



★ Heartland Opry

Presented by The Country Music Singers Association of Oklahoma



P.O. BOX 20309 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73156

President John Fisher

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2012

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501 (c)(3) Development

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PRESIDENT'S TUNES

Merry Christmas CMSA:

We are finishing another year of growth and accomplishment. Our organization has done amazing things in 2011. We are most proud of the \$22,000 we as a group raised for children in Oklahoma with life-threatening illnesses. We all have a lot to be proud of in that effort.

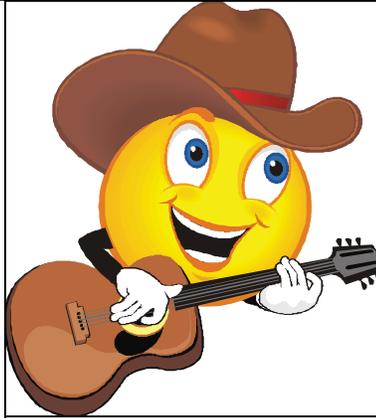
We've had major changes in leadership but have survived and grown. We have gained new members and lost some dear friends that left this world a better place when they went home to be with the Lord. We have laughed, prayed and wept together.

We are looking forward to all the exciting things that we are working on for next year, but none of that is what I want to talk about.

I want to tell you all how much Donna and I love you and appreciate your support. It was very humbling to serve as your president when Danny decided to step up to CEO and take life a little easier. But, it was amazing to have such unanimous support in our election last month.

It encouraged us to know that you are behind us in the new things we are doing. I want to thank you for your vote of confidence and will strive to deserve that honor.

During this beautiful and holy season we are praying that you will be blessed in your health, your families, your finances and that you will know that all that you need is in the One Whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Merry Christmas and God bless you all. Love, John and Donna Fisher



Free guitar lessons

Begin

January 23, 2012

6 pm

Shartel Church of God

11600 S. Western

We will enter on the north side of the church.

Thanks to Carol Jean Ross and the generous people of her church we have a wonderful place with plenty of room!

At this time there are 10 people enrolled, not counting the members of Shartel Church who would like to participate.

It's not too late to get signed up!

Come out and learn to play an instrument and show your appreciation for this great opportunity!
Help support live music!

If you'd like to enroll, please contact me @ 405-488-7967 or nancy.borum@heartlandopr.com

COMING EVENTS

Jan . 6 Access 34 TV

Jan . 7 Country Show

Sponsored by:

Jan. 9 Business Meeting

3925 SE 29th Del City, OK

Doors open 6 pm how time 7pm

Jan 13. Gospel Show

Sponsored by

Doors open 6 pm how time 7pm

Jan 20. Newsletter Deadline

Jan 21. Gong Show

Doors open 6 pm how time 7pm

Sponsored by

Jan 28 Executive Board Meeting

Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m. -?????

4900 NW Expressway

OKC, OK

OPEN MIC

Tuesdays 7pm - 9pm Denny's 1-35

Thursdays: Bandana Red's
14030 S. E. 29 and Henny Road
Choctaw 6 pm to 8 pm

TALENT COORDINATOR

IF YOU WANT TO BE ON A SHOW CALL
634-7252 Mail Box 2 or contact me directly at 405-823-9784

I will also be contacting entertainers to be on the shows. Once you are booked remember you must turn in your songs on Tuesday before the show on Saturday you are scheduled to perform on by 6 pm or we will not be able to allow you to participate in the show.



Do not leave a message the day of the show that you will not be able to perform. If for some excusable reason you cannot perform contact the Talent Coordinator directly. This position will be filled shortly. Watch your emails to see who is officially appointed to fill my slot. Thank You - Donna

Vice President



CMSA Elections are now over and I want to thank you for voting us in for another 2 years.

Things are looking good for the future of the CMSA and your continued support is appreciated.

We have just finished our two Christmas Shows and both were great shows and all the singers did an awesome job at entertaining the audience.

We have the Gong Show coming up on January 21st and we looking forward to helping our singers heading to Pigeon Forge by raising money for their trip.

As a reminder, we have started up the CMSA Open Mic again and it is being held on Tuesday from 7pm to 9pm at Denney's at S.E. 29th and I-35 in Okla. City. We would love to see you there to support the CMSA entertainers that are performing.

I would like to mention the new Heartland Opry E-mail again. The great thing about having an e-mail address from Heartland Opry is that every time you e-mail someone they are seeing an advertisement for Heartland Opry and what a great way for you to help the organization grow. For those members that would like to have an e-mail address from us please e-mail me at kevin@heartlandopry.com.

Remember that CMSA is an ORGANIZATION worth promoting!

Looking forward to a great time.

Kevin Tatum

CMSA Vice President



PS - Remember Guitar Lessons are being conducted by the CMSA and they are **FREE to members and the public.** Contact Nancy Borum if you would like to attend. This is a great opportunity for anyone that has

the desire to learn how to play the guitar.



Tips & Tricks January 2012

The importance of Stage Presence!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope everyone is as excited as I am about all the upcoming events and

opportunities we have as CMSA members/entertainers and as living breathing humans! 2012 is the year the world is supposed to end, (according to the Mayan calendar), so I guess that means we better make the best of it by becoming the best we can be! What's the point? Well, whether or not the world comes to an end this year, we don't know how much time any of us have left. Life is short and we should not take anyone or anything for granted, including these articles! LOL! With that said, let's see how we can become better entertainers!

Every aspiring [singer](#) should know that just standing and [singing](#) well on stage will rarely keep your audience engaged and interested in your performance. Here are some tips to help you play a great [show](#).

