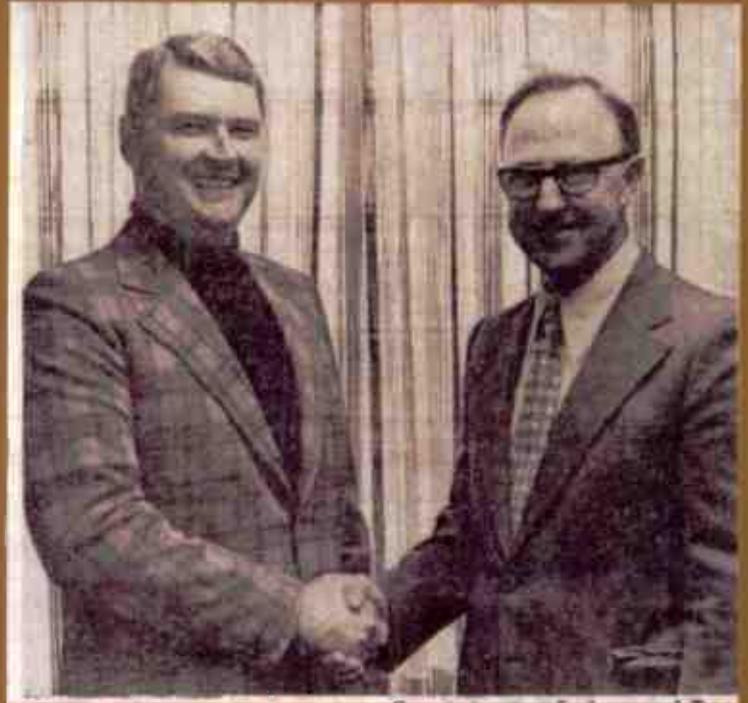
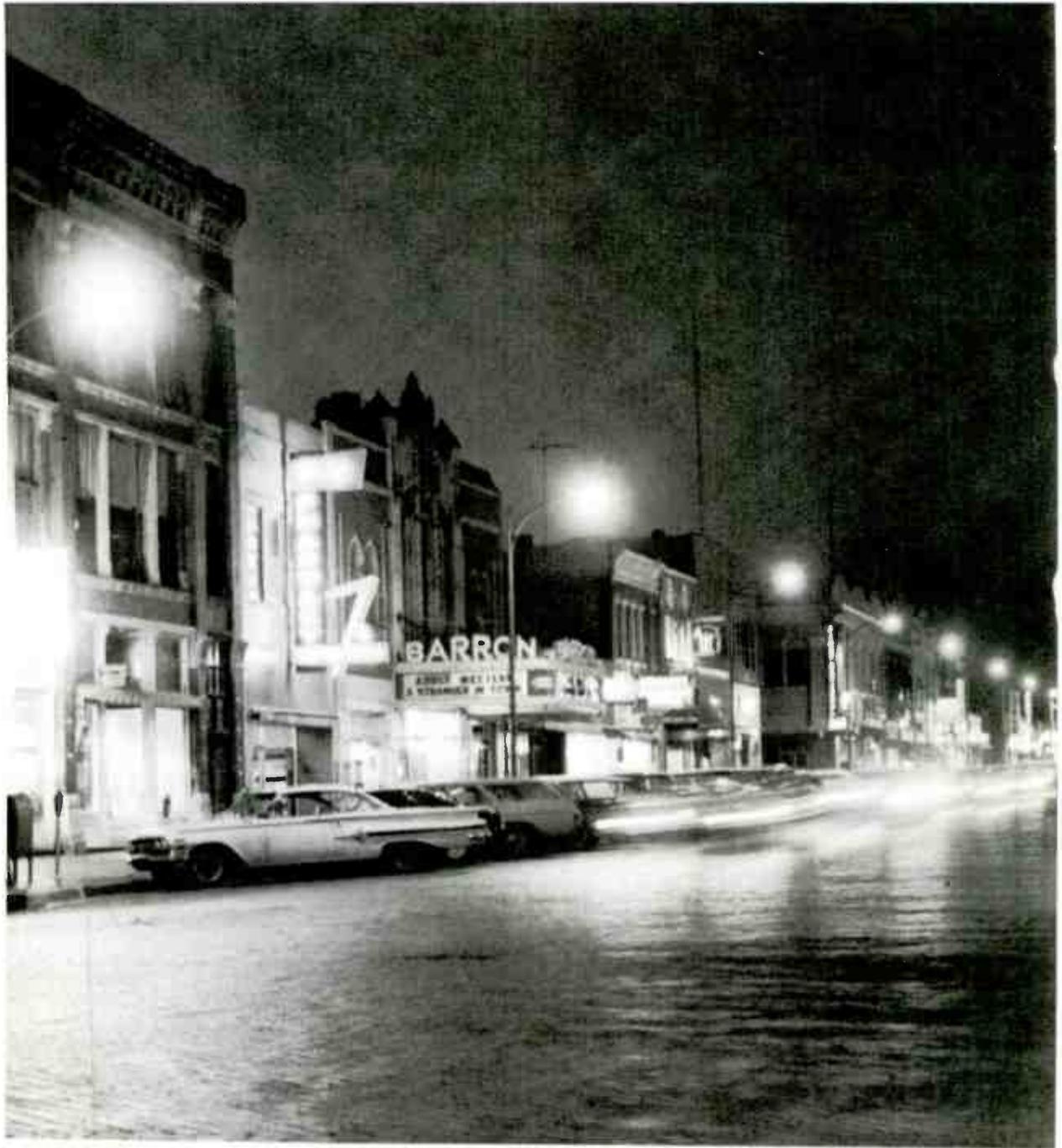


KWNS "The Mighty 1290"

Radio Story



By Ronald W. Detwiler



***Cruisin' Main Street in Pratt, Kansas
on a Saturday night, May 25, 1968***

***KWNS “The Mighty 1290”
Radio Story***

By Ronald W. Detwiler

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Introduction

Ah, those were the days!!! That's how Don O'Malley, former owner of KWNS ended an e-mail to me, when I was inquiring about the "Good Neighbor Award". Indeed it was, we had stacks of wax, moldy oldies, request lines and for the girls calling in, to quote Wolf Man Jack; "If they had the curves, we had the angles"! It was Kansas, Weather, News and Sports, "Five Tower Power", "The Mighty 1290".

It was a time in Pratt when you cruised First and Main, a complete circuit taking you from the Sonic to south Main and back, time and time again all evening. When you were cruising, you can bet you were tuned into your favorite radio station, just waiting to hear that special request for that special him or her or just groovin' to your favorite music. It was a wonderful time to be in radio, sometimes playing a record backwards just to see if there was some supposed hidden satanic message from the record company. Of course there never was, but it was a hoot just the same. It was a time in the golden age of radio, when indeed, there were forbidden words on the airwaves. It seems funny today, but back in the good old days, Jimmy Dean couldn't even use the word Hell in "Big Bad John". He was just simply described as "One Heck of a man".

Back then we had a station manager, general manager, chief engineer, salemen, sports director, music director, farm director, traffic director and don't you know it; those not too tighty wrapped DJ's! News and sometimes commercials were read live on the air, producing at times, some interesting dialog and some interesting mistakes. Each DJ had his own show, his own sound and following. It was local radio at its best. There were no computers, no CD's, no scanners, no canned Satellite feeds. It was living, breathing radio with living, breathing people. There was local news, live sporting events aired, local farm news, remote feeds from downtown, live commercials, lots of PSA's, farm and home shows and live coverage of the local Miss Kansas Pagent.

It was by chance that I got started on the history of both KWSK and KWNS radio stations. Since owning a computer and access to the Internet, I was always looking for anything on both stations, with zero luck. Then one night in August 2010, I found part of a clip that a William J. Young from Phoenix, Arizona had just been hired as the General Manager for the local radio station. I immediately said to myself, "My God, there can't be two of them!" I worked for the station part-time and full-time from 1968 to 1985, so I knew the Bill Young I had worked for had come from Phoenix, but that was in 1963. Well, it kept bugging me that night; so the next day I called the radio station, still the same phone number, but now KMMM. A female voice answered the phone and I asked to speak to the General Manager, upon which I was informed that I was talking to the General Manager, Lisa Coss. I told Lisa about what I had found on the Internet and she laughingly replied that it was a 1963 newspaper clip on their new website. After talking for about 10 minutes, the conversation turned to the history of KWNS and her inability to find someone with knowledge of the station and its history. Having worked at the station for 17 years, I told her I might just be the person she was looking for. After work, I stopped by the station and that late afternoon was born the idea for a history book of both KWSK, KWNS and a reunion of the station employees.

First, I want to thank Wilmer "Bill" Huffman, KWNS' founder, for all his time and help in helping me document the start of the station and all the many other details of KWNS. Many thanks to Bill for providing all the pictures, FCC documents, letters, construction pictures, memorabilia, legal papers from the protest period and countless other stuff. Many hours were spent with Bill on the phone and at his home in Pittsburg, Kansas to get the KWNS history right. Also Bill's daughter Cynthia, who spend countless hours scanning all the legal documents of the protest period, which are now preserved at the Pratt Library and Pratt Historical Museum and the State of Kansas Historical Museum in Topeka. As the documents had started to become mole and water damaged, without her help, this important piece of KWNS history would have lost forever. Next is Barbara Young, Bill Young's wife, for

all the time and letters on the history and background of Bill Young and the station. Also to Mary Ann Young, Nancy Olsen and Kathleen Nestor for providing pictures, memorabilia, documents and information on their Dad and KWNS. Next is Don O'Malley, "The Big "O" and his sons for all the stuff they provided too. Again, thanks to the Huffman, Young, O'Malley families and other employees of the station for proof-reading the biography section and making sure the history was correct in every detail. Walter Cronkite would have said, "And that's the way it was, the KWNS radio story; from Pratt, Kansas, this is Walter Cronkite reporting!" To all the former KWNS employees, too numerous to name here, for all your help and assistance, supplying pictures and other stuff. A special thanks to Larry Waggoner for transferring a lot of old KWNS audio tapes to computer, providing pictures and other stuff. Special thanks to the Pratt Tribune, Pratt College and other newspapers for their permission to reprint articles. Finally to Marsha Brown at the Pratt Historical Society for her help on the book and reunion. If I have forgotten to mention anyone, my thanks to you also, you know who you are.

Finally, thanks to my wife Patty, my bride of 43 years now, for letting me spend hundreds and hundreds of hours on the computer and at the Pratt, Great Bend, Wichita libraries doing research for the books and reunion. Without her support, I would have never made it through it all. She will always be my "Venus in Blue Jeans".

**Ronald W. Detwiler, "Rocking Ronnie"
KWNS Employee, 1968 to 1985**

Table Of Contents

Introduction	
The "Mighty 1290" Radio Story	Page 1
Various Newspaper Articles:	
The Pratt Tribune	Page 130
The Hutchinson News	Page 184
The Pratt Beaver	Page 190
The FCC Files:	
KWNS Time Line	Page 194
Actions Of The FCC	Page 207
Broadcast Weekly Yearbooks	Page 222
History Cards	Page 228
KWNS Incorporation Papers:	
1964	Page 236
1974	Page 241
Pratt Shopper	Page 246
Misc. Letters and Other Stuff	Page 249
KWNS Staff:	
KWNS 1963 Sign-on Staff	Page 268
KWNS Employees	Page 272
KWNS Station Equipment	Page 285
KWNS Construction Pictures:	
KWNS Site (1962)	Page 308
Production Room (1974)	Page 321
KWNS Advertisers	Page 324
Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff	Page 341
KWNS Promotion Flyer	Page 379
KWNS Area Guide Magazine	Page 383
KWNS Top 30	Page 408
KWNS Recipe Books:	
KWNS Favorite Recipes (1972)	Page 427
Alice's Recipes (1974)	Page 433
KWNS Billing	Page 440
KWNS Copy	Page 445
Misc. Fun Stuff	
Ten Commandments Of Electricity	Page 455
Are You An Aging DJ?	Page 457
KWSK-KWNS Reunion Pictures	Page 459
STOP The Presses- J. Larry "James" Simmons Family	Page 472

KWNS, the “Mighty 1290” Radio Story

The KWNS story begins with its founder, Wilmer E. (Bill) Huffman. Bill, as he prefers to be called, was born at home on December 22, 1931 in Cunningham, Kansas to Roy Earnest Huffman and Mable Ellen (Mow) Huffman. His parents had met in Kingman, Kansas where his father worked at the Santa Fe railroad station and his mother was a telephone operator.

The City of Cunningham first developed south of the railroad tracks. In 1880, before there were railroad tracks, it was called "Ninnescah." It was on the Cannonball Route Stagecoach Line, which ran from Kingman to Greensburg. By 1885, Ninnescah had a hotel, church, two stores, land office building, and many homes. In 1887, the Kingman, Pratt, & Western Railroad Company built a railroad, bordering Ninnescah on the north. The Santa Fe Railroad bought the railroad in 1898 and still operates it. On March 24, 1887, tragedy struck the little town of Ninnescah, when a tornado practically demolished the town. Some people were injured, but no lives were lost. The buildings were a total wreck. That is when the people decided to rebuild the town, north of the railroad track. Colonel James D. Cunningham, a director and surveyor for the railroad, offered to give and sell lots to the settlers. Many Ninnescah residents built north of the tracks, and the new town was named Cunningham. The Ninnescah Post Office became the Cunningham Post Office in 1887. On May 17, 1898 another tornado destroyed the southeast corner of Cunningham. In 1903, Cunningham had a school, Methodist and Christian churches, stores, two hotels, creamery "skimming station", lumber yard, livery stable, station house, elevator, and a depot. In 1905, Dr. Silas Nossaman had the first car in Cunningham, a 3-cylinder Cadillac. When Bill was born, the population was 412, peaking at 618 in the 1960 census and according to the 2010 census is 454 strong.

About 1909, his father became the Santa Fe station agent in Cunningham, Kansas. Bill was the 6th child born in the family and by the time of his birth, his grandfathers on both sides of the family had died. The Huffman family consisted of Bill and 4 other brothers, Elmo, Robert, Delmer and Dale, plus one sister, Velda. His father's mother, Sadie (Wilman) Huffman, had moved from her home in Goddard, Kansas to Cunningham, Kansas and his mother's mother, Emma Mow, was living in Grainola, Oklahoma.

His grandmother's home in Cunningham was located in the north part of town across the street just south of the location where the city built its water tower in 1935 and is currently still in use. Bill said he can remember spending time at his grandmothers and watching the construction of the new water tower. After his grandmother died, the family moved from the south part of town into the house across from the same water tower. Now in a small town like Cunningham, sometimes there isn't much to keep a boy's mind occupied. Bill fondly remembers, in later years, climbing to the top of that water tower and sitting on the ball covering the top. To get to the top, Bill had to climb up one of the legs. The tower had no ladder to climb up, like you would normally think of, but just the criss-cross pattern on the legs. I can just see Bill standing on top of that tower, like Leonardo DiCaprio's character Jack did on the front bow in the movie Titanic, yelling, "I'm the King of the World !!" or perhaps more to his generation, James Cagney in "White Heat", yelling, "Made it, Ma! Top of the world!". As a young boy, Bill was even janitor at the Cunningham Methodist Church, which was located across the alley past the Parsonage, east of his grandmother's home.

From 1938 to 1946, Bill went to Cunningham Grade School and from 1946 to 1950 was enrolled at Cunningham High School, both of which were located one block north from their home. It was in grade school, that Bill became friends with Don Hoagland, who would later play a key figure in the building of KWNS and later putting in Larned's first radio station, KANS. Even as a young boy, Bill loved sports. In high school, he participated

in basketball, baseball, tennis and track. At the time, Cunningham High School did not have a football program or he probably would have taken part in that, too. In the last three years of high school, he won 1st place in the Kingman County tournament in singles tennis. Bill also was President of both his Junior and Senior classes and Editor of the school yearbook. In those high school days, if you couldn't find Bill at some sports function, chances are you would find him at the other activities he participated in, namely, Ninnescah Valley 4-H Club, Methodist Youth Fellowship, Hi-Y Club and the Boy Scouts. Now you would think with all of the things Bill was involved in, during the summer months, it was time off and you would be wrong. During those summer months, he worked at the following businesses: 1948 and 1949, for Sheldon Tractor Filler Company, 1950 for Mid Continent Grain and 1950 and 1951 at the Gano Grain Company all located in Cunningham.

During his high school years, Bill also ran a paper route in Cunningham. The first two years using a bicycle, and the last two years using what he called, "A purchased U.S. Army surplus paratrooper scooter". Bill's mode of transportation actually was a Cushman model 53 Airborne Scooter. Bill had purchased it through the Army surplus outlets at the time in Wichita, Kansas for \$200. It was manufactured by the Cushman Motor Works in Lincoln, Nebraska, beginning in 1944. In the late stages of the war in Europe, Allied paratroopers used scooters like the one Bill used for his paper route, to maintain contact between units, increase their mobility and haul small loads. The Cushman Motor Works designed the Model 53 to be airdropped by parachute or to be carried by glider. It also had a hitch to pull a model M3A4 general-purpose utility cart. The scooter weighed 255 pounds and was powered by a Cushman one cylinder, 4-cycle engine with magneto ignition, developing 4.6 horsepower. It had a range of about 100 miles and a maximum speed of 40 miles per hour. Cushman produced and delivered only 4,734 of the model 53 Scooters for the government and is considered to be a very rare and very collectible member of the Cushman family of scooters. If Bill still owned the scooter today, it would be worth about 3,000 to 6,000 dollars.

Bill joined the newly formed Pratt National Guard Unit, Battery C, 161st Armored Field, as a charter member in January 1950 and remained a member until transferring to Battalion Staff, headquartered in Dodge City, Kansas. Battery C was officially launched on a Thursday evening February 9, 1950. Local recruitment for the new unit had been going on for six months, with the unit being limited to 17 people. Others that enlisted in C Battery were Harold Glad, Dick Patton and Ben Billings, all Pratt students; Kenny Hillard, telephone company employee; Bill Keller, Santa Fe railroad employee; Bob Urban and Jack Watkins, all Cunningham High seniors and Kermit Jatz, who was employed at Jetts. Medical examiners for the new guard unit were Drs. M. E. Christmann and Fredrick Wolf. Battery C's first armory was at the Pratt air base, leasing No. 4 hanger from the City of Pratt, later moving to its current location west of the swimming pool. Captain John Wilkerson, 1st Lieutenant Ray Broadbooks and Cal Hansen were the leaders of the new organization. John Wilkerson had a few years previously been the Pratt Chamber Manager. Bill's first summer camp was located at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and attended by 2 officers, Captain John Wilkerson and 1st Lieutenant Ray Broadbooks and 12 enlisted men. While in the enlisted ranks, Bill worked in the office, supply room and fire direction center. After taking correspondence courses and graduating from Kansas University, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on July 20, 1954. As an officer now, Bill was in charge of the supply room, fire direction center, observer and safety officer, finally becoming Battery Commander. In 1965, Bill turned over the Commanding Officer duties to Ronald Miller and became the Adjutant in the Battalion Headquarters in Dodge City, where he remained until 1970, when he transferred to the ready reserve, finally retiring in 1972 at the rank of Major. Most of Bill's summer camps were held at Camp Guernsey, Wyoming, but he also attended camps at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, Camp Ripley, Minnesota and

Camp Carson, Colorado.

Bill's older brother, Robert Dean had quite a distinguished military career also. After Robert graduated from Cunningham High School in 1946, he enlisted in the Navy and served from 1946 to 1948. He then participated in the ROTC program at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, after which he received a commission into the United States Air Force and began his military career by serving as an administrative officer. Robert also served as a detachment commander in the Ground Observation Corporation, completing his career at the Pentagon, where he worked in Manpower. After Robert completed his military career in 1971, he worked for the Thomas F. Belcher, Inc. tax preparation firm in the Washington, D.C. area. Also, like his brother Bill, Robert was an active member of churches wherever he lived and participated in a number of civic and fraternal organizations, including the noontime Lions Club, Civil War Round Table, VFW Post 1599 and the American Legion Post 46. Like Bill, Robert also volunteered as an AARP tax aide for a number of years in the Washington, D.C. area.

After graduating from Cunningham High School, Bill attended Pratt Junior College for 2 years, 1950 to 1952, which was located at that point in time, just west of the Hotel Roberts, now known as the Hotel Parrish. While attending Pratt Junior College, Bill worked part-time at the Pratt Chamber of Commerce, the Pratt Daily Tribune, Swinson Motor Company and the Pratt Junior College Concessions. While working at the Pratt Daily Tribune, Bill served as a sports reporter, rounding up news on the Ninnescah league of high schools in the Pratt area. From an October 18th, 1950, Pratt Tribune "Left-Hand Corner" article, it appears Bill got a tip of a football injury, probably some big burly player, but turned out to be a pretty blonde cheerleader. The article played out as follows, "Bill Huffman, Cunningham, Pratt Junior College student, serves as a sports reporter in rounding up news on the Ninnescah league of high schools in this area. He got a tip the other day on a reported injury in practice at Coats and sensing a good dope story, he set out to find the name of the injured player. It turned out that it was an injury all right and that it happened in practicing for a football game. But the injured was blonde Charlene Allen, cheerleader for the Bulldogs. She twisted an ankle practicing gymnastics to be used in leading the cheers." Rumor has it, that it took Bill several hours to get the story from Charlene on this terrible injury!

After graduating from Pratt Juco College, Bill moved on to the University of Kansas at Lawrence, Kansas, attending KU from September 1952 to June 1954. While at KU the first year, he lived in an apartment house and worked at the Student Union Cafeteria, moving to the Pearson Scholarship Hall, the second year. While Bill was attending KU for his undergraduate degree, he took several radio courses in the department of Radio and Television and worked two semesters in the student run radio station on campus. Bill's duties included many hours on the air as well as writing scripts and programming schedules. All of which would come in handy later in building KWNS, of course unknown to Bill at the time.

Upon graduation from KU, Bill took a job as staff accountant for the Public Accounting firm of Pierce-Faris and Company in Hutchinson, Kansas. He had originally planned on getting a job with one of the big eight national accounting firms, but the National Guard group headquarters from Hutchinson, Kansas had been called to active duty in the Korean War and those firms did not want to hire someone who might be called to active duty anytime soon. But fate stepped in for Bill that day. Pierce-Faris had an employee who was on the Group Headquarters staff and was familiar with the National Guard and was willing to take a chance on hiring a member of the guard. While employed there, Bill's workload was audits of Kansas Counties, School Boards and Cities along with income tax work from January through April. During the time Bill was employed at Pierce-Faris, he lived with his sister, Velda Stubbs and her husband, Curtis A. Stubbs and their family.

After about a year in Hutchinson, Bill was contacted by John Hampton, a public accountant

from Pratt, Kansas about the possibility of joining him in a partnership arrangement in Pratt. Bill was no stranger to John, however, as he had also interviewed him before he graduated from KU. After some consideration, Bill decided to take the offer from John and moved to Pratt, Kansas. The partnership was made public in the July 7, 1955 edition of the Pratt Daily Tribune as follows, "Bill Huffman, a son of Mrs. Mabel Huffman of Cunningham, has joined John Hampton, a local accountant here. The firm will be known as the Hampton-Huffman Accounting office. Huffman is a graduate of Pratt juco college and Kansas University." When Bill was hired by John, the office was located at 306 S. Main, next to Jetts Department Store. The partnership would last until Bill became actively involved in the new radio station in Pratt, KWNS, starting in 1962.

After moving to Pratt in 1955, Bill lived in an apartment house at 507 North Main Street, which was owned by Lon Hoagland from Cunningham, Kansas, until getting married to JoAnn Fort in 1959. Lon also owned and operated a grocery store in Cunningham. Although living in Pratt now, Bill still participated in two young adult groups in Hutchinson, Kansas. The Methodist Church in Hutchinson sponsored one and the other was a social club organized by the youth for monthly dances. Bill provided the record player, records, and acted as the DJ for their monthly dances. It was at one of the Sunday evening youth group meetings that he met JoAnn Fort, whom he later married on May 31, 1959.

Like in Hutchinson, Bill was involved with the youth in Pratt. One of the annual contests for the Pratt County students was the Pratt Jaycee sponsored, "Voice of Democracy" contest. 1956 was the second year for the contest, with an article in the November 20, 1956 edition of the Tribune, that read, "Doug Farmer, winner of the Pratt county Voice of Democracy contest, and Bill Huffman, Jaycee contest chairman, hold the plaque won by Farmer in the speech contest held in the municipal club rooms last night. Farmer's speech will be recorded and sent to Kansas Jaycee headquarters for judging along with other local winners in the state". Bill and Doug would later the next day go up to the KWSK studios, where his winning speech was broadcast and recorded for the state level contest.

1957, "The Birth of KWNS"

In 1957, Pratt already had a radio station, KWSK, a daytime only station at 1570 kilocycles on the dial at 250 watts of power. For the reader, a complete history of KWSK is provided in that history book, but for the reader that doesn't have a copy, we will back track a little. KWSK was founded by Clem Morgan and Robert Schmidt, going on the air on October 29, 1952 at 12 noon. The downtown studios and offices were located upstairs at 209½ South Main, above Tupper Office Supply, a bookstore and Spear's Men's Wear. The KWSK studios and office space were in 1916, a hospital for Dr. Patterson and Dr. John R. Brinkley, the infamous "Goat Gland Doctor". The transmitter site was located 1 mile south of the Highway 54 and 281 junctions, back west a ¼ mile and about 200 feet to the south of the road, directly south of the Pratt Power Plant. The transmitter was a used Gates 250-A feeding a 180 feet shunt fed tower. This same tower would later see duty as the KWNS-FM tower starting in 1965, after KWSK went off the air on August 30, 1964. Two of the 1952 KWSK sign-on people worth noting are Dave Blevins and Clarence (Clancy) Evans. Dave would also work at KWNS several times as a salesmen, with his last tour of duty in 1972 and Clancy would be KWNS' first Chief Engineer, as he was KWSK's, also helping Bill construct the station, leaving KWNS in late 1963. KWSK was a daytimer, signing off at sunset, with the after hours sporting events being recorded and played back the next day.

It was this fact, the lack of live nighttime broadcasts of High School and Junior College sporting

events, plus his deep love of sports, that prompted Bill to apply for a construction permit to build a second radio station in Pratt, Kansas. If KWSK had been able to do so, the history of Pratt radio would have been a whole lot different. Starting in the 1950's, sports programs were taking off more and more and while people went to the games more than they do now, more people wanted also to listen to the game live on the radio in the comfort of their homes and not a recorded broadcast the next day. Sometime in late 1957, a group of local Pratt business leaders discussed the need for a nighttime radio station to carry live broadcasts. According to Bill, the group discussions were held several times at one of the local downtown coffee shops, where all the problems of the world were usually solved. The group had on several occasions contacted Clem Morgan, owner of KWSK radio and could not get him interested in trying to extend his stations' broadcasting hours.

To the reader, it would sound simply, all Clem had to do was apply to the FCC to extend KWSK's operating hours from daytime to unlimited, meaning he could broadcast way past sunset, well into the night, 24-7, if he wanted to. Well that's the problem; it wasn't that simply; if it had been, Clem would have done it. The biggest problem was KWSK's frequency of 1570 kilocycles. In 1957, there were four Canadian stations, CHUB, CFRY, CBI and CFOR on that frequency and 47 others in the United States. The biggest problem to KWSK and the 51 other stations on 1570 kilocycles was Clear Channel XERF-AM in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila near the United States border at Del Rio, Texas. And yes, XERF-AM is the station Wolfman Jack was at from 1962 to 1964. Former KWSK employees Harry Mansfield and Lynn McBride said that on several occasions during that period, when they signed off KWSK, the next thing you heard on the radio tuned to 1570, was, "Who's this on the Wolfman telephone"? The nighttime signal from XERF-AM in Pratt was so strong, that even after KWSK signed off, Harry and Lynn said that the remote antenna base meter would still show 30 to 40 percent of the rated antenna current. While US stations were limited to 50,000 watts, XERF-AM was pounding the airwaves at 250,000 watts.

By International agreement, a clear channel station was an AM band radio station in North America that has the highest protection from interference from other stations, particularly concerning nighttime skywave propagation. The term "clear channel" is used often in the context of North American and the Caribbean, where the concept originated. Clear Channel stations, unlike all other AM stations in North America, have a secondary service area, that is, they are entitled to protection from interference to their nighttime skywave signals. Other stations are entitled, at most, to protection from nighttime interference in their primary service area, that which is covered by their groundwave signal.

Daytimers are AM radio stations that are limited to broadcasting during the daytime only, as their signals would interfere with clear channel and other radio stations at night, when solar radiation is reduced and medium wave radio signals can propagate much farther. Such daytime stations were usually supposed to do one of three things: simply signoff, reduce power (sometimes dramatically to only a few watts) or switch to another frequency. So, Clem and KWSK could apply to the FCC for nighttime operation on 1570, but it would not have been granted and with the 250,000 watt border blaster signal of XERF-AM, who was going to hear you anyway?

