

THE KSA SONGWRITER

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
THE KNOXVILLE SONGWRITERS ASSOCIATION

Volume No. 5 Issue No. 10

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Knoxville Songwriters Association

P.O. Box 603

Knoxville, TN 37901

View the KSA Songwriter online at www.knoxvillesongwritersassociation.org



Founded by Sarah Williams

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We've all heard the saying "Time moves quickly when you're having fun!" Truth is, I'm having fun -- and time IS moving quickly. My list of things to be accomplished and things actually completed as President of KSA seem to both be growing. What has kept me from becoming frustrated with needing more time is the ongoing support from our membership. THANK YOU for your feedback and encouragement.

Working with a group of talented individuals with such diverse backgrounds and contrasting writing styles seems to fit perfectly at our Knoxville Songwriters Association. As new writers visit and join KSA, they receive encouragement and constructive comments from our membership. This is only one example of what has sustained our organization since the 1980's. As long as we continue to remember our roots and remain consistent in encouraging and developing our craft of songwriting, KSA will be respected as a thriving positive influence toward the craft of songwriting.

As members of KSA, we are also being recognized for our participation in community events. Walk with pride at what we have accomplished. At the same time, with an open spirit, always reach for new horizons and look with optimism to the continued future of the Knoxville Songwriters Association. I am happy to serve as your President.

Edna M. Riddick, President

Knoxville Songwriters Association

Board of Directors Knoxville Songwriters Association (KSA)

Please reserve Tuesday, October 25, for our Board of Directors meeting.

We will plan to meet at 4 p.m. in our meeting room at the Fountain City Library. The agenda and other information will be forwarded to you prior to the meeting.

Please plan to be there.

Edna M. Riddick, President
Knoxville Songwriters Association
1-865-591-7935

FROM THE EDITOR

The comments made herein and the content of the articles are the opinions and/or beliefs of the authors and may or may not be in accordance with the mission statement of the KSA. We welcome comments on any of the articles that appear in this publication and encourage all members to consider submitting articles, comments, classified ads, or other material that might be beneficial to the readers of the publication.

This month is the fourth anniversary of the *KSA Songwriter*. Of course it wasn't always the *KSA Songwriter*. For the first few issues it was simply referred to as "The Newsletter." But it grew and needed a name so the members made suggestions and the "*KSA Songwriter*" went on

the masthead. I believe, without going back and checking that this is the 48th full issue.

A lot of effort has gone into making the KSA Songwriter what it is. Several members, particularly **C. D. Johnson** and **David Lauver**, have taken the time to write articles and submit materials almost monthly. In the early days **Stephen Rhodes** and **Rick Harrell** contributed several articles. **Linda Perry** and **Joyce Brown** have also contributed lots of information and an article or two. In the past, **Richard Ratledge** has contributed, and **John Morris** has recycled some good information from back in the old days when he published a newsletter for the KSA. Even **Jerry Isham** at one time stepped up to the plate and provided an article on songwriting. The editor appreciates the help from all of the members who have contributed to filling out the pages of the *KSA Songwriter*.

www.knoxvillesongwritersassociation.org is the address of the official Website of the KSA.

www.knoxvillesongwriters.org is the address that can save you eleven keystrokes according to **Gale Horst**, our Webmaster. Most of us just type it once and keep it in our "favorites" so we only have to click once to activate the site.

Gale has done wonders with our Website to make it look professional. Adding the KSA Songwriter to the site gives everyone a chance to print off a copy or to refer back to an article in case the email copy gets accidentally deleted.

And now, on with the show . . .



PERSERVERE

By **C. D. Johnson**

In my Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary the word "persevere" is defined as "to persist in a state, enterprise, or undertaking in spite of counter influences, opposition, or discouragement."

To persevere, or as the term applies to us as

songwriters, is the act of perseverance. (The action or condition or an instance of perservering)

It is a hard but indisputable fact that successful song writing in most instances is not a business where overnight success is the norm. It is with this fact in mind that I offer up the word "persevere" and its associated meanings. This simple little word and every one of its derivatives are the tools we as aspiring song writers have to employ if we are to attain any measure of success from the work we love.

