The Notables of OKC

June, 2026/Volume 2, Issue 6



Cover models: *Joanne* and *Gary Hutchison.*

Words from the Editor



Jerry Piper built The Notables from the ground up, and we have all become a family to one another. Life is full of unpredictable incidents, and we all get knocked down at times. That's why we all pray for and encourage each other throughout our various circumstances. I love everyone in this musical family!

Column about *Jerry Piper*

Editor's Note: This column was co-written by many members of The Notables who all chose to remain anonymous.

There are people who simply teach music . . . and then there are people who change lives through music.

When Jerry first gathered a small handful of women singing "Johnny Angel," none of us could have imagined what would grow from those early rehearsals. Many of us came in singing only in church pews, kitchens, cars, or showers, carrying more love for music than confidence in our voices.

But Jerry saw something in us before we could see it ourselves. He taught us to sing with heart. To sing with soul. To stand tall, open up, DROP OUR JAW . . . and let our voices carry.

He patiently taught us how to blend together so that one voice became many and many voices became one beautiful sound. Under his direction, guitarists, violinists, saxophonists, drummers, and singers all learned to listen to one another, support one another, and create music together rather than compete to be heard.

And somehow, through his charts, arrangements, encouragement, and faith in us, a small group became a choir of more than 60 voices

with a full band performing the Songs of Our Lives—the music that shaped us, moved us, and brought us together.

Jerry wasn't just our choir director. He became our fearless leader. He led with excellence, but also with grace. He guided us through nerves, mistakes, ego, laughter, friendship, and growth. He knew when to push us harder and when to remind us to simply sing from the heart.

And through every challenge—musical or personal—he never hesitated to pray with us, encourage us, or remind us that we mattered far beyond the stage.

Because of Jerry, many of us discovered gifts we didn't know we still had. Because of Jerry, we stood a little taller. Sang a little louder. Believed in ourselves a little more.

What he created was never just a choir. It became a family.

So, Jerry, as you step away to focus on your health, please know this: The music will continue because of what you planted in all of us.

Every note we sing, every harmony we blend, every brave soul who steps up to a microphone with confidence—carries a piece of your teaching, your faith, and your heart.

Thank you for believing in ordinary people and helping us create something extraordinary.

With love, gratitude, and standing ovation applause from all of us . . . thank you, Jerry.

From all of us, with love.

Calendar of Musicians' Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Ron Wood, The Rolling Stones	2 Charlie Watts, The Rolling Stones	3 Michael Clarke, The Byrds	4 Michelle Phillips, The Mamas and The Papas	5 Mark Wahlberg, Marky Mark	6 Levi Stubbs, The Four Tops

7 Prince	8 Chuck Negron, Three Dog Night	9 Jon Lord (Deep Purple)	10 Shirley Owens, The Shirelles	11 Frank Beard, ZZ Top	12 Bun E. Carlos, Cheap Trick	13 Raz-B, B2K
14 Boy George, Culture Club	15 Russell Charles Hitchcock, Air Supply	16 Doanne Perry, Jethro Tull	17 Barry Manilow	18 Paul McCartney	19 Tommy DeVito, The Four Seasons	20 John Taylor, Duran Duran
21 Ray Davies, The Kinks Happy Father'	22 Cyndi Lauper	23 Stu Sutcliffe (original bassist for The Beatles)	24 Mick Fleetwood (Fleetwood Mac)	25 Carly Simon	26 Stef Burns (Huey Lewis & The News)	27 Bruce Johnston, Songwriter for The Beach Boys
28 Bobby Harrison (Procol Harem)	29 Ian Pace (Deep Purple)	30 Tom Drummon, Better Than Ezra				

Practice photos taken by *Ann Kilgore*



Remember When

Elkville couple release second gospel album

By Sharon Gibson
Of The Southern Illinoisan

After more than a year in the making, husband-and-wife team Jerry and Lonnie Piper of Elkville have come out with their new gospel album, "Unashamed."