The other choice was to apply for a different frequency, but that would take time and money. The different frequency, if it were granted, would perhaps require a higher power transmitter and possibly instead of one tower, perhaps two to three more towers in a directional pattern. All of which would take a lot of money, something KWSK did not have a lot of at this point. One thing to remember, Clem Morgan and Robert Schmidt fought a legal battle with several stations from 1949 to 1952 before the FCC granted a construction permit on January 10, 1952. That battle just to get KWSK on the air had been costly. Clem had also been hammered financially with the great flood of June 25, 1957 in Pratt, which ruined the transmitter. KWSK was off the air 14 days, before a new Gates

BC-250GY transmitter was installed, tested and on the air. The financial loss of airtime and the new transmitter would run in excess of \$20,000, a small fortune in 1957. Clem also suffered the loss of his wife, Melvena, on February 28, 1957. So in defense of Clem, when the Pratt group approached him with the idea of a nighttime station, I don't think he was in much of a position to do anything about it.

1958, "The Journey Begins"

So, after considerable discussion and consultation with other radio station operators and broadcast engineers, it was decided by Bill to pursue the possibility of applying for a full-time broadcast station in Pratt, Kansas. After considerable investigation, Bill decided to file with the FCC for a construction permit on May 18, 1958, starting the process to build a second AM radio station in Pratt, this one being able to provide full-time nighttime sports coverage. It was announced in the Broadcast Weekly June 2, 1958 edition on page 91 under Applications as follows, "Pratt, Kansas.-Wilmer Huffman, 1290 kc., 1-5 kw LS unl. P. O. Box 486, Pratt. Estimated construction cost \$61,766, first year operating cost \$60,000, revenue \$68,000. Sole owner Huffman is C.P.A. Announced May 22." It is interesting to note the post office box number; the station 55 years later still has the same number.

The citizens of Pratt would know about the proposed station several days even before the FCC would. The Pratt Tribune dated May 15, 1958 had a big front page article titled, "Huffman Seeks License For New Radio Station". "A radio broadcasting license for a proposed new Pratt radio station was applied for with the Federal Communications Commission today. The application was made by Bill Huffman, 507 N. Main, who is listed as owner and general manager of the proposed station. Huffman is a partner with John Hampton in the Hampton and Huffman accounting firm here and will remain with that firm when the radio station is put into operation. The proposed station will be constructed three and one-fourth miles east and one-fourth mile south of Pratt, with both studios and transmitter to be located at that site, Huffman said. The station would operate on a day-night basis, broadcasting at 5,000 watts daytime and 1,000 watts nighttime. The daytime range of the station would cover an area roughly 215 miles by 185 miles, Huffman said. The area would include Wichita, Hutchinson, Hays, Garden City and Alva, Okla. The general manager said he expected FCC approval by Oct. and that construction would start soon after. He said plans called for the station to be on the air within 60 days after final approval from the FCC. Transmission would be from four towers, each 170 feet tall, Huffman said. Huffman said the proposed station would employ 15 persons, including two announcers and three engineer-announcers. Dave Tucker, formerly of Greensburg and Pratt, will be station manager and Mrs. Velda Stubbs of Hutchinson will be program manager, Huffman said. Tucker was formerly with KWSK here and is now working for a radio station in Nebraska. Huffman said plans call for emphasis on live sports coverage, including Kansas University and Kansas State football and basketball games as well as broadcasts of Pratt high school and junior college sports events. Several other local "live" shows are also scheduled, Huffman said, as well as "disc jockey" and other music shows. Proposed call letters of the station are KEES, Huffman said, but those, as well as station frequency, must be approved by the FCC."

Bill had first made contact with the FCC in January, concerning the availability of radio frequencies for the Pratt area. In February, Vir N. James, a Consulting Radio Engineer from Denver, Colorado was contacted to prepare a frequency search for a full-time radio station in Pratt, Kansas and Eugene O. Edwards, Manager of Broadcast Transmitter Sales for Gates Radio Company in Quincy, Illinois, on February 19 to provide information

and prices of needed station equipment. This was followed by Joe Engle, a sales engineer stationed in Colorado, traveling to Pratt on March 17, 1958 to visit with Bill about the needed equipment. It looked like Joe was a good salesman, because Bill signed Contingent Order #03831 on March 27, 1958 with Gates Radio Company for a total radio equipment sale of \$47,200. At the time, Gates was probably considered to be the Cadillac in equipment along with RCA and Collins.

One of the other important things Bill did happened on April 16, 1958. Signing an option to purchase a tract of land east of Pratt, where KWNS was later constructed, from Nellie M. Penrod, 420 South Pine, La Verne Penrod Green and husband Ralph Green, all of Pratt, Kansas for \$2,337.50. One of the questions I asked Bill in February 2012 at his home in Pittsburg, Kansas was, "Of all the places in Pratt County to build a station, why did you pick that site"? I thought maybe Bill was related to them somehow, but that was not the case. Bill replied, "The answer is simply, Vir N. James, in a ground conductivity study, found it to be the best spot for the station. The land wasn't much good for anything else, the bottom part was perfect for the towers, and it was for sale." On May 17, 1958, Vir N. James signed the initial Engineering Exhibit for the application of a Construction Permit for 1290 kilocycles, 1 KW nighttime and 5 KW Daytime, both having different directional patterns, followed the next day with the initial filing of FCC Form 301 for a construction permit.

Another question I had to ask Bill when I was at his home was, "Since you were an accountant at the time. Who helped you with the application, paper work, etc. for the license? Also who helped you with the station layout, equipment, etc.?" Bill replied, "All of the initial application except for the engineering was prepared by me. My brother Delmar Huffman from Cunningham, Kansas helped on the building plans and my sister from Hutchinson, Kansas helped on the programming." Delmar was in the construction business and would be the building contractor for the future KWNS building. Velda was a music major graduate of Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas and taught piano and organ to students in Hutchinson. One of her sons, James Stubbs, played trumpet for the American Ballet Company in New York City. James was the trumpet player who did the introduction to the "Masterpiece Theater Show" on PBS-TV. Another son, Thomas Stubbs, plays in the St. Louis Symphony. By the time the station went on the air, Velda's family had grown and she was unable to help with the station programming duties.

At the time of the application, Bill had already been in contact with an experienced radio announcer, Dave Tucker, whose parents lived in Greensburg, Kansas, to become the Station Manager/Salesman as soon as the FCC gave their blessing. Dave got his start in radio at KWSK, working for Clem Morgan for a while and quitting, coming and going from the payroll, finally going to work for KRFS in Superior, Nebraska. KRFS was a new station, going on the air March 17, 1959, with Dave as its first General Manager. But by the time KWNS finally got on the air, Dave was too involved with KRFS and not in much of a position to leave.

Speaking of KWSK, Clem Morgan in the summer of 1959 tried what would be his first of two attempts at retirement. That summer, Thomas K. McDonnell and his wife Evelyn were hired to take over the management of the station. Thomas as General Manager and Evelyn as Program Director. Clem, Jr. was Chief Engineer; KWSK was still very much a "Morgan" ran radio station. Clem painted the house on West Second that summer, taking time out several times to see his grandson Eric. Clem would spend some time at the station, but probably not too much. The new-found "retirement" did not last long. Before long there was a morning when KWSK did not sign on at 6 a.m. When Clem arrived at the studios downtown to see what the problem was, he found the door was still locked. Upon unlocking the door, he found the keys to the station had been dropped through the mail slot. The next big discovery later was all the unpaid bills. So, like it or not, Clem's semi-retirement had been canceled and he was

back in the saddle again, now with a mess to clean up. It might seem to the reader that this was an attempt by Clem to bail out, Bill Huffman having filed for another station, but this is not the case. Clem started his radio career at KFJH in Wichita, Kansas in 1923, so he had by this point been in the business one way or another for 35 years now. Clem was not selling the station to the McDonnell's, just stepping down. At this point, Bill and the proposed station were not having any effect on KWSK, not yet anyway.

The first meeting for a possible Sports Director, happened on March 20, 1958 at Gerald's Serva-Teria in Pratt, Kansas, with Jack Mitchell, KU Football Coach, about carrying the KU football and basketball games. Jack referred Bill to Monte Moore, who was the Director of the KU Sports Network and radio broadcaster, Don Pearce. Bill also had contact with future Broadcast Hall of Famer, Tom Hedrick, who at the time was a graduate assistant in the Department of Radio and Television at KU. Tom was interested in being the sports announcer for the new station in Pratt. Tom later became the voice of KU Sports.

During 1958, Bill had managed to start the idea of a new radio station, start the process for a construction permit, get a good engineering company on board, acquire land east of Pratt for the station and start looking for people to run the place. So you might ask, what are the call letters going to be? Well, the call letters that Bill wanted was KEES and they were available. The answer to the choice for those particular call letters is simply traced back to Bill's love of sports, the reason in the first place to build the station. KEES was to stand for Kansas Extra Excellence Sports! Bill started doodling on paper what he wanted some of the KEES stationary to look like and pictures of that doodling is in the picture section of this book. The main idea of the stationary was this. The picture of a big key at the top with the following in the middle of the key: KEES Radio, your "KEES" to the sports world, Dial 1290. Bill at this point even had Conrad Gilham at the Printing Press print up some letterheads. Little did Bill know what was coming. So why did the new Pratt AM radio station end up with the call letters KWNS instead of KEES? Fate had other plans, what was looking for Bill to be another 6 months to one year and KEES would be on the air, was just about to change with the very real possibility of NO station at all.

January 12, 1959, "Let The Games Begin"

Up to this point, matters were going along smoothly for the future radio station of Bill Huffman. As noted earlier, land and equipment options were in place. People were being contacted for the various positions to run the station, etc. Bill had not left too many stones unturned so far. As a matter of fact, time had just about run out for anybody else to file for the same frequency. Well, all that changed on January 12, 1959, when just one day prior to the date set for final approval, Clem Morgan, Jr. of Pratt, Kansas and Pier San, Inc. from Wichita, Kansas filed two separate applications for a 500 watt daytime station in Larned, Kansas on 1290 kilocycles. At the time, there was no radio station in Larned. The Morgan application estimated construction costs at \$14,545, first year operating cost of \$24,000 and first revenue at \$30,000. The Pier San group estimated construction costs at \$12,825, first year operating costs also at \$24,000 and first year revenue at \$25,000. It was the matter of the 1290 kilocycle frequency and covering some of the same area, that would require 3 more years of lawyers, to the tune of \$10,000 and hearings before the matter was finally resolved on January 3, 1962 with the FCC granting the application of Bill Huffman and denying both the Morgan, Pier San, Inc. applications, reaffirming that decision on May 29, 1962 after a further protest from Morgan and Pier San, Inc. For the Pier San group, money for the 3-year battle certainly was no problem. Denny and Pierce agreed to loan to the applicant \$20,000, of which sum they had already advanced \$3,000. Bozeman, Early and Pyle for their part, agreed to render services in connection with the application and

construction of the station proposed for Larned. In talking to Clem, Jr., he said he couldn't remember how much it cost him, but wasn't anything like Bill Huffman had to spend.

The Pier San, Inc. group was technically the second to be issued a docket number, BP-12750, on that date and is quite a group of people. It was composed of Webb Pierce as President, John Bozeman as Vice President, K. W. Pyle as Vice President, Port Early as Secretary and Jim Denny as Treasurer. Pier San, Inc. was a Kansas Corporation formed December 19, 1958 for the purpose of applying for and operating a Larned station. Its authorized capital consisted of 100 shares of common stock of \$100 par value. At the time of filing, only ten of the shares had been issued, 2 to each of the 5 stockholders already named. After John Bozeman appeared at a charity show in Larned, Kansas in June 1958, residents of the community "encouraged" him to file an application for a station there. He was first joined in the proposed venture by Port Early and K. W. Pyle and then by Webb Pierce and Jim Denny and Pier San, Inc. was organized. At the time of the filing, Pierce and Denny were living in Nashville, Tennessee with Bozeman, Pyle and Early residing in Wichita, Kansas.

Webb Pierce, born August 8, 1921 in West Monroe, Louisiana was one of the most popular American honky tonk vocalists of the 1950's, charting more number one hits than any other country artist during the decade. His biggest hit was "In the Jailhouse Now," which charted for 37 weeks in 1955, 21 of them at number one. For many, Pierce, with his flamboyant Nudie suits and twin silver dollar-lined convertibles, became the most recognizable face of country music of the era and also its excesses. Pierce was a one-time member of the Grand Ole Opry and was posthumously inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in October 2001. At the time of the filing, he had been living in Nashville, Tennessee since 1952, having signed on with Decca records in 1951. In 1953, Webb and Jim Denny organized the Cedarwood Publishing Company with Denny as President and Pierce as Vice President. On February 19, 1957, Pierce resigned from the Opry after he refused to pay commissions on bookings and for associated talent. How he got mixed up with the likes of John Bozeman, God only knows. As his music faded from the spotlight, Pierce became known for his excessive lifestyle. He had North Hollywood tailor Nudie Cohen, who had earlier made the flamboyant "Nudie suits" for Pierce, line two convertibles with silver dollars. Nudie Cohn was a Ukraine born American tailor who designed decorative rhinestone covered suits and other elaborate outfits for some of the most famous celebrities of his era, including Elvis Presley. Webb also built a \$30,000 guitar-shaped swimming pool at his Nashville home, which became a popular paid tourist attraction. Nearly 3,000 people visited it each week, causing his neighbors, led by singer-songwriter Ray Stevens, to file suit and prevail against Pierce to end the tours. Webb Pierce waged a long battle with pancreatic cancer, which he lost on February 24, 1991 and was buried in the Woodlawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Nashville, Tennessee.

Jim Denny, one of the most prominent business figures in Nashville's musical past, was born in Tennessee in 1911. By 1946, he was running the WSM Artist Bureau, which booked Opry acts, while also acting as Opry House manager. Following a dispute with WSM management about this time and other business interests, Denny left the station in 1956 and started his own talent agency. Denny also has an interesting footnote to his credit in the world of rock and roll. In 1956, a very young Buddy Holly had signed his first publishing contract with Cedarwood. Decca Records' Nashville division was more or less run out of Owen Bradley's studio. Bradley was the famed producer of Patsy Cline and many other country legends. Cedarwood Publishing was directly across the street from Bradley's studio on 7th Avenue. When Holly got his first recording contract with Decca, the contract was given to Denny to forward on to Buddy. As it turns out, whoever typed up the contract misspelled Buddy's last name, dropping the "e" in "Holley". Young Buddy, who felt a bit intimidated by the big record company, decided to sign it anyway and return the contract with the wrong spelling. He was afraid that making the correction might anger the

record executives into canceling the contract. So, among his many great accomplishments in the history of country music, James R. Denny also gets credit for being the messenger who delivered Buddy Holly his new name!

John Bozeman, AKA "Mack Sanders", was born in 1923 in Alabama, but living in Wichita, Kansas at the time of the hearings. He had been associated with radio broadcasting, except for four years in the Army, since 1938, when he became a part-time employee at WSGN in Birmingham, Alabama. After his Army service, he joined station KMA in Shenandoah, Iowa, as an announcer and talent manager. By 1951, he was a Country disc jockey at KFH in Wichita, Kansas. Sanders then moved across town to KFBI, where his "Mack and The Ranch Boys" did a noontime broadcast, and where he later hosted his own music show on KTVH-TV. It was at KFBI on September 14, 1951 that Mack interviewed Country legend Hank Williams on the air for about six minutes. That interview footage survived and is currently on a Hank Williams CD called "Hank Williams, Lost Concerts". In 1958, he and business partner Webb Pierce obtained a license to put KSIR on the air, and it became Wichita's first full-time Country radio station. Mack also recorded a few LP's in 1958 on the Mercury Record label. The one the author has in his library is called, "Mack Sanders and His Swing Band". He eventually created a radio empire that included stations in nine markets, including Nashville. But the recession of the early 1990s led Sanders to file for bankruptcy protection. By 1992, he had moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he did a radio show on his station until his death in 2003, when he was visiting his daughter in Nashville. His widow, Sherry Bryce Sanders, accepted when Mack Sanders was inducted into the Country Radio Music Hall of Fame in 2005. Mack's wife, Sherry Bryce, is also an American Country music artist. Between 1971 and 1977, she charted fifteen times on the Billboard country singles charts, including seven duets with Mel Tillis. Their highest charting duet was 1971's "Take My Hand" at No. 8. They were also nominated in 1974 at the Country Music Association awards for Duo of the Year. Bryce also recorded briefly for MCA and Pilot Records in 1976 and 1977, owning the latter label with Mack.

K. W. Pyle was born in Iowa in 1904, also living in Wichita at the time of the filing. He attended primary and high school in Webster City, Iowa and Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, in 1921 and 1922. In 1923, he graduated from the Dodges Radio Institute, starting out as a radio operator in 1924 and in 1926 as engineer and manager of portable stations for the Carrell Broadcasting Company. In 1929, Pyle became the installation engineer for stations WIBW in Topeka, Kansas and WCLO in Janesville, Wisconsin. In 1930 he joined the staff of KFBI, then at Milford, Kansas, as Chief Engineer and Assistant Manager. In 1931, he was General Manager of KFBI at Abilene and Salina. In 1940, KFBI made its final move to Wichita, where he supervised the first directional antenna installation in Kansas and acted as technical supervisor and assistant manager of KFBI until 1958. That same year Pyle joined the staff of KSIR, Mack Sander's new station in Wichita, as general manager and chief engineer. KSIR went on the air in August, 1958.

At the time of the application, Pyle had many "hats" that he wore. He was a registered professional engineer in Kansas and a past member of the NAB National Engineering Committee. He was a member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club. At the time he was a Shriner and had served on the Director's staff of the Midian Shrine for 15 years, also organizing the Midian Oriental Band in 1952, of which the author was a member for 11 years. Pyle was also involved with the Salvation Army Advisory Board, Wichita Chamber of Commerce, Wichita Community Chest and local Red Cross. Together with Bozeman and Early, it appears that it was K. W. Pyle who prepared Pier San's application. Its funny, but Pyle testified that if the Pier San application was approved, he looked forward to moving to the small community of Larned and running a station there, because he had reached an age at which a slower pace of living looked attractive. I can't imagine why!!

Port Early was born in Kingman, Kansas in 1917, also living in Wichita at the time of the application.

Early was a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Business and School of Law, practicing his trade in Wichita. From 1940 to 1943, he was a field collector for the John Deere Plow Company and from 1941 to 1943, head of the expediting department of the Glenn L. Martin Company in Omaha. Port served in the military from 1943 to 1946. Like K. W. Pyle, Port Early was a freemason, a member of the Harper lodge and member of the Midian Shrine, which would probably explain how the two met. Port was also a member of the St. James Episcopal Church. No other information on Port Early has been located.

Francis Clem Morgan, Jr. was born in Garden City, Kansas on October 14, 1932 to Clem and Melvena Morgan and their first-born. His dad Clem, Sr. was employed at KIUL in Garden City from 1936 to 1940, starting out as an announcer and finally as manager for F. D. Conard, who owned the station with several associates. The family moved to Great Bend, Kansas in late spring of 1940, with Clem, Sr. starting to work for KVGB on March 15, 1940 as the Great Bend station's new General Manager. In the summer of 1948, Clem, Jr. moved to Hays, Kansas where his dad supervised the installation of KAYS, also becoming its first General Manager. In 1951 Clem, Jr. graduated from Hays High School. In 1952 he moved with his parents to Pratt, Kansas, where, among other things, he helped his father install Pratt's first radio station KWSK. After KWSK went on the air October 29, 1952, Morgan attended Pratt Junior College for one year, working as an announcer-operator at the downtown station.

Clem, Jr. was in the military from 1953 to 1955, when he returned to KWSK as an announcer-operator, salesman and Chief Engineer at the station. While in the Army, he started a correspondence course in radio electronics. In July 1958, he enrolled at Elkins Institute of Radio in Dallas, Texas, where he earned his First Class Radiotelephone Operator License. KWSK was a Morgan owned family station and Clem, Jr. was not about to miss out on anything. His dad saw to it that he gained experience in copywriting, news gathering and writing and assisted in some "Public Service" programs.

Like his father, Clem, Jr. was very active in the Pratt community. At the filing of his application, Clem, Jr. was a member of the All Saints Episcopal Church, The Jaycees, Elks Lodge and a charter member of the Pratt Kiwanis Club. At the Kiwanis Club, Morgan helped to organize the Kiwanis Kids Day. In 1955, with the help of his dad and Everett Brown, speech instructor at JUCO, he helped in the formation of the radio production classes at Pratt Junior College and Pratt Senior High School. He also helped the Boy Scouts officials to publicize the Boy Scout Fund Drive and the Scout Circus, the Rotary Club in the March of Dimes, the Lions Club with its annual sale of brooms for the blind, 4-H leaders in preparing tape broadcasts each Saturday morning when material was available, in promoting the TB Clinic's free chest X-Rays and was the local Bloodmobile Chairman in soliciting blood donors for the Red Cross. Clem, Jr. left KWSK on July 1, 1960 taking a job as a salesman for the National Press of North Chicago, selling advertising specialties like ball point pens and calendars. In October of 1963, he remarried and lived in Garden City, Kansas until 1986, moving to Palm Springs, California and went to work for his Dad's old friend, Glen Barnett at KWCY radio. A more complete history of the Morgans can be found in the KWSK history book. At the time of the writing of this paragraph, June 23, 2013, which by the way is the author's and his wife's anniversary, Clem, Jr. is retired and living in North Richland Hills, a suburb of Dallas, Texas.

So there you have it, the two other contestants for the 1290 frequency. Depending on who got the OK, it could be Pratt or it could be Larned, either way it would be another three long years before Bill Huffman would know the rest of the story. Now as to the reason for Bill filing for 1290, Bill wanted a fulltime station that could provide live sports coverage. As to the Pier San group wanting to put a station in Larned, Kansas choosing of all frequencies 1290, one can only guess; all the Pier San players have passed away. As to the Morgan application, Clem, Jr. said he wanted to own a radio station and a little 500 watt daytimer in Larned, Kansas was just the ticket

for him. And 1290 had less problems with interference than the other available frequency of 1310, which Clem, Jr. had hoped would make the process go smoother and quicker.

One of the things Bill amended to his application was reducing the nighttime power from 1,000 to 500 watts. As far as the daytime pattern, the power was still 5,000 watts, but reducing the coverage on the east side from Wichita to Kingman, Kansas. But because of the necessity for the hearings on the use of the 1290 radio frequency and some engineering interference with other radio stations using 1290 to the north and east of Pratt, the application was amended May 12, 1959 prior to the hearing process. Bill said he hated to reduce the coverage back to Kingman, because of the chance to get clients and advertising in the Wichita area, but had no choice.

The hearings would last three long years for Huffman, starting on January 12, 1959 and finally ending on May 29, 1962 with more than 24 hearings in-between, amounting to over 400 pages of legal stuff. Bill's daughter Cynthia, provided the author with 24 of those legal proceedings, but to try to analyze them all or put in this book, is not possible, but we will try to mention some of the more important events. The first "Designated for Hearing Order" from the FCC was announced on April 13, 1960. Three "Prehearing Conferences" were held on May 10, September 12 and September 30, 1960 with exhibits being exchanged on August 17, 1960. The "Evidentiary Hearings" were conducted on September 14 and October 17, 1960, when the records were closed. Sounds simple doesn't it, but not when lawyers are involved. At the September 14, 1960 evidentiary hearing, Bill's attorney presented into evidence 10 exhibits, some of which, looking back on it now, some of the silliest things were argued and objected to, before being allowed into evidence.

For example, the Pier San lawyer, John Kenkel, started right off the bat with Bill's Exhibit One, which was on the history of Pratt, Kansas. Kenkel felt it was 10 pages of baloney, the last two pages he said were, "Two pages of bibliography, I find very extensive amounts of irrelevant and immaterial matter". Really? "Skunk Johnson" irrelevant and immaterial matter? Come out to Pratt sometime Mr. Kenkel and we'll see if we can give you a good ol' Pratt, Kansas education behind the wood shed. The presiding officer was for the FCC, Herbert Sharfman, a man who would be involved with most of the hearings, and, thank God, appears to have had more common sense than Kenkel. It also appears from the Hearing transcript, that Sharfman and Kenkel did not see, eye to eye or get along. At one point Mr. Sharfman remarked, "I think you ought to leave it up to my good judgment, and perhaps you are not disposed to do that because you say that in past cases you have been amazed and astonished to find out what has crept into the initial decision. But if it is all right with you, Mr. Kenkel, and perhaps it isn't, I request that we pass by any too acute analysis of this exhibit and just say that the exhibit will be appropriately discounted."

The Morgan attorney was Mr. Stein. Mr. Ray Paul represented the FCC Broadcast Bureau. So what was the problem? We will let Mr. Kenkel cook his own goose.

Presiding Examiner: "I am referring to Exhibit 1. Have you any objection to its receipt?"

Mr. Stein: "NO, Sir."

Presiding Examiner: "Now, Mr. Kenkel, have you any objection to it being received?"

Mr. Kenkel: "Yes, Mr. Examiner, I do have objections to Exhibit No. 1. The exhibit, consisting of eight pages of narrative statement, and two pages of bibliography, I find contain very extensive amounts of irrelevant and immaterial matter. Speaking to the last two pages, I am not sure that the bibliography is a proper part of this case and I specifically object to the last two pages of Exhibit 1. A bibliography is certainly not, as I see it, within the scope of any issue here. I make a general objection to Exhibit 1 because I find it so shot through with irrelevant and immaterial matter that I think we are burdening the record by—and making an unduly difficult case for all of us if we go through and try to save perhaps two or three of four sentences that may not be quited as objectionable. If you

want, I can take line by line and go through it and point out why I think each one of, or the major part of the exhibit is improper, and I would be glad to do it. But I think—that is the basis of my initial objection because that is so shot through that we are going to have a difficult time and spend an awful lot of time arguing about the matter and I really think the applicant should be required to reform this exhibit and include in there only material that could be properly admitted.”

Presiding Examiner: “Let us have an example, Mr. Kenkel, of this irrelevant matter.”

Mr. Kenkel: “Let’s take page 1 of Exhibit 1, the first paragraph; I think I would not object to. The second paragraph, I would not specifically object to. Paragraph 3, “the early history of Pratt reveals that A. J. (Skunk) Johnson was the first settler.” I specifically object to that. I think we are just unduly burdening the record.”

Presiding Examiner: “We are also unduly burdening the record by objecting to that, Mr. Kenkel. I don’t want to stop you from objecting, that is your perfect right. What difference does that make if that stays in there? How am I or anybody else going to be influenced by the fact that (Skunk) Johnson was the first settler.”

Mr. Kenkel: “Mr. Examiner, I have asked myself the same question. If you go through you will find little bits of it in the initial decisions and in the final decision, and I don’t think I should be importuned from draying proper objections to that basis and that is why I suggested, Mr. Examiner, because of the difficulty, I think it will take time and difficulty to point out specific objections, and that is why I think the exhibit should be reformed.”

Presiding Examiner: “If the other objections are of the same nature, I realize many of the things stated about Pratt are not the kind of things relevant to a 307(B) determination. Whether “Skunk” Johnson is the earliest pioneer or whatever it is in the area is, of course, unimportant. But the entire purpose of this exhibit is to give some sort of a picture about Pratt. Now, often the particular matters recited are not the kind that strike the examiner’s or the Commission’s attention. However, it is difficult in trying to picture a community to pick and choose the matters which may be of some cogency. I don’t think that it is important enough to go through this entire exhibit to find out what is material or relevant or cogent or striking or what may be somewhat Chamber of Commerce in nature. I think you ought to leave it up to my good judgment, and perhaps you are not disposed to do that because you say that in past cases you have been amazed and astonished to find out what has crept into the initial decision. But if it is all right with you, Mr. Kenkel, and perhaps it isn’t, I request that we pass by any too acute analysis of this exhibit and just say that the exhibit will be appropriately discounted.”

Mr. Paul: “Mr. Examiner, I have only one general objection to Exhibit 1, and that is to that portion of Exhibit 1, commencing with paragraph 3 there on the first page and continuing through the third paragraph on page 4, down to 1925 and 1950, Pratt, Kansas. Of course, I don’t desire to argue this objection in detail but I would just merely like to point out that in passing all of this is lumped together, and we don’t think it has any materiality or relevancy to the proceeding. It is past history. It makes very good reading but we don’t think—.”

Presiding Examiner: “All right, it makes good reading, and all I can say at this point, gentlemen, is that I will discount that appropriately. I am not going to be enchanted by the man or minutia regarding the history of Pratt, Kansas, interesting though that may be to a Kansan. Is there any other objection to Exhibit No. 1.”

Mr. Kenkel: “If I may just a minute, Mr. Examiner, because I had this set up to go through it line by line—in order that I may preserve a proper exception, is the examiner now ruling on my first two objections, in other words the one general objection and a request for reformation and, secondly, the first example of a specific one?”

Presiding Examiner: “Yes.”

Mr. Kenkel: “If the Examiner is overruling me I want the record to show it.”

Presiding Examiner: “Yes, these objections are overruled, yes. It is not necessary to take an exception on every

unfavorable ruling.”

Mr. Kenkel: “I realize that, but when I do take an ultimate exception to the Commission to your ruling, I want to have a specific page in the transcript where I can make reference to it

Presiding Examiner: All right.”