1. **Love the [songs](#) you [sing](#).** It's common sense, but if you do not have your heart and soul in a song you *will* come off as fake and/or cheesy. Even if it's a cover, try to relate to the [lyrics](#) and the feeling as much as possible.
2. **[Smile](#) as much as you can.** Even the most "emo" acts need to look like they're having a good time, because moodiness does not come over well to the audience. Let them see you are having a great time, and the effect will rub off on them. This doesn't mean you can't change up the feel for different songs, it just means you shouldn't look serious the whole time you are performing.
3. **Move around!** Come on, don't just stand there looking [awkward](#)! If you constantly move, even just a little bit, your motion will attract the audience's eyes. Someone had said that even George Strait just stands there, and look where he is! George used to interact a lot with his audiences in his younger days, reaching out and touching them during his performances, etc. But George also has a prop that he uses A LOT. He uses that to disguise the fact that he doesn't like moving around much, and he's so beloved now that he could just open his mouth and everyone would love him! But even with his guitar and standing in front of the mic he still has some body language that draws people in (swaying his shoulders, cocking his hat and laying out that crooked grin, spreading his arms, etc). Major artists know the importance of entertaining as well as singing, for example Michael Jackson, Carrie Underwood, Taylor Swift.

4. If you play an instrument while singing and can't move around much use facial expressions or your arms and hands as much as you can to make the crowd follow you and get into the performance. A good "Come On!" followed by gestures will get the crowd going. Look up some of your favorite artists on YouTube to see what they do on stage, and then:

5. **Steal [moves](#) from the big guys.** Go ahead. No one is going to fault you if you take some pointers from well-known [singers](#). Don't copy *one* person, and don't copy their whole [routine](#). Take the bits that you enjoy the most and make them your own. Eventually, after seeing how comfortable the stars are doing "crazy" stuff on stage, you'll feel more comfortable in your body doing your own stage moves.

6. **Learn to use facial expressions and poses to go with the [emotions](#).** Be careful not to tighten your throat or do other actions that would inhibit good vocal technique!

7. **Learn when NOT to grab [attention](#).** Sometimes you have to let other [band members](#) steal some spotlight. Otherwise you'll become an egomaniac in others' eyes! Although it's great to be a *bit* showy now and then, vocalists need to back off a bit.

8. **Talk to your [audience](#).** If you involve the audience, they will be forced to pay attention. Several popular artists will sometimes [sing](#) a line, then make the audience sing it back. Get the audience in on the songs. Ask them non-cliche questions, (Not, "How're we doing tonight?"), make them shout out; tell them you want to see a [line](#) dance or mosh pit and things like that, depending on your [style of music](#).

9. Moving on stage can be very intimidating at first. You have to practice moves that work for you, whether it's just gently swaying to the music, walking around the stage, or dancing. You will become an entertainer, not just a singer, if you put your whole body into your performance. It will help to make you more marketable.

If you need some help getting started on this, **our next workshop is scheduled for February 25, 2012**, before our State winners go to Pigeon Forge. Make an effort to come to the seminar, if only to observe. You'll gain a lot of good information!

'til next time,

Nancy B.

★ Heartland Opry

Presented by The Country Music Singers Association of Oklahoma

OPEN MIC



OPEN MIC

Denny's

**Tuesdays
Denny's
1-35 and SE 29th
OKC, OK
7pm - 9pm**



**Thursday
Bandana Red's
14030 S. E. 29 & Henney Road
Choctaw , OK
6 pm to 8 pm**



MEMBERSHIP

WANT TO BE A CMSA MEMBER

If you have questions about membership make sure and contact me. When you join your membership application has important information which CMSA uses to contact you for participation in various activities. It is important that we have your correct email, mailing address, telephone, birthday, anniversary etc.. There are copies of other important CMSA information that will be given to you. Your membership card should be carried with you for identification at CMSA events.

Call 634-7252 Mail Box 1 or any member of the Executive Board on the front of this newsletter.

The CMSA is a not-for-profit organization that is family orientated. You do not have to be an entertainer to be a member. The only qualification you must have is that you love Country and Gospel Music.

Call Lottie at CMSA 634-7252 Mail Box 1 or her personal numbers are 488-7947 or 752-0494 Or 540-0708 Email Lottie at NORTHLANDA@Integris-health.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

985 McDowell, Gaylon Member

NEWSLETTER



**CMSA newsletter@hughes.net
newsletter@hartlandopry.com
634-7252 Mail Box 4**

News is what makes newspapers interesting and especially if it is news generated by members. Get your news items into me so I can get the information out to the members, radio and TV news media

Helen Moore 405 -609-6505

Fax information 721-3632

E MAIL



Hello all! We now have the CMSA e-mail computer up and running. If you aren't getting your e-mails you need to let me know by e-mailing me at mail@heartlandopry.com. This is the new e-mail address for all CMSA correspondence. Please do not use the old one to contact me for CMSA business. I will only send messages out from mail@heartlandopry.com. Thank you for your cooperation. Chery Tiller E-mail Chairman mail@heartlandopry.com

CMSA PRAYERS REQUEST

Dale Ashley - Medical
Sandy Ashley's Mother Helen - Medical
Boles, Ginger & Al - Medical
Cobb family C.J. Vision & Charlie (Medical)
Erickson, Linda - Medical
Franklin, David & Vicky -Medical
Finley, Vickie - Medical
Garcia, Susan - Medical
Henderson, Martha ---Cancer---
McElfresh, Mary - medical
McKinley, Ruth - Medical
Miller, Jeanetta - Medical
Miller, Patti (Crist) Cancer
Moore, Diane Tiemann (Cliff's Sister) brain cancer
Pitts, Jessie ---Medical
Ross, Carol Jean
Rinehart, Helen - Medical
Spears, Roy -& Cindy Medical
Wilder, Walt - Medical
Young, Joye - Medical

Our deepest sympathy to John and Donna Fisher on the loss of Donna's Uncle Tom.



A special thanks

Robbie and Amanda Woodmansee it was so awesome of you and your girls helping stack the chairs, fold up the tables and take them to the back room after the December 3rd show. It was greatly appreciated .