Old-timers, like our fathers and grandfathers, used the term "stick-to-it" whenever we as youngsters were on the verge of throwing in the towel and calling it a day. As often as not, if we "stuck-to-it" we then went on to accomplish what we had set out to do or at the very least, managed to save a bit of our self-respect. I imagine most of us in the KSA are very familiar with the results of this stick-to-it philosophy.

Now in this time of universal cutbacks when it seems all that much more difficult for an aspiring song writer to find an open door into the establishment run music business. I think back to something my Dad used to say, right after the stick-to-it speech, that "Rome wasn't built in a day and anything worth doing is worth doing right. Then he would follow that with, "and usually it ain't never easy." I have no idea whether that is any consolation to you or not. What I do know however, in those moments of self-doubt it always helps me to remember that I'm not alone. It is a stone cold fact, the members of the KSA are there for advice and support when ever it is needed.

As you faithful KSA members know in the recent elections we elected an entirely different staff of presiding officers. Some people always consider change a good thing while others label any change as a disruptive influence that puts an organization back to square one. What ever your take on the situation there is one thing that we must realize and that is we must survive as a song writing unity. If or when we get to feeling that we are beating our heads against a brick wall we must stop and think, "I'm not alone . . . I

have every member of KSA watching my back.” And if you'll do that then we will continue to Persevere.



EDITORIAL OPINIONS

MOVING ON OR STAYING PUT

We all have heard the term “moving on” in the words of songs, in reference to careers, when talking about broken relationships, and when referring to life itself. The antonym to “moving on” would be “staying put.” Both are important to the personal satisfaction that a person receives out of being actively engaged in any endeavor or relationship in the daily course of living. We either “stay put”, when our interest is active and satisfying, or we “move on” to seek other satisfaction or pleasure out of new and more exciting endeavors.

How, you ask, does this apply to songwriting? For instance, let's say that you, as a fledgling songwriter, are dedicated to writing songs that you deem “country.” Every time you send one of the songs out to an artist or publisher it is ignored or comes back with the comment that it is not country enough or not upbeat enough or “nice song but really not for us”, you might want to rethink your position of “staying put” and hoping for the best, and consider “moving on” to another genre or take up another line of work altogether. Performing artist “move on” all the time, they change labels, they change styles, they change their genre, and sometimes they are more successful than they were before when they choose to work with different people. Others “stay put” when they reach a certain point and have varying degrees of success. Ever wonder about what happened to that recording artist who was so popular a while back or that songwriter who wrote the single hit? Maybe they decided to “stay put” and it no longer worked for them.

If something doesn't work it is the epitome of stupidity to keep trying the same thing over and over and hoping for a different end result. I think someone by the name of Einstein said that, a man much smarter than most of us. Of course, there are some that would probably mock that statement, especially the ones who believe that beating their head against the wall in the same place over and over is going to draw attention from those that really don't give a hoot about head beaters one way or the other. There are more people in the world who want to “stay put” than there are people who want to “move on” and use their heads for something other than to hang a hat on, or to use it as a battering ram against an immovable wall. And the members of the “stay put” crowd are always encouraging others to stay in the same groove or rut because they really believe that eventually they, and the ones whom they are encouraging, will find a way out of that rut. More often than not, finding a way out of the rut is not going to happen.

In order to find success it may be necessary that you “move on” several times. If you want success you must associate with those that are successful and watch what they have done to become successes. You can learn from them by being around them or listening to what they have to say about success. No one can learn from someone who knows less than they do. And no one can learn from those that “think” they know more than others but have no success to show for their knowledge. These folks are quick to point out how much they know about a subject or how they know the secrets of success in a particular field but before you believe them, and drink the mind altering Kool-aid that they offer, you should ask yourself the simple question, “If they know so much then why are they not “moving on” in successful circles rather than “staying put” and using only braggadocio to justify their successful “no success?” No one will ever learn anything but total failure from those who are “successfully unsuccessful” in any field of endeavor, and that includes the craft of songwriting.