Mr. Kenkel: “In light of the examiner’s two rulings and realizing any further objections that I do have to the exhibit being based on the same general ground would be overruled, I think I have preserved my position and I have no further objections.”

Presiding Examiner: “All right, then. With the comments that have already been made and subject to the understanding that the exhibit will be appropriately weighted, I hope, Huffman Exhibit No. 1 is received.”

Well believe it or not, the document referred to as Huffman exhibit No. 1 was finally received into evidence. I am sure at that moment, that famed Pratt historian J. Rufus Gray breathed a sigh of relief; “Skunk Johnson” had prevailed. I can also picture in my mind the Mormon Tabernacle Choir sitting oh so quietly on the sidelines, suddenly springing to their feet and singing the “Hallelujah Chorus”. Only Huffman’s Exhibits 4 and 7 escaped Mr. Kenkel’s mindless objections.

One of the other things that did come out of the September 14, 1960 hearing was the possibility that the Morgan application had simply been a front by Clem, Jr.’s father, to block the final approval and force the hearings to the end of hopefully no other station in Pratt besides KWSK. In the three years of hearings, Clem, Jr. was the only one called to Washington, D.C. to testify before the FCC. Not even Clem, Sr., Bill Huffman or any of the Pier San group, no engineers ever testified on anything pertaining to the applications, only Clem, Jr. was singled out. Although there was an order by the FCC for Wilmer E. Huffman to appear at a hearing scheduled to commence on June 13, 1960 in Washington, DC., that changed and Bill never did have to testify.

After all the Huffman Exhibits had been finally entered into evidence, Clem, Jr. was called to testify. He was questioned at length by his own attorney A. L. Stein, Huffman’s attorney Francis X. McDonough and Pier San’s attorney John B. Kenkel. It was Kenkel’s questions to Clem, Jr. that were the most pointed, with Kenkel beating around the bush, but never coming out and just stating the question as to the fact that the Morgan application was just to block Huffman. A portion of the questions by Kenkel and Morgan’s answers were as follows:

Kenkel: “Mr. Morgan, when did you file your application for a new station in Larned?”

Morgan: “In January of 1959.”

Kenkel: “January of 1959. At that time you were employed?”

Morgan: “I was employed at the Radio Station in Pratt, Kansas.”

Kenkel: “That is the station that is owned by your father?”

Morgan: “Yes, Sir.”

Kenkel: “When you filed your application was there not one on file for the same frequency in Pratt?”

Morgan: “There was.”

Kenkel: “You knew at the time, didn’t you, that by filing your application for Larned that the Pratt application could not be granted without a hearing?”

Morgan: “I did.”

Kenkel: “You knew that? Did you discuss your Larned application with your father who owns the existing station in Pratt?”

Morgan: “We had talked about that several years ago, even before the Pratt application was filed.”

Kenkel: “How about when you filed it, didn’t you discuss with your father that your Larned application would

prevent a grant of the Pratt application without a hearing?”

Morgan: “We were aware there would be a hearing.”

Kenkel: “Both you and your father were aware of that?”

Morgan: “Yes.”

Kenkel: “Your father was aware of it?”

Morgan: “Yes, Sir.”

Kenkel: “Didn’t you discuss it with him several times?”

Morgan: “That is, we had the frequency run before we filed, that is when I filed an application.”

So what did the FCC think of the matter? When the FCC granted the application for the Pier San group and denied the Huffman and Morgan applications on March 29, 1961, there is an interesting subnote on page seven of the paper. Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman stated, “in its proposed findings of fact and conclusions Pier San suggests that the real party in interest in Morgan’s application was Clem Morgan. The Hearing Examiner feels that it is unprofitable to pursue these implications. In any event, the fact that invoices and engineering exhibits originally bore the name Clem Morgan instead of the applicant may be ground for suspicion by a vigorous advocate, but is hardly the basis for a holding that the father was not really acting as his son’s agent in engaging professional assistance, or that the engineer had done more than designate on the documents the name of the person – Clem – who had directly hired him; in short, no finding or conclusion is possible on this record that Francis C. Morgan, Jr. is not the real party in interest, or that his application is not filed in good faith. Pier San did not call as witnesses the applicant’s father or the engineering consultant.” So it appears that the FCC felt the implications were perhaps unfounded also.

You might ask at this point, how did the people of Pratt feel about another station in town, they already had one with KWSK. Bill’s idea simply was that of a full-time station covering live sports, etc. Businesses buy advertising and that pays the bills for the station and keeps it going. So how did the business and money people think about the idea? Bill’s station was to be fulltime with the daytime pattern going to the Colorado line and the nighttime going some 80 miles on four main axis. KWSK was a daytimer with 250 watts, with a single tower and a 60 mile coverage radius.

Bill did a walk around the businesses of Pratt and some in the area to get letters of support for the new station, which were presented as an Exhibit at a FCC hearing in August 1960 from the following people:

1. Wilbur S. Kraisinger, County Agricultural Agent
2. Marion Ackley, President, Pratt Pilot Club.
3. Glenn Henson, Manager, Calbeck Furniture and Music.
4. B. V. Hampton, President, Pratt Industrial Development, Inc.
5. K. Wayne Ayres, Chapter Chairman, American Red Cross.
6. Jennie McKinley, County Superintendent, Barber County.
7. Kenneth S. Hill, Superintendent of Schools, Pratt County.
8. Mamie Longnecker, County Superintendent, Kingman County.
9. Gertude Bonecutter, County Superintendent, Pratt County.
10. Clarence Hillard, Executive Secretary, Pratt County Chapter ARC.

One of the names worth noting is Glenn Henson, Manager for Calbeck Furniture and Music. Glenn was one of the original sign-on members when KWSK went on the air, October 29, 1952. Glenn had arrived in Pratt, the middle of August 1952, to help Clem Morgan get the station ready for operation. Glenn left KWSK sometime

in 1954 to go to work for Harold Johnson and Don Small Motors, the local Lincoln Mercury dealer selling cars. Johnson Motors was located at 210 South Jackson, where Pratt Glass is now. Glenn came back to KWSK sometime in 1955 to help the station with sales, as it was facing some money problems at that time. Glenn would again leave for the last time sometime in 1956 to go to work for Calbeck's, becoming the store manager in May 1958.

It is probably also worth noting at this point, the names of other Pratt business leaders who were in on the initial discussions or provided written information for the hearings or had contacted the Kansas Congressional Delegation. At that point in time, it was U.S. Senators Frank Carlson and Andrew F. Schoepel and Bob Dole in the House of Representatives. The list provided from Bill's legal archives is quite a formable cross section of the business and money people in Pratt in the late 1950's, who owned and ran them, and by the looks of it, most of the Main Street businesses were behind him.

1. Jess R. Kennedy, Kennedy Jewelry, 208 South Main
2. Leland Flint, Flint Sales and Service, Inc., 519 South Main
3. Roy Hadden, Pratt Furniture Company, 623 South Main
4. "Pud" Green, W. R. Green Lumber, 800 North Main
5. James Temaats, Peter Pan Cleaners, 118 North Main
6. B. V. Hampton, Hampton and Murray, 306 South Main
7. Dr. Warren Jacks, 223 East 4th
8. Larry Farmer, Jett's Department Store, 300 South Main
9. Dale Sanders, Sanders Insurance Agency, 313 South Main
10. Bob Hodges, Scott and Hodges Insurance, Shaw Building
11. Roy Owston, Owston's Jewelry, 204 South Main
12. Glenn E. Karns, The Peoples Bank, 224 South Main
13. J. C. Lemon, Independent Lumber Company, 212 South Ninescah
14. George Lemon, Independent Lumber Company, 212 South Ninescah
15. John Schrepel, Milne Pharmacy, 305 South Main
16. George T. Chandler, First National Bank, 223 South Main
17. Delmer Riney, Dillions Store
18. Tom Brungardt, Brungardt's Shoe Store, 309 South Main
19. Marie Vickers, Red Rock Restaurant, 713 East First
20. Richard W. Robbins, 423 North Main
21. Paul Woolwine, Woolwine Supply, 203 South Ninescah
22. William G. Schafer, Schafer Plow Company, 204 Simpson
23. Harlon R. Kinton, Kinton's Evergreen Restaurant, RFD #1
24. Ralph Ackley, Ackley Florists, 708 West 5th
25. Wayne K. Ayres, Ayres-Calbeck Mortuary, 115 East 4th
26. Robert Crabill, Pratt Daily Tribune, 319 South Ninescah
27. Robert G. Lake, Western Savings Assn., 201 South Main
28. Elwood Lawrence, Contractor, 923 West 5th
29. Dr. W. D. Pitman, 119 South Oak
30. Earl C. Swinson, Swinson Motor Company, 101 South Main
31. Vernon N. Swinson, Swinson Motor Company, 101 South Main

32. Dr. F. A. Thorpe, 310 East 2nd
33. Paul Tupper, Tupper Office Supply, 209 South Main
34. E. H. Vincent, Vincent and Graber Tire Company, 121 West 5th
35. Clyde C. Williams, Williams-Talbott Mortuary, 201 East 4th
36. Conrad Gilham, The Printing Press
37. Gerald Doughty, Gerald's Serva-teria, 1123 East 1st
38. Homan Smith, Mecca Café, 711 North Main
39. Carl R. Gates, Pratt Well Service, 723 South Ninescah
40. Ray Earlywine, Kansas State Employment Services, Court House
41. Dr. E. F. Giannangelo, Dentist, 610 East 2nd

After the hearing conducted on September 14, 1960, where Mr. Kenkel, attorney for the Pier San group dazzled them with his objections and Clem, Jr. was questioned at length, all three parties had by this time presented their evidence, the evidence having been picked over and finally entered into the record as accepted evidence. On February 1, 1961, all three parties submitted to the FCC their "Proposed Finding of Fact and Conclusion of Law" statements, which is a fancy brief of why their team should be the winner. Well, if you have a "Proposed Finding of Fact and Conclusion of Law", there is going to be a "Reply to Proposed Finding of Fact and Conclusion Of Law" and all three parties were submitted to the FCC on February 17, 1961. If you read the transcripts, it is nothing more than pages that the other team's conclusions are full of beans and my team is right, which is the name of the game. Justice is not necessarily about the truth, right or wrong, but what you think you can prove.

January 29, 1961 marked the Kansas State Centennial. Little did I know an event that year was to have a profound influence on my life and future career in radio. The author of this book, Ron Detwiler, at the time was a student at Haskins School in Pratt, a third grader in Mrs. Fred Chamberlain's class. In February, on a Friday, the class presented a special Kansas Day program called, "The Kansas Kitty." The operetta was written by Mrs. Clarke Jackson of Garnett, Kansas and was adapted from a children's book by Marguerite Cripe Jackman of Hutchinson, Kansas. The hero of the play was "Sweet Williams," a fictional skunk, played by Ron Detwiler, who becomes the hero of the pioneers and is called "The Kansas Kitty." The first program of the Friday was a matinee for the students of Haskins. At 7:30 p.m. that night, was the command performance for parents and friends. Also in the play was Glenn Henson's daughter Sandra, who led the flag salute. Which now brings us to the question of what has this to do with Bill Huffman and KWNS? Well, unknown to me, in addition to the two performances, Mrs. Chamberlain had arranged with Clem Morgan to do the play live on the air at KWSK, which would become my only memory of KWSK. The class walked from Haskins School to the downtown studios. While walking to the studios, I asked several buddies, what we were going to be doing. They told me that we were indeed doing the play live on the air and that we would be talking into a microphone. From that bit of unneeded knowledge, the closer we got to the stairs going up to the upstairs studios, the more nervous I got. This was NOT a good idea in my nine-year-old mind. I knew enough about radio, even at nine years old, having spent a lot of time at my Uncle Homer's TV shop, that there was going to be easily a billion people tuned in, just to hear me make a mistake on the air. Well, before I knew it, there we were, standing at the door that had the huge letters K W S K on the door that guarded the stairway to Hell. Up the stairway we went to a studio room that was, in my mind, huge. In 2010, when my dad Don Detwiler and I went back to take pictures of the place, it wasn't nearly as huge as I remembered it. In the "North Studio" as it was called, we were seated behind a long table with some microphones on it. In front of us, looking through a large piece of glass was the control room and a long box with levers, knobs and other weird stuff sticking out the front. In that room was a very tall man and in front of him, seated at the controls was another person. By

now, if someone would have yelled BOO, I would have been the first one out the door and safely back at good ol' Haskins! Because in my scared little mind, in front of me was the Devil himself and his helper and we were not going to make it out alive!! Well, before I knew it, we were on the air, I had done my part talking into the microphone without a single mistake, the program went without a hitch and down the stairs we went, still alive and kicking. The tall man in the control room, I would learn later in life was none other than Clem Morgan, the man at the controls, I probably will never know. Little did I know that in the short span of less than ten years later, I would be doing that for a living as Chief Engineer at KWNS. So in a sense, I guess Clem and KWSK gave me my start in radio, that cold February day, way back in 1961.

While we are on the subject of Clem Morgan and KWSK, Pratt's first Farm and Home Show was held at the Municipal Building in downtown Pratt in February 1961 by KWSK. This was a very successful promotion for the station. All the merchants at the show would advertise on the air for the public to come in and see their goods and naturally there was specials being offered to entice them to spend their money. It was a good deal for KWSK because of the influx of commercials to promote the show, the merchants at the show, etc. It was a good deal for the merchants too, because of the increased sales resulting from the show. The show was so successful that the show was continued by KWNS after KWSK had gone off the air in 1964. Because the show was so well received, the next year it was moved to the Pratt National Guard Armory for more room. The show would occur each February or March, on a Saturday and Sunday, well into the 1980s. To help promote the 1961 show, Clem got together with the local Chamber of Commerce and arranged to have the current Miss Kansas, Gayla Leigh Shoemaker, appear at the show and of course, the show was free to the public. To help promote the Kansas Centennial, the ladies and men dressed up as pioneers.

On March 29, 1961, Herbert Sharfman, Hearing Examiner for the FCC issued his initial decision, looking toward granting the Pier San application and denying the Huffman and Morgan applications. From Page 35, Paragraph 95: "Accordingly, because public interest, commercial and necessity will be served, thereby, IT IS ORDERED, This 27th day of March, 1961, that unless an appeal from this initial decision is taken by a party to the Commission or the Commission reviews the Initial Decision on its own motion in accordance with the provisions of Section 1.153 of the Rules, the application of Pier San, Inc., for a construction permit for a new standard broadcast station at Larned, Kansas to operate on 1290 KC, with 500 watts power, daytime only, is GRANTED, and that the competing applications of Wilmer E. Huffman and Francis C. Morgan, Jr. are Denied. Signed: Herbert W. Sharfman, Hearing Examiner, FCC. March 29, 1961".

I asked Bill what his feelings were at this point on the FCC's decision and he said, "Total disbelief! I felt the Commission was wrong and that a fulltime station in Pratt and not a daytime station in Larned was better use of the 1290 frequency. Of course, I consulted my attorney, Mr. McDonough and he said we should file a protest, which we did". On May 8, 1961, both Huffman and Morgan filed an "Exception to Initial Decision" brief. What is interesting is the fact that the Pier San attorneys filed a "Statement in Support of Initial Decision" also on May 8, 1961. The FCC had already ruled in their favor, so to me their brief was a little bit redundant. If they had known when to keep their mouths shut, perhaps the FCC would have reaffirmed that decision and Larned would have had their first station and Pratt's radio history would have been a whole lot different.

Even Kenneth A. Cox, Chief for the FCC Broadcast Bureau filed a "Broadcast Bureau Petition to Accept Late Filing of Exceptions and Brief in Support", stating in part, "We believe that the need of some 9,000 persons for the first nighttime service far outweighs the need for a first local outlet in Larned. We believe a grant of the Pratt application would best serve the public interest, and for this reason file the following exceptions to the

Conclusions of the Initial Decision”. In other words, “The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few or the one”. Sorry Mr. Spock, I just had to get that in. Little did Bill know at that time, but the Broadcast Bureau’s brief on May 9, 1961, “Exceptions to Initial Decision”, would play a key role in the FCC’s decision to reverse itself later. Throughout the summer and fall months, there would be replies to the exceptions and oral arguments before the FCC panel. Something else was about to happen that was to have an influence also on Bill’s future with KWNS and the FCC’s reversal decision on January 3, 1962.

On August 23, 1961, Bill Huffman’s grade school pal from Cunningham, Don Hoagland, filed an application for a station in Larned, Kansas on 1510 kilocycles. The FCC by then had loosened its restrictions on some frequencies, so more were available when Don filed in 1961. Don was in partnership for the proposed station with Marvin Downie. Mr. Downie was according to Don, a great musician, and owner of the Larned Music Store. The announcement was made in the Broadcast Weekly under “For The Record” on August 28, 1961 as follows, “Hoagland-Downie, 1510 kc; 1 kw-D; 500 W-CH. P. O. address 510 A Broadway, Larned. Estimated construction cost \$21,000; first year operating cost \$24,000; revenue \$30,000. Principals: Donald Hoagland, Marvin Downie (each 50%). Mr. Downie owns music store; Mr. Hoagland has been chief engineer of KCLO Leavenworth, and announcer for KMUW-FM, Wichita, both Kansas”. On August 31, 1964, the FCC granted the assignment of KANS license from Hoagland-Downie to Don H. Hoagland for the consideration of \$12,000. In June 1967, Don sold KANS-AM-FM for \$150,000 to Hillis F. Bell, Jr., who was at the time, sales manager for the station. The FM having been added in 1965. The Broadcast Bureau approved the sale on July 31, 1967.

So, what has this to do with the proposed Pratt station? Apparently quite a bit, but we will get to that in a minute. One thing the reader needs to remember is that the FCC had just denied the Huffman application for a station in Pratt and granted the Pier San group to build a station in Larned on March 29, 1961. So here comes Don Hoagland and Marvin Downie filing for a station on August 23, 1961 in none other than Larned, Kansas. The FCC would not reverse its decision until January 3, 1962. The FCC is not about to grant another application, making two stations in little Larned, Kansas. So why would you even think about filing? Smelling a story, who better to ask than Don Hoagland himself.

This is Don’s reply in an e-mail dated July 23, 2013 about the matter, “That was a long time ago. I don’t even recognize the name Pier San. But I think that might be the old Mack Sanders bunch. I filed with a Larned businessman, Marv Downing. Marv was an old friend, a great musician and owned the Larned Music Store. At that time, the FCC was looking for local owners and having Marv as a local partner was of great help. It could be that there was some question concerning the coverage of the Pier San station in Wichita and that coverage and the Larned signal would overlap. At that time, that was a NO NO for the FCC. I am not sure about that, but I think that might have been a problem and no local ownership. I do remember the Morgan application in Larned being turned down and I believe the problem there was money. The Huffman application I believe was on the same frequency that the Pier San application was for. What I tried to do was to file for a station in Larned with a local owner, showing the FCC that Larned could be granted a station and Pratt could be granted a full-time station. That seemed to make sense to the FCC. They acted exactly like I thought they would. Pratt got its full-time station and Larned also got its station. I received a telegram one day from the FCC, stating that I had been granted a construction permit to build the Larned station. I had very little money. Mr. Downing had some. We did a lease-purchase on the equipment, got a local merchant to fix up a basement for the studio and we were on the air. We only had enough money to pay our overhead for a month or perhaps two. But we went on the air in November and got a lot of Christmas business. We broke even in November and made money in December. As long as I owned and managed

KANS, we never had a month that we did not make money. Some months, we made a lot of money.”

In the September 15, 1961 Hearing there was some interesting dialog from Mr. Kenkel, the Pier San attorney. Mr. Kenkel had hinted that the Morgan application was nothing more than a front for his Dad to block Bill’s application, which the FCC found no grounds for. It seemed Mr. Kenkel was good at throwing accusations to the wind, but never offering any proof. In this Hearing, his guns were pointed at Bill. He had the bright idea that Lon Hoagland, Don’s dad was financing the Pratt proposal now and since Don had filed for a station in Larned, now there was apparently some sort of conspiracy with Lon, Don Hoagland and Bill Huffman.

Again we will let him cook his own goose with the following clip from the Hearing. Mr. Kenkel said, “Just briefly, an enent on that point. I found somewhat puzzling my brother’s reference to a pending application for another station in Larned. That application was filed some ten days and it is filed contingent of a grant of either of the Larned applications, not of a denial, and perhaps your eyebrows raise and you wonder why contingent on a grant. One of the partners in that is a Mr. Hoagland, who is the son of the Mr. Hoagland who is financing the Pratt proposal. So the case of the over-lap situation, obviously, the son could not have a station at Larned. There may be some other problems involved there which the faces of the two applications in the record here do not show but suggest. For example, in the docket, in the Pratt case, there is a letter from Mr. Hoagland to one of the Congressional representatives inquiring about—and I am speaking now of the Hoagland who is financing Pratt—there is a letter inquiring about the status of “my” application. Perhaps there was a choice of language on his part. Perhaps it has some other significance, but I don’t know. I think these things should be mentioned since my brother raised the question of a new application having been filed for Larned”. On the subject of Lon Hoagland financing Bill’s application, Bill told me that that was completely unfounded; all financing was done by himself. He never did understand where that came from. As to the reason for Don Hoagland filing, Don has already explained his reasons. It seems that the more Mr. Kenkel moved his mouth, the more the Pier San ship took on water.

On September 25, 1961, Bill lost his chance at getting the call letters he wanted; namely KEES. The reader will recall that the call letters were to stand for Kansas Extra Excellence Sports. On that day, KEES was assigned to station KSIJ in Gladewater, Texas. One more set of call letters would be assigned to the new station in Pratt, Kansas before it became KWNS, but we are getting ahead of the story.

Oh, and before I forget, Bill became a father for the first time on December 12, 1961. Under the “Hospital Notes, Births on Tuesday”, a daughter Cynthia was born to the Huffmans, weighing 7 pounds and 1 ounce. Now I have no doubt, that Bill was a proud new father of a baby girl, but as Bill was an accountant, I can just hear him saying as he was holding Cynthia, “Aw, my nice little tax deduction!!” Seriously, just kidding Bill, but I can remember my Uncle Homer telling me that was what his Dad called him, as he was a late December birth also. Cynthia went on to obtain her PhD degree and is a Professor of Mathematics at Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas.

“The End is Near”

The hint that the FCC was going to reverse its decision and grant Huffman’s application came on October 4, 1961 when the FCC directed its staff to prepare a “document looking toward granting application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new AM station to operate on 1290 kc., 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, in Pratt, Kansas and denying applications of Pier San, Inc. and Francis C. Morgan, Jr.”. Of course this was quickly followed by Pier San filing a transcript and granted by FCC Chairman Newton N. Minow, correcting in various respects, the oral arguments in

the proceeding on its AM application on October 6, 1961.

On January 3, 1962, the FCC made it official, it was granting Bill a construction permit and denying the Pier San, Morgan applications. It is worth noting, however, by no means, did Bill have a major portion of the commissioners voting in his favor. From the FCC record, only 3 commissioners voted in favor, 2 against, 1 abstaining and one commissioner wasn't even there to vote. Bill had gotten the grant by the "skin of his teeth". Again of course, this was quickly followed by Pier San and Morgan filing a "Petition for Reconsideration". It was the voting that Pier San and Morgan were going to zero in on. The fact that 3 voting in favor is not a majority of 7. They overlooked one simple fact that one commissioner had abstained and one was absent when the vote was taken. And this had held up in similar cases for FCC voting; only 5 voted, therefore 3 is a majority. This was followed by the Broadcast Bureau on February 16, 1962 filing an opposition to "Petition for Reconsideration". The FCC Broadcast Bureau was definitely in favor of the Pratt station application. On February 19, 1962, Bill Huffman's attorneys filed an "Opposition to the Petition for Reconsideration and Rehearing". Pier San followed on February 21, 1962 a file responding to the Morgan opposition and on March 2, 1962 simply replying to opposition.

One thing you could take to the bank was the fact that as soon as Bill got the news from the FCC, there was a newspaper article about it in the Pratt Tribune. The January 5, 1962 clip read as follows, "Radio Station Gets Federal Go-Ahead. The Federal Communications Commission late yesterday granted permission to Wilmer (Bill) E. Huffman of Pratt to proceed with construction of an AM radio station here. Huffman said that construction of the facilities will probably commence about the first of March, primarily because of weather conditions. The station is to be located about two miles east of Pratt on the south side of US Highway 54. This location is near the new sale pavilion that is being built on the north side of the highway. The station will operate on 1290 kc with 5,000 watts of power during the daytime and 500 watts at night. Huffman said that although he had a 24 hour broadcasting permit, plans called for initially operating from about 5:30 a.m. until midnight. Calculated range of the station will be from about Wichita on the east to Lamar, Colo. on the west, and from near Dalhart, Tex., on the south to McCook, Nebr. on the north. Huffman has 20 acres for the station site, which will also provide space for the four towers planned. The building which will be of a special masonry material, will be L-shaped. It will be approximately 50 feet long on both sides of the L. There will be eight or nine full-time employees, Huffman said."

While the battle between the two stations KWSK and KWNS in Pratt was just beginning, two young teenagers back in Falls Church, Virginia lost their battle with the FCC on January 9, 1962 and had their station shut down. You know that oldie, "I Fought The FCC and The FCC Won"!! WALE, "your neighbor station" was the brainchild of Bruce Wahl, 13 and David Lester, 14. The station was located in Wahl's bedroom. Bruce and David were its commentators, engineers, announcers and disc jockeys. The station coverage area was the local neighborhood with a grand total of nine other houses. The boys had put the station together from old parts, the transmitter putting out about a tenth of a watt. Every afternoon after school WALE offered the neighbors a program of weather information, news pulled from newspapers and of course, music: "everything from rock 'n' roll to the semi-classics." Wahl said he knew that at least one family listened, "but they moved away after the first broadcast. Of course, they had been planning to move for six months." For Bruce and David, it was great fun until one day when Bruce spotted a man in an automobile aiming a device with an aerial at his bedroom window. Then the man came to the door and asked, "Are you running a radio station?" Proudly the two boys acknowledged the fact that yes, they were. Well, the smiles on their faces disappeared when the man showed them a card identifying him as an investigator from the FCC and told them he wanted to check their equipment. After that, he sat down with the boys and Bruce's mother, informing them that operating an unlicensed radio station could result in a \$10,000 fine or jail

for two years, or both. That's when the two boys started shaking like leaves, and I don't think Mom was too happy at this point, either. It appears that the FCC was willing to forget the whole thing; after all, this was the 60s. Today the boys would still be hiring lawyers. WALE was officially off the air, having enjoyed a one-month run. Well Bruce and Dave, you might give ol' John Kenkel a call at Miller and Schroeder, 218 Munsey Building in Washington, D.C., he did wonders for the Pier San group, you will be back on the air in NO time!!

On April 2, 1962, the newly approved Pratt station was issued the call letters KPRT. Because of the hearings, the reader will recall that Bill's first choice of call letters, KEES, were issued to a station in Gladewater, Texas on September 25, 1961, a decision I am sure did not make him too glad. For me, the author, I wished Bill had kept the call letters KPRT; I always had a hard time pronouncing "w" correctly. As Everett Brown used to tell the radio broadcasting class at Pratt Juco, "It is NOT, K "dub-u" SK, it is K "double U" SK, let's get it right". Easier said than done, Mr. Brown, for the author. Besides KPRT looked like a peach of a call, K-Pratt, that sort of thing. In talking to Bill, he said for some reason he couldn't recall the KPRT call sign, but filing instead for KWNS, as he wanted to keep the sport theme. It was to stand for Key (to) Weather, News and Sports changed later in the mid 60's to Kansas Weather, News (and) Sports. The Pratt station was issued the call letters KWNS on April 30, 1962. Sorry Bill, I still like KPRT better.

The hearings officially came to an end on May 29, 1962 when the FCC by memorandum and order, readopted its January 3, 1962 decision granting the construction permit of Wilmer E. Huffman for a new AM station to operate on 1290 kilocycles, 5,000 watts daytime, 500 watts nighttime, DA-2 in Pratt, Kansas and denying the petitions for reconsideration filed by Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San Inc. Commissioner Bartley again dissented. Commissioner Lee dissented. Commissioner Cross concurred in part, dissented in part and issued statement. Again, the approval had been a close vote. However, all that mattered to Bill was, he had won the battle. He didn't care if he had won by one vote, he was going to build KWNS. Oh, by the way, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir once again jumped to their feet and belted out the "Hallelujah Chorus". Thanks guys and gals, you can go back to Salt Lake City, Bill can handle it from here.

"Construction Begins"

As mentioned earlier, the first call letters issued to Bill were KPRT, which was promptly rejected and the call letters KWNS were issued on April 30, 1962. As far as construction on the new station, not much was being done yet, as it was the middle of the winter and winters back then tended to be a whole lot colder and more snow than there are now. Also the reader will remember that Huffman was still a partner with Hampton in their accounting firm and this was the busy time of the year for tax return stuff. Primarily the main reason Bill said was that although the FCC had reversed its decision and now was granting him the go ahead, Pier San and Morgan would more then likely protest that decision. Bill said he was still a little "gun-shy" to the fact that the FCC could reverse it again, not likely, but it was not out of possibility. During that period from January 3 to May 22, although no construction was going on, Bill was however sitting down with the contractors, engineers, etc., getting ready to "pull the trigger". Shortly after the FCC ruling of May 20, 1962, Bill officially held the groundbreaking ceremony on May 22, 1962. This was a few days after the FCC had issued its final decision again in favor of Bill constructing Pratt's first full-time AM radio station.