Wayne, Helen and Cliff

At CMSA shows you will be asked your ID number when you pay. Remember your number gets you in for \$4.00

IMPORTANT - Dues

Memberships renewals are due in January for 2012. This year we have changed to everyone paying the first of the year. For more information please contact Lottie at 488-7947 or by email at NORTHLANDA@Integris-health.com

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Members more than 31 days late with membership fee's will be dropped. To renew as a member they will have to pay full membership fee instead of the reduced rate. Members more than 61 days late to renew membership will also have to pay the full fee. Entertainers would have to go through the auditioning process again, and pass, to perform on any CMSA show.

December Birthdays



Barnett, Trasy	26-Jan
Chancellor, Rodger	16-Jan
Ciliberti, Nick	16-Jan
Fanning, Earl	26-Jan
Fisher, Donna	31-Jan
Franklin, Melvin	11-Jan
Graef, Darrell	3-Jan
Graef, Pat	14-Jan
Hall, Mary	6-Jan
Havener, N'Lisa	14-Jan
Hill, Don	15-Jan
Jones, Charles	21-Jan
Laney, Jan	17-Jan
Miller, Jeanetta	20-Jan
Myers, Natasha	10-Jan
Newby, Colton	26-Jan
Pelley, Brittany	11-Jan
Ross, Gary	10-Jan
Sanders, Christina	2-Jan
Sumner, Donna	18-Jan
Wilder, Walt	6-Jan
Wilson, Sherry	24-Jan
Finley, Joe	6-Jan
Evans, Rachel	30-Jan
Huddleston, Sarah	25-Jan
Williams, Jazmin	4-Jan
Karcher, Becky	28-Jan

January 2012 Anniversaries

Miller, Pat and Bill	13-Jan
Myers, Ray and Hanna	4-Jan
Ratti, Leon and Barbara	17-Jan

Artist of the Month 2012

Jones, Kaleigh	12-Feb
Sikes, Sierra	12-Mar
Karcher, Natalie	12-Apr
Farris, Caitlin	12-May
Henry, Aslinn	12-Jun
Monroe, John	12-Jul
Big Eagle, Warren	12-Aug
Fowler, Wes	12-Sep
Lawless, Mallory	12-Oct
Watkins, Joseph	12-Nov
Kratazer, Bill	12-Dec

From
Cliff, Helen and the Moore Family:

Thank you for your prayers for Diane. Here is a card and a note that we received from her and her husband thanking everyone. We wanted to share it with each of you as you shared the bad times with us as well.

To
Cliff, Helen, Girls, Family and Friends

Thank you so much for your love, support and prayers - **I couldn't of done it without you and your family and wonderful friends!**

Can't wait to c-ya all.

Diane and Eric Tieman

Cliff's Sister

PRAYER IS SO VERY POWERFUL!!!

If you are listed on this email you will be the Artist of the Month in 2012 for the Month beside your name. Please email me your information by the 20th of the Month prior to your Month as Artist of the Month. Example: If you are Artist of the Month in Jan 2012 you need to have the information to me by December 20th. Here is what I need:

- Where and when you were born
- A little about your family--church (if any) - school -
- Hobbies other than singing
- How you become involved in Country Music and the CMSA
- What type of Country do you sing? Gospel? Bluegrass?
- Who recommended you to the CMSA
- Any venues where you have performed
- Any competitions you have been involved in
- What your plans for the future are as far as singing
- Do you play any instruments?
- Have you performed with a band?
- Any recordings? Any original songs?
- Have you attended any of our educational seminars? How about guitar lessons?
- Do you have a favorite entertainer in CMSA?
- Did you know that CMSA has two scholarships to offer? If you are not a candidate have you told anyone about the scholarships?
- Any favorite story you would like to share about your singing.
- Please send 4 pictures -

You do not have to write the article, simply give me the information and a contact number if I need to call you. Please remember your membership must be current for me to have you as our Artist of the Month.

FYI: We have a lot of entertainers of which 12 are selected each year as Artist of the Month. This gives everyone a chance to know a little more about you. If I do not receive your information by the deadline I will generally not be able to feature you. When you are Artist of the Month you are also on our web site at www.heartlandopry.com in the Artist of the Month section.

Happy HOLIDAYS

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. Smile - this is one of those moments!



WE MADE IT!!
Ringing in the New Year!
Love, Eric & Diane

December 9th Christmas Show

As guests were arriving the special needs individuals were very excited to see some of the same people that performed on the last three Christmas Shows performing again this year.



The Show kicked off with Bobbie Doss reading the poem "Heaven's Very Special Child." Jenni Moore sang the *National Anthem*. Cliff, Helen and Jenni welcomed everyone and then Jenni lit the traditional candle to remind everyone the show is sponsored yearly by the

Moore's as a Tribute to Deneen and other Special Needs Individuals. It is a tradition at the Moore's before Christmas activities start to light a candle to signify Deneen's presence. Jennifer and Helen emceed the show keeping things moving pretty fast as Santa was as excited to see the kids as the kids were to see him