The songs are contemporary, inspirational selections that Jerry Piper wrote. Some are recent creations made for this album. One, "Let the Nations Rise," is a composition he wrote 20 years ago.

The Pipers alternate as lead vocalist for the 10 songs, a production strategy that affords listeners an appreciation of each artist.

Also featured is background vocalist Tany Cochran, who helped write some arrangements.

Songwriter Ray Taucher, formerly of Pinckneyville, helped compose several songs. Betty Davis of West Frankfort helped with production.

"Unashamed" is available on cassette in Gospeland Bookstores in Carbondale and Marion, Baptist Bookstore in Carterville and in the Record Bar at University Mall in Carbondale.

This album is a first for the Pipers, who have been married since 1987. However, Piper has been exercising his talents as a musician and songwriter for some time.

A native Southern Illinoisan, he "grew up with the business" thanks to his musician father, who played with rhythm and blues singer Larry "Big Twist" Nolan.

Piper's background and upbringing instilled in him an appreciation for a variety of music — country and western, rock 'n' roll, rhythm and blues and gospel. As a young adult, Piper sang gospel music in a quartet and as a soloist.

After a Midwestern tour as a soloist during the 1970s, Piper saw two of his songs, "Mary Had the Sweetest Little Lamb" and "Lift Him Higher," recorded by The Downings.

Gospel artists Ronnie Pierce, Sam Goodman and Michael and Marsha French also recorded several of his songs.

He later formed Piper and Co., which took him to Tulsa, Okla., where he opened concerts for Honeytree and John Michael Talbot. He then joined Living Sound International and toured the United States as the group's lead male vocalist.

After a tour of Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States with Living Sounds Team II, Piper did mission work in the Philippines.

Piper, who graduated in 1974 from Trinity Bible College in Tulsa., Okla., continued his religious studies at Tulsa's Rhema Bible Training Center, where he was a member of the Rhema Singers until his graduation in 1981.

The first album to feature his compositions was "Stand," produced in 1983.

Until the 1990 release of his second album, "Souled Out," with Fortress, Piper wrote songs for recording artists Cheryl Ingram, Kerry Copeland, Sam Goodman and Guy Dunnick and Patsy Berh-

Piper said he draws his inspiration from events in his own life.

"I draw from personal experience — from the crisis times and the happy times in my own life, and I reflect back on how I prayed at those times," he said.

"I try to draw from my own resources and at the same time I use the Bible as a source of truth, as a frame of reference."

Material now is being compiled for Lonnie's first solo album so "our audience will have a chance to have a project that's all Lonnie."

"Unashamed" was produced on a shoestring budget and hampered by fits and starts. Nevertheless, Piper said he and his wife love their work.

"We want to appeal to all groups," he said. "We've got some music that some grandmas are going to like. It's nice and easy."



New songs: The selections on Jerry and Lonnie Piper's new album, 'Unashamed,' are contemporary inspirational pieces.

In the Southern Illinoisian, there was a write-up about *Jerry* and *Lonnie Piper* after they issued a new gospel album.

In 2016, I was honored and humbled to receive the Oklahoma Defense Lawyers Association Thurgood Marshall Appellate Award. This is one of my favorite awards I have ever won because it combines my writing with my chosen profession as an appellate criminal defense attorney. *Lisbeth*

Weddings



Thurgood Marshall, the grandson of a slave, was born in 1908 in Maryland . In 1930, he was denied admission to the University of Maryland Law School due to the fact that he was black. This event was to direct his future professional life.

In 1934, he began his association with the NAACP and dismantled school segregation in his 1954 victory of Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka . He later desegregated graduate schools with his victory in McLaurin vs. Oklahoma State Regents. As a Justice for the Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit, he made 112 rulings that were all upheld before the United States Supreme Court. As Solicitor General for the United States , he won 14 of 19 cases argued before the United States Supreme Court. In 1967, Thurgood Marshall was the first African American appointed to the United States Supreme Court. He was often the lone voice of dissent against the

Jim Collins serenades *Julie Collins* at their wedding reception, singing to her "To Know, Know, Know You is to Love, Love, Love You."