An interesting article appeared in the Saturday edition of the Pratt Tribune; yes, back in the dark ages there was a Saturday paper. The article or probably more an announcement, dated June 2, 1962, was a progress report;

the first of eight, letting the community know where Bill and KWNS was in the construction progress. Progress Report No. 1 gave a few details of the progress so far, "Federal Communications Commission announced yesterday their denial of petitions for reconsideration filed by Pier San, Inc. of Wichita and Francis C. Morgan, Jr., formerly of Pratt. Ground breaking ceremonies were held recently. Ground work is now completed. Building construction to begin immediately. Tentative air date to be announced later. Watch this paper each Friday for further reports".

One of the lucky things, at least for this history book, about the eight progress reports in the paper, is that it gives a good time frame of when things took place in the building construction and equipment installation of the station in 1962. Now as to Bill's reason in placing the reports back in 1962, he said, "I wanted to let the public and all of my supporters to know, the progress of getting the station on the air."

As Bill indicated, although no construction had been done in the winter, there was a lot of pre-planning going on and that is certainly backed up by Progress Report No. 2 that appeared in the paper almost one week later on Friday, June 8, 1962. In that report, the building foundation had been completed and the four tower bases had been completed, just a mere 18 days after the groundbreaking ceremonies.

In Report No. 3 on June 15, it was reported that the first concrete blocks of the building construction had been laid on Thursday, June 14 and that the first 60 feet of the four 190 feet towers had been erected. Which in a roundabout way takes us back to Don Hoagland, Bill's childhood friend. Back in 1958, when Bill said to Don that he was interested in seeing Pratt with a radio station that could broadcast at night as well as the daytime, Don replied, "You build it and I will work for you!". Well Don, be careful what you wish for! According to Bill Huffman, his old check stubs show that Don went on the payroll sometime in May 1962. Little did Don know he would actually be doing the building. Don mixed concrete and mortar, carried heavy blocks, helped install equipment and ran all over the countryside taking field strength readings. I don't think Don had that vision in mind back in 1958, but Don said in an email, "And yes, it was worth it!"

While we are on the subject of Don Hoagland, here are parts of an e-mail Don sent to me on July 12, 2012, just before the KWSK-KWNS Reunion on August 18, 2012, and read that night at our reunion dinner. "To radio listeners in the Pratt County Area: My name is Don Hoagland. I now reside in Saint Louis, Missouri and cannot be with you for this special event, but I want to share these few comments with you. I got my start in broadcasting when I attended Pratt Junior College and Clem Morgan at KWSK was kind enough to let me learn how to use the equipment that ran his station. All of us kids in Everett Brown's Speech Class at the college got the opportunity to work with Clem and his family at the station. Clem was not all that sold on rock and roll music, but once in a while, we could sneak a 45 record in here and there. I went on from Pratt to attend a Radio License school to get my First Class FCC License. Before the day of deregulation, stations were required to have a first class operator on board. After receiving that license, I took an engineers job at KCLO radio in Leavenworth. Bill Huffman and I had been friends, as I had known the Huffman family for years as they were from Cunningham where my parents owned a grocery store.....Bill helped me grow in the broadcasting business and I filed with the FCC to build my own station in Larned. The commission approved that application and I built, owned and managed KANS for a number of years. I sold KANS and moved to Excelsior Springs, Missouri, where I operated KEXS radio. In Excelsior Springs, I served on the City Council, Mayor and was elected to serve as a county judge. I have retired from broadcasting, but I will always remember the kindness and the opportunity given me by Clem Morgan and Bill Huffman and the people in the Pratt listening area. May your signal continue to radiate for the next 50 years. Yours, truly: Don "Hoagie" Hoagland, Clay County District Judge-Retired".

Sometime in May 1962, the first top staff employee was hired, and KWNS' first Chief Engineer, the honor

going to Clarence "Clancy" Evans. Clancy had been suggested to Bill by Dave Tucker, who had worked with him at KWSK. It was Clancy, who helped put the station equipment together with Don Hoagland's help. Clancy was no stranger to Pratt radio or the citizens of Pratt, having come to Pratt from Goodland in the summer of 1952, to be KWSK's first Chief Engineer and help Clem put the station on the air. He had also worked with Clem Morgan at KVGB in Great Bend in the 1940's, with its engineering team, when Clem was General Manager of that station. Clancy had tried in 1942 to enlist in the Armed Forces at Wichita, Kansas, but was turned down. Clancy was a bachelor when he came to Pratt, living in a basement apartment at 519 East First Street owned by widow Mae Adams, who he later married in the mid 1950's. By all accounts, Clancy was a good engineer and an excellent woodworker, spending his spare time on various woodworking projects. Sometime before 1955, Clancy made a very nice cedar chest for Melvena, Clem's first wife. It is not known if any funds changed hands or if it was a gift. Fortunately, this piece of Clancy's work is preserved, owned and treasured by Margaret Morgan Godfrey, now living in Rogers, Arkansas. At the time Clancy was hired by Bill Huffman, he was working at KCKT-TV, the channel 2 station, north of Great Bend, Kansas as an engineer, but living in Pratt. His wife Mae was working at Russ' Food Market. Clancy left KWNS and apparently Pratt sometime shortly after July 1963. All efforts to locate the Evans or next of kin for the reunion or information for both books have so far failed. A check of the 1964 City Directory shows that 519 East First was sold to a James Stott. Clancy never did appear again in the City Directory or telephone books. It is rumored that he went from Pratt to Colorado, dying of cancer there later on in life, but this hasn't been confirmed.

By the time Report No. 4 came out in the paper on June 23, 1962, all the exterior concrete blocks had been laid. The report also stated that the floor and wall construction was to be completed in the next 10 to 15 days. I think Don Hoagland breathed a sigh of relief at this point, having mixed what appeared to be tons of mortar and hauling millions of tons of concrete blocks. Worth noting also in Report No. 4 is that the next progress report would in two weeks. The block mortar was being given time to fully cure before the first prestress concrete roof slabs would be installed. The four towers would not be finished for until the end of August, the bases and anchor points having cured also 14 weeks. Only 60 feet of the towers had been erected at this point, held up by the first of five sets of guy wires. The first set was just holding up the tower, the guy wires probably at this point had not been fully stretched, as the concrete had not yet reached its full strength.

In the Saturday, July 7, 1962 paper, Report No. 5 came out. In it, Bill announced that the station roof was being manufactured in Wichita and would be made of prestress concrete, which was to be installed starting on Friday July 13 by United Prestress Company from Wichita, Kansas. When Bill first planned the design of the KWNS building with the assistance of his brother Delmer Huffman, the building contractor, it was to be in the shape of an "L", 50 feet long on each leg. However, because of support requirements mandated by United Prestress Company, Bill and Delmer had to make some changes in the original design, thus the final design seen in the pictures. One design that got overlooked by Bill and Delmer was the placement of the septic tank and the station water well; they were placed too close together. When I started at KWNS, I was warned right away, not to drink the water. If you wanted a drink of water, you got it from a bottled water cooler, drank pop, brought your own or as some DJ's I knew did at night, drank a more lively liquid. All those years, I was at KWNS, they never did move the water well, and as far as I know, it hasn't happened yet!

Report No. 6 came out right on cue in the Friday paper, July 20, 1962. The prestress concrete slabs for the roof started to be installed on Tuesday, July 17 and finished on Wednesday, July 18, with the final work on the roof to be completed the following week. The final work indicated in the report amounted to nothing more than sealing

the entire flat roof with several coats of hot tar, followed by a good thick coating of roofing chat. All the plumbing had apparently been laid, since the report also mentions the fact that the floors had been poured. The interior wall partitions were to be completed the following week also, after the roofers had completed their task. As to the plumbing in the concrete floor, I always thought that was a mistake, since it poses a problem in the future when you have a leak. No more water outlets than there were in the station; mainly the two bathrooms, it made more sense to me that the lines run up the wall and through the ceiling. At the time, the plumbing was being installed, I was a 10 year old kid living on Sixth Street in Pratt; Bill just never called me to get my thoughts!!

In the August 31, 1962 Pratt Tribune, it was announced, "Sports Director here for KWNS". The second top staff employee hired by Bill Huffman was Ted Hite and Ted was of course, going to be the sports director. Bill's first choose back in 1958 was Tom Hedrick, but because of the hearing delays, that didn't work out. Tom later became the legendary voice of KU Sports. The front page article was as follows, "Sports Director for the new Pratt radio station KWNS has arrived in Pratt. Ted LeRoy Hite comes from Paducah, Ky., where he was sports director of station WPAD the past three years. Other past radio experience includes serving four other stations as a disc jockey and newscaster in addition to sports. Born in Iowa, Hite attended high school in Lebanon, Mo., and William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va. A navy veteran, the new Prattan lettered in four sports during his high school years. He gained All-American recognition in high school football. He also played one year of college football and three years of service football. Hite participated in basketball both in college and in the service. Hite and his wife, Sharon Leeanna, are expecting their first child in December. They are now residing at 318 N. Pine". In the Pratt Tribune, November 28, 1962, under the "Hospital Notes", it reports that Mrs. Hite gave birth to a son, at 7:30 p.m., weighing 8 pounds and 4 ½ ounces. According to Bill Huffman, Ted had been hired as a sports director, but he had been hired as a salesmen also, primarily the sports broadcasting sales sort of stuff. Ted was doing ok in the on air coverage of games, but no sales at all were being made by him. It appears that shortly after Bill Young came on board as General Manager in July 1963, that Ted was let go.

Although Bill had promised the Pratt Tribune readers a Progress Report every Friday, Report No. 7 would not come out until September 1 in the Saturday paper. By this time, all four 190 feet towers had been erected. Probably at this point, the top beacons and side lighting had not been completed yet. Also very much worth noting, is that the Gates transmitting equipment is starting to be installed. Bill was also revising the program schedule and was welcoming all suggestions on programs wanted by the future KWNS listeners.

As mentioned in the last paragraph, the completed towers now stood at 190 feet. Each tower had its own designated name; East, East Center, West Center and West tower and were labeled as such, W, WC, EC and E on the daytime and nighttime phasor panels at the station. The towers massive ground radial system was laid by Don Hoagland with the help, of course, of KWNS' chief engineer, Clarence Evans. I am sure Don didn't mind doing this job; it beat the hell out of hauling concrete blocks and mixing mortar. Now, the problem I am getting to, is that once the top beacons were added, the average height above the surrounding terrain was 201 feet at the West tower and slowly increasing to 203 feet at the East tower. Now the towers for sure had to be lighted, because they were now over the 200 feet barrier set by the FCC and FAA. Now you have to maintain the lights and electrical equipment, but also the electrical conduit that ran up the side of the tower to power the lights and top beacon. The conduit was spaced away from the tower about 6 inches on ceramic standoffs and it was the ceramic standoffs that were a pain in the backside. If you let too many break, which was always caused by the wind in the summer and wind and ice load in the winter, you ran the risk of the conduit being torn completely loose. Many times the author had gone up the towers to repair and replace those blasted insulators. When you repaired them, it was done with the station on

low power at 500 watts. If you tried it at 5,000 watts, I guarantee, that if you had one hand on the tower and the other hand on the conduit, you were going to get a bad shock and RF burn. Even at 500 watts, you still got a shock, but not near as bad. I learned that if I put on leather gloves and put the station at low power, no problems as far as getting shocked, you could do the repairs with the station on the air. The problem was, there was still the RF flowing through the glove. Every once in a while, you had to remove the gloves and let them cool off, because if you didn't, they would start smoking, as I found out a time or two and perhaps three or four times. If Bill had just left the beacons off, all that mess could have been avoided. When I asked Bill about it, he simply said, "Nobody thought about it!" A few years after the FM side went on the air, Bill Young petitioned and was granted the permission to at least not light the four towers, since the FM was also lighted, but at a higher height above the average terrain than the AM towers. Later on, Bill Young tried to remove the beacons, but quickly found that it screwed up the patterns something terrible and had to recall the "Tower Man", to put them back on. It would not be until the 1980's and the station had changed hands, that the beacons, sidelights and conduits would be removed for good and the patterns set back to normal.

Report No. 8, dated September 28, 1962 would be the last report in the paper. In it we find that the transmitting equipment is being installed and if all went well, a test signal was planned for that night at midnight and would run for the next two weeks starting at midnight to local sunrise. It might be worth noting, that on August 24, the FCC granted Bill permission to extend the completion date of KWNS to December 3, 1962. I asked about the extension and he said, "I don't remember too much or why we filed for an extension. I think at this point, everything was going along pretty good. The only thing I can think of is we were having problems with the patterns, it possibly was an engineering reason, I just don't really remember". Apparently it was the daytime pattern that was causing the headaches, since on December 21, 1962 and January 16, 1963, the FCC granted Bill's applications to modify the construction permit in reference to the daytime pattern.

Back at KWSK, you can bet Clem Morgan had taken notice of the January 5, 1962 paper when it was announced that the FCC had given its approval for the new Pratt station and the eight progress reports. Finally, on November 21, 1962, C. Kay Hutchinson, the KWSK General Manager, ran a full page ad promoting "The Better Sound in Radio" at KWSK with expanded news coverage, the best in music, the latest in sports and market returns and up to the minute weather information. Clem was starting to feel the pressure, since this was the first time in the 10 years since the station had been on the air, that he had to run an ad promoting KWSK.

Speaking of Kay Hutchinson, let's back track a little here. In the summer of 1959, Clem had tried his hand at "semi-retirement" with Thomas K. McDonnell as General Manager but with terrible results. Clem officially announced his retirement as head of KWSK in an October 20, 1962 Pratt Tribune article. Charles "Kay" Hutchinson from KFH radio station in Wichita would become the General Manager, effective November 1, 1962, according to Clem. According to the article, "Morgan stressed he would maintain an active interest in community affairs, although he plans to assume a passive role in the operation of the local radio station." Kay was program director at KEDD in Dodge City until July and currently Production Supervisor at KFH when Clem hired him. He had come to Pratt from Delevan, Kansas with his wife, a former actress from Bay City, Michigan and a 20 month old son.

When Clem was interviewed for the newspaper article he said, "Without a doubt, KWSK is my proudest work." Clem also pointed out in the article of a special plaque hanging in his office attesting to his lifetime devotion to radio. It was presented by the Broadcasting Industry and was awarded to Clem as a "Radio Pioneer." Clem began his radio career back in 1922-1923 at Wichita, Kansas just two years after the first commercial radio station KDKA in Pittsburg, Pa. went on the air in 1920.

When Kay was interviewed in the fall of 2010, he said he had come to Pratt and KWSK with the intent of buying the station. According to Kay, Clem kept raising the selling price on him with Kay's final offer in August 1963 of \$100,000. Clem refused the final offer. So in September 1963, he went to KNIC, a new station in Winfield, Kansas as Sales Manager. When Margaret, Clem's oldest daughter was questioned about the failed sell, she said that, "Dad wanted to retire, but was also afraid to. Kay had set the final price at \$100,000. Dad was afraid that the \$100,000 would not get him through the rest of his life." Clem at that time would have been 57 years old. KWNS, Inc. in September 1964 would purchase the assets of KWSK, but not anywhere near the price Kay had offered.

One other interesting note about Kay Hutchinson and KWSK is that sometime shortly before Kay left to go to Winfield, he had started the FCC application to apply for a FM station on 93.1 megacycles, according to Harry Mansfield who helped Kay with the paper work. Harry said Kay's idea was to leave KWSK-AM as it was, putting KWSK-FM on the air to handle the nighttime stuff such as live sports, etc., which was the driving force behind Bill Huffman's application. If Clem and Kay had been able to get together on the price for the station, put KWSK-FM on the air, Harry said he had no doubts, Kay being the promoter he was, he would have given KWNS a hell of a run for the money. The 93.1 megacycle frequency will again figure in the KWNS story, but that's a little later.

The next big event at the station happened on Sunday, December 30, 1962, KWNS's big open house. I am pretty sure that my Dad, Don Detwiler, didn't take me with him out to the station, since I would have remembered something as special as that. Since Bill Huffman did my Dad's tax returns, he was probably "out on the road" that day, running a train for the Rock Island. In the paper it was reported, "An open house will be held Sunday, Dec. 30, for Kansas' newest radio station, KWNS, in Pratt. The open house will enable local citizens to see the new facilities before the station goes on the air, owner Bill Huffman said. The new station is located two and one-fourth miles east of Pratt on Highway 54. Free gifts will be given to the first 500 adults attending the open house, Huffman said. Free coffee and donuts will be served during the event, which is scheduled from 1 to 5 p.m. No date for going on the air has been established, Huffman said".

"This is KWNS Radio, The Mighty 1290, in Pratt, Kansas, Signing on the Air"

Bill had been through a lot, an over three year battle for a construction permit, which had been costly, let alone the other "normal" things that are going to happen anyway, just to get the station on the air. After the big open house at the station in December, the BIG day finally arrived, the day Bill had long waited for, on Friday, January 18, 1963. In the Thursday paper, it was reported, "Pratt's new radio station goes on the air at 5:30 a.m. Friday. KWNS Manager W. E. Huffman made the announcement today, adding that the station would be operating on a full schedule. On the air hours Monday through Saturday are 5:30 a.m. to midnight. Sunday hours are 6 a.m. to midnight. Beginning Friday night, the station will broadcast live ball games played by Pratt schools' teams. A highlight of the regular broadcasting schedule is "Jimmie Fiddler's Hollywood News" to be heard ten times daily. Wayne Poucher, a well-known news analyst, will be featured daily in a 15-minute commentary program on world news. Daily, during the morning hour a local 30-minute homemakers show will be aired. In the late afternoon, a discjockey program is planned during which the top 40 popular tunes will be played by requests. A 25-minute program each week day afternoon will be broadcasted from colleges in the area including those in Hays, Sterling,

Haviland, Wichita, Lindsborg and Pratt.”

A group of people gathered at the station probably around 5 a.m. or a little earlier. The “filaments on” start button was pushed and the Gates BC-5P transmitter was brought to life and everything allowed to warm up for about 15 minutes before the plate voltage button was pushed. This was in the day when tubes powered everything in the transmitter; there were no transistors or I.C. chips. All the tubes putting out a beautiful glow at that point. The plate voltage was applied after at least a 15-minute warm-up, the six 8008’s mercury rectifier tubes in the three-phase power supply putting out an eerie blue glow. REAL RADIO GLOWS IN THE DARK! Of course, at the same time, everything in the control room was warming up too. Sure enough, at 5:30 a.m. sharp on Friday morning, January 18, 1962, Bill Huffman already seated at the controls of the Gates Dualux console, played the Star Spangled Banner, then closed the microphone No.1 switch, which was the second to the left of the VU meters and announced; “This is KWNS radio, The Mighty 1290 in Pratt, Kansas, signing on the air”. Bill Huffman and KWNS were officially in the broadcast business. As Don Hoagland, who was in the control room at the time also, said in an e-mail, “It was a proud day for all of us that had been involved”. On a funny side note, Don in the same e-mail said, “Keeping a station of this size, a four tower directional, extended broadcasting hours, a large staff of announcers, engineers, salesmen and management, was not easy to do in a market, the size of Pratt. KWSK was already established. Their operating costs were much lower than the new station and with two stations and the Pratt Tribune, all competing for advertising; well let me put it this way. We did not have to worry about getting a bonus!”

As to the January 18, 1963 sign-on crew, the following people are known for sure. Bill Huffman, General Manager. Ted Hite, Sports Director. Clarence Evans, Chief Engineer. Other employees of that original sign-on crew were: Don Hoagland, engineer and announcer. Evelyn Hillard, women and news. Gaylon Pankratz, engineer and announcer. Jay Phillips, announcer and Rex Chambers, announcer.

Evelyn Hillard had a program from 11 a.m. to 12 noon called, “Echoes from Evelyn”, followed by the 12 noon news cast. The program was basically along the same lines as what she had done at the Pratt Tribune; an hour-long gossip column. According to Bill Huffman, the program also covered things for women and local news. Evelyn said it was a very popular show; I mean who could resist listening in to the Pratt gossip. Evelyn was at KWNS for about a year, going from there in 1964 to run the local Red Cross, which she did for many, many years. I can still remember taking my swimming lessons as a kid and on completion, getting a card signed by Evelyn. I had the pleasure to interview Evelyn at her apartment, just a half block north of my house in July 2012. Evelyn at the time was getting ready to celebrate her 100th birthday and her mind is still sharp as a tack! At the writing of this paragraph on August 26, 2013, she is 101 years old and still doing very well.

Gaylon Pankratz came to KWNS shortly before the station went on the air. Gaylon had become friends with Don Hoagland while they were both going to Wichita University, now Wichita State University. It was Don who talked Gaylon into getting his First Class Radiotelephone License. When Don got the OK from the FCC for his construction permit to build KANS at Larned on June 21, 1963, he asked Gaylon to help him build the station and since he was a good production man, Don also asked him to stay on, after the station was completed. It’s not known exactly when Gaylon and Don left KWNS, but was probably not long after the FCC ok. Gaylon also served as program director, announcer and station engineer at KANS and was a technician at Doerr’s TV in Larned. Gaylon was by all accounts, an accomplished piano man, who played by ear. It appears also, that he was a master Woodwright on the lathe, making some of the most beautiful bowls and intricate designs and a skilled woodworking instructor at Larned Juvenile Correctional Facility. Gaylon served in the Army National Guard with an honorable discharge in 1965. On June 13, 1964, he married Lu Ann Jarmer at Larned. On August 5, 2009,

Gaylon Pankratz passed away at the Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice in Wichita, Kansas. Throughout his life, wit and humor were his trademarks, according to those who knew him.

Jay Phillips also came to Pratt sometime before the station went on the air. Jay graduated from Elkins in Dallas, Texas in the spring of 1963 with a First Class Radiotelephone License. Back then; in the good old days of radio, to work at a station with a directional pattern like KWNS, you had to have a First Class ticket. Jay said he took a bus from his home town of Hot Springs, Arkansas to Pratt, bought an old car, just to get him around, living in an apartment in downtown Pratt. Well, the romance at the station didn't last long. Jay said the Program Director at the time didn't pay him what he was promised, so by August 1963, he took off and got a job through Elkins, in McComb, Mississippi. When he came to Pratt in the 1990's, he said, "There was the SAME building I'd worked in, east of Pratt, only this time, there was an FM that had pretty much taken over". Funny thing, when we had the KWSK-KWNS reunion, and met at the station to start the day, those who had worked at KWNS, swore to God that the SAME potholes were still in the road to the station!! Jay and his wife, Donna Bradshaw, now live in El Dorado, Arkansas, own, and operate Jadon Broadcasting Company, purchasing KDMS-AM and KLBQ-FM, a Southern Gospel/Country combo from El Dorado Broadcasting for \$300,000 in October 2011.

Rex Chambers, at the time was attending Friends College in Haviland, Kansas and had been doing some broadcasting from the college on KWSK. Rex had come to Haviland from his hometown of Baxter Springs, Kansas. In order for Rex to work at KWNS, Bill paid his way to Elkins Institute in Dallas, Texas to get his First Class license. Bill remembered that Rex worked for the station for a while after completing the course, but not too long.

In talking to Rex, there was one person he didn't care too much for and that was KWNS' Chief Engineer, Clarence Evans. Apparently one night, the transmitter shut down and the "plates" would not come back on without tripping the overloads. Well Rex proceeded to remove the back panels to gain access to the guts of the beast. In troubleshooting the high voltage section however, Rex did a big NO-NO and bypassed the door interlocks. These were there in the event, that if you tried to open one with the transmitter on the air, it immediately killed the plate voltage, which was 5,000 d.c., not too forgiving, if you got across it. It also prevented someone from turning on the plate voltage, if a door was off. Rex said he had removed the connection to the final RF tube, it just hanging loose, but close to ground. Rex had been working on it for a while, when back at 519 East First, Clancy's home, he apparently must have come to life and realized, the station was off the air. Still dressed in his pajamas, Clancy raced out to the station, ran through the station to the front of the Gates transmitter and pushed the plates on. Clancy hadn't taken the time to check out anything, didn't check to see if anyone was working on it, nothing. All he could think about was pushing that button. Rex had heard the front door slam, and being a steel commercial grade door, it had a distinctive sound to it. It was that forewarning sound that someone had entered the building, that would save the author and Gary Holland from probably being fired on the spot by Bill Young on a Sunday, but that is a good story I will get to later. Although Rex had heard the door slam, Clancy was faster than he was and the moment the plates tried to come on, sparks and fire flew around the connection, almost getting Rex. I am sure, at that point, Rex was in the mood to kill Clancy and I am also sure they both had some words. In talking to Rex, it cleared up a mystery for me that I had wondered about for 45 years. The first time I worked on the RF final section and replacing the 3CX2500A3 final tube, I noticed some burnt spots on the walls and you could tell that the tube plate connection had arced badly at one time. Nobody, however, could tell me what had caused it, not even Bill Young or anybody. I was curious in the fact that I might learn something about the transmitter or a piece of important history on it. Well, anyway, after that Rex said, he didn't care much for Clancy or his "engineering skills" and left KWNS

not too long after the transmitter episode.

On January 20, 1963, Bill Huffman's long time friend Don Hoagland tied the knot at The First Christian Church in Pratt, with Miss Linda Kay Shaffer, the Rev. Doran Myers performing the ceremony. Parents of the couple were Mr. and Mrs. Lon Hoagland, 507 North N. Main and Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt C. Shaffer, Dodge City, Kansas. Gaylon Pankratz from KWNS served as best man and Don's boss from KWNS, Bill Huffman, served as one of the groomsmen. According to the Pratt Tribune article, "the bride is a graduate of Pratt County College and the groom attended Pratt County College and Wichita University. Currently an announcer for the station KWNS. The couple is at home at 507 N. Main". Don and Linda are still happily married and currently living in St. Louis, Missouri.

The new station went on the air with the Mutual Broadcasting System for its national affiliation and would be with MBS from 1963 to 1974, changing to ABC in the O'Malley years. KWNS joined the network at the top and bottom of each hour. One of my favorite programs I remember with MBS was Paul Harvey and the "Rest of the Story". Of course there was local news and weather; the main local newscasts, as I remember, were at 8:00 a.m., 12 noon and 5:00 p.m. In the newsroom, which was just east of the control room, were two teletype machines, against the east wall, in the southeast corner, one for news feeds from UPI, the other connected to the National Weather Service in Wichita, Kansas. As mentioned before, Evelyn had the local gossip and news show from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Spread throughout the broadcast day was the various DJs and their shows. The music format, according to Bill Huffman, was country western, easy listening, etc., the type of music geared more to the "older" generation. Bill didn't care much for the rock and roll scene, it appears. The "younger" generation would have to wait to hear their type of music with the likes of Andy Ariola and Lou Constantino. KWNS would not be a "Top 40 Format" until the O'Malley years. When KWNS signed on the air, for teenagers in Pratt, KLEO was THE station to listen to in the daytime, with KOMA, WLS, WGN, and WOR holding court at night, primarily KOMA.

My first memories of KWNS were probably in 1963; just a month or so after it had gone on the air. We will kinda sidestep a little here. At the Detwiler household at 1001 East Sixth Street, there were strict nightly viewing habits or rituals, certain TV programs that was a family must. On Sunday night, if my Dad was on the road running a train, we watched "Walt Disney's Wonderful World of Color" from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Now if Dad was in town, you were going to watch "The Ed Sullivan Show" from 7 to 8 p.m. And of course, no matter what, the TV was on "Bonanza" from 8 to 9 p.m. Tuesday night was "The Red Skelton Show" from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday night was always "My Three Sons" from 7:30 to 8 p.m. The Friday lineup was always "77 Sunset Strip" from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., "Burke's Law" from 7:30 p.m. and "The Farmer's Daughter" from 8:30 to 9 a.m. My most favorite weekly TV show was Saturday night with "Jackie Gleason and His American Scene Magazine" from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Back then, in the good old days, the Wichita stations signed off at 10:30 p.m. or sometimes earlier. To watch the signoff, I had to sneak out of bed, since lights out for me was 9 p.m., turn the TV back on and watch it, oh so quietly in the dark. For signoff, the station played a tape that was produced by the United States Air Force. It showed a jet plane flying majestically through various clouds, while a silver-tongued announcer spoke the words to the poem, "High Flight" by John MaGee.