Someone else once said that “misery loves company” and that also applies to songwriting and music in general. If the people you are

associating with and sharing your music with have fallen into the trap of “staying put” and wallowing in their own and your misery, then it might be time to “move on.” Of course, it’s strictly a personal decision but one that could go a long way in helping you become more successful in what you are trying to do. “Staying put” could very well waste the best years of your potential, whether it is in your songwriting, your work, or any endeavor where you are working toward a goal. No one is going to rescue you from “staying put” in your own self-imposed and locked cage. You can’t just sit like an immovable statue and hope that someone is going to come along with a fist full of money and “discover” your abilities or talent. You have to “move on” in a forward direction until you find the secret to success or find a niche where you are comfortable and then, and only then, can you truly “stay put” and be satisfied with where you are.

THINGS OF INTEREST

KSA CHRISTMAS PARTY

The KSA Christmas Party will be held on December 13 at the Hibachi Grill on Kingston Pike in West Knoxville beginning at 6 P.M.

Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet \$9.49 + tax (including drink)
[Assortment of entrées & desserts] (buffet)
(865) 357-3555
9645 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922

Additional information will be in the November issue of the KSA Songwriter. **Richard Ratledge** is handling the arrangements for the Christmas Party. If you have any ideas that might make the party more interesting contact Richard with your suggestions.



ENJOY ‘JAM’ WITH YOUR MORNING COFFEE AT MARYVILLE’S EVERETT SENIOR CENTER

If you’re an early riser—or more importantly, an early picker and singer—here’s an opportunity to

play your songs before an appreciative audience. The Everett Senior Center, 702 Burchfield Street in Maryville, hosts live music performances on the second Wednesday morning of each month. Sign up at 8:30 a.m. for your time to perform between 9 and 11 a.m. You’re also welcome to drop by to hear some good music. Word has it there are awesome musicians among the center’s regular crowd.

Free Recording Classes Continue at Guitar Center

Guitar Center is continuing their free [Recording Made Easy](#) classes at every store every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Knoxville’s Guitar Center is located at 8917 Towne & Country Circle, next door to the Best Buy and Staples stores. The shopping center is between Kingston Pike and I-40, near the Cedar Bluff exit.

Each week’s class on the basics of computer recording will feature a brief in-depth look at a specific area of recording and a question and answer session. The classes will be repeated in sequence each month.

For more information:
<http://seminars.apple.com/go/guitarcenter/event/slp.html>



OUT AND ABOUT NORTH

There is live music and dancing every Friday and Saturday night at the **Big Valley Barn in Norris**. **Link Byrge** and the **Scrapyard Band** entertains on Friday night and **Kubil Hopper** and the **Knock-A-Bouts** on Saturday night. 8 until 11 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday nights. Guest singers are always welcome. Burgers, hot dogs, popcorn, snacks, and drinks are available. Check out their Webpage at www.bigvalleybarn.com for directions and info. Open mic available both nights. There is a \$5 cover charge at the door.

There is also live music and dancing every Monday from 7 until 9:30 p.m. at the **Cove Lake Pavilion** in **Caryville**. Music provided by **Link Byrge** and the **Cove Lake Band** with numerous local guest singers. **Buddy Hale** is the sponsor of this event. No drinks and no snacks but **there is no charge for admission** either. The pavilion does have drink machines and there is a great Bar-B-Q restaurant next door. Open mic available.

Tuesday night features the parking lot bands under the open sky in the **parking lot** behind the police station in **Lafollette**. No admission charge but bring your own chair or tailgate. Snacks are available. Starts at 7 p.m. weather permitting. This event has at least two more performances this month unless the weather stays really nice.

The live music and dancing goes on pretty wildly every Thursday night from 7 until 9:30 p.m. at the **Senior Center in Lafollette**. **Junior Dyson, Kubil Hopper, Link Byrge, Keith Lambert** and **Ed Bell** make up the house band and what a band they are. Several regular local guest singers provide variety to the show. Open mic if you want to give singing a shot. No smoking, drugs or alcohol. There is a \$5 cover charge at the door.

