWhorter and The Manhattan Transfer. Producer Brian Ahern had Billy Joe Shaver, Ricky Scruggs, Don Everly and Emmylou Harris recording here. Also, Evie Tornquist recorded two albums. and Louisiana Hayride artists Willie Rainsford, Micki Fuhrman and Lee Morris recorded.

PAM Expands

■ Progressive Artists Management, a division of Burgess-Hale, expanded further this year when R. David Ludwick became a full partner in the firm.

PAM's clients include Kathy Barnes and David Rogers with others being added regularly.

RONNIE MILSAP

TOP MALE VOCALIST

Thanks



LAVENDER - BLAKE AGENCY, INC. (615) 327-9595 - 1217 16th Avenue, South - nashville, Tennessee 37212

RCA
Records



MCA Continues Its Proud Heritage

■ Long known as a major force in the field of country music, MCA Records, Inc., will continue its proud heritage in 1978 as being the home for some of the finest talent in country music.

The past year proved to be one of the outstanding achievement for the west coast-based label as its established artists continued their strings of hit records and its newer artists showed signs of developing into the stars of tomorrow. Artists such as Mel Tillis (the 1976 Country Music Association Entertainer of the Year), Conway Twitty, Loretta Lynn, Tanya Tucker and the newly-signed Merle Haggard have been consistent chart-toppers for MCA Records.

Adding to the musical excitement has been the enthusiasm generated over some of the label's newer artists, such as Ronnie Sessions, Joe Ely, Joni Lee, Mary Lou Turner and Geof Morgan.

With the addition of Merle Haggard, Vassar Clements and Hoyt Axton, MCA Records added to its list of top flight country talent, which already included such artists as Bill Anderson, Jerry Clower, Joe Ely, Bill Monroe, Ronnie Sessions, Cal Smith, Kenny Starr, Mel Tillis, Tanya Tucker, Mary Lou Turner, Conway Twitty and Loretta Lynn.

Top quality new talent added to the roster includes David Frizzell (brother of the legendary Lefty Frizzell), Jim Glaser, Dan

McCorison, Geof Morgan and Ernest Rey.

Twitty Bird Productions, a company owned and operated by Conway Twitty, has also brought to the label some fine talent in Jesseca James, Nat Stuckey, Joni Lee, Charlie Tango and Peggy Forman.

MCA-sponsored showcases at Fan Fair and the annual Disc Jockey Convention, both held in Nashville, are always among the most popular. In addition, MCA sponsored a showcase for the National Academy of the Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) which was termed by NARAS officials as the most financially successful showcase to date. Highlighting the event was the debut of the all new Bill Anderson Show featuring Mary Lou Turner and his new band, The Po' Folks.

The company increased its commitment to its country operation with the addition of personnel in the areas of promotion, marketing and publicity. While Chic Doherty, with over 30 years experience at MCA Records, continues his duties as vice president of operations, Nashville, John Brown was named country marketing director, Jeff Lyman assumed the duties of country promotion director, and Kelly DeLaney had his responsibilities increased to country publicity director.

Under the direction of Brown, the country music specialists at

MCA have initiated several successful marketing campaigns during 1977 with more planned for the coming year.

Highlighting the list of several successful campaigns were "Spring Blossom," centering around the release of Loretta Lynn's album, entitled "I Remember Patsy," a tribute to the immortal Patsy Cline; "Good 'n Country" in conjunction with

Conway Twitty's new album, "I've Already Loved You In My Mind," as well as a marketing campaign for the annual Conway and Loretta duet album, entitled appropriately "Dynamic Duo."

With its solid line-up of country talent and its experienced personnel combining forces, 1978 promises to be another highly successful year for the country division of MCA Records.

Winding River:

A Multi-Faceted Operation

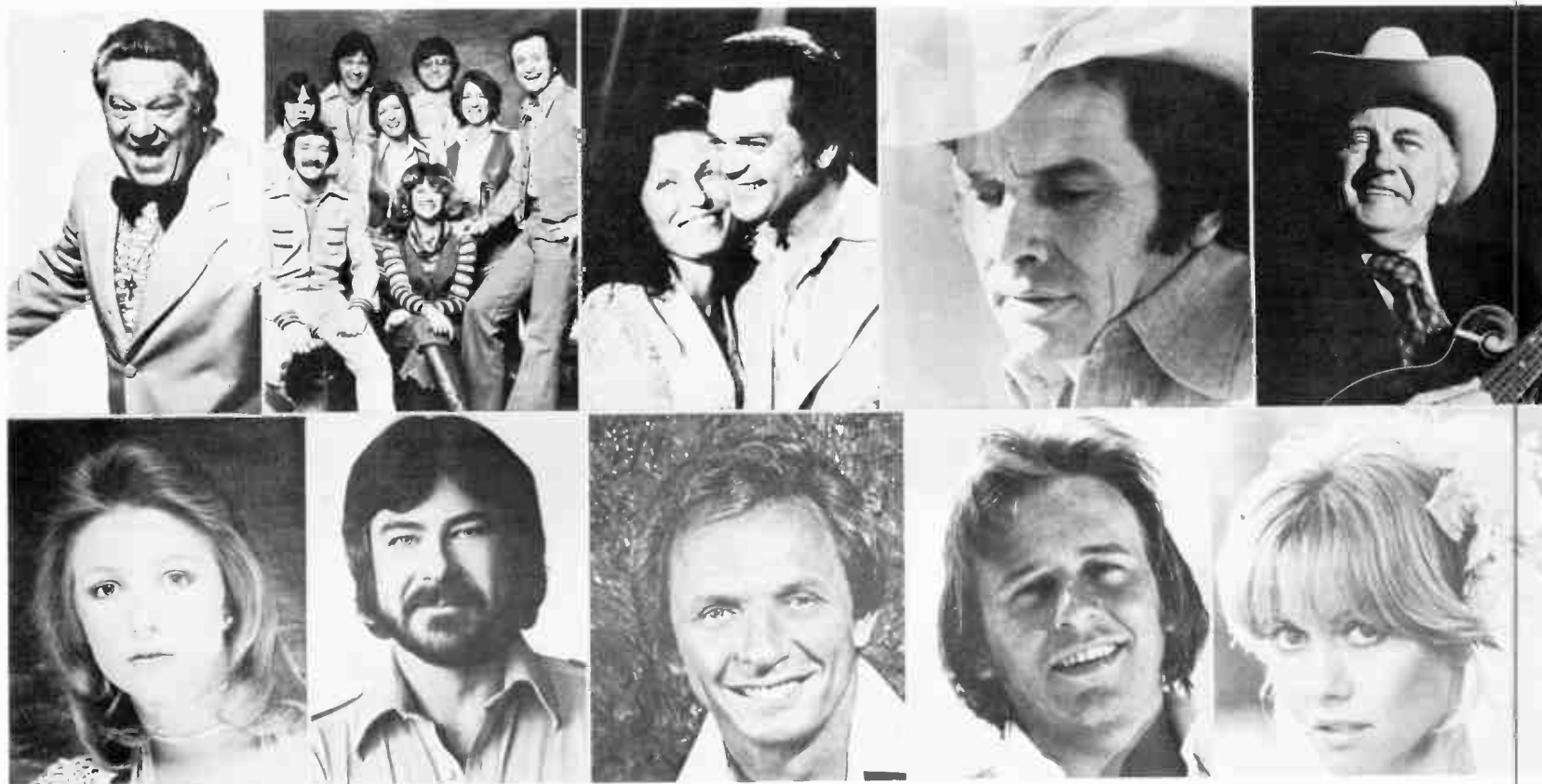
■ Charles Langley, owner and president of Winding River Records and Winding River Music, is known affectionately among his friends and associates in the business as the "Wild Man." The "Wild Man" euphemism grew naturally on Langley because of his stubborn independence in selection of artists and song material for his record company and publishing house and also several unorthodox promotional campaigns, the latest of which will probably be the most original of all. It's called "Cream Pie Persuasion." The promotion will be in conjunction with Winding River's fall and winter releases.

'Cream Pie Persuasion'

A number of deejays will be visited by Langley and his cream pie brigade before any record is mailed. The deejay will listen to the record and give his opinion. Whether it be negative or positive, a faithful listener will be

brought into the studio to confirm it. If the listener confirms a negative opinion, the deejay will place a cream pie in Langley's face. However, if the listener's opinion is positive, Langley will give the deejay the same treatment. If the deejay and the listener both agree that the record has commercial possibilities, the cream pies will be eaten instead. After the fun, both will be wine and dined at Winding River's expense.

Langley, picking his teeth with a piece of hay on his opulent Hardin County Farm, apologized for his rustic farm attire but called them his "honest" clothes. As he brushed a little topsoil off the knees of his overalls he said: "Let me tell you, we're going to have a good season." He was referring to upcoming Winding River releases by Jackie Dixon, Jack Butler, and his latest acquisition, writersinger John Ferguson, formerly with MGM Records.



MCA Records country artists include, top row, from left: Jerry Clower, Bill Anderson and the Po' Folks, Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn, Merle Haggard and Bill Monroe. Bottom row, from left: Tanya Tucker, Nat Stuckey, Mel Tillis, Ronnie Sessions and Olivia Newton-John.

DOLLY PARTON

TOP FEMALE VOCALIST

thanks



RCA
Records



Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 30)

Buddy Lee was named talent coordinator for Las Vegas' Fremont Hotel (the main room, no less) . . . Con Brio's **Biff Collie** asked Santa for a "pound box of money."

Roy Rogers and wife **Dale Evans** celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary . . . It all wasn't happiness and songs with bullets—**Wally Cochran**, no doubt the city's most popular promotion specialist, died unexpectedly on the 28th of a heart attack. Wally's passing left a void in the town.

JANUARY

It was a new year and **Donna Fargo** gave us a new look (good looking) in ads promoting her "Mockingbird Hill" recording for Warner Bros. . . . **Glen Campbell** was back in the charts—and how!—with "Southern Nights." It lived up to predictions and many tabbed it the song of the year . . . There was another Cash on the country music scene, **J. D. Cash**, who signed with GRT Records. (Does the J. D. stand for Johnny Dollar??) . . . **Johnny Duncan** was still riding high with his "It Couldn't Have Been Any Better" (written by **Ray Griff**).

Earl Scruggs offered his "Pleasure Principle": Order a banjo, use it, make it stand up and do tricks . . . Two and 1/2-year-old **Planet Alexandra Swan** sang on one cut of her father **Billy Swan's** new Columbia album, "Four" . . . "Silkworm" and "Sugar Line," quarter-horses owned by **Lynn Anderson**, were certified as world champions . . . **Glen Campbell** celebrated 15th year with the Capitol label . . . **Dianna Pugh** was named executive vice president of the Jim Halsey Co., Inc. Halsey clients include **Roy Clark**, **Mel Tillis**, **Hank Thompson**—and most of the "Hee Haw" TV show cast.

Roni Stoneman went on a weight-gaining diet. She lost. Poor Roni . . . Monument recording artist **Larry Gatlin** joined the Grand Ole Opry regulars—the 61st member of the long play country music radio show . . . **Mickey Newbury** moved back to Nashville temporarily—and signed permanently with Hickory Records . . . Four Star Music was in financial trouble.

Billy Joe Burnette formed a recording label called Teddy Bear . . .

When somebody asked **Waylon Jennings** what he ate at Christmas dinner, he replied: "Cheese sandwiches." Well, doesn't everybody? . . . **Brenda Lee** enrolled in a piano teaching course . . . **Helen Cornelius**—who sings with **Jim Ed Brown**—moved to Nashville with her husband **Lewis** and their three children. They formerly lived in Hannibal, Mo., which is Mark Twain territory.

Jessica James (**Conway Twitty's** 18-year-old daughter) and **Bruce Harrison, Jr.** of Avondale, Va. were wed. They had met the previous October at the Country DJ & Opry Birthday Celebration.

I'm a little slow in the mental department but think that anyone who weds on Dec. 25 is certain to have a Merry Christmas . . . **George Hamilton IV** was preparing for a month's tour of the British Isles. George IV is fond of the Great Britains and the feeling is mutual . . . Are you ready for this: On Jan. 1, according to the **RW** charts, **Waylon Jennings' "Are You Ready for the Country?"** album was No. 1.

Eddie Shea, after considering a recount, conceded that **Frances Preston** was the winner in the "party-goers" competition. "Wait'll next year," said Shea as he filled out his 1977 social calendar. (**Brad McCuen** smiled benignly) . . . It was no dream for **Emmylou Harris**; her "Sweet Dreams" was No. 1 . . . A week later it was **Billy (Crash) Craddock's "Broken Down in Tiny Pieces."**

Meanwhile, in the thespian category, **Willie Nelson** signed for part in the "Outlaw Blues" movie . . . An elementary school in Tulsa was named for **Roy Clark** . . . **Johnny Cash** saw that singer **Sherwin Linton** wasn't wearing boots so he gave him a pair with this vocal compliment: "You have the ability to fill my shoes." (Sudden thought: is Sherwin Linton kinfolks of Sherwin Williams?) . . . **Sue Powell** of Gatlingburg, Tenn. was hired as **Jackie Franz'** replacement in the **Dave and Sugar** group. (Jackie had resigned to concentrate on performing gospel music.)

Twins **Kay** and **Kathy Stacey** are newcomers to **Bill Anderson Show**. Gone are the **Po' Boys'** band, to be succeeded by the **Po' Folks** group. (Poverty everywhere?) . . . A press release from **Jeffrey Kruger's** Concert Attractions listed an entertainer named **Fawn Young**. (He's known in the colonies as **Faron Young**) . . . On Jan. 15 the country song of week in **RW** was **Cal Smith's "I Just Came Home to Count the Memories."**

FEBRUARY

In its first issue of the shortest month, **RW** in a long-shot prediction printed that **Ronnie Bledsoe** was leaving his post as Columbia vice president, effective March 1. (It happened, folks.) . . . **Johnny Paycheck** was getting warm with "Slide Off Your Satin Sheets" (A paradoxical assumption?) . . . **Jerry Lee Lewis** underwent gall bladder surgery in Memphis.

Tom T. Hall was teaching a songwriting course at Murfreesboro's Middle Tennessee State U. . . . **Tanya Tucker** vacationed in Jamaica, then departed for two week tour of Japan . . . Writer-producer-artist **Ray Pennington** signed with Tuckahoe Music Co., a wing of Jim Reeves Enterprises—where **Mary Reeves Davis** is the boss.

The one to watch was "Don't Throw It All Away" by **Dave and Sugar** . . . **Roy Clark** was hosting some Tonight TV shows . . . Feb. 5 saw "Let My Love Be Your Pillow" by **Ronnie Milsap** wide awake at the top of a heap of singles . . . More about **Johnny Paycheck**: A night club in Printers Alley was named after him . . . The Gospel Music Association's telethon raised \$54,000.

Nashville was in midst—and slush, sleet and snow—of one of its worst winters in many zero temperatures.

Billy Carter, the President's vocal brother, signed for personal appearances with **Tandy Rice's** Top Billing agency. And it came to pass that Billy's success was a balm to Tandy's wounds suffered when D. Parton hit the exit button.

Narvel Felts had "The Feeling's Right," the title of his ABC-Dot release . . . The **Jake Hess Sound**—Jake, his daughter **Becky** and son **Chris**—signed with Pyramid Records . . . **Barbara Mandrell** and her Do-Rites band took off for a 12-day tour of Saudi Arabia . . . **George Hamilton** signed with Anchor Records of London . . . **Dave Rich** joined the roster of Republic . . . I met **Charly McClain** and decided she was the best-looking Charly I'd ever met.

Bobby Goldsboro and **Kenny Starr** recordings with the same title—"Me and the Elephant"—were on the market.

The month was running late and there was **Lois Johnson** with "Your

(Continued on page 46)



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Halsey Company Boosts Artists' Appeal

■ The Jim Halsey Company, one of country music's largest management/booking firms, is likewise one of the most respected organizations in its field.

Deftly directed by the soft-spoken Jim Halsey from his plush Tulsa headquarters (the company operates its television, motion picture and commercial offices out of Los Angeles, with music publishing companies located in Nashville), the 21 country musicians and performers on the roster represent a select and diversified clientele. "We purposely keep the number of people we represent small," says Halsey. "We can devote more continuous personal time to each entertainer with a modest list, and that's what makes it all work for us."

Halsey says his agency has become even more organized this year with both personnel changes and additions, and the concentrated effort toward a substantial amount of international business.

Dianna Pugh was promoted to the company's executive vice president. Barbara McMahon, Terry Cline, Joe Hupp and Roger Burch came aboard as agents to complement those already booking dates: John Hitt (senior vice president), Charley Hailey, JoAnn Berry and Dick Howard. Bob Burwell was hired as production assistant for Halsey - sponsored shows and Sherman Halsey is now in charge of promotions. Secretarial, accounting and others on staff bring the total to 18.

"Our special efforts in international business are booming," Halsey says. "And that's one direction where we'll be putting more and more emphasis. Don Williams has become both a major country and pop idol abroad; The Oak Ridge Boys and Roy Clark are slated for a second U.S.S.R. tour this winter; Barbara Fairchild, Freddy Fender, Hank Thompson and Jody Miller, among others, have made highly successful European swings."

The Jim Halsey Company looks back at this year's first International Country Music Festival (September 10-11) as their most ambitious project of late. Halsey considers it a tremendous success but anticipates several improvements and refinements before the '78 edition.

Thirty-two domestic and foreign country music acts filled the bill during two nights of talent showcases in Tulsa's downtown Assembly Center, all for the benefit of 300 talent buyers and promoters who gathered there from the U.S. and overseas.

Halsey says his firm is booking



Shown above, at the recent Halsey gathering, top row, from left are: Jim Halsey, ABC promotion man Erv Woolsey and ABC's Corb Donohue; Walt Turner of WIL Radio in St. Louis, Halsey and Bob Calderone of Twin Coaches, Pittsburgh; Charlie McCutcheon, director of publicity for Anchor Records, London with Anchor recording artist Brian Chalker and comedian George Lindsey; (bottom row) RW VP John Sturdivant (second from left) with Richard Sterban and Duane Allen of the Oak Ridge Boys, and Hank Thompson; El Condo Pasa from Mexico City with Dick Howard, VP and director of TV, movies and commercials for the Halsey Company in Los Angeles; Thompson with John Hitt, senior VP of the Halsey Company.

more Las Vegas headlining dates and more fairs and rodeos than ever before. He cited Roy Clark's multi-year contract with the Hughes Hotels, Barbara Fairchild's repeated successes in the main showroom of the Frontier Hotel and Jody Miller's upcoming stand there (she has also played the Riviera with Bob Newhart). The Oak Ridge Boys have become popular in that gambling city opening for Clark, as has Minnie Pearl. Mel Tillis debuts as a head-

liner at the Frontier October 27 for a week. Hank Thompson, under Halsey's tutelage, was one of the first country music artists ever to play a Las Vegas showroom 20 years ago. The list goes on, but fully two-thirds of the Halsey stable is booked in the entertainment capital of the world. The Reno and Lake Tahoe areas have not been neglected by Halsey agents.

"All of our acts, without exception, are in demand for state

and county fairs and rodeos," Halsey states. "We're solid in those areas and growing tremendously."

This year has seen Donna Fargo sign with Halsey, an important step for him. The bluegrass, country/swing group Riverrock, vocalist Rebecca Fisher, and other upcoming talents are indicative of his impressive mix of new and established acts.

Television has been a powerful tool in the exposure of Halsey's roster nationwide. Dick Howard, a company vice president who offices along L.A.'s Sunset Strip, is responsible for the booking of major syndicated and network shows for the artists, and his successes have paid off again and again. He cites some recent examples: Roy Clark's continual hosting of the Tonight Show and his many appearances on specials, plus the sit-coms, game and variety shows. The recent booking of Mel Tillis for Laugh-In, in addition to his multiple guestings on game, talk and variety shows, has boosted the Tillis image.

Woodland Celebrates 10th Anniversary

■ Woodland Sound Studios in Nashville is celebrating its tenth anniversary as well as its most successful year. Since beginning operation in 1967 Woodland has expanded from one studio to two full service studios, including a Studer-Neve 24 Track studio service, two Neumann equipped mastering rooms and an editing room, becoming one of the nation's most extensive recording facilities.

This past year Woodland has drawn an increasing amount of business from all realms of the recording industry. Woodland is not only happy with the volume of work done this year, but is very proud of the quality of clients using its facilities. Some of the artists who have more recently recorded here are Ronnie Milsap, Kansas, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Billy Crash Craddock, Lily Tomlin, Barbara Mandrell, Jimmy Buffett, Connie Smith, Tommy Overstreet, Charlie Daniels, John Prine and the Oak Ridge Boys.

The complex has also been involved with television soundtracks, movie scoring, demos, and jingle work, including Burger King, United Airlines, Seven Up,

Juicy Fruit Gum, Chevrolet, RC Cola, Pan Am and Dr. Pepper.

There are many factors that contribute to Woodland's success, but perhaps the most important is its superb staff that is headed up by Glenn Snoddy, president and technical director. Jim Pugh, who has been with Woodland since its beginning, is the chief engineer. He and his assistant, Mike Porter, tackle any maintenance problems and are constantly researching new ideas that may improve the studio. The Complex also has four full-time recording and mixing engineers: Rex Collier, David McKinley, Danny Hilley, and Les Ladd. Ladd was named Engineer of the Year by NARAS this year, which is one of the highest compliments given by the industry.

Mastering

The mastering department is growing in leaps and bounds under the direction of Denny Purcell and his co-mastering engineer, Hank Williams. "The Westlake designed Mastering Oval has proven to be one of the most accurate listening rooms around," says Purcell, who feels it is a definite advantage for Woodland.

Wm. Morris Agency Adds Top Talent

■ 1977 has been a banner year for the Nashville operation of the William Morris Agency, according to comments from Bob Neal, manager of the Nashville operation.

"Possibly the most exciting element of the year for William Morris Agency was a production and presentation of the 'Nashville 99' television shows from Nashville," he said. The mini-series stars Claude Akin and Jerry Reed and features many of the top Nashville entertainers.

CHARLEY PRIDE



DAVE & SUGAR

TOP VOCAL GROUP



RCA
Records



1977-A Landmark Year for the CMF

■ 1977 stands as the single most important year in the history of the Country Music Foundation, in terms of attendance at the Hall of Fame and Museum, special projects, and major events.

The May 6 opening of the expansion and new wing of the Hall of Fame and Museum and the Library and Media Center was the event which dominated the year. The \$1.2 million expansion more than doubled the size of the museum and the library, and visitors have come in record numbers to see the magnificent new building.

New Exhibits

Highlights of the expanded museum include such brand new exhibits as a comprehensive instrument display, a lavish touring entertainer's bus, a small theatre, an art gallery, and one exhibit in particular which was extremely popular before Elvis Presley's death in August, but which has gained an added poignancy since: his 1960 "solid gold" Cadillac.

Though less visible to the public, the expansion of the library and media center was as dramatic, with large sound and video labs installed, and new stack area created to house the growing collection of records (which now numbers some 65,000), printed materials, tapes, and films.

On July 1 the Country Music Foundation took another unprecedented step when it opened its first museum display away from the Hall of Fame building itself: this was the opening of RCA's Studio B at 17th and Hawkins as a tourist attraction, and it has remained an extremely popular addition to the Hall of Fame's exhibits.

Acuff Collection

On July 21, longtime Roy Acuff collector Elizabeth Schlappi of San Diego and Roy Acuff himself donated a wealth of material—records, films, correspondence, printed material and memorabilia—to the Country Music Foundation Library and Media Center, a collection which is now housed in a special area known as the Roy Acuff Collection within the library stacks.

Early last month (September 8) the new art gallery area of the Hall of Fame and Museum—which is dominated by Thomas Hart Benton's mural "The Sources of Country Music"—was formally dedicated the Beverly Briley Gallery in honor of Nashville's ex-Mayor, who was particularly influential during the 1960's in making the dream of a Hall of Fame and Museum a reality.

The staff, both full time and



Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

part time, has grown accordingly, with some 27 people on the full-time payroll. Attendance, likewise, has boomed. Despite having been closed several times during the winter due to construction, the attendance through Labor Day was up some 60,000 over the same period last year to a

total of 360,000. This represents a remarkable 20 percent increase, and it is estimated that close to half a million visitors will tour the Hall of Fame and Museum by the time 1977 draws to a close.

There has been considerable growth and innovation within the organization, as befits a year of

growth and expansion: additions to the museum staff have been substantial, and more are expected. The fledgeling education department made major strides in actively engaging the youth of the Nashville area. The Country Music Foundation Press is on the verge of publishing its sixth book, the long awaited "Truth Is Stranger Than Publicity: Alton Delmore's Autobiography" (due in November). In addition, a press information service was created to better inform both the industry and the fan of the many activities and remarkable diversity of the Country Music Foundation.

While 1978 holds promise for even more activity and attendance of well over the half-million mark, the number of events of the first magnitude which radically altered the look of the Hall of Fame and of the Country Music Foundation itself mark 1977 as a year which will be long remembered for its tremendous advances.

Chappell Maintains Chart-topping Status

■ Chappell Music's country music division has continued its dynamic growth and repeated its top-of-the-chart success this past year.

During this time the music of Chappell and Intersong music companies have hit the top of the charter repeatedly. Among their #1 hits have been "Among My Souvenirs" by Marty Robbins, "Cherokee Maiden" by Merle Haggard, Eddie Rabbitt's "Drinking My Baby off My Mind" and "The White Knight" by Cledus Maggard. In addition, songs have been cut by many major artists, including Lynn Anderson, Johnny Cash, Crystal Gayle, Waylon Jennings, Loretta Lynn, Willie Nelson, Olivia Newton-John, Elvis Presley, Linda Ronstadt, Conway Twitty and many others.

Distinctive Roster

One of the key factors in this success has been the select but distinctive roster maintained by the Chappell-Nashville office, headed by vice president Henry Hurt. A prime example of this talent is writer/artist Rory Bourke, who garnered the most ASCAP country music writer awards last year. Co-writer of "The Most Beautiful Girl" and such hits as "Easy As Pie," "Sweet Magnolia Blossom" and many many others, this past year Rory has written or co-written such recent top hits as "They Don't Make 'Em Like That Anymore" by Bobby Borchers, "Your Place Or Mine" by Gary Stewart, "Whispers" by Bobby Borchers and "Honky Tonk Memories" by Mickey Gilley.

Another key to Chappell's country music success is the richness and diversity of its enormous catalogue. Not only does it have many contemporary country songs, but it also has many earlier copyrights now being recorded in new and fresh ways. Among Chappell's recent hits is the country version of the 1920s song "Among My Souvenirs," which Marty Robbins took to #1. The Intersong catalogue has also given birth to a number of recent hits—the Ivory Joe Hunter classic, "Since I Met You Baby," as sung by Freddy Fender, Mickey Gilley's version of "Room Full Of Roses," Dottie West's treatment of the 1920s "Tonight You Belong to Me," "I Don't Hurt Anymore," by Narvel Felts, "Cherokee Maiden" by Merle Haggard, and Sonny James, "You're Free To Go."

International Material

The international facet of the Chappell and Intersong catalogues also gives the companies many additional sources of material. "Silver Bird," recorded by Tina Rainsford, which is a German copyright, is only one of the many top chart songs that have originated abroad. Another important asset is the RSO catalogue, which is exclusively administered by Chappell Music Company. The current chart record from this catalogue that is climbing to the top is Narvel Felts cover version of the Bee Gees pop hit "To Love Somebody." This follows an earlier country success of another Bee Gees' song, "Come On

Over," by Olivia Newton-John.

Chappell and Intersong's country product is an important and successful part of its print program. In its move into the hard-cover market, Chappell has two books that have met with both popular and critical acclaim. One, "The Tex Ritter Story" by Johnny Bond, is the first comprehensive biography of the legendary country music artist. The other is noted writer/artist Tom T. Hall's "How I Write Songs, Why You Can," an informal but informative guide for new and experienced songwriters.

Soundwaves Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

■ Soundwaves Records celebrates its fifth anniversary in October with announcement of an expanded country roster, and the appointment of Ken Woods to handle country promotion.

New Artists

Artists added recently include Dawn Chastain, Sherwin Linton and Joel Mathis, according to label head David Noel Gibson. During this year, Soundwaves has enjoyed chart successes with singles by instrumentalists Maury Finney and King Edward IV, and vocalist Loretta Robey.

Independent producers contributing to label product include Royce Clark, Gene Elder, Joe Gibson and Larry Morton. Soundwaves is marketed nationally through Nationwide Sound Distributors.

Nashville Brass "Horns In" On Hit Territory!

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Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 40)

Pretty Roses Came Too Late" on the Polydor label . . . **Marie Ratliff** was right! **Tom Jones'** "Say You'll Stay Until Tomorrow" practically jetted to the top of the chart.

Mel Tillis visited the Plains, Ga. home of President **Jimmy Carter** and chatted with him about country music and the world in general. "It was a wonderful experience—one I'll never forget," said Mel.

Conway Twitty had a new one on the sales racks and radio turntables: "Play, Guitar Play" . . . **Jim Pelton** came through with this observation supreme: "Red Sovine's recording of 'Just Getting By' is more than a song. It's a way of real life these days with most of us." . . . Add "Desperado" by **Johnny Rodriguez**. It was his current release on Mercury as the month skated to an end.

MARCH

Ruth Buzzi of the original "Laugh-In" TVer, a lovely lady, recorded "You Oughta Hear the Song" for UA . . . "Southern Nights" was pushing "She's Just An Old Love Turned Memory" for the No. 1 spot . . . And here came **Crystal Gayle** with another winner: "I'll Do It All Over Again" . . . **Marie Ratliff** tabbed **Troy Seals'** "Grand Ole Blues" as a "left fielder." Okey, Marie, who's on first?

Dickey Lee reprised an oldie, "If You Gotta Make A Fool of Somebody" . . . **Mel Tillis** had things going his way with "Heart Healer" . . . **Ruby Falls**, at long last, was going uphill. She was playing the Fremont Hotel in Vegas with **Tommy Cash & His Tomcats** . . . **Marty Robbins** had left his racing car long enough to discuss hosting a weekly TV show. (Show Biz, Inc. got him on the dotted line.) . . . **Stoney Edwards** had admitted it wasn't easy to hire an all-white band . . . **Dave Dudley** was trucking on down to Australia, via plane, for a 10-day tour . . . **Dolly Parton** decided not to do her weekly TV show next fall . . . **Tommy Overstreet** bought a new bus and for laughs put the name "Paul Newman" on the front end . . . **Allen Frizzell**, youngest of the Frizzell tribe, signed with ABC/Dot.

"Torn Between Two Lovers" by **Mary MacGregor** was "torn" between the pop and country charts . . . **Kenny Dale** and **Rayburn An-**

thony got their pictures in Marie R.'s column . . . **Clara E. Silverstein** was named director of special projects for Broadcast Music, Inc. . . . **Don Williams'** "Some Broken Hearts Never Mend" sounded like a sure shot.

Burt Signor of New York City bought the Four Star Music Building and changed its name to The Signor Building. (It's the home of **Record World's** Nashville office.) . . . The late **Hank Williams'** original **Drifting Cowboys'** band recorded their first album in 25 years! . . . **Red Steagall** gave the country treatment to "I Left My Heart in San Francisco." (Eat your tonsils out, **Tony Bennett!**) . . . **Don Gibson's** single had a hot title: "Fan the Flame, Feed the Fire" . . . **Emmylou Harris'** "Luxury Liner" was the No. 1 album . . . The March winds they did blow and **Willie Nelson** was singing about an "Uncloudy Day."

Chet Atkins turned actor for a segment in the locally produced "Nashville 99" CBS-TV series—and **Robert Redford**, by way of retaliating, bought a guitar!

X. Cosse, veteran manager of **Chet Atkins**, **Boots Randolph** and **Floyd Cramer**, suffered a heart attack . . . The **Charlie Daniels Band** completed the score for the "Whiskey Mountain" movie, starring **Christopher George** . . . **Loretta Lynn's** biography, "Coal Miner's Daughter," was shaping up as a best seller . . . **Joe Galante** was named director, Nashville operations, of RCA . . . Vet producer **Snuffy Miller**, formerly with MCA, joined Twitty Bird Productions.

Lawrence Welk's assistant conductor-accordionist **Myron Floren** was in for recording sessions, directed by **Gary Paxton** and **Dick Heard** . . . **Charley Pride** celebrated a birthday . . . **Johnny Rodriguez** headlined a telethon in Corpus Christi, Tex. that raised more than \$100 thousand in 12 hours. Guests included **Dolly Parton**, **Willie Nelson**, **Dr. Hook**, **Tom T. Hall** and former U. of Texas football coach **Darrell Royal**.

Like the man said, "Southern Nights" had gained the No. 1 listing in the RW's singles chart.

Owen Bradley celebrated St. Patrick's Day by leasing RCA's studios, (Continued on page 56)

A Very Special Lady

SHERRY BRYCE telling the world



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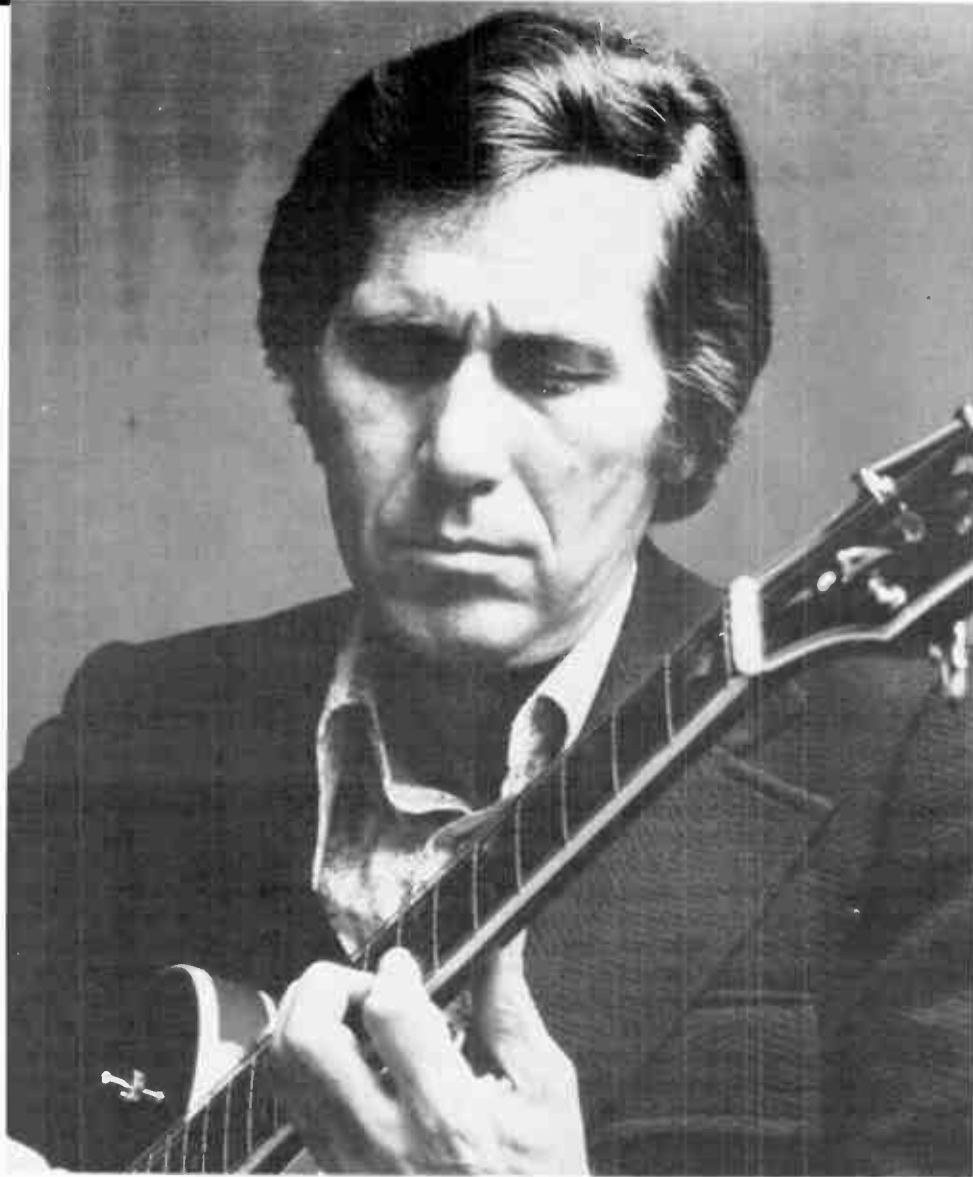
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IN A WORD

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CHET ATKINS



RCA
Records



Tree Reports Best Year Ever

■ Tree International had a record breaking year, according to its chairman and chief executive officer, Jack Stapp. The company announced plans for the construction of a major studio in its building, the innovative formation of a group called Equinox, which is entering the pop music scene, and an expansion of their writers roster with the addition of 20 new writers.

New writers added this year include Jerri Kelly, Myke Jackson, Sonny Throckmorton, David Shannon, Angela F. Wilson, Marcus J. Mitchell, Chris Dodson, Rock Killough, Dan Eckley, Lynn Holloway, Alan Rhody, Bill Usery, Mike Hedrick, Donna Koplan, David Osborn, James Gorin, Tim Hubler, Orsa Lea, Cindi DuVall and Robert DeLaGarza.

Stapp announced the studio plans in early September with the structure to be within the Tree confines. The 2800 square foot studio will be modern in every phase and will give Tree writers an opportunity to be creative in other areas, as well as writing. Tree vice president Don Gant said the studio will be equipped with 16 track and on a par with any in the city. It will be used exclusively for Tree writers.

Cliff Williamson, Tree professional song plugger "par excellence," was largely responsible for putting together a sophisticated high-energy rock group named Equinox. According to Williamson, he put the group together from staff writers who were into the rock scene and wanted to work together. To date Tree has invested over \$50,000 in Equinox and feels the investment is well worth it. The group has made one public appearance for the industry and was well received by all. Williamson expects to be able to take the group into the studio before too long, and along with Tree president Buddy Killen, hopefully will be able to make Equinox a major act. Both Stapp and Killen have always been at the front of what's happening musically, and they're planning to keep their country image, but hoping also to add

some pop to it, too. Equinox is professional member, reports that a beginning in that direction.

Buddy Killen, Tree's president, signed a major production deal with Epic Records this year and Tree will be able to see many of its writers become recording artists because of it. Joe Tex was the first to be signed to Epic through the deal; Tree Productions and Killen produced the sessions. First time out, Killen and Tex scored with a big one. "Ain't Gonna Bump No More" became a world-wide hit and sold well over a million copies.

Also signed to the label were Ed Bruce, produced by Killen, and Killough and Eckley, produced by vp Don Gant. Killough and Eckley have a style all of their own and all indications from the excitement generated by CBS and Epic over their new album, soon to be released, indicate they're a big plus for Tree. Also signed to the label were L.E. White and Lola Jean Dillon. Their first record out was a chart climber, entitled "Home Sweet Home." It enjoyed great success abroad as well as in the States.

Another successful venture for Tree this year was Killen teaming up with MCA artist Bill Anderson. Killen and Anderson have been able to click with both hit singles and also two great albums. Anderson's sales have soared this year and the combination seems to be a successful one. Killen also signed to produce the duet team of Bill Anderson and Mary Lou Turner. Their first single was at the top of the charts.

Three new staff members have been added to the Tree Family this year: Litterfield, receptionist, Terry Choate in engineering, and

Singletree Music: Four Fine Years

■ Singletree Music will be four years old on January 1. In this year, as in those preceding, the publishing company has been progressing successfully.

Many copyrights have been added to the catalogue by the efforts of staff writers Don Pfrimmer, Rick Klang, Gary Branson, and Dave Burgess, himself. A number of copyrights have become a part of the catalogue by contracting of songs by free-lance songwriters.

Singletree continues with administration of the Glen Campbell catalogue, Fullness Music (Jerry Fuller), Bocephus Music, Inc. (Hank Williams, Jr.), the broad Gene Autry catalogues, and Singletree's property, the Sage and Sand copyrights.

Chris Dodson, general office duties.