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,

I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
 My eager craft through footless halls of air. . . .
 Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
 And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
 Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
 Of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things
 You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung
 High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
 I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
 My eager craft through footless halls of air. . . .
 Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
 I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
 Where never lark, or ever eagle flew —
 And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
 The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
 Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

The other Sunday ritual was of course, dressing up and going to Sunday School and Church at the Assembly of God Church at 6th and Hamilton in Pratt. Now how all this ritual connects with KWNS is this. After Church and a noon meal, it was the custom in our house to sometimes go “Around the Lake”. At that time, you could go around the road that was east of the big dam, travel along the north road of the lake, turn right and travel due north back to Highway 54. You could make one big circle around the lake and dam back to the highway. Just as you got to Highway 54, if you looked to your right, you could see the four KWNS towers rising into the sky. Dad would always have the car radio tuned to 1290, as it was the new station in town. I could always tell when they were playing a favorite of my Mom or Dad, as they would always turn up the volume. Some of the songs I remember at the time were Andy Williams, “Can’t Get Used to Losing You”, Walter Brennan, “Old Rivers” and Claude King, “Wolverton Mountain”. At our house, you also went to Sunday evening Church, no excuses. Sometimes Dad would take us “Around the Lake” after Sunday night Church, sometimes after Sunday morning Church, but very rarely both. It was the night trips around the lake and pass the station that I enjoyed and remembered the most. By the time the Sunday evening service was over, it was after dark and the KWNS towers were lit up. No sooner than you were headed toward the lake, you could easily spot the four towers with their top and halfway beacons flashing on and off in no particular order, the bright red beacons hypnotizing in my little eleven old mind. On the radio I could hear the music coming from the speaker and looking north of the towers, I could also see in the daytime trips, a little building where I knew the magic was coming from. Little did I know that in a few short years, I would be learning all I wanted to know of that strange magic that was inside that building.

February 23rd and 24th, 1963, marked the third anniversary of the KWSK Farm and Home Show. The two-day event was at the National Guard Armory, just west of the Pratt Municipal Swimming Pool. Clem had moved the show there because of the need for more display room for the merchants and this show would be a special one also for Clem and as well as Pratt.

One of Clem’s all-time favorite recording artists was Bob Wills. Clem could not afford to book Bob to do the home show, but he could afford to book Bob’s younger brother Johnnie Lee and he was just around the corner in Tulsa, Oklahoma. That is just what Clem did and on Saturday night, at 9 p.m., there was a big dance at the

Municipal Building in downtown Pratt, the price of admission only one dollar!

Station Manager Kay Hutchinson reported that although the crowds that year were smaller than they had been in the past, the exhibitors were very pleased with the success of the event. What seemed to please them was the fact that there were only local advertisers there. A rough estimate placed the attendance at between 1,200 and 1,500 for the two-day event, with 650 at the dance.

Right from the start, KWNS was heavily involved with local and regional sports, both daytime and more importantly nighttime coverage, the reason the station was built and just what Bill Huffman had promised. All the Pratt High and Juco events were now getting live coverage, not just a next day tape that KWSK was providing. Also right from the start, KWNS broadcasted the Kansas City Athletics ballgames from 1963 to 1967. The Kansas City Athletics became the present Kansas City Royals, which KWNS started broadcasting in 1969. I am sure the KWNS listeners enjoyed listening to the KU basketball and football games live on the air also.

The first big out of town sporting events coverage for KWNS started in March 1963 and went to 1968, the NJCAA men's division one basketball championship held annually in Hutchinson, Kansas. The tournament play started in 1945 at Compton, California, when the first Junior College Invitational event was held and won by Pasadena City College. The same event involving teams west of the Mississippi River was held in 1946 and won by Sacramento Junior College and in 1947 the champion was host to Compton College. Then in 1948 the first National Junior College Basketball Tournament involving teams throughout the United States was held in Springfield, Missouri. In 1949, the National Tournament was moved to Hutchinson, Kansas and has been held there ever since. The Championship usually consisted of 16 invited teams (usually the 16 teams in Division I with the best record). In 1963, Independence Community College beat Moberly Area Community College by a score of 73 to 68 in overtime play. In 1964, it was Dodge City Community College over Casper College also by 73 to 68. In 1965, Vincennes University bested Burlington, Iowa by score of 80 to 76. In 1966, it was Moberly Area Community beating Cameron, Oklahoma by a score of 90 to 66. In 1967, the champions Moberly Area Community College remained so by beating San Jacinto College-Central by just one point, 56 to 55, probably one hell of a game to cover! The last year Bill Huffman with KWNS covered the event, was 1968. San Jacinto College, Texas over Mercer County Community College by 66 to 64. The reason that no games were never covered after 1968 may be due to the shifting of power within KWNS, Inc., which we will get to later. KWNS never again covered the Event in Hutchinson, Kansas.

One of the problems with live radio is that you sometimes make a boo-boo on the air. Sometimes the copy you received is wrong, but the announcer most of the time does not know it is wrong and reads it just the way he received it. Sometimes the copy is right, but in the mind of the announcer, he will swear he read it right, but of his mouth comes something completely different. Sometimes he knows exactly the wrong stuff he uttered, but it is too late, the horses are already out of the gate. It appears not long after the station went on the air for the first time and early summer, say between February and June 1963, KWNS broadcasted its first on air mistake. One of the standing rules back in the good ol' days of radio, when lots more things were read live on the air was, ANNOUNCERS...ALWAYS READ OVER YOUR COPY FIRST...BEFORE GOING ON THE AIR!! Over the many years KWNS would be on the air, I am quite sure there were other on air BOO-BOO's, but it appears that Don Hoagland may have won first prize for the first documented on air "KWNS-SAY WHAT??" The author and an unknown future employee had their own classic blunders, but that will be reported later in the book. In this book, the guilty cannot hide!!

Well anyway, KWNS had a live County and Western music show on the station every Saturday morning

from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. and Don was the announcer. The group was called the “The Midnight Ramblers” and was composed of George Wallace, Larry Simmons (band leader), Buck Hazen, Larry Hoffman, Lonnie Detmer and Creed Badders. It was Don Hoagland’s job to introduce the band and read the commercials, the entire show being sponsored by Gadeke’s Bakery on South Main in Pratt. Gadeke’s was a local owned business that employed 47 people, probably one of the largest employers in Pratt at the time besides the Rock Island Railroad. Larry Simmons would later work at the station as an announcer. George Wallace, with the “The Midnight Ramblers” worked at Gadeke’s as a baker. On a side note, George’s father-in-law, Marvin Lawrence, also a baker at Gadeke’s, was the father of David Lawrence, the authors best friend, still to this day. David and I will figure into some other stories later on in the O’Malley years. Fortunately, the statute of limitations has run out on some of our stunts, but Don O’Malley may still have the both of us shot or thrown in jail!!

The Bakery’s slogan was “Gadeke’s Bakery, For the Best in Bread”. After the band, which was set up in the North studio, directly north of the control room, played one of their numbers, Don came in with a commercial. All was going well till Don got tongue tied and instead of saying, “Gadeke’s Bakery For the Best in Bread”, he said, “Gakeke’s Bakery For the Breast in Bed”! After that, the program was never the same, the band was cracking up, actually and literally rolling on the floor, laughing till they had tears in their eyes!! Don said he was embarrassed and for the first time in his life at a loss for words. I am pretty sure that breast was on George Carlin’s classic album of list of words you do not utter on the air. I think Don also envisioned the FCC monitoring truck had just pulled up to the station for an inspection and happened to catch his flub, ready to haul him off to jail. Don said Bill Huffman never said a word about it. Don thought maybe, just maybe, he was listening to some other station at the time.

Don went to see Mr. Jule Gadeke to apologize for his mistake, but he was not in. Don returned a couple of days later, stopped at the front entrance to Gakeke’s, took a deep breath and went in. Mr. Gadeke was in this time. Just as Don started to say he was sorry for his on air mistake, Mr. Gadeke spoke right up and said, “You guys must be doing a great job at the station. I was not sure anyone listened, but I have had so many comments about the show and how funny the commercials are, I want to keep that program on”. Don said he just stood there numb, but thanked him and left. Don said, “Funny how things sometimes have a way of working out”! Don said also it was a good thing Mr. Gadeke had a good sense of humor. The next week the Gadeke spot was advertising their sandwich bread and Don once again had the commerical to read live and Don wanted to make sure he got “The Best in Bread” part correct this time. He took particular attention in writing and reading the commercial and when he got to the part that said “sandwich”, Don spit out “sandbitch”! Don said, “Lord help me. Mr. Gadeke never said anything about it and Bill said nothing, but the band let me have it and I deserved it. I guess I was lucky, Bill Huffman was a friend or I more than likely would have been looking for another job”.

Every June in Pratt, the BIG, BIG event was of course, the annual Miss Kansas Pagent. Back then, the pagent was held at the downtown Pratt Muncipal Auditorium and put on by the Pratt Jaycees, their BIG, BIG event of the year also. That year in 1963, Clem and Kay Hutchinson (KWSK general manager) decided it was time to set up a state wide radio network and on June 8, 1963, a Saturday, the final night of the pagent was broadcasted live. Kay Hutchinson was the host for the broadcast and Harry Mansfield was the studio engineer. It was an eight station network, with seven stations carrying the broadcast live, while KWSK as a daytimer, delayed the broadcast until Sunday, June 9th. Pratt native Karen Schwarts representing Wichita as “Miss KAKELand” was crowned “Miss Kansas.” KWNS would later, starting in 1965, broadcast every night of the pagent, but KWSK was the first to broadcast the Miss Kansas Pagent.

One of the interesting promos that Clem Morgan and KWSK came up with to battle the new kid on the block was the “Three R’s of Broadcast Advertising” promo, the Three Rs standing for RECOMMENDED-RELIABLE-RETAILER. The idea was that if you saw the KWSK Three Rs decal on the store window or door, it was a store you could trust. Clem said, “It was designed to let the public know that a firm DOES NOT use false advertising. KWSK, of course, will not accept advertising which is false, fraudulent, or misleading, but many people are not aware of this.”

If the merchant bought the sales package, he got a package complete with sale aids, pre announcements, on air announcements, a “3 R” jingle and 100 decals. Clem also pitched the idea to other stations too, but if they wanted to play, they had to pay. Clem took out an ad in the June 17, 1963 Broadcast Weekly Magazine on page 146 stating, “WARNING. The 3 “R’s” of Broadcast Advertising. . . RECOMMENDED-RELIABLE-RETAILER. . . is a copyrighted feature usable under franchise only. Contact Clem Morgan, OWNER KWSK, Pratt, Kansas” Clem must have had takers, because in the July 22, 1963 addition, there was an ad stating, “NOTICE! Recommended Reliable Retailer; The “3-R’s” of Broadcast Advertising Ready for Distribution NOW. CONTACT CLEM MORGAN, Pratt, Kansas.” How many merchants or other stations signed up for the deal is not known. It would naturally take some time for the effects of KWNS to affect KWSK and its sales, but the change was imminent and Clem would be unable to stop the coming juggernaut.

Like in Hutchinson, Lawrence or wherever Bill Huffman called home, he was very involved with the community functions and now that KWNS was on the air, he was even more involved. In June 1963, Bill was elected President of the local Optimists Club in Pratt. Over at the Lions Club, Roy Hadden was elected President for that organization and Dr. J. W. Jacks would head the Rotarians. Bill was also doing a lot at the Methodist Church. Throughout the years, while living in Pratt, Lawrence, Silver Lake and Pittsburg, Kansas, Bill was an Adult Sunday School Teacher, Elder, Trustee, Church Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Vice-Moderator, Moderator, Chair-Stewardship Department, Member Education Department, Member of Building Committee and Member of Pastoral Relations Committee.

Prior to the station going on the air, Bill’s intentions had been to hire a Station Manager to run the daily operations of KWNS and he would continue in the accounting partnership with John Hampton. Bill said he would oversee the operation of the station on a regular basis as General Manager, hopefully participate in the broadcasting of many of the sporting events, handle the public relations and keep the books. Because of the long time delay caused by the FCC hearings, the Station Manager originally selected, Dave Tucker, became unavailable to come to Pratt and assume the responsibilities of starting the new station, so the whole load was falling on Bill’s shoulders. After KWNS went on the air, it quickly became obvious that he needed an experienced Station Manager/Salesman on board, as well as a General Manager.

Aubrey Mays, KWNS’ third employee, was hired sometime in June 1963. The 27-year-old Mays came from KTFO in Seminole, Texas where he was Station Manager for the last two years. Aubrey had been in radio since 1954 in the Texas towns of Levelland, Plainview, Odessa, Midland and Amarillo. At the time of his hiring, he was to be in charge of time sales and supervisor of personnel. When Mays came to Pratt, he and his wife Tommye had three children, Mike, 7; Sandra, 5; and Mitch, 4. After Ted Hite was fired, it appears from the Broadcast Weekly Yearbook that Aubrey also inherited the position of Sports Director. His stay at KWNS was short lived however. According to Bill Huffman, he was fired by Bill Young, not too long after Young was hired. The problem, again according to Huffman, was Aubrey was simply not doing the job and had a drinking problem to boot. Mays went from Pratt to Larned, Kansas where he worked for Don Hoagland at KANS. That didn’t last long either, leaving

Larned for Texas in the middle of the night, owing people a lot of money.

In the May 27, 1963, edition of Broadcast Weekly on page 86 under the "Help Wanted" section, Bill ran the first of several advertisements. The ad read as follows, "Sales Manager-Station Manager for new 5000/500 watt directional fulltime KWNS Pratt, Kansas. Small competitive market with large potential for hard worker. Profit sharing and chance for investment for productive manager. Also need area salesman, commission basis and first phone announcer. Immediate openings, contact Bill Huffman, owner ". There were not too many applications from the ad, as Huffman recalled, but he did very plainly remember interviewing only four individuals in June 1963. It was the fourth person that Bill picked for the job, Bill hiring him dead on the spot as KWNS' new General Manager. Little did Huffman know that day; his decision had just changed the course and future history of KWNS and the community of Pratt, Kansas.

"Mr. KWNS", "The William J. Young Years"

In June 1963, Bill Young made the drive to Pratt, Kansas and sat down with Bill Huffman, sole owner of KWNS at the time. Huffman said he liked Bill's attitude, experience and enthusiasm, and hired him dead on the spot as KWNS's new General Manager. Young was the fourth top staff person hired by Huffman, Aubrey Mays as Station Manager was the third top staff person, hired in June 1963. In a Pratt Tribune article dated July 17, 1963, it was announced that Bill would be assuming his duties of General Manager immediately. Bill wasted no time in quitting KOOL-TV. He also wasted no time in locating a house in Pratt, which Barbara, Bill Young's wife, laughingly said he did without her even seeing the home. Bill bought a house at 323 North Main from D. Curt Skaggs, who was the owner of Skaggs Ace Hardware, on July 10, 1963. Bill sold the house later to Bob Graven on September 30, 1968.

Now that we have two Bills in the story, I will try from now on to refer to each as Bill Young or Bill Huffman, except in Young's bio, to avoid confusion. I named Bill Young as "Mr. KWNS", because that's what I heard some employees from time to time over the years call him. The name, I think is fitting, in the respect, that Bill Young was quite a promoter. Young was also a very good salesman and engineer. He was one of those rare salesman who could sell ice to an Eskimo. Promoter and salesman Bill indeed was. Nancy Young Olson in a letter from December 2011, wrote of her father, "He worked tirelessly 7 days a week to increase it's (KWNS) profitability with dramatic changes even the first year. He was always planning or executing a promotion from pens, giveaways, brochures, new programming, etc. There were always events from the Miss Kansas Pageant, to the Medicine Lodge Peace Treaty Pageant, to "The Market Basket", the Pratt County Fair, to mobile news coverage such as to remote field by field coverage of the Kansas Governor's annual beef tour. The list is endless. His goal was a good sound, quality programming and developing the station as a community, southwestern Kansas and regional asset."

Barbara Young best described her husband as a straight shooter, honest, friendly, a sharp wit, kind and loving. If he liked you, you were a friend for life. But if he didn't, it was best to stay out of his way. Nancy in an e-mail from December 2011 also said of her father, "Bill was quiet when he could be, even-tempered, likeable, outgoing, dependable, creative, a self-starter and fair. Those who met him liked him and he considered them a friend". In retrospect, I can now say that Bill Young must have liked me, because some of the things I pulled, it's a wonder he hadn't fired me several times! There are a few things I might fess up to in this book, but there are some I had better take to my grave with me. In the Pratt community, Bill Young carried on some things that had been started by

Clem Morgan and KWSK, but also starting some new things at the station and new businesses in Pratt. If it hadn't been for Bill Young, KWNS, Inc. and KWNS-FM, among other things, probably wouldn't have happened. So who was this William J. Young, or Bill Young, as he preferred to be called, future owner of KWNS and new General Manager in July 1963?? Since I was starting to get ahead of myself, I am glad you asked!

William "Bill" Jerome Young was born February 23, 1925, in Belleville, Illinois (St. Clair County) at St. Vincent's Hospital. His mother was Mary "Harst" Young and his father was Charles Irwin Young, Sr. The Harst's were a Catholic family that came from Germany and settled in Belleville, Illinois. The family was all girls, fourteen in all. Mary (Bill's mother) was five foot ten inches tall, raw boned, as was her sister Hannah, Bill's favorite aunt. All the girls worked in a coal mine on the family's property just like the men. This was the family's business and small mines in the late nineteenth century were not uncommon. The family evidently was somewhat prosperous in this endeavor as they lived in a fairly large brick house. These small industries collapsed when mines played out or were unable to compete with the big coal companies in cost or production. The house today is owned by the Archdiocese of Belleville, Illinois and is currently the Archbishops residence, something Bill was always proud of, that his family's home was the Archbishop's residence.

By the time Bill was born, there was no more coal mining. He described memories of his mother bent over a quilt in a frame. Despite large, strong hands, she was also a skilled needle worker. Bill's father Charles; "Pop" as he called him, was a Jung. The name was anglicized in spelling around the turn of the century. Despite there being a lot of Germans in the St. Louis, Belleville, southern Illinois area, there was considerable animus towards Germans, particularly with the advent of World War One. Charles Young sold cars in the 1920s and early 1930s, so at one time, the family did have a car, an old Model T, as described by Bill, which required a cranking. The depression eventually ended this business and Charles was able to find a job at a foundry, making cast iron stoves. Unfortunately, this type of manufacturing was ending its era and the business ended. Toward the end of the life of the business, the owner was trying to sell the factory and business, and was unable to pay the men employed there. The men agreed to work for no pay to better enable the owner to sell the operation as a going concern with the promise that they would then be paid. The property was sold and the owner left town with all the money, leaving the men without a dime for their six months of wages. According to Bill, this betrayal and broken promises so angered and disheartened his father, that he was never the same person. As it would have of many people of Bill's age, the depression played a part in shaping life. For some it altered their character and made them bitter, as it did Bill's father Charles, but Bill throughout his life remained cheerful, optimistic about the future, determined to effect the present, and grateful for the blessings and opportunities bestowed upon him.

One Christmas there was no money to buy presents for Bill or his three brothers. The eldest of the boys was Lee, followed by Charles, John and Bill, who the other brothers called "Wimp" after a comic strip character. Bill was the smallest at five foot eleven and the youngest. Bill did get a present. It was a box of his father's old hand tools, polished and shined. He thought it was a good present, even though he then had to share his tools with his father.

The family lived at the edge of town in a story and a half frame house. There was no heat upstairs other than a register in the floor and no central heating downstairs. Heat was from a parlor stove and the kitchen stove on the first floor, not an uncommon arrangement at the times. In the winter time, the upstairs tenants, which was Bill and his brothers sharing a common bed, would heat bricks in the stove, then race back upstairs to put them in their bed at their feet, wrapped in towels and blankets before they cooled off.

Bill was a child of the Depression. His family was poor, but that didn't stop Bill from having some good

times growing up. There were BB gun wars with his brothers and fishing in the area streams. Bill would often talk about his Dad, "Pop", butchering hogs in the backyard and making sausage in the family smokehouse. For the Young family, baths were once a week in a common tub, where heated water from the woodstove was added. There were family haircuts and hand-me-down clothes; still Bill had fun. Even though Bill blamed his Dad for their poorness, he was good and kind to his father, right to the end.

The family had chickens for eggs, a milk cow and as just mentioned, would raise a pig for meat. One late fall, the hog that was on the schedule to be slaughtered disappeared from its pen in the family's absence. Stolen, of course and a hardship for the family who depended upon the meat. Bill's mother only said, "They must have been hungrier and worse off than us and so they should be pitied." There probably was a bit of squirrel, rabbit hunting and fishing to make up for the loss of the family pig. Hunting kills of small game were probably on the table regularly during the year. Fishing was always good in the nearby clean and clear creeks. When Mary Ann (Bill's daughter) was about eight, Bill and his father took James (Bill's son) and Mary Ann to a creek to fish for crawdads. Bill's father Charles had masterfully constructed a net from coat hangers and thin muslin. It was really a thing of beauty, as Mary Ann recalled. There was some sadness as Bill described how clear it had been only twenty years before. Nevertheless, Bill and Charles gave a demonstration on how to lure a mess of crawdads from the depths of the creek with a gentle hand on the net. After some discussion, it was decided that perhaps it was best not to eat them considering their source. Mary Ann and her siblings also learned the fine art of mushroom hunting from Bill, which he learned from his father.

At some point in time, Bill described to Mary Ann, two of his favorite recipes and foods. One was marrow ball soup, obviously in homage to the rule of making use of everything, including the marrow from the leg bone of a cow. The other was turtle soup, which came complete with the method of how to snare and kill the snapping turtle without it attaching itself to any of your digits. A sharp axe was a necessity. Mary Ann once made the turtle soup according to his directions, but was gifted with a clean carcass, and therefore, it did not require the swing of an axe.

Despite the family's poverty, they had pets. Mostly the discarded animals that other people could not feed or did not want, that had been abandoned at their premises. When they heard a car stop and take off fast in the dark, they knew what it was. Bill's most loved dog as a child was a castoff he named Rags. Rags was big, long haired and homely, a good natured mixture of Airedale and multiple mutts. An acquaintance of the family would often stop by the Young house with his "fighting dog." The Young family were all cautioned to keep their "damn mutt" (Rags) away from his dog as his dog would surely kill the mutt, "as he was a killer." They heard this mantra repeatedly and not wanting poor and pitiful Rags to be torn to shreds, kept him away from the other brute of a dog. On the last occasion of the "fighting dog" owner's visit, the brute dog broke loose from his owner and sprang to where poor Rags was awaiting his death at the end of a tether. Horrified shrieks and cries broke out from Rag's owner and family as the dogs engaged in battle. "Don't let him kill my dog!" Bill cried out. The brute's owner did not attempt to intervene until "Poor Rags" became "Champion Rags" and had the brute down. At that point, the brute's owner started yelling, "Get him off, get him off, that mutts killing my dog!" So he was. Bill and his family proudly pulled Rags off from the brute, who was then carried from the field of battle by his chastened owner, never to be seen again. From that moment on, Rags had gained new status in the eyes of the Young family and especially his owner, Bill.

One of the guardian angels in Bill's life as a child was a doctor, referred to only as "Old Doc Renner". He apparently aided the family from time to time. Bill always spoke of him with the greatest respect although the man's kindly deeds were never detailed.

At the age of sixteen, Bill had determined to drop out of school and look for a job to help support his

family. He had no shoes to wear to school and they were required by the Catholic high school he attended and his family certainly had no money for shoes. Bill's mother was horrified at the thought that her youngest child would not finish high school. War was at hand and his brother John and Charles had already gone into the service. His brother Lee was rejected for military service due to bad feet. Bill's mother sought out the priest in charge of the school and asked him to talk Bill out of his plan. Bill was taken to St. Vincent de Paul Society (a Catholic charity) in St. Louis and given a new pair of shoes. The priest also helped Bill get a job at the St. Mary's Catholic bowling alley setting pins at night after school. For the uninitiated, there was a time before mechanical pinsetters. People were in the back with the pins, removed pins and reset them by hand for a bowler. Bill was able to have this job until he graduated high school, giving all his money to his mother. The priest saw to it that Bill graduated from the Catholic high school, although they could not afford the tuition. After graduation, Bill went to work on his cousins' Joseph and Aurelia Kobbets farm in Litchfield, Illinois.

If there is one thing you can say for sure about Bill, it is, that he was a lifelong baseball fan; that is, until they started going through their strike phases. It was at this point on, according to Bill's wife Barbara, that Bill lost interest in the game. It was however, a game that he, his brothers and their friends played devotedly as kids. They would often walk from Belleville to Busch Stadium to watch the game through the knotholes in the fence and walked back home all in a day's time. A ball glove was a luxury and there may have been only three to four well-worn gloves amongst the team, depending upon who showed up to play in their group. John was a pitcher and Bill was the catcher. Charles usually was first or third baseman and Leroy, the oldest, just watched from the sidelines. They usually played barefoot. Having no money for a glove, Bill learned to catch without a glove, and played mostly without one unless they were playing the "league boys", in which case John, the pitcher, would talk one of the other boys out of their glove for his catcher. The whole team, Young's and the other boys, were barefoot and raggedy. But like the dog Rags, they were just as tough and equal to the game.

Some of the "league boys" had smart uniforms with cleated shoes and of course, all had gloves. They would sneer at the barefooted and gloveless boys in overalls or other assorted patched clothing. The cleated boys would try to snag a barefooted baseman. They paid and got a drubbing. The ragged team was just good, but they also employed a bit of psychological warfare against the uppity boys. Bill as catcher, would keep up a steady stream of good natured chatter behind home plate. Bill might say, "I don't know how we're going to get through this game, John sure is wild today, come on John, get it in here, you're going to kill somebody!" "Good grief, that was a close one." (Just as the ball would whiz by a batter's ear.) Once a batter got good and nervous and dancing in the batter's box, John and Bill would finish him off. After his service in World War 2, Bill was offered a tryout with the St. Louis Cardinals in Florida, went, but did not make the team. Bill had a back injury at the time that caused him to get dizzy and or pass out when he leapt up to catch a ball.

According to Mary Ann, "When we were small, Pop would hit balls to us. As we were not big kids and not very skilled, they were not very challenging hits. As an adult, I decided to play softball in a women's league. There were some strong, young farm boys who would whack us balls for practice. I decided I needed some more ball time, and my father obliged. He would have been fifty. I was amazed. Pop gave me high fly outfield fence balls, tossing the ball with one hand and batting them with a flick of his wrist. I thought about how good Pop could have been as a professional." Mary Ann once asked him if he regretted not persisting in pursuit of a professional baseball career. Bill smiled and said "No, things always work out for the best. Life may have been different, but not better."

As soon as Bill turned 18 and graduated from high school, he and a friend walked to the local enlistment center and signed up for the Army. Bill told his mother afterwards, "Poor Mom, she cried and cried." Bill was

inducted into The United States Army at Ft. Sheridan, Illinois with his basic training at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. Bill was made Corporal at age 19 and led his platoon. Bill said he enlisted, so he could have some choice as to the job he would be assigned. Bill chose the radio communication corps and was assigned to the "I" Army Corp Artillery, which saw combat in the Philippines. Bill also was a crack marksman due to his many, many hours of rabbit and squirrel practice at home. Bill shipped out on October 23, 1944, to Luzon, New Guinea in the Pacific theater where he operated a radio truck. Bill's radio unit provided the artillery fire support communications network between the front line troops, and the often suicidal enemy attacks brought him into enemy contact. Bill's unit was ferried from island to island and battle to battle as the lines shifted and during these shifts enemy contact was often a reality.

Bill described the journey in the troopship with the fact that the soldiers were not often allowed on deck and had to spend most of their time in the incredibly cramped troop quarters below deck. There were narrow bunks, one after another on top of each other with little space for a man of any size to turn over. Somehow (not disclosed) during one of Bill's forays on deck, he met the acquaintance of a ship's cook, of German descent, who decided that Bill was way too thin. Somehow (again never disclosed), he would smuggle summer sausages to Bill. It was a challenge to be able to eat them in the troop quarters, even rolled over facing the ship wall, as others could still detect the aroma. From the other shipmates, Bill said he could hear, "What's that smell, smells like summer sausage. Do you smell that? Yeah, I guess I do. Wonder where it's coming from? Must be my imagination."

It was a serious offense for a soldier to be caught topside other than when authorized. Nevertheless, Bill decided that he found it to be a very unsatisfactory end to be caught below deck, if the ship took a fatal hit. Bill did not expect that the sailors would have time to really help them as they would be too busy trying to save the ship. The sailors, he related, were fairly indifferent to the soldiers and regarded their human cargo as a bit of a nuisance. Soldiers were told if you fall overboard, no one is coming to get you. No ship in the convoy could take the risk of stopping to pick anyone up, let alone look for a man overboard. The troop ship, according to Bill, did come under fire. The sailors fired the big guns on board and spent hot shells would thunder across the deck. Bill witnessed this first hand as he found a hiding place underneath a lifeboat and spent a large portion of the trip on deck in his hiding place, only coming out when necessary to make a temporary appearance in the below deck quarters. Bill related that he was not the only topside stowaway, but never in his life did Bill give any names.

His first deployment was in the jungles of New Guinea. Mary Ann said she did not know if Bill had a fear of snakes from this place, or if he had this fear from childhood, which was only heightened by the evils of the jungle, but Bill was afraid of snakes. New Guinea was never mentioned without an addendum about snakes. Mary Ann remembers removing a six foot black snake from a tree in her parent's backyard by getting it to wrap itself around a hoe. It was angling for a bird's nest. Bill was standing on the back porch, sixty feet away, giving his encouragement and watching with concern, but Mary Ann's normally fearless father did not offer his assistance. At KWNS, occasionally, a bull snake would find its way into the back quarters of the station, usually around the AM transmitter. The author, onetime, had to remove a burnt snake from the bowels of the AM transmitter. As soon as the transmitter was on the air, but not before the snake had been discarded out the back door, did Bill come through the door to the transmitter room. During the time, Bill was standing behind the safety of the west door, watching through the glass window.