Larry Adams marries Sandy on June 18, 1971. They are still married.





Joanne and *Gary Hutchison*
marry.





We wore these shirts and went to the courthouse for a simple ceremony. No frills, but it was very romantic nevertheless. Afterward, we posed in front of our television with a background of the Grand Canyon. – *Terri Carr*

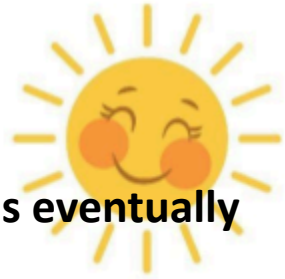
Billboard Top Ten Hits of 1969

No.	Title	Artist(s)
1	"Sugar, Sugar"	The Archies
2	"Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In"	The 5th Dimension
3	"I Can't Get Next to You"	The Temptations
4	"Honky Tonk Women"	The Rolling Stones
5	"Everyday People"	Sly and the Family Stone
6	"Dizzy"	Tommy Roe
7	"Hot Fun in the Summertime"	Sly and the Family Stone
8	"I'll Never Fall in Love Again"	Tom Jones
9	"Build Me Up Buttercup"	The Foundations
10	"Crimson and Clover"	Tommy James and the Shondells



The song "Sugar, Sugar" was inspired by a Saturday morning cartoon called "Archie," on the comic book character of the same name. Jeff Barry said that he and Andy Kim wrote line "You are my candy, girl" thinking that little children like candy. For years, there was actually no band called The Archies that consisted of any of those studio musicians. https://tinyurl.com/mud7fw2p

Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In" is a combination of two different songs from the musical *Hair*. The song, written by Gail MacDermot, James Rado, and Gerome Ragni, was eventually certified platinum.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquarius/Let_the_Sunshine_In



“I Can’t Get Close to You” (written by Norman Whitfield and Barrett Strong) is an example of a Motown soul song. It was a twoweek number one single in 1969, replacing “Sugar, Sugar.”
https://www.songfacts.com/facts/the-temptations/icant-get-next-to-you



“Honky Tonk Woman” (written by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards while on vacation in South America) was inspired by the cowboys in Brazil at the ranch where they were staying and by the bar scenes in the U.S. The song was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2014.https://www.udiscovermusic.com/stories/therolling-stones-honky-tonk-women/

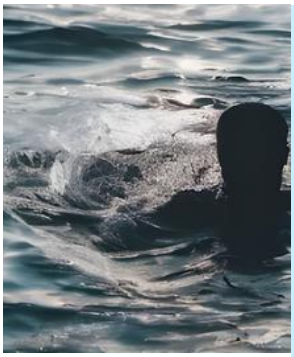


Sly Stone wrote “Everyday People” as an anthem to unity. Later, the song was covered by several artists, including Joan Jett, Pearl Jam, and Aretha Franklin.
https://www.songfacts.com/facts/sly-thefamily-stone/everyday-people.

"Dizzy" was written by Tommy Roe and Freddy Weller. It became an international hit single in 1969.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dizzy_(Tommy_Roe_song).



"Hot Fun in the Summertime" (written by Sly Stone and released in 1969) preceded Sly and the Family Stone's appearance at Woodstock. The Woodstock appearance increased the band's fan base.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_Fun_in_the_Summertime

The lyrics to "I'll Never Fall in Love Again" were written by Hal David while Burt Bacharach (who would write the melody) was



hospitalized with pneumonia. This inspired David's lyric, "What do you get when you kiss a girl? You get enough germs to catch pneumonia." Once released from the hospital, Bacharach quickly composed the melody. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I%27ll_Never_Fall_in_Love_Again