Dan Wilson, Tree's newest pro-chart activity is way ahead of last year's. Tree has dominated the charts this year with over 54 charted songs. Wilson has been responsible for many major cuts and was a tremendous addition to the Tree staff. Don Gant, who was responsible for bringing Wilson to the Tree staff, has headed a very successful effort to put Tree well over the top in record sales. Gant is respected by all the Tree writers and they have nothing but praise for the easy going manner in which he works with them. Gant, Williamson and Wilson have given Stapp many hit singles this year and the future looks even brighter.

A major announcement this year was the administration agreement between Tree and Charlie Rich. Tree signed to handle all of the Rich companies, which include Double R, Makamillion, Makamint and Charsey. Other companies in the Tree complex include Conway Twitty, Twitty Bird Music, George Jones, Uncanny Music, Warhawk Music; also, Weeping Willow Music, Cross Keys Music, Kentree Music, Stallion Music with Bill Anderson, Stairway Music, Tom Cat Music with Tommy Cash, and Dial Production.

With overall business earnings being the highest ever, Stapp says his mighty Tree is still growing. "Our foreign offices have reported earnings up 42 percent over last year, and our mechanical monies have doubled in 1977."

Republic Is Riding High

■ In April, 1977 Republic Records celebrated the first anniversary of its reactivation by Gene Autry. The label, headed up by administrator / record producer / songwriter Dave Burgess, has marketed 16 single records in the year, each a chart item; an album featuring Kathy Barnes, and another on David Rogers.

At the one year mark, Burgess announced that Republic had set up direct distribution of all product. And, in September, a huge lp release was begun. This marketing project will be accomplished over an eight week period, and will consist of six albums. Two of the lps feature Gene Autry. One, having never been released, is the first Autry gospel album, "Gene Autry Sings Songs of Faith;" the other, "Gene Autry Classics," is compiled of the extraordinary standards of the "Singing Cowboy." Superb packaging is part and parcel of this

April/Blackwood: The Company To Watch

■ "April/Blackwood Music is the company to watch in Nashville," according to southern director Charlie Monk. "I think we've given Music Row something to talk about with the impact we've made. Due to the excitement, dedication, experience and cooperation of our New York and Los Angeles staffs, and Judy Harris locally, we're working hard marketing the songs of writers Larry Butler, Dottie West, Jerry Fuller, Harry Middlebrooks, Richard Burns, Keith Green, Janet McMahon, Tom and Tim Dean, Chris Waters and others. We also signed one of country music's all-time greatest writing teams, who will be announced shortly."

Former ASCAP executives Monk and Harris opened the Nashville office during the third quarter of 1977 and since that time have had songs recorded by Billie Jo Spears, England Dan and John Ford Coley, Gene Cotton, Barry Mason, Dottie West, Jody Miller, Narvel Felts, Johnny Cash and Bill Rice.

Monk relates that April/Blackwood will be an all-American team. "Getting the best writers, writing the best songs, for the biggest artists — country, pop, rock, gospel, movies, TV — you name it. We'll also be working closely with our international offices."

"We published the CBS-TV theme song for the 1977-78 season, and have adopted it as the theme song for April/Blackwood," Monk concluded. "It's a whole new thing."

product.

The other lps are David Rogers' "Lovingly," Ray Sanders' "I Don't Want To Be Alone Tonight" and Kathy Barnes' "Kathy Barnes sings Gene Autry." Muench, Republic's pop group, will have its lp titled simply "Muench."

A single which has just been released, and which has all of the ingredients of "hit" record, is the Kathy Barnes single, "The Sun In Dixie."

Burgess is ably assisted at Republic by Arnie Theiss, sales manager; and Gary Branson heads up the promotion department. Arlene Wey, office manager and girl Friday, is a very important part of the organization.

Republic artists are Kathy Barnes, David Rogers, Ray Sanders, Nate Harvell and Muench.

Burgess said, "It has been an exciting year . . . and, next year will bring #1 records for Republic."

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The Grand Ole Opry: An American Institution

■ The Grand Ole Opry — an American institution — is still spry, enthusiastic and entertaining after 52 exciting years in front of the public.

This radio show, a phenomenon in broadcasting annals, continues to be the hub of country music for millions of devoted fans. It began in the WSM Studios at the National Life & Accident Insurance building in Nashville, Tennessee on November 28, 1925. Eighty-three year old Uncle Jimmy Thompson, who claimed he could "fiddle the bugs off a 'tater vine," stepped up to the microphone and struck the first lively notes on the "WSM Barn Dance."

That was the very first broadcast of a radio show that would one day become renowned as "The Grand Ole Opry."

The early casts, directed by George D. Hay, known as "The Solemn Old Judge," featured Uncle Jimmy; Dr. Humphrey Bate and his daughter, Alcyone; plus the Crook Brothers and Kirk McGee (who still perform regularly on the Opry each Saturday evening).

One night, two years later, "The Solemn Old Judge" accidentally gave the show its per-

manent name with an on-the-air-ad lib. Hay opened the WSM country music show, which followed an NBC program of classical music moderated by Dr. Walter Dadrosch, with the famous words . . . "for the past hour, you've been listening to Grand Opera. Now we will present Grand Ole Opry!"

That was the beginning.

Today, over a half-century later, the Grand Ole Opry is the oldest continuous radio program in the U.S.A. and has never missed a weekly broadcast in all those years.

The colorful Opry cast now has grown to over 200 singers, musicians, dancers and comedians. And the radio broadcast over WSM on 650 kilocycles is regularly heard throughout most of the United States and Canada. Over 800,000 of these faithful listeners visit the Opry in person each year.

The Grand Ole Opry has had a lot of "barns" over the years and has outgrown in succession the old WSM Radio Studios, an east Nashville tabernacle, a theatre, the War Memorial Auditorium, and the famous Ryman Auditorium in downtown Nashville.

Opryland USA is the exciting

site of the Grand Ole Opry House York headquarters for the first time in history.

Walter Mondale

And in July of this year, Vice President Walter Mondale, who listened to the Opry broadcasts as a youngster, visited the famous stage for the first time. So the Opry has literally become world famous. On an average weekend, the Opry House is filled with fans from 49 states, Canada and five foreign countries. They travel an average distance of 940 miles—round trip—to see the show.

Larry Gatlin

This year also meant the addition of "Larry Gatlin With Family and Friends" as the Opry's 61st regular act. Gatlin is acknowledged as one of the finest young singer/songwriters in country music today. His music and vast talents add another melodic dimension to the versatile Opry showcase. Where on any weekend one will witness country music in all its moods and expressions. From Acuff to Mandrell; Monroe to Milsap; with the venerable Crook Brothers, Kirk McGee and the Fruit Jar Drinkers keeping the music simple as sunshine.

Dedicated by former Pres-

ident Richard Nixon on March 16, 1974, the Opry House is the largest broadcast/television studio in the world with seating for 4400.

In addition to the President of the United States, hundreds of other dignitaries, celebrities, and sports personalities have appeared on or attended this unique radio show.

Amy Carter

Three years ago, before he became President, Jimmy Carter accompanied his daughter, Amy, who performed on the Opry as a member of the "Little Generals" squaredance group. In October, 1975, the joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. Apollo-Soyuz Test Project crew docked on the Opry stage. In June of 1976, the Opry and Tennessee hosted Ambassadors to the United Nations.

Each year brings triumphs but also great tragedy. The past year was no exception when the Opry family was saddened by the loss of Dale T. (Stoney) Cooper on March 22. Twenty years ago, this tall, distinguished West Virginia fiddler joined the Opry along with his talented wife, Wilma Lee. The rest is country music history. Wilma Lee, along with the Clinch Mountain Clan, continues to perform as an Opry member.

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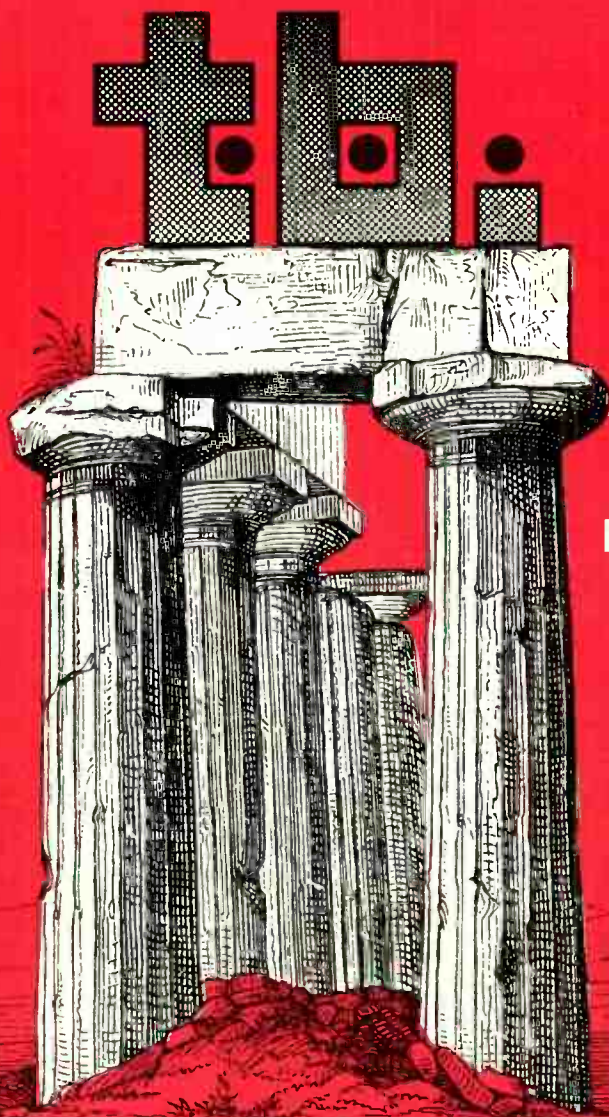
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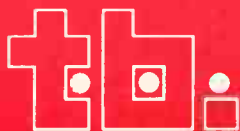
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Lavender Blake: 'A Year of Gardening'

■ Entering into the third year of Lavender-Blake Agency, several company policies have been reviewed, reconsidered and more intensely concentrated upon.

Reviewed Roster

At this time last year the agency claimed proudly a brilliant talent roster of some 35 artists. One of the main concentrations this year has been to review, but back and cultivate, some of the finest artists in the business today. While retaining the most prestigious acts (Tammy Wynette, Ronnie Milsap, Johnny Rodriguez, Johnny Paycheck, Joe Stampley, Ray Price, etc.) the agency has concentrated upon obtaining new and innovating acts, thus allowing the company to put forth fruitfully new dimensions to the company.

College Market

In early January, 1977 the agency recognized in the booking talents of Eloise Jones Hawkins an opportunity to reach out, plant the seed of growth and search and extend a welcoming hand to the college market, adding several of the "new brand" of country that is so appealing to the college students, such as Bobby Bare, Linda Hargrove, Grandpa Jones (who naturally appeals to the whole realm of the

media) and Uncle John, while retaining and working extensively with artists like Ronnie Milsap and Harold Morrison.

"We are proud of our new and direct plans for moving forward into new stages of endeavor, while retaining a totally satisfying and gratifying relationship among the fair buyers, club owners, promoters, etc.," states Shorty Lavender.

A Busy Year For Buzz Cason

■ This has been a year of expansion for Buzz Cason Publications and its affiliated companies. Publishing director Bill Martin reports that in addition to its own group of companies, the BCP group now administers Dan Penn Music, Donnie Fritts Music, and Spooner Oldham Music. BCP's representative in New York, Ezra Cook and Anacrusis Music, and BCP's various foreign catalogue agreements give the company worldwide accessibility.

New Writers

In addition to recordings of songs written by the "old hands," newer songwriters Steve Gibb, Benny Hester, and Todd Cerney have all had several songs recorded.

Jerry Reed: A Multi-Talented Star

■ Few country music artists have attained and maintained the star status in the pop music field that "super-picker" Jerry Reed has done. He has become a vibrant and vital force in all facets of the entertainment industry, as a writer, actor, singer, recording artist and instrumentalist. Jerry Reed continues to grow in his achievements and endeavors each year, with 1977 bringing him, and his versatility, more widespread recognition than ever before.

1977 has seen Jerry Reed co-star with Burt Reynolds in the critically acclaimed movie, "Smokey and the Bandit," considered by national reviewers as one of the "sleepers of the year." The hilarious action-packed film, which also stars Sally Field and Jackie Gleason, features music by Reed and Bill Justis. The Reed-penned theme, "The Legend," is a powerful story thread that underlies the action, but the real dynamite song is "East Bound and Down," which Jerry co-wrote, and sings in the movie. It has shot to the top of the charts with remarkable rapidity, becoming a theme song for America's truckers.

Immediately after finishing "Smokey," Reed started shooting the CBS Ernie Frankel produced mini-series "Nashville 99," star-

ring as Claude Akins' detective side-kick. (There is strong evidence that it will be picked up as a regular series, possibly via syndication.)

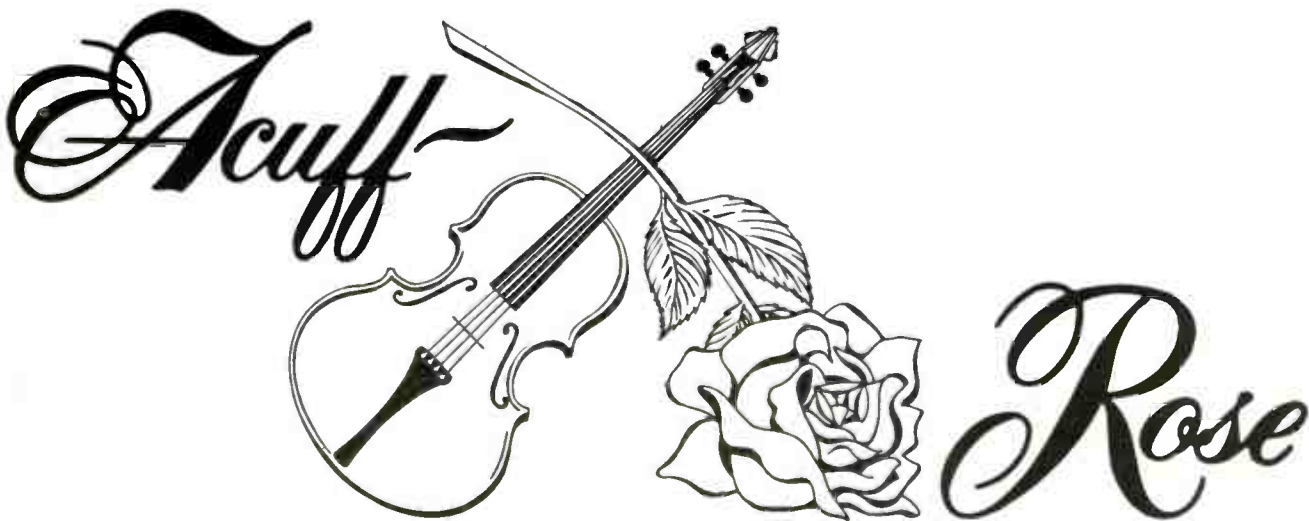
TV Exposure

The Reed charisma has reached out to a nationwide audience on such shows as the "Dinah Shore Show," the "Celebrity All-Star—Anything Goes," and in a featured role of one episode in the new series, "Young Dan'l Boone," filmed in East Tennessee.

Interspersed with his movies, TV and recording efforts have been personal cross-country appearances. Spring, 1977 found him in Springfield, Missouri, where Governor Joseph P. Teasdale honored Jerry (a Georgia native) by proclaiming a "Jerry Reed Day" to coincide with his performance there. He received the "Key To The City," the Gubernatorial Proclamation, and left his handprints in the KTTS "Walkway of Stars."

Then came June and a brand new venture for the entire Jerry Reed family with the "Grand Opening" of "Jerry Reed's Nashville Palace," attended by VIP's from all walks of life. Seidina joined her Dad and lovely singer-mother Priscilla on-stage. Seidina appears regularly at the club.

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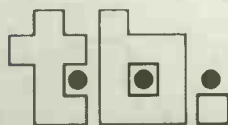
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ASCAP Boom Continues in '77

■ "The record breaking growth which began in ASCAP's Nashville office in the late sixties has again produced unprecedented success as reflected by the society's 12 #1 country songs in the charts this year," observed Ed Shea, ASCAP's southern regional director.

"I am extremely proud of the upward spiral of accomplishments which our members continue to generate each year," Shea stated. "Even against a background of growth for us in the country music field, this year has been exceptional," Shea continued, "both in terms of chart activity and membership expansion."

Pointing out that ASCAP has charted an unprecedented 200 songs in **Record World** this year, Shea predicted that the ASCAP awards banquet on October 12 will honor over 100 "Chart Buster Songs" for 1977, an increase of 15 percent over last year's record breaking performance. The scope of the society's awards reflects continued recognition of ASCAP's "old pros" as well as the success of its growing stable of new writers.

Veterans

Among the "pros," Foster and Rice have again outdone themselves, and ASCAP writer-performer Ronnie Milsap enjoyed his biggest year ever in chart successes. Meanwhile, other veteran writing teams also proved equal to the challenge of past performance. Writing hit after hit through '77 were Royce Porter and Bucky Jones; Rory Bourke, Gene Dobbins, Johnny Wilson and Guy and Susanna Clark. Richard Leigh wrote another #1 hit for Crystal Gayle, "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue," as a fitting follow-up to his '76 award winner, "I'll Get Over You."

Jerry Wallace's "I Miss You Already," and Bill Justis' scoring of the movie "Smokey And The Bandit" stand out as highlights in a year which saw outstanding achievements continue for such established writers as Ray Griff, John Schweers, Bob Morrison, Jim Mundy, Milton Blackford, Bud Reneau, Bobby David, Mel McDaniel, Billy Deaton, Jim Weatherly, O. B. McClinton and Sheb Wooley. Another veteran, John Prine, excelled again this year and migrated to Nashville to add more country flavor to his recordings. Also gaining ASCAP's recognition this year was the songwriting team of Casey Kelly and Julie Didier, who wrote the ASCAP award-winning song "For

Love's Own Sake" for Ed Bruce. The husband and wife team also penned "Let Me Sing For You" on the new Kenny Rogers album and Helen Reddy's new single release, "Laissez Les Bon Tempes Rouler."

New Writers

"In terms of new writers signed by our office it's hard to imagine a better year," Shea continued. Meri Wilson's "Telephone Man" was a superb beginning for her, while David Chamberlain's and Jim Vest's "I'm Not Easy" established them immediately. Archie Jordan (teaming with Hal David) busted through with "It Was Almost Like A Song," while Joe Ely joined ASCAP and MCA's new artist roster. Mark Germino, Rob Stanley, Val and Birdie, Mark Damon, Con Hunley, Kevin Young, Betty Jean Robinson and Don Schlitz were other new members who showed great promise this year. Even veteran Merle Haggard shared in ASCAP's country expansion by registering an ASCAP publishing company, WaWe Music, and opening a Nashville office.

Expansion

ASCAP's country expansion and southern regional activity spilled over the rim of Music City with major inroads being made in Muscle Shoals, Memphis, Austin, Atlanta, Macon and New Orleans this year. With this growth the society's Dixie office has developed into an aggressive

(Continued on page 78)

SESAC Keeps Pace with Changing Times

■ As "Country Music Month" gets underway, it looks like SESAC, for the second consecutive year, will end up with the best selling single of the year. In 1976, it was C. W. McCall's "Convoy" that broke all sales records and it's a toss-up at this writing whether the 1977 best seller will be "Heaven's Just A Sin Away" by the Kendalls on the Ovation label, or "The King Is Gone" by Ronnie McDowell on Scorpion Records. Both are headed for the top spot and both are big crossover hits. "The King Is Gone" has already topped the two million sales mark.

The big finish for the year is not surprising as SESAC is growing each year by leaps and bounds with a steady influx of new writer and publisher affiliates.

Brim

While the older SESAC publisher affiliates continue to add to their tally of chart songs, the new affiliates are starting strong. Most obvious is Slim William-

son's Brim Music, which came up with the year's fastest selling single, "The King Is Gone," the only Elvis Presley tribute record to capture the pop as well as the country audience's approval. It was Brim Music that also discovered young Ronnie McDowell and saw in him not only his obvious songwriting talents, but his commercial possibilities as a recording artist. Brim also released the first successful "Father's Day" song in "I Remember A Father's Day Card," recorded by WSM's Grant Turner, and interested Roy Drusky, an old SESAC friend, in cutting a number of Ronnie McDowell's tunes.

Hello Darlin'

It has also been a busy year for Conway Twitty's SESAC affiliate, Hello Darlin' Music. Its impressive list of releases included recordings by Connie Cato, Loretta Lynn, L. E. White, Mary Lou Turner and Conway himself. The addition of artist/writer Peggy Forman to the Hello Darlin' roster was an important plus for

For BMI, Caring Means Education

comes sharply into focus. Under the direction of BMI vice president Frances Preston, those who work for the company and meet the public offer time, information, personal warmth and encouragement to any and all who seek it. They make these components of BMI policy a part of the educational process.

Friendliness, the open-door welcome to BMI, is a matter of history. Certainly the emergence and acceptance of country music is inextricably linked with the growth and constant sense of renewal at BMI.

Leading country historian Paul Ackerman states the case best: "By introducing this music to a larger public, by providing performing rights compensation to all-but-ignored Country writers and publishers, the organization performed a major service for American music and for the Western world. It helped what was once considered a specialty music become an integral part of our culture."

In recent years, the Nashville staff, including Mrs. Preston, Roger Sovine, Del Bryant, Jerry Smith, Helen Maxson and Patsy Bradley, certainly have extended the BMI ambiance beyond the BMI building in Music City. They have given lectures on performing rights and various aspects of the music industry and/or attended seminars at Middle Tennessee State University, the University of Texas, the University of Miami,

the publishing firm as Peggy not only was signed by MCA as an artist, but had some nine of her songs recorded on that label.

Gator

Glenn Ray's Gator Music, a firm in the Tom T. Hall family, came up with the company's first major hit—the current Barbara Mandrell single on CBS Records, "Hold Me." Glenn, better known as "Gator," is a veteran writer and his song of several years ago, "I Just Came Home To Count The Memories," was revived by Cal Smith and rode the singles charts for weeks. The song was published by Ted Harris' Contention Music, an old and consistent SESAC affiliate. Contention winds up the last 12 months with a track record that includes chart singles and lps by Eddy Arnold, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Mel Street and Peggy Forman.

Kris Music is truly a country publisher, operating out of Fayetteville, Tennessee, but its lo-

(Continued on page 78)

THE KITTY WELLS SHOW

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Kitty Wells

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Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 46)
which had been "dark" for several weeks.

APRIL

Singer **David Wills** signed with UA . . . The eighth annual Country Music Radio Seminar here was largest in history—with 346 registered. **George Duncan**, president of Metromedia Radio, was keynote speaker . . . **Hoyt Axton** released an MCA single, titled "You're the Hangnail in My Life" . . . **B. J. Thomas** resumed his career after long layoff. Comeback recording was "Home Where I Belong."

Evangelist **Bob Harrington** signed for booking as country act with the local Celebrity Management, Inc. Harrington said he intended to wow the audiences with "holy humor" . . . Huntington, West Va. and Ironton, Ohio, hosted "Tom T. Hall Days." (One to a customer city?) . . . **Chet Atkins**, **Danny Davis** and **Floyd Cramer** got together and recorded an RCA album. **Bob Ferguson** produced.

Jimmy Dean, the sausage sultan, signed to host an NBC-TV special . . . **Hank Williams, Jr.** told reporters: "From now on I'm going to sing 'my' songs—not daddy's songs" . . . The Cleopatra Restaurant in Chicago changed its name to "Cleopatra Nashville" and entertained with country music. (No April fooling. It happened.) . . . **Kenny Rogers'** "Lucille" hit the top in the April 2 listings—and there it stayed and stayed and stayed. (Another song-of-the-year type???)

Allen Reynolds signed as producer at CBS Records (Nashville) . . . **Sonny James** cut an lp in the Tennessee State Prison—backed by some inmate musicians . . . The William Morris Agency (Nashville) signed **George Hamilton IV** as a client.

Johnny Duncan was looking better all the time with "It Couldn't Have Been Any Better." However, the recording was "better" as a seller . . . **Jimmy Buffett's** single, "Margaritaville," was making beautiful noises. (It became a CMA nominee.) . . . **D. Parton** guested on **Mac Davis'** TV special . . . **Merle Travis** called **RW** to deny reports that he was in ill health. "Only those rumors are ill," insisted Travis. We believed him!

Nat Stuckey, now on MCA, had "Please James" going for him . . . The Louisiana Hayride bought Ray Stevens Sound Laboratory—but had no plans to move it from Nashville . . . The Texas legislature cited **Hank Thompson** for his consistent contribution to music and the swinging Lone Star state.

Don Williams reported that there is a "Nashville Club" in Sioux Falls, S.D. . . . Radio stations and jukeboxes were playing "Luckenbach, Texas" by **Waylon Jennings** . . . The response was incredible; unbelievable (**Chips Moman** and **Buddy Emmons** wrote the song and it is a "song of the year" finalist and in line for a CMA award).

Mel Tillis was getting very warm for April with a revival of "Burning Memories" . . . **Joe Ely** sang "Tennessee Is Not the State I'm In" and **Walter Haynes** asked, "So where are you?" . . . **David Houston** was getting action with "So Many Ways" . . . Versatile **Vassar Clements** signed with MCA. Vassar got credit for this line: "The 'Orange Blossom Special' is the fiddle players' national anthem" . . . **Merle Haggard**, **Brenda Lee** and **Mickey Newbury** performed on the Nashville Songwriters Association's benefit program at Grand Ole Opry House.

Tammy Wynette was hospitalized for treatment of abdominal pains . . . Playboy producer **Eddie Kilroy** gifted artist **Mickey Gilley** with a piano-shaped necklace—studded with 34 diamonds. Some stud?

Jeannie Seely wrote "Sometimes I Do" and her longtime friend **Ernest Tubb** recorded it . . . **Jimmy Henley**, billed as youngest professional banjo picker in country music, was traveling with **Roy Clark's** road show. Jimmy's 12 years old . . . **Hank Cochran** produced **Merle Haggard** for a lp session . . . "The Country Music Hit Parade" aired on NBC-TV.

Dobie Gray's "Let Go" was listed among the "country single picks" . . . **Skeeter Davis**, now with Mercury, released "It's Love That I Feel" **Gene Watson's** "Paper Rosie" for Capitol was no paper tiger in the charts . . . **Bill Anderson** was signed to co-host a daily game show on ABC-TV . . . "The Adventures of J. D. and the Salt Flat Kid" movie was being filmed in this area. **Diane Sherrill** was cast for a major role.

Veteran songsmith **Eddie Miller** died unexpectedly of a heart attack. He co-wrote "Release Me," among many others . . . Monument Records named **Tom Rodden** as its general manager/vice president . . . The **Statler Brothers** had all the sounds of another triumph with "I Was There."

Joan Dew of Hollywood was in town to discuss the writing of **Minnie Pearl's** biography—for release in late 1978 . . . **Vito Pelletieri**, 87, stage manager of the Grand Ole Opry for many Saturday nights, died . . . **Hank Williams Jr.'s** new sound for Warner Bros. was "Mobile

Boogie" . . . **Loretta Lynn's** "She's Got You" got first place in the weekly **RW** singles race . . . **Hargus (Pig) Robbins**, instrumentalist of the year, signed to record for Elektra/Asylum . . . **Eddie Kilroy** was promoted to vice president by Playboy Records . . . **George Jones** opened another Possom Holler nightclub—this one in Topeka, Kansas . . . **Dickey Lee** signed for bookings with Top Billing, Inc. agency . . . **Bill Anderson's** "Head to Toe" was looking up toward the head of the charts . . . **Porter Wagoner** announced he was coming out of retirement.

MAY

Grant Turner, 33-year veteran at WSM radio, retired as active announcer but promised to keep his voice in training for moonlight assignments . . . "Ol' Waylon" was an **RW** country pick of the week in the album category. The best prediction of the year—as later notes will confirm . . . A new 500-seat restaurant bearing **Jerry Reed's** name opened near Opryland . . . **Dave Mack** was added to Warner Bros. regional market & promotion staff, headquartering in Atlanta.

Arnie Theiss was named sales manager of the **Gene Autry**-owned Republic Records, according to vice president **Dave Burgess** . . . **Tex Davis**, formerly with Monument label, was tapped as boss for all Combine Music Group-Kondo Productions product . . . ASCAP donated \$10,000 to the local Tennessee Performing Arts Foundation . . . The Tulsa Opry opened . . . A "solid gold" Cadillac, owned by **Elvis Presley**, was donated to the Country Music Hall of Fame . . . There were rumors in that May air that **Lynn Anderson** and her writer-producer hubby **Glenn Sutton** were having domestic problems. "No comment," they said—at that time.

A quarter horse named **Love** gave birth to a colt. **Jeannie Seely** christened the newcomer, "**Jessi Colt**," a name inspired by Seely's current single, "We're Still Hanging in There, Ain't We Jessi"—a song about **Jessi Colter** (Mrs. Waylon Jennings) . . . **Dolly Parton** organized a new band, **Gypsy Fever** . . . Asked why he didn't move to Nashville, **Merle Haggard** replied: "I've thought about it a lot—but the thought didn't last too long." He then added, "I doubt if I could endure the Nashville summers and their humidity."

Tammy Wynette had a birthday and former husband **George Jones** hosted a party for her. Togetherness lives! . . . **Billy Walker** signed with Casino Records . . . **Duane Eddy** was moving with an Elektra single of **Jimmie Davis'** "Your Are My Sunshine" . . . More on Tammy W.: There was talk that a major company would publish her biography . . . **Marty Robbins** stuck with the golden oldies: "I Don't Know Why" was his new Columbia release.

Conway Twitty's "Play Guitar Play," after a 10-week climb was ranked No. 1 . . . The **Oak Ridge Boys** signed with ABC-Dot, where **Ron Chancey** was assigned to produce the quartet.

"Gentle Moments" by **Evie Tornquist** (Word) was No. 1 among the contemporary & inspirational gospel recordings . . . **Rita** (Mrs. Kris) **Kristofferson Coolidge** lost her baby, which was due in September . . . The scuttlebutt that **Faron Young** was hiring **Jerry Lee Lewis** as his press agent was firmly denied. "I am talking with **Shelby Singleton** about the job," explained Faron.

Larry Butler hit the exit as United Artists' local boss—but firmed deal to continue producing for the label as an independent . . . **Hargus**
(Continued on page 64)

ALBUM CHART ACTIVITY

■ A Comprehensive List Of Country Album Chart Activity By Label From August 21, 1976 through August 13, 1977

Label	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Label	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
A&M	1	—	—	Hitsville	2	—	—
ABC	3	—	—	Kaleidoscope	1	—	—
ABC Dot	28	6	—	MCA	22	11	4
ABC Hickory	1	—	—	Mercury	12	2	—
Ariola America	1	1	—	MGM	5	—	—
Arista	1	—	—	Monument	3	—	—
Asylum	3	2	1	Plantation	1	—	—
Capitol	22	6	1	Playboy	4	1	—
Capricorn	1	—	—	Polydor	2	1	—
Casino	1	—	—	RCA	34	16	4
Columbia	31	6	2	Republic	2	—	—
Con Brio	1	—	—	RSO	1	—	—
Elektra	5	1	—	Soundwaves	1	—	—
Epic	16	5	1	Starday	2	1	1
Farr	1	—	—	United Artists	12	3	—
Gazelle	1	—	—	Warner Brothers	11	1	1
Hi	1	—	—	Zodiac	1	—	—

Nashville NARAS Chapter Expands Activities

■ Under the leadership of its board of governors and its executive director, Francine Anderson, the Nashville chapter of NARAS continues to expand its scope of activities to include several projects of local and national significance.

On May 1, 1977 the third annual Nashville NARAS Musicians and Background Voices Awards Banquet and Show was held. This year engineers were included among those honored. The Most Valuable Player award was given to Hargus "Pig" Robbins for the third consecutive year.

This year the Nashville chapter introduced The NARAS Showcase. The showcases are done in cooperation with local artists and record labels. The proceeds from the showcases provide supplemental revenue to further develop and expand the Nashville chapter activities and membership benefits. The following record labels and their artists have already participated: Playboy Records, RCA Records, ABC/Dot Records, United Artists Country and MCA Records.

On September 27, the Nashville Chapter will present the first annual WORST (World's Oldest Rock Singers Together) Showcase. Artists participating are: Bob

Beckham, Jimmy Bowen, The Champs featuring Dave Burgess, The Crickets, Jimmy Gilmer and the Fireballs, Bill Justis, Gene Kennedy, Carl Mann, Charle McCoy and the Over-The-Hill Gang, Gary Miles, Bob Moore, The Newbeats, Carl Perkins, Johnny Wilson and others.

For the first time since the formation of NARAS, associate members are represented on the local chapter board of governors. Two associate members were elected to the board of governors, Chic Doherty of MCA Records and David Pack, a Nashville attorney.

In keeping with the increased activity within the NARAS Nashville chapter, the organization is currently planning a host of new membership and industry events, such as seminars, lectures, etc. in conjunction with the NARAS Institute.

As a non-profit, voluntary organization, NARAS Nashville has experienced a substantial growth in membership this past year. Current officers and governors include:

Roger Sovine, president; Ed Penney, 1st vice president; Lynn Shults, 2nd vice president; Layng Martine, secretary; John Sturdivant, treasurer; Francine Anderson, executive director.

Buddy Lee Attractions Countrifies Las Vegas

■ The first part of 1977 was an especially busy time for Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc., with the agency providing a steady flow of talent to a number of Las Vegas hotels.

In addition to the agency's artists, acts booked included such notables as Jerry Lee Lewis and the legendary Roy Orbison in the Aladdin Hotel. In June, recording pianist Floyd Cramer joined the Buddy Lee roster, combining booking representation with his long-time friend Danny Davis. Both the Nashville Brass and Floyd Cramer are among the top "class" concert acts working from Nashville. More recently, exclusive representation for fairs was signed with Ray Charles, in association with SMADA Artist Mgmt.

Other notable units available exclusively for the next fair season are Frankie Avalon; Brenda Lee; Atlantic Records artists The Spinners; Steve Allen; Soupy Sales; "The Peter Marshall Show," host of "The Hollywood Squares" TV show; Jerry Lee Lewis, in conjunction with Jerry Lee Lewis Enterprises; and The Hamid-Morton Circus. Buddy Lee Attractions, Inc. will be representing these and other artists, in addition to their regular roster of artists.

All American Wins With Solid Planning

■ In January, 1977, Hal Freeman, president of Cin-Kay Records, decided he could improve the method of distributing records used by other distributing firms, and so was the birth of All-American Record Distributing, Inc.

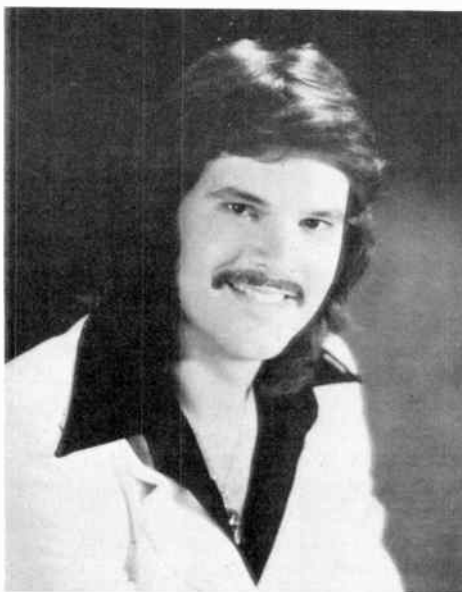
Freeman's idea for improving record distribution was simple. Records are mailed first class to all the primary radio stations and third class to all the secondary stations, in comparison to fourth class and bulk mailing. Records are mailed one record per envelope to the radio stations, in comparison to 6-10 records per envelope used by some distributing firms. Each record receives a minimum of four weeks intensive promotion.

These simple steps and a little extra effort proved effective on New Breed Country Records. Seven days after "Lunch Time Lovers" was released, All-American received orders for 11,500 copies.

Its record distribution success continued with labels such as Mission City of California, Omni Records (Georgia), CC International (Ohio), Pic International (Ohio), Pic International (Nashville), JAM Records (Georgia) and Oleo Ranch (West Virginia).



INTRODUCES 2 NEW STARS ON THE HORIZON!



Daniel

"Stolen Moments"



Cristy Lane

"Let Me Down Easy"

ALBUM COMING SOON!

DISTRIBUTED BY: GRT RECORDS - PRODUCED BY CHAZ

Capricorn: A Successful Blend of Southern Sounds

■ Country music, both traditional and progressive, has been an influence on many of the artists and groups that record for Capricorn. The southern spirit and flavor that characterizes the "Capricorn Sound" has roots that draw upon the rich musical heritage provided by country music. The changing times have seen many artists using their country music background as a foundation adopting it with other forms of music, most notably rock and blues, to create a new music that has a broad appeal to the listening public.

A classic case in point is The Marshall Tucker Band. This band has emerged as one of the most popular groups in the country, and they have experienced a great crossover appeal with rock and country audiences. While a number of influences made their mark on The Marshall Tucker Band, country music definitely tops the list.

The band's country influences are present on all six of their albums, especially their current lp, "Carolina Dreams." And it is on this most recent album that The Marshall Tucker Band has achieved its greatest success, due no doubt to the albums wide

appeal to both pop and country audiences. Released as a single from "Carolina Dreams," the Toy Caldwell composition "Heard It In A Love Song" was a major nationwide hit with both pop and country stations. Other hit singles by The Marshall Tucker Band that have been successful on the country charts as well as the pop charts include: "Can't You See" (which was also a hit for Waylon Jennings), "Fire On The Mountain," "Searchin' For A Rainbow" and "Long Hard Ride."

With the imminent release of his second album for Capricorn, Billy Joe Shaver is preparing for the road. Billy Joe Shaver is perhaps one of the most talked about writer/performers around today.

Billy Joe's first album, "Old Five and Dimers Like Me," for the Monument label, was produced by Kris Kristofferson and featured more songs that were added to Billy Joe's list of country classics.

His first album for Capricorn was produced by Bob Johnston and released in May of 1976.

Billy Joe's second Capricorn album was produced by Brian Ahern, and is titled "Gypsy Boy."

The album includes several new Shaver compositions, plus a tune penned by Shaver and Waylon Jennings, titled "You Asked Me To."

Just recently signed to Capricorn is Delbert McClinton. A native Texan, Delbert was recently with ABC Records where he recorded three lps: "Victim of Life's Circumstances," "Genuine Cowhide" and 1977's "Love Rustler." Delbert has been making music for money since he was 17 years old. It was Delbert's harp-work on Bruce Channel's 1962 hit, "Hey! Baby," that turned The Beatles on to rock and roll harmonica and inspired their first hit, "Love Me Do."

Delbert signed with Capricorn Records in August, 1977. His first album is yet to be recorded, however, you can expect a brand new Delbert McClinton album after the first of the year.

Kitty Wells was one of the first country artists signed to Capricorn in 1973. Although her country music career spans over

the past 20 years, Kitty Wells shows no signs of slowing down. Her current road show, which includes Kitty, her husband (singer/composer Johnny Wright), and the Tennessee Mountain Boys, works an average of 200 shows per year, still breaking attendance records at concerts and state fairs.

For her debut Capricorn album, "Forever Young," Kitty Wells departed from her traditional Nashville environment and recorded her album at Capricorn Sound Studios in Macon, using both traditional country musicians and the cream of southern rock musicians.

Most recently, Kitty was reunited with her former producer, Owen Bradley, for sessions in Nashville. Kitty was the Grand Marshall at last year's Nashville Christmas Parade, and this spring and summer, Miss Wells and Company proceeded to break even more attendance records at various state fairs across the country.



Capricorn country features (from left) Delbert McClinton and Billy Joe Shaver.

Caprice Records
proudly presents,
a vivacious honey blonde who is a
superb artist with a unique style,

Becky Hall
"Gypsy Stranger"

CA-2039



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Down 'n Dixie: Up & Coming

■ Kentucky born Troy Seals is a veteran of the Nashville sound who, a little over a year ago, set up Down 'n Dixie Music Publishing. Previously Seals had been with Danor Music, but he felt that he could flourish with his own company based upon his strong writing ability and some other strong writers he drew.