After New Guinea, Bill was stationed in the Philippines. Mary Ann believes at this time, he became a sergeant and supervised about eighty people. Bill would have been only twenty years old at the time and in charge of men as old as forty. Bill had been trained as a radio operator, responsible for responding to troop requests for bombings and other assistance. There was some removal from battle locations, although you could hear the sounds

of combat, and through your radio, you could hear the whole experience of an invasion.

Bill did not like General MacArthur, had no use for the man and referred to him with the common derogatory moniker of “Dugout Doug.” Mary Ann suspects the loss of his friend in Bataan and the perception that Americans were abandoned in the Philippines played a part in his poor and bitter opinion of the General. Bill said that he was on the beach when the General made his famous newsreel arrival on the Philippine beaches under the claim that the General was fearless and the area was under attack. Bill said you could hear battle in the distance, but the fighting was nowhere near them and no one, including the General, was in any danger.

Bill did, however, like the Philippine people. Although Bill’s childhood poverty had left a lasting impression on his life, it was the poverty of the Philippine people and their offering to share what they had with him as a member of the liberation force, that touched him deeply. They were very appreciative of American liberation and although poor, did what they could to show hospitality to the Americans. Bill and his friends were invited by a family to dinner. They were served a notorious “delicacy” of a live chick in the shell. Bill had not been expecting this and was reluctant to offend these people by declining what to them was a special food. No one was ever able to get a clear answer as to whether he partook in the eats or whether he was able to avoid the proffered delicacy. Mary Ann had always suspected that he ate it, but did not wish to admit it.

While in the Philippines, Bill contracted what was referred to as “Jungle Rot.” He described considerable effort was made by the medics to treat and clear up the disease, but without results. The military was contemplating sending him home, but Bill did not want to go. Bill started swimming off the beaches, thinking that the sea water might help, at least in drying his skin. After about a month, he was cured. Swimming in the ocean was prohibited by the military, so it was not a treatment that he discussed with them. The Japanese often strafed the beaches, as Bill and one of his buddies soon found out. So they made a game of hiding to swim in the ocean.

In his sixties, when he and Mary Ann were watching a program about the Bataan Death March, Bill was very silent throughout, sitting and watching the program. After awhile, Mary Ann noticed tears in his eyes as the film chronicled the Japanese atrocities towards American soldiers. A childhood friend of Bill’s had died at Bataan.

Bill was stationed in the Philippines when the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, a decision that he said, he always supported. Obviously, Bill would have been aware of the enormous level of casualties to American soldiers upon invasion of Japan. Bill described the mass graves into which Japanese were dumped after battles. There were few surrenders, the Japanese usually fought to the last. Bill viewed the life of any American soldier to be the equal of any Japanese civilian, man, woman or child. Every American soldier was someone’s child, who was wanted back home.

Bill was in the first wave of troops to land in Osaka, Japan, after the atomic bombs. The Army wanted him to stay in the service, but Bill wanted to go home, not even a promotion to lieutenant could entice him to stay. Bill declined, he said, “I’ve had enough of the military.” He returned to the United States and was released at the Separation Center, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri on February 27, 1946.

Bill Young’s war decorations included, the “Japan Army of Occupation Medal”, the “World War 2 Campaign Medal”, the “Good Conduct Medal”, the “Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars” and the “Philippine Liberation Medal with one Bronze Star.” Bill’s son, Jim, just before his Dad’s funeral called the Army Medals and Decoration Center at Fort Leonard, Missouri, regarding the three Bronze Stars. An officier at the Center read to Jim, the official War Department criteria for earning such bronze stars. “Generally, the soldier earning the star was in constant and unrelenting combat and hazard from the enemy. The soldier was in constant and sustained peril of life and limb in the theatres in which the bronze stars were earned.” Which meant,

the Japanese was shooting at Bill all the time! Jim said, "My dad must have felt like a duck in a shooting gallery!" The Philippine Liberation Medal awarded Bill was given to him by the Philippine Government and the Philippine people for liberating their country from the Japanese. Bill never saw the medal, because soldiers from that theatre were not issued the actual medal, only a service ribbon. It was only during the week before Bill's funeral that Jim obtained the medal and the American Campaign medal. Bill had never seen these two medals when he was alive.

Following his discharge from the Army, Bill used his GI Bill training to attend Central Radio School (a radio electronics school) in Kansas City for almost two years, graduating in the fall of 1947 with a Federal Communications Radio Telephone Operators First Class License. If you were going to work in radio and the new kid on the block, Television, a First Class license was required. It was in Kansas City; around Christmas 1947, that Bill met Barbara Ann Blocher.

After Bill's graduation from electronics school, Bill landed his first job in radio at KRAL in Rawlins, Wyoming, starting in late December 1947. KRAL went on the air in February 1947, at 1240 kilocycles on the dial. It was a 250-watt station with unlimited airtime owned by the Rawlins Broadcasting Company in Rawlins, Wyoming. The studios and transmitter were located a half mile west of Rawlins on US Highway 30. The following people were listed in the 1947 yearbook: Tracy S. McCracken, President; Max M. Young (no relation to Bill), General and Commercial Manager; Glen Mills, Program Director. Clark Grove, Program Manager and Chief Engineer. Max as General Manager would have hired Bill. In April 1948, Bill went back to Kansas City to marry Barbara on April 17, 1948 at Sacred Heart Church, Kansas City, Missouri, and a marriage that lasted a lifetime. Following the marriage, Bill and new bride went back to Rawlins. Bill would be employed at the station for only two weeks to a month more. Barbara said she hated even the short stay at Rawlins, as it was so cold, snowing every day and the wind never quit blowing, it seemed.

After leaving KRAL, Bill went to work for WOKZ in Alton, Illinois. Like most stations in the United States at the time, WOKZ was a new station, having gone on the air February 4, 1948. The station was located at 1570 kilocycles on the dial, a daytime only station, with transmitter output of 1000 watts. The station was owned by R. C. Goshorn and R. L. Rose. In the 1949 Broadcasting Yearbook, the following people were listed: J. R. Paulos (he would have been the one to hire Bill), General Manager; Oscar Jaeger, Commercial Manager; A. A. Riehl, Program Director; Lowell Seitzinger, Promotion Manager; Thomas Payton, Chief Engineer. According to Barbara Young, Bill worked at WOKZ for about a year also. At the time, Bill and Barbara lived in Edwardsville, about 15 miles from Alton. While working at WOKZ, Bill built two houses from the ground up. Bill did every scrap of the work himself from carpentry, electrical, plumbing, tile work and carpet laying, etc. Along this same time, two children were born at the Alton Hospital, James Christopher, and Mary Ann.

Bill's next move would be back to his hometown of Belleville, Illinois, a small town just to the east of St. Louis, Missouri. According to Barbara, we "rented a house, bought a duplex, built another house, rented a house and built another house." When it was all said and done, the Young's would move 39 times in 49 years of marriage. Bill began to take engineering jobs for television stations in the St. Louis area, including work at KMOX-TV channel 4 and KTVI channel 2. The work would include baseball games, remotes and at times working with celebrities such as Stan Musial, Phyllis Diller, Jackie Gleason and Dizzy Dean.

In October 1955, Bill opened a radio and television repair and retail store in Belleville, called Young TV-Record Center located at 4808 West Main Street. The center featured nationally advertised television and hi-fi sets, also dealing in hi-fi, stereophonic, square dance and popular hit records. Bill was also proud of the up-to-date maintenance shop located in the center. In August of 1959, Bill added a partner to the business by the name of Don

Byerley. Don was a former advertising representative for the News-Democrat, the local Belleville newspaper. Don took over from Bill the operation of the record and hi-fi department. Sometime in October 1959, the business moved to a new location in Belleville, at 7 North 47th Street. The new site provided more customer parking space, as well as a comfortable, well-lighted and air-conditioned building for a growing business. Sometime in 1960, Bill would sellout the business to Don. Also, while in Belleville, two more children were added to the Young family, Nancy Aileen and Kathleen Marie.

Sometime in 1960, Barbara developed polio and her physicians recommended they move to Arizona. So, Bill, about 35 years old now, went to work as an engineer for KOOL-TV channel 10 in Phoenix, Arizona, a station owned by country music and actor legend Gene Autry. According to Broadcast Weekly for the years 1960 to 1964 for KOOL-TV, the following people were listed: Gene Autry, Chairman of the Board; Tom Chauncey, President; Homer Lane, Vice President and General Manager; Jack Murphy, Station Manager; Leslie LindVig, Director of Sales; Robert Martin, Director of Programming; Robert Davies, Program Director; Jack Ware, News Director; Albin R. Hillstrom, Chief Engineer. KOOL-TV's transmitter was rated at 316,000 watts and was located about 14 miles (about a 40 minute drive) due south of Phoenix on Mount Suappoa, South Mountain. While the TV antenna was only 264 feet above ground, it was 1,700 feet above the average surrounding terrain. While the job sounds glamorous, much of the work performed by Bill was at the transmitter(s) site on top of the mountain. On the matter Mary Ann wrote, "Pop usually had to go up there at night to work. The road up the mountain was poor, winding and scary. It may have been scarier during the day when you could actually see the cliff edge on the side of the road. The top of the mountain was populated by a large clan of 30 to 40 feral cats. Their howls added to the howls of the incessant wind. Pop took us up there one time to see what it was like. Once was enough. Fortunately, there was no storm that night. During a storm, lightning cracked and "rolled" through the building. Staff got up on or under tables during the lightning storms."

For a while, things had not been going well for Bill at his job at KOOL-TV. Bill did not like living in Phoenix, as did Barbara. Sometime in 1963, Bill tried to get a union going at the station. When Gene Autry and management found out, legally they could not fire him, but, according to Barbara, Bill started getting every crap job they could think of, apparently hoping to get Bill to quit. Fortunately for Bill, he knew a friend in the broadcast business, which was what you might call, a station and job broker. This man saw an ad in the May 27, 1963 Broadcast Weekly stating, "Sales Manager-Station Manager for new 5000/500 watt directional fulltime KWNS Pratt, Kansas. Small competitive market with large potential for hard worker. Profit sharing and chance for investment for productive manager. Also need area salesman commission basis and first phone announcer. Immediate openings. Contact Bill Huffman, owner." Which now brings us back to the fall of 1963.

By late fall in 1963, KWNS would see the departure of Don Hoagland and Gaylon Pankratz, moving to Larned, Kansas to build KANS. Jay Phillips, Clarence Evans and Rex Chambers left because of reasons already stated. About all that was left of the original sign-on crew would be Bill Huffman and Everlyn Hillard. During the time I was employed at the station, there always seemed to be a high rate of turnover. I think at one time, I remembered over 60 people coming and going through the doors of the "Mighty 1290". I don't think radio people ever did stay at one station very long for one reason or another. It was for this reason, that I never did make a career out of radio broadcasting.

One other noteworthy thing about 1963 and KWNS is that KWSK also put out a monthly pamphlet called the "Pratt News." The first edition date is unknown and the only known surviving copy is from December 1963. In that edition Clem is listed as Publisher, Jack Clark as Editor, Harold Flood as Art Editor, Don La Porte as Sales

Representative and Agnes Morgan as Production Director with Mary Gould doing the Cover and other art work. In the Pratt News were different ads, letters to the editor, an editorial by Clem, stuff you would find in a regular newspaper, except this newspaper was put out by the radio station.

The interesting things to note in the December 1963 Pratt News is the apparent pot shots at the other radio station KWNS, of course never mentioning them by name, but the overtones are there. For example it notes that, "KWSK is a member of many of radio industries organizations." "KWSK is a member of most of the professional organizations in the radio industry." "The most important of these are the NAB and KARB," "One of the most unique of the organizations to which KWSK has gained membership is the Radio Pioneers, open only to broadcasters active in radio in its formative years. Clem Morgan, owner of KWSK, is a member of this unique group," "KWSK is the only Pratt radio station which holds any of the memberships." On other page, it states that, "REMEMBER, there is only one station located in downtown Pratt, Kansas."

On another page, Clem took a shot at the fact of KWSK having a non-directional pattern with one tower and KWNS having a directional pattern with 4 towers. Clem noted, "For good overall coverage, one tower at a radio station will give you practically equal radiation in all directions, and this is desirable in reaching as many listeners in your trade area as possible. When you see one tower rising majestically in the air, you know it is radiating in all directions at the maximum allowable power, as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D. C." For Clem, it was one tower, all power.

Clem was starting to really feel the pressure of two stations. Just as Bob Schmidt had told Clem that KWSK would not support two families when Clem bought him out in March 1953, the question now was; could Pratt support two radio stations? It appears that at this point, the shift of ad money was starting to go to KWNS.

Although Clem could promote the fact of the different organizations the station belonged to, the fact of one tower, etc. The hard facts were that KWSK was 250 watts non-directional and KWNS was 5,000 watts directional with its daytime pattern going to the Colorado-Kansas line. KWSK was a daytimer and KWNS was 500 watts at night with unlimited hours, although it signed off normally at 10 p.m. There were simply far more listeners in the KWNS pattern, than with the KWSK pattern. One other hard fact was that KWSK could not do live broadcasts of the local high school and JUCO sporting events if they were at night, since KWSK was a "daytimer."

1964, "A Tale of Two Stations"

1964 was a pivotal year for both KWSK and KWNS. "A Tale of Two Stations", being a play on words with Charles Dickens opening lines to a "Tale of Two Cities", "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair..." This perhaps best describes the year of 1964 for both stations.

Sales for KWSK had started to slip when KWNS went on the air in 1963; Clem's health was also slipping. The business sales had not been the best in 1963 and 1964 was starting out even worse. To help make some money, Clem started a Broadcasting school at KWSK. The first announcement of the new school came in the January 20, 1964 edition of the Broadcast Weekly on page 94 under the Instructions column. It read, "Broadcast school: Train on KWSK; announcing controls, news, tapes, remotes, logs traffic, sales, FCC rules, study third ticket. We know our business. We'll teach you (five weeks). Clem Morgan, Owner/Mgr., KWSK, Pratt, Kansas."

Clem also had a nice four-page color pamphlet printed up promoting the school with his daughter Mary

appearing on the back cover as Miss KWSK. Clem said on the other page, "The course includes Announcing, with emphasis on diction, pronunciation, and enunciation; Control Room, DJ, Programming, News, Copy, Tapes, Remotes, Logs, Traffic, Sales and Elements One, Two and Nine for a 3rd class examination. When students complete the KWSK course, they are ready to work in a Station, without a long break-in period. Cost of attending the KWSK School is made comparatively low partly through availability of very reasonable living accommodations. Food and lodging for the five-week course sometimes can be obtained for as little as \$100. Tuition and fees are \$400. For little more than \$500 you can attend the institution where actual ON THE AIR EXPERIENCE in an operating, COMMERCIAL station is offered." It was a great idea for the station, but it appears that there were no takers. There were at the time, across the nation, some very good schools, most notable Elkins Institute of Radio. There were also books available to help get your third or first radiotelephone license. So what appeared to be a great idea did not work out so well in the real world.

Sometime in very late 1963 or very early 1964, Clem turned to an old friend, B. Lynn Cook, who he had worked with in years pass, going back as far as his KIUL days in Garden City, who also had a history as a great salesman. Lynn thought the sun rose and set in Clem Morgan and he would stay with him until the station closed.

One of the promotions Lynn came up with was dated April 10, 1964, entitled "Let's Get Away from It All." In Lynn's own words from a letter sent to Skateland in Wichita, Kansas, he said, "We have an idea for getting new customers for you! Pratt is a nice little town. We enjoy doing business here. Yet we are realistic enough to know that Wichita, a little more than an hour's drive from here, can provide attractions that Pratt cannot. Therefore, we are starting a Bright New program called "Let's Get Away from It All." Sponsors from Wichita will use this program to invite people of this area to spend the week-in in Wichita "Living It Up." We want to tape individual invitations from the manager's or owners of the businesses to add a personal touch. The program would run Friday afternoons and the cost to each sponsor would be only \$5.00 a week. We know we could do you some good. If you are interested please mail the enclosed card. It places you under no obligation. Sincerely yours, B. Lynn Cook, General Manager, Radio Station KWSK." How the promotion went is unknown and how the Pratt merchants took to the idea of promoting people to go to Wichita to spend their money, one can only guess.

Even B. Lynn Cook, Clem's longtime friend, could not stop the trend. Clem's health was still going downhill too. In May 1964, Clem suffered his first serious heart attack. Sometime shortly after that, Clem's doctor started confining him to the house all the time. Clem had tried to sell the station several times, the last attempt being with Kay Hutchinson. With all the pressure, there was nothing left to do but shut down the station. The end came on Sunday, August 30, 1964 with Harry Mansfield signing on the station and doing the morning shift with Larry Waggoner having the "honor" of doing the afternoon shift and signing KWSK off the air for the last time with The Star Spangled Banner. The instrumental version was always played at sign off all the years KWSK was on the air, so Clem thought it was fitting that "Old Glory" would see KWSK right to the end.

Clem wrote a letter to the FCC that day informing them of the decision to shut down the station. Clem wrote, "This letter is to inform you that I am surrendering herewith my license for the above station, and that as of tonight, I will shut down the station and discontinue broadcasting. I regret to do this, but since having a serious heart attack last May 23, I have been unable to effectively manage the station and I've been steadily losing money in its operation. I have attempted continuously to sell the station as a going business, but because of the limited market, and the unprofitable operation, I've been unable to effect such a sale. My doctor now has me confined all the time, and I cannot do other than shut it down. Thank you for your many past favors. Cordially, Clem Morgan".

The Pratt Tribune reported it the next day this way, "KWSK Radio Station ceased operation here Sunday,

August 30. Ill health was the reason given by owner-manager Clem Morgan. Morgan suffered a heart attack in May. He established the station in October 1952, and has operated it since. Morgan announced that his future plans are indefinite.” It was now just KWNS as Pratt’s only radio station.

Sometime in the spring of 1964, the idea of adding an FM station to KWNS was born. The idea of a FM station in Pratt was not new nor the frequency of 93.1. Kay Hutchinson at KWSK had started the paperwork, but never sent it to the FCC, Kay having left Pratt before it was finished. According to Bill Huffman, the FM idea was totally Bill Young’s brain child, “Bill Young wanted to get into the furnishing of music to doctors’ offices, stores and other businesses along with getting a better nighttime signal for sports broadcasts. The extra cost made it necessary to bringing in some new money and incorporating was the best way to handle it without giving up complete control of the station. The KWNS radio station was incorporated to provide funds for expansion into FM broadcasting and the purchase of the other local radio station”.

On September 3, 1964, the papers to form KWNS, Inc. were signed by Wilmer E. Huffman, John Schrepel, B. V. Hampton, William J. Young and Delmer Riney. John Schrepel was a local Pratt pharmacist. B. V. Hampton was a local Pratt attorney and Delmer Riney was the manager for the Pratt Dillion’s store. After the signing of the papers on September 3, Bill Huffman owned 51% and Bill Young had 17% in KWNS, Inc. with the others at small percentages. This would be the first time that Bill Young had any monetary interests in KWNS. Up to this point, Bill Huffman had been the sole owner of KWNS, a process that started back in 1958. There were 1,000 shares offered at \$100.00 a piece with the corporation commencing business with one thousand dollars. According to Bill Huffman, the idea for KWNS, Inc. was also Bill Young’s idea. As Huffman remembered it, the whole process happened only a couple of months before the signing. Bill Huffman said he wasn’t too much involved in the thing or with the talks with KWSK; he left that up to Bill Young.

One of the things I found interesting and amusing to read in the corporation papers was some of the language used by attorney B. V. Hampton to describe why KWNS, Inc. was formed. B. V. tried to cover every detail, present and future. The one part that caught my eye was, “including the supplying of electricity or any and every form of power now known or which may be hereafter discovered.” I’m not sure what that future form of power was going to be, but I guess KWNS, Inc. was ready and covered.

During those couple of months before the signing, apparently Bill Young had also been talking to Clem Morgan about purchasing the assets of KWSK. The major item he was interested in was the KWSK-AM tower. It was going to become the new FM tower for KWNS-FM. The GE BC-1-A control board would see duty as the control board for the KWNS FM control room. Two “Magi” tape recorders would end up in the KWNS AM control room. Also, the KWSK wooden banner from the north side of their control room wall would end in the big North Studio of KWNS. The KWSK record library would also end up at KWNS, as far as the albums and 45’s were concerned. A few of the 45’s from KWSK are in the author’s personal library. As far as the 78’s and big 16-inch transcript records, as best as can be determined, they were simply discarded. I wonder what they would be worth today? Also included in the deal was KWSK employee, Larry Waggoner. Larry’s first day on the job at KWNS was Sunday, September 6, 1964.

The application for the FM license was filed with the FCC on November 25, 1964, with the announcement appearing in the Broadcast Weekly under “New FM Station Applications” on December 7, 1964, as follows, “New FM station application filed by Wilmer E. Huffman. 93.1 megacycles, 29,000 watts. Antenna height above average terrain, 120 feet. P. O. Box 486, Pratt, Kansas. Estimated construction cost \$25,000. First year operating cost \$10,000. First year revenue \$15,000. Principal owner is Wilmer E. Huffman. Mr. Huffman is licensee of KWNS

and is seeking transfer of control of facility". Worth noting is that the application reads, "New FM station application filed by Wilmer E. Huffman". As far as the FCC knew, Huffman was still the sole owner of KWNS, but that was about to change, when the FCC opened the next piece of mail from Pratt, Kansas.

Also, filed with the FCC on November 25, 1964 was a second application asking for transfer of the KWNS license from Wilmer E. Huffman to KWNS, Inc. The announcement for it also appeared in the Broadcast Weekly under "Ownership Change Applications" on December 7, 1964, as follows, "Seeks assignment of license from Wilmer E. Huffman (100%) to KWNS, Inc. owned by Wilmer E. Huffman (54.8%), William J. Young (10.7%), John Schrepel (10.7%). Delmer Riney, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon each with 5.4% and B. V. Hampton with 2.2%. Consideration of \$51,000 and assumption of \$65,750 corporate liabilities. Mr. Young is General Manager of KWNS". The reader will probably note that three new players have been added to the mix since the September 3 signing. At the time, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon were bankers at the First National Bank of Pratt, Kansas. Worth noting is the same ownership percentage between Young and Schrepel, Bill had no more power than John did. I know in talking to John Schrepel about KWNS many, many years before the idea of this book was even imagined, he told me he was just investing in KWNS and the day to day operations of the station, he could care less, he was quite busy being a pharmacist. The FCC granted the reassignment of the license on December 21, 1964.

The 1964 Broadcast Yearbook listed: Bill Huffman as owner and Farm Director; William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer; Aubrey Mays as Station Manager and Sports Director.

1964, "OOOooo ANDY, You're a Dandy!!!"

Without a doubt, when it comes to talking to people about the past history of KWNS, particularly those who were around their teenage years then and some younger and older ones too, about people who worked at the station; Andy Airiola and Lou Constantino's names will always come up in the conversation. Andy's air name was of course, Andy Airiola. I mean, come on; when your real name IS Andy Airiola, what other air name is possible? Lou's air name was Louie-Louie, which we will get to later. As best as I can determine and in talking to Bill Huffman, Andy was most likely at KWNS during 1964 and 1965. Lou Constantino came to Pratt about August 1966, going to Pratt JUCO and working at the station, but said he did not work with Andy and Huffman said he didn't remember Andy during 1963.

For those of us who enjoyed good ol' rock and roll, the kind of music that just soothes the soul, sometime around 1964 to 1965, KWNS at night, was in the groove, man. Before then, for the teen scene, if you wanted to listen to the latest rock and roll music, at least the top 40, KWNS was not the station you were going to listen to. At that point in time, it was KLEO holding court during the day and at night, KOMA, WGN, WOR, WLS and some others, but probably most likely, KOMA at night. Around 1964 all that changed at night at KWNS with the Andy Airiola show. Before that, you would have to go back to KWSK and Margaret Morgan's show, "Tune for Teens", that was on the air at KWSK on Saturday mornings 11a.m. to 11:30 a.m. from 1952 to 1956. It was the start of a magic time in the history of KWNS broadcasting that some of us will never forget, although it only lasted at best maybe two years, more or less. It would not happen again until 1966 and the Louie-Louie show. It would not be until the fall of 1972, that KWNS would be for the first time, a top 40 format station.

As stated before, Bill Young and Bill Huffman were not very sold on rock and roll. So how Andy managed to get Bill Young to let him play a rock and roll show is not known for sure. But play the music he did and the Pratt

listeners loved it and still talk about it to this day. As far as Bill Young letting Louie play rock, we will get to that in a minute or so.

Not much is known about Andy; all attempts to locate him have failed. According to Harold Rogers, he is pretty sure Andy has passed on, which is unfortunate, since he is such an unforgettable air personality of KWNS. It appears that Andy was not what you would call a real handsome guy, but all the girls in radio land were crazy about him. So, who needs good looks? Andy's show was called, "Platter Party" and its opening theme was "Catch us, if you can", by "The Dave Clark Five". Speaking of the girls, Andy would have them come out to the station, put them on the air or sometimes record them saying, "OOoo Andy, you're a Dandy" or "OOoo Andy, you're like Candy" and other things in the sexiest voice they could muster. The "OOoo" was drawn out and sounding like it was uttered by Marilyn Monroe. Their honey-coated voices just dripping out of the listener's speaker.

One thing that made Andy's show very popular, also, was the request line. In Pratt, back in the "Good Ol' Days", there was at night, an endless parade of vehicles dragging Main. Kids would drag 1st and Main from the minute school was out until the very late hours of night, calling in requests to Andy and waiting patiently to hear them later on. It wasn't unusual for Andy to have kids come out to the station and put them on the air too.

One person that remembered Andy was John Shelman. John posted on Facebook, "We used to be crazy about him. We lived in Cunningham, in the country. The radio station cut its power back at night and we could not pick it up as well on my little bitty radio. I thought I had the world by the tail, a 6 transistor radio bought at Western Auto, back when they were on the west side of south Main. I was always after Mom to get me another of those little square 9 volt batteries. So we would go out to the windmill tower and lay the radio against it. It acted like a big antenna and made the station come in better, stronger and louder".

Another person that remembered Andy and had an impact on his future life and career was Norman Brown. Norman also posted on Facebook, "Larry Waggoner worked afternoons. I remember my Dad Rev. Ed Brown would take me out to KWNS with him. He had to record some weekly devotions. I met Larry and Andy and fell in love with being on the radio. I made a radio station in my bedroom and would record commercials from the TV on my reel to reel and buy 45's from Jetts. I started working in radio at KLOQ in Lyons and Larry Waggoner did some electronic work at the station one night. I told him he and Andy got me interested in radio. He just smiled and said he hadn't heard Andy's name in a long time. Wish I was still working in radio".

Andy, I think was sometimes what you might call, a "loose cannon" on the air. Andy would sometimes say the darnest things on the air, but within the limits back then, of what you could say and get away with on the air. A good example comes from Danny Willard, a longtime friend of the author, "I remember Andy Airiola making a comment that buckled me in laughter. I was sitting at First and Main one night, in the rain, when he said, "The Boss asked me what I thought of the Head of the Firm. I told him, "It's small, but nearby!" I thought I'd die laughing".

Just as quickly one night, Andy was on the air, the next night he was gone: never to be heard from again.

1965, "A Heck of a Year"

The Broadcast Yearbook for 1965 simply listed Wilmer E. Huffman as owner and Farm Director and William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer. It also showed that the station was broadcasting 20 hours a week of Country and Western music. It wouldn't be until the 1966 Yearbook was out to show the ownership changes of 1965 at KWNS. Although not shown, Larry Waggoner was News Director in 1965, other positions at the station are not known for sure.

On January 30, 1965, Clem Morgan, former owner of KWSK, lost his battle with lung cancer and on February 1, 1965, KWNS along with the other stations of the Kansas Association of Radio Broadcasters paid its highest honor to the passing of Clem Morgan, a radio pioneer, with one minute of silence. In a news release to all the Kansas Radio stations, Hank Parkinson of Wichita, Executive Director of the KARB wrote, “ The Kansas Association of Radio Broadcasters is asking its member stations to honor Clem Morgan, Kansas radio executive who died in Wichita Saturday, with one minute of air silence in conjunction with his funeral at 2 p.m. today, February 1 in Pratt, Kansas. The air silence may be preceded by the following announcement, to begin at 1:59 p.m. The Kansas Radio Industry lost one of its pioneers Saturday with the death of Clem Morgan. Mr. Morgan started his radio career in 1923 in Wichita and was active in Kansas radio until his retirement September, 1964. At the time of his retirement, Mr. Morgan was owner and Manager of KWSK in Pratt. During his broadcast career, he managed stations in Hays, Garden City and Great Bend. The wise advice and counsel he was always willing to give his fellow broadcasters will be missed and can never be replaced. Yet, we are all better for having known and worked with Clem, and the improvements he made in Kansas radio will serve as a lasting memorial to his immense capabilities. Funeral services for Mr. Morgan will begin in 15 seconds in Pratt, Kansas. Station----- (your Call Letters) joins with other members of the Kansas Association of Radio Broadcasters in paying tribute to Clem Morgan with one minute of air silence. Silence to 2:01 p.m. and then pick up with regular program. Thank You, Hank Parkinson, Wichita, Executive Director, KARB.”