"Build Me Up Buttercup" (written by Mike d'Abo and Tony Macauley, has been played in the movies, including *There's Something About Mary* and *The Kissing Booth*. The song was also played in TV shows such as Alias, Fuller House (streaming show), and Elementary, as well as in a Geico commercial. The football team the Wisconsin Badgers play the song at every home game, and the song is the anthem for Shamrock Rovers, an Irish soccer team.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Build_Me_Up_Buttercup



"Crimson and Clover" (written by Tommy James and Peter Lucia) was the bestselling song ever recorded by Tommy James and the Shondells. Tommy has mentioned that he was happy with the

complete artistic control given to him by Roulette Records. Oddly, both Tommy and Peter have different memories of the name of the song. Tommy said he awakened one day, and the title came to him. Lucia said he came up with the phrase while watching his New Jersey hometown football team, The Crimson. This was one of the earliest songs recorded on 16-track equipment.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crimson_and_Clover

Talent on Display

Terri Carr's invitation:

I wanted to announce my first-ever photography exhibition, featuring Route 66 at Art on Paseo in Oklahoma City, where my Route 66 exhibition will be on display throughout July and August of 2026. I invite you to visit, view the images, and share stories that highlight this road's importance in our state's history—images that not only document the journey but also capture and honor the enduring spirit present along the route.

All photos this page are by *Terri Carr*:

I was thrilled and humbled to win eight awards in the annual Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc. (OWFI) Annual Writing Contest. I won: 1st Place Nonfiction: Who Killed Homer Collyar?; 3rd Place, Essay: Please Stay Home; 1st Honorable Mention (HM), Rhymed Short Poetry: No Repentance in a Ring; 1st HM Young Adult Short Story: Eight-Ball, Corner Pocket; 1st HM Adult Short Story: The Day We Stopped Dancing; 1st HM Western: The Sword of Justice; 1st HM Unpublished Horror: Dinner or Donner?; and 2nd HM Unrhymed Poetry: Luminous.

Lisbeth L. McCarty



Announcements

Thank you to *Joe Morgan* for creating the May newsletter of The Notables of OKC. Instead of being an occasional Guest Editor, Joe has agreed to be a Co-Editor, creating a newsletter every other month.

Thank you to *Danny Bevill* for continuing to hold rehearsals at the request of *Jerry Piper*.

Jerry Piper came to sing with The Notables in May, and he made two important announcements.

1) Please continue to attend rehearsals while he is recovering.

2) When trying to address the group, Jerry said he became stressed when people are talking and whispering instead of listening. The stress affected his blood pressure. Let's all give him our full attention when anyone addresses the group.

Thank you, everyone, for the sweet [Get Well] card and your kind words. It really brightened my day. I appreciate each of you and the way this choir always shows up for one another! Your prayers and encouragement mean more than you know. *Terri Carr*

Announcements (continued)

Thank you so much to *Dewight Deal*, who ran sound for Solar Flares in May, and we hope he has permanently become a member of Solar Flares.



Thank you also to *Danny Bevill* who has become the leader of The Notables of OKC. His leadership has enabled *Jerry Piper's* creation to continue to sing and perform.

Giving a Speaker Your Full Attention

By *Lisbeth L. McCarty*

I am sharing this basic information because of my own guilt in sometimes being an inattentive listener when the main speaker needs my full attention. If you are already a perfect listener, ignore this. Otherwise, these simple guidelines can help:

1) Do not start a side conversation while the group is being addressed. Remember the acronym WAIT, which stands for Why Am I Talking? Unless you are telling someone their hair is on fire, whatever you have to say can wait.





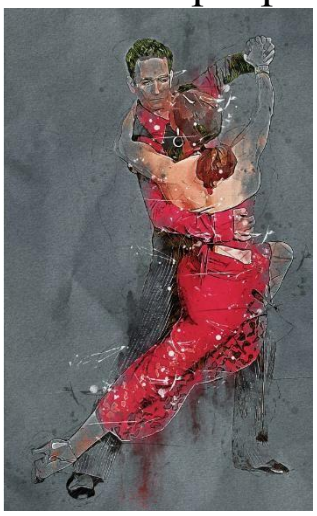
2) To avoid responding to someone whispering or talking, stare directly at the main speaker, and do not acknowledge the side speaker. This is not rude, but failing to give full attention to the main speaker *is* rude. Do not use this time to stare at your phone or read something. Just listen!