Along with writers Joe New and Eddie Setser, Seals has been successful with a string of hits placed with such artists as Ronnie Milsap, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich, Conway Twitty, Loretta Lynn and Jeanie Pruitt.

As a writer in conjunction with several others, Seals has written two hits for Conway and Loretta—"Feelings" and "Can't Love You Enough"—and one for Conway alone—"Honky Tonk Angel."

Down 'n Dixie is a part of Almo/Irving Publishing.

Hayride Label Starts 2nd Year

■ Louisiana Hayride Records is beginning its second year as an independent record label. It is headquartered at the Sound Lab, 1708 Grand Avenue in Nashville. Formerly Ray Steven's Sound Lab, it was purchased in March of this year by David Kent (president of the label) and Harold Shedd (vice president and head of the Nashville office). With artists Willie Rainsford, Micki Fuhrman, Lee Morris and Truman Lankford the label has produced two nationally charted songs. Harold Shedd produces all Hayride acts and distribution is handled by Record Productions of America from its Nashville office.

Original Hayride

David Kent is also the owner of the famed Louisiana Hayride, for which the label is named. The Hayride, in Shreveport, La., now syndicates its weekly radio broadcast in 200 markets.

Billy Sherrill: The Man with the Midas Touch

■ In the past one year, no producer of country music has fathered more national hit records than Billy Sherrill, vice president. a&r, CBS Records, Nashville. No one else has delivered more #1 hits; no one else has bolstered the national charts with more top 10s; no one else has invested the country music industry with more nationally-charted records than Sherrill.

Sherrill has turned the switch for countless artists' careers. Many of his artists have achieved gold and platinum status. He is consistently credited as the force who has and continues to expand the base of country music. His genius can be seen in his unflinching ability to marry the artist, the song and the arrangement into a hit-making blend.

Sherrill's aesthetic instincts have assaulted the pop and country charts with well over 70 #1 hits or countless gold records. "The man with the Midas touch" has received virtually every industry award and honor that is available in the field of music. The benefits of Sherrill's works are felt worldwide. His production masterpieces have reached over 27 countries of the world, virtually every country where music is marketed. And although he has achieved success on every musical chart, Sherrill, a very private man, eschews flash.

His aims remain the same: to entertain the audience, to make hits, to discover and build artists.

The Sherrill statistics say he does it better than anyone. A brilliant producer, a celebrated songwriter, a superb song-scouter, an innovative musician, an ingenious talent-finder — Sherrill's track record is unquestionably evident in his expanding stable of stars.

Charlie Rich's "Rolling With The Flow," Tammy Wynette's "You And Me," Marty Robbins' "Among My Souvenirs," George Jones and Tammy Wynette's "Near You," and Johnny Duncan's very first and second hits, "Thinkin' Of A Rendezvous" and "It Couldn't Have Been Any Better," reached the revered number one post on the country charts this past year.

George Jones' "Her Name Is," Johnny Paycheck's "Slide Off Your Satin Sheets," Tammy Wynette's "Let's Get Together," Johnny Duncan's "Song In The Night" and Marty Robbins' "Adios Amigo" joined Sherrill's recent phenomenal string of top 10 records. The list goes on. More Sherrill-produced hits of the past year include Barbara Fairchild's "Mississippi," Freddy Weller's

"Liquor, Love, and Life," Johnny Paycheck's "11 Months And 29 Days," Bob Luman's "How Do You Start Over," Charlie Rich's "Road Song," David Houston's "Come On Down To Our Favorite Forget About Her Place," Weller's "Room 269," Paycheck's "I Can See Me Loving You Again," Fairchild's "Cheatin' Is," Rich's "Easy Look," Weller's "Merry Go Round," Paycheck's "I'm The Only Hell My Mama Ever Raised," George and Tam-

my's "Southern California," Tanya Tucker's "You Are So Beautiful," and Jones' "If I Put Them All Together (I'd Have You)." Then Sherrill signed Janie Fricke to his jeweled roster and spawned immediate success with "What're You Doing Tonight?"

"Almost Persuaded" (recorded in every language, in every musical format, and over 200 times at last count) cast the die. Since 1966, Sherrill has written over 100 hit songs.



Billy Sherrill

ASCAP pays country songwriters more than just compliments.



1977 has been country music's greatest year — and ASCAP's greatest year in country music. We've had more #1 country songs than ever before — and more ASCAP songs on the country charts than ever before.

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COUNTRY RADIO

By CHARLIE DOUGLAS

■ 1977, like each year before it, has been filled with motion, aggressive promotion, gains for country radio and a stabilizing of the oft questioned direction of country music as an entertainment form . . . Back in January, **Billy Hayes** was looking forward to his new assignment as GM of the new country facility in Knoxville, Tenn., WBIR-FM . . . KTTS in Springfield, Mo. showed **Waylon** and **Willie** on top of its year-end music survey with "Goodhearted Woman" . . . WVFC in McConnellsburg, Pa. celebrated its first anny as a country station . . . Ontario, Cal. got a new country facility in KSOM . . . The FCC was looking at Arbitron and **Stan Kaplan** at WAYS in Charlotte, a rocker, was quoted as saying his most sought after accomplishment was "putting Arbitron the hell out of business." Both Kaplan and Arbitron are still solvent . . . **Ron Jones**, PD at WHK, Cleveland, was having a living nightmare after he received severe hand injuries while attempting to defend the life of his friend and newsman **Bob Powers**. Powers and Jones and friends were enjoying a private party at Jones apartment when an intruder forced his way in, became unruly, stabbed Powers to death, cut Jones badly and then slashed a former girl friend who was at the party.

February saw **Dene Hallam** turn WFEC, Harrisburg, to country . . . **Craig Scott** moved his offices from Chicago to Memphis at Plough Headquarters where he is VP/programming . . . KGA, Spokane, showed roughly a 50 percent increase in numbers and was an overall #1 . . . **Easy Edd Robinson** departed WAME, Charlotte, after nine years as morning man and eight as PD and **Bob Lockwood** left WKDA . . . **Webb Pierce** sold all his radio properties for three million . . . **Bill Ward** picked up the Academy of Country Music award for KLAC as station of the year for the sixth time . . . KYKX, a 100kw FM'er in Longview, Tex., moved into new studios . . . **Bill Anderson's** "Some-times" became the number one song on the soul charts as recorded by **The Facts Of Life**.

March came in with **Cy Russell** leaving WWOK in Miami to buy WGMA in Hollywood, Fla. . . WDAF, K.C., began their \$100 thousand give-away to introduce its new country format . . . **Dale Eichor** at

KWMT in Ft. Dodge was busily paying some listeners' heating bills in the coldest winter on record . . . **John Lego** moved from KHOW to KERE, both Denver, as GM . . . WVOK in Birmingham went country, or better, went back to country . . . **Karl Shannon** moved from WINN to WBIR-FM as PD . . . **Bill Robinson** of WIRE formed his own automation firm, The Musicworks, Inc. . . . **Mike Shanin** was named PD at KCKN, Kansas City . . . **Rick Patton** left WJJD for WAIT, both Chicago . . . The FICAP board met in Nashville and approved their insurance program for members . . . **Duke Anthony** was upped to PD/MD at KXLR, Little Rock.

April saw the coming of spring and some relief in the weather . . . And WRCP in Philly took 24 listeners to the **Roy Clark** show at the Latin Casino . . . **Billy Cole** of WHO became a grandfather for the second time . . . **Dick Smith** checked into Duke Hospital for some back problems, returned to his station of employment and found they'd let him go . . . **Ron Scott** was named MD at KRMD, Shreveport . . . **George Erwin** left KFJZ after 35 years and joined **Tom Wayne** at KXOL, both Fort Worth . . . **Big John Trimble** left KWKH and moved to WRVA, Richmond to crank up a night-time country show . . . The courts overturned the FCC ruling regarding the obscenity case at WBAI in N.Y.

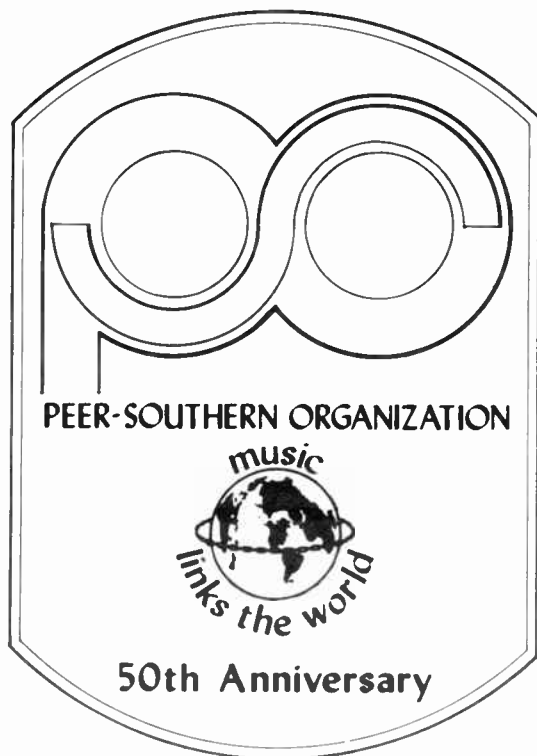
May and **Jimmie Rodgers** Memorial Festival Time in Meridian, Miss. Great shows and the pay-off of the mortgage on the Jimmie Rodgers museum . . . The **Dolly Parton** doll made its appearance on the market . . . Word was that WCOP in Boston would drop its country format, which it later did . . . **Bill Viands** moved into WIOD, Miami as GM and later the country show at night was dropped . . . **Jim Healy** of KLAC, L.A., was named Best Sportscaster by the Greater L.A. Press Club, for the second consecutive year . . . **Mike Monroe** left the air, moved into sales, but kept his MD position at KGA, Spokane . . . **Dale Chilson** at KFGO, Fargo was elected prez of the Ad Club . . . **Charlie Warner**, GM of NBC's WMAQ in Chicago, was named VP . . . **Dennis Rainwater**, OM at KEBC-FM in Oklahoma City, tossed a big on-air celebration for the station's 10th anny as country . . . **Andy Apple** was named PD at KCJB, Minot, upon going country.

June came in and WHNE went country in Norfolk . . . **Tim Akers** became PD at WHOK-FM, Lancaster, Ohio . . . **Larry Scott**, then of KFDI, Wichita, did his always excellent job as network commentator for a country broadcast from Carnegie Hall in N.Y.C. . . . The courts reaffirmed their ruling regarding the obscenity ruling in the George Carlin/WBAI case. They refused the FCC a retrial and said that in their eyes the famous, or perhaps infamous seven words, are perfectly acceptable for broadcast on radio. The striking of the FCC obscenity rule stands. Let it all hang out . . . **Billy Parker** of KVOO and **Jack Reno** of WLW were the emcees at the annual International Fan Club Organization show during Fan Fair, and WSM's **Ralph Emery** received a "Founders" award from Music City News . . . **Record World** hosted an isle of sanity in the midst of insanity in its booth for artists and radio folk during the Fan Fair stampede. It was an out-of-the-way booth, curtained to prevent Joe and Jane Fan from seeing inside and entering, a spot with couches, chairs, phones, coffee, cakes, punch and weary artists and industry folk hiding for a few minutes . . . **Tom Torrance**, KWMT, died from a heart attack . . . KLIC, Monroe, La., was sold to a group of local investors . . . **Walter Bartlett** upped to operations director at WDEN, Macon, Ga.

July and summer and **Bob Cole** moves from WIOD, Miami, to the all night shift at KIKK, Houston . . . **Charles Warner**, GM and **Bob Pittman**, PD of WMAQ, Chicago, got themselves shipped off to WNBC in N.Y.C. . . . **Mack Sanders** bought WENO in Nashville and sold KFRM and KICT-FM in Wichita, Kansas . . . **Bert Sherwood** and **Bill Hennes**, GM and PD respectively, left WIBG in Philly and moved into the same positions at WMAQ, Chicago . . . **Grant Turner** was honored by **Ernest Tubb** on the last night of his multi-year (22) job as host of "The Midnight Jamboree" broadcast over WSM . . . **Jonathan Rhodes** named PD at WEEP, Pittsburgh . . . **Jay Marvin** named MD at WAME in Charlotte . . . **Bill Hays** replaced the departing **Jim Regan** as manager at WKDA, Nashville . . . **Charlie Cook** exited WWVA, Wheeling, for WHN, N.Y., as asst. PD . . . **Pappy Tipton** packed up his earphones and retired after 11,000 years in radio . . . **Buddy Ray** of WWVA, Wheeling, had his hernia fixed but still has problems with his loud mouth . . . **Carolina Charlie** at WHNE, Norfolk signed a \$2.8 million ten year contract to provide entertainment for the Norfolk/Virginia Beach Holiday Inn . . . CFGM in Toronto jumped into the four wheel and van surge with a Truck and Van Challenge in Cayuga.

(Continued on page 70)

Our Roots Have Turned To Gold

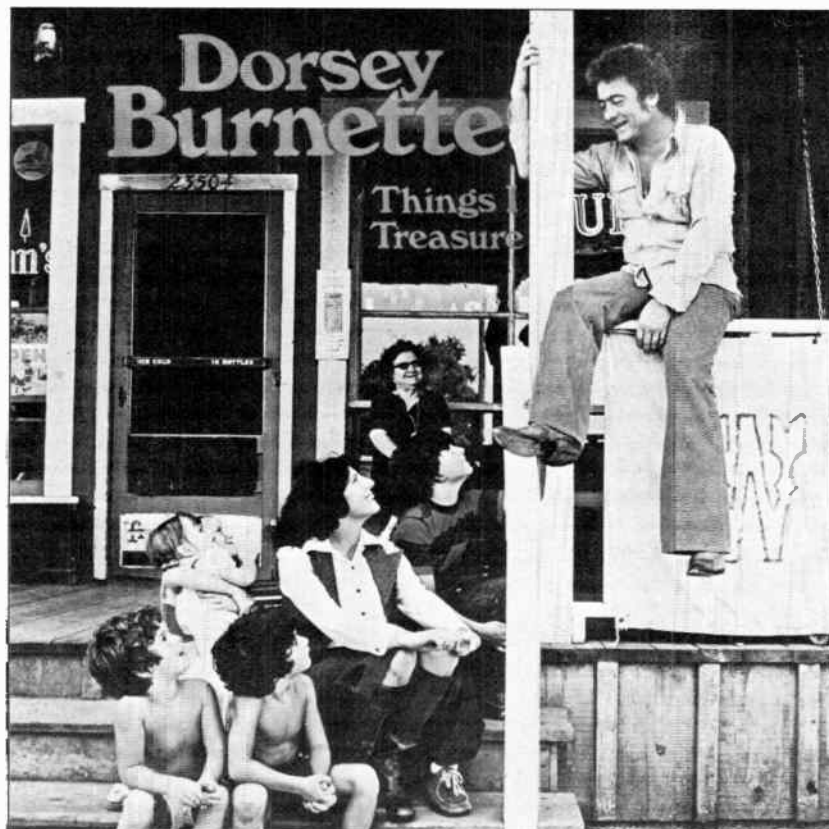


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Single

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Mike Boyd

CALS 8010

Single

Disco Redneck
Don Miller

CALS 8015

Album

Somethin' Pretty Bad
Rebecca Lynn

CAL 7002



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World Radio History

Show Biz Provides Top Country TV

■ With four half-hour country music shows in current production, in addition to its syndicated radio series hosted by Ralph Emery and its gospel music television series, Show Biz, Inc. is providing programming for over 700 broadcasters a week, making it the nation's #1 distributor of the Nashville sound.

For the 1977-78 season Show Biz developed the all new "Marty Robbins' Spotlight." The concept of this new series is a sort of musical "This Is Your Life." Each episode is a salute to another big name in the entertainment business. Marty and his guests perform some favorite songs in the history of the guest's career, and there are cameo bits from other celebrities connected with the spotlight guest.

Among the stars in the spotlight are Ray Stevens, Carol Channing, Tom T. Hall, Barbara Mandrell, Ruth Buzzi, Hank Williams, Jr., George Jones, Billy "Crash" Craddock, Ray Price, Larry Gatlin, Jim Ed Brown and Helen Cornelius. "Marty Robbin's Spotlight" is a half-hour weekly series premiering in September, 1977, which has already been ordered in 87 markets.

Chuck Glaser: A Man of Many Talents

■ If Nashville's music business were a football team, Chuck Glaser's 20 years of experience would make him a triple-threat quarterback.

First, there's his in-studio production and engineering expertise for artists such as John Hartford, Kinky Friedman, Hank Snow, Jeannie Seely, Jack Green, Slim Whitman, Kenny Rogers & The First Edition and Leon McAuliffe, among others.

Second, Chuck Glaser has a way of discovering talent, including writers and performers like John Hartford, whose "Gentle On My Mind" sold over 100 million records for 450 artists. Chuck also

Other Show Biz productions include "Pop! Goes The Country" which, with its ever-increasing popularity, is now in its fourth big year. Hosted by Ralph Emery, "Pop! Goes The Country" has established itself as the leader among all similar shows in the audience demographic most sought by advertisers — women 18-49. The market list going into the 1977-78 season was at 147, a new record for a Nashville-syndicated property.

'Nashville On The Road'

Now entering its third year, "Nashville On The Road" takes top Grand Ole Opry stars and a remote unit out to interesting scenic locations across the U.S. where the Show Biz cameras shoot before a live audience. Co-stars of "Nashville On The Road" are Jim Ed Brown and Jerry Clower, along with Jim Ed's singing partner, Helen Cornelius. The regular cast includes a 13 year-old bundle of energy named Wendy Holcombe, and there is a special guest on every episode.

"The Porter Wagoner Show," is the longest running country music show in television. It's been in production 17 years, and the audience increases every year.

discovered Dick Feller, Jimmy Payne, Paul Craft, Hoover, James Talley and Kinky Friedman.

Third, but certainly not least, in his own talent as a singer. He was a member of Tompall & The Glaser Brothers who, until the group broke up a few years ago, ranked as the "most awarded group in country music," 1971 CMA award winner, and Wembley Festival's No. 1 country group in the world in 1973.

And there's more. Chuck is a hit songwriter, co-owner of Glaser Sound Studios and, at earlier points in his career, was involved in artist management and booking.

In Keeping With The Western Swing Movement Trend, RCA reissues *Pee Wee King and the Golden West Cowboys "Swing West"* album which was a hit in the fifties when Pee Wee was the #1 Western Band Leader.



Shelby Singleton Corp.:

Diversification Remains The Key

■ The Shelby Singleton Corporation, located at 3106 Belmont Blvd., houses three independent record labels, a large music publishing company, a production company, a recording studio and a management company.

Shelby S. Singleton, Jr. is president and general manager of the corporation. He produces most of his artists for the three labels, Plantation, Sun and SSS International.

John Singleton is in charge of Shelby Singleton Music Company.

Royce Clark is head of independent production.

Plantation

Plantation Records began its new year with a "Breakaroo" album following the hit single "C.B. Savage" by Rod Hart.

Two albums each by Jimmy C. Newman, Hank Locklin and Rita Remington were released on Plantation.

Other albums released were by Gordon Terry, James O'Gwynn, a duet lp by Webb Pierce and Carol Channing.

Also included were John Wesley Ryles, David Allen Coe, Lois

Ann Struck, Little Jimmy Dempsey, Paul Martin, Rufus Thibodeaux, Leroy Van Dyke and other lps by various artists.

Plantation Records recently signed three new artists: former Louisiana Governor Jimmy Davis, Charlie Walker and Murray Kellum.

Gov. Davis, now 75 years old, has already finished two lps. One was his golden hits, including "You Are My Sunshine," "It Makes No Difference Now," and other hits.

Charlie Walker recorded his greatest hits, such as "Pick Me Up On Your Way Down," "Don't Squeeze My Sharmon" and "My Shoes Keep Walking Back To You."

Murray Kellum recorded a country comedy album.

Sun Records released "Elvis Presley: The Sun Years" after his death. Albums by Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich and Johnny Cash are with Sun.

Opry Trust Fund Aids The Needy

■ The Opry Trust Fund, made of contributions to the annual Grand Ole Opry Birthday Celebration, has distributed over \$500 thousand to families and individuals throughout the United States.

The Trust Fund has given away \$548,901.82 since its incorporation in 1965, and \$53,274.40 to 20 people since last year's event.

The purpose of the Fund is to give financial assistance in time of need, emergency or catastrophe to country musicians—they do not have to be Opry members—or their families. One half of the \$35 registration fee collected at the Opry Birthday Celebration is channeled to the fund. The rest helps defray a portion of the expenses incurred by the participating firms.

Structure

WSM, Inc., underwrites all administrative expenses, and no salaries are charged to the fund. The trust fund board approves all grants. Board members include Opry stars and WSM officials. The money is not handled by WSM, but placed in the hands of a Nashville bank. The contributions have been used to do everything from assuring medicine and food to paying hospital and funeral expenses.

The Opry trust fund exemplifies the country music industry helping its own less fortunate overcome financial and emotional crisis.

Al Gallico Music Keeps Hits Comin'

■ This year Al Gallico Music and Algee Music were "Rollin' With The Flow" to the top of the country charts with Charlie Rich at the helm. Tammy Wynette and the Gallico organization shared that pinnacle via "You and Me," written by Billy Sherrill and Steve Davis, will do the same.

The Nashville office welcomed back Mark Sherrill to the writing staff after a three year absence and signed new writer John Anderson to an exclusive contract. John is also a new Warner Brothers artist with his first song, "I've Got A Feeling," to be released this month. Carmol Taylor, Elektra artist and writer of many Gallico hits, fulfilled a life-long ambition by appearing on the Grand Ole Opry.

Television

Nashville music and Hollywood combined through Gallico Music's manager, Dan Darst. Dan spent several weeks this summer commuting between the two industries to provide the theme song for the NBC TV Series "Oregon Trail." Danny co-wrote the song "Oregon Bound" with the star, Rod Taylor, and the co-star, Charles Napier, on location in Arizona. Returning to Hollywood, Danny also recorded the theme for the weekly airing of "The Oregon Trail."

WHN Keeps Country in New York

By ALAN WOLMARK

■ Neil Rockoff came to New York's WHN 2½ years ago and in that short time span the country music station has gone from the 14th position to a tie for second in popularity with the 25-49 audience. It is currently the most popular country station in the nation, according to quarter hour listenership. Rockoff didn't do it by himself, and is quick to attribute much of the credit to program director Ed Salamon and Dale Pon, director of creative services, with whom he says he works as "a triumvirat—what we refer to as the inner city flying wedge."

As vice president and general manager, Rockoff has interests outside of management, which has spurred on an active role for him in sales and determining broadcast standards, programming and promotion which, within a coordinated structure, account for WHN's success. The station's firm foundation is clearly the result of a well integrated programming and promotional attack integrally weaving contesting into the fabric of the programming which "creates a synergistic force for the radio station and involves the listener."

In order to make country music palatable to the New York market-place "we thought it was very important to shake down the boogie about country being negative . . . We saw this thing as a marketing problem. If we directed our attention to a marketing concept, the other things would work," says Rockoff who, with Pon and Salamon, developed WHN's "link artist" ad technique. Posters of familiar performer like John Denver, Johnny Cash, Glen Campbell and Linda Ronstadt were used in an extensive external advertising campaign to open the road for mass appeal country-oriented rock or COR as Rockoff terms it.

The external campaign plus an on-the-air concept captured listeners and broadened WHN's audience. Rockoff explains the total concept: "At the time (mid-'75) New York was going

down the tube. So what we did was develop an umbrella theme playing on the theme, 'there's a whole lot of good in this country.'" Capitalizing on the poor economic conditions of the moment, WHN hit the New York market with this positive approach while on-the-air contests provided listeners with small but practical gifts such as the payment of a bill or a month's free rent. A constructive attitude in a time of economic strife combined with a corresponding "tell us five good things about our country" phone contest, enabled WHN to present itself as a "positive, non-slick, non-hype, non-kid-oriented radio station designed for adults over 25."

The station had researched the New York marketplace and "found a whole class of people not into inner city music . . . and who no longer had Eydie Gorme and Tony Bennett—and how much John Denver could they listen to?" To "move with the flow" and expand, January, 1977 saw the institution of phase two of WHN's attack. Said Rockoff, "We faced the question of solidifying and raising the awareness of a base of listenership above and beyond the blue collar base that we felt we had."

needed to appeal to an older audience (25-54), which was now being evaluated in the rating books.

A new phone contest materialized, getting listeners to "tell us something good that happened to you." By making the station's approach more personal the popularity grew in terms of mass appeal. Coupled with the contest, WHN had multiple callers on-the-air at once expressing their experiences and all of a sudden the feeling that "country was okay" pervaded the market. Country lovers could come out of the closet. People were hearing, on-the-air, a cross-section of New Yorkers involved with country music. The audience expanded.

This growth can be determined concretely. In order to succeed with a country format WHN originally allotted, sources say, about \$250 thousand as an annual budget for advertising and promotion. The current figure is in the area of \$150 thousand. And in the past 2½ years the station's sales have increased 2½ times. Industry sources reveal an initial \$1 million annual loss has now been converted to a \$1 million annual profit.

WHN sees no end in sight.

Remodeling Clicks for Clement

■ Jack Clement Recording Studios made significant gains in their financial picture in 1977 with a net 38 percent increase in revenue for the first six months of 1977.

Increase Factors

Al Mifflin, co-owner of the studios, attributed the increase to four main factors: remodeling, addition of new equipment, improved economy and the attraction of new artists to the studios to record.

"First of all," said Mifflin, "money is available for recording. The overall improvement in the national economy is accountable for that."

"Then we undertook a major remodeling program which included installation of a Harrison 3232 automatic console, a new

3M 24-track tape machine with a complete M-24 Dolby noise reduction system for Studio A."

The remodeling at Clement was unique in that the employees did most of the work. Jim Williamson, general manager, and engineers Billy Sherrill, Rick Horton, Mike Poston and Gary Laney did the carpentry and installed most of the equipment. The increase in income was reflected in the first six months of operation in spite of the fact that Studio A was inoperable for several weeks while the remodeling was taking place.

Engineers at Clement and musicians are specially proud of the full trapping techniques which have been used in such areas as the control room, drum & bass booths, and piano location. Two

Cream/Hi Keys On Country Roster

■ LOS ANGELES—With an initial stable of four acts, Cream/Hi Records will key off the country division of the label with artists Ace Cannon, Bill Black's Combo and Jerry Jaye on the Hi logo and Chuck Howard on Cream. Each will have single and lp releases during the coming months, including album reissues with Cannon and Black.

According to Hal Winn, vice president/director of a&r at Cream, "We are jumping into the country field with three respected and established artists in Ace, Bill Black's Combo and Jerry Jaye, and a great country writer/artist in Chuck Howard. We're going to be contemporary country and certainly take advantage of the tremendous cross-over potential of these acts. We will also be working very closely with Russ Allison, who heads country a&r at Hi in Memphis."

Howard, whose songs have been recorded by artists Eddie Arnold, Charley Pride and Roy Clark and just recently by Merle Haggard and Waylon Jennings, has just finished a Memphis studio session with a forthcoming single to be released this fall. Additionally, Grammy-nominated Cannon for "Bluesy, Stay Away from Me," and Jaye, whose "It's All in the Game" was a hit seller, both have singles set for fall releases.

Cannon and the triple gold record winning Bill Black's Combo have lp re-issues with new cover graphics and titles, "Sax Man" and "Memphis, Tennessee," respectively, shipping October 14.

JBL-4320 speakers are encased in 19-foot columns.

In March of this year a promotional campaign known as The Clement Cup was established to draw attention to the number of number one songs which are recorded at Clement Studios. Mifflin feels the program is already a success, with artists Gene Watson and Don Williams winning the first two cups. A permanent display of the winners' photos and a photo of the award is in the lobby of Studio A.

COUNTRY PICKS OF THE WEEK

SINGLE



KENNY ROGERS, "SWEET MUSIC MAN" (K. Rogers; Jolly Rogers, ASCAP). Rogers is hot and still heating, and this instantly appealing ballad will serve to bolster his momentum. He shows himself to be a first rate songwriter with this effort, which shows hit potential across the board. UA 1095.

SLEEPER



GEOFF MORGAN, "SHE'S OUT THERE DANCIN' ALONE" (G. Morgan, Pi-Gem, BMI). One of the most promising singer/songwriters to emerge in Nashville of late should establish himself as major contender with this captivating waltz tune. A memorable hook should see it garner instant reaction. Watch it. MCA 40803.

ALBUM

MEL McDANIEL, "GENTLE TO YOUR SENSES." Having found widespread acceptance with both the title cut and his most recent "Soul Of A Honky Tonk Woman," McDaniel shows signs of exploding as a major new artist. His unique vocal style strengthens and complements this tasteful collection and makes it a must. Capitol 11694.



Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 56)

(Pig) **Robbins**, one of the city's very neat-o pianists, was voted "Super Picker of the Year," an annual honor that goes to studio musicians . . . **Jimmy Buffett**, according to Marie Ratliff, was "exploding nationally" with "Margaritaville." (Attagirl, Marie!) . . . ABC Dot added **O.B. McClinton** to its artists roster . . . RCA hosted a party for **Waylon Jennings** and wife **Jessi Colter**. Believe it or not, Waylon attended! . . . **Charley Pride** appeared to be a sure shot with "I'll Be Leaving Alone" . . . May 14 **RW** singles chart listed **Don Williams'** "Some Broken Hearts Never Mend" leading the pack.

Charlie Monk resigned as **Eddie Shea's** assistant at ASCAP and took his personable approach and old jokes to April-Blackwood Music . . . **Dottsy** was moving up with "After Sweet Memories (Play Born to Lose Again)" . . . **Charlie Rich** appeared to have a chart-buster in "Rolling With the Flow." (In Alaskan waters make that "Rolling with the Floe.") . . . The "Ol' Waylon" lp hot to No. 1—there to remain for weeks and weeks and weeks. (The date was May 21.)

Narvel Felts' "I Don't Hurt Anymore" was a sweet sounder . . . And would you believe that **Emmylou Harris** had a winner in "Making Believe." You'd better believe it. So much for the believers! . . . "Luckenbach, Texas" was the No. 1 single (see No. 1 album for the recording artist) . . . **Stoney Edwards** was "Picking Wild Flowers" and **Billy (Crash) Craddock's** singleton was "A Tear Fell."

Conway & Loretta released "I Can't Love You Enough" . . . **Archie Campbell** celebrated his 40th year as a comedian by telling some 39 year-old jokes . . . **Don Gibson** was hospitalized for treatment of a strained back. "I attempted to pick up something that was heavier than I am," explained Gibson . . . **Grant Turner** (see above) signed with **Slim Williamson's** Scorpion Records . . . Talent agent **Jack Lynch** died as result of injuries suffered in a jeep accident.

JUNE

The seventh annual Fan Fair was a record-breaker attendance-wise. **Bill Anderson** was winner of **Record World's** "fun poll" to determine most popular country artist. **Don Williams** finished a strong second . . . **Jerry Wallace** signed with BMA Records . . . **Chet Atkins** became talkative and **Jerry Reed** suggested that his name be changed to "Chat Atkins" . . . **Eddie Rabbitt** was hopping around like a hit recording star.

June was bustin' out all over—and so were **Ol' Waylon's** single and album of you-know-what-titles . . . **Gene Autry**, in an **RW** interview, said he had no plans to resume his disc singing career . . . **L. E. White & Lola Jean Dillon** surfaced as a novelty vocal act with "Home Sweet Home." A new version, of course . . . **O. B. McClinton's** "Country Roots" was a take-off on **Alex Hailey's** successful book . . . **Jack Blanchard & Misty Morgan** signed with UA.

"Yakety-Sax" specialist **Boots Randolph** opened a posh dinner-club in Printers Alley . . . Folks on Music Row were asking "Whatever happened to Pittsburgh Steeler **Terry Bradshaw's** career as country music singer?" (Mercury had dropped him as an artist and the pro football star no longer was under the guidance of his original manager, veteran **Tillman Franks**.) . . . It wasn't "June Moon" with **Hoyt Axton**; it was "Little White Moon" on MCA.

Dr. Hook, now residing in Nashville, was getting warm with "Walk Right In," a nifty reprise of an oldie . . . **Sonny James** brought back

memories of **Jimmie Rodgers** (The Singing Brakeman) with "In the Jailhouse Now" (for Columbia) . . . **Barbara Mandrell** and her husband **Ken Dudley** celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary—by getting married again! (It was merely coincidental that Barbara's current single was "Married But Not to Each Other.") . . . **Elvis Presley's** "Way Down" c/w "Pledging My Love" was a double-gauged hit for RCA . . . Singer **Tom Bresh** signed with ABC Dot.

Inglewood, Calif. city fireman **Howdy Glenn** was signed to record ing contract by Warner Bros.—and that was no false alarm! . . . **William Morris Agency** added veteran Opry performer **Stoneywall Jackson** to its talent roster . . . **Dolly Parton** told interviewers in England: "I'd like to appear in a movie—a family comedy." Dolly also said that "Coat of Many Colors" was her favorite song . . . **Tommy Cash** left brother **Johnny's** road shows and began performing as a single . . . **Hank Williams, Jr.** and **Rebecca White** were wed at the Mer Rouge, La. Methodist Church and took off for a Montana honeymoon.

British model **Twiggy**—remember her?—recorded "A Woman In Love" for Mercury . . . Newcomer **Ronnie McDowell** made his vinyl debut with the Roy Orbison evergreen, "Only the Lonely," on **Slim Williamson's** Scorpion label . . . It was officially announced that **Johnny Cash** would host the annual CMA awards show (**RW** had printed the news more than a month before) . . . Universal Studios were making plans for a movie based on **Loretta Lynn's** bio, "The Coal Miner's Daughter."

Mel Street and **Bob Luman** firmed deals with Polydor . . . **Jerry Clower** was telling folks that he was preparing to collaborate with **Gerry Wood** (who?) on another book. The first, "Ain't God Good" was a heavenly success . . . **Hoyt Axton** was scoring the music for the "Outlaw Blues" movie.

MCA's newest country music artist was young **Dan McCorison**. Dan's premiere single was "That's The Way My Woman Loves Me."

Songwriter-singer **Linda Hargrove** signed booking deal with the Lavender-Blake agency . . . **Rayburn Anthony** broke into the charts with "Hold Me" . . . **Con Brio's Don King** was moving up fast with "She's the Girl of My Dreams" . . . Capitol introduced **Pam Rose**, who introduced "Midnight Flight" . . . **John Wesley Ryles'** "Fool" was a No. 1 play on numerous major radio stations.

"It Was Almost Like A Song" was touted as the record (by **Ronnie Milsap**) that eventually would knock "Luckenbach, Texas" out of the No. 1 spot . . . "The Cowboy and the Lady"—titles are the same but lyrics and melody are different—were recorded by **Bobby Goldsboro** and **Tommy Cash**. One lessened the popularity of the other and neither did too well . . . **Jerry Clower** said: "I suppose my most 'exclusive' claim to fame is that I probably have the only unlisted phone number in Yazoo City, Miss."

JULY

E. W. (Bud) Wendell was named president and chief executive officer at WSM, Inc., succeeding **Irving Waugh**. (The appointment becomes effective Jan. 1, 1978.) Wendell and Waugh are well-known and well-liked in the country music field. Wendell, presently head of Opryland, Inc., formerly managed the Grand Ole Opry. He has come up through the ranks steadily and efficiently. Waugh, who retires at mandatory age of 65, comes close to being one of the best known executives in broadcasting. (Waugh reportedly is joining Tree International Music, Inc., but has made no definite announcement.)

Vince Cosgrave joined Capitol as director, a&r/marketing . . . After touring a year with the Charley Pride Show, **Gary Stewart** decided to go the solo route . . . **Jay Huguely**, whose "White Knight" recitation was a CB biggie in '76 for Mercury, did some singing (honky tonk tunes) at an lp session produced by **Jerry Kennedy**.

Crystal Gayle's "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" was an **RW** single pick. (Crystal—I'll tell you again—is a younger sister of **Loretta Lynn**.)

Gunther Gabriel winged in from West Berlin to cut a single of **Kenny Rogers'** "Lucille" in his native lingo . . . **Mack Sanders** bought local WENO from **Cal Young**, who established it in 1957 . . . 50,000 attended the annual Fourth of July picnic hosted by the **Statler Bros.** in their hometown of Staunton, Va. The Brothers refer to the event as their "Happy Birthday USA" party! . . . Talented fiddler **Vassar Clements**, recovering from perforated ulcer in tummy, told his doctor: "The Orange Blossom Special" is the National Anthem of fiddle players" . . . **Rita Coolidge's** "Higher and Higher" was moving higher and higher in the charts . . . The **Oak Ridge Boys'** first for ABC was "Y'all Come Back Saloon."

(Continued on page 68)

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Gene Kennedy Ent.:

A Thriving Music Complex

■ When Gene Kennedy left the security of a weekly paycheck to launch his own business, little did he realize that it would mushroom into one of the most thriving music complexes in Nashville.

But it has, and even Gene is a little surprised at the magnitude and diversity Gene Kennedy Enterprises has realized since its inception in 1975.

Kennedy, a former entertainer turned top notch promotion man of many hits by such as Loretta Lynn, Jerry Wallace, Conway Twitty, Cal Smith, to name a few, was more than a little apprehensive when he borrowed \$7,500 to kick off his business.

He had enjoyed the security of being national promotion director for MCA Records and Ace of Hearts Records as well as national promotion director and sales manager for 4-Star Records. Throughout his efforts and under his direction, most all of their records hit the top of the charts.

With 18 years as an expert promotion man under his belt, Kennedy could have had his choice of jobs. Instead, through the encouragement of his wife, Linda, Kennedy opted for his own company.

"We started out in a two room basement office that rented for \$125 a month," Kennedy said. "I began in independent promotion, but my ultimate goal was to produce. I knew that would be slow in coming, but the promotion work would keep the door open."

The first independent promotion work for Gene Kennedy Enterprises was for Loretta Lynn. Then followed Bill Anderson, Jeanne Pruett, Cal Smith, Kenny Starr and the boom was on.

Kennedy had produced previous hit records, but not to the degree that he wanted to. Promotion work did open the door for producing and the first act Kennedy produced as an independent agent was Joe Brock on Roni Records. The record charted. Other acts began coming to Kennedy for production. He signed as exclusive producer for Linda Cassidy and Rick Smith. Placing both of them on Cin-Kay Records, Gene produced four chart records on Linda and two on Rick.

Kennedy's skills as a producer was becoming well known. He put together two young college graduates, Jim Taylor and Jerry Stone, and recorded them as a duet. Both artists had come to Kennedy with song material and as potential recording artists.

The debut of Taylor and Stone

also marked the debut of Door Knob Records.

In the interim, Linda, a novice at publishing, and one of the few women running a publishing company, was working to get their fledgling publishing complex off the ground. Their publishing complex includes: Door Knob Music and Bekson Music, both BMI; Chip 'N' Dale Publishing, Kenwall Music, Elixir and Don-Lin Music, all ASCAP.

With Gene Kennedy Enterprises headed in the direction of being a complete operation for their artists, only one area was left uncovered. But when Kennedy signed personal management contracts with Linda Cassidy, Rick Smith and Taylor and Stone, that completed the diversification of his organization.

Door Knob Records grew into an entity of solid stature with good recording acts like Peggy Sue, Sonny Wright, The Singing Blantons, Mary Lou Boggus, Nancy Rudd and of course, Taylor and Stone.

Society Records was formed as a custom label for outside legitimate production work.

In addition to his own labels, Kennedy is the exclusive producer for BMA Records, whose artists are Ken Shelton and Jerry Wallace; Chaplain Records, whose major artist is Bob Harrington; and Friday Night At Home Records, owned by Taylor and Stone.

The personal management division was beefed up with the addition of Peggy Sue and Sonny Wright.

1977: Busy Year for Bill Anderson

■ 1977 has already been a busy and exciting year for Bill Anderson. The year started off with a brand new band and a new bus. The new group is called The Po' Folks, since it now includes both men and women. The band consists of Jack Smith, Randy Bethune, Monty Parkey, Mike Streeter, Kay and Karen Stacy. Mary Lou Turner is still Bill's singing partner on stage as well as on record.