Just as Clem’s funeral began at 2 p.m., Kansas radio, including KWNS, fell silent for one minute to honor one of its own. The minute of silence was reserved for significant occasions in radio broadcasting, and it honored him not only as a radio pioneer, but also as someone who touched many lives both in radio and through it. It was the end of an era, the likes of which Pratt radio would never see again.

The FCC on February 25, 1965 granted the construction permit for a FM station at Pratt, Kansas on 93.1 megacycles. This time the station did not have to go thru a lengthy battle to get the go ahead to put Pratt’s first FM station on the air. The only thing I can think of is that the Pier San group and their medicine show was on vacation that year! I am sure Bill Huffman was not in the mood to go through another mess like the one starting in 1958.

On April 6, 1965, the FCC granted SCA operation on sub-carrier frequencies of 38 kilocycles and 67 kilocycles. One of the frequencies was used for the “Background Music” operation and the other was used to operate a stereo light on the listener’s FM radio. The FCC issued the call letters KWNS-FM to the new FM station on April 19, 1965.

Not a lot is known about the construction of the FM side for some reason. In talking to Bill Huffman, he couldn’t remember much about the FM side. No photos of the FM control room have been found so far. During this point in time, more than likely, the control room was being constructed, equipment being installed in the building, etc. No outside work was being done except for the setting of the tower concrete base pad and the three deadmen anchor points.

The FM transmitter that was installed was a new Gates FM-5G rated at 5,000 watts output feeding into a 4-bay Andrews antenna with a gain that produced an E.R.P. or Effective Radiated Power of 29,000 watts. The result was a near perfect circle pattern of about 70 to 80 miles. The antenna was also equipped with electric “De-icers” for the wintertime. As the antenna coated itself with more and more ice, more and more power was reflected back into the transmitter final as heat. If you let the reflected power get too high, you could do damage to the transmitter and or coax feed line. They worked fairly well as long as you turned them on ahead of the game. If you let the ice buildup get ahead of you, it was hard to catch up.

The machines that “played” the background music over the years were a standard reel to reel tape deck and an old Seeburg jukebox machine. The audio from the machines was feed into the FM transmitter exciter and superimposed on the 93.1 megacycle frequency, piggy backed on the RF wave at 67 kilocycles. At the business end, a simple fm antenna was installed connected to a McMartin crystal controlled receiver, tuned to 93.1, and the audio output connected to an amplifier and speakers. The background music system was for the most part trouble free and produced income while you were “sleeping”. Some of the places I can remember helping Bill Young install new systems was the new Alco and Gibsons stores in Pratt, also the banks at Coats and Isabel.

On June 2, 1965, Dick Ogle, KWNS’s official “tower man” from Russell, Kansas started putting up the old KWSK tower at the KWNS station. The tower was located at the northeast corner of the station building, about 10 feet to the east and stood at 120 feet tall. All that is left now is the concrete base. Dick Ogle said the cost, according to his records, to put the tower back up was \$1458.21. The final tuning of the antenna was done on June 10, 1965, at a cost of just \$40 to the station. Dick said, the only think he can think of, why he worked so cheap on the tuning, was probably because he also traded out airtime with Bill Young. Dick Ogle was also a preacher and sometimes traded out work for airtime on Sundays for sermons. Dick began as a preacher in 1948 and sometime afterwards started climbing towers as a hobby and to make some extra money. In 1960, the tower climbing became fulltime and preaching was part-time. The ONLY person I ever knew, while I was there, of climbing the towers at KWNS, besides myself, was Dick Ogle.

The one fond memory I have of Mr. Ogle involved the icing up of the FM antenna, probably around the winter of 1971. At that time, both the AM and FM signed off at 10 p.m. A storm came through later that night, coating the antenna with a pretty good layer of ice. The sign-off man had not thought to turn on the de-icers at sign-off and just let them run all night, nor had anyone told him to. I came in the next morning to sign the station on the air, with the AM side going on the air with no problem. I think as far as the AM towers were concerned, the whole blasted thing could have been coated in ice and still go on the air without a problem! Not so with the FM antenna. When I pushed the plates on, the S.W.R. or “Standing Wave Ratio” was sky high, kicking the transmitter back off. I called Bill Young and informed him of the problem. Bill asked, “Did you turn the de-icers on?” and I said, “Yes, of course!” I could tell by his voice that he was pleased to hear that I had done so and didn’t have to be told to do it. The next several hours passed and the de-icers were not getting the job done, so Bill Young called Dick Ogle and told him of the problem. Dick informed Bill, “I’ll be right there”. After an hour or two, Ogle pulled up to the station, and I thought to myself, “I don’t know how he is going to fix the problem”. The FM tower sections had easily an inch or two of ice on the rungs, surely there was no way he was going to climb this thing, only a mad man would try it. Well Dick slipped on some boots with little spikes on the soles and I said to myself, “Oh my God, he’s really going to climb this thing!” In his tool belt was nothing more than a hammer and some scrapers. Up the tower Dick went, slowing working his way to the top and just as slowly hammering and scrapping the ice off the antenna. After some time, Dick yelled at me, “OK, try it”. Running back to the front of the transmitter, I crossed my fingers, pushed the plates on button and life was wonderful. As I turned around, there was Bill Young right behind me with a smile on his face; KWNS-FM was back on the air. Running back outside, I yelled up at Dick that everything was OK. After a little time, Dick was back on the ground, safe and sound and I think a relief to my nerves. At that moment, I said to Dick, “Man, you’re crazy, that’s the damnest thing I have ever seen. You could have slipped on that ice and killed yourself”. I remember Dick Ogle looking me straight into the eyes saying, “If I had fell, I know I will be going to Heaven, do you”? I immediately said yes. Dick patted me on the back, smiled and said, “Glad to hear it” and quietly went back to his truck and put his things away.

Right from the start, Bill Young and his family were very involved with the Sacred Heart Church. Bill later would be one of the driving forces at the Church to build a new school, but we will get to that later. Bill's daughter Mary Ann, like many girls in the 60's, joined the Girl Scouts. Mary Ann along with my future wife, Patricia Ann Route, belonged to Troop No.270 from Sacred Heart, with Mrs. Gene Brown and Mrs. Leland Flint as leaders. On May 16, 1965, twelve girls of the Sacred Heart Parish received one of the highest awards available in Scouting, the "Marian Award". The award was made possible by the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D.C. and of course, the Girls Scouts of America. "The award was developed to help girls to become better members of their faith, to recognize in all they do, the many opportunities for living the teachings of their church and the principles of the organization to which they belong. The requirements completed by these girls help them to further develop knowledge of their Catholic faith as they enjoy an educational and recreational leisure program".

On July 5, 1965, KWNS, Inc., contracted with Audio Program Services to provide reel to reel tapes of background music for the station. I think they used them for probably 3 or 4 years at the most, because when I started hanging around the station in 1969, the music was being produced by the old Seeburg jukebox machine. At that time, it was located in the Production Room on the north wall toward the west corner. During the O'Malley years, I repaired one of the original tape decks that Bill Young had used and the music feed went back to using the reel to reel tapes.

Although I could find nothing in the paper announcing the KWNS-FM official sign-on, it probably was very shortly after the FCC on August 11, 1965, gave its final approval. When the FM officially went on the air, as mentioned before, there was a separate control room; KWNS-FM was its own thing. As best as I can determine, that lasted maybe a year or two. In the far larger markets, an FM station probably would have worked, but Bill Young found out that in the area of little Pratt, Kansas, that AM was still king and the sales were not there to support a separate FM station and personnel. Not that many, very few people in Pratt, Kansas had FM radios, not too many had even heard of it. Some time in 1968 or 1969, the plug was pulled on the separate control room on the FM side and the audio that fed the AM transmitter was now being fed to the FM transmitter 100% of the time or as we say in the broadcasting business: it was now being simulcasted with the AM. As far as the background music portion of the FM, nothing changed with that part of it. The only other change the public would notice would be the switch from stereo to mono on their radios.

On the FM exciter for the transmitter was a simple little switch that when it was on would cause the stereo light on the listener's radio to come on, telling them that KWNS-FM was broadcasting in stereo, even if it wasn't. When the FM side went mono, all Bill Young had to do was push the slide switch to off and the listener's light went out, telling them that KWNS-FM was in mono. A nice and simple solution. Well, once in a while, I would go over to the exciter and flip the switch back on and lo and behold, KWNS-FM was back in stereo as far as the listener's little light was concerned. I could always tell when Bill Young was listening closely. Sometimes it wouldn't take a minute or two, the phone would ring in the control room. Answering the phone one time, the next thing I heard was Bill's voice saying, "Detwiler, you have about 10 seconds to turn that switch off!!" Which I did of course, walking back to the FM transmitter with a little smile on my face!

The other mistake that Bill Young was very soon to learn that he had made was concerning the FM tower structure itself. The first time after the FM went on the air, and he checked the ten monitoring points for the AM day and night antenna patterns, Bill Young very quickly found out that they were all screwed up. After a lot of thinking and calling some engineers, it was determined that the grounded FM tower was acting like a fifth parasitic

element to the four main towers for the AM. To cure the problem, an antenna coax isolator was inserted in the main feed line. The tower was no longer electrically grounded, the FM signal still going to the antenna and as far as the AM towers knew, it wasn't even there. Darn clever those Japanese!!

One thing I learned from Gene McKinney, who was Chief Engineer of the station at the time, about Bill Young and the directional AM antenna patterns was simply this: Bill Young hated them with a passion. They were difficult to keep in proper tuning, generally a pain in the backside. Gene told me that Bill had on several occasions told him that if he ever moved and owned another station, "It damned sure wasn't going to have a directional pattern, just a single tower". Later on in the story, the reader will learn that Bill was a man of his word.

Hired sometime in 1965, one of my top ten most unforgettable characters from KWNS and probably one of the best salespersons at the station besides Bill Young, certainly remembered by the "older generation" was Catherine Newsom from Medicine Lodge. Catherine can be credited for a lot of the sales through the Medicine Lodge area for the station, also producing the very popular Monday through Friday program called "The Market Basket", which aired from 11:05 am to the 12-noon newscast. A primary sponsor of "The Market Basket" program was the Stafford County Flour Mill located in Hudson, Kansas. The Mill is still in business and the flour bags still picture the "Hudson Cream Cow", "symbol of milling purity and quality", as it did fifty years ago. While in high school, Mary Ann Young ventured a couple of substitute stints for Mrs. Newsom on "The Market Basket" show and the author can recall one of Mary Ann's stints, while running the control board on the other side of the glass window. There were even cookbooks promoted and sold on the program as a market driver for the program and sales incentives for advertisers. For the eight years Catherine was at KWNS, those of us who knew her, also knew her as "Chatty Cathy", no derogatory name intended, she was just good and chatty on the air, which made the program popular and hence the nickname.

Catherine was born in the east part of the Sharon valley near Sharon, Kansas on September 7, 1908, the daughter of Howard E. Stone and Ethel L. "Gibson". Catherine's grandfather was William Perez Gibson, who was born February 22, 1856, in Linn County, Missouri. William's immigrant ancestor was Thomas Gibson, who had come to America from Ireland in the late 1700's. Catherine's grandmother was Olive Minta Nickell, born January 7, 1857, whose immigrant ancestor was John Nickell, who came to America just before the Revolutionary War. William died in 1917 and Olive Minta in 1920. All that Irish blood in Catherine explains some of the things about her, I didn't know at the time, when I was working with her at the station!

The Gibson's apparently came to Kansas by train in 1896 and lived on the Winn Ranch, which was located on Elm Creek, north and east of Medicine Lodge, Kansas. There they raised Hereford cattle along with some farming. Hard times hit the family in the winter of 1897 and its famous severe blizzard, losing most of the cattle herd. In the early 1900's, the Gibson family moved to a ranch and farm west of Isabel, Kansas. Catherine's mother Ethel was born in Missouri on December 22, 1880, later marrying Howard Stone on Sunday, March 3, 1901. After the marriage, the Stones moved onto a farm near Sharon, Kansas in Sharon township, that had been recently purchased by Howard. Catherine lived on the farm until she was ten, then into Sharon with her parents, Howard and Ethel Gibson Stone, and sister, Marguerite. The Stones had planned to retire in Medicine Lodge, so after the sudden death of her father on October 5, 1928, Catherine and her mother built and moved into the house at 206 East Washington.

Catherine Stone and Trice Newsom started what was known back then as "Courting" in 1930 near what Catherine called, "The old fashioned thread case situated between the Trice Grocery Store and the Trice Department". Both attended college at Kansas State University. Both worked for the Trice Mercantile Company;

Trice in the grocery part, starting in 1922 and Catherine in the office, starting in 1930. The “Dirty 30’s” and the Depression hit, taking its toll on the Trice Mercantile Company, sparing no one in the Heartland of America. After four more years of dating, Trice’s pay was upped to \$75.00 a week. Entertainment for couples dating during the Depression consisted of 25 cent movies, golf, hunting, hiking and fishing, but ain’t LOVE wonderful!! Plans for a wedding moved ahead with the wedding in 1934 at Medicine Lodge, Kansas. According to Catherine, “It was a simple service in the First Baptist Church as befitted Depression days”. The honeymoon involved taking a train trip to Detroit, Michigan Ford plant, where the newlyweds watched their Ford V-8 come off the assembly line. From Detroit, it was on to Canada, to Niagara Falls and back to St. Louis, where Trice and Catherine watched the St. Louis Cardinals and the Cleveland Browns play. All went well until the bride nearly fell from the car when the door accidentally opened.

In 1936, Trice and Catherine bought the men’s store, calling it “Newsom’s Store.” Both Newsom’s were very involved in the Medicine Lodge community. Trice with the First Baptist Church, the Masonic Lodge, Jaycees, the Chamber of Commerce, tennis and golf. Catherine, also, with the First Baptist Church, director of church choirs, Sunday School classes, Monday Afternoon Club, BPW Club, PEO, Order of Eastern Star and Chamber of Commerce. Its easy to see now why she was such a good salesperson in the Medicine Lodge area. By the time she was at KWNS, she had been involved with the merchants in that area for thirty plus years already. I think she may have known also where a few skeletons might have been buried, also, helping also in some sales.

According to Laurel “Dub” Rickard, who owned and ran Hibbard Drug Store in Medicine Lodge from 1950 to 1991, and knew the Newsom’s very well, Trice was kind of a laid back guy, but a prankster and a very good runner. When Trice was a kid, on Halloween, Trice and some of his buddies turned over a neighbor’s toilet. Trice had warned them that if shots rang out not to get in his way. Well, over the toilet-outhouse went and sure enough the owner came out in the dark and started firing. The boys took off running and Trice kept yelling, “Get out of my way, Get out of my way!!!”. Well, he finally ran around the group of boys and off into the darkness ahead, he disappeared!! Dub remembered one of Trice’s favorite quotes, “Don’t tell me about the good ol’ days, tell me about the good ol’ nights!” After he said it, he would always look at Catherine, wink and just smile at her.

To the Newsom family was born three children: two girls, Sue Ann and Kay Lyn and a boy, Bob. After Trice suffered a heart attack in 1962, the men’s store was sold. He later became associated with the school, driving a bus and later was named Transportation Supervisor. After the last chick flew the coop, Catherine went to work for KWNS for eight years, then became the Manager of the Chamber of Commerce for five years. Trice died on November 26, 1979, and Catherine on July 10, 1982.

One of Pratt’s finest institutions that we take for granted now, but was starting to be hotly debated in the fall of 1965 in Pratt County was the proposed bond issue to build a new Junior College Campus. Seeing an opportunity to help the issue and promote the station, Bill Young came up with the idea of a party line at the station, whereby listeners could call in with questions. The Pratt Tribune on October 1, 1965, reported, “Superintendent of Schools Kenneth S. Hill announced today that Radio Station KWNS is offering time on Wednesday for representatives of the Board of Trustees of the Pratt Community Junior College to answer questions which listeners may call in to the program. Times for the program are from 3 to 5 p.m. and again from 7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and will be operated like a “party line” program. Listeners are asked to call in questions regarding the proposed bond issue to build a new junior college campus; and will have answers given or explained to all listeners of the station.” Whether the party line helped to pass the bond issue, who can say, but I am quite sure it didn’t hurt it either, and I am also sure it helped to promote the station and the new FM.

By October 1965, KWNS-FM was not taking off quite the way Bill Young had envisioned, the background music portion was going great guns, but the on-air FM part just wasn't moving along. So in October, the station held a special two day only event at the National Guard Armory on the 30th and 31st. It was a Hi-Fi Stereo Show bringing in the local merchants, showing off their FM radio equipment, plus to let the public know that there was indeed an FM station in town at 93.1 megacycles. It was also a chance for the merchants to show off other electronic goodies such as televisions, AM-FM radios, Hi-Fi sets, record players, tape recorders and other goodies. This was the only time that this type of show was ever run by KWNS.

1966, "Movin' on"

The 1966 Broadcast Yearly listed: Wilmer E. Huffman as President and Program Director, William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer. Larry Waggoner as News Director. No other information could be located on other positions and employees.

February and it was time once again for the annual Home Show, on the 26th and 27th, Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 9 a.m. One thing interesting to note is the free gifts for the ladies. A pretty clever idea I think. Offer free gifts to the ladies and they will drag some of their husbands to the show! Also each day at the show was Miss Pratt, Diane Farmer, representing the Kansas Pageant. Although not mentioned in the Pratt Tribune ad, most of the Home Shows also had live broadcasts from the Armory. Part of what the merchant paid for to be in the Home Show was those live broadcasts. From time to time during the Home Show, a merchant would be interviewed and given a chance to tell the listening audience about his wares, to come on down, bring the kiddies and enjoy the free to the public KWNS Home Show. No records could be located as to the number of people that attended it, but as a fourteen year old boy at the time, on that Saturday, it seemed to me that all of Pratt had showed up. Some of my male cousins, myself and other boys in the neighborhood probably went to the event; all of us lived only a block or two south of the Armory, mainly in the Commodore and Sixth Street area. We hadn't come to look at some silly refrigerator or what have you, no sir, our mission was to see how many "Freebies" we could walk away with. Some booths gave away yardsticks, which could later be fashioned into swords. Some items, we had no idea what we were going to do with or what to fashion it into, but it was going home with us anyway, all we could carry on our bicycles. It may be a little late, but the "Sixth Street Mafia", wishes to thank KWNS and Bill Young for all the neat stuff we packed away from the Home Show over a few short years in the days of our innocent youth!!

On February 22, 1966, Bill Huffman went to work at Swinson Motor's fulltime as its business manager. The announcement of Bill's joining Swinson, came out in the Pratt Tribune on February 24, 1966, as follows, "The appointment of W. E. Huffman as business manager of Swinson Motor Company, Inc., was announced today. The appointment was effective Tuesday of this week. Huffman, who has been program director at the local KWNS radio station the past three years, succeeds Kenny Henderson who will be associated with Bud Swinson Chevrolet-Oldsmobile Company in Winfield in the same capacity. In making the announcement, Vernon Swinson said, "We are happy to have Bill associated with our company and have 100 percent confidence in his ability." Swinson said the same continued good service will be given to customers. Huffman is a graduate of Kansas University and a Certified Public Accountant. Before his association with KWNS radio, he was a partner in Hampton and Huffman Public Accountants here in Pratt. He is a member of the Pratt Jaycees and presently serves on the Miss Kansas board of directors and a member of the Optimist Club. He and his wife Jo Ann, who is a substitute elementary

school teacher, have two children, Cynthia, 3 and Billy, 1½ and are members of the First Methodist Church.” After Bill Huffman had gone to Swinson’s Motors, he said he didn’t see much of the station or Bill Young.

Sensing a story, I called Bill and asked him what had prompted him to join Swinson Motors. Bill Huffman was still part owner and full-time at the station. Huffman simply and quickly replied, “MONEY”! KWNS was still making money, but not enough. The station was still in the black, but was getting closer to slipping into the red.” Although Huffman was at Swinson’s now, he said he could still do things at the station, but not draw a salary. According to Bill, the move did the trick for the profit margin of KWNS. From that point on, Bill Huffman was employed elsewhere besides KWNS. Bill would be employed at Swinson’s from 1966 to 1970. Moving to Lawrence, Kansas in 1970, Bill was employed at KU, while working on a PhD degree. From there, Huffman moved to Silver Lake, Kansas, working for Washburn University at Topeka, Kansas. Last stop for Bill was Pittsburg State University, living in Pittsburg, Kansas. Bill was at PSU from 1978 to 1997. Bill presently is still living in Pittsburg.

One other thing we probably should note is an August 3, 1966 ad in the Pratt paper, thanking those who had purchased some of the featured livestock from the 4-H boys and girls. Among the numerous other businesses and individuals listed was of course, KWNS, although lost to time, what exactly was purchased. The reason we are mentioning it, is among the live coverages and broadcasts of local events that KWNS did, also included the annual Pratt County Fair. KWNS did daily broadcasts from the fair while it was running and I think also they had a booth at the fair. Another memorable “KWNS, SAY WHAT??” happened at the fair and was uttered, (no pun intended, as the reader will find out) by Bill Young’s son, Jim Young. One year, Jim was doing the live broadcast from the Pratt County Fairgrounds, covering the place ribbon winners over at the Dairy Division barn. When it came time for the announcement of the Blue Ribbon cow, Jim started grasping for some unscripted commentary, in other words grabbing for air. On the air and unable to think of anything else to say as why the animal was picked to be a Blue Ribbon prize animal, Jim in desperation sputtered, “That the cow must have had the best bag”!! From that point on, Jim was a marked man to the country people, becoming notorious among the farmers as a “City Slicker”!!

1967

“Louie-Louie, Tommy James and KWNS, OH MY!” “One Magic Year at the “Mighty 1290””

For the year 1967 from the Broadcasting Yearbook, Bill Huffman was listed as President and Program Director. KWNS was incorporated and Bill Young was reported as General Manager and Chief Engineer with Larry Waggoner as News Director. One interesting listing in it is that KWNS-FM is shown only duplicating KWNS-AM 50% of the time now.

Speaking of Larry Waggoner, Larry tied the knot with Billie Ann Barker on January 29, 1967, at the First Christian Church in Pratt. The bride was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Galen Barker of Pratt. At the time, she was a junior at Wichita State University majoring in Spanish and French. Larry’s last day of employment at KWNS was Wednesday, January 25, 1967; I think the wedding might have had something to do with it, just a guess!! After the wedding and honeymoon, Larry joined her at WSU, where he resumed his studies for a degree in broadcasting. The Waggoner’s made their new home at 5208 East Central in Wichita. Larry still lives in Wichita, still married to Ann, and has run his own business for a number of years in Wichita; Broadcast Technical Consultants, Wichita’s legendary radio repairman.

One man worth noting in Ann and Larry’s wedding announcement in the paper is Kenny Wetzel, Larry’s

very best friend. Thanks to these two, we have the second earliest known audio from KWNS. The earliest known audio from KWNS goes to Lonnie Detmer. Lonnie provided the author with a 15 minute clip from the summer of 1963 featuring the “Midnight Ramblers”, who were being sponsored by Gadeke’s Bakery. Back to Kenny and Larry, the song they recorded in the Production Room of KWNS was a hit song by The Kingston Trio, called Bauna. The song was from The Kingston Trio’s number one debut album of 1958 entitled the “The Kingston Trio” from which the smash hit, “Tom Dooley” also came from. In an e-mail, Larry wrote me saying, “I really enjoyed looking over the black and white KWNS production room picture. The old single track Ampex tape recorder in the picture is what Kenny Wetzel and I used, in 1966, to record the song “Banua”. Kenny was on guitar and I was doing the banjo picking, with both of us singing. We used the one microphone that you see hanging there just above the VU meter on the production mixer (If you can call it that!!). It was recorded in one taping. In 2002 I added the bass, but couldn’t quite take out all the hum”. For just doing the song in one take, Larry and Kenny gave the Kingston Trio a run for their money. I think the other reason it was done in one take, is not getting caught by Bill Young, using the Ampex recorder for other things besides recording “spots”. I remember Bill was very touchy about that machine. I hope the real reason is that since the first take was so good, there was no reason for more attempts.

On March 4th and 5th, at the Pratt National Guard Armory was once again, the annual KWNS Homeshow. This year the show ran from 1p.m. to 10 p.m. both nights. Of course, the show was free and billed to be “Fun for the entire family”. At this show as far as I can find, there were no special appearances, promotions, just a home show. The only appearance I can think of was the usual one by the “Sixth Street Mafia”.

An interesting ad appeared in the Pratt Tribune on April 24th. It was an ad promoting Pratt Industries during the Kansas Products Week. In the business listing, it shows KWNS as having seven employees. One of the other businesses noted was Gadeke’s Bakery, but this time only claiming 12 employees, not like the 47 reported in a 1963 Pratt Tribune ad. It’s hard to say who the seven might have been at KWNS. The only employees that were at the station during 1967, I can think of, were Bill Young, Larry Allen, Catherine Newsom, M. L. Eneff, Lou Constantino and Harold Rogers.

Which now brings us to Lou Constantino. Along with Andy Airiola: Louie-Louie is also one of the most remembered air personalities from KWNS. Lou grew up in Pittsburgh, Pa. and as a child, dreamed of being on the radio. He would put a record on his little record player, grab a wooden spoon for a microphone and pretend he was on the air. Lou would experiment with different voices and routines. While in high school, Lou also attended a local broadcasting school. Lou was not what you would call a good student, grade wise. His grades were passing, but not great, Lou just wasn’t that interested in it. His mind, it seems, was on more important matters; like playing high school baseball, at which he was a very good pitcher. Also, high on his mind and time was the local TV station WTAE, where he was working mainly as a “gofer”. Lou was the kid at the station that ran errands from studio to studio. At some point in time, Lou caught the eye of Del Taylor at the station, where Del ran a show similar to Dick Clark’s “American Bandstand”, simply called “Bandstand”. Del Taylor hosted the weekly Saturday afternoon program: real name Marion Del Vecchio. Lou over time, became one of the regular dancers and a good friend of Del’s. Lou’s natural good looks and dancing moves helped make him a regular on the show. Del Taylor in 1960 took over the hosting duties of “Bandstand” from legendary Pittsburgh personality Jay Michael, when he left for San Diego.

Before Lou knew it, High School was over and he was going to have to decide what to do with his life. The Vietnam War was raging. He initially had no plans to attend college, but in the end, it was go to college or go

to Vietnam. To Lou, college sounded like a much better choice. As mentioned before, he was very much a standout as a high school baseball player. Now in 1966, it was not easy to just waltz into a college in the Pittsburgh area or state or back east and enroll in their baseball program, if they had one. Lou's baseball coach said he had sent a couple of ball players to a JUCO in Pratt, Kansas with no problems. Lou's coach placed a call to Jess Cooper, who was the Dean at Pratt Juco and before you knew it, Lou was in like flint. In August 1965, Lou flew from Pittsburgh to Wichita, Kansas and took a bus to Pratt and found a place to live at 216 Champa. Lou said it was a complete culture shock when he stepped off that bus. He had never seen guys wear jeans and he had certainly never owned a pair of jeans. Even the bus trip was a culture shock for Lou's eyes. In Pittsburgh, you drove for miles and miles and miles of nothing but cities. In central Kansas, you drove through miles and miles and miles of nothing. Well, over time, that and many other things, out here in the land of OZ, Lou quickly got used to.

When Lou got to Pratt, he had a friend give him a ride to KWNS, where he was interviewed by Bill Young. Lou pitched his idea for an oldies rock and roll show to Bill. Bill was skeptical because oldies rock and roll was certainly not their format. Lou said, "If I can sell air time on my show, will you put me on the air?" Apparently Bill thinking Lou, the new kid in town, could never do that, quickly agreed to the deal. Bill had underestimated Lou, because he came back to the station, a few days later, and handed Bill \$180 in sponsor's money. The \$180 was talking Bill's lingo and Lou had himself the evening airtime and a show. But what to call it? Lou said, "Bill and I talked and kicked it around, but just couldn't come up with anything". One thought was "The Lou Constantino Show", but that sounded too much like a commercial. The record by "The Kingsmen", "Louie, Louie" was very popular then, so Lou's idea was to simply call it "The Louie-Louie Show" and he has been using it ever since.

Lou always had to hitch a ride to the station, since he didn't have a car. One good friend, Richie Jones, would often give him a ride on his motorcycle to the station. Lou said he would have a box of records under one arm and be hanging onto Richie for dear life with the other hand, while they went harem-scarem over the bumpy dusty road to KWNS. And as Lou found out at the reunion, all the same bumps and potholes are still there going to the station! Just like a postman, through rain, snow, sleet and sometimes even hail, Lou said he always made it to the station and NEVER missed a show.