Mystery Musician

WHO AM I?

I 

grew up in the Rockies on skis and a song. At 10 years old, I sang my first solo in church to over 200 people in attendance. I took vocal lessons in my teens.



I tried to play the saxophone but never got the hang of it. So, I just kept singing in a group with our church group.

I danced in many performances, doing ballroom and square dancing. I studied drama and was cast in many performances in primary, high school, college, and community theater.

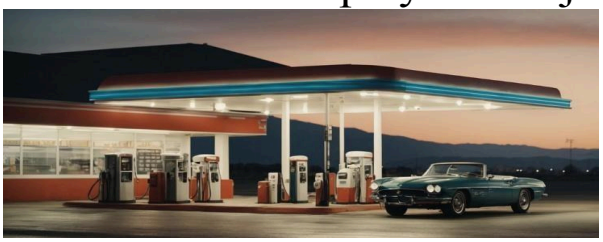
I have several fun memories of musicals I was involved in while living in Massachusetts. 1) In a Congregational church with Tiffany stained glass windows, I was in a play and had a solo song to sing in that play; 2) In a school where I was working with youth, I worked with students doing a musical. We went to NYC, and they performed off-Broadway; and 3) Lucie Arnaz came to spend the day with me. Her son Joseph was one of our students. We had a memorable day. Her husband is Laurence Luckinbill (actor/director) who played Sybok, ½ brother to Spock in Star Trek 5.



I turned my attention to the study of Biology. My field work and research brought me to Oklahoma. I was one of ten

biologists chosen to read my results in Puerto Rico. I spent many years working in the field with animal research.

For several years, I toured with my husband. He was a musician, now deceased. Leon Russell was his cousin and could play every one of his songs on the keyboard. I will never forget the evening he played for Reba McEntire in southeast Oklahoma. He also played in a jazz band for a time.



Yes, he could sing too. We sang together at times. One precious memory of him was when we were walking down the street. He got down on one knee and sang to me in front of a gas station.



I like to listen to and sing music by Motown. I have a musician that is trying to teach me to "scat." I have always wished I could do that. I love the passion and soul in their music.

My passion in life is meeting people from all over the world. Learning about their culture, their beliefs, and history. This past Thanksgiving, I was asked to speak at the Jewish Temple in Oklahoma. I talked about the people I love. The beautiful people I have met all over the world.

I love it when the Notables sing "All We Need Is Love." I wish it was our theme song.

Past Events



Dave Snyder

On May 16, 2026, Dave & The Blues Boys performed At Village Green in OKC.

A breezy May afternoon with Dave & the Blues Boys — where the amps are warm, the strings are honest, and the only thing more relaxed than the music is the crowd.

Words and photo by *Janet Lowrey*

On May 21, 2026, Solar Flares performed at Full Circle in Norman, OK. *Lisbeth L. McCarty* is a member of the group.



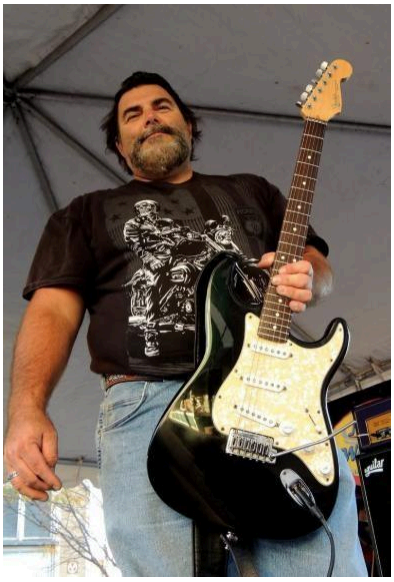
MosaForte performed on May 1st and May 15th at the Elison Senior Living of Statesman Club in OKC.