The Bill Anderson Show entertained on a Caribbean cruise for 10 days in January and were so well received that they have been invited back for another cruise next January. Following a busy spring on the road, the whole group toured England, Scotland, Ireland and Holland for two weeks in May. In five months, the Po' Folks, Bill and Mary Lou appeared on three continents: North America, South America and Europe.

Bill got the chance to try out for co-host on a new TV game

G. Hill & Co.: Creative Country Mking.

■ Seven years ago, country was just beginning to come into its own as a major popular music form. Still to reach its peak, it was nevertheless gaining national and worldwide attention, as it steadily attracted audiences everywhere.

At that time, a dynamic and talented young woman with remarkable foresight realized the great potential of country music, not only as a future music giant, but as a viable marketing tool.

As she rightly anticipated that Nashville would be the mecca of country, Gayle Hill established a combination PR/jingle production firm in the Music City in 1970, christening it G. Hill and Company. Through the ensuing years of the firm's development, it evolved into a purely musical production business, which has created spots for everything from Coca Cola to the U.S. Government.

G. Hill and Company, while still relatively young, has had an amazing track record of successes and awards, epitomized perhaps by the Clio Award won for the Coca Cola "Country Sunshine" spot which was produced by G. Hill and Company, in association with Billy Davis of the New York-based agency, McCann-Erickson, Inc.

During the past year, G. Hill and Company has been busier than ever, writing and producing audio spots for such prestigious accounts as Stouffer's American Family Bakery, which will begin airing nationally this fall; Rubbermaid's entire '78 TV campaign, slated to run next spring; the CMA's "Country Music Month"

show called "The Better Sex," produced by Goodson-Todman. After much suspense, doing a pilot then finally being told he did not get the part, imagine the surprise when Bill was called to the phone at the Municipal Auditorium in the middle of Fan Fair and told that they wanted him for co-host with Sarah Purcell! The show is aired on ABC-TV across the country and has already received very high ratings. Needless to say, Bill is kept hopping, flying to Hollywood for taping "The Better Sex," then flying to meet the Po' Folks across the country somewhere to do their regularly scheduled road shows. When asked if he intends to give up singing, Bill very emphatically says "no." The TV show is just adding a new dimension to the multi-talented Anderson. Bill says doing the show is a real fun thing for him and it fulfills just another of the many things he hopes to accomplish.

promotional spots to be run during the month of October on country radio stations across the nation; and various public service spots.

In fact, the commercial produced for the Hope Gas Company of West Virginia won the first place award for the top spot in all advertising media for a public utility in the United States. This award was presented to G. Hill and Company this past January.

The firm was recently commissioned by the Veterans' Administration Public Information Offices in Washington, D.C., as a media consultant. In that capacity, the company will be doing a series of radio public service spots dealing with V.A. benefits.

Other accomplishments for this year include campaigns for Miller Beer, International Scout, Pittsburgh National Bank and Coca Cola. Gayle Hill, the founder and driving force behind the company, is completely involved in all phases of production. Along with co-writers Cathy Manzer, Dennis Morgan, Mike Heeney and Rod McBrien, she formulates the spots; then, with able assistance from production head Faye Hawkins, Gayle blends top Nashville musicians, singers, and recording facilities into a finished product.

G. Hill and Company is headquartered in its own building, on Music Row, at 1206 17th Avenue South in Nashville.

Tubb Hot in '77

■ In 1927, when Ernest Tubb was only 13, he heard a Jimmie Rodgers record, and from that day forward, he knew what he wanted out of life. Since that moment, Ernest has dedicated a lifetime to capturing hearts with the same earthiness and simple honesty that he saw in Rodgers. Today, after having sold in excess of 30,000,000 records and having played virtually every town in the U.S., Ernest's enthusiasm for entertaining is still in full blossom.

With his band, The Texas Troubadours, Tubb averages 200 working days per year, so no one will disagree that Ernest is as loyal to his fans as they have been to him. It is this combination of talent, dedication and style that sets him apart as the timeless troubadour he is.

With his newest efforts now on 1st Generation Records, it is easy to see why Ernest Tubb is so much a part of the "roots" of today's music. The reason—he helped plant the tree!

Ernest Tubb's new single on 1st Generation Records is Jeannie Seeley's "Sometimes I Do" and "Half My Harts In Texas" written by Linda Hargrove.



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Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 64)

Dottie West revived an oldie: "Tonight You Belong to Me" . . . **Larry Butler** had a neat-o instrumental of "High Noon," from the movie of same name . . . **Loretta Lynn's** eldest son **Ernest Rey** (his stage name) signed with MCA and cut "Trixie Delaney" as his first release.

The **RW** charts of July 2 listed **Donna Fargo's** "That Was Yesterday" as the No. 1 single. (Wells-Fargo never had it any sweeter and sentimental.) . . . The weather was getting hot and so was **Merle Haggard** with "Ramblin' Fever" . . . **Dottsy's** "After Sweet Memories" was sticking in there as one to watch . . . Controversial—but popular—was **Meri Wilson's** "Telephone Man" on GRT. (AT&T didn't approve its raunchy lyrics; yet for a while it wasn't a wrong number.)

Yes, "Ol, Waylon" was still the No. 1 lp. (Are you keeping count of how long it has been up there?) . . . Photoplay magazine readers voted **Charley Pride** as their "Favorite Country Music Star" . . . Honeymoon over, **Hank Williams, Jr.** was recording an album for Warner Bros. . . . UA—getting stronger—designated July as "Country Month."

Larry Butler and **Dottie West** signed with April-Blackwood Music Publishing Co. . . . **Chips Moman**, co-writer (with **Bobby Emmons**) of "Luckenback, Texas," admitted he had never visited the town—"but hoped to find time to do so sometime."

Jeannie Seely was in a local hospital recovering from broken ribs, a jaw bone and facial lacerations suffered in an automobile accident. (Jeannie went to sleep while driving and her car careened into a tree. The tree won!) . . . Former "Hee Haw" regular **Barbi Benton** was appearing in a summer series, "Sugar Time," on ABC-TV. (It did okay in the ratings and may be back on the schedule by mid-January.)

Stella Parton, younger sister of Dolly, was clicking with "The Danger of A Stranger" on Elektra. Deserved success for an underrated singer . . . **Nat Stuckey's** humorous "Buddy, I Lied" was getting laughs and turntable spins . . . **Willie Nelson's** "Redheaded Stranger" celebrated its 90th week on the country album charts.

N.Y. producer **Joe Cates** announced that NBC was going to telecast a "50 year history of country music special" during the 1977-78 season. "I figure it will hit the air in January or February," Cates said. (Filming for most part will be at the Grand Ole Opry House.)

Bill Anderson began co-hosting "The Better Sex" daytime game show on ABC . . . **Bobby Bare's** "Redneck Hippie Romance" was one of **Marie Ratliff's** "leftfielder" selections . . . **Jan Rhees** was named sales coordinator at Elektra's Nashville office. . . . **La Costa**, older sister of **Tanya Tucker**, moved to California . . . **Eddy Pride**, younger brother of **Charley Pride**, signed with talent agent **Jack Johnson**—first manager of Charley. Meanwhile, Charley's "I'll Be Leaving Alone" was a No. 1 single.

Dave & Sugar's "That's the Way Love Should Be" was looking and sounding love-ly . . . **Jerry Jeff Walker** was back in action with a single of "Mr. Bojangles" for MCA . . . BMI executive **Roger Sovine** was elected president of the Nashville chapter of NARAS . . . **Jan Shepard** appeared at Forest Park, Ga.'s annual Watermelon Festival—and was presented with a 129-pound melon. (Jan weighed it to make sure?) . . . **Brenda Lee** performed with New Orleans Symphony and was a crowd-pleaser!

Ray Pillow fired a hole-in-one during golf match on July 4. Pillow was playing at a course in Gatlinburg—and the feat occurred on his birthday!

Jeanne Pruett sang at fund-raising dinner at which Vice President **Walter Mondale** was special guest. The veep enjoyed Jeanne's "Satin Sheets," he said . . . **Billy (Crash) Craddock** donated one of his stage costumes to the Country Music Hall of Fame Museum. (Was it made of crash linen?) . . . **Ronnie Milsap's** "It Was Almost Like A Song," after nine weeks on the charts, was No. 1.

The experts were already praising **Conway Twitty's** "I've Already Loved You in My Mind" . . . **Kathy Barnes** was alive with the "Tweedle O'Twill" for Republic . . . **Buck Owens** was trying for a biggie with "It's Been A Long, Long Time" . . . **Roy Clark**, on a liquid protein diet, had lost 25 pounds in a month . . . **Pat Boone** attended the 30th reunion of his high school class here. (Wearing his white buckskins? Aw sure!) . . . The word was out: **Tom T. Hall** had a click in "It's All in the Game" . . . **Jerry Reed** was building a new home in suburban Brentwood . . . **Carl Smith** signed booking deal with Top Billing . . . **Ann (Mrs. Nat) Stuckey** came up with the information that **Brenda Lee** wears a size 1 shoe!

AUGUST

The summer doldrums were marching to the same old hot beat!

An unfunny thing happened to **Merle Haggard**: His car ran out of gas on an interstate five miles from Nashville—and he had to foot it to the nearest service station (three miles). "You would think," he laughed, "that in the heartland of country music someone motoring along would have recognized me." End of "humiliating" hitch-hike? . . . The second annual Country Music Disc Jockey Hall of Fame awards banquet was (and is) scheduled Oct. 14 (execs decided at an August meeting). It is gonna conflict with the annual CMA banquet-show . . . **Fred Foster** signed deal with Phonogram/Mercury for distribution of his Monument product.

CBS upped the list price of its albums from \$5.98 to \$6.98 and tapes from \$6.98 to \$7.98 . . . Opry manager **Hal Durham** celebrated a birthday—and that's no bull, Durham! . . . **Roy Dea**, the RCA producer, suffered a sprained ankle in a backyard basketball game . . . **Dottsy** credited her eye-catching figure to daily running on a track near her home in Austin, where she is a senior at U. of Texas. **Jim Pelton** said: "Ronnie Milsap's 'It Was Almost Like A Song' reminds me of what a Nashville publisher said about one of my demo records."

The **Kendalls** were chanting "Heaven's Just A Song Away" . . . Singer **Helen Cornelius** of **Jim Ed Brown's** show was recovering from surgery . . . **Charlie Rich** was back in business of turning out hits with a nifty ballad, "Rollin' With the Flow" . . . **Tom T. Hall's** "It's All in the Game" was listed as a Chartmaker of the Week in **RW**.

A Foster-Rice written gem, "Once In A Lifetime," was recorded by **John Wesley Ryles** . . . **Jerry Reed** was beginning to ride high with "Eastbound and Down" from his "Smokey and the Bandit" movie. (He wrote it, too!) . . . Mirth-provoking title for a song cut by **Coon Elder-Brenda Patterson Band** (Mercury): "I Ain't No Cowboy. I Just Found the Hat." A (cow)poke at sidewalk cowboys?

Roy Clark, **Mel Tillis**, **Lynn Anderson** and **Mary MacGregor** were signed to appear in CBS-TV's "State Fair America" special . . . August was six days old and "Ol' Waylon" was still the No. 1 album.

Margo Smith and her producer **Norro Wilson** combined for "So Close Again" for Warner Bros. . . . **Nancy Sinatra's** locally produced "It's For My Dad" was a Private Stock single . . . **Nick Nixon** was happening with "Love Songs and Romance Magazines" . . . **Marie Ratliff's** "Sure Shots" in the Aug. 13 issue of **RW** included **Billy Joe Spears'** "Too Much Is Not Enough." (Was this an oblique message to Weight Watchers?)

Playboy's **Eddie Kilroy** was excited about **Bobby Borchers'** "Cheap Perfume and Candlelight" . . . "The Best of Statler Brothers" lp was certified gold. (Anything those guys do is golden?) . . . **Norm Osborne** was named national promotion director of country product at Elektra/Asylum . . . **Chet Atkins** bought a \$1,500 machine "that improves the user's singing" (called a harmonizer). Chet's pal **Ray Stevens** cracked: "If anybody needs a voice-improver it is Chester B."

Little David Wilkins signed with **Lamar Fike's** talent agency.

The major story all over the world on Tuesday, Aug. 16 was that **Elvis Presley** had died at his Memphis home. Doctors said the cause

(Continued on page 72)

Ranwood Roars with a Solid Roster

■ In the country music arena, 1977 has been a very productive year for Ranwood Records, based in Los Angeles. With only three active recording artists on its country roster, Ranwood believes in the old adage, "quality not quantity."

"Quality" definitely describes **Ava Barber**, whose three singles released in 1977 all hit the charts. "Waitin' At The End Of Your Run" released in January, was immediately adopted by truckers wives everywhere as their national anthem. Jocks across the country reported excellent requests on this record. Ava's first album, "Ava Barber: Country as Grits," was released in February. Ava's next two single releases, "Your Love Is My Refuge" and most recently "Don't Take My

Sunshine Away," continued to help build this artist into a very successful and sought after performer. During the year, Ava traveled the country performing at fairs, rodeos and concerts. A new album and single are planned for January 1978 release.

Snuff Garrett rocked the country field with his unique album, "Snuff Garrett's Texas Opera Company," which was released to unanimous cheers of approval. This blend of country standards and classical pieces was a favorite among country programmers.

Anytime **Jerry Smith** on Ranwood releases an instrumental single, instant radio airplay is assured. Two such releases this year were "Woodchoppers Ball" b/w "Road Hog" and the current "Ca-jun Gumbo."

THIS AD IS IN HONOR OF AN AWARD.

The award we're saluting is a piece of paper that's 25 years old. It's been that long that BMI has been honoring the world's greatest Country writers and publishers.

We're proud to have been the first organization to recognize Country music with economic rewards. Twenty-five years ago we made our first Awards of Achievement to such talented people as Hank Williams, Marty Robbins, Boudleaux Bryant, Mitchell Torok, Faron Young, Ray Stevens, Bill Carlisle, Martha Carson and Chet Atkins...to name a few.

When we give out our awards this week—for the 25th year in a row—the names of some of the winners may be a surprise.

But the fact that you find them on a BMI award won't be.



BROADCAST MUSIC INCORPORATED

The world's largest Performing rights organization.

Country Radio

(Continued from page 60)

Ontario . . . **Bo Wiley** returned to KAYO in Seattle after departing for a few short weeks.

August and the WKDA summer showcase at Nashville's Possum Holler starred Gatlin, Hargrove, Dotty West, Tommy Cash and more as country finally starts to become a factor in Music City radio . . . **Big John Trimble** becomes the first all-night personality with a toll free request line for long distance callers to his program at WRVA in Richmond, Va. . . . **James Freeman** becomes PD at WBIR-FM in Knoxville . . . **Corky Mayberry** was named national membership chairman for the Federation Of International Country Air Personalities (FICAP) . . . **Moon Mullins** and WINN, Louisville, celebrated a tenth anniversary for country on the station . . . **Barbara Ringer** of the U.S. Copyrights office says the "quality" of music has suffered in the last 20 years (which prompted one wag to wonder aloud if that wasn't also true with the government itself) . . . **Ellie Dillon**, nominee for the "Disc Jockey of the Year" award from the CMA for her work at WMAQ, Chicago, departs the station to follow her former bosses (Warner and Pittman) to WNBC, N.Y., to play some rock and roll . . . Sadness and loss in August with the deaths of **Harold Krelstein**, board chairman of Plough Broadcasting, **Hart Cardozo**, board chairman of Communications Properties, **Janet Gavin**, who headed the country section of the Gavin Report and one of the genuinely loved ladies of the industry, and the tragic and untimely death of the King, **Elvis Presley**.

September sees WEEP in Pittsburgh under new ownership. **Joseph Fields'** Intercom Communications takes over operation of the station, keeps it country and charges the market . . . **Larry Scott** moves part and parcel from Wichita's KFDI to the PD's chair and morning show at KJJJ in Phoenix . . . **Billy Cole** of WHO, Des Moines, departs the all-night show for Nashville and the PD's chair at **Mack Sanders** newly acquired WENO . . . **WHBF** in Rock Island, Ill. becomes a 24 hour country facility . . . **WDGY** in Minneapolis, long-time Storz rocker mainstay, announced it'll give up the rock and roll battle and try country . . . **Shannon Reed** breaks the 1000 mark in the number of people he's escorted to Nashville in a 30 month period from his home base at KWMT in Fort Dodge . . . **Bill Malone**, professor at Tulane University, is writing and researching the 72 hour special on the background and history of country music, beginning in the 1600s . . . **KIKX** in Tucson goes country . . . **Terry Wood** of WONE in Dayton is named agenda chairman for the Country Radio Seminar for 1978; **Stan Byrd** (WB) and **Roy Wunsch** (Epic) are named industry chairman and vice chairman respectively . . . The entire record industry still runs a little behind on production due to the immense surge of orders for Elvis Presley product . . . RCA goes to outside sources for pressing . . . The radio station programmers are in a dilemma over whether or not to program any or all of the tribute records to Presley which appear. The vultures are present, selling everything from copies of Presley's will for \$10 to copies of his birth certificate for \$15. Some companies which run record specials on TV pulled their spots on Presley product for a day or two, overdubbed a higher price on the

Friends of Country



ABC/Dot artists Barbara Mandrell and Tommy Overstreet performed recently at an outdoor concert at N.Y.'s Lincoln Center as part of the "summer festival of live music" produced by Richie Allen for Metropolitan Friends of Country. The concert was broadcast over WHN. The summer concert series presented two dozen country artists in several locations around the metropolitan area and was sponsored by various major corporations. Pictured here after the Lincoln Center concert are, from left: Richie Allen; Ed Salamon, program director of WHN; Barbara Mandrell; Tommy Overstreet; Leonard de Paur, community relations director for Lincoln Center, and Lee Arnold, WHN air personality.

sets of records and tapes and then came back with increased schedules—business as usual.

So nothing changes except the change. 1977 was a spectacular year only in losses of people in the industry. Isolated cases of brilliance in the radio industry, some small murmurs of "investigation" came from big brothers house in Washington . . . People moved and worked and moved again . . . Arbitron came under some harsh and perhaps deserved criticism, had a record number of books recalled, made an unusual number of station managers mad . . . It appears that sets in use increased for country stations on a national basis . . . Business was, all in all, better than average . . . An FCC chairman left and joined a leading civil rights organization as its leader . . . Gospel radio, which is intimately tied to country radio showed good gains and added strength . . . A couple of new superstars were born, via radio, which they will probably forget a little later on . . . TV made a good move in choosing its first game show host from the country entertainer ranks with **Bill Anderson** as host of ABC's "Better Sex" . . . **Bob Harrington**, The Chaplain of Bourbon Street, arranged a series of debates with **Madalyn Murray O'Hair**, none of which, for some strange reason, were broadcast . . . Country stations, generally, seemed to be moving into the direction of heavier usage of research for audience recycling, demographic discovery and computers . . . The diatribes on "what's country and what's not" has abated, as it should have, and those who don't like it are beginning to include some of the old timers in their lists . . . **Lee Arnold**, WHN; **Jay Marvin**, WAME; **Searcy Hall**, WHOs; and **Bob Cole**, KIKK, were named to the FICAP board of directors, and **Biff Collie**, **Hugh Cherry** and **Cliffie Stone**, along with **Lowell Blanchard**, **Pappy (Hal) Horton** and **Texas Bill Strength** in the deceased category, are nominees in the Country Music Disc Jockey Hall of Fame induction procedure.

In retrospect, '77 was a good year, not vintage, but a good year, and for those who fight the daily battle of entertaining, on the air, five and six days a week, three to six hours a day, the studios still seem cramped, the bosses aren't always in full possession of their faculties, sometimes the bills don't get paid on time, the cart machines don't always work, the mornings get earlier and the nights get later, the appreciation seems to diminish with the years, the fun of radio comes and goes, but mostly goes—and we show up to do it all again with the hopes that '78 will be better. '77 is packed away with the old logs and those records that we thought were great but didn't make it and the promotions that didn't work too well . . . and the marvel of it all is that we'll remember only the best of what was a pretty good year.

IRDA: Four Years of Indie Success

■ Now in its fourth year of national distribution for independent labels, IRDA has in the past year charted 18 singles and three albums. Randy Barlow's "California Lady" on Gazelle Records was the fifth successive chart record for that artist, and his latest release, "Walk Away," has all appearances of becoming #6. Among other chart records were "Tell It Like It Is" and "When A Man Loves A Woman" by John Wesley Ryles on Music Mill Records; "Music Matic" by r&b group Brick; "Dancing Free" by Hot Ice on Rage Records (a disco hit) and four chart singles by David Rogers and four by Kathy Barnes, both on the Republic label. There were also two chart albums by Gene Autry on Republic.

Knowledgeable Staff

The company's executive vice president, Mike Shepherd, says, "We are proud of our knowledgeable staff, including promo men, Keith Stewart and Bill Ar-

nold, and our relationship with the radio stations has never been better. We have been even more discriminating about the records we will accept for distribution and have cut our release schedule down to no more than two to three records a week."

In the past year, the company has been involved in promotion of its product through radio contests, TV time buys, and direct sales through country music magazines, as well as normal promotion and sales channels. Records distributed by IRDA have been released throughout the world resulting, among other things, in a hit album for Stella Parton in Ireland and Australia.

Expertise

Shepherd further states, "Our future in this rapidly changing and complex industry is secure because of our proven expertise in promotion, sales and marketing." IRDA will shortly be announcing plans for distribution of a new major album line.

Heard in the best of circles:

“Produced by
Larry Butler.”

Red O'Donnell's Year in Review

(Continued from page 68)

was a heart ailment.

Vernon Oxford's fan club membership jumped from one to more than 750 after operating a month . . . Dottie West and her show performed at 50th annual Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, Va., where Elizabeth Taylor crowned Laury Boone (daughter of Pat & Shirley) queen.

The Four Guys hired veteran Gary S. Paxton to produce their recording sessions . . . Ronnie Sessions was having a very good year . . . Don Powell was named director of national promotion at Hickory Records, where a Rose is a Rose is a Rose is a Wesley Rose. (The late Gertrude Stein couldn't have expressed it any better?)

Tree International Music announced it was going to build a \$150 thousand studio to be used for cutting demo records . . . Dennis Brewington joined ASCAP as assistant director. (He succeeded Charlie Monk, who moved to April-Blackwood.) . . . I visited Johnny Cash's House of Cash and found his mother, 72-year-old Carrie (Mrs. Ray) Cash, at work as a guide and official visitor greeter.

Kitty Wells was signed as spokesman for the Heritage House restaurant chain. (Kitty is the popular cookbook author.) . . . Barbara Fairchild was allowing her golden locks to turn brown. "There are enough blondes in country music," reasoned brunette Barbara . . . Steve Cauthen, the sensational New York jockey (horse, not disc), recorded "Local Hoedown" for the new Bareback label. (Steve is a native of Kentucky, so naturally the recording was spiked with a slug of bluegrass.)

A re-master version of Jim Reeves' "Little Ole Dime" was on numerous playlists . . . Sunday Sharpe's "Hold On Tight" (for Playboy) was one of Marie Ratliff's "left fielders."

Brokaw & Gangwisch:

A Professional Approach To PR

■ More and more, the country music artist is seeking organized, professional public relations as an important helpmate to the manager and agent in rounding out his career. Well prepared and executed publicity campaigns are working in a big way to enhance a performer's notoriety, to further the acceptance of his or her talents in concert, on the radio, turntable or on television.

One such tandem agency geared to servicing the country musician has offices on the west coast and midwest. David Brokaw and his Brokaw Company locate in Los Angeles, while Kathy Gangwisch, of Brokaw-Gangwisch, headquarters in Kansas City. Their combined roster of artists includes: Loretta Lynn, Roy Clark, Mickey Gilley, Mel Tillis, Ronnie Milsap, Don Williams, Jody Miller, Gene Watson, Eddie Rabbitt and Mary MacGregor. Then count the people under the Top Billing umbrella and Elektra/Asylum Records and you get the broad picture. Brokaw and Gangwisch like to work with the country entertainer and here's where their specialty seems to lie.

While considered specialists in country music PR, they are also skilled in other areas. "We're proud and we're enthused with the top name performers in country with whom we work," says David Brokaw. "But the company is diversified, certainly, as we

also represent artists in highly rated TV series, motion pictures and other fields of music including rock, pop and MOR." He cited Bill Cosby, Lola Falana, Lou Rawls, Ricardo Montalban, Dionne Warwick and Rue McClanahan as examples.

The agency feels their Kansas City office is a unique bonus to the client. "Our people are nearly always on the road," explains Ms. Gangwisch. "And having your publicist nearby, with easy availability to the central states, to Nashville and the east coast simply benefits the artist, no matter what category of the business he might be."

Coal Miners Music Covers All Bases

■ The Coal Miners Music Publishing Group has given a great deal of priority to building a versatile catalogue over the past few months, not by just signing new writers, but by putting r&b and pop arrangements to its c&w copyrights that lend themselves to that production.

"The success in the past few months has been very good for us, with releases coming out in all fields," says Meredith Stewart, general manager.

Coal Miners is also working out good international publishing relationships, many of which will be finalized at Musexpo in October.

Singles and albums recorded by the late Elvis Presley were all over the country music charts . . . However, as the month drew to a close "Ol' Waylon" was still No. 1. Definitely the most popular lp of the year—and an almost certain award winner in the CMA voting.

Willie Nelson's "You Ought to Hear Me Cry" (RCA) was en route to being a best-seller . . . "Tribute type" songs and recordings about Elvis were everywhere. . . . And when the month of August ending, Presley's "Way Down" c/w "Pledging My Love" was No. 1 in the country charts. Charlie Rich's "Rollin' With the Flow" was in the second slot—and still popular!

SEPTEMBER

The leaves of brown came tumbling down—and that '77 September in the rain began with Crystal Gayle's UA release of "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue" No. 1 in the charts. It stayed in that lofty position for the entire month on RW's listings . . . There was scant reason for any September cry—except for joy—at RCA where Elvis Presley's recordings were selling fast as they could be pressed and Tom T. Hall signed a contract.

A former back-up songstress, Janie Fricke branched out as a single artist and was wailing the question "What're You Doing Tonight?" for Columbia . . . Gary Stewart performed at Cuero, Tex., the turkey capital of the U.S.A. and did so well the show's sponsors presented him with a "Golden Gobbler" award and invited him back for the city's annual "turkey parade" in November . . . Celebrity Management, Inc. may have started something! Booked one of its clients for a flat fee—plus an electric blanket. How does an agent collect 15 percent of an electric blanket?

Jessica James sang "Everybody Needs A Rainbow" on Jerry Lewis' nationally broadcast Muscular Dystrophy Telethon. Yes, Jessica is one of Conway Twitty's daughters . . . George Jones celebrated a birthday—and former wife Tammy Wynette didn't forget the date! . . . Byron Metcalf gifted wife Dottie West with a banjo on their third wedding anniversary—and she immediately bought an "Earl Scuggs: How To Pick" instruction book!

Ruby Falls was getting regional action on her "You've Got to Mend This Heartache" on the 50 States label . . . Roy Acuff, the Opry's guru, had a birthday—but withheld his age . . . Mickey Gilley opened his own studio in Pasadena, Tex. . . . Indy's Lee Shannon (WIRE) played Ronnie Milsap's "The Future Is Not What It Used To Be" and commented, "And the past and present aren't either."

There were many reasons to listen to Barbara Fairchild's "For All the Right Reasons" . . . Annette Montgomery, 17-year-old of producer-writer Bob Montgomery, was crowned "Miss United Tennessee Teenager"—and qualified to compete for national title later this year at a contest in Washington.

Publisher Paul Richey bought a diamond ring for Roger Bowling. But don't get me wrong—they're not engaged or anything like that. It was in appreciation for Bowling (and Hal Bynum) co-writing "Lucille," which Richey's firm holds the copyright. (Reckon will Richey give Bynum a gem-crusted wedding band???)

Danny Davis sang on his RCA single, "How I Love Them Old Songs," with vocal help from Lamar Morris and Dewayne Orender . . . There was talk on Music Row that Brenda Lee was changing labels. (She practically was "born" on MCA-Decca.) . . . Mel Street's newie for Polydor was "Close Enough for Lonesome"—co-produced by Jim Vienneau and Jim Prater.

It was mid-September and "Moody Blue" by Elvis Presley was the No. 1 album . . . Young Ronnie McDowell's "The King Is Gone" was selling like a million for Slim Williamson's Scorpion label.

Waylon Jennings' newest single was "The Wurlitzer Prize," co-written by Chips Moman and Bobby Emmons, and produced for RCA by Moman. (The Moman-Emmons team wrote Jennings' "Luckenbach, Texas.") . . . Merle Haggard, without billing, sang background on Porter Wagoner's "I Haven't Learned A Thing," his first single release in more than a year . . . Songwriter Richard Lee received a royalty advance for writing "Don't It Make Your Brown Eyes Blue" and instead of buying a really big show car, purchased a motorized bicycle (Mo-ped).

Mel Tillis and Loretta Lynn won the third annual Truck Drivers' Country Music Awards as best country male and female singers, respectively . . . Pat Carter, formerly with Sunbury-Dunbar Music Co., signed as producer with RCA's local office . . . Billy (Beer) Carter was set to tape appearances on "Hee Haw."

As the month closed the city was, as per annually, preparing to celebrate October as Country Music Month . . . Even President Jimmy Carter became involved via official proclamation—direct from 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Scorpion Records Has Big Year

■ Slim Williamson, president of Scorpio Enterprises, Inc., has done it again. He built Scorpion Records to a label of stature in just one short year. Reportedly, Scorpion's hit single, "The King Is Gone," by Ronnie McDowell has U.S. sales of close to two million. The album titled "The King Is Gone" had 87,000 orders the first week after release.

Scorpion handled its own distribution until the McDowell single, then an agreement was reached with GRT Corporation to handle worldwide distribution on just the McDowell product. GRT released the album and single around the world generating the same response as in the States. According to Williamson, it's the only single by a new artist to have ever shipped orders for over one million records in five working days after its release.

Scorpion artist Roy Drusky has reached the charts with three singles this year and has a current album doing well. Other artists on the Scorpion label include Jim Nesbitt, Bruce Mullen, Tom Hall and Tokyo Matsui.

The staff at Scorpion has also expanded with the growth of the label. Williamson has been looking forward to the day when his youngest son Marty would work with him in the music business and is taking this opportunity to

announce that Marty has decided to give up his position at one of the family owned radio stations to join Scorpion in Nashville. Marty, who is 19, was born and raised in the music business. When he was about six years old, he started packing records and has done about everything since that time. Marty will be doing just about everything dad does, with primary responsibilities including the operation of the publishing companies and doing promotion on Scorpion product as well as any releases published through the organization.

Cavac Shows Growth

■ Cavac Music Corporation, newly headquartered in Nashville but already a recognized music company equipped with a music publishing company and record label, has its first release out—"Then Came You" by Mike Graham.

The publishing company, staffed by Tommy Jennings, has three excellent writers already signed. Heading up the list of writers is Jerry McBee, who has had songs cut by some of the top country artists such as Cal Smith, Bobby Bare, Charley Pride, Billy Walker and many others. Mike Graham's latest release was written by him and nominated for Best Country Single of the Year in Canada.

Opryland Hotel Set To Open

■ While Opryland's theme park is closing for the season, the new Opryland Hotel is being readied for its opening on November 27.

The new facility is being hailed as Tennessee's largest hotel/convention center with 615 rooms and twelve-and-a-half acres of interior space. The complex includes 90,000 square feet of

meeting and convention facilities and a two-story Stage Door Show Lounge which will feature a variety of performances and show styles geared to 22-35 age audiences.

CBS Records will be holding their national meeting there in Jan., '79 and the Opryland Hotel will be the home of the DJ convention in '78. Hotel reps are also negotiating with the National Association of Music Merchants and National Association of Record Merchandisers for their meetings. Advance bookings also include the Broadcaster Promotion Association and the Southeastern Theater Conference.

Twiggy & Papa Don



Making records can be a lot of fun, especially when someone like Twiggy drops by your session. The former model turned singer, in Nashville recording with producer Papa Don Schroeder, is pictured here with Monument recording artist Chuck Stewart at Combine's Royal Amalgamated Tuneshop. Stewart has been working with producer Bob Beckman on his next single release for Monument Records.

LS Stays Active With Cristy Lane

■ Lee Stoller, president of LS Records in Nashville, has continued the active promotion of LS artist Cristy Lane during the company's second year. Cristy had three singles chart in 1977, with her current single, "Let Me Down Easy," bulleting its way to 23 on RW's Country Singles Chart.

Another LS artist, Daniel, is presently working with Stoller managing the publishing companies.

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SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT

TANYA TUCKER

CONWAY TWITTY

ALL ON MCA RECORDS

Expansion Buoy Sound Shop Activities

■ The Sound Shop Inc., a major music and commercial jingle studio in Nashville, put a \$300 thousand expansion program into the works this year and its final results have recently netted the operation a second 24-track studio.

Aside from creating a complete new outside facade for the Sound Shop, the addition has also enhanced its inside operation considerably, via extremely sophisticated equipment and capabilities now available to its clients. As an example, the new facility is now equipped with all necessary channels for video discs, which will enable the Sound Shop to instantly expand whenever future demands dictate its growth in this area.

A total expansion of 3800 square feet, the new building also offers ultra-modern office space on the second level for its administrative staff members, and simultaneously provides greater comfort for Sound Shop customers.

Steadfastly serving both industries of music and advertising, the Sound Shop has consistently attracted top names from both fields of endeavor, and this past year has been no exception with a 20 percent overall increase in business.

Among well-known names who booked time at the Sound Shop this year were Jody Miller, Joe Tex, The Imperials, Gove, Johnny Tillotson, New Grass Revival, Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner, Jackie Moore, Jim Ed Brown & Helen Cornelius, Wayne Kemp, John Hartford, Kenny Starr, Ed Bruce and Tanya Tucker.

On the other hand, notable names in the production of commercials this past year at Sound Shop include such famous brands as Keepsake Diamonds, Schlitz Malt Liquor, John Deere, Amx Coal, Allis Chalmers, Busch Bavarian Beer, Fact Cigarettes, Budweiser, Kool Cigarettes, Baldwin Piano Company, Cummins Engine Company, Pillsbury, Koss Headphones and Bell Telephone.

The Sound Shop is also responsible for producing a series of ID jingles for the states of Nebraska, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee, as a means of helping aid the industry of tourism.

In addition, this past year also found the Sound Shop donating its services to prepare jingle productions for the benefit of Nashville's public broadcasting outlet, WDCN-TV, as well as for the Nashville Humane Society, and also for the Nashville Songwriters Association.

World Wide Music, Inc.: An Innovative Company

■ Utilizing innovative techniques and merchandising, along with just plain hard work, World Wide Music, Inc. has moved from birth to one of the most progressive companies in Nashville's music community in the span of one year.

World Wide Music, Inc. was founded in October, 1976 by Clyde "Wee" Brown Jr., a Kentucky oil and coal mining executive. The formation purpose of World Wide Music, Inc., was to provide a legitimate independent promotion and distribution firm that had stable financial backing for small labels with quality product and good artists.

"We saw a critical need for a good promotion/distribution company that would and could financially take care of any small label that had a hit record. To say that we didn't go into the business to make a profit would be untrue, we did. But we saw a need and felt that we could meet it," Brown said.

Under the umbrella of WMM, Brown established True Records and Tackhammer and Wee-B Music companies in the publishing division.

To head up World Wide Music, Inc., Brown selected Howard A. Knight, Jr., an enterprising young man with innovative ideas, progressive thinking and the ability

to see a project to completion, as his executive vice president. Within months, Brown made Knight president and turned the reins over to him totally.

In his search for good commercial artists, who were also exceptional performers, Knight selected and signed to True Records:

Claude King, a renowned recording artist, entertainer and writer. King, who had recorded for Columbia Records for 14 years, had achieved superstar status with his three million selling single, "Wolverton Mountain," as well as other multiple hits like "All For The Love Of A Girl," "Tiger Woman" and "Big River, Big Man."

Leon Everette, a total entertainer with a magnetic stage presence and a very commercial voice. Everette had had five turntable hits.

Dave Conway, a new artist with a viable commercial voice, a good stage show and a proven writer of hit material.

Tiny Tim, the pop artist who rose to national prominence with his hit of "Tip Toe Through The Tulips" and who had always wanted to cut country songs.

Gloria Glore, the only female artist on the label. She was selected after a long and exhaustive search for an all around girl singer.

Harmony House:

Good Business for the Four Guys

■ The Four Guys—Gary Buck, Brent Burkett, Glen Bates and Sam Wellington—witnessed the second anniversary of their popular Harmony House dinner theatre this year and have obviously become the second club to survive out of 12 other Nashville establishments, which also opened at the same time.

The Harmony House, which turned over its first profit after only four months of operation, has steadily progressed in that area and will be able to close out this year with a business increase of well over 25 percent.

Grand Ole Opry stars the Four Guys have long been known for their unique ability on stage, which often proved to overwhelm Vegas audiences in the past, and it was their personal dream to one day make such a show available in Nashville.

Two years ago, The Four Guys' Harmony House was simply an experiment. Today, it's pure reality. As a matter of fact, the club now reigns supreme, not only as Music City's finest nitery of its kind—but the first of its type—to give Nashville its initial taste of

a true show-biz dinner theatre.

Building business on local clientele while also adapting itself to the tourist trade automatically available is the formula that finds this club catering to full houses every night.

Performing in their own place nearly 90 percent of the time, The Four Guys have always attracted heavy tourist crowds—naturally, stemming from their regular appearances on The Opry each weekend, as well as having a strong local following—and it's all added up to good business for The Guys.

According to Sam Wellington, The Four Guys have hosted people from over 600 travel sources this year, in addition to serving such customers as The Tennessee Banking Convention, Tennessee Health Care Association Convention, Kusan, Insurors of Tennessee, Commerce Union Bank, Bill Hudson & Associates, Music City News, Lavender/Blake Agency, and Playboy Records, not to mention the 1000 people who jam-packed The Guys' Harmony House for this year's Kidney Foundation Benefit.

SESAC SALUTES COUNTRY MUSIC

And the many writers, publishers, artists and record companies who have contributed their talents to its international acceptance as America's own musical art form.



WORLD HEADQUARTERS:

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ANNUAL PRODUCERS LIST

■ A Comprehensive List Of Country Chart Activity By Producer From

August 21, 1976 through August 13, 1977

Producer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Producer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Producer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Producer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
T. Abbott	1	—	—	Joel Diamond	2	—	—	Gene Kennedy	6	—	—	Charley Pride	6	5	4
Jack Adams	1	—	—	Denny Diante	1	—	—	Jerry Kennedy	25	8	1	James Pritchett	2	—	—
Brian Ahern	6	5	2	Pete Drake	4	—	—	Jack Key	1	—	—	Norbert Putnam	1	1	—
Tommy Allsup	6	—	—	Mundo Earwood	1	—	—	Jimmy Key	1	—	—	Russ Reeder	3	1	1
Peter Asher	4	1	—	Duane Eddy	1	—	—	Buddy Killen	6	3	—	Jerry Reed	4	—	—
Chet Atkins	6	—	—	Buddy Emmons	3	—	—	Eddie Kilroy	14	6	2	Allen Reynolds	5	2	1
Joey Averbeck	1	—	—	Charlie Fach	1	—	—	Billy Joe Kirk	1	—	—	Bill Rice	4	—	—
Hoyt Axton	2	—	—	Farah Productions	3	—	—	Gary Klein	2	1	1	Earl Richards	3	—	—
Eddy Bachinger	1	—	—	John Farrar	3	—	—	Howard Knight	1	—	—	George Richey	12	3	—
Ray Baker	8	—	—	Bob Ferguson	7	2	1	Dennis Lambert	1	—	—	Larry Rogers	9	—	—
Bobby Bare	8	—	—	Charlie Fields	2	—	—	Nelson Larkin	7	—	—	Fred Rose	1	—	—
David Barnes	1	—	—	John Fischbach	1	—	—	Don Law	1	—	—	Wesley Rose	3	—	—
Richard Baskin	1	—	—	Brien Fisher	2	—	—	Dickey Lee	2	1	1	Jack Routh	1	—	—
Barry Beckett	2	1	1	Flying Burrito	—	—	—	Ronny Light	1	—	—	Ray Ruff	6	1	—
Charlie Black	2	—	—	Brothers	1	—	—	Gordon Lightfoot	1	—	—	J. Rutledge	1	—	—
Milton Blackford	3	—	—	Jim Fogel song	7	—	—	Sonny Limbo	2	—	—	Johnny Sandlin	1	—	—
Ron Bledsoe	3	—	—	Jimmy Ford	1	—	—	Bud Logan	3	—	—	Tony Scotti	2	—	—
Jimmy Bowen	7	2	1	Fred Foster	4	2	1	Roy Mack	1	—	—	Don Sears	3	—	—
Roger Bowling	1	—	—	Jerry Foster	1	—	—	Johnny MacRae	3	—	—	Billy Sherrill	30	11	6
Jerry Bradley	6	5	4	Ronnie Gant	1	—	—	David Malloy	7	2	—	Stan Silver	4	2	1
Owen Bradley	17	7	5	Don Gant	3	—	—	Jim Malloy	6	—	—	Shelby Singleton Jr.	3	—	—
Charlie Bragg	5	—	—	James Garland	1	—	—	Steve Mandrell	1	—	—	Glenn Snoddy	1	—	—
Gene Greeden	1	—	—	Snuff Garrett	2	—	—	Ken Mansfield	4	2	—	Glen Spreen	1	—	—
Michael Brovsky	2	—	—	The General	3	—	—	Arif Mardin	1	1	—	Ray Stevens	4	—	—
Bill Browder	3	1	—	Phil Gernhard	2	—	—	Grady Martin	1	—	—	C. Stewart	1	—	—
Micky Buckins	2	—	—	Joe Gibson	2	—	—	Darrell McCall	3	—	—	Steve Stone	5	—	—
Velton Ray Bunch	1	—	—	Steve Gibson	1	—	—	Charlie McCoy	1	—	—	Henry Strzelecki	1	—	—
Dave Burgess	11	—	—	Jerry Gillespie	1	—	—	Huey P. Meaux	4	2	—	Jerry Stryer	1	—	—
Dorsey Burnette	1	—	—	Jack Gilmer	3	1	—	Snuffy Miller	10	—	—	Glen Sutton	5	—	—
Barry Burton	2	—	—	Chuck Glaser	2	—	—	Gordon Mills	2	1	1	Billy Swan	2	—	—
Larry Butler	16	3	1	Tompall Glaser	1	—	—	Ronnie Milsap	2	2	2	Bill Szymczyk	1	—	—
D. Byrd	1	—	—	Bobby Goldsboro	2	—	—	A. V. Mittlestedt	4	1	—	James Talley	2	—	—
Charlie Calello	1	—	—	Larry Gordon	1	—	—	Chips Moman	2	1	1	Chip Taylor	2	—	—
Fred Carter	1	—	—	Claude Gray	2	—	—	Bob Montgomery	2	—	—	Mel Tillis	4	3	2
Johnny Cash	3	—	—	L. Green	1	—	—	Bob Morgan	1	—	—	Tree Productions	1	—	—
B. Castleman	1	—	—	Ray Griff	4	—	—	Johnny Morris	6	—	—	Bob Tucker	1	—	—
Tom Catalano	2	—	—	Jeff Guercio	1	—	—	Larry Morton	4	—	—	Scott Turner	3	—	—
Margie & Marcie Cates	3	—	—	Ron Haffkine	3	—	—	Mother Texas Productions	1	—	—	Twitty Bird Productions	2	—	—
Ron Chancey	13	6	1	Rick Hall	2	—	—	Michael Murphy	1	—	—	Jim Vienneau	6	—	—
Chris Christian	1	—	—	Rod Hart	1	1	—	Ken Nelson	2	2	1	John Virgin	3	2	2
Hank Cochran	1	1	—	Alexander Harvey	1	—	—	Willie Nelson	2	1	1	Porter Wagoner	2	1	—
David Allan Coe	2	—	—	Walter Haynes	4	—	—	Milton Okun	3	—	—	Bill Walker	9	—	—
Tom Collins	9	4	3	Dick Heard	4	—	—	Tommy Overstreet	2	—	—	Lenny Waronker	1	—	—
Sam Creek Productions	1	—	—	Kelso Herston	1	—	—	Fuzzy Owen	2	2	1	Jim Weatherly	1	—	—
Jerry Crutchfield	7	2	1	Tommy Hill	8	—	—	Glen Pace	2	—	—	Bob Webster	1	—	—
Mike Curb	2	—	—	Chris Hillman	1	—	—	Dolly Parton	2	2	—	Mack White	2	—	—
Mac Curtis	1	—	—	Harry Hinde	1	—	—	Gary Paxton	8	2	—	Don Williams	3	3	3
Chip Davis	3	—	—	Paul Hornsby	3	—	—	Ray Pennington	4	—	—	Hank Williams, Jr.	1	—	—
Danny Davis	2	—	—	Johnny Howard	3	—	—	Greg Perry	1	1	—	Slim Williamson	3	—	—
Don Davis	6	—	—	Ja-Ra Productions	1	—	—	Mike Post	1	—	—	Lewis Willis	1	—	—
Steven A. Davis	2	—	—	Felton Jarvis	4	2	1	Brian Potter	1	—	—	Norro Wilson	21	4	—
Roy Dea	10	1	1	Waylon Jennings	4	2	—	Don Powell	1	—	—	Terry Woodford	1	—	—
Bill Denny	1	—	—	Jack Johnson	1	1	1	Jim Prater	1	—	—	Peter Yarrow	3	1	1
				Dean Kay	1	—	—	Jim Price	2	—	—	Chip Young	9	—	—
				Fred Kelly	4	—	—					Zodiac Productions	2	—	—

Laurel Tree Spreads Its Roots

■ Six months ago there wasn't a Laurel Tree Studio. Actually, there was a studio but the name wasn't Laurel Tree.

Laurel Tree Studio, located at 1526 Laurel Street, across the street from the Hall of Fame Motor Inn in Nashville, was re-named in May of this year after being purchased by Daniel Hsu. Renovations began immediately after the purchase.

The outside of the building was renovated to give it a rustic look as outside wood panelling was added. Inside, the front offices were completely remodeled to make it both interesting and "homey."

New personnel were added with Paul Richmond taking the reins as manager, Al Gore stepping in as chief engineer, Jim

Rediker as assistant engineer and Wylene Francis being named office manager. All have extensive experience with studios.

Paul Richmond was with Monument Studios, later Studio One, for seven years. Before that he worked as a mastering engineer.

At Richmond's direction, the studio room was tuned and the monitors completely altered and improved. It has a 16 track Stephens board, two Studer two tracks and a Sphere console. The studio also has guitar amplifiers, grand piano, electric piano, drums, organ and vibes in-house. A lathe has also been purchased for future installment.

Laurel Tree also features a tape copying service, transferring the recording at 30 ips for maximum noise reduction.

Owepar Reports a 'Bonanza' Year

■ Owepar Publishing Company has had a bonanza year with songs being recorded by a wide variety of artists in the United States, including Ronnie Blackwell, Wayne Cagle, Vassar Clements, Johnny Duncan, Crystal Gayle, Merle Haggard, George Hamilton IV, Emmylou Harris, Olivia Newton-John, Dolly Parton, Stella Parton, Jimmy Peters, Rita Remington, Sunday Sharpe, Buffy Ste. Marie, The Statler Bros., Cal Smith, Connie Smith, Porter Wagoner, Gene Watson. Owepar has had 30 cover records recorded outside the U.S. and has had foreign releases on most of its U.S. originals.

The international segment of Owepar is growing at a rapid pace with its representation of Coal Miners Music, King Coal

Music, White Line Music, Papa Joe Music, Stone Porch Music and Country Song Factory.

Owepar continues to enjoy the success created by its owners, Dolly Parton and Porter Wagoner, and under the leadership of Carla Scarborough, who became general manager this year, the organization has taken on a new approach, actively seeking writers and recordings.

Owepar has expanded its staff. Nancy Hurt, formerly with the Loretta Lynn Enterprises, was named office manager, and Ian Stranaghan has joined Owepar's music department as music co-ordinator. Stranaghan was with the Nashville Easter Seal Society.

Fireside Studio, owned by Owepar Publishing Company, was completely remodeled this year.

Number One Country Singles

The number one country singles from Record World's chart each week from October 16, 1976 through October 8, 1977

DATE	RECORD & PUBLISHER	ARTIST	LABEL	DATE	RECORD & PUBLISHER	ARTIST	LABEL
10/16	THE GAMES THAT DADDIES PLAY (Twitty Bird, BMI)	Conway Twitty	MCA	4/9	IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY BETTER (Blue Echo, ASCAP)	Johnny Duncan	Columbia
10/23	YOU AND ME (Algee, BMI)	Tammy Wynette	Epic	4/16	PAPER ROSIE (Doubleplay/Quality, BMI)	Gene Watson	Capitol
10/30	A WHOLE LOTTA THINGS TO SING ABOUT (Pi-Gem, BMI)	Charley Pride	RCA	4/23	SHE'S GOT YOU (Tree, BMI)	Loretta Lynn	MCA
11/6	AMONG MY SOUVENIRS (Chappell, ASCAP)	Marty Robbins	Columbia	4/30	SHE'S PULLING ME BACK AGAIN (Jack & Bill, ASCAP)	Mickey Gilley	Playboy
11/13	CHEROKEE MAIDEN/WHAT HAVE YOU GOT PLANNED TONIGHT DIANA (Chappell, ASCAP)/(Tree, BMI)	Merle Haggard	Capitol	5/7	PLAY GUITAR PLAY (Twitty Bird, BMI)	Conway Twitty	MCA
11/20	SOMEBODY SOMEWHERE (Coal Miners, BMI)	Loretta Lynn	MCA	5/14	SOME BROKEN HEARTS NEVER MEND (Maplehill/Vogue, BMI)	Don Williams	ABC Dot
11/27	I'M GONNA LOVE YOU (Dunbar/Westgate, BMI)	Dave & Sugar	RCA	5/21	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
12/4	9,999,999 TEARS (Lowery, BMI)	Dickey Lee	RCA	5/28	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
12/11	THINKIN' OF A RENDEZVOUS (Tree, BMI)	Johnny Duncan	Columbia	6/4	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
12/18	GOOD WOMAN BLUES (Sawgrass, BMI)	Mel Tillis	MCA	6/11	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
12/25	SHE NEVER KNEW ME (Hall-Clement/Maplehill/Vogue, BMI)	Don Williams	ABC Dot	6/18	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
1/1	SWEET DREAMS (Acuff-Rose, BMI)	Emmylou Harris	Reprise	6/25	LUCKENBACH, TEXAS (Baby Chick, BMI)	Waylon Jennings	RCA
1/8	BROKEN DOWN IN TINY PIECES (Pick-A-Hit, BMI)	Billy Crash Craddock	ABC Dot	7/2	THAT WAS YESTERDAY (Prima Donna, BMI)	Donna Fargo	Warner Bros.
1/22	YOU NEVER MISS A REAL GOOD THING (TILL HE SAYS GOODBYE) (Hall-Clement, BMI)	Crystal Gayle	United Artists	7/9	THAT WAS YESTERDAY (Prima Donna, BMI)	Donna Fargo	Warner Bros.
1/29	I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE GIVES IT ALL TO ME (Twitty Bird, BMI)	Conway Twitty	MCA	7/16	I'LL BE LEAVING ALONE (Hall-Clement/Maplehill/Vogue, BMI)	Charley Pride	RCA
2/5	LET MY LOVE BE YOUR PILLOW (Chess, ASCAP)	Ronnie Milsap	RCA	7/23	IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A SONG (Chess/Casa David, ASCAP)	Ronnie Milsap	RCA
2/12	NEAR YOU (Supreme, ASCAP)	George Jones & Tammy Wynette	Epic	7/30	IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A SONG (Chess/Casa David, ASCAP)	Ronnie Milsap	RCA
2/19	SAY YOU'LL STAY UNTIL TOMORROW (Dick James, BMI)	Tom Jones	Epic	8/6	ROLLIN' WITH THE FLOW (Algee, BMI)	Charlie Rich	Epic
2/26	MOODY BLUE (Screen Gems-EMI/Sweet Glory, BMI)	Elvis Presley	RCA	8/13	ROLLIN' WITH THE FLOW (Algee, BMI)	Charlie Rich	Epic
3/5	TORN BETWEEN TWO LOVERS (Muscle Shoals Sound, BMI/Silver Dawn, ASCAP)	Mary MacGregor	Ariola America	8/20	ROLLIN' WITH THE FLOW (Algee, BMI)	Charlie Rich	Epic
3/12	HEART HEALER (Sawgrass, BMI)	Mel Tillis	MCA	8/27	WAY DOWN/PLEDGING MY LOVE (Ahab, BMI)/(Leon, BMI)	Elvis Presley	RCA
3/19	SHE'S JUST AN OLD LOVE TURNED MEMORY (Chess, ASCAP)	Charley Pride	RCA	9/3	DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE (United Artists, ASCAP)	Crystal Gayle	United Artists
3/26	SOUTHERN NIGHTS (Warner-Tamerlane/Marsaint, BMI)	Glen Campbell	Capitol	9/10	DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE (United Artists, ASCAP)	Crystal Gayle	United Artists
4/2	LUCILLE (Brougham Hall/Andite Invasion, BMI)	Kenny Rogers	United Artists	9/17	DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE (United Artists, ASCAP)	Crystal Gayle	United Artists
				9/24	DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE (United Artists, ASCAP)	Crystal Gayle	United Artists
				10/1	I'VE ALREADY LOVED YOU IN MY MIND (Twitty Bird, BMI)	Conway Twitty	MCA
				10/8	HEAVEN'S JUST A SIN AWAY (Lorville, SESAC)	Kendalls	Ovation

SESAC (Continued from page 54)

ation doesn't handicap it in its ability to get its songs cut. SESAC writer/artist Craig Moore stepped out as Kris' brightest star with his hit single, "Walkin' In Waylon's Shoes, Singin' Willie's Blues." Mike Figlio and his Figtree Music publishing firm signed "Coco and the Lonesome Road Band," who won the regional title of "Best Country Group" at the Eastern States Country Music Association convention.

The publisher of "Burning Bridges" and winner of last year's SESAC award as the most recorded song internationally is Sage & Sand Music, operated by Dave Burgess, whose other operations include Doubletree Music as well as Republic Records. Doubletree publisher Gary Branson and both firms are consistently charting by such artists as Terry Bradshaw, Jim Ed Brown, Helen Cornelius and David Rogers.

Ricci Mareno Music, relatively inactive over the last year, has sprung to new life as Mareno returned to Nashville and is again active in not only writing and publishing, but producing hit masters. Mareno, who has some 67 chart records to his credit, is presently producing albums and singles with a number of artists, including Phil Dargo, who Ricci feels will soon join the select group of Nashville hitmakers.

The new SESAC publishers have started strong during 1977. While they all have not been as fortunate as Lorville Music, the publisher of Jerry Gillespie's smash, "Heaven's Just A Sin Away," the indications are that most will prosper in a business where many fail. Gary Paxton's Pax-Len is responsible for a number of singles and album cuts by Vern Gosdin, The Four Guys and himself.

Mick Lloyd Music's "Drifter's

Lullaby" helped reactivate the famous Musicor record label, while Charlie Black's Blackbuckskin Music is active producing as well as writing the chart records of Christy Lane. Troy Shondell Music moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he merged it into the Starfire record operation. Shondell's success seems assured of breaking out of the upper midwest with not only his songs but those of a stable of talented new blood. Veteran arranger/conductor Bill Walker's Con Brio Records affiliated its Concorde Music with SESAC and in a short period has one of the most active operations.

Shirl Milete joined SESAC this year, bringing with him years of songwriting success. Chart records by Vern Gosdin, Conway Twitty, The Four Guys and Loretta Lynn quickly resulted and a brilliant future for Shirl's Kaysey Music seems assured. Not the least of the new breed at

SESAC is Lee Morgan, who hit the jackpot with his first SESAC effort. Morgan is the co-writer and co-publisher of "The King Is Gone." With this smash, Lee and his Broadsword Music are off to an auspicious start.

ASCAP

(Continued from page 54)

Shea praised the team-work of Merlin Littlefield, Judy Gregory and Connie Hurt who were joined this year by attorney Dennis Brewington. Brewington became the newest assistant regional director on the Nashville staff which also includes Jean Wallace, Charlie Pemberton and Gabriella Chrostowski.

"Altogether '77 has been a history making year for us," Shea concluded, "but I am confident that the records we have established this year will not stand more than 12 months."

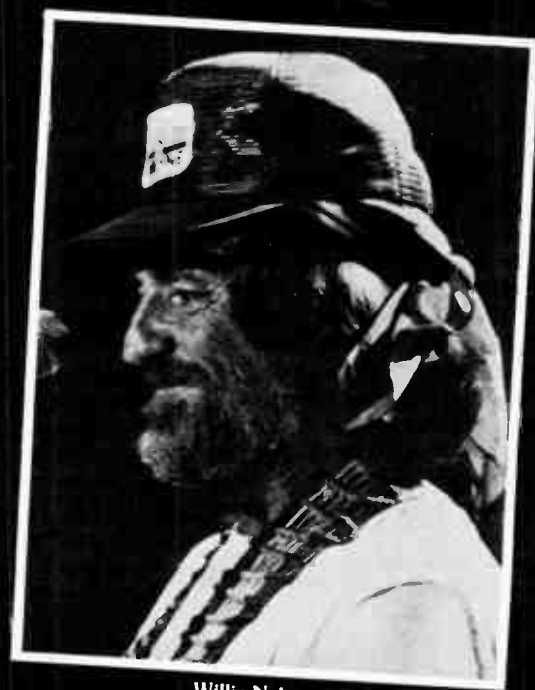
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Waylon Jennings - RCA

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"Waylon Live"

Waylon Jennings - RCA

Certified Gold

"Dreamin' My Dreams"

Waylon Jennings - RCA

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'Hee Haw' Nears 10th Anniversary

■ As the nation's highest-rated syndicated series begins taping this month here at the WTVF studios, "Hee Haw" completes its ninth year of continuous programming. "It's the right blend of comedy and music that has kept us going," says producer Sam Lovullo. "By keeping our show 'honest,' by balancing the elements of music, comedy and song, we have a program for the whole family."

Through its nine years, "Hee Haw" has closely adhered to its comedy/music formula. Executive producers Frank Peppiatt and John Aylesworth, creators of the show, oversee all of the comedy segments and still write many of them.

So successful is the show, that recent Nielsen ratings indicate that the show is seen by over 35 million people each week. For anyone in the music business, that kind of exposure is "bankable," in terms of increased record sales and additional personal appearance bookings. A quick glance of their guest list reads like a "Who's Who" in popular music—from Eddie Rabbitt to Kenny Rogers, from Susan Raye to Patti Page. Singers and instrumentalists are showcased in that familiar "Hee Haw" home



Roy Clark and Buck Owens

setting, backed up either with their own tracks or by the show's own stable of top Nashville musicians. Occasionally, an artist appears in "Pift, you was gone" and other comedy segments.

The series, produced by Yongstreet Productions in Beverly Hills, California, has been taping at the local CBS affiliate since it appeared on the network in the fall of 1968. They tape 13 weeks each June and October.

For the show's co-stars Roy Clark and Buck Owens, its 44 regulars and numerous guest stars, the show continues to be a special part of their lives. As show regular Misty Rowe says it: "'Hee Haw' is more than just a great job or a good time, it's where my friends are."

Little Richie Johnson:

Country's 'King of Promotion'

■ 1976-77 was a great year for the "King of Promotion," Little Richie Johnson. The agency, located in Belen, New Mexico, operates a total of 14 different companies which are mainly connected with country music. These companies include publishing, record labels, distribution and promotion. In the past 12 months, Little Richie Records has released singles by Lloyd Green, Bill Mack, Sherwin Linton, Kelly Warren, and one of the hottest records of the year, entitled "CB Savage" by Rod Hart. Another label operated by the firm is the "Chuckie" label which also had several releases including "Grandma Got A CB" by Edith Stapleton.

The agency also won first place in its booth for young and up-coming singer Kelly Warren during the 1977 Fan Fair. The company has handled national promotion over the years for several of the top country names in the business. One of the most popular country recording stars associated with Little Richie Johnson for over 15 years is Faron Young.

Another firm starting to catch on is the Sounds of Music Dis-

tributing Company which is also headed by the Johnson Agency. There are several new singles and albums scheduled for release which will include Albert Young Eagle, Rod Hart, Kelly Warren and several others.

The Little Richie label has recently signed Sam West IV and Bobby Helms. The firm has also signed "the King of Turquoise and Indian Jewelry," Gilbert Ortega, who will be recording his first album within the next month.

The agency occupies a 4000 square foot building which houses all its offices, show rooms, etc. at 610 Dalies Ave. in Belen. It will also start the first of the year with a new label called LRJ Records and will also have a new promotion unit that will travel throughout the country. The companies employ over 25 people.

In the past several years the promotion company has promoted 35 #1 records and over 400 that made the charts.

Another company, R&J Advertising Specialty firm, handles merchandise for several people in the music industry, including Fan Club Badges, give-aways, etc.

Con Brio: Capable & Competitive

■ Bill Walker consistently gleans exciting product from studio sessions with Con Brio's dynamic artists, including Jan Howard, Lori Parker, Dale McBride and Don King, who has had two top 30 chart records in 1977—"I've Got You" and "She's The Girl Of My Dreams." King's current release is "I Must Be Dreaming."

Complementing Bill Walker's wizardry in the recording studio is Jeff Walker, the general manager and main catalyst in formulating Con Brio's path to solid credibility as a capable, competitive record label. Jeff's background as an accountant with the international accounting firm Touche-Ross has made him the administrative key to Con Brio's extraordinary success.

Biff Collie, having worked in so many facets of country music—radio, records and journalism—serves Con Brio as director of promotion and in marketing and public relations for the company. Biff created a weekly newsletter for Con Brio called "Dateline," which is mailed to over 500 disc jockeys, local newspapers and sales people.

Rex Peer, director of Con

Brio's music publishing firms, has performed with The Benny Goodman Orchestra and for the past seven years with Danny Davis and The Nashville Brass. Con Brio's three publishing companies are Con Brio Music, BMI; Wiljex Music, ASCAP, and Concorde Music, SESAC. Over 400 copyrights are represented bearing such writers' names as: Don King, Dave Woodward, Fran Powers, Scott Summer, Jeff Raymond, Lori Parker and Bill and Jeanine Walker.

Jeanine Walker is publishing coordinator and artist relations consultant for Con Brio Music as well as a background vocalist for many Nashville sessions. Other members of the Con Brio staff include Colin Walker, a&r assistant; Eddie McCroskey, Carrie Templeton, Lisa Demontbreu, Sheila Hands, and John Golden and Jeff Raymond, who handle public relations and publicity.

Nationwide Sound Distributors has been handling the distribution and marketing for Con Brio Records since early 1976. The label has successfully merited chart records every week of this past year.

ATV:

In Nashville To Stay

■ ATV Music Group has enjoyed a highly successful year in country music. "It's only the beginning," says ATV president Sam Trust. "Within the next three years we'll be one of the top three publishers in Nashville."

Trust cites solid chart records such as Johnny Rodriguez' "I Couldn't Be Me Without You" (by ATV's Billy Joe Shaver), Eddy Arnold's "Cowboy," "You Keep Me Hangin' On" by Vern Gosdin, and the recent Freddy Hart single, "The Pleasure's Been All Mine." Also significant are Pat Boone's "Texas Woman," plus Kenny Serats' "I've Been There Too" and "Daddy, They're Playin' A Song About You." Trust and country music chief Cliffie Stone then point to copyrights such as "Mother Country Music," already recorded 16 times by artists such as Vern Gosdin, Tom Bresh and Kenny Rogers.

In addition, ATV relocated its Nashville operation to 45 Music Square West this past year and Trust has just announced the appointment of Jerry Tiefer as manager of that office. Tiefer's impressive credits include his being former VP and general manager of April Blackwood, founding the original Sunbury-Dunbar operation, former president of Metromedia Publishing and holding

a similar post with ABC/Dunhill.

Perhaps the most interesting move this year was ATV's acquisition of Brougham Hall Music Co. Inc. and its affiliated catalogues, including Brougham Hall Music, Proud Bird Music, Sigler Street Music and Paul Richey Music. Paul Richey now operates from ATV Nashville as both writer and professional manager, while brother George joins ATV's already solid group of writers. (Also included in the deal are composers Roger Bowling, Robert John Jones, Steve Tutsi and Frank Dycus.)

This involvement, consumated in July, brought ATV copyrights that include the worldwide Kenny Rogers' smash "Lucille" (penned by Roger Bowling), the George Jones/Tammy Wynette hit "Southern California," "Blanket On The Ground" and "Little Bank of Gold."

ATV stresses its intent to exploit Nashville material worldwide as well as from its Los Angeles and New York offices. "Our London office is run by Peter Phillips," says Trust, "who has proven himself extremely prolific in the placement of country material in Europe." Cliffie Stone, head of ATV's country division, was recently elected president of the Academy of Country Music.

Monument Makes Major Inroads

■ It's been a big year for Monument Records as it continues to make a solid imprint on the country music field.

Monument and Fred Foster continue their amazing record of building superstars, and the latest is Larry Gatlin. This year Gatlin won a Grammy for Best Country Song ("Broken Lady") and was nominated for a Grammy for Best Male Country Vocalist. He has also been nominated for Top Male Vocalist in the Country Music Association awards.

Charlie McCoy, who has won a Grammy and CMA Instrumentalist of the Year award, has been nominated again this year for the CMA's Instrumentalist of the Year award.

Monument began this year with independent distribution. In July it signed with Phonogram for distribution in the United States. It remains with CBS International for worldwide distribution except Australia, where it is distributed by Festival.

Some new talent joined the Monument fold this year when Connie Smith and Tommy Cash both signed recording agreements. They joined Larry Gatlin, Boots Randolph, Charlie McCoy, Grady Martin, Brush Arbor, Bare-

foot Jerry, Tommy Roe, Larry Jon Wilson, Chuck Stewart, Paul Ott, Arthur Smith, Don Cherry and two legends — Kris Kristofferson and Roy Orbison.

On the executive side, joining president Fred Foster are Tom Rodden, vice president, sales, and general manager; John Dorris, vice president, finance; Terry Fletcher, vice president, promotion; and Tex Davis, national country promotion. Additionally, this year Tex Davis also took on the responsibilities of promoting all Combine Music product and the Combine of Kondo Production's Mel McDaniell and Arleen Hardin.

Monument has just released a package of albums that includes releases by Gatlin, McCoy, Barefoot Jerry, Connie Smith, Grady Martin, Larry Jon Wilson, Boots Randolph, Brush Arbor and Tommy Roe that assures that Monument will be making a big mark on the charts as well as in sales during the fall months.

Monument continues to make a strong inroad into country music. With its staff of artists and executive personnel, those inroads look more like major highways and Monument continues to build 'em.

Top Billing, Inc. Reports Banner Year

■ This has been a banner year for Top Billing, Inc. It has marked the agency's entrance into new phases of bookings and personalities with the addition of Billy Carter to its roster.

Top Billing has made stronger, bigger and better drives into state fairs and a major entry into the Nevada scene with the appearance of Tom T. Hall in Sparks.

The agency has extended its public relations department to two full-time persons. The Nashville-based agency also retains the services of the Brokaw Company from Los Angeles. This well-known public relations firm has netted Top Billing's artists much national attention.

Many of Top Billing's artists will celebrate the agency's 10th anniversary. Artists who have been represented by Top Billing for a decade are: Jim Ed Brown, Jack Greene, Jeannie Seely, Porter Wagoner and Del Reeves. Other artists represented by Top Billing include: Connie Cato, Johnny Carver, Jerry Clower, Helen Cornelius, Little Jimmy Dickens, Don Gibson, Tom T. Hall, Wendy Holcombe, Dickey Lee, Jeannie C. Riley, Carl Smith, Red Sovine, and others.

Louisiana Hayride Broadens Its Base

■ The "Louisiana Hayride," the country music show and broadcast which launched the careers of 23 artists now pictured in the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, is now heard on 200 radio stations in a 13-state area in addition to the originating station, 50,000-watt KWKH in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Superstars

The first superstar to graduate from the Hayride was Hank Williams, followed closely by Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley. Presley had been a regular on the show for 18-months before national television programs brought him to the attention of the nation. He had tried to get on the Grand Ole Opry but had been told he should stick to truck driving and, as Hayride old-timers quip, he drove his truck on down to Shreveport and found a home.

Current Program

The current program originates in the Hayride's own restaurant and auditorium and the taped shows are edited in their studio in Nashville, The Sound Lab, and pressed into albums for station replay on a delayed basis.

Combine Music Group

35 Music Square East/Nashville, Tennessee 37203

First Generation Music Co.
(BMI)

Resaca Music Publishing Co.
(BMI)

Tennessee Swamp Fox Music Co.
(ASCAP)

Youngun Publishing Co.
(BMI)

Music City Music, Inc.
(ASCAP)

Rising Sons Music, Inc.
(BMI)

Vintage Music, Inc.
(BMI)

Brothers 3 Music Co.
(BMI)

P.S. FROM US, TOO! Bob Beckham, President, Fred Foster, Chairman of Board
Johnny MacRae, Vice-President, Al Cooley, Manager
SPECIAL THANKS TO: Carolyn Sells, Carol Phillips, Libbi Dalton
P.P.S. You, too, Whisper!

BMI

(Continued from page 54)

the University of Tulsa; in San Antonio, Muscle Shoals, Atlanta, Memphis and Austin. Mrs. Preston brought the word to an important music gathering in Los Angeles; and she and Roger Sovine took part in Music Expo in New Orleans.

In Nashville itself, BMI co-hosted, with Vanderbilt University, a legal seminar centered on the new copyright law. BMI president Edward M. Cramer spoke, and the Registrar of the Copyright office and other leading figures helped cast light on this law.

At Belmont College, Russ Sanjek, BMI vice president in charge of public relations, gave a history of popular music course. Also on the local level, BMI played a key role as in years past, in the Country Music Association (CMA), the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS), the Country Music Foundation (CMF), the Gospel Music Association (GMA), the Nashville Songwriters Association and many worthy projects from the many worlds of music. In nearby Memphis and Muscle Shoals, BMI displayed great interest in the Memphis Songwriters Association and the Muscle Shoals Music Association

as well.

Reaching out, being "interested," is the BMI way. The company's position was spelled out in the first year of its operation with a pledge that has remained essential to day-to-day functioning, from then to now:

"To open the road for all who have anything to say in music . . . to assure equal opportunity and fair compensation for all composers old and young."

But BMI consistently has taken that extra step, simultaneously endeavoring to enlighten and aid any and all who seek to know. BMI representatives moving out into the educational field, during this the 25th year of recognition of achievement and excellence, via awards to country writers and publishers, is just another way of fulfilling our pledge and serving the music community.

From all indications, the BMI policy has proven viable. The company has grown and grown. It is now the largest performing rights organization in the world, with 47,000 writers and publishers, 21,000 of those in the southern region. BMI is a potent force in all areas of music, not least of all country, where it maintains a level of 75 percent of the songs on the country charts.

This has come to pass because the music world believes in BMI.

Buffalo: A Quality-Oriented Company

■ A young, dynamic new record company, Buffalo Records, has located in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and its first album features a popular "rockin' bluegrass" group, Bill Haney and the Zassoff Boys.

Haney lives in Columbia, and is popularly known as the "Dean of South Carolina Bluegrass." He's no stranger to the music business, having worked with Bill Monroe, Tom T. Hall, Tompall Glaser and many other country music and bluegrass favorites.

Buffalo Records is headed by Lawrence Fuhrmann, president, and Tom Smith, executive vice president. Offices are at 1900 Oak in Myrtle Beach, and the company is represented in Nashville by Dennis Glaser, veteran journalist and former associate editor of Country Rambler magazine.

Fuhrmann's experience in the music business includes work as a performer and producer. Fuhrmann and Smith are well-grounded in the important marketing phases of the industry, with Smith heading up the sales responsibilities.

Fuhrmann outlined the company's philosophy this way:

"We're quality oriented," he said. "This carries through all the way from selection of the artists we record on through the record-

ing sessions and includes the design and manufacture of the record and the album jacket."

Immediate attention is being directed toward total regional distribution of Buffalo Records albums, with a two-year gradient projected for full national availability.

Buffalo Records' first album, "The New & The Used" by Bill Haney and the Zassoff Boys, is packaged in a full-color double-fold album. The cover is dominated by an artist's painting of a Myrtle Beach carnival scene, with full-color inset photos of Haney and each member of his band. There are more color pictures of band members in informal poses inside the jacket. Back liner notes include comments by Tompall Glaser and Tom T. Hall, Nashville country music stars. Chuck Glaser is one of Music City's top producers. Reno—who is Haney's cousin—worked with him when both were members of Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Boys. Miss Black, Nashville singer and songwriter, is a former Columbia resident.

Tying in with the "Buffalo Records" name, the two sides of the "Buffalo Nickel" are part of the company's logo design, which is used also on the record label.

Diana Williams Has A Hit!



RECORD WORLD
DIANA WILLIAMS—One Night of Cheatin' (Ain't Worth The Reapin') (2:44); producer: Bill Denny; writer: Carroll Baker; publisher: Cedarwood, BMI, Capitol P4488.

BILLBOARD
DIANA WILLIAMS—Capitol 4488
ONE NIGHT OF CHEATIN' (AIN'T WORTH THE REAPIN') (C. Baker; Cedarwood, BMI)
 Marked by clever lyrics and a convincing delivery, Williams should have a hit with this offering.

ONE NIGHT OF CHEATIN' AIN'T WORTH THE REAPIN'

(Capitol Records #4488)

Dollie Record Productions • Produced by Bill Denny
 Written by Carroll Baker

Published by

 **CEDARWOOD PUBLISHING CO., INC.**

Nashville, Tenn. 37203

MEL TILLIS

Entertainer Of The Year Thanks The Music Industry For A Great Year

SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 3 Sammy Davis Show
- 4-9 Rochester, N.Y.
- 12 Pop Goes Country
- 13 Recording Session
- 14 Naples, Fla.
- 17-18 Hollywood Squares
- 19-23 Kansas City, Mo.
- 24 Nashville 99
- 26 Recording Session
- 27-31 Miami, Fla.

FEBRUARY

- 1 Merv Griffin
- 2 Tonight Show
- 6 Peoria, Ill.
- 8-10 Don Ho-Hawaii
- 11 Leslie, Ga.
- 12 Leisburg, Fla.
- 14 LeHigh Acres, Fla.
- 16 Dinah Shore
- 17 Acad. of Music Awards
- 18-19 Columbia, Mo.
- 22 Chicago, Ill.
- 23-24 Chicago, Ill.
- 25 Xenia, Ohio
- 26 Nashville, Ind.
- 27 Dallas, Texas
- 28 Plant City, Fla.

MARCH

- 1 Houston, Texas
- 2 McAllen, Texas
- 3 Lakeland, Fla.
- 4 Huntsville, Ala.
- 5 Dothan, Ala.
- 8 Mike Douglas Show
- 9 Recording Session
- 11-12 Sparks, Nev.
- 16 Tonight Show
- 17 Dinah Shore
- 18-19 Sparks, Nev.
- 21 Recording Session
- 22 Helena Chemical
- 23 Recording Session
- 24-30 Hot Springs, Ark.
- 31 Stephenville, Tex.

APRIL

- 1 Houston, Texas
- 2 Tyler, Texas
- 3 Dallas, Texas
- 5 Waukegan, Ill.
- 6-7 CM Hit Parade
- 8 Teaberry Comm.
- 9 Kokomo, Ind.
- 11-16 Ft. Lauderdale
- 20 Sedgfield Comm.
- 21 Good Ole Nash. Music
- 22 Winston-Salem, N.C.
- 23 Wheeling, W.V.
- 24 Raleigh, N.C.
- 28 Kingsport, Tn.
- 29 Fairfax, Va.

MAY

- 1-10 Vacation
- 11 Recording Session
- 14 Birmingham, Ala.
- 15 Martinsville, Ind.
- 17 Twin Falls, Idaho
- 20 Pasadena, Cal.
- 21 Fresno, Cal.
- 22 Livermore, Cal.
- 24 Hollywood Squares
- 25 Redding, Cal.
- 27 Salt Lake City, Utah
- 29-30 Eureka, Mo.

JUNE

- 2 Pittsburg, Kan.
- 3 Cushing, Okla.
- 4 Arlington, Texas
- 7 Fan Fair
- 8 Awards Show
- 11 Cummings, Ga.
- 13 Atlanta, Ga.
- 18 Cookeville, Tn.
- 20

SCHEDULE

- 21-22 Sparks, Nev.
- 23 No. Platte, Neb.
- 24 Excelsior Sp., Mo.
- 25 Petersburg, Ill.
- 26 Salem, Ohio
- 27 Clarksville, Tn.
- 28 Birmingham, Ala.
- 29 Montgomery, Ala.
- 30 Hee Haw

SCHEDULE

- JULY
- 1 Longview, Texas
- 2 Dallas, Texas
- 4 Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- 7 Welch, Okla.
- 8 Val Paraiso, Ind.
- 9 Traverse City, Mich.
- 10 Tonowanda, N.Y.
- 12 Mike Douglas Show

SCHEDULE

- 13-19 Vacation
- 20 Merv Griffin Show
- 21 Tonight Show
- 22 Minot, N.D.
- 23 Madison, Wisco.
- 24 Lansing, Mich.
- 27 Santa Maria, Cal.
- 29-30 Cheyenne, Wym.
- 31 Billings, Mont.

SCHEDULE

AUGUST

- 1 Stroh's Comm.
- 3 Ralph Emery Show
- 4 Springfield, Mo.
- 5 Edwardsville, Ill.
- 6 Lake Ozarks, Mo.
- 7 Davenport, Iowa
- 8 Jackson, Mich.
- 9 Beatles Special in
- 10-11 London, England
- 13 Omak, Wash.
- 14 Vancouver, Wash.
- 16 Grants Pass, Ore.
- 17 Burley, Idaho
- 18 Eugene, Ore.
- 19 Mose's Lake, Wash.
- 20 Seaside, Ore.
- 21 Sacramento, Cal.
- 24 Kalamazoo, Mich.
- 25 Flint, Mich.
- 26 Ottawa, Canada
- 27 Bruceton Mills, W.V.
- 28 Duquoin, Ill.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Boise, Idaho
- 2 Stroh's Session
- 3 Detroit, Mich.
- 4 Canfield, Ohio
- 5 Royerford, Pa.
- 7 Lincoln, Neb.
- 9 York, Pa.
- 10 Tulsa, Okla.
- 13 Wooster, Ohio
- 14 London, Ont.
- 15 Hutcheson, Kan.
- 18 Albuquerque, N.M.
- 19-20 Albuquerque, N.M.
- 21 Amarillo, Texas
- 23 Russellville, Ark.
- 24 Memphis, Tenn.
- 25 Terre Haute, Ind.
- 26 The Tonight Show
- 27-28 Lubbock, Texas
- 29-30 Oklahoma City, Okla.

OCTOBER

- 1 Ft. Collins, Colo.
- 2 Aberdeen, S.D.
- 4 Rapid City, S.D.
- 5 Jameston, N.D.
- 7-8 Yakima, Wash.
- 10 CMA Awards
- 11 KFC Comm.
- 12 Fresno, Cal.
- 13-22 Sparks, Nev.
- 26 Phoenix, Ariz.
- 27-31 Las Vegas, Nev.

NOVEMBER

- 1-2 Las Vegas, Nev.
- 4 Calgary, Alb.
- 5 Saskatoon, Sask.
- 6 Regina, Sask.
- 8 Edmonton, Alb.
- 10 Bismark, N.D.
- 11 Grandforks, N.D.
- 12 Waukesha, Wisc.
- 13 Joliet, Ill.
- 14 Waterloo, Iowa
- 15 Winnipeg, Canada
- 16 Ronnie Prophet Show
- 17 Spokane, Wash.
- 18 Portland, Ore.
- 19 Seattle, Wash.
- 20 Vancouver, B.C.
- 22 Chattanooga, Tenn.
- 28 New York, N.Y.

DECEMBER

- 2 Fairfax, Va.
- 3 Warren, Ohio
- 4 Petersburg, Ill.
- 10 Chattanooga, Tenn.
- 11 Cocoa Beach, Fla.
- 12-31 Recording Sessions and Vacation



**T-T-THANKS TO THE TRADES, THE JIM HALSEY AGENCY,
THE RADIO STATIONS, THE BUYERS, MY BAND AND
STAFF, MCA RECORDS AND ALL OF MY GREAT FANS!**



ANNUAL PUBLISHERS LIST

■ A Comprehensive List Of Country Chart Activity By Publisher From August 21, 1976 through August 13, 1977

Publisher	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Publisher	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Publisher	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Publisher	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
ABC Dunhill	2	—	—	Creature Comfort	1	—	—	Jack	1	—	—	Ray Moondo	1	—	—
Acoustic	1	—	—	Crooked Creek	1	—	—	Jack & Bill	19	2	1	Ray Stevens	4	—	—
Acuff-Rose	18	4	2	Cumberland	1	—	—	Jeanne Pruett	1	—	—	RFD	1	—	—
Adams	1	—	—	Dan Penn	1	1	—	Jeannie C. Riley	1	—	—	Rick Hall	2	—	—
Ahab	4	1	—	Danel	1	—	—	Jerry Vogel	1	—	—	Roadmaster	1	—	—
Al Gallico	15	3	—	Danor	3	—	—	Jerry Wallace	1	—	—	Robbins	1	—	—
Alamo	1	—	—	Daria	1	—	—	Jidobi	2	1	—	Rocky Top	1	—	—
Algee	15	4	2	Dawnbreaker	1	—	—	Joe Allen	1	—	—	Roger Miller	1	—	—
Alhond	1	—	—	DebDave	4	1	—	John Farrar	2	—	—	Rose Bridge	2	1	—
Allan Cartee	1	—	—	Dejamus	2	—	—	Johnny Rivers	1	—	—	Royal Oak	1	—	—
Almo	4	—	—	Devereaux	1	—	—	Julep	7	—	—	Rumbalero	1	—	—
Alta Mesa	1	—	—	Dick James	2	1	1	Kags	1	1	1	Sage & Sand	1	—	—
Altman	1	1	1	Dixie Jane	2	—	—	Kama Sutra	1	—	—	Sandburn	2	—	—
American	—	—	—	Don Kirshner	1	1	—	Keca	2	—	—	Sawgrass	5	2	—
Broadcasting	3	—	—	Door Knob	1	—	—	Kenny Nolan	1	—	—	Screen Gems/EMI	5	3	2
American Cowboy	4	2	—	Double R	1	—	—	Kevin Young	1	—	—	Seagrape	1	—	—
American	—	—	—	Doubleplay	2	1	1	Kicking Bear	1	1	—	Seesaw	1	—	—
Gramophone	3	—	—	Down 'N Dixie	1	1	—	Kimtra	1	—	—	September	1	—	—
Andite Invasion	1	1	1	Driftaway	1	—	—	Kirshner Songs	1	1	—	Shade Tree	3	1	—
Andromeda	1	—	—	Drifter	1	—	—	Lady Jane	1	—	—	Shapiro Bernstein	1	—	—
Arabella	1	—	—	Duce	1	—	—	Lawday	2	—	—	Shelby Singleton	2	1	—
Arc	1	1	—	Duchess	3	1	—	Leo Feist	1	—	—	Show Biz	1	—	—
Arch	3	—	—	Dunbar	1	1	1	Leon	1	1	—	Show For	2	—	—
Aside	1	—	—	Dusty Roads	2	—	—	Lewis	1	—	—	Silver Blue	2	—	—
Ash Valley	2	—	—	Easy	1	—	—	Liberty Hills	1	—	—	Silver Dawn	3	1	1
Asleep At The Wheel	1	—	—	Easy Listening	1	—	—	Libijon	1	—	—	Silver Fiddle	1	1	—
Attache	1	—	—	Easy Nine	1	1	—	Light Hearted	1	—	—	Singletree	8	—	—
ATV	3	—	—	Eden	1	—	—	Lion's Gate	1	—	—	Skidmore	1	—	—
Babcock	1	—	—	Edward B. Marks	2	—	—	Little Richie Johnson	1	1	—	Song Painter	1	—	—
Baby Chick	2	1	1	Elvis Presley	2	—	—	Loaves & Fishes	1	—	—	Song Smiths	1	—	—
Back Road	2	—	—	ERE	1	—	—	Lois	1	—	—	Song Tailors	1	—	—
Baron	2	2	—	Ernest Tubb	1	—	—	Londontown	1	—	—	Sook	2	1	—
Basket	1	—	—	Evil Eye	2	—	—	Lorville	1	—	—	Sound Corp	3	—	—
Bayshore	1	—	—	Excellorc	2	1	—	Lowball	3	—	—	Southern	3	—	—
Beaik	1	—	—	Famous	5	1	—	Lowery	1	1	1	Stallion	2	—	—
Beechwood	4	—	—	Fiddleback	1	—	—	Low-Twi	1	—	—	Stanley Adams	1	—	—
Belinda	4	—	—	Filmwarp	1	—	—	Lu-Ner	1	—	—	Starbust	1	—	—
Ben Peters	5	1	—	First Generation	5	3	1	Mandina	1	—	—	Stars & Stripes	1	—	—
Best Way	1	—	—	Flagship	1	—	—	Mandy	4	—	—	Starship	3	—	—
Big Ax	1	—	—	Forrest Hills	4	—	—	Maplehill	11	6	3	Stone Agate	1	—	—
Bill Black	2	—	—	Fort Knox	1	—	—	Ma-Ree	1	—	—	Stone Bridge	1	—	—
Black Sheep	2	—	—	Four Star	3	—	—	Marsaint	1	1	1	Stone Diamond	2	—	—
Blackwood	4	1	1	Fourth Floor	3	—	—	Marson	1	1	—	Stuckey	1	—	—
Blatz	1	—	—	Fox Box	1	—	—	Matragum	1	—	—	Studio	1	—	—
Blue Book	4	—	—	Frebar	2	—	—	MCA	1	—	—	Sunbury	1	—	—
Blue Brauch	1	—	—	Fred Ahlert	1	—	—	Me & Sam	2	—	—	Supreme	1	1	1
Blue Echo	8	1	1	Fred Rose	4	—	—	Memory	1	—	—	Sweco	1	1	—
Blue Gum	1	—	—	Fullness	2	—	—	Milene	8	—	—	Sweet Dreams	1	—	—
Bobby Goldsboro	1	—	—	Galamar	1	—	—	Moose	1	—	—	Sweet Glory	1	1	1
Boxer	1	—	—	Gary S. Paxton	1	—	—	Moose & Big Elk	1	—	—	Tackhammer	1	—	—
Boz Scaggs	1	—	—	General	1	—	—	Morning	1	—	—	Tallyrand	1	—	—
Brazos Valley	3	—	—	Glory	1	—	—	MPL	—	—	—	Talmon	1	1	—
Briarpatch	2	2	—	Goblet	1	—	—	Communications	1	—	—	Tannyboy	1	—	—
Brim	1	—	—	God Songs	1	—	—	Mull-Ti-Hit	2	—	—	Tilish	1	—	—
Bridgeport	1	1	—	Golden Horn	1	—	—	Muscle Shoals	1	1	1	Time Square	2	—	—
Brother Karl's	1	—	—	Golden West	1	—	—	Music City	3	—	—	Tiny Tiger	1	—	—
Brougham Hall	10	1	1	Melodies	2	—	—	Music Craftshop	2	—	—	Tommy Overstreet	2	—	—
Bruch	1	—	—	Granny White	2	—	—	Music of the Times	1	—	—	Travis	1	—	—
Buckhorn	1	—	—	Great Legend	1	—	—	Mystery	1	—	—	Tree	40	13	3
Buzz Cason	1	—	—	Greenwood	1	—	—	Nattahnam	1	—	—	Tro-Cromwell	1	—	—
Calente	1	—	—	Gregmark	1	—	—	Narvel The Marvel	2	—	—	Tuckahoe	3	—	—
Captive	1	—	—	Hacienda	1	—	—	Natural Songs	1	—	—	Tuffy	1	—	—
Casa David	1	1	1	Hairline	1	—	—	Newkeys	3	1	—	Twentieth Century	1	—	—
Caseyem	1	—	—	Hall-Clement	14	5	4	No Exit	3	1	—	Twitty Bird	8	3	3
Casseyem	1	—	—	Hallnote	1	1	—	Nunn	1	—	—	Unart	6	—	—
Castleridge	1	—	—	Hamburger	1	—	—	Oceans Blue	1	—	—	Unichappell	3	—	—
Cedarwood	2	1	—	Hardhit	2	—	—	One Hundred Oaks	1	—	—	United Artists	7	—	—
Champion	1	—	—	Hartline	1	1	—	Ordena	1	1	—	Val Rio	1	—	—
Chappell	12	3	2	Hat Band	1	—	—	Osmusic	1	—	—	Vector	2	—	—
Charles Rich	1	—	—	Heavy	1	—	—	Owepar	2	1	—	Vee & Abott	1	—	—
Cherry Lane	4	1	—	Hello Darlin'	1	—	—	Paddle Wheel	1	—	—	Velvet Apple	1	1	—
Chess	7	3	3	Herford	1	—	—	Pantego Sound	1	—	—	Venice	1	1	—
Chinnichap	1	—	—	Highball	3	—	—	Papoose	1	—	—	Vogue	11	6	3
Chrysalis	1	—	—	Hobby Horse	1	—	—	Partner	8	—	—	Warhawk	1	—	—
Clancy	3	—	—	Hookit	1	1	—	Paul Richey	1	—	—	Warner Brothers	6	1	—
Coal Miners	2	1	1	Horse Hairs	2	—	—	Pax House	1	1	—	Warner-Tamerlane	6	1	1
Coffee Shop	1	—	—	Hotei	1	—	—	Peer	9	1	1	Weeping Willow	1	—	—
Colgems	3	—	—	House of Bryant	4	—	—	Pen In Hand	1	—	—	Wellback	2	1	—
Combine	1	—	—	House of Cash	3	—	—	Pencil Mark	1	—	—	Western	1	—	—
Con Brio	2	—	—	House of Gold	5	—	—	Peso	1	—	—	Westgate	1	1	1
Conrad	1	—	—	Hudson Bay	2	—	—	Pi-Gem	6	2	2	White Tornado	1	—	—
Contention	2	—	—	Hungry Mountain	1	—	—	Pick-A-Hit	2	2	1	Wiljex	5	—	—
Cookaway	1	—	—	Ice Age	1	—	—	Power Play	5	—	—	Willie Nelson	3	1	—
Coral Reefer	1	1	—	Imusic	1	1	1	Prima Donna	2	1	1	Window	6	—	—
Cotillion	1	—	—	Inmy	2	—	—	Proud Bird	1	1	—	Winner Circle	1	—	—
Country Pickers	2	—	—	Intersong USA	40	1	—	Publicare	2	1	—	Word	1	—	—
Country Road	1	—	—	Irving	1	—	—	Quality	1	1	1	Youngun	2	—	—
Covered Wagon	1	—	—	Island	1	—	—	Rada Dara	2	—	—	Young World	2	—	—
Crazy Cajun	4	3	—									Zarit	1	—	—

Pete Drake Keeps the Hits Comin'

■ Pete Drake, known for years as Nashville's finest steel guitarist, is known around the world as one of the leading producers. In the past, Drake has produced such monster hits as Melba Montgomery's "No Charge," and also several albums on Ms. Montgomery. Drake has also produced Ringo Starr, Tommy Cash, Slim Whitman, Skeeter Davis, Little Richard and many others.

In the past 12 months, Drake has been at all time high as a producer. This year one of his dreams was fulfilled when he produced his favorite, Ernest Tubb. It was Tubb's first album in years. To Pete, it was something he had wanted to do for years. Pete's brother, Jack Drake, was Tubb's bass player for 24 years.

New Talent

As always, Drake is bringing in new talent with a new album on Pam Rose, one of the finest singers to come along in years. Out of the album came the chart single "Midnight Flight" and possibly a new single, "Runaway Heart," and, according to initial reaction, he's right. Her album "Pam Rose" on Capitol Records is getting "rave" reviews and heavy airplay from coast to coast. Even the studio musicians in Nashville, who are hard to please,

say the album is one of the best they've heard in years. Surely Pam Rose is destined for superstardom in the year to come.

Linda Hargrove

Also this year, Drake has produced two albums on Linda Hargrove, who is rapidly becoming one of country music's leading female singers/songwriters. She has had chart action this year on "Fire At First Sight," "Down To My Pride" and her current hit "Mexican Love Songs." Drake seems to capture her on tape exactly where she should be with simple productions at times and more complex productions when needed. Pete Drake has brought her along at his own pace, but everyone agrees that she is here to stay. Her latest Capitol lp, "Impressions," includes some of the finest production to date and some very strong material. It is definitely a contender for chart action.

Another artist Drake is producing is Larry Ballard. Ballard is coming on fast. His latest Capitol lp, produced by Drake, is his strongest to date. With the production lending itself to Ballard's style perfectly, it's starting to see action nationwide, and Ballard is making his way into new markets everyday.

Billy Deaton Does It Again

■ Billy Deaton has been a very busy man in 1977. Billy handles bookings for such artists as Faron Young and the Country Deputies, David Houston and the Persuaders, Stu Phillips and the Balladiers, Connie Smith, Del Wood, and has just signed the fantastic Singing Ranger, Hank Snow. Deaton was very busy in the first part of the year, arranging for Faron Young to appear for the first time in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Glasgow, Scotland; and at the Palladium in London, England. The dates were set through Jeffrey Kruger of London.

Deaton had David Houston and the Persuaders at the Odessa, Texas Rodeo for the 6th and 7th of January at Ector Country Coliseum. He was featured on the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th of April at Waterloo, Iowa. On the 3rd of July, 1977, David Houston was at Fredericksburg, Texas at "For a Night in Ole Fredericksburg." Also, David was featured on the 6th of August in Columbus, Ohio for a Grand Ole Opry Show, with 15 other acts featured.

Connie Smith was in Mobile, Alabama on the 25th of March for a big spectacular, and also in Greenville, South Carolina for a big show, with Bill Anderson.

She was also part of a big show on the 6th of August in Cleveland, Ohio. Connie Smith worked for WIRE Radio in Indianapolis, Indiana, as part of its big celebration, with Larry Gatlin and Hank Williams, Jr., on August 14. Connie was also featured at Opryland on the 27th of August to open the Craft Fair.

Deaton was selected by the Association of Country Entertainers board to handle all of the talent for the 41 shows that they had in the summer of 1977 at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. Deaton booked an average of seven acts per show with a total of 287 acts that appeared on the stage.

In the year of 1977, there was another first for Billy Deaton: he was elected the president of the Nashville Association of Talent Directors (NATD), which is one of the greatest honors that a booker could possibly receive.

As another first in 1977, Deaton set a dance tour for Merle Haggard in Texas; one of the big accomplishments of the tour was that for the first time in the history of the Longhorn Ballroom in Dallas, all tickets were sold in advance—1800 tickets at ten dollars a person.

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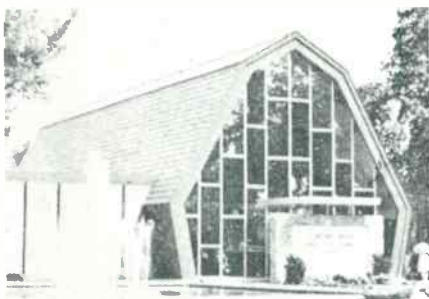
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Jack D. Johnson Talent Scores in '77

■ Jack D. Johnson Talent, Inc., the management-booking firm whose president, Jack D. Johnson, discovered and developed the careers of Charley Pride and Ronnie Milsap, has just concluded one of the company's best years, according to Johnson, on the eve of this year's CMA Convention.

"We have had one year out of the past 13 years that was perhaps better, as far as gross earnings were concerned," Johnson stated. "However, we did not have as much accomplished in the way of new talent and prospects for the future."

Some of the past year's accomplishments credited to Jack D. Johnson Talent, Inc. include Ronnie Milsap's nomination for four of the top awards during this year's CMA celebraton. Also, Johnson has recently concluded lengthy negotiations whereby Warner/Curb Records purchased the recording contract and catalogue of T. G. Sheppard from Motown Records.

In addition to T. G. Sheppard, the agency is actively involved in the promoton of several new acts, including Eddy Pride, younger brother of Charley Pride; Sarah Johns, RCA vocalist; Charnissa, a Columbia Records artist; and Sheila Rhea, the newest member

of the Jack D. Johnson Talent roster.

"I am currently involved in negotiating with several different labels for the services of Eddy Pride and should have a record out by him some time this year," Johnson said. "In the meantime," Johnson added, "Eddy continues to pack people into clubs throughout the country, and is almost booked solid for the remainder of 1977 even though he has no records on the market."

RCA has just released "I Don't Want To Get Over You," a song Sarah Johns recently recorded on the west coast under the direction of Hollywood producer David Campbell.

Sheila Rhea, according to Johnson, is an extremely talented music row receptionist who is destined for stardom in the country-rock vein. Johnson added that he is presently seeking the best possible record label for her.

With the addition of Elroy Kahanek to the firm n 1976 as vice president and head of promotion, Johnson said his firm is in the best position ever to promote the careers of young artists in the entertainment industry. Kahanek was formerly national manager of country promotion for RCA Records in Nashville.

GRT: Striving for a Balanced Image

■ In relation to the record industry as a whole, GRT would hardly be considered a large label, but after 1977, it will definitely be eyed as a contender for a healthy amount of national activity. Known primarily as a country operation, 1977 has seen GRT make its first key moves into top 40 and MOR areas.

"As far as a great many pop stations are concerned," says national promotion director Tom McEntee, "1977 has been the year when they first gave GRT more than passing notice. Mainly because until that time we had a negligible amount of product aimed in their direction."

But with the success this year of Meri Wilson's "Telephone Man," followed immediately by Ronnie McDowell's "The King Is Gone," GRT has been carving a niche in the pop charts, balancing out the country activity which the label feels is its base.

That success with singles, backed by a small but potent album release schedule that includes McDowell, Meri Wilson and a successful political comedy lp called "Trust Me," caused GRT's billing to climb strongly.

In addition, the label continues with its small but successful country roster, headed by Johnny Lee, whose first album is also ready for shipping, Price Mitchell, and a new group called Alabama, among others.

"Other than the Meri Wilson record, we have had almost no product aimed strictly at top 40 and MOR markets. And even that record reached number 1 on at least 15 or 20 key country stations."

However, this fall the label is releasing lps on such pop-oriented groups as Wham out of the Pittsburgh area, and David and Gail, from the west coast, as well as several other acts whose contracts are now being finalized. Single and lp releases are also scheduled for Shadrack and a "family" vocal group, The Murphys. Those additions, the label feels, will make GRT a well-balanced force in the music industry.

In order for GRT to reach its long-term and intermediate goals, 1977 was a critical year in the

label's game plan. And, the success of this year has already given birth to expansion of its promotion force, with two additions in the field, Bill Mack and Jane Manabe.

"Critical selectivity of product releases and strong promotion are the keys to any label's initial success," says McEntee. "And, in order for a label as small as ours to compete with Columbia, Warner Brothers, et al., our promotion staff has a mountain of effort we have to climb, and an unbelievable output of energy demanded of it."

"With that in mind, our first two field promotion people had to be of extremely high caliber. And I believe we got just such a pair in Bill Mack and 'Koko' Manabe."

"Koko," nee Jane Manabe, has a long history of working with the so-called "secondary" pop stations from her home base in Los Angeles, where she worked in a co-national promotion capacity for Chelsea Records and also handled national promotion for October Records. She also headed up the first independent national secondary promotion organization, For The Record, as well as running her own independent promo operation, called Komotion.

Mack, who has spent the past five years with RCA Records, has handled several regional positions, plus the national country promotion spot for that label. His background also includes album promotion and album merchandising.

There was a day when field promotion people had to be masters of everything from artist relations to merchandising to sales, and GRT feels that that day is back, especially for small labels.

"Our promotion people will have to work virtually every station in any given market, since our thrust will now be at almost all musical fields at once, and will also have to be on their toes regarding merchandising and sales information. In order to be effective in today's marketplace, a promotion person must know more than the current trade chart numbers. A whole lot more."

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GRT country is represented by (from left): Ronnie McDowell, Bobby G. Rice and Meri Wilson.

CBS Intl. Capitalizes on Country

■ CBS Records International advanced its European country music campaign in 1977, reaching, once again, a global market for numerous Columbia, Epic and Monument recording artists. With subsidiary companies now in 26 countries, CBS Records International has successfully penetrated new markets and has maintained its leadership in country music marketing worldwide. Notable successes were realized in countries where CBS artists were on hand to promote their product via tours and television appearances. Importantly, 1977 spawned European artist success in the United States and an increased exchange in international music artistry.

CBS International is guided by Dick Asher, president, and his marketing and a&r forces in New York. Asher's chiefs include Allen Davis, vice president, creative operations; Bunny Freidus, vice president, marketing; Ellen Stolzman, product manager, Epic and CBS Associated Labels; and Gary Williams, product manager, Columbia Records.

Columbia artist Johnny Cash, a veritable pioneer in presenting country music to the European

audiences, has achieved popularity in virtually every country of the world. Cash was one of a select circle of artists to qualify for CBS International's 1977 Crystal Globe Award for album sales exceeding five million units outside of the United States. A legendary figure throughout Europe, Cash recently completed two additional network television packages for England and Australia. Plans for Cash's 1978 tour of the continent will follow the October, 1977 release of his new Columbia album.

CBS Records International artist Tina Rainford received immense success in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Holland with the release of her single "Silver Bird." "Silver Bird" was subsequently released in the United States and rose to the upper category on the domestic country charts. The German songstress has completed the recording, under the production of Sonny Limbo, of an album to follow that success. Recorded especially for the U. S. market in Atlanta, "Silver Bird" will be released in October in both the United States and in Europe.

Yvette Horner, a major star in France, completed a week of re-

recording in Nashville with a live radio broadcast via satellite. The broadcast was beamed to northern Europe directly from the Columbia Recording Studios in Nashville by Radio Luxembourg. Horner's lp recorded with Nashville session musicians, produced and arranged by Charlie McCoy, will give France, for the first time, an authentic sample of country music by one of their most successful artists.

Columbia artist Kris Kristofferson, who filmed his starring role in "The Sailor Who Fell From Grace With The Sea" in London, increased his share of the European market in 1977 with the release of his "Best Of Kristofferson" lp in Australia, Japan, England, Holland and Italy.

Columbia artist Marty Robbins toured England and Scandinavia this year, and songstress Barbara Fairchild has just completed a three-week performing tour of Britain which has spurred an October, 1977 release in England of her current Columbia album "Free and Easy."

Monument artist Larry Gatlin made his British debut this year at London's Wembley Pool Festival. He will tape two network

television specials for the BBC this month (October). Monument artist Roy Orbison, whose "Greatest Hits" lp secured gold status in the United Kingdom, completed his first and highly successful CBS International-sponsored tour of England.

Wynette Hits

Epic's "First Lady," Tammy Wynette, whose singles "Stand By Your Man," "D-i-v-o-r-c-e" and "I Don't Wanna Play House" topped European charts, headlined the International Music Industry Conference held in Holland earlier this year, with Epic's "Silver Fox" Charlie Rich. Rich's release, "Road Song," achieved substantial success in Australia, the United Kingdom and Japan.

Commencing with the release of his "Troublemaker" lp, Columbia artist Willie Nelson's appeal has continued to develop in continental Europe. Epic artist Bobby Goldsboro has enjoyed increased sales success in Europe in the past 12 months as has The Charlie Daniels Band.

In addition, Sonny James' "In Prison In Person" and "George Jones' All Time Greatest Hits, Volume One" are scheduled for European releases in October.

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Celebrity Management Stresses Growth

■ CMI opened its doors on Jan. 20, 1977. Bob Bray, president of CMI, announced the concept of the company would be total service for the artists on the roster, and would include bookings, career management, financial consultation, public relations, publishing and a speakers platform division.

"We're in the most exciting period in the history of our organization," said Happy Shahan, vice president of CMI.

"Every day is an opportunity for us to grow and we're especially proud of the artists who have shown their faith in our abilities by trusting their careers to us," Shahan added.

Celebrity Management has a booking roster which includes Ed Bruce, Wilma Burgess, R. W. Blackwood & The Blackwood Singers, Diane Jordan, Cledus Maggard, Vernon Oxford, Gary Stewart, Roni Stoneman, Elvis Wade and Jerry Wallace. Two artists, Roni Stoneman and Vernon Oxford, are management clients in addition to bookings and public relations.

"Many people don't realize the significance of our platform divi-

sion," comments Bray. "Our star speaker is Dr. Charles Jarvis of San Marcos, Texas, a professional speaker and former dentist. Jarvis earns \$150 thousand every year at speaking engagements and seminars. He speaks for the American Automobile Assoc., the AFL-CIO and the Wheelhorse Corp. and many other top-flight corporations."

Jarvis has been nominated for the Mark Twain award (for humor) by the International Platform Assoc. for 1978, and was their featured speaker at their convention in Washington, D. C. in August.

Other speakers at CMI include George Goldtrap of WSM-TV, Bob Harrington, the Chaplain of Bourbon Street, and Cotton Ivy, country humorist.

The growth of the public relations wing of CMI has been very successful. Charlene Bray, publicist, and Debbie Morgan, assistant, coordinate public relations and publicity for ten accounts. Clients include a ministerial organization in Houston, a recording studio in Nashville and eight country music entertainers.

CMI opened offices in the

Faron Young Building in a 3-office suite with only two employees and since that time has moved to a larger suite in the building and increased the staff to five.

Candy Brar, receptionist and secretary to Bray, also coordinates the publishing area which includes Alamo Village Music (BMI) and T'NT Music (ASCAP.) Plans are on the drawing board to implement a separate office and staff to handle the publishing wing on a full time basis.

The hottest item at CMI is currently Elvis Wade, who for eight years impersonated Elvis Presley. Since the death of Presley, Wade's career has mushroomed to gigantic proportions with demand for his services exceeding available dates. Record-breaking crowds, especially in fairs throughout the southeast, have become a seemingly ordinary occurrence. Wade's latest recording on Memory International Records, "Memories of the King," has consistently been number one in areas where Wade is scheduled to perform.

Having been in the black after six months of operation, Bray's projections for the coming year are simple: to continue to grow soundly and to present the best possible program for the clients CMI represents.

"We're looking for a big-name artist to enhance our roster. One big name makes the phone ring and it benefits all the acts. Right now we hustle for our clients and go after the business. We don't intend to change that policy ever," said Bray.

House of Gold Stays Active

■ House of Gold Music, Inc. and its affiliated companies, Bobby Goldsboro Music, Inc. and Hungry Mountain Music, Inc., although suffering from "growing pains" and fighting the battle of the independent publisher, still managed to chalk up a successful past year, having had 28 single releases, including "A Song In The Night" by Johnny Duncan; "Me And Millie" by Ronnie Sessions; "When It's Just You And Me" by Dottie West; "Never Did Like Whiskey" and "Too Much Is Not Enough" by Billie Jo Spears. Also included were approximately 50 album cuts by such artists as Kenny Rogers, Tom Jones, Johnny Rodriguez, Bobby Goldsboro, Roy Clark and Joe Stampley; plus numerous recordings as yet unreleased. These include cuts by Mac Davis, Charlie Rich, Crystal Gayle, Charley Pride, Steve Lawrence and Gene Pitney.

Delving deeper into the foreign market resulted in successfully negotiating three new sub-publishing agreements this year with Brazil, Japan and South Africa, respectively. House of Gold's 14 month association with United European Publishers has been a profitable one, having had a top 5 record in England with "What I've Got In Mind" by Billie Jo Spears, and a top 5 cover version of the song by Ann Christy in Holland and Belgium.

The company was also fortunate in acquiring the exclusive services of contemporary writers Larry Henley, Jim Hurt, Larry Keith, Steve Pippin and Johnny Slate.

Window Music Stays on the Move

■ The past 12 months have seen the continued growth of Window Music in Nashville. Manager Rose Trimble and president Pete Drake are concentrating on exclusive Window writers such as Linda Hargrove, Larry Ballard, Susan Hargrove, Rex Gosdin and Les Reed as well as material by writers like David Allan Coe, Larry Kingston, Sorrells Pickard, Jeff Tweel and others.

Window's leading writer is Linda Hargrove, who earlier this year received a pop award for her composition, "Let It Shine," as one of the most performed songs of the year. Ms. Hargrove recently was named to Who's Who in America for her songwriting efforts. Linda's "I've Never Loved Anyone More" appeared in albums this year by Marty Robbins, Eddy Arnold and Ray Price. B. J. Thomas recorded "Impressions," a newer Hargrove song. NBC television star Chuck Woolery co-wrote with Linda and released "Painted Lady," which charted earlier in the year. Linda also recorded and had chart records on several of her own songs, "Fire At First Sight," "Down To My Pride" and the current hit, "Mexican Love Songs." Johnny Rodriguez recorded Hargrove's "Mem'ries," co-written with sister Susan, in his "Practice Makes Perfect" lp, and he recently recorded another Hargrove song, "Savin' This Love Song," for future release. Rodriguez had a #1 record with Lin-

da's "Just Get Up And Close The Door."

Window writer Jeff Tweel had a chart record with Skeeter Davis' recording of "I Love Us." Ms. David also recorded "It's Love That I Feel," written by Tweel. Lucky Clark did well with "Everytime Two Fools Collide" and Twiggy included "I Love Us" in her latest lp.

Larry Ballard scored this year with "Neon Lights," recorded by Nick Nixon. He also has several of his own compositions on his latest Capitol Records lp, "Waiting In The Wings." Ballard has songs recorded by Melba Montgomery and Linda Hargrove.

Recently David Allan Coe hit with "Just To Prove My Love For You," a Window song written by Coe. Tanya Tucker has just released in her new lp "I Still Sing The Old Songs" by Coe, also released by George Jones. Coe also scored big with "Long Haired Red Neck," a Window song.

Drake is always finding new writers, seemingly from out of nowhere. He recently signed Janet Farris as an exclusive writer. Farris is from Louisville, Kentucky and promises to be one of Window's mainstays in the future.

To say Window Music is growing would be an under-statement. Window is one of the leaders in publishing. The company is managed by Rose Trimble, who has been with them since the company was founded.

An Active Staff Scores for Screen Gems

■ Paul Tannen, general manager of the Screen Gems-EMI Music/Colgems-EMI Music Nashville operation, feels that there are three important aspects of today's publishing business. (1) new songwriters, (2) the catalogue, and (3) writers who are recording artists. For example, Screen Gems has entered into a production deal with Polydor Records for Max D. Barnes, who is an exclusive Screen Gems writer. Barnes currently has his second Polydor release on the market, "Allegheny Lady," produced by David Briggs, which is already receiving good reaction at the radio level. Danny Davis, vice president/director of national exploitation, based out of L.A.; and Michael Steele, director of southeastern promotion, have been coordinating promotional efforts closely with Polydor.

Jim Valentini and Frank Saulino (professionally known as Val & Birdie), are the newest writer/artists that have been signed by

Tannen. They are contemporary writers, which continues Screen Gems' policy that there are good "pop" writers to be developed out of Nashville. Other exclusive writers are Mark James, Bettye Pierce, Michael Clark, Gail Davies and Jeff Pollard. The Jeff Pollard Band, a funky rock and roll band from Baton Rouge, La., is preparing to record its first album for a major label. Tannen feels that the group will have immediate success, and Pollard's songs will be important copyrights.

Screen Gems-EMI Music, Inc./Colgems-EMI Music, Inc. this past year introduced volume I of a promotional album entitled "Country Gold," in order to further exploit its country catalogue. The album features 14 of the company's country standards, including "He'll Have To Go," "Suspicious Minds," "Together Again," "Dream Lover," "Snow Bird" and "It's Such A Pretty World Today," all performed by the original artists.

Columbia

(Continued from page 16)

recording successes over the past year being success "The Rambler." Columbia launched a major promotional effort (Rambler Weekend) on 60 top radio stations across the U.S. The results of this promotion are still being monitored as album sales are ever-increasing.

Marty Robbins was welcomed back to Columbia with four consecutive hits: back-to-back number one records in "Among My Souvenirs" and "El Paso City," followed by "Adios Amigo" and "I Don't Know Why, (I Just Do)."

The release of "The Best of Moe Bandy, Volume I" album featuring seven Bandy top 10 hits, quickly confirmed Bandy as a hot album artist with consistent hit singles, including "I Just Started Hatin' Cheatin' Songs Today," "It Was Always So Easy (To Find An Unhappy Woman)," "Honky Tonk Amnesia," "Bandy The Rodeo Clown," "Don't Anyone Make Love At Home Anymore," "Hank Williams, You Wrote My Life" and "The Biggest Airport In The World."

Columbia artist Sonny James rose again to the top of the charts with "Come On In," "You're Free To Go," "In The Jailhouse Now" and the album "You're Free To Go." His "Sonny James In Prison In Person" lp, recorded at the Tennessee State Prison this past year, attained a top chart ranking. The album project was a recording first as the album's session musicians were exclusively inmates of a prison.

Lynn Anderson scored outstanding television as well as chart recognition this past year.

Mason in Music City



United Artist/Magnet Records recording artist Barry Mason was in Nashville recently to record his debut album for the label. The lp is being produced by Larry Butler and will feature original tunes by Mason and Butler. A single from the sessions, "Drive Safely Darling," was released in August and the album is scheduled to be shipped this fall. Pictured from left: Larry Butler, Barry Mason and Bill Sherrill, engineer.

With her guest appearance on the ABC network series "Starsky and Hutch," "Anderson Appeal" reached new audiences. She scored admirable chart success with singles "Sweet Talkin' Man," and "I Love What Love Is Doing To Me."

David Allan Coe continued his singles success with chart success for "Willie, Waylon and Me," scoring among top 20 in ratings.

Columbia artist Barbara Fairchild, fresh from a three-week European tour, has this past year remained solid as a formidable charttopper with singles "Mississippi," "Cheatin' Is" and "Let Me Love You Once Before You Go."

Columbia has this past year seen consistent singles chart action from Freddy Weller, Shylo and Darrell McCall. Album sales success stories have been written this past year by Columbia artists Kris Kristofferson, Earl Scruggs, Johnny Gimble and Rusty Weir.

Columbia Records has signed several diverse talents to its formidable roster with Bobby Bare coming aboard with a proven track record and Janie Fricke, whose first and solo effort, entitled "What Are You Doing Tonight," is exploding at both pop and country radio. Writer/performer R.C. Bannon has captured attention with his single "Rainbows and Horseshoes," and Columbia is pleased to bring Mary Kay James to the Columbia roster. Hailing from Memphis, Columbia's new country boogie band, The Silver City Band, has brought a new dimension of musical energy to the roster. Faith O'Hara, Jeannie Seely and Diane Jordan have bolstered the Columbia singles effort.

Spearheading the production staff for Columbia is Billy Sherrill, vice president, a&r, CBS Records, Nashville. Sherrill, who was named Record World's "1976 Producer of the Year," produces such Columbia artists as Barbara Fairchild, Freddy Weller, Johnny Robbins, Janie Fricke and Marty Robbins. A special production arrangement with CBS Records brought the proven production talents of independent producer Allen Reynolds to CBS Records. Reynolds will produce a number of Columbia artists as well as aid Sherrill in the acquisition and development of new talents for Columbia Records. Sherrill is ably assisted by independent producers Steve Gibson/Glenn Sutton, Ray Baker, Pete Drake, George Richey, Ron Bledsoe, Larry Rogers, Marty Robbins, Johnny Cash, David Anderle and Buddy Emmons.

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Ovation Pacts With Terrace

■ Dick Schory, president of Chicago based Ovation Incorporated, and Al Jason, president of Terrace Enterprises, have announced a new joint publishing venture to be established in Nashville.

Ovation Records, a relative newcomer to the country field, has its first No. 1 country hit in The Kendalls single and album, "Heaven's Just A Sin Away," a song published by Al Jason's Lorville Music.

Al Jason has been active on the Nashville music scene since 1958, and has an extensive catalogue in his Terrace Music (ASCAP), Shenandoah Music (ASCAP), Blue Lake Music (BMI), and Lorville Music (SESAC).

Jason is the composer of over 50 songs used on Don McNeill's ABC Radio Network Breakfast Club, and also served as a member of the writers committee of the advisory board of ASCAP for 12 years.

The new publishing venture plans to bring several new staff writers and also will be negotiating for the purchase of existing copyrights and catalogues. The day-to-day operations of the Nashville office will be managed by Brien Fisher.

Many Thanks D.J.'s



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'Staying Power' Keeps Playboy on Top

■ The Nashville division of Playboy Records, which is one of today's most progressive independent operations, has witnessed a year of phenomenal growth within its organization and simultaneously has underscored its obvious "staying power" within the industry.

A major move at Playboy Records in 1977 saw it enter into an agreement with CBS for distribution of all Playboy Records and tapes in the United States, which almost instantly allowed Playboy to experience a sizeable increase in recording activities, as well as immediately enhance its sales and promotion programs.

Executive moves within the Playboy Records complex also brought about major changes in recent months, which placed Tom Takayoshi in command as president, while Nashville's Eddie Kilroy was then upped to vice president of the label. In turn,

Jackie Straka was moved from her Playboy post in Hollywood to become Kilroy's executive secretary and assistant in Music City.

Playboy recording artist Mickey Gilley literally "walked off" with the 12th Annual Academy of Country Music Show this year, when he brought home a total of six awards, and among them were label accolades for Album of the Year ("Gilley's Smokin'") and Single of the Year ("Bring It On Home To Me"). Producer awards in the same categories were picked up by Playboy's Eddie Kilroy, who is exclusive producer on all Mickey Gilley product for the label.

Also continuing in its efforts to exercise leadership within the industry, the Nashville division of Playboy became the first recording company to ever present its acts in a NARAS showcase, which was staged for a full-house at Possum Holler.

Artist acquisitions for the energetic Playboy Records empire involved signing ceremonies this year for the talents of Teresa Neal, Mack Vickery and Little David Wilkins.

In addition, Playboy artist Bobby Borchers made a strong emergence this year as one of the hottest new country acts around, and his recent hit recording of "Cheap Perfume & Candlelight" officially establishes him as a #1 contender among today's top singers.

According to sales statistics for the past year, Playboy Records is being widely accepted throughout the entire country with 93 percent of all product making its mark on the charts.

The Playboy roster in Nashville now includes recording artists Bobby Borchers, Sunday Sharpe, Teresa Neal, Benny Barnes, Wynn Stewart, Mack Vickery, Mickey Gilley and Little David Wilkins.



Playboy Records country artists are, from left: Mickey Gilley, Bobby Borchers and Little David Wilkins.

Webb Pierce: An Active Entertainer

■ Country music legend Webb Pierce has had not only an active, but an exciting year as well. He has made numerous personal appearances cross-country and in Canada playing to sell-out crowds. Each show has been left with standing ovations and fans wanting encores.

On April 9, Webb was on the First Association of Country Entertainers Nashville Jubilee Show where he headlined an all-star cast. During the course of summer, he's appeared on several other jubilee shows.

April 22 was a big night in Nashville. It was the night Webb Pierce's Rhinestone Cowboy Club celebrated its grand opening. Several of Nashville's top entertainers

and close friends came by to congratulate Webb and wish him luck for a successful year with his new club. During Fan Fair week, he had the honor of saluting "The King of Country Music," Roy Acuff, on the evening of June 6. Several of Roy's peers, family and friends were on hand to see Webb Pierce present Roy with a Goodwill Ambassador of Country Music Certificate on behalf of the Governor of Tennessee. Performances were given by Roy and the Smoky Mountain Boys, Shot Jackson, Little Jimmy Dickens, Minnie Pearl, Bill Carlyle, Max Powell and Webb Pierce.

Webb recently signed a new worldwide recording contract with Phonogram Records of Eng-

land. He also has a new producer, "Papa" Don Schroeder. His records will now be released in Europe by Phonogram and the U.S. by GRT. And also, a Webb Pierce television show is in the making for the European market.

Pool

Since early January, Webb has continuously fought for the rights of his fans to visit his world-famous guitar shaped swimming pool. The fans helped him to build the pool and they have a right to see it whenever they're visiting Nashville, Webb believes.

Big things have happened this year and Webb Pierce will be having bigger and better things next year. We hope that you do too.

A Pacesetter in Country Music

■ This year Peer-Southern Music celebrated the 50th anniversary of the pioneering Ralph S. Peer Bristol recording sessions, which included Hall of fame members Jimmie Rodgers and The Carter Family.

The company was incorporated in 1928 as a wing of Victor Records. Peer was at that time a recording director for the label and later purchased the Victor interests and became sole owner. Since that time the firm has spiraled into a worldwide organization, but Peer's first love remained the grass roots of the country field. He produced recordings of artists in an era when manufacturers had not yet come to recognize the national importance of country music. For these efforts, Ralph Peer has been recognized as one of the pioneers of the country music by the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Today Peer-Southern is one of the world's largest publishers of country music. Among the milestones of Peer-Southern are the early recordings of Jimmie Rodgers and The Carter Family; Roy Acuff's first recordings of "Wabash Cannonball" and "Great Speckled Bird;" the first dual mil-

lion selling record, Ted Daffan's "Born to Lose" backed with "No Letter Today;" Les Paul and Mary Ford's first million selling record, "Mockin' Bird Hill," and the merger of country and pop via the Jimmy Wakley-Margaret Whiting gold record of "Slippin' Around," which fostered the "answer song" series.

Peer also brought Jimmie Davis to Decca Records as the label's first country artist. Davis recorded many hits, among them his self-penned "You Are My Sunshine." He later went on to become the governor of Louisiana. The company was also responsible for the first major merge of jazz and country with the Ray Charles' performances of "You Are My Sunshine," "Worried Mind" and "Born to Lose."

Other milestones in country music that are associated with Peer-Southern are the careers of Bill Monroe with his bluegrass music, Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs with their country/folk impact on records, television and moving and the compositions and recording styles of Floyd Tillman, Lefty Frizzell, Don Gibson, Carl Smith, Wilf Carter and Vaughan Horton.

Twitty Bird Sets a Fast Pace

■ Nashville-based Twitty Bird Music Publishing Company, headed by Conway Twitty, continued in 1977 to set a fast pace for both its publishing and production company. Conway continued his historic staying power in the charts in 1977 with his 34th consecutive number one song.

L. E. White

L. E. White, administrator of Twitty Bird Music Publishing (BMI) and related companies, started when the catalogue contained only six songs, and today reports the catalogue contains over 600 copyrights, with an impressive line-up of writers. In addition to Conway and L. E., other writers include Jimmie Peters, Mickie McNair, Jollie Hollie, Jack Dunham, Galen Raye, Buddy Green and Larry Locke.

Twitty Bird's SESAC publishing arm is Hello Darlin! Music with writers that include Peggy Forman, Raymond A. Smith and Michael White, with a total of 18 song awards from SESAC.

Neverbreak

Neverbreak Music, a division also of Twitty Bird, is the ASCAP publisher with writers that include John Riggs, Jerry McBee, David Barnes, Larry Jenkins, Jim Mundy and Aleene Jackson, who also serves as assistant adminis-

trator for the Twitty Bird group of companies.

Twitty Bird Production Company, with producers that include Conway Twitty, Snuffy Miller and David Barnes, has several releases out on MCA that include: Cal Smith with "Helen," Peggy Forman with "Danger Zone," Jesseca James with "Everybody Needs a Rainbow," Joni Lee with "Your Love Had Taken Me That High," and Nat Stuckey with "Buddy I Lied." In addition the company has Linda Plowman's current Gusto Records' single, "Right Back Loving You Again." The company also produces Charlie Tango for MCA.

White, in addition to being a busy administrator for the Twitty complex of companies has penned four number one songs for Conway Twitty and one number one song for Conway and Loretta Lynn. In addition, just to top off an already successful year, he co-wrote and recorded "Home Sweet Home" with Lola Jean Dillon, much to the delight of both the music and broadcast industry.

Quiet, soft spoken L. E. White and superstar Conway Twitty have a good thing going at Twitty Bird and they hope they keep on keeping on.



Thank You,
Country Music
Industry

The
Oak Ridge Boys

and
Silverline/Goldline
Music Inc.



THE JIM HALSEY CO. INC.
3225 S NORWOOD
TULSA OKLAHOMA 74135
(918) 663-3883

abc Dot Records

Epic

(Continued from page 16)

peal of George Jones continues to make him the most sought after of all country entertainers. With such chart-topping singles as "Her Name Is," "Ol' King Kong," "If I Put Them All Together, I'd Have You" and his "George Jones Greatest Hits Volume I" and "I Wanna Sing" album success, Jones has maintained his consistent history of fine recordings. The critically-acclaimed "Greatest Hits Volume I" lp features a prestigious collection of 10 newly-recorded Jones classics spanning his first 14 years of recordings. The lp is the first genuine collection of its kind.

Further emphasizing the wide variety and diversity representative of the Epic roster, Wunsch stated: "This multi-format representation is clearly evident with such artists as Tom Jones and ASCAP award nominee Tina Rainford." Jones' "Say You'll Stay Until Tomorrow" had tremendous success on both the national country and pop charts, and its success revitalized his recording career. CBS International artist Tina Rainford achieved similar recognition with the European hit, "Silver Bird." Subsequently released in the U.S. by Epic, "Silver Bird" reached the upper category of the national country charts.

The Charlie Daniels Band presented "High Lonesome." The lp's multi-format airplay combined with their multitudinous live performances has enhanced the CDB's solidification in the southern musical crossover movement. Highlighting their '77 performance schedule, the CDB performed in Washington, D.C. at President Jimmy Carter's Inaugural Ball for the Georgia Delegation and the Carter staff. "Midnight Wind," the CDB's forthcoming album, looks to be a multi-format chart-topper as well.

Adding further to the Epic list of multi-format successes are Bobby Goldsboro, Engelbert Humperdinck and Michael Murphey. As a mark of continued commitment toward both high energy and diverse talent, Epic is looking strongly to Dave Loggins, Marshall Chapman, Killough & Eckley, Marcia Routh and Ed Bruce.

Playboy

Over the past year, CBS has acquired two associated labels: Playboy Records, piloted by vice president Eddie Kilroy with Nick Hunter, manager, national promotion; and Cleveland International Records, directed by former Epic a&r vice president Steve Popovich.

With the acquisition of the dis-

tribution of Playboy, CBS sports the exciting talent of Mickey Gilley, whose recent chart-toppers include "Honky Tonk Memories" and "She's Pullin' Me Back Again." Gilley's latest album, "First Class," made a whirlwind showing in chart activity and sales.

Bobby Borchers' delivered "Cheap Perfume and Candlelight" along with "What A Way To Go," which established Borchers as a consistent and successful chartmaker. Borchers' first lp, "Bobby Borchers," marked his debut as an album artist.

Cleveland International

CBS Records' new affiliation with Cleveland International Records has highlighted country artist Eddie Middleton, who is seeing activity on the country charts with his single "Endlessly." Steve Popovich with Cleveland International produces Middleton, the label's first country artist.

Hickory Keeps Smokin'

■ Hickory Records was started in the 1950s with a strong roster of artists. One of the first artists signed to the label was Al Terry, whose recording of "Good Deal Lucille" went to the top of the charts.

In 1961 the label decided to cut a "pop" session using songs by John D. Loudermilk and sung by Sue Thompson. The session produced the hit recordings "Sad Movies," "Norman" and "Paper Tiger" and the pop identification was established.

In its swing to pop, Hickory never overlooked country, it merely sought and attained diversification. Two country hits were by Ernie Ashworth, "Talk Back Tremblin Lips," and Bill Carlisle, "What Kinda Deal is This." Then came artists like Bobby Lord, Bob Luman and Frank Ifield. In 1967 Hickory formed a subsidiary label, TRX, and released records by Troy Shondell and Gene & Debbie.

WB Music Active

■ ASCAP's 1976 Publisher of the Year is still hot in 1977 with more hit records and has expanded this year by signing as a writer CBS recording artist David Allan Coe ("Would You Lay With Me," "You Never Even Called Me By My Name"), and writer John Bettis, who has written over 30 of the Carpenters recordings, including the #1 "Top Of The World."

Bannon & Sanders

Nashville general manager Tim Wiperman says he is "especially proud of the success staff writers R. C. Bannon and Harlan Sanders have had as artists. R. C.'s first two releases as a CBS artist have both hit the charts through hard work by the production team of Ben Tallent and Teddy Irwin, and

the efforts and cooperation of the CBS promotion and publicity personnel. We look to artist-writers like R.C. Bannon, David Allan Coe, Harlan Sanders, Len Chiracka, Royce Porter, Bucky Jones and John Bettis to provide us with continued success both from their writing and their recording abilities."

A few of the award-winning songs Warner Bros. has had this year are Johnny Rodriguez's "Desperado;" Glen Campbell's "Southern Nights;" The Eagles' "New Kid In Town;" Tom T. Hall's "It's All in The Game;" Crash Craddock's "Walk Softly;" Nick Nixon's "Love Songs & Romance Magazines;" and Kathy Barnes' "Someday Soon."

Conway & Loretta on L.I.



MCA recording artists Loretta Lynn and Conway Twitty's three-day engagement at Westbury Music Fair brought many RCA Records' executives out to Long Island to celebrate the duo's rare appearance in the New York area. Pictured backstage are (from left): Jimmy Jay, United Talent in Nashville; Loretta; Conway; Jeff Lyman, national country promotion director for MCA Records; George Lee, MCA/vice president of east coast operations; Barry Goodman, MCA/New York promotion.

Kelly Warren

"Ain't That Something"

b/w

"Living For You Dying For Him"

Little Richie Records

National Promo
Little Richie Johnson Agency
Box 3,
Belen, New Mexico

Fan Club
Oma Dee Phillip
Box 615
Lamesa, Texas 79331

Dist. By Sounds of Music/Belen, New Mexico.

SINGLES CHART ACTIVITY

■ A Comprehensive List Of Country Singles Chart Activity By Label From August 21, 1976 through August 13, 1977

Label	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Label	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
ABC	7	—	—	Hi	4	—	—
ABC Dot	58	14	4	Hill Country	1	—	—
ABC Hickory	4	—	—	Hitsville	10	1	—
Ariola America	3	1	1	London	1	—	—
Arista	2	—	—	LS	2	—	—
Asylum	4	1	—	MCA	62	16	8
Atco	1	—	—	Mercury	28	8	1
Autumn	2	—	—	MGM	2	—	—
Blackland	1	—	—	Monument	8	2	1
BMA	1	—	—	MRC	1	—	—
Buddah	1	—	—	Myrrh	1	—	—
Calliope	1	—	—	NBC	1	—	—
Capitol	43	5	3	Ovation	2	—	—
Caprice	3	—	—	Plantation	2	1	—
Capricorn	2	—	—	Playboy	14	6	2
Casino	4	—	—	Polydor	17	—	—
Charta	2	—	—	Prairie Dust	4	—	—
Cin-Kay	3	—	—	Ranwood	1	—	—
Columbia	55	10	4	RCA	62	19	12
Commercial	2	—	—	RCA	3	—	—
Con Brio	9	—	—	Reprise	3	2	2
Country Showcase	1	—	—	Republic	11	—	—
Derreck	1	—	—	Scorpion	2	—	—
Door Knob	2	—	—	SCR	3	—	—
Elektra	15	4	—	Soundwaves	2	—	—
Epic	39	8	4	Starcrest	3	—	—
Epic/Cleveland Intl.	1	—	—	Starday	8	—	—
Farr	2	—	—	True	3	—	—
Fifty States	1	—	—	United Artists	37	5	2
Gazelle	4	—	—	Warner Brothers	31	6	1
Granny White	2	—	—	Warner/Curb	1	—	—
GRT	12	—	—	Zodiac	3	—	—

Gazelle: A Family Operation

■ Gazelle Records continues to grow and prosper, having scored on the charts with seven consecutive Randy Barlow singles, including the current "Walk Away With Me." The label has recently added Jeris Ross to the roster and has rush-released her first Gazelle single, "I Think I'll Say Goodbye."

In the past 12 month period, Gazelle president Fred Kelly notes that the label has achieved top 20 hits for Barlow with "Twenty Four Hours From Tulsa" and "Kentucky Woman," and a top 30 entry with "California Lady." During this period Barlow has enjoyed a successful debut album, "Randy Barlow-Arrival."

Low Profile

Until the new addition of Jeris Ross, Gazelle has maintained a low profile, concentrating all marketing and promotional efforts toward developing one artist, Randy Barlow. "I couldn't be happier with the way things have gone with Randy," states Kelly, who is also Barlow's record producer. "Starting with 'Tulsa' last fall, his career has snowballed and he keeps getting stronger with each release. His records sell, and that's the bottom line!"

With Barlow firmly established it seemed only prudent to expand the roster. "I'm delighted to acquire Jeris Ross," adds Kelly. "I've loved her sound for some time and when she became available we grabbed her in a hurry. Her husband, Jack, has produced some great cuts on Jeris and we

feel she'll become a true superstar. She's already an established artist, and my wife, Barbara, will concentrate heavily on an extensive promotional campaign designed to bring Jeris to the very top."

Gazelle Records is a family-run label under the direction of Fred and Barbara Kelly. "We think of our artists as family, too," says Barbara. "We're thrilled to have acts like Randy and Jeris, and we sure hope the hits keep coming."

N'ville Album Prod. Is Back in Action

■ Nashville Album Productions, Inc., 617 7th Ave. S., Nashville, offers a complete record manufacturing service to artists, independent record labels and recording studios in Nashville and across the nation.

The plant has complete record manufacturing and packaging facilities and a complete art department, including phototype-setting, design and layout of the album jacket in full color or black and white.

Albums, singles and 8-track tapes are available from the customer's mixed down tape, or arrangements can be made to record at a studio affiliated with Nashville Album Productions.

Co-owners June C. Black and Mary Farr report that the plant is back in full operation after a fire in December, 1976 which destroyed their offices, art department and printing plant.

OAS Music Builds for the Future

■ Starting a publishing company from scratch is probably one of the most difficult things in the world. However, two young men in Nashville are well on their way to succeeding at this task, proving that persistence, diligence and lots of hard work pay off.

The two young men are Steve Singleton and Dane Bryant, who head the OAS Music Group.

Pubberies

The OAS Music Group consists of three publishing companies and a four track studio. The three publishing companies are Onhisown, BMI; Arian Publications, ASCAP; and Shadowfax, BMI.

Onhisown has exclusive writers Billy Ray Reynolds and Charler Sauls. During the past year there have been songs in the company recorded by Tanya Tucker and Barbara Fairchild and on a special album presented by National Geographic, entitled "Westward Ho!" The "Westward Ho!" album featured five songs written by Billy Ray Reynolds who also wrote the current Barbara Fairchild single, "For All The Right Reasons," with Marie Barrett.

Onhisown also published "It's Me That You're Leaving," which was a single by Buzz Cason in England.

Arian Publications has a number of songs written by Bobby David. This year the company saw the release of the current Lawanda Lindsey single, "Gone Forever (File Me Under Memories)."

Shadowfax saw a single, "Wild Wind," recorded by Buzz Cason and released in England.

Studio

The studio, Four Track Heaven, has been busy all year with demo sessions, jingles and a tape copying service used by many top publishing companies. Plans are underway to convert the studio to an eight track facility in October. The name will be changed to Wild Tracks at that time. The studio employs C.W. Buffy as chief engineer and Sid Singleton as assistant engineer.

After the studio is converted, the OAS Music Group plans to step heavily into the jingle business as well as producing masters.

The OAS Music Group is not trying to be an overnight success or a flash in the pan. It's planning a slow building process that will make it a permanent fixture on today's music scene. It has already taken the very important first steps in the right direction to achieve this.

THANKS, FOR
A GREAT YEAR!!!

ALREADY GOLD & NEARING PLATINUM

IS

"THE KING IS GONE"

BY

RONNIE McDOWELL

ONE WEEK AFTER RELEASED
SALES TOPPED 1,000,000!!!

OTHER GREAT RELEASES THIS YEAR FROM—

Roy Drusky
Jim Nesbitt

Grant Turner
Bruce Mullen

WATCH FOR NEW AND
EXCITING THINGS IN '78!!!

SCORPION

SCORPION RECORDS
38 Music Square East
Nashville, Tennessee 37203



ANNUAL WRITERS LIST

■ A Comprehensive List Of Country Singles Chart Activity by Writer
From August 21, 1976 Through August 13, 1977

Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
T. Abbott	1	—	—	R. Chancey	1	—	—	R. Fraser	1	1	—	Waylon Jennings	4	2	—
Frank Adams	1	—	—	M. Chapman	1	—	—	Dallas Frazier	3	—	—	D. Johnson	1	—	—
R. Adams	2	—	—	L. Cheshire	1	—	—	G. Frey	2	1	—	J. Johnson	1	—	—
S. Adams	1	—	—	N. Chinn	1	—	—	Bill Fries	3	—	—	Jackie Johnson	1	—	—
L. Adler	1	—	—	T. Christian	1	—	—	Lefty Frizzell	2	1	1	Bucky E. Jones	1	—	—
John Adrian	2	2	1	J. Christopher	1	1	—	Jerry Fuller	3	—	—	Richard Jones	1	—	—
F. Ahlert	1	—	—	G. Clark	1	—	—	T. Fuller	1	—	—	Robert John Jones	4	—	—
A. Aldridge	1	—	—	Roy Clark	1	—	—	J. Garland	1	—	—	Archie Jordan	1	1	1
R. Alfred	1	—	—	Rudy Clark	1	—	—	D. Gates	1	—	—	P. Jordan	1	—	—
D. Allbritten	1	—	—	Paul Clements	1	—	—	Larry Gatlin	5	3	1	Ron Jordan	1	—	—
A. Allen	1	—	—	A. B. Clyde	1	—	—	R. Gerado	1	—	—	Al Kasha	1	—	—
I. Allen	1	—	—	Eddie Cochran	1	—	—	Don Gibson	4	1	1	C. Kelly	1	—	—
J. Allen	2	—	—	Hank Cochran	3	1	1	Jerry Gillespie	1	—	—	Fred Kelly	2	—	—
Rex Allen, Jr.	1	—	—	David Allan Coe	3	—	—	D. Gillon	1	—	—	W. Kemp	2	—	—
M. Allison	1	—	—	B. Cole	1	—	—	J. Glaser	2	—	—	J. Kennedy	1	—	—
J. Allyson	1	—	—	H. Coleman	1	—	—	Jackie Gleason	1	—	—	Jimmy Kennedy	2	—	—
B. Anderson	2	—	—	Jim Coleman	4	—	—	T. Gmeiner	1	1	1	Eddie Kilroy	1	—	—
C. Anderson	1	—	—	Reg Connelly	1	—	—	K. Goell	1	1	1	Norman King	1	—	—
Liz Anderson	1	—	—	Roger Cook	1	—	—	W. Gold	1	—	—	Don King	2	—	—
M. B. Anderson	1	—	—	Sam Cooke	1	1	1	Bobby Goldsboro	3	—	—	Pearl King	1	—	—
B. Anthony	1	—	—	S. Corbin	1	—	—	Don Goodman	3	—	—	Dave Kirby	4	1	1
E. Arnold	1	—	—	H. Cornelius	1	—	—	L. Goodson	1	—	—	Rick Klang	4	—	—
L. Ashley	1	—	—	G. Cory	1	—	—	Cathy Godin	1	1	—	P. Kleinow	1	—	—
Gene Autry	1	—	—	Paul Craft	4	—	—	Bill S. Graham	1	—	—	Baker Knight	1	1	1
B. Bacharach	2	—	—	F. Craig	1	1	1	R. Greenaway	1	1	1	Dennis Knutson	2	—	—
Razzy Bailey	1	1	1	B. Crewe	1	—	—	J. Greenebaum	1	—	—	M. Kosser	3	1	—
L. Ballard	1	—	—	Cliff Crofford	1	—	—	Roger Greenway	1	—	—	Kris Kristofferson	1	—	—
R. C. Bannon	1	—	—	D. Cross	1	—	—	M. Grever	1	—	—	Dennis Lambert	1	—	—
R. Barlow	1	—	—	J. Crutchfield	3	—	—	Ray Griff	8	1	1	R. Lane	2	—	—
M. D. Barnes	3	1	—	J. Cunningham	4	—	—	G. Guilbeau	1	—	—	D. LaSalle	1	1	—
J. Barry	1	1	—	S. Curtis	1	—	—	J. Gumoe	1	—	—	R. LeBlanca	3	—	—
David Bartholomew	2	—	—	T. Dae	1	—	—	Merle Haggard	3	1	1	D. Lee	2	1	1
C. Beavers	1	—	—	J. Dallas	1	—	—	D. Hall	1	—	—	R. Leigh	3	—	—
J. Beck	2	1	1	C. Daniels	2	—	—	Tom T. Hall	1	1	—	M. Leikin	1	—	—
J. Beland	2	—	—	Bill Danoff	2	1	—	W. Hammond	1	—	—	Edger Leslie	1	—	—
Carl Belew	1	—	—	Bobby Darin	2	—	—	P. Hand	1	—	—	Gordon Lightfoot	1	—	—
W. & D. Bellamy	1	—	—	Eric Darlang	1	—	—	C. Harding	1	—	—	S. Linard	1	—	—
G. Benson	1	1	—	Linda Darrell	1	—	—	L. Hargrove	2	—	—	E. Lindeman	1	—	—
A. Bernstein	2	—	—	Danny Darst	2	—	—	Gary Harju	1	—	—	R. Livingston	1	—	—
Chuck Berry	1	1	—	Hal David	3	1	1	Dallas Harms	2	1	1	Dennis Locorriere	1	—	—
Don Black	2	—	—	L. David	1	—	—	Paul Harrison	1	—	—	Jeff Lopey	1	—	—
Bryan Blackburn	1	—	—	Chip Davis	3	—	—	Freddie Hart	2	1	—	Lore	1	—	—
Milton Blackford	4	—	—	J. Davis	2	—	—	Rod Hart	1	1	—	W. Love	1	—	—
R. Bledsoe	1	—	—	Mac Davis	1	—	—	A. Harvey	1	—	—	M. Lunsford	1	—	—
Karla Bonoff	1	—	—	Gen. C. G. Dawes	1	—	—	Mike Havilland	1	—	—	S. Lyons	1	—	—
B. Borchers	2	—	—	Mark Dawson	1	—	—	A. Hawkshaw	1	1	—	M. Lytle	4	—	—
Georges Boulanger	1	—	—	E. Dean	1	—	—	J. Hayes	1	1	1	G. Mabry	1	—	—
Rory Bourke	8	1	—	B. Dees	1	—	—	W. Haynes	1	—	—	Tony Macaulay	1	—	—
Woody Bowles	1	—	—	John Denver	2	—	—	Doug Haywood	1	—	—	Mary MacGregor	1	—	—
Roger Bowling	9	1	1	Lew Dewitt	1	—	—	T. Hazzard	1	—	—	J. MacRae	1	—	—
Bobby Braddock	5	4	1	Neil Diamond	2	—	—	D. Heard	1	—	—	Richard Mainegra	5	1	—
Wayne Bradford	1	1	—	J. Didier	1	—	—	H. Heath	1	—	—	D. Malloy	1	—	—
T. Brasfield	1	—	—	T. Dilbeck	1	—	—	Joachim Heider	1	—	—	Lorene Mann	1	—	—
Tom Bresh	1	—	—	Lola Jean Dillion	2	1	1	C. Heilburg	1	—	—	L. Markes	1	—	—
D. H. Brown	1	—	—	G. Dobbins	4	1	—	Ron Hellard	1	—	—	Tim Marshall	1	—	—
R. Broom	1	—	—	Rick Dodson	1	—	—	D. Henley	2	1	—	Glenn Martin	4	2	—
James H. Brown, Jr.	2	—	—	C. Doherty	1	—	—	L. Herscher	1	1	—	Layng Martine, Jr.	5	1	—
Jug Brown	1	—	—	A. Domino	1	—	—	Edward Heyman	1	—	—	Hank Marvin	1	—	—
M. Brown	1	—	—	Donovan	1	—	—	Danny & Rubby Hice	4	—	—	B. Mason	2	1	—
T. Brown	1	—	—	S. H. Dorff	2	—	—	T. Hill	1	—	—	Dale McBride	1	—	—
Boudleaux & Felice Bryant	5	—	—	J. Dougherty	1	—	—	J. Hirschorn	1	—	—	C. W. McCall	3	—	—
S. Bryce	1	—	—	Lamont Dozier	1	—	—	D. Hofheing	1	—	—	P. McCann	2	—	—
Jimmy Buffett	1	1	—	Pete Drake	1	—	—	D. Hogan	6	—	—	Mike McClellan	1	—	—
Fred Burch	1	—	—	T. DuBois	1	—	—	Danny Hogan	1	—	—	Ron McCowen	1	—	—
B. Burg	1	1	—	B. Duncan	1	—	—	Brian Holland	1	—	—	Bob McDill	14	4	3
Dave Burgess	1	—	—	J. Duncan	1	—	—	Eddie Holland	2	—	—	R. McDowell	1	—	—
Billy Joe Burnette	1	—	—	Bobby Dyson	1	—	—	B. Holly	1	—	—	Ken McDuffie	1	—	—
D. Burnette	1	—	—	M. Earwood	2	—	—	M. Holm	1	—	—	P. McGee	1	—	—
D. Burton	1	1	—	J. Elgin	1	—	—	Wayland Holyfield	11	6	3	Tommy McLain	1	—	—
U. Burton	1	—	—	Joe Ely	1	—	—	H. Horton	1	—	—	Mickey McNair	1	—	—
L. Butler	1	—	—	Bill Emerson	1	—	—	Vaughn Horton	2	—	—	H. Meaux	1	1	—
H. Bynum	1	1	1	J. Emerson	1	—	—	Will Hough	1	—	—	B. Mercer	1	—	—
D. Byrd	1	—	—	Lee Emerson	1	—	—	Bob House	1	—	—	Bob Merrill	1	—	—
Toy Caldwell	3	1	—	Bobby Emmons	2	1	1	Jerry House	1	—	—	F. Miller	1	1	—
C. E. Calhoun	1	—	—	C. Ethridge	1	—	—	Joe Howard	2	—	—	J. Miller	1	1	—
T. Camfield	1	—	—	Russ Faith	1	—	—	Jerry Hubbard	1	—	—	D. Mindell	1	1	—
Jimmy Campbell	1	—	—	Donna Fargo	2	1	1	R. Hughes	2	—	—	C. Mitchell	1	—	—
Gus Cannon	1	—	—	J. Farrar	2	—	—	Jay Huguely	1	—	—	B. Mize	1	—	—
Jerry Capehart	1	—	—	K. Farrell	1	—	—	C. Hunley	1	—	—	C. Moman	1	1	—
R. Cardwell	1	—	—	Dick Feller	1	—	—	J. Hunter	3	—	—	Michael Montgomery	1	—	—
Keith Carradine	1	—	—	B. Fender	1	1	—	K. Hunter	1	—	—	Bob Montgomery	1	1	—
W. Carson	2	1	—	Charlie Fields	2	—	—	F. Imus	1	1	1	Earl Montgomery	1	1	—
A. P. Carter	2	—	—	M. Fields	1	—	—	C. Ivey	1	—	—	T. Moore	1	—	—
T. Carter	1	—	—	Faith Finney	1	—	—	Wade Jackson	1	1	—	Geof Morgan	2	—	—
J. Carver	1	—	—	Bobby Fischer	1	—	—	Mark James	1	1	1	L. Morris	2	—	—
John R. Cash	3	—	—	B. Fisher	1	—	—	Sonny James	1	1	—	B. Morrison	3	—	—
Buzz Cason	1	—	—	D. Fisher	1	—	—	T. Jans	2	—	—	Ann J. Morton	1	—	—
F. Chance	1	—	—	P. Forman	1	—	—	P. Jarrell	1	1	1				
				Jerry Foster	18	2	1								

ANNUAL WRITERS LIST

Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs	Writer	Songs Charted	Songs In Top 10	No. 1 Songs
Jim Mundy	1	—	—	E. Randolph	1	1	—	P. Sills	1	—	—	Conway Twitty	6	—	3
M. Murphy	1	—	—	Eddy Raven	1	—	—	Shel Silverstein	2	—	—	Dan Tylor	1	—	—
D. Navarro	1	—	—	Glenn Ray	1	—	—	R. Simpson	1	—	—	Ian Tyson	1	—	—
Thomas Neeley	1	—	—	Pete Ray	1	—	—	M. Singleton	1	—	—	R. VanHoy	3	1	—
Gerald Nelson	1	—	—	A. Rayaf	1	—	—	T. Skinner	1	—	—	R. Vapfus	1	—	—
Rick Nelson	1	—	—	Jimmy Reed	1	—	—	C. Smith	1	1	—	Sammy Vaughn	1	—	—
Willie Nelson	3	1	—	Richard Reichburg	1	—	—	H. Russell Smith	3	—	—	Sharon Vaughn	1	—	—
Mickey Newbury	3	1	1	Don Reid	3	2	—	Hazel Smith	1	—	—	Dale Vest	2	—	—
J. C. Newman	1	—	—	B. Reneau	4	—	—	Margo Smith	3	1	—	J. Vest	1	—	—
Hortice Nicholas	1	1	1	B. R. Reynolds	1	—	—	J. D. Souther	1	—	—	M. Vickery	3	—	—
J. Nickson	1	—	—	Bill Rice	18	2	1	H. Southern	1	—	—	B. Vinton	1	—	—
Joe Nixon	1	—	—	Charlie Rich	1	—	—	J. Stafford	1	—	—	Gene Vowell	2	—	—
Dale Noe	1	1	—	George Richy	5	2	1	M. Smotherman	1	—	—	Judith Vowell	1	—	—
K. Nolan	1	—	—	Donald Riis	2	—	—	B. Springfield	1	1	—	P. Wagoner	1	—	—
Kenny O'Dell	1	—	—	Jeannie C. Riley	1	—	—	J. Stafford	1	—	—	Billy Walker	1	—	—
Spooner Oldham	1	—	—	J. Rivers	1	—	—	Joe Stampley	2	—	—	Cindy Walker	1	1	1
Roy Orbison	1	—	—	Warren Robb	1	—	—	Anita Steiman	1	—	—	J. Walker	1	—	—
D. Orender	1	—	—	Kent Robbins	3	1	1	G. Stephens	1	—	—	J. J. Walker	1	—	—
Harold Orlob	1	—	—	W. J. Roberts	1	1	1	E. Stevens	3	1	—	Wayne P. Walker	1	1	—
J. Otis	1	—	—	Don Robertson	3	1	—	Ray Stevens	2	—	—	Jerry Wallace	1	—	—
C. Otis	1	—	—	D. Robey	1	1	—	Bobby Stevenson	1	—	—	Byron Robert Walls	1	—	—
T. Overstreet	2	—	—	Bob Robinson	1	—	—	W. S. Stevenson	1	—	—	D. Warden	1	—	—
Doug Owen	1	—	—	T. Rodgers	1	—	—	C. Stewart	1	—	—	S. Wariner	1	—	—
A. L. Owens	1	—	—	T. Roe	1	—	—	Gary Stewart	1	—	—	F. Washington	1	1	—
Doodles Owens	3	—	—	Larry Rogers	1	—	—	W. Stewart	1	—	—	Don Wayne	1	—	—
James Pankow	1	—	—	Ronnie Rogers	2	1	—	S. Stone	3	—	—	J. Weatherly	2	—	—
Lori Parker	2	—	—	Jack Rollins	2	—	—	Lally Stott	1	—	—	Freddy Weller	3	—	—
Carson Parks	1	—	—	B. Rose	1	—	—	V. Stovall	1	—	—	Red West	1	—	—
Dolly Parton	2	2	—	F. Rose	4	—	—	Nat Stucky	1	—	—	K. Westberry	1	—	—
Pat Patterson	1	—	—	John Rostill	2	—	—	C. Stucky	1	—	—	Sterling Whipple	6	3	—
G. S. Paxton	1	—	—	Dale Royal	1	—	—	J. Styner	1	—	—	L. E. White	1	—	—
G. Paxton, Jr.	1	—	—	Peggy Russell	1	—	—	Richard Supa	1	—	—	B. Whitehead	2	—	—
S. Paxton	1	—	—	Jack Ruthrew	1	—	—	G. Sutton	2	—	—	David Wilkins	3	—	—
Johnny Paycheck	1	—	—	H. Sanders	1	—	—	Willard Svanoe	1	—	—	C. Williams	2	—	—
J. Payne	2	—	—	R. Sanders	1	—	—	P. Sweet	1	1	1	D. Williams	1	—	—
H. Pederson	1	—	—	W. Sanders	1	—	—	James Talley	2	—	—	Hank Williams	3	—	—
Lefty Pedroski	1	—	—	Bozz Scaggs	1	—	—	D. Tankersley	1	1	—	Hugh Williams	1	—	—
D. Penn	1	1	—	D. Scaife	1	—	—	Carmol Taylor	5	—	—	Larry E. Williams	1	—	—
Ray Pennington	2	—	—	G. J. Scaife	1	—	—	Chip Taylor	2	—	—	B. J. Wills	1	—	—
Ben Peters	7	3	1	Ronald Scaife	7	—	—	James Taylor	1	—	—	J. Wilson	4	1	—
Jimmie Peters	1	—	—	L. Schoonmaker	1	—	—	S. Taylor	1	—	—	M. Wilson	1	—	—
N. Petty	1	—	—	A. Schroeder	1	—	—	Pat Terry	1	—	—	Norro Wilson	9	1	—
Don Pfrimmer	4	—	—	John Schweers	5	2	2	W. Theunissen	1	—	—	W. W. Wimberly	2	1	—
M. Phillips	1	—	—	T. Seals	3	1	—	P. Thomas	1	—	—	T. Woodford	1	—	—
R. Pietsch	1	—	—	J. Seely	1	—	—	H. Thompson	2	—	—	Hosea Woods	1	—	—
M. K. Place	2	1	—	G. Sefton	1	—	—	Sonny Throckmorton	8	2	1	Harry Woods	1	—	—
Royce Porter	1	—	—	R. Self	1	—	—	Billy Thundercloud	1	—	—	D. Woodward	1	—	—
Brian Potter	1	—	—	M. Settle	1	—	—	Mel Tillis	1	1	—	C. Woodery	1	—	—
Fran Powers	1	—	—	S. D. Shafer	2	—	—	Alan Towsaint	1	1	1	J. Work	2	1	—
B. Preston	1	—	—	Harry Shannon	2	1	—	Ed Townsend	1	—	—	P. Yarrow	3	1	1
Lloyd Price	1	1	—	Terry Shaud	1	—	—	Bobby Troup	1	—	—	Kevin Young	1	—	—
J. Pruett	1	—	—	B. Shaw	1	—	—	Billy T. Tubb	1	—	—	Neil Young	1	1	—
S. Pugh	1	—	—	Noel & Joe Sherman	1	—	—	Bob Tucker	2	—	—	Victor Young	1	—	—
C. Putman	6	—	—	Billy Sherrill	7	2	1	R. Turk	1	—	—	D. Zepp	1	—	—
Eddie Rabbitt	2	2	—	M. Sherrill	2	—	—	Scott Turner	1	—	—	B. Zerface	1	—	—
J. Ragsdale	1	—	—	C. Sigman	1	—	—	S. Tutsie	2	—	—	J. Zerface	1	—	—
Pal Rakes	1	—	—					Jeff Tweel	2	—	—	R. Zimmerman	1	—	—

CMF Honors Briley



On September 8, the Country Music Foundation honored former Nashville Mayor Beverly Briley for his longtime support of country music and the Country Music Hall of Fame by formally dedicating the Beverly Briley Gallery. Seen here (from left) are: Bill Ivey, executive director, Country Music Foundation; Frank Jones, chairman of the board of trustees of the Country Music Foundation; and ex-mayor Briley.

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Pi-Gem/Chess Experiences Steady Growth

■ With two of the CMA's top five songs of the year and five number one records on **Record World's** Country Singles Chart to its credit, Pi-Gem (BMI) and Chess (ASCAP) publishing operation enjoyed its biggest year yet in 1977.

"(I'm A) Stand By My Woman Man," written by Pi-Gem's Kent Robbins, and "It Was Almost Like A Song," which came about as a result of staff writer Archie Jordan's team-up with the legendary Hal David, both were honored as final nominees for the CMA's Song of the Year. Each song hit the top spot on **RW's** country chart, with the latter holding that position for two consecutive weeks before going on to gain huge acceptance in the pop field.

John Schweers, **RW's** songwriter of the Year in 1976, saw his "She's Just An Old Love Turned Memory" and "Let My Love Be Your Pillow" go to #1 this year. Ben Peters' "A Whole Lotta Things

To Sing About" also went to #1. Under the guidance of president Tom Collins, Pi-Gem/Chess had a total of 13 Chart records this year. The staff of the eight-year-old company also includes Charley Pride, chairman of the board; Dave Conrad, general manager; Carolyn Honea, administration assistance; and Sylvia Kirby, receptionist-secretary.

Exclusive songwriters for Pi-Gem/Chess include Kye Fleming, Archie Jordan, Geof Morgan, Conrad Pierce, Kent Robbins, Dean Rutherford, John Schweers, Charles Quillen and Marty Yonts.

Foreign recordings have contributed to the steady growth picture for the Pi-Gems/Chess catalogue and Collins says the company "will continue to expand and seek new outlets for our material, while maintaining an open door policy to outside writers. Getting European cuts has been a priority this year and we plan to continue in that area."

Cedarwood Enjoys a Productive Year

■ Cedarwood has enjoyed an active and productive year. With the use of an in-house studio and production facility, the company has been successful with such writer-artists as Diana Williams. Her recordings of "Storm In Tupelo," "Everybody Sing," "Old Fashioned Love Song" and "Little One" were single releases this year on Capitol Records. She also had an album released and a new single, entitled "One Night Of Cheatin' (Ain't Worth The Reapin')" written by Carroll Baker, and "My First Night Alone," written by Paul Dempsey was released in September.

Billy Joe Burnette had marvelous success on his recording of the Cedarwood standard, "Are You Sincere," which was released on the Teddy Bear label. Last month, Billy Joe returned to the studio and recorded "Welcome Home, Elvis" written to Billy Joe and his writing partner, the old Storyteller, Dale Royal. This record was picked up by Gusto-Starday and was released in a matter of hours and is getting exceptional play nation-wide. This single release was followed within a few days by an album by Billy Joe.

Cedarwood song "E.P. Express" written and recorded by Carl Perkins, is being released again on the Mercury label.

As usual, the old standards pull through again, with such cuts as "Leavin' On Your Mind" by Loretta Lynn and "Leona" by Conway Twitty, both on MCA. An album cut by Gary Stewart on "Drinking Again" on RCA rode the charts for over 20 weeks. This song was written by Jack S. Schneider and Claude G. Southall.

"Burning Memories," written by Mel Tillis and Wayne Walker and recorded by Mel, proved to be another smash by this dynamic artist.

Bonnie Nelson cracked the charts on her rendition of "Good Nights Make Good Mornings," penned by Naomi Martin and released on the Hop-A-Long label.

Foreign recordings have continued to show an upward swing for the Cedarwood catalogue. Steady growth by artists such as Carl Perkins in the overseas market continually brighten the Cedarwood horizon.

Cedarwood takes great pride and pleasure in welcoming to its roster, Douglas Van Arsdale, Bambi Fodera and Sharon Sanders. The acquisition of such promising new writers continues to picture future success.

Cedarwood's ever popular 1977 version of its "Music City Quick Look" phone numbers will be available again this year for convention-goers.

BHA: A Full Service Agency

■ Bill Hudson & Associates, one of Nashville's oldest and largest advertising/public relations firms, had another banner year in 1977 and recently witnessed the move of its headquarters into their newly-constructed 10,000 sq. ft. office building on Music Row.

15 Year Service

A full-service agency, Bill Hudson & Associates has been serving the music industry for nearly 15 years and their current roster of accounts includes such blue chip clients as Tree International, Sound Shop Studios, Beech Bend Park, The Four Guys, Playboy Records, and Danny Davis & The Nashville Brass.

In addition to serving music clients through the specialized PR efforts of Betty Hofer, who now heads their entertainment division, the BHA staff of professionals

also handles special project advertising and public relations for the film industry, the State of Tennessee, the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, McDonald's and other prominent clientele.

The Hudson operation, which has moved heavily into the area of leisure-time business, is also extremely active in promoting tourism in the State of Tennessee through the state's tourism department, as well as promoting conventions and visitors to the city of music through its chamber of commerce.

Utilizing its established expertise in the entertainment field, BHA staffers also spearheaded a new promotion for Beech Bend Park this past season, which offered free concerts in the park on Sunday afternoons.

Chardon Generates 'Buyer Enthusiasm'

■ Chardon, Inc., the management and booking firm representing RCA artists Charley Pride, Dave and Sugar, and Ronnie Prophet, moved vigorously to expand the markets for those artists during the past year.

Trends include the first three-in-the-round engagements for the Charley Pride Show (17 dates in Chicago, Cleveland and San Francisco) and the first Canadian concert tour and first Nashville album for Ronnie Prophet.

Six months were spent restructuring Dave and Sugar, one of the year's hottest recording acts. Singer Jackie Frantz was replaced by Sue Powell in January, 1977. The trio's second RCA album was released in August, and featured the fast-climbing single "That's The Way Love Should Be." The group toured extensively, on their own and as part of the Charley Pride Show.

In 1977, the Charley Pride Show will have performed 60 dates in the U.S. and Canada, including the biggest show this year at Toronto's Canadian National Exhibition, where over 20,000 fans packed the stands.

"We are setting a number of goals for 1978," according to Don

M. Keirns, president, Chardon, Inc. "The first is to continually widen the markets for the artists we represent. We see a tremendous international potential. In August, for instance, Charley Pride performed a special Opry show at the request of the visiting president of Tanzania.

"In 1978, we will also seek to syndicate Ronnie Prophet's top-rated Canadian TV show, 'Grand Old Country,' in the United States," Keirns added.

"Chardon's overall job is to generate buyer enthusiasm in our artists," Keirns said. "We stress that a recording contract is only the first step an artist takes in gaining wide exposure and acceptance. Promotion, publicity and ideally direct booking—eliminating the cost of a middle man in local markets—are all-important steps which follow that."

Keirns also worked in 1977 to develop the careers of two as-yet unsigned artists: Bobby David, a songwriter with several Charley Pride cuts and the latest Bobby Borchers release, "What A Way To Go;" and Lee Ofman, who penned the Miami Dolphins fight song.

From: Pi-Gem/Chess Music, Inc.

Thank
You!

Kye Fleming
Geof Morgan
Kent Robbins
Dean Rutherford
Marty Yonts

Archie Jordan
Conrad Pierce
Charles Quillen
John Schweers

Acuff-Rose: A 'People Company'

■ The year 1977 was a year of significance in the music industry. It marked the 35th anniversary of Acuff-Rose. And in the Acuff-Rose tradition, it's been another blue ribbon year as the organization continues to grow and expand, not only here in the States but also with its affiliate offices worldwide. Most people will agree that Acuff-Rose has done more to discover talent, promote country music and excite the music industry than most.

It would be hard to find a more competitive spirit than that which exists at Acuff-Rose, whether it be pertaining to business or fun. Wesley Rose, who guides the company, wants it to be the best and nothing less. He also carries this "Desire To Win" to the golf course, the bowling alley or in a tennis match. Since the beginning of the Pro Celebrity Golf Tournament, Rose has been a member of the Country Gentlemen, a very select group of businessmen who supply the major financial support for this annual event. Last year he served as president. He is also one of the most enthusiastic participants, his team finished fourth last

year. He also chaired the First Annual Acuff-Rose Golf Tournament this year where his team finished third in a field of 52 foursomes. He is one of three lifetime board members of the Country Music Association.

Ed Penney

Moving decisively and innovatively, veteran music man Ed Penney recently joined the Acuff-Rose professional staff. Ed has a wide range of experience in all facets of the music industry. Don Powell is now in charge of the promotion department, and Bob Jennings has been named public relations director.

Two long-time Acuff-Rose composers, John D. Loudermilk and Dallas Frazier, were added to the Songwriters Hall of Fame last October, while nine new names were signed to the staff of over 40 exclusive writers.

So today, 35 years later, the songs of immortals like Fred Rose and Hank Williams continue to be heard. Roy Acuff is still the King of Country Music and great things continue to happen at the company someone said is as well known in Tokyo as it is in Tennessee. Acuff-Rose—a people company.

CBS Will Host Country Showcase

■ NASHVILLE — With over 125 New York, Los Angeles and CBS field executives on hand for CMA Week 1977 and country music marketing meetings, CBS Records will host a special six-artist showcase on Thursday evening, October 13.

The showcase, admission by invitation only, will feature Columbia Records' The Earl Scruggs Revue, R. C. Bannon, Bobby Bare, and The Silver City Band, in addition to Epic recording artist Marshall Chapman and Playboy artist Bobby Borchers.

The showcase will be held at The Old Time Pickin' Parlor.

Johnson Execs



Top from left: vice president, Elroy Kahane and president, Jack D. Johnson; Bottom, left to right, T. G. Sheppard and Eddy Pride, of the Jack D. Johnson Company.

Theme Set for '78 Country Radio Meet

■ NASHVILLE — "The Future Of Our Country" will be the theme for the 1978 Country Radio Seminar to be held March 17-18 at Nashville's Airport Hilton, according to Terry Wood, 1978 radio industry chairman.

Committee Meeting

The CRS agenda committee for 1978 met on September 29-30 in Nashville's BMI conference room to discuss plans for the seminar. Committee members present for the meetings were: Terry Wood, WONE; Bob Young, WMC (radio industry co-chairman); Al Greenfield, KIKK; Jim Walton, WITL; Don Boyles, WSUN; Richard Holcomb, WTCR; Bob Holtan, WAXX; Ed Salamon, WHN; Les Acree, WKDA; John Chaffee, WHK; Lee Phillips, WOKO; Ted Cramer, WDAF; Mac Allen, Sonderling Broadcasting; Marie Ratliff, Record World; Jim Sharp, Cash Box; Gerry Wood, Billboard Publications; and Jim Duncan, Radio & Records. The record industry was represented by Stan Byrd, record industry chairman; Roy Wunsch, record industry vice chairman; and past record industry chairmen Nick Hunter and Frank Mull.

The agenda committee set up a wide range of topics for the two-day March sessions, which

include "What You Are Now Is Where You Were Then," "On Record: The Next Generation—The Future of the Recorded Industry," "Building Tomorrow's Audience / Reading Today's Book," "Country Radio/Sell It With Merchandising," "Country Radio/Sell It With Promotion," "Country Radio/Sell It With Pride," "Programmers: Up Your Bottom Line," "Working and Winning, Together," "Building Tomorrow's Audience/Methodology Makes The Difference," "Building Tomorrow's Audience/Ask . . . They'll Tell You What They Want," "The Fully Loaded, Semi-Automatic, Digital, Laser Graphonic, Dream Machine—Miniaturized/Engineering Your Future," "Music: Eliminate The Guesswork," and "The Great Brain Robbery — Contests and Promotions To Go."

April/Blackwood Taps Judy Harris

■ NASHVILLE — Judy Harris has been appointed coordinator, Nashville / southern operations, April/Blackwood Music, according to an announcement made by Charlie Monk, director, Nashville/southern operations.

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COUNTRY SINGLE PICKS

COUNTRY SONG OF THE WEEK

VERN GOSDIN—Elektra 45436

MOTHER COUNTRY MUSIC (J. Nixon; ATV, BMI)

A classic rendition of a great song paying tribute to country music should take Gosdin to the top.

GARY STEWART—RCA 11131

QUITS (D. O'Keefe; Road Canon/Warner Tamerlane, BMI)

This song has much of the same appeal as O'Keefe's "Good Time Charlie's Got the Blues," and Stewart's distinctive style brings it home.

MARTY ROBBINS—Columbia 3 10629

DON'T LET ME TOUCH YOU (M. Robbins/B. Sherrill; Mariposa, BMI)

A mellow, moving ballad with a solid hook provides a fitting vehicle for Robbins' smooth delivery.

NAT STUCKEY—MCA 40808

I'M COMING HOME TO FACE THE MUSIC (D. Goodman/M. Sherrill; Highball, BMI)

Stuckey shows strong potential on this outing, with a thoughtful ballad and a convincing delivery. It should hit big.

SONNY JAMES—Columbia 3 10628

ABILENE (J. D. Loudermilk/L. Brown/B. Gibson; Acuff-Rose, BMI)

James should find continued success with this standard, which was recorded at the Tennessee State Prison utilizing an inmate back-up band.

LITTLE DAVID WILKINS—Playboy 8 5822

AGREE TO DISAGREE (R. Hughes/T. Vernon; Little David, BMI)

Wilkins' recent team-up with Playboy and producer Eddie Kilroy should be off to a good start with this easy-paced ballad.

"LITTLE" JIMMY DICKENS—Little Gem 1016

SHE'S JUST A GOOD TIME (GOING SOMEWHERE TO HAPPEN)

(K. Jean; Milene, ASCAP)

A clever song about a loose lady gets a powerful reading from Dickens and should find its way chartward.

NORTON BUFFALO—Capitol 4473

EIGHTEEN WHEELS (N. Buffalo; Moon Valley, PEND)

One of the hottest harp players anywhere has a self-penned smoker here which should be helped up the charts by its blazing tempo.

DORSEY BURNETTE—Calliope 8012

SOON AS I TOUCHED HER (N. Helms/K. Hirsch; Screen Gems-EMI, BMI/Colgems-EMI, ASCAP)

Burnette's emotive reading of this sensitive ballad should launch it. It could go all the way.

LA COSTA—Capitol 4495

JESSIE AND THE LIGHT (B. Russell/B. Cason; PixRus/Buzz Cason, ASCAP)

Marked by sparkling production and ranging vocals, this pop-tinged sailing saga should hit for the talented songstress.

JIMMIE RODGERS—Scrimshaw 1313

A GOOD WOMAN LIKES TO DRINK WITH THE BOYS (D. Ellingson; Chappell/Brown Shoes, BMI)

Some men might take issue with this notion, but it makes for an appealing hook. A strong contender.

JOHNNY LEE—GRT 137

DEAR ALICE (L. Anderson; Big Heart/Harmony and Grits, BMI)

A strong lyric and a great delivery are sure to garner attention for this cut. Watch the phones.



Watch for Buck's new single on Warner Bros.

"Let The Good Times Roll"
b/w "Texas Tornado"

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are Country Music...*

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Buck Owens

Personal Management
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Secondary Radio Keys Borchetta's Promotion

■ Mike Borchetta, who has handled a number of well-known country acts as an independent record promoter, feels that one of the most important factors in promoting a successful country act is a working knowledge of secondary radio markets.

"You can call any major station in the country and ask them to give your artist a listen, but if you don't have a strong track record or secondary radio play to back you up, you might as well ask for miracles," explained Borchetta, a 20 year veteran of indy promotion.

In line with what is seen by many as a trend towards independent studio production, Borchetta feels that, similarly, the independent promoter has a healthy future if he knows his act and the market.

"There are some advantages to working with an independent promoter," explained Borchetta. "A national guy has to call a number of stations, whether his acts are doing well or are targeted for those areas or not, whereas I can be selective and concentrate on the stations and demographics which are necessary for my clients to break."

Borchetta, whose first number one single was "Hold Me Tight" by Johnny Nash, operates out of offices in Hollywood, which includes a three person secretarial staff and a shipping facility that enables him to send records directly to radio stations and journals, thus bypassing the time lag sometimes inherent in record company operations.

Anderson Completes Television Special

■ NASHVILLE — Columbia Records entertainer Lynn Anderson, with co-host Tina Turner, has completed the taping of her first television special, to be aired later this year.

Ms. Anderson's hour-long nationally-sponsored special, piloted for the networks, and to air in over 120 markets, highlights Nashville as a full-scope entertainment center.

Lynn, with a different non-country entertainer co-host each week, will feature all musical formats as well as the numerous facets of Nashville's growing music community.

In addition to her co-host Tina Turner, Lynn's guests include Dean Martin, Chet Atkins, England Dan & John Ford Coley, Bob Hope and Eddie Rabbitt.

Produced by Syd Vinnedge Productions, the special was filmed at various locations in Nashville.

COUNTRY HOTLINE

By MARIE RATLIFF

■ If you haven't put an ear to Norton Buffalo's "Eighteen Wheels" on Capitol, you're missing a foot-stompin' treat! It's his first with the label — and the fast moving lyric, generously laced with far-out country pickin', sounds like an instant phone ringer! Try It!

Little David Wilkins' debut on Playboy could be his biggest yet! "Agree to Disagree" is already added at WKDA, WCMS, WSLC, KAYO, WTIK.

Debby Boone, whose "You Light Up My Life" is #1 this week on the pop singles chart, is beginning to spread deep into country formats with action reported at WMAQ, WHN, WKDA, WSUN, KDJW, WIVK, WPNX, WTSO, KCKC, WBAM, KYNN.



Norton Buffalo

The Charlie Daniels Band has a strong entry in the easy country ballad, "Heaven Can Be Anywhere." Early moves showing at KLAQ, KGFX, WCMS, WPNX, WIVK.

Dickey Lee takes Razy Bailey's "Peanut Butter" and breathes into it a new life in the country! First week adds include KENR, KIKK, WTOD, KWKH, WHOO, KSO, KCKN, KCKC, WPLO, WPNX, WTSO, KKYX, WVOJ, KFDI, WSDS, KAYO, WITL, KSOP, KDJW, KJJJ, WTIK.

Kathy Barnes is shining with "The Sun In Dixie." Among those showing it well are KLAQ, WSDS, WITL, WMAD, KYNN, WBAM, WJQS, KXLR, KFDI, WCMS, WSLC, KKYX, KJJJ, KDJW, KVOO.



Dickey Lee

Helen Reddy is spreading into the country with the Cajun-flavored "Laissez Les Bontemps Rouler," already on at WPLO, KCKN, KGFX, WIVK.

Marcia Ball's "Big River" beginning to show in the southwest; Dorsey Burnette's "Soon As I Touched Her" added in Amarillo, Phoenix and Wichita.

"Lipstick Traces" makes its mark for Jimmie Peters this week at WVOJ, WHOO, KRMD (#38), WJQS, WSLC, WBAM, KJJJ, KDJW, WPNX.

Super Strong: Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, Waylon Jennings, Merle Haggard (MCA), Jimmy Buffett.

LP Interest: Bill Anderson & Mary Lou Turner's "I'm Way Ahead of You" playing at WIRE; Don Williams' "Rake and Ramblin' Man" well received at KCKC; Larry Gatlin's "I Wish You Were Someone I Love" good at WTIK.

SURE SHOTS

Vern Gosdin — "Mother Country Music"
Kenny Rogers — "Sweet Music Man"
Sonny James — "Abilene"

LEFT FIELDERS

Billy Walker & Brenda Kaye Perry — "Ringgold, Georgia"
Geof Morgan — "She's Out There Dancin' Alone"
LaCosta — "Jessie and the Light"

AREA ACTION

Johnny Paycheck — "Take This Job and Shove It" (WDAF, WWOK)
Stewart Harris — "Is It Worth It Anymore" (WHOO, WCMS)

Thanks D.J.'s I'll always love you"

MARGIE & MARCY — The Cates Sisters

CA-2036

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THE COUNTRY ALBUM CHART

OCTOBER 15, 1977

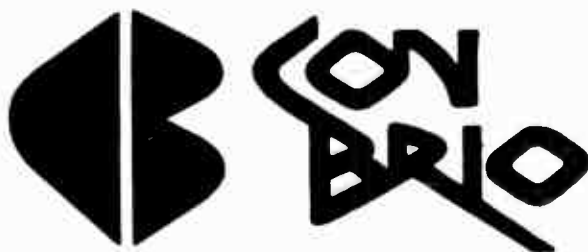
OCT. 15	OCT. 8		WKS. ON CHART
1	1	MOODY BLUE ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA AFL1 2428	14
2	7	SIMPLE DREAMS LINDA RONSTADT/Asylum 6E 104	5
3	6	DAYTIME FRIENDS KENNY ROGERS/United Artists LA754 G	13
4	4	WE MUST BELIEVE IN MAGIC CRYSTAL GAYLE/United Artists LA771 G	13
5	5	OL' WAYLON WAYLON JENNINGS/RCA APL1 2317	22
6	10	IT WAS ALMOST LIKE A SONG RONNIE MILSAP/RCA APL1 2439	6
7	9	TO LEFTY FROM WILLIE WILLIE NELSON/Columbia KC 34695	16
8	17	I'VE ALREADY LOVED YOU IN MY MIND CONWAY TWITTY/MCA 2293	9
9	25	WELCOME TO MY WORLD ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA APL1 2274	26
10	15	CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN ATTITUDES JIMMY BUFFETT/ABC AB 990	34
11	14	LOVE IS JUST A GAME LARRY GATLIN/Monument MG 7616	6
12	16	TATTOO DAVID ALLAN COE/Columbia PC 34870	6
13	38	YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL TANYA TUCKER/Columbia PC 34733	5
14	21	SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT (ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK)/MCA 2099	12
15	29	THE OUTLAWS WAYLON, WILLIE, TOMPALL & JESSI/RCA APL1 1312	89
16	18	EASTBOUND AND DOWN JERRY REED/RCA APL1 2516	6
17	30	ROLLIN' WITH THE FLOW CHARLIE RICH/Epic PE 34891	2
18	19	TILL THE END VERN GOSDIN/Elektra 7E 1112	12
19	26	COWBOYS AIN'T SUPPOSED TO CRY MOE BANDY/Columbia PC 34874	4
20	20	NEW HARVEST . . . FIRST GATHERING DOLLY PARTON/RCA APL1 2188	33
21	51	A WORKING MAN CAN'T GET NOWHERE TODAY MERLE HAGGARD/ Capitol ST 11693	3
22	—	B. J. THOMAS/MCA 2286	1
23	35	THORN ON THE ROSE EVEN STEVENS/Elektra 7E 1113	2
24	31	ELVIS, A LEGENDARY PERFORMER, VOL. I ELVIS PRESLEY/ RCA CPL1 0341	6
25	11	PURE GOLD ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA ANL1 0971	5
26	41	CAROLINA DREAMS MARSHALL TUCKER BAND/Capricorn CP 0180	29
27	32	THAT'S THE WAY LOVE SHOULD BE DAVE & SUGAR/RCA APL1 2477	6
28	28	I WANTA SING GEORGE JONES/Epic PE 34717	6
29	47	HANK WILLIAMS GREATEST HITS, VOL. II/MGM MG2 5401	4
30	50	BEST OF FREDDY FENDER/ABC Dot Do 2079	22
31	24	SHORT STORIES STATLER BROTHERS/Mercury SRM 1 5001	10
32	44	KENNY ROGERS/United Artists LA689 G	49
33	8	ELVIS' GOLDEN RECORDS ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA LSP 1707	3
34	34	I REMEMBER PATSY LORETTA LYNN/MCA 2265	26
35	—	JOHN WESLEY RYLES/ABC Dot DO 2089	1
36	36	LINDA RONSTADT'S GREATEST HITS/Asylum 7E 1092	43
37	37	HANK WILLIAMS GREATEST HITS, VOL. I/MGM SE 4755	54
38	13	ALOHA FROM HAWAII VIA SATELLITE ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA LSP 3758	6
39	40	A MAN MUST CARRY ON JERRY JEFF WALKER/MCA 2 6003	21
40	22	RABBITT EDDIE RABBITT/Elektra 7E 1105	19
41	63	SOUTHERN NIGHTS GLEN CAMPBELL/Capitol ST 11601	31
42	23	MAKING A GOOD THING BETTER OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN/MCA 2280	14
43	49	SONGS I'LL ALWAYS SING MERLE HAGGARD/Capitol SABB 11531	24
44	12	ANYTIME ANYWHERE RITA COOLIDGE/A&M SP 4616	10
45	2	ELVIS' GOLD RECORDS—VOL. 4 ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA LSP 3921	3
46	46	STRAIGHT BRUSH ARBOR/Monument MG 7613	2
47	48	ELVIS, A LEGENDARY PERFORMER, VOL. II ELVIS PRESLEY/ RCA CPL1 1349	6
48	27	LUXURY LINER EMMYLOU HARRIS/Warner Bros. BS 299B	38
49	74	HIS HAND IN MINE ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA ANL1 1319	6
50	65	HOW GREAT THOU ART ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA LSP 3758	6
51	43	BEFORE HIS TIME WILLIE NELSON/RCA APL1 2210	23
52	54	HEAVEN'S JUST A SIN AWAY THE KENDALLS/Ovation OV 1719	6
53	52	BEST OF STATLER BROTHERS/Mercury SRM 1 1037	86
54	42	RAMBLIN' FEVER MERLE HAGGARD/MCA 2267	20
55	24	GREATEST HITS MEL TILLIS/MGM MG2 5402	2
56	72	COUNTRY SWEET STELLA PARTON/Elektra 7E 1111	10
57	53	TODAY ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA APL1 1039	4
58	61	DYNAMIC DUO CONWAY TWITTY & LORETTA LYNN/MCA 2278	16
59	59	CRYSTAL CRYSTAL GAYLE/United Artists LA614 G	58
60	58	BEST OF DOLLY PARTON/RCA APL1 1117	72
61	39	LIVE! TAKIN' THE STAGE PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE/RCA CPL2 2404	3
62	66	REDHEADED STRANGER WILLIE NELSON/Columbia KC 33482	105
63	64	SOMEBODY LOVES YOU CRYSTAL GAYLE/United Artists LA543 G	69
64	—	COUNTRY BOY DON WILLIAMS/ABC Dot DO 2088	1
65	—	Y'ALL COME BACK SALOON OAK RIDGE BOYS/ABC Dot DO 2993	1
66	68	SONGS OF KRISTOFFERSON KRIS KRISTOFFERSON/Columbia PZ 34687	23
67	69	RONNIE MILSAP LIVE/RCA APL1 2043	44
68	70	WORLDWIDE 50 GOLD AWARD HITS, VOL. 1-4 ELVIS PRESLEY/ RCA LPM 6401	6
69	3	ELVIS' GOLD RECORDS—VOL. 2 ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA LSP 2075	3
70	75	SHE'S JUST AN OLD LOVE TURNED MEMORY CHARLEY PRIDE/ RCA APL1 2261	27
71	45	BEST OF BARBARA MANDRELL/Columbia PC 34876	4
72	62	BILLY CRASH CRADDOCK LIVE/ABC Dot DO 2082	13
73	—	BORN BELIEVER JIM ED BROWN & HELEN CORNELIUS/RCA APL1 2399	8
74	73	BLUEST HEARTACHE KENNY DALE/Capitol ST 11673	6
75	71	FROM ELVIS PRESLEY BOULEVARD, MEMPHIS, TENN. ELVIS PRESLEY/RCA APL1 1506	6

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THE COUNTRY SINGLES CHART

TITLE, ARTIST, Label, Number

OCT. 15	OCT. 8		WKS. ON CHART
1	1	HEAVEN'S JUST A SIN AWAY KENDALLS Ovation OV 1103 (2nd week)	11
2	5	EASTBOUND AND DOWN JERRY REED/RCA PB 11056	10
3	3	Y'ALL COME BACK SALOON OAK RIDGE BOYS/ ABC Dot DO 17710	14
4	6	I GOT THE HOSS MEL TILLIS/MCA 40764	10
5	7	I'M JUST A COUNTRY BOY DON WILLIAMS/ ABC Dot DO 17717	8
6	8	WE CAN'T GO ON LIVING LIKE THIS EDDIE RABBITT/ Elektra 45418	9
7	2	DAYTIME FRIENDS KENNY ROGERS/United Artists XW1027	12
8	4	I'VE ALREADY LOVED YOU IN MY MIND CONWAY TWITTY/MCA 40754	13
9	9	WHY CAN'T HE BE YOU LORETTA LYNN/MCA 40747	11
10	12	THE KING IS GONE RONNIE McDOWELL/Scorpion GRT 0543	5
11	16	ONCE IN A LIFETIME THING JOHN WESLEY RYLES/ ABC Dot 17698	10
12	11	DON'T IT MAKE MY BROWN EYES BLUE CRYSTAL GAYLE/ United Artists XW1016	15
13	13	SILVER MEDALS AND SWEET MEMORIES STATLER BROTHERS/ Mercury 55000	10
14	18	THE OLD MAN AND HIS HORN GENE WATSON/Capitol 4458	10
15	28	BLUE BAYOU LINDA RONSTADT/Asylum 45431	5
16	22	LOVE IS JUST A GAME LARRY GATLIN/Monument 226	6
17	20	HOLD ME BARBARA MANDRELL/ABC Dot DO 17716	7
18	19	TOO MUCH IS NOT ENOUGH BILLIE JO SPEARS/ United Artists XW1041	9
19	27	ROSES FOR MAMA C. W. McCALL/Polydor PD 14420	5
20	21	A WORKING MAN CAN'T GET NOWHERE TODAY MERLE HAGGARD/Capitol 4477	7
21	26	MORE TO ME CHARLEY PRIDE/RCA PB 11086	5
22	23	LET ME DOWN EASY CRISTY LANE/LS GRT 131	8
23	17	IF IT AIN'T LOVE BY NOW JIM ED BROWN & HELEN CORNELIUS/RCA PB 11044	9
24	25	ERES TU JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ/Mercury 55004	7
25	30	WHAT A WAY TO GO BOBBY BORCHERS/Playboy ZS8 5816	7
26	32	SHAME ON ME DONNA FARGO/Warner Bros. WBS 8431	6
27	10	IT'S ALL IN THE GAME TOM T. HALL/Mercury 55001	11
28	34	YOU OUGHT TO HEAR ME CRY WILLIE NELSON/ RCA PB 11061	6
29	36	FOOLS FALL IN LOVE JACKY WARD/Mercury 55003	6
30	31	TO LOVE SOMEBODY NARVEL FELTS/ABC Dot DO 17715	9
31	35	HE AIN'T YOU LYNN ANDERSON/Columbia 3 10597	7
32	37	WHAT'RE YOU DOING TONIGHT JANIE FRICKE/Columbia 3 10605	5
33	45	THE WURLITZER PRIZE/LOOKIN' FOR A FEELING WAYLON JENNINGS/RCA PB 11118	2
34	48	STILL THE ONE BILL ANDERSON/MCA 40794	3
35	14	SHAME, SHAME ON ME KENNY DALE/Capitol 4457	12
36	42	THIS TIME I'M IN IT FOR THE LOVE TOMMY OVERSTREET/ABC Dot DO 17721	5
37	65	FROM GRACELAND TO THE PROMISED LAND MERLE HAGGARD/MCA 40804	2
38	29	LITTLE OLE DIME JIM REEVES/RCA PB 11060	8
39	15	THE DANGER OF A STRANGER STELLA PARTON/Elektra 45410	12
40	56	ONE OF A KIND TAMMY WYNETTE/Epic 8 50450	2
41	47	DAYS THAT END IN "Y" SAMMI SMITH/Elektra 45429	5
42	49	CLOSE ENOUGH FOR LONESOME MEL STREET/Polydor PD 14421	4
43	51	CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN ATTITUDES JIMMY BUFFETT/ABC AB 12305	3
44	52	ENDLESSLY EDDIE MIDDLETON/Epic/Cleveland Intl. 8 50431	6
45	50	DO YOU HEAR MY HEART BEAT DAVID ROGERS/Republic 006	7
46	54	SOUL OF A HONKY TONK WOMAN MEL McDANIEL/ Capitol 4481	5
47	40	WE CAN'T BUILD A FIRE IN THE RAIN ROY CLARK/ ABC Dot DO 17712	10
48	24	DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY TANYA TUCKER/MCA 40755	10
49	33	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GEORGE JONES & TAMMY WYNETTE/Epic 8 50418	14



50	38	I LOVE YOU A THOUSAND WAYS WILLIE NELSON/ Columbia/Lone Star 3 10588	12
51	39	IF YOU DON'T LOVE ME (WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE) FREDDY FENDER/ABC Dot DO 11713	12
52	63	BORN TO LOVE ME RAY PRICE/Columbia 3 10631	3
53	53	WHEN I DIE, JUST LET ME GO TO TEXAS ED BRUCE/ Epic 8 50424	9
54	41	PUT 'EM ALL TOGETHER AND I'D HAVE YOU GEORGE JONES/Epic 8 50423	10
55	46	THAT'S THE WAY LOVE SHOULD BE DAVE & SUGAR/ RCA PB 11034	14
56	66	HELEN CAL SMITH /MCA 40789	4
57	62	NOBODY CARES BUT YOU FREDDY WELLER/Columbia 3 10598	6
58	67	THAT OLD COLD SHOULDER TOM BRESH/ABC Dot DO 17720	4

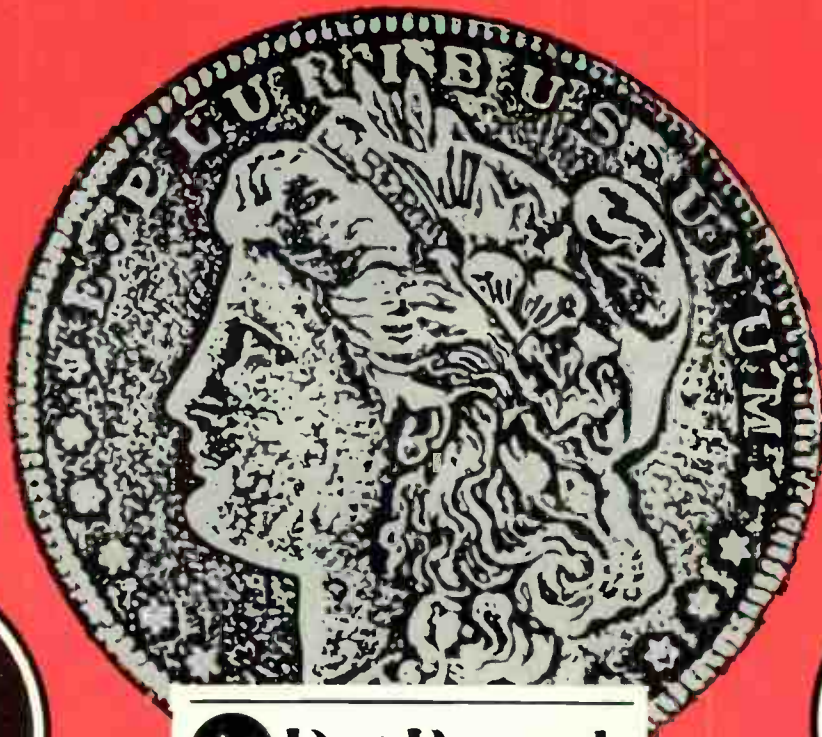
CHARTMAKER OF THE WEEK

59 — **HERE YOU COME AGAIN**
DOLLY PARTON
RCA PB 11123



60	43	DON'T SAY GOODBYE REX ALLEN, JR./Warner Bros. WBS 8418	11
61	73	SHE JUST LOVED THE CHEATIN' OUT OF ME MOE BANDY/Columbia 3 10619	2
62	44	WAY DOWN/PLEDGING MY LOVE ELVIS PRESLEY/ RCA PB 10998	17
63	59	IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE A DIAMOND SUSAN RAYE/ United Artists XW1026	11
64	61	SUNFLOWER GLEN CAMPBELL/Capitol 4445	15
65	60	RAMBLIN' FEVER MERLE HAGGARD/MCA 40743	16
66	74	FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS BARBARA FAIRCHILD/ Columbia 3 10607	3
67	79	YOU'VE GOT TO MEND THIS HEARTACHE RUBY FALLS/ 50 States FS 56	4
68	76	I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU CATES SISTERS/Caprice CA 2036	2
69	—	PEANUT BUTTER DICKEY LEE/RCA PB 11125	1
70	77	I MUST BE DREAMING DON KING/Con Brio 126	2
71	78	LEAN ON JESUS PAUL CRAFT/RCA PB 11078	2
72	64	TILL THE END VERN GOSDIN/Elektra 45411	17
73	—	THE PAY PHONE BOB LUMAN/Polydor PD 14431	1
74	80	TOUCH ME HOWDY GLEN/Warner Bros. WBS 8447	4
75	75	LEAVIN' KENNY PRICE/MRC 1004	4
76	82	MEXICAN LOVE SONGS LINDA HARGROVE/Capitol 4447	4
77	83	MAKE THE WORLD GO AWAY CHARLY McCLAIN/ Epic 8 50436	3
78	81	MY GIRL DALE McBRIDE/Con Brio 124	3
79	89	THE SUN IN DIXIE KATHY BARNES/Republic 005	2
80	90	WALK AWAY WITH ME RANDY BARLOW/Gazelle IRDA 427	2
81	91	THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW DOTTIE WEST/ United Artists XW1084	2
82	88	BETTER OFF ALONE JAN HOWARD/Con Brio 125	3
83	86	IF YOU REALLY WANT ME TO, I'LL GO SILVER CITY BAND/ Columbia 3 10601	3
84	72	BABY ME BABY ROGER MILLER/Windsong 11072	6
85	92	SHE KEEPS HANGIN' ON RAYBURN ANTHONY/Polydor 14423	14
86	57	BABY, DON'T KEEP ME HANGIN' ON SUSIE ALLANSON/ Warner/Curb WBS 8429	14
87	58	SO CLOSE AGAIN MARGO & NORRO/Warner Bros. WBS 8427	9
88	—	ONE NIGHT STANDS HANK WILLIAMS, JR./Warner Bros. WBS 8451	1
89	—	I HAVEN'T LEARNED A THING PORTER WAGONER/ RCA PB 10974	1
90	—	LIPSTICK TRACES JIMMIE PETERS/Mercury 55005	1
91	93	RAINBOWS AND HORSESHOES R. C. BANNON/Columbia 3 10612	3
92	—	COME TO ME ROY HEAD/ABC Dot DO 17722	1
93	95	THE LADY AIN'T FOR SALE SHERRY BRYCE/Pilot PR 45100	2
94	96	BLUEBERRY HILL ANN J. MORTON/Prairie Dust PD 7619	2
95	55	HOLD ON TIGHT SUNDAY SHARPE/Playboy ZS8 5813	8
96	—	HOW I LOVE THEM OLD SONGS DANNY DAVIS & THE NASHVILLE BRASS/RCA PB 11073	1
97	—	HELL YES, I CHEATED JAMES PASTELL/Paula 425	1
98	—	YOU JUST DON'T KNOW MARY MILLER/Inergi I-302	1
99	84	ANOTHER LONELY NIGHT JODY MILLER/Epic 8 50432	5
100	85	I'M STILL MOVIN' ON HANK SNOW/RCA PB 11080	4

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abc Dot Records



17

"HOLD ME"
Barbara Mandrell (DO 17716)



5

"I'M JUST A COUNTRY BOY"
Don Williams (DO 17717)



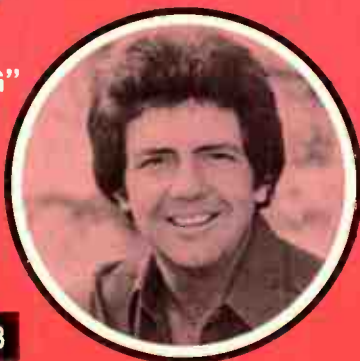
11

"ONCE IN A LIFETIME THING"
John Wesley Ryles (DO 17698)



36

"THIS TIME I'M IN IT FOR THE LOVE"
Tommy Overstreet (DO 17721)



58

"THAT OLD COLD SHOULDER"
Tom Bresh (DO 17720)



92

"COME TO ME"
Roy Head (DO 17722)



"CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN ATTITUDES"
Jimmy Buffett AB 12305

43



"Y'ALL COME BACK SALOON"
Oak Ridge Boys (DO 17710)

3



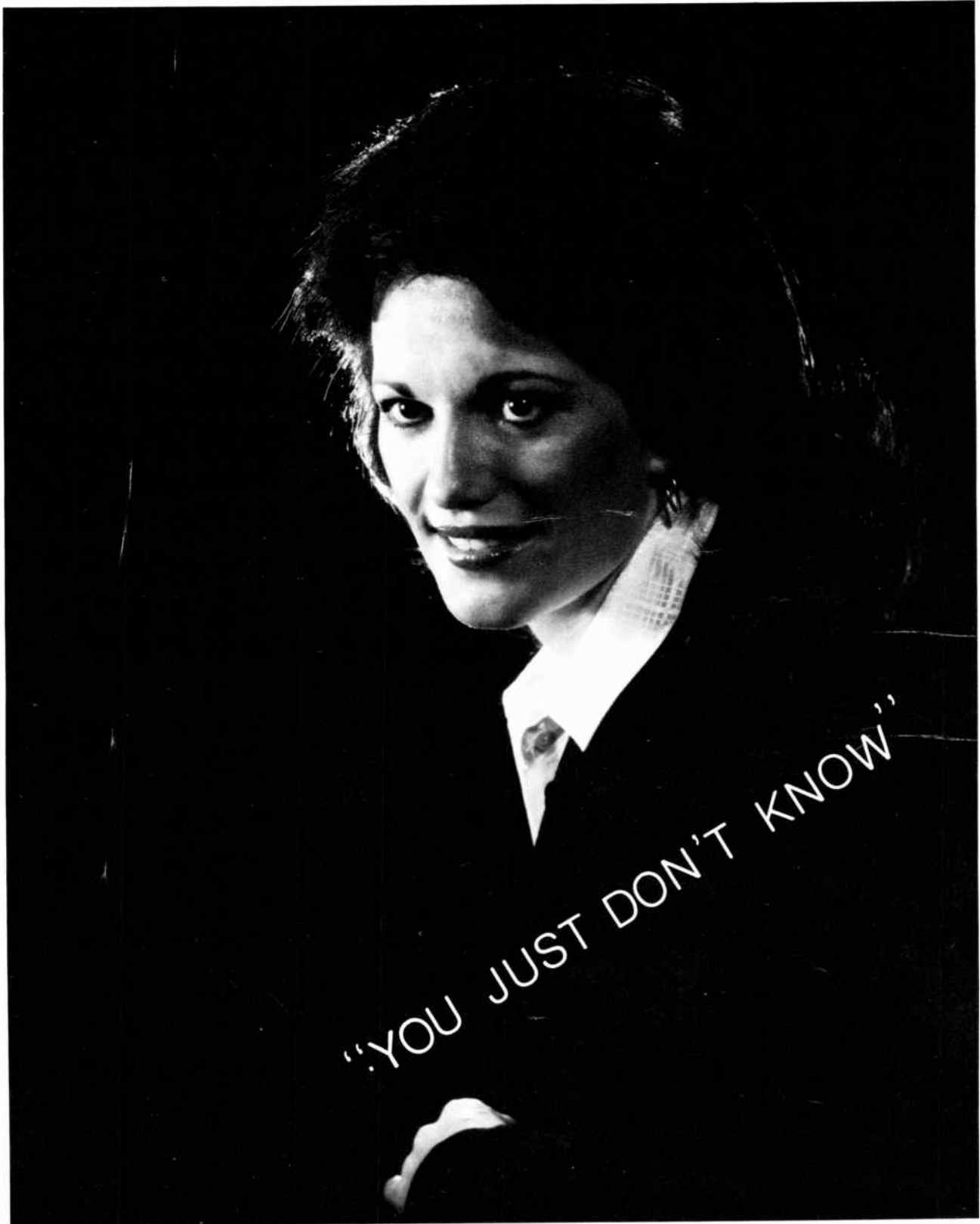
30

"TO LOVE SOMEBODY"
Narvel Felts (DO 17715)

thanks for the #1 Record!

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