Like Andy Airiola, one thing that made Louie-Louie VERY popular with the listening crowd was the request line to the station and Louie was very famous for that line, taking in tons of requests every show. One person that remembers Louie-Louie and his request lines very well is John Calbeck. On Facebook about Lou, he wrote: "Of course, Louie was famous for playing requests. We called in lots of them. And on a weekend night with nothing else to do, we would go to the studio (which I remember just as in the picture) and he'd talk with us, or play our songs, or say our names on the air. I requested one song so many times, that he gave it to me when he left town, "Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye" by "The Casinos". I remember that he seemed so sad about leaving."

At the August 18th reunion, I had the honor to sit down and talk to Louie about himself and KWNS. It had taken me close to a year to locate him and I was not about to let the chance go by to interview him. As fate would have it and certainly funny now, I found out that when I finally tracked down Louie in Topeka, Kansas, he was married to a local girl, Cindy Renner, whose Dad was Judge Renner. Louie had been in my backyard all the time!! One of the questions I had for Lou and Cindy was how they met and is best told by Cindy, "We met at Pratt Junior College and had been introduced by a friend of mine. I think he was interested, because he asked me out several times before I went. He had never been turned down before, so I guess it was a bit of a challenge. I was working at Bernard's Shoe Store in downtown Pratt after school each day. He was working at the radio station, Safeway's and the movie theater (Barron), so with school mixed in there, we were both very busy. It was a very happy time and we

both have great memories. I was a year ahead of him, so for one year, we were apart while I attended Washburn and he attended Pratt Juco. As I said before, he moved to Topeka in 1967. We were married in 1968, while both of us were still attending college.”

While visiting with Louie at the reunion, he told the story of KWNS being the first station west of the Mississippi to play the ORIGINAL version of “Hanky Panky” by Tommy James and the Shondells. Naturally, this piece of history caught my attention and Louie was kind enough to send me an audio tape later of the Tommy James story involving KWNS. So in Louie’s own words, here is the story of Louie-Louie, Tommy James and KWNS, OH MY!!

“Back in 1967, the summer of 1967, after one year of JUCO, I went back to Pittsburgh my hometown and had a job back there in the summertime, worked for Ernie Katshire, who owned the Record Hut in Swissvale, Pennsylvania. I was working one afternoon and Ernie came into the store and he had about four or five copies of this particular song, didn’t know it was going to be a million seller, but this is how the story goes. He said, “Louie take a listen to this song” and I said, “OK”. So I put it on the turntable and we played, “My baby loves the Hanky Panky”. Back then; the people in Pittsburgh were WEIRD. What I mean by that is, they used to buy records that weren’t really hits. I mean they just had a good sound and people start playing them at the dance places around Pittsburgh and everybody wanted to get that copy. Meanwhile, these copies were old and they were four, five, six years old and we used to sell them for five dollars a piece, used to find them in five and ten cent stores. We found “Hanky Panky”, now he had five copies of “Hanky Panky” at that time. When I was playing “Hanky Panky”, a guy walked in and he said to me, “How much you want for that record”? And I said, “Just five bucks”, so a guy gave me five bucks for a record we just paid ten cents for, it was really remarkable. So Ernie proceeds to tell me, that he did some checking on this particular record and he said he could buy the masters for only two hundred dollars. Now when you own the masters, you own the record, it’s yours. There’s no more Tommy James, no more record company, you own it. He asked me if I wanted to buy it. I said, “Ernie, I don’t have the cash for that”, I’m going through my second year of Junior College, I just don’t have that kind of money”. So I said, “Why don’t you buy it?” and so he did buy it. So he bought the master and had it re-released there in Pittsburgh on his label, called Red Fox. After a while, he decided to give the local radio stations a copy of it. Back then, you just don’t play a record that someone gives you, but they did that one. And they played that one and the song became number one in Pittsburgh. Well, there was no Tommy James and the Shondells at that time, so after the song became number one in Pittsburgh, they decided to look for Tommy James in Niles, Michigan. They found him and told him what was happening about his record called Hanky Panky. He said, “What, that record is three years old”. “Yes, we know it is, but its number one in Pittsburgh”. So he signed a contract with Ernie, since he owned the master and took him back to Pittsburgh. The original Shondells didn’t want to go, so he got Tommy James back in Pittsburgh. They got four different groups and out of four different groups, they picked one person out of each group and that was the Shondells. So they performed all around Pittsburgh and it sold and sold and sold. Well Ernie couldn’t go any farther with it, because he didn’t have the connections and all that. But Roulette Records in New York got a hold of it and decided to buy it and Ernie sold it to him for two, three thousand dollars and gave him 2 ½ cents per copy. Now that record probably sold about 5 million copies, four to five million copies. Now when I was back at the store for the first time, now I mean that summer, he gave me a copy of the original Hanky Panky and I still have it today. I just want to tell you that song I took back to Pratt with me, that fall of 1967 and put it on KWNS radio and it was a big hit down there too. People around there just loved that song, you know. We were the first radio station, again, west of the Mississippi, ever to play the original Hanky Panky by Tommy James and the Shondells. So, we have to say

something for that radio station in good 'ol Pratt, Kansas, KWNS and Louie, Louie.”

After Lou left KWNS in late 1967, he moved to Topeka, Kansas and married Cindy in 1968. Lou got his first job at a radio station in Topeka in 1969 as the nighttime jock at KEWI. There weren't many listeners in the middle of the night, so he could make mistakes and perfect his show. Louie did say that the experience at KWNS was invaluable, it really laid the ground work for the rest of his career. Lou Constantino has remained on the air continuously for the last 40 years, also serving as sales manager and station manager. Louie now works for WREN, an internet radio station in historic north Topeka. He can be heard around the world doing his Louie-Louie Show every Saturday night. Louie is known in Topeka as “The Godfather of Gold”. There is never a dull moment with Louie Louie on the air. He is part Wolfman Jack and part Johnny Fever, with a little bit of Robin Williams rolled into the mix. Louie added in the interview, “I love it as much as when I spun those oldies at KWNS”. As a matter of fact, I am listening to the Louie-Louie Show at WREN on my computer while I am typing this paragraph, and Louie just played “Venus in Blue Jeans” for my wife, Patty. Thanks Louie, for all the memories.

When I was spending hundreds of hours at the Pratt Library on the micro-film machine, going through the Pratt Tribune and Pratt Union from 1948 to 1980, looking for anything on KWSK and KWNS, one of the more interesting Pratt Tribune articles for me appeared on October 19, 1967, concerning Bill Young and KWNS. It was an announcement that Young had accepted the position of General Manager for the local Pratt Cable TV. The article stated, “Bill Young, for five years manager of radio station KWNS in Pratt, has accepted the position of general manager of the Pratt Cable TV operation effective immediately. The joint announcement by KWNS and Pratt Cable TV said Young will continue to serve as general manager of KWNS and KWNS-FM. Station manager for KWNS will be M. L. (Lee) Eneff”.

Now for me, what made the article interesting was the fact, that although Bill Young was now the General Manager of Pratt Cable TV, he was still the General Manager of KWNS also. As a kid of fifteen at the time, I can remember my Uncle Homer talking about it, when I was riding with him picking up or delivering TVs, but didn't think too much about the extra position he had taken on. It wouldn't catch my attention and thoughts until now, doing this book. I know that the job of General Manager at KWNS certainly took up a lot of Bill's time. So why would he mess with Pratt Cable TV and take on more problems? Since Bill Huffman was still the majority stock holder and Bill Young answered to him, who better to ask than Bill Huffman himself, since Bill Young has passed on in 1997. His answer to the question was, “ Bill's (Young) decision to take on the position at Pratt Cable, as I recall, was simply based on the fact, that the profit margin was again slipping very low, just as it had back in 1966, when I went to work for Swinson's Motors. To ease the cash flow problems, I went to work at Swinson's as its business manager and not draw a salary at KWNS. Bill (Young) as I recall did the same thing at Pratt Cable”. As far as the author can remember, Young was there at Pratt Cable only a year to a year and a half at best.

The Pratt Cable TV system had applied for a non-exclusive franchise with the FCC on October 16, 1965, and was granted a permit on October 25, 1965. Compared to the present cable TV systems, it was pretty much considered a joke at the time. There were only three TV channels on the system at the time, plus a few FM radio stations, KWNS-FM being one of them. The three TV stations were the ABC, CBS and NBC affiliates out of Wichita, Kansas. KPTS, the public broadcasting station out of Hutchinson, Kansas, would not go on the air until January 5, 1970. Moreover, it wouldn't be until the early 1970's that WGN was microwaved into the Pratt Cable TV system, followed by Ted Turner's WTBS TV station in 1978, 1979. So there wasn't much on the cable in 1967 and what there was, you could get for free on your home TV antenna.

One of the channels, I think it was channel 4, was the local weather channel, if you could call it that. It

amounted to nothing more than the local temperature, wind direction and barometer pressure at the Pratt Cable TV tower site. The three measurements were nothing more than three dials that a camera slowly rotated past. Sometimes you would see a bug or other foreign objects on the glass dials. I remember one time, watching a spider slowly constructing a web on one of them for a few weeks and then it suddenly disappeared, one of the Cable tech's had cleaned the glass. Sometimes, if you were lucky and watching at the right time, you would see one of the tech's faces, sticking their tongue out at you or just see their hand, giving you the finger!! AHHH, those were indeed the days!!

1968, "A Shifting Of Power"

The 1968 Broadcast Weekly showed Bill Huffman as President and Program Director; William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer; Larry Waggoner as News Director. This was probably the last year for KWNS-FM as its own studio. Sometime in 1968, the audio feed going to the AM and FM transmitters were one and the same.

One other thing you can say about Bill Young with no doubt was that he was a man with deep faith; Bill was very devoted to his Catholic faith. Barbara said in a letter, "I do not recall specifically his memberships and activities other than the Catholic Church. It was his mission that there should be a new Catholic School built and he successfully led that effort in fundraising and planning." In the Spring of 1966, the parish conducted a financial drive to liquidate the parish debt, buy the property on 313 North Pine and start a fund for a new school as the old one was in need of major repairs and was no longer adequate. After two years of surveys, studies and planning, the decision came from a vote of the congregation. With Bill's leadership, the proposed project officially took off on February 6, 1968, with groundbreaking ceremonies for a new Sacred Heart School, a project estimated to cost \$172,000. To help with the funding, Bill raised thousands of dollars by putting on Home Shows and chairing dinners, most notably many, many spaghetti dinners and fish fries as his daughter Nancy recalled. After the ground breaking, Bill also took on the job of overseeing the building of the school. The new Sacred Heart School opened for classes on August 28, 1969, and was dedicated on December 1, 1969. At Sacred Heart, Bill also personally funded a book program for students. Another "hat" that Bill Young wore at Sacred Heart was being a Scout Master for a Boy Scout troop. On the girl's side, his daughter was involved with Girl Scouts, his son Jim, of course, involved with the Boy Scouts. In fact, Jim went on to become an Eagle Scout.

One other thing we should mention about Bill Young and his deep Catholic faith was his deep giving every year at Christmas time. The reader will remember Bill was raised ultra-poor; there was usually not much at Christmas for him and his three brothers. The one Christmas we noted earlier where there was no money for presents, Bill only receiving a box of his father's old hand tools, polished and shined. This experience left a deep and lasting impression on Bill's life. In Pratt, he started Christmas giving to the poor in the Pratt area; he was always kind to the indigent, and he always made sure he knew of those needs and if possible tried to fulfill those needs as well. At Christmas, Bill never forgot to take care of the nuns and priest at Sacred Heart with food and holiday goodies.

The first of Bill Young's family to somewhat leave the nest was Bill's first born, James or Jim Young, class of 1968. According to his graduation announcement in the Pratt Tribune on May 25, 1968, "James has attended Pratt schools for five years. In Choral groups, as a soloist to Music Festival and other events, in the band and orchestra, in Latin Club, as President, and in Pratt High Singers. A member of the Sacred Heart Church in Pratt, he

has served as an officer of the CYO, and been the recipient of citizenship awards. James worked as news director, engineer and announcer on KWNS, KWNS-FM radio in Pratt. He holds an FCC license. After graduation, he plans to attend St. Mary College at Dodge City, to which he has received a music scholarship, and then go on to a larger university to study musicology-conducting. He cited music theory and singing the Judge in Trial by Jury during high school as his most memorable moments”.

When I started working at KWNS, I was assigned the job as the “Sign-on Dude”. Meaning that I got to get up at about 5 a.m., get ready for work and be at the station at about 5:30 a.m. to warm up the transmitters and be ready to sign-on the air sharply at 6:00 a.m. My shift would end after the 8 o’clock news at 8:30 a.m., with Jim Young taking over the control room, and then I was back at 5 p.m. to do my evening show to sign-off at 10 p.m. As I remember, one year Jim had a Saturday show from 8 to 12 noon also.

One Friday I was asked to fill in for Jim’s show on Saturday morning, as he was sick, only to find out that Saturday morning, that his show was nothing but four hours of Polka music. WHAT!!!!!!!!!! I told the sign-on guy, “Just shoot me, just shoot me, you are kidding, Polka music, just shoot me and call my parents later!”. Well on with the show, it was the LONGEST shift of my career at KWNS. I mean, I could play the “Beer Barrel Polka”, only so many times, that I started to make up names. “Well folks, out there in radio land, here’s the “Clothes Line Polka”. One record, I announced this way. “Here’s another classic, the “My mother-in-law moved out Polka”. I think you get the idea. All the Polka music just sounded the same to me. Now, let me say, there is nothing wrong with polka music, my background is German, but four hours of it is more than I could handle. By the time 12 noon rolled around, I was shaking and ready to get the hell home, tune in KLEO and bath in the sound of good ol’ rock and roll. Sorry Jim, I was and still am, a rock and roll man at heart. By the way, Jim went on to graduate from Emporia State with a music degree and from Devry as a Computer Programmer. Jim currently runs a business from his home in Oak Grove, Missouri.

The Broadcast Weekly reported on July 8, 1968, that the license of KWNS AM-FM had been renewed on June 28, 1968. However, the big announcement would come in the September 16, 1968, Broadcast Weekly, that on September 10, 1968, KWNS, Inc. had applied for a transfer of control before the FCC. As it stood at that point in time, Bill Huffman had 51% of the stock and Bill Young was at 17%. The application to the FCC proposed Bill Huffman at 17% and Bill Young at 51%. If the FCC approved the application, Young would go from having no ownership in KWNS in 1963 to the majority owner at 51% and be the top stockholder at the station. From the article also, it reports that the transfer of power was being done for a consideration of \$34,000. According to Bill Huffman, after this point in time on, the Young’s took over the books and the billing, with Bill’s wife Barbara doing the billing. Before that, Bill Huffman, being an accountant by trade had done it all. It might sound like to the reader, that Barbara was a “stay at home” wife, but like Bill, Barbara was very active in the Pratt community. Barbara is a charter member that helped start the Historical Society in Pratt and is a life member of the fine museum we now enjoy today. Barbara was also President of the Garden Club one year and involved with the Girl Scouts at Sacred Heart.

The one thing Barbara found out when she started doing the billing for KWNS, just as the Morgans had at KWSK, was the fact that people were not all that willing to pay their advertising debts. Barbara remembers, “I would complain to Bill about the number of statements I sent out, but he would not take them off the air, as he felt it was better to have full programming and listening ability, than to have blank air space. At the time, I did not agree, but time has mellowed me into thinking he was right and most of the time, Bill was always right”. Besides the monthly billing statements, which she did at home, Barbara would also do an occasional typing of the station logs.

Speaking of the subject of the station or programming logs, Bill Young's daughter, Mary Ann, at age 14, learned to type and started doing the logs for the station, only the Saturday and Sunday logs at first. Mary Ann later came up with a method of mass producing the log sheets, so she was able to do an entire week's worth of logs on a Saturday. The reader might remember this was an era before copy machines were commonplace and there certainly were no computers or word processors. The computers or word processors back then were called the human brain. This was Mary Ann's job throughout high school, until graduating in 1970. Mary Ann actually started working at the station when she was 12. She answered phones on Saturdays and in the summer, helped white wash the four tower fences. One of the other duties she got to do at the AM tower fences was beating back the brush around them. Back at the station, Mary Ann sometimes got to write advertising copy. If your Dad was in the broadcasting business, it was also a fair bet; the kids were going to be involved with the station somehow, somewhere.

To end the year of 1968, KWNS put on a "Radiothon" to help "Put The Lid" on the 1968 United Fund campaign. The UF goal that year was \$31,604 and as of the middle of December, was still \$4,000 short or \$27,604. So Bill Young contacted the local drive leaders and other community figures to come out to the station and do a radiothon aimed at collecting the final \$4,000. It was to start at 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 14 and continue until 10 p.m. or if necessary, until pass the normal 10 p.m. sign-off.

Every hour had a chairmen assigned to it and it was his or her's responsibility for the activity in that time slot. Among the chairmen assigned to hourly time periods were Conard Gilham, Bud Petz, Darrell Saville, Bill Harding, Thayer Carmichael, Father William Vogel, Rev. Walter Hargraves, Jim Bunyan and others. Technical Director for the show was Everett Brown, from Pratt Juco and no stranger to Pratt and the local radio business, having been in charge of a broadcasting class at Pratt Juco since 1954. With this group, Everett had his hands full! Overall chairmen for the radiothon were Bob Swafford and Jim Hungerford with Larry Swinson of Swinson's Motors as President of the Pratt County United Fund for 1968. The reader can see that there was a lot of planning on the part of the United Fund people, Bill Young and KWNS.

In talking to Jim Bunyan about the Pratt radio history books, he said this program and the annual Jaycee Days at the station were very good memories for him. Jim remembered it was all live, they would read the commercials and anything else live on the air, introduce the records, making for one fun filled day and some interesting mistakes. I can remember a few of the Jaycee programs, running the controls and watching the guys in the north studio having the time of their life. Sometimes I think we bordered on the edge of the FCC hauling us all off. Now, those were the good ol' days of radio!

Now as to the hourly entertainment, guests were invited to chat and a number of merchants contributed articles to be auctioned off during the broadcast. Arrangements were also made through a transportation committee to pick up additional items donated for the auction, as well as cash contributions or "in kind" gifts such as farm products. If the 1968 "Radiothon" was anything like the "Jaycee Days", it was one FUN day on the air. Now, as to the 1968 goal, when the drive ended on January 28, 1969, \$28,827.00 had been raised or 91% of the goal. Apparently it was just an off year, as 1967 hit 99% of its goal. So from the end of the Radiothon to January 20, only \$1223.00 additionally was raised. What impact the Radiothon had on that \$1223.00 is unknown, only the fact that there were no more Radiothon's at KWNS. One interesting note from the January 20, 1969, United Fund board meeting at Don's Servateria was the new officers; KWNS' own Bill Huffman elected as Secretary-Treasurer.

The nine groups that benefitted from the 1968 UF drive were The Red Cross, the USO, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, Kansas Children's Federation, Arthritis Foundation, the local cerebral palsy organization, the mental health association and the Salvation Army.

1969, “A Man By The Name Of Gene McKinney”

The 1969 Broadcast Weekly Yearbook listed Bill Huffman as President and Program Director; William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer with Larry Waggoner as News Director. There was nothing else worth noting in 1969 yearbook for KWNS.

February 22 and 23rd were the days for the annual KWNS Home Show at the Pratt National Guard Armory. Once again boasting free admission, free entertainment and 40 different exhibits of home conveniences. What the free entertainment amounted to is unknown. The only thing I remember about the home show was the booth run by a friend of mine's mother, Mary Zumalt. Mary had a booth that sold home stuff, kind of like Amway at the time, the name of the company lost to my memory now. As far as the “Sixth Street Mafia”, we were getting older now, I now being 17, and some of the other boys in our group 16 and 18. Our thoughts were now moving toward cars and girls, funny how that happens and the KWNS home show didn't have much of either to offer. So, as far as I can remember, we were pretty much done going to it. Sorry Bill.

On February 28, 1969, came the good news Bill Young had been waiting for; the FCC had approved the transfer of control application that had been filed on September 10, 1968, by KWNS, Inc. It was now official; he was the main owner of KWNS, Inc. at 51%. Bill Huffman now only owned 17% with the others at the same percentages. Bill Young was now officially calling the shots. The other thing approved by the FCC in 1969 was the license renewal for KWNS-AM-FM on May 28, 1969.

Sometime in January or February 1969, Bill Young hired a young man from Sayre, Oklahoma as the new Chief Engineer for KWNS that was to have a very profound influence on my life, and we have remained very good friends to this day, a man by the name of Arthur J. McKinney. Gene as he prefers to be called, is one of my top five “Unforgettable Characters” from KWNS. Before coming to Pratt, Gene after a tour of duty with the Navy, had spent most of his radio career in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandle. I do know that according to the Broadcast Weekly Yearbooks, in 1950 Gene was employed at KAMQ-AM in Amarillo. Then Uncle Sam called and Gene was in the Navy from 1952 to 1956. 1958 at KHUZ-AM in Borger, Texas. 1960 at KGYN at Guymon, Oklahoma. 1962 to 1966 at KBBB in Borger, Texas.

I think sometimes that my memory of when I first started hanging around at the station may be a little jaded. I sometimes think it was in 1968, but I really think the truth of the matter is that it was more than likely in the early spring of 1969, probably around April or May or thereafter, shortly after Gene came to town.

For several years, I had been studying to get my amateur radio license. I had always been interested in electronics, my uncle running a TV repair shop at 703 N. Main helped and building my first little radio in 1964 at age 11. Getting a ham ticket just seemed like the thing to do. At that time, the lowest license on the “ham” list was the “Novice” license. That license involved a theory test and passing a Morse code test of five words per minute. In 1968, I saved enough money, working the local wheat harvest that year, to buy a Lafayette HA-500 ham band receiver from Lafayette Radio, 150 dollars at the time. I remember it coming by railroad freight and picking it up at the Rock Island Depot, taking it home and the damned thing wouldn't work. I send it back, Lafayette repair it free, and I still have it and sometimes use it to this day, 46 years later. Best radio I ever owned for ham radio. I started studying the code on that radio and would go over to my Uncle Charlie's apartment once a week and listen and learn Morse code on his Allied Knight shortwave radio set, also. It was through the local ham radio grapevine that I learned that a new ham operator was in Pratt and had gone to work for the radio station. In talking to Elmer Kimmel and Len Leatherman, local ham operators, who were also helping me with my license, I learned the name of the new

new ham in town and where he lived. When Gene came to town, he lived in the basement apartment of a two-story house that was located where the ALCO store is now. What caught my attention about Gene was that he built his own transmitters, receivers, and high power linear amplifiers. I thought to myself, this is a guy I have got to meet. Gene's call, by the way, when he came to town was W5URX, changing it to WØNMX while in Pratt. Gene's present call is W5CBS.

One thing I most definitely remember was that a couple of days before I had worked up enough nerve to go over and knock on Gene's door, I came down with a severe case of "Pink Eye". Well since it is highly contagious, my Mom, Goldie, forbid me to make that first visit to Gene's apartment for one month after I started the eye drops for it. Now, since that also would have meant no school and I most definitely do not remember missing any school because of it, I must have got the pink eye after school was over in May. Well, I was, of course, still living at home and you are going to do what Mom said. After all, this is the same Mom who always advised me to have on clean underwear, as you never know when you are going to be in a wreck. It was the longest one-month period of my life.

One month finally passed by and I went to the basement door, took a deep breath and knocked. It seemed like an eternity and finally the door opened and there stood what I hoped was the new ham in town. I introduced myself, explaining that I was a new novice ham and I was interested in talking to him about ham radio. At that time, the radio station hadn't even entered my mind yet. I remembered a huge smile appeared on Gene's face, replacing the smaller one that was already there. Gene introduced me to his wife Helen and his four daughters, Patti, Paula, Jacque and Jill; then we were off to the more important conversations of radio. I don't remember when, but on one of the many visits, Gene invited me out to KWNS and my life had taken a turn at that point. I always knew that my career would be in electronics, but KWNS was not in the game plan at that time.

One thing I learned about Gene McKinney was that his smile was real; it was who he was and he would often tell me, "I love to be around people who have a sense of humor." Gene's wife, Helen, also had a tremendous sense of humor. One of the funny stories that Gene e-mailed to me about Helen concerned her driving, "She was a good driver around town, but had the mind of a NASCAR RACE DRIVER on the highway. That woman would scare me to death, but she never got a ticket. Years ago when we were young, she came home from shopping one day and was laughing. I asked her what was so funny. She had pulled up at an intersection and stopped at the red light and about that time, a pimple faced kid pulled up alongside in his hot rod, racing his motor and looking at her, rather than the traffic light. Helen eased off on the clutch a little and this kid peeled out thru the red light, the tires just smoking with Helen still sitting calmly at the red light with a smile on her face." Gene said the other area that Helen had a great sense of humor was the elections. It didn't matter if they were local or national, Gene said Helen would always come from the polling place, look at him, smile and say, "I just cancelled your vote!!" Gene's beloved wife Helen passed away in 1983.

As to Gene's sense of humor, he wrote, "A few years ago, I was getting phone calls from some lady who spoke Spanish and her call to my phone was obviously the wrong number. So I recorded a new greeting on my answering machine saying, "If you're looking for Gene McKinney, SO ARE THE COPS." And yes, next time she called, I heard her whisper to someone nearby, "Oh see, dee cops are looking for him." That was the last time I ever heard from her and YES, I did delete my greeting shortly after that." More on Gene McKinney later in the story.

In late 1969, I remember Larry Allen sometimes was the night DJ, when I would drive out to the station. I would talk for hours to Larry about the station equipment and running the control room. When I first met Larry, he would visit with me, trying to answer my questions, but only letting me watch the operations of his show.

Sometimes I would stay till 10 p.m. and watch him go through the procedure of shutting down the station and the transmitters. Then one night he asked me if I wanted to sit in the chair and play a couple of records back to back, play a few commercials on the Spotmaster cart machines, etc. Of course, what Larry had picked for me to do was running the cart machines and turntables, but it did not involve me uttering one word over the air. What Larry was letting me do was technically illegal. I did not yet have a First Class Radiotelephone License and that was required at KWNS, it having a four tower directional pattern. And it hadn't occurred to me, but I don't think Bill Young would have taken too kindly to the idea and possible fines by the FCC, if caught. I am sure Larry would have been fired, if Bill had known or walked in on us. There was not much Bill could have done to me, since I was not an employee, not yet, but Larry was taking a chance by letting me do that.

Of course, I said yes, but scared to death at the thought of running the controls. So what was Larry doing while I ran the control board, sometimes 20 to 30 minutes at a time? I am glad you asked, since that was going to be part of the point of telling this story. When I would take over, Larry would go to the News Room, which was just to the east of the Control Room, put his feet up and read an encyclopedia. Oh, and also drink some whiskey while he was reading! Most of the time I could tell that Larry had been nipping a little when I got there, the control room would sometimes reek of it. I didn't care if he had a drink while he was reading, I didn't care if he drank at all, as long as I got to run the controls. You couldn't drink the station water anyway, just reading an encyclopedia seemed a little weird to me, a "girlie magazine" seemed more in line to me at the time.

This arrangement worked out OK for many weeks until one night. As usual, Larry let me take over at some point during his night show, go to the News Room, put his feet up and enjoy a drink and an encyclopedia. Well, that night, about 20 or so minutes into my illegal tour of duty, I looked over at Larry, it getting real close to him having to read something live on the air and I think I turned white and broke into a sweat. I looked over and Larry's head was cocked back, mouth wide open, eyes shut, looking at the ceiling. Either Larry had passed out or had simply gone to sleep, I couldn't tell which!!

Well I was stuck on the air at that point and there was a commercial to read. So I did the only thing I could think of at the moment, I read the blasted thing and went on. After that, I went to some records, not daring to pronounce another single word on the air. I just kept watching the phone line lights, expecting a phone call from Bill Young, who would be wondering what the hell was going on out there or worst yet, coming through that control room door, finding me in the chair and Larry still passed out in the News Room. I think another 20 minutes had passed and I saw Larry kind of come back to life; his head had moved. I felt like Dr. Frankenstein at that point, shouting out loud, "Its alive, It's alive!!!" upon which, I ran into the News Room, told him where he was in his show, thanked him for the night's lesson, shook his hand hard, making sure I was also shaking him back to consciousness and got "The Hell Out Of Dodge" before Marshal Dillon made a possible appearance. We must have gotten away with it, because Bill never mentioned it, and in all the time I worked at KWNS, I never relayed the story to anyone else. That was the end of my board training at KWNS for a while.

One of the things I could never pin down in doing research on the KWNS book, talking to former employees of KWNS was; when did the FM tower, which had originally been the KWSK-AM tower, go down in a wind storm? The exact date when it went down, I have yet to discover, it is still a mystery, but the tower DID go down. In talking to Barbara Young, she thought it was in 1973. In a letter she wrote, "The year we left Pratt, a wind storm came up around four o'clock in the afternoon. There was not a cloud in the sky, but it laid the radio tower on the ground. I do not know the man who came and put it back up. I know it shook the entire building when it hit the ground. We were off the air for several weeks." I posed the same question to Kathleen Nestor, Bill Young's daughter

about it, to which she replied, "I don't have specific dates when the tower went down. I was probably six or seven. I just remember it being down and being out at the station with Dad. He would tell us to stay away from it. It looked like a long silver snake, the way it fell. It was really amazing to see it that way. I was there several days when the men came with the huge crane to put the new one back up. It didn't seem to take them