Fri.	1-May	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Fri.	15-May	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Members include *Barbara Waggoner*, *Sharron Clifton*, *Edie Thomas*, *Jim Ivins*, and *Dewight Deal* (sound).



On May 29, 2026, *Danny Bevill*



performed for Concerts at the Creek.

Danny Bevill, photo by *Valerie Bevill*

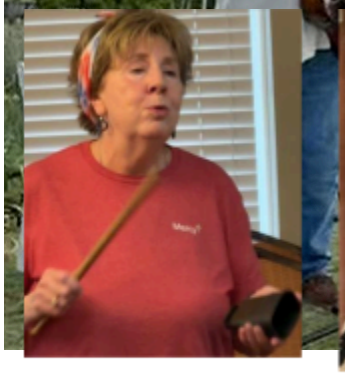
Danny Bevill performed at the 2026 Survivors' Memorial and Butterfly Release. Photos by *Valerie Bevill*.

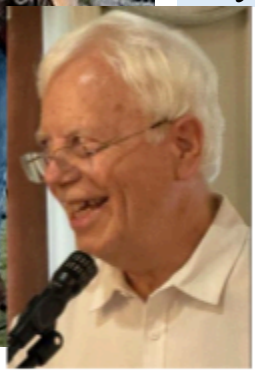


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Photos taken by *Valerie Bevill* at the May 22, 2026,

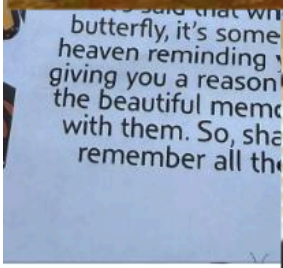
















Grey Wolf performance at the Statesman Club in OKC. Notables performing include *Dan Bevill*, *Larry Adams*, and *Janet Lowrey*.

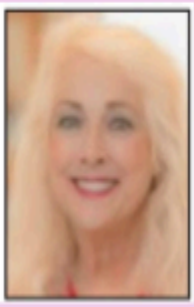
Upcoming Events



Jim Ivins and Pam Holzberger are part of the cast of the Senior Follies in a Ziegfield-style variety show on June 6th at 7:00 p.m. and June 7th at 2:00 p.m. Scan the QR code on the poster for tickets.

The Joy Thespians (a theatre troupe) will be performing the play "At the Mall" on June 27 at 1:30 p.m. Notables in the troupe are Jan Osban, Terri Carr, and Dot Liles. Admission is free; donations are accepted. Expect a good time and lots of laughter!





Upcoming Performances (continued)

MosaForte will perform as follows in June at the Elison Senior Living of Statesman Club in OKC.

Fri.	5-Jun	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Fri.	19-Jun	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.



Barbara Waggoner, Sharron Clifton, Edie Thomas, Dewight Deal, and Jim Ivins



Lisbeth L. McCarty

has been cast as Bertha in the small ensemble of the Save-a-Soul Mission Band for two performances of Guys & Dolls on June 26th & 27th in Norman, OK, at 602 N. Findlay.



MOSA*Forte* will be providing live music from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20th, at Hefner Mansions Senior Living in Oklahoma City, at an annual car show which benefits St Jude's Hospital. The event is free to the public and includes burgers and hot dogs, and is appropriate for all ages. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs if they plan to stay for the 4 hours of continuous music.

HEFNER MANSIONS SENIOR LIVING
ANNUAL BENEFIT CAR SHOW

All proceeds benefit St Jude's Hospital

Saturday. June 20th, 2026

7700 W. Hefner Rd. OKC, OK 73162

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Free Admission, Free Food, Free Entertainment



LIVE MUSIC PROVIDED BY

MOSAForte SINGERS

from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Barbara Waggoner, Deborah Wedel , Edie Thomas, Jim Ivins, Sharron Clifton

"Where music and soul unite"

50s and 60s Hits





Choir Conundrums

1) Which 1963 hit was investigated for six months by the FBI?