On down the valley to the east you will find the **Town & Country** near **Well Springs**. **Jim and Linda Poindexter** perform live music on Friday and Saturday nights from 7 until 11 p.m. Regular local guest singers make frequent appearances during the show. Nice dance floor. Hot dogs, barbeque, drinks and snacks are available. There is a \$5 cover charge at the door. Open mic available both nights. No smoking, drugs or alcohol.

Ashley Denise was on stage most of the evening with **Jim and Linda Poindexter** on Saturday evening, October 8 at Town & Country. The banter back and forth between Jim and Ashley made for an interesting evening. Ashley has a wide range of voice and can sing about anything. Good job, Ashley . . . and you too, Jim.

Andy Maiden and the **Silver Clouds** provide Saturday night music at the **Nashville Connection** near **Harrogate**. NC is located on Highway 63, 5 miles west of Highway 25E. Guest singers are welcome. This venue provides a stage for a lot of young, local talent along with the local regular guest singers. **Stoney Stonecipher** is on pedal steel. **Jerry Evans** is back on lead guitar and **Ronnie Dell** will crack you up with his comedy. And he can sing and play the keyboard too. **Nancy Maiden** keeps it all going. There is a \$6 cover charge at the door. Hot dogs, popcorn and other snacks and drinks are available. No smoking, drugs or alcohol.

Andy Maiden will release his new CD of original songs on October 22 at the Nashville Connection. Regular admission of \$6 applies but the bean supper is free for all guests. Music starts at 7:00 with live coverage on **WNTT AM** radio. The CD is being produced by **Ronnie Dale**, who wrote five of the ten songs on the CD.

Escapees Campground off Raccoon Valley Road has live music every Thursday night at 8 p.m. Local talent is always present there. Go west off the Raccoon Valley Road exit on I-75.

Check out the **Jamboree** in Powell on Friday and Saturday nights. If anyone knows anything more about this venue please let me know.

Ciderville in Powell has a new band starting the weekend of October 15. If anyone goes let me know how well you like it.

©©©©©©©©©©©©©©©©

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Carole Jackson
Deborah Lanham
Melissa Merrell**

HAPPENINGS WITH MEMBERS

Several KSA Members Perform at East Tennessee Fall Festivals

KSA MEMBERS PERFORM AT Foothills FALL FESTIVAL--KSA members and friends performed at the Foothills Fall Festival in Maryville on October 9. The weather was great as East Tennessee songwriters took to the downtown "Stage at Roy's" for a 90-minute set. KSA president **Edna Riddick** was emcee for the session and performed along with members **Jim Childs**, **Art Daniells**, **Dan Howie**, and **David Lauver**. Blount County songwriter **Jim Butterworth** and musicians **Perry Cooper** (fiddle) and **Richard Hughes** (dobro and mandolin) joined in the entertainment. Thanks to **Ed Harper**, Maryville musician with "Pistol Creek Catch of the Day," who scheduled entertainers for the downtown stage during the three-day event. KSA members also were proud to share the stage with the **Roy Garrett**, long-time owner of Roy's Record Shop and a legend in the music scene in Blount County. Foothills Fall Festival photos will be posted at the KSA web site and Facebook page.



KSA Members perform with Crossroads Band at Museum of Appalachia Homecoming

KSA members **Ira Braden** and **Carol Ostrom** performed on stage with the **Crossroads Band** at the Museum of Appalachia Homecoming on October 9. The **Crossroads Band** is fronted by **Wayne Burnette**, co-owner of **B & B Music** in New Tazewell, TN.



KSA MEMBERS GET DISCOUNT AT NOVEMBER 'SMOKIN' HIT SONGWRITERS' SEMINAR—KSA members can get a \$50 discount at the Smokin' Hit Songwriters Seminar, to be held November 11-13 at Jim Oliver's Smokehouse Restaurant, Lodge and Trading Post, a Best Western Hotel in Monteagle, Tennessee. The seminar site is 142 miles from Knoxville, off I-24 West between Chattanooga and Nashville

Hit songwriters leading the seminar are **Dave Gibson**, (The Gibson/Miller Band, Joe Diffie's "Ships That Don't Come In"); **Ira Dean** (bass player for Trick Pony, Montgomery Gentry's "One in Every Crowd"); and East Tennessean **Chris Wallin** (Kenny Chesney's "Don't Blink", Toby Keith's "Love Me If You Can"). Others on the program are **Daisy Dern**, Savannah Music Group publisher and former Mercury recording artist, and Nashville media and publicity pro **Marla Sitten**.

The event will open Friday night, November 11, with performances by the first 30 participants to sign up for the seminar. Topics to be covered in Saturday and Sunday sessions include songwriting technique, melody writing, the creative process, and an inside look at the music industry. Bring your business cards for a networking session and your guitar for jam sessions held throughout the weekend. A more detailed agenda is listed at www.SmokinHitSongwriters.com.

To get the \$50 discount off the \$150 seminar fee, your first step should *NOT* be to sign up immediately on the website. Instead, call **Marla Sitten** at 615-419-8673 and let her know you are registering as a KSA (or NSAI) member. She will give you information about how to get the discount and pay for the seminar program.

The seminar fee does not include food or lodging, but discounted rooms are available for seminar participants. Call the hotel directly at 1-800-489-2091 for special rates starting at \$49 per night. (Hint: ask for a second floor room on the backside of the lodge, overlooking the lake and recreation area.) The Smokehouse has some of the best "down-home" food you'll find. Start dieting now to take full advantage of the homemade fried pies and many varieties of fudge.

KSA MEMBERS PERFORM AT 'JOHN SEVIER DAYS'—The outdoor stage and sound equipment were as perfect as the fall weather for KSA members who performed at the September 24 festival at Marble Springs State Historic Site. The home of John Sevier, Tennessee's first governor, was bustling with

reenactors, crafts fair participants, and visitors of all ages. Performers included KSA president **Edna Riddick**, **Dan Howie**, **Jerry "Hogman" Isham**, and **David Haley Lauver**. **Jim Butterworth**, who leads a Blount County songwriters group, performed earlier with his wife **Shannon**.



St Thomas Fall Festival is Saturday, Oct 22 from 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM



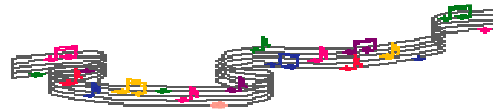
RESOURCES

Wayne Burnett teaches guitar at his music store, **B & B Music**, 101 Main Street, New Tazewell, TN. Wayne can be contacted at 423-489-2799.

Wolf Valley Productions is a one-man operation but this one man can do wonders for your songs. The studio belongs to **Michael de Bills**, an experienced artist, songwriter, author, producer, musician, arranger, vocalist, ASCAP member, and all around nice guy who can put your songs into a professional format for you to enjoy or send out as demos. Michael produces quality work out of his studio located in the basement of his home northeast of Andersonville at 459 Mill Creek Road. Cell Phone number is 865-755-5665.

Leigh Ann Cox: Guitar, Bass, Banjo, and Dobro. Graduate of Belmont University in Nashville with a degree in Commercial Music/Music Business. Graduate of the School for the Performing Arts in Chillicothe, Ohio, and former staff writer and picker in Nashville. Leigh Ann works out of Broadway Sound in Fountain City. 865-599-8277

Note: Closing date to submit material for the November issue of the KSA Songwriter is October 27, 2011.



OFFICERS

- President: **Edna Riddick**
865-591-7935
- Vice President: **John Morris**
865-687-0273
- Treasurer: **Elaine Newby**
865-256-0109
- Secretary: **Carol Ostrom**
865-992-0318
- Membership Dir.: **Joyce Brown**
No number
- Education Dir.: **David Haley Lauver**
865-671-0432
- Publicity Dir.: **Linda Perry**
865-405-2617
- Newsletter: **Gene Blair**
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Dan Howie
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Jerry Isham
865-354-1060
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Richard Ratledge
8655731025

Just another reminder on the Board of Directors meeting on October 25.

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Please plan to be there.

Edna M. Riddick, President
Knoxville Songwriters Association
1-865-591-7935

Note:

**If I missed anything in this issue let me know
and I will make it up in the November issue—**

Editor

Knoxville Songwriters Association
P. O. Box 603
Knoxville, TN 37901