Cutter Elliott the headliner for the show opened with "A Merry Christmas Strait to You." As Cutter sang the Moore's passed out Christmas cards to guests. Destiny McElfresh not feeling well, still done an awesome job of "All I Want For Christmas Is You." It was very special to have Kelcy Towbridge get such a great welcoming as she came on stage singing "Christmas Song." Wes Fowler's "Let It Be Christmas" certainly got the special needs kids excited. Several of the kids requested Seth Winter sing "Santa Looked a Lot Like Daddy." It was done very well. Seth and Ashleigh then performed a "Star of Wonder Medley" which was a great mixture for everyone in the audience. Colby Towbridge and Carston Heffernan both three years old (born one day apart) put the cookies out for Santa to get. Those that were in the front rows got to see Colby whispering to Carston "now we got to hide so we can see Santa get the cookies." But they had to be good boys and go back to their seats so Santa could get the cookies. Shianne Flood sang a beautiful Christmas song - absolutely amazing. Larry Perkey picked his guitar and delivered a great "Cowboy Christmas" another requested song. George and Thelma Harrison also had a request for "Jesus Is What Makes Christmas For Me." Great job! Cutter had the audience in his hand with a very serious "Away In A Manger" and then changed the tempo when he picked up his guitar and singing "Jingle Bell Rock." and "Santa Bring My Baby Back to Me" The Elf's were so awesome. Saylor Woodmansee, Brooklyn Woodmansee and Clancy Tressmer along with Brooke were so helpful and to Santa and Mrs. Claus. One of the highlights of the show was when they came out running and said "Santa is here - I seen him." They spotted Santa and got everyone excited to see the man in red.

And what to Colby and Carston's eyes disappeared? Three cookies that Santa took leaving only some crumbs. Even Jenni the emcee got excited about seeing the cookies gone and her favorite Santa greeting people as we rang his bells.



Mrs. Claus and the Elf's passed out cookies but Santa was so busy Mrs. Claus had to stop and help him. They were lined up to see Santa and get a gift and tell him what they wanted for Christmas. Even the big kids came to sit on his lap.

After the intermission Jenni Moore dedicated a song to her step sister Deneen, "Where Are You Christmas" which was pretty special. Shianne Flood sang "Blue Christmas" and Kelcy Towbridge followed with "Merry Christmas Darling" Wes Fowler was very Jolly with "Holly Jolly Christmas." By now everyone was feeling the season as well as the reason which was perfect for Ashleigh's "Who Would Imagine a King." So beautifully performed. Larry picked his guitar and was great with "Drummer Boy" and George and Thelma with an original song "Christmas Time." Rocky filled in and sang two original songs. Cutter wrapped up the show with "It Won't Be Christmas Without You" and "Silent Night." All the entertainers sang "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" as the show closed on the Tribute for another year.

Cliff and I received so many compliments from team leaders, friends and guests concerning the Special Needs Show. Representatives from the Special Olympics, the Moore Activity Center and the Children's Miracle Network expressed how very much the attendees enjoyed the show, Santa, the cookies, the gifts and how much they appreciate the planning that went into the event.

So many people helped us make this another special event. Kevin, Jeanetta, Wayne and myself Helen turned the hall into a Winter Wonderland. Pam Fisbeck, a friend of ours helped put all the finishing touches on the tree, helped wrap the candy and arrange the gifts. She simply wanted to give back to the community and drove from Newcastle to help with the final touches. Kevin and Laura and Cliff and Helen paid the tab for the concessions for the Special Needs. Chery helped get all the emails out and Donna helped with the entertainers. Sandy made a beautiful quilt that was raffled for the Jan Barton Memorial Scholarship Fund. Kevin of course provided sound and Leon Ratti controlled the lighting. Caroline Pair signed cards for the Moore's to give to the audience. Bobbie and Richard Doss were so helpful with everything including Mrs. Claus hat and apron. A very special thanks to Debbie Tressmer and the Top of the World Hat Company from Norman for donating over 90 ball caps to give away. Amazing how many people enjoyed getting a cap. A special thanks to everyone that brought a gift or a stuffed toy

If we left anyone out that helped we truly apologize as there were so many that helped and or supported us for this show. We thank you all so very much and we hope that you all had a blessing from attending the show. It truly was a great show thanks to all the amazing performers. We wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Music City Walk of Fame



On November 6, 2011, Dotti Rambo was inducted into the Music City Walk of Fame in Nashville, Tennessee. It is with great joy that she has her rightful and deserving place in the

Sidewalks of Nashville.

Dottie was an inspiration to the many millions that she came in contact with over the many years of her singing ministry. She touched the souls of so many during her career, and now her star will continue to shine as brightly as ever.

Dottie Rambo, known throughout the industry as the Queen of Gospel Music, is a world renowned singer, songwriter and musician. Throughout her 60+ year career, Rambo wrote over 2,500 songs, both for herself and for some of the music industry's most notable stars. Her legendary songs have been recorded by music icons such as Elvis Presley, Barbara Mandrel, Carol Channing, Whitney Houston and Dolly Parton.

Her own musical career included being a songwriter, soloist and leader of her family trio 'The Singing Rambo's,' later known as simply 'The Rambo's,' which brought her opportunities to work with Barbara Mandrel and Porter Wagoner among others. Some of her more noted works include "I Go To the Rock," "He Looked Beyond My Fault" and "I Will Glory In The Cross."

She received multiple Grammy and Dove awards, the ASCAP Lifetime Achievement Award, has been inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, and is a member of the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. Rambo died in a tragic bus wreck in 2008 as she traveled between tour shows.

Thanks to Ray Prince from the ICMA for sharing this story with the CMSA. We appreciate receiving the Illinois newsletter and wish that all other affiliated members of the NACMAI would send us their newsletter.

Ray shares Nancy's Tip and Tricks with his readers monthly.

SHOP YOUR ASSOCIATION
BIRTHDAYS - ANNIVERSARIES
SPECIAL OCCASION GIFTS
CMSA has Tee Shirts, Sweatshirts
CMSA Jackets

Entertainers CD'S

The following entertainers have
CD's Available for a Minimum Donation

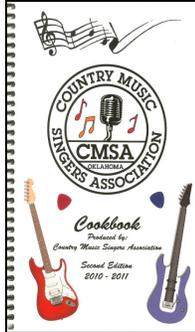
- Tina Anderson
- Ginger Boles
- Cutter Elliott
- John Fisher
- Tiffany Henry
- Destiny McElfresh
- Georgia Motley
- Cameron Newby
- Ariel Faith
- Renee Russell
- Dale & Chery Tiller
- Donna Urbassik
- Amanda & Destiny
- Donna McLaughlin
- George Harrison
- Anita Walker (has 7 CD's)

Some of these CD's are available
at the Shows others are available
for donations by the individuals
listed.

A mixed still picture CD of some past
CMSA events of the past 5 years can
be purchased for \$20.00 with \$10.00
dollars going to the Jan Barton Fund.
there are approximately 400 pictures
on each disk. For orders send to
mr.photo47@cox.net.

REMEMBER GUITAR LESSONS START IN
JANUARY ---IT IS NOT TO LATE TO SIGN UP
FOR THE CLASSES - AND ITS FREE!!!!!!!!!!

WAYS AND MEANS



Cookbooks are available for purchase. Contact Linda Erickson to order or purchase a cookbook. Price \$10.00 - These make great gifts for members and or friends.

This Cookbook is more than a Cookbook has the history of the CMSA starting with the Country Music Spotlight.

There are articles in the book about :

- Jan Barton and how the "Jan Barton Memorial Scholarship" was started
- Ambassador of Goodwill
- Cameron Newby being Awarded the 2010 Scholarship
- Names of members currently serving in the Service
- Names of Past Members and their Branch of Service and
- Merle Reeder's "Hot Beans"
- Jan Barton's "Sweet & Sour Meatballs"
- Shirley Looney's "Heavenly Hash"
- Kathy Ashley's "Elephant Stew"
- Louise Moore's "Fried Green Tomatoes"
- Plus many other recipes from members.

Check out our ways and means table at the shows for info on ways to help your organization...(shirts & Jackets, Pledges, Cook Books, etc.)

Contact: Linda Erickson at 808-9346 or Wendy Henry at 672-7490 or wndythewitch@cox.net******

CAPS-SHIRTS-JACKETS



\$100.00
gets you into a
nice
CMSA
JACKET

CMSA

Caps - jackets - sweatshirts- and T shirts

Contact Linda Erickson

For ordering information

There are many types of jackets with different prices to fit any budget. You select the jacket and our supplier will sew the

Registered CMSA logo

The supplier will not sew logo's on jackets purchased elsewhere. .

The Jacket most CMSA members have ordered is \$49.00 plus

Logo on front.....6.00

Name on front....6.00

Logo on back ...20.00

5% shipping

8.375 % sales tax (Add it up)

Caps—\$11.00 structured

Youth caps—9.50

T. Shirts up to XL—9.00

Sweatshirts up to XL—15..00

Extra Large sizes (price varies)

Jackets available in many price ranges

ORDER NOW

This time last year the Ashley's were enjoying Hawaii, CMSA was gearing up for their first major fundraiser for the **Toby Keith OK Kids Korral foundation**; **Santa had finished all his rounds** including the Integris Women's Center, and the CMSA Christmas Shows, those entertainers and members that were heading to **Pigeon Forge** were **gearing up for the Gong Show** and had fund serving at **Applebee's** while **Larry Perkey** was enjoying milking the juice they served (you read it right) **Seth** was very seriously considering being a **Trashy Lady**, **Jimmy Young** was thinking what dress he would be wearing for the event and **Richard Doss** was talking to his seamstress about his outfit; **Anita Walker** was thinking about **Surfing'** and **John Monroe** was about ready to get his plumber's outfit and tools ready to go to work; **Destiny** was scoping out **Ray Charles**, and **Donna Urbassik** was getting a bit top heavy for the **Dolly** routine. And there was a lot more--John Fisher was getting all his hats in order and some lady was growing a mustache! Plus **Donna** has changed her habit from **Dolly** to a **Nun!!!!** What will we see in 2012???????

As I pulled into the parking lot at the hall for the December 17 Christmas Show I noticed some goofy looking lady with Christmas lights on her hat. I wondered to myself, Why? Once inside I could see her getting in every bodies business and then I realized it was the lady that is in charge of our Gospel Shows. Yes it was Carol Jean Ross. It is amazing what one will do to spread the Christmas Cheer.

Laura and Kevin must have shopped all over for all the hats and ties they modeled throughout the night. Wanda Van Gundy really had to search for a hippopotamus. All the seasonal outfits and stories about people selling 1/2 of a Christmas tree would put anyone in the Christmas spirit. Santa and Mrs.



Claus, great songs about : what people want for Christmas; their Darlings; Santa Baby; Rocking around the Christmas Tree; The gifts; a White Christmas, a Hard Candy Christmas, Special Deliveries; Blue Christmas, Jingle Bell Rock; Wanting a Hippo for Christmas; Silver Bells; and then songs about the real reason for Christmas; Let's Make a Baby King; A Baby Changes Everything; Bethlehem Morning, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child; Belleauwood; Oh Holy Night; Born to Die; and then songs about how the world should be: What a Wonderful World This Would Be, G o Tell, Christmas Everyday and Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas. **But the truth of this show let you know what a wonderful time of year we were sharing.**

If you walked in the hall on December 17, even if you were scrooge you could not deny that the Christmas Spirit was there. Kids with their eyes all a gleam, Candy, Cookies, and everything festive. **The bag lady had as much fun as anyone with the audience and the entertainers.**

The entertainers: Laura Tatum, N'Lisa Havener, Joseph Watkins, Elizabeth Geyer, Emily Northcutt, Sierra



Sikes, Anita Walker, John Monroe, Marsha Springer, Ginger Boles, Aislinn Henry, Wanda Van Gundy and



Donna Urbassik were all about Christmas. Kevin even stepped from behind the sound booth and had Jimmy Borum and Nancy Borum take

over while he modeled his hats and told how his wife likes to shop. At one point he even got his foot stuck in one of the Christmas stockings Laura gave him.

Of course Laura had her own stocking she was trying to get stuffed but could not seem to find enough diamonds. The couple showing their personal love, love of family and friends made it seem like a family Christmas gathering more than a show. Last year at this time Ralph McCoy, Laura's father was in the hospital and the Tatum's had announced they were planning a trip to Tennessee when he got better. They had purchased tickets for an Opry event that Ralph was unable to make. But guess what, he for sure shared an Opry in Heaven like none other here on earth. Yet we all missed him and felt for Laura, Mildred and the family but it was evident that faith in God allowed them to enjoy the memories of past, the present moments and the hopes of the future. We appreciate all the Tatum's do for the association.

The show was a lot of fun for the young and more mature. It is great that we have such good supporters of these special shows.

Again we want to thank everyone that helped make this show possible, the Tatum's for sponsoring it, the Borum's for running the sound; Leon the lighting; Helen and Wayne for taking the decorations down; all those that brought gifts or stuffed animals, cookies and or participated in any way. A special thanks to the bag lady Carol Jean Ross. **It was a great end to a great year. We have all been blessed, helped others feel blessed and have helped the community with our efforts.**



We are searching for a Tag Line for the fundraiser coming up in April for the Toby Keith OK Kids Korral. Below are a few suggestions. We would like your input into which you like the best. If you have one you would like to submit please come to the Jan. 9th meeting and bring it with you. This has to be finalized on the 9th so we can submit it to the foundation.

If you don't have any suggestions make note of the one (s) that you like and we will see what the majority will decide is the best.

TAGLINES

- a. (City Wide Fundraiser) Citywide Korral Sing raiser)
- b. Singin', buildin' and dreamin'
- c. Singing & Opening Korral Doors
- d. City Wide Sing A Thon
- e. Country Songs Connecting the Community
- f. Country Music for a Cause
- g. Voices for the Okie Korral
- h. Singing for Cancer
- i. Singing OK Kids Korral Doors Open
- j. Music helping OK kids
- k. Korral Singin' to Open Doors
- l. 100% Country songs for 100% Healthy Kids
- m. Songs to Open Doors
- n. Singing for a Cause
- o. Singing for a Reason
- p. Singing to Open OK Korral Doors
- q. Building dreams thru Country Music
- r. Singing One Cause at a Time
- s. CMSA sings for it, TK builds it
- t. Singin' Buildin' and Belivin' for Cures
- u. Country & Gospel Music building The Korral
- v. This ones for the kids
- w. Singing Doors Open for OK Kids Korral
- x. Singing with Visions of 2013

16 and Under



The 16 and Under Group shinned this year and I am so very proud of them. In this group alone we have several entertainers that have excelled in songwriting and recording. It is a pleasure to be a part of the journey they are experiencing.

This year the 16 and Under Group is going to be worked into other shows as well. This is awesome. They will add a lot of energy to the shows.

CMSA offers a great opportunity for the youth that just like to sing and those that really want to pursue their singing abilities by having the 16 & Under Group. These youngsters are able to network with others, compare their talents, learn new ideas and possibly even challenge themselves more than they would otherwise. Listen to them make comments about "hey did you hear this girl - she is awesome" or "boy has she gotten a lot better." or "if she is competing it is going to be tough" etc... That tells you they are comparing themselves to others and learning from their experiences.

Now we have several of our entertainers that are playing guitars and doing a fine job. Seeing the association offer the guitar lessons is amazing and I hope parents take advantage of this great opportunity. You can't beat the cost - ITS FREE!!!

I also want the parents to know that CMSA is offering scholarships for ANYONE (they do not have to be members) that is pursuing their musical degree. If you know of anyone please refer them to Sherry Miller who is in charge of the Scholarship Committee. This too is a great opportunity to further your child's musical career and get some help at the same time.

It's great to see us open our competition to outsiders as well. This gives our youth another view of what is out there and if they are going to step up to the plate what they need to do.

Parents play an important role in these entertainers development. I urge parents to let their child be a child first and then an entertainer.

If you really want to give them some good advice let them come to the workshops that Nancy puts together. It is amazing what just one simple tip or trick can do to help an entertainer. Nancy can teach these kids some tips and tricks.

Happy New Year

Amanda Woodmansee

Apply for Scholarships



Applications for the 2012 Jan Barton Memorial Scholarship will be available on line. Applicants for the scholarship must be an Oklahoma resident pursuing their career in Country, Gospel and or Bluegrass music. This scholarship is open to the public as well as members of the CMSA. Simply visit the www.heartlandopry.com or www.cmsaok.com web site to download your application. If you are not able to download the application you may request one by mail. Send your request to Sherry Miller, PO Box 20309 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73156 Scholarship Committee Chairman

Applicants are requested to submit an essay (maximum of 1500 words) relating to how the applicant made the choice to pursue Country, Gospel or Bluegrass music, how they have through community service impacted the lives of others and how they plan to pursue their music degree. A letter from the applicants school counselor with an official transcript including ACT/SAT scores must accompany the application. A letter for a teacher recommending the applicant as a candidate must also accompany the application. The applicant must submit a resume.

The deadline for the submission of the application will be January 15, 2012. Five finalists will be notified by February 15, 2012 by letter which will include a date for them to be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee. After the Scholarship Committee interviews the finalists they will meet and decide by popular vote who the recipient will be. On or before March 15, 2012 the 2011-2012 recipient will be announced. Erica Robinson was the 2010-2011 recipient. The winner will be announced at the 18th Annual Awards Shows in September 2012.

The Committee comprises the Board of Directors of the CMSA, two appointments by the President of the CMSA membership to serve on the board, and two lay members of the community (also appointed by the President) and will be known as the 2011-2012 Scholarship Committee.

Funds will be sent to the recipients school once enrollment is confirmed and the student is attending. The Scholarship Chairman will have the information to conduct the school on the Application for the Scholarship submitted by the Applicant.

CMSA MEMBERS YOU ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP CHECK OUT THE DETAILS -- This is not for online courses/degrees

Applications for the 2012 Ralph McCoy Memorial Scholarship will be available on line. Applicants for the scholarship must be an Oklahoma resident pursuing their career in Country, Gospel and or Bluegrass music. This scholarship is open to the public as well as members of the CMSA. Simply visit the www.heartlandopry.com or www.cmsaok.com web site to download your application. If you are not able to download the application you may request one by mail. This scholarship is funded by Sherry Miller thru the Country Music Singers Association in memory of her friend and duet partner, Mr. Ralph McCoy. Send your request to Sherry Miller, Scholarship Committee Chairman P.O. Box 20309, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73156



Applicants are requested to submit an essay (maximum of 1500 words) relating to how the applicant made the choice to pursue Country, Gospel or Bluegrass music, how they have through community service impacted the lives of others and how they plan to pursue their music degree. A letter from the applicants school counselor with an official transcript including ACT/SAT scores must accompany the application. A letter for a teacher recommending the applicant as a candidate must also accompany the application. The applicant must submit a resume.

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CMSA MEMBERS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP CHECK OUT THE DETAILS -- This is not for online courses/degrees

APPLICATIONS MAY BE MADE FOR BOTH SCHOLARSHIPS SIMUTANEOUSLY. FORMER RECIEPENTS MAY REPLY FOR BOTH SCHOLARSHIPS SIMUTANEOUSLY SCHOLARSHIPS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CMSA

ADVERTISING

Taglines are needed for the OK Kids Korral Fundraiser that will be held in April. Please bring your suggestions to the January 9, Meeting. Lets create another strong tagline for the OK Kids Korral.

Referral cards and Pamphlets for Country Shows and Gospel Shows are available and will be emailed to you on request

For 2012 my committee will prepare and have produced a Video about our association, its mission, accomplishments, and various phases of our organization. This will be used as an advertising tool. *This video will feature the Scholarships that are available through the CMSA, Educational Workshops, Guitar Lessons, Evaluations/Competitions that are open to the CMSA members and the public, information about the various fundraisers we have conducted, and much more.* Plans are in the process and more details will follow.

April will be our Toby Keith's OK Kids Korral Fundraiser. There are a lot of plans being made and details should be final by our January Meeting.

PLEASE contact Kevin and get a free email address that will send people to our web site. It is FREE TO YOU ---AND IT PROMOTES CMSA.

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

If you are interested in what is going on in the CMSA on a weekly basis make sure and check your emails. We have been emailing what we call "Activities At a Glance." We try and get these out on Tuesday morning so you can plan what activities you might want to be involved in or support. This was started some time ago but we have been sporadic at doing this BUT PLAN TO GET A ROUTINE GOING IN 2012. These activities also include a broader audience and contains events which are not NECESSARILY sponsored by the CMSA but involve CMSA entertainers. All CMSA activities will be listed first when multiple events are listed on the same date. Of course, we are hoping to draw in as many new members as we can, and this could be the thing that moves individuals to join our organization.

Please make sure that you email your correct address to mail@heartlandopry.com. If you are performing or know an event in your area pertaining to country, western, bluegrass or gospel music, just send it to us before the close of the day on Friday and we will be happy to include it in the email on Tuesday. We will only email events for the following week so our members have plenty of time to see what is happening.

CMSA HOT LINE NUMBERS

Mail Box 1 gives you information about membership. Lottie Northcutt

Mail Box 2 gives you information about our show and allows you to leave a message and sign up to perform on a show Donna Marie Urbassik

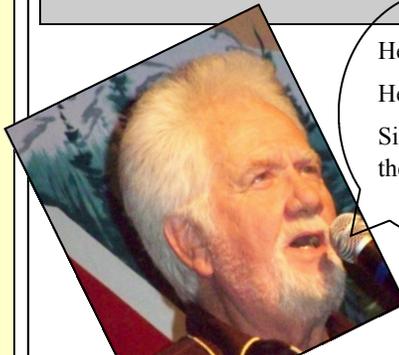
Mail Box 3 gives you information about our Gospel Shows and also allows you to leave a message to be signed up to perform on a Gospel Show. Carol Jean Ross

Mail Box 4 gives you current information about events that are being promoted now and future activities and you can leave a message for more information Helen Moore

Mail Box 5 gives you information about our SHOW SPONSORSHIPS

Bobbie Doss

Mail Box 6 lets you leave a message for the President. John Fisher



Gong Show

Saturday

January 21, 2012

Sign up before

January 13, 2012

newsletter@heartlandopry.com

or

cmsanewsletter@hughes.net

GOSPEL SHOWS



Gospel Shows Update

A night filled with Gospel music presented on November 11, 2011, at Grand Boulevard Baptist Church, brought a really good show of Country music performers from our CMSA Gospel singers roster, singing to honor the Lord.

John and Donna Fisher and Carol Jean Ross opened with the three of them singing together. Next was Vicky Lynn Findley, sponsor of the show, and also the following lineup of Darrell Graef, Rocky Bolin, Jonathan Smith, and Wanda Van Gundy. All sang uplifting Gospel Music of different styles.

Our special guest was the one and only Sherman Andruss to finish out the show with very special Gospel music. The whole evening was a blessing.

Back on schedule,

The next show will be the Friday(13th) of January, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

No entry fee

Just come to the

*Grand Blvd. Baptist Church,
3701 S. Magnolia in Oklahoma City.*

There will be a concession available during the break!

Invite your family, friends and neighbors!

- *The Original Heartland Opry, CMSA singers Gospel Praise Night is full of blessings, joy, some tears, and much fellowship!*
- *The shows will have a variety of performers each time that love to sing for the Lord.*
- *A love offering will be taken.*

***If you are an entertainer and would like to be on A Gospel Show*

PLEASE CALL 634-7252 Mail Box 3, to leave your name and number. Or you can call

Carol Jean Ross at (686-1577(correct contact #)



GONG SHOW IS COMING

January 21, 2012

The gong show this year will be a fundraiser for those persons that will be going to Pigeon Forge and will be participating in and or helping with the Gong Show Production. Money raised will be to pay for admission to the Awards Show (divided equally depending on the amount raised) and any remaining funds will be divided equally for other expenses for those participating individuals.

So if you want or need to help for the Pigeon Forge experience please make sure you sign up to be in the Gong Show. Members that will be traveling there are a lot of jobs that you can do to help and make the show a success. So if you are not actually on stage performing we can have you helping with off stage activities. **NO PARTICIPATION NO FUNDS.**

If you are interested in being in an act or an act simply request a Gong Show Application and Chery will email it to you.

Each act needs a Sponsor for \$20.00 plus each person in the act pays \$3.00 to be in the Act. You may get as many sponsors for an Act that you wish. All funds will be distributed equally.

Of course Bobbie Doss will be looking for a sponsor for the show which means the door proceeds then would go to the group. That also means the more tickets that everyone sells the more money is raised for the group.

Tickets will be available in January at the monthly meeting. Tickets will be \$6.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door.



SIGN UP FOR THE 2012 GONG SHOW
SIGN UP DEADLINE ----JANUARY 13, 2012



Financial Concepts OKC

Selecting the Right Beneficiary

"You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them."

You have an opportunity to give your family a tremendous gift with your IRA if you take the appropriate steps. The first and most important step is correctly designating your beneficiaries. If they are not set up correctly you could disinherit your loved ones, even your spouse.

There are two terms that are important to know when you fill out a beneficiary designation form: **Per capita and Per stirpes.**

If you select Per capita on your beneficiary designation form, it is possible to disinherit your family members.

Selecting Per stirpes makes it very unlikely that you will disinherit your family members. Per stirpes basically says, if one of your children pass away, the money should be paid to their children (your grandchildren). *This can be an easy way to pass wealth from generation to generation.*

On our web site you will find an **IRA Beneficiary Review Worksheet**. This worksheet is designed to help you select and keep track of your beneficiaries and how you want your IRA assets distributed to them.

Please take the time to go to www.financialconceptsokc.com and complete this worksheet, and after you've completed it, contact our office and we can work with you to help you accomplish your distribution goals and make sure the money goes to the people you want, in the way that you want.

In closing, you and your loved ones are facing tremendous challenges when it comes to retirement planning. The disappearance of corporate pension plans coupled with the uncertain future of social security has made it imperative that you do everything you can to provide for you and your family today, and long after you pass. Fortunately, you have a tremendous opportunity sitting in your lap with your IRA, but you must take action immediately.

If you would like to schedule a free IRA consultation, please contact our office today.
NEW NUMBER 405-721-3512 Ext 241 or 234

4901 NW Expressway
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132
P- 405-721-3512 Ext 241 Helen
P - 405-721-3512 Ext 234 Bob
F- 405-721-3632

Here are some of the ways a trust can protect your IRA:

- Gives you total control over who will inherit your IRA after the primary beneficiary (important if primary beneficiary is your spouse).

- Can help avoid estate taxes at the death of a non-spouse beneficiary.

- Protects your IRA from the out-laws (ex in-laws). Your children's spouses could take up to half of YOUR IRA in a divorce.

Even if your children aren't currently married, a future spouse could sniff out your money, and marry them for the wrong reasons.

- Protects your beneficiaries from themselves. You may have a child who is not good with money, or has some bad habits. If they receive a large sum of money when you pass away, it could be a disaster.

- May protect a beneficiary that is receiving government benefits.

- May protect creditors from seizing your IRA away from your heirs.

If you are concerned about any of these areas, setting up a trust as your IRA beneficiary may be a good idea.



What you need to know about an IRA rollover

One important thing to consider when rolling over your IRA is how the custodian will handle the distribution of your assets. If they will not distribute your IRA over your beneficiaries' life expectancy, you should strongly consider rolling your IRA to a custodian that will honor your wishes.

Here are some other potential advantages to rolling over your IRA:

- You may have more choices on where to invest your IRA money. There may be more options on planning the distribution of your assets.
- There may be the potential for a conversion to a Roth IRA.
- You will have the ability to consolidate your accounts, and keep better track of your beneficiaries (there are times where keeping your IRA accounts separate could make more sense).
- You will have the ability to work with someone that specializes in IRA planning and can offer objective advice, not a corporate custodian that has the company's best interest in mind.

Remember THIS IS IMPORTANT

Before you roll over your IRA, it's important to talk with a qualified advisor, accountant or attorney

Thanks to Bob Reynolds and all our sponsors for helping with the Country and Gospel Shows, the Awards Banquet and of course the Toby Keith OK Kids Korral fundraiser and the Children's Miracle Network Fundraiser. Thanks to all our board members and volunteers

4901 NW Expressway

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

405-721-3512 Ext 241

The legal and tax information contained in these articles is merely a summary of our understanding and interpretation of some current provisions of tax law and is not exhaustive. Consult your legal or tax advisor for advice concerning your particular circumstances.

Country Music Singers Association

P o Box 20309

Oklahoma City, OK 73156

Sponsorship Types

	<p>Silver Wings Sponsor Gospel Show \$150.00</p>
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 <p>BRONZE SPONSOR</p>	<p>Bronze 3 Country Shows \$500.00</p>
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<p>Gold Buckle Sponsor Country Music Show \$200.00</p>	
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<p>Platinum Sponsor 3 Country Shows 3 Gospel Shows</p>	
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	 <p>Financial Concepts OKC</p>		<p>Palladium Sponsor Newsletter, Periodicals, Award Show and 2 Award Sponsorship \$5,000</p>
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www.heartlandopry.com

www.cmsaok.com