2) Which member of a band used a literal sandbox and a grand piano so he could get a beach feel by digging his toes into the sand while playing and composing?



3) What 1966 song has George Harrison playing sitar?

How Well Do You Know *Jerry Piper*?

Here's some fun questions about our beloved founder of The Notables of OKC.

1) How many covers of the newsletters have Jerry on the cover?
2) What issue related to the Notables can cause Jerry anxiety?

3) How do The Notables feel about Jerry?

4) What other talent has Jerry pursued besides music?

5) What gallery is currently selling some of Jerry's art?

6) Who is one of Jerry's favorite blues singers of all time?

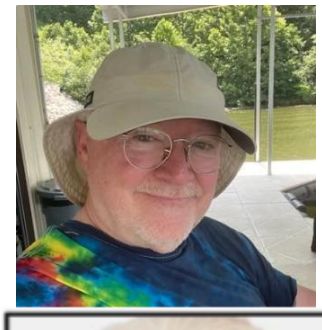
7) When did Jerry's first album shoot take place?

8) What type of animals do Jerry & Lonnie own?

9) What does Jerry's sister do?

10) Which one of Jerry's paintings was accepted to be shown on the American Watercolor Society Facebook page?

June Birthdays







Jim Ivens



Celebrate your birthday like a cat—by turning up the ***mew***sic!
--Anonymous

Answers to Choir Conundrums

1. In 1955, Richard Berry wrote the song "Louie, Louie." The 1963 recording of "Louie, Louie" by The Kingsmen is the most famous recording of the song. The FBI investigated that version due to reports of obscene lyrics. Lead singer Jack Ely's slurred, difficult-to-understand lyrics were said to be caused by cheap equipment and poor recording conditions. Also, Ely (wearing braces at the time) had to stand far away from the overhead microphone, causing his voice to be difficult to understand due to heavy instrumentation. Eventually, the case was closed due to unintelligible lyrics.

https://www.npr.org/2015/05/02/403623915/louie-louieindecipherable-or-indecent-an-fbi-investigation.

2. Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys. https://www.kcrw.com/stories/brian-wilson-piano-in-thesandbox.

3. The song was "Norwegian Wood (This Bird Has Flown)" by The Beatles. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norwegian_Wood_(This_Bird_Has_Flown)

Question for July issue: How many musical instruments do you own? Please send responses to joecool1937@outlook.com.

Answers about *Jerry Piper*

1) Six covers: June 2025, July 2025, August 2025, September 2025, October 2025, and April 2026.
2) Jerry's blood pressure rises when members are talking privately while he is addressing the group. 3) We love him!
4) Art as a painter
5) Street Smarts Gallery
6) Tracy Nelson
7) 1981
8) Dogs
9) She makes tie-dye shirts, including the ones for The Notables.
10) Orange Lillies

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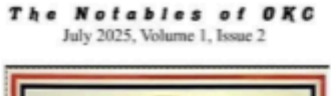
Mystery Musician Revealed



The Mystery Musician was Marty Elmore.

Danny Bevill







This newsletter welcomes contributions of original work. Under 17 U.S. Code § 101, an original work is copyrighted from the moment of creation. If you submit work that is not your own creation and is not in the public domain, that work must be attributed to the creator and used only with the creator's permission (with a source given for verification). Submissions are due by the 23rd of each month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

Founder of The Notables: Jerry Piper
Managing Director: Danny Bellvill
Editors-in-Chief: Lisbeth L. McCarty and Joe Morgan
Copy Editors: Liz Seifert and Terri Carr
Membership Director: Karen Baclawski
Sound: Michael Thomas
Board Members: Dan Bevill, Joanne Hutchison, Janet Lowrey, Jim Ivins, & Lisbeth L. McCarty

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

Creative Conclusion



Photo taken at Pops in Arcadia, Oklahoma, by *Terri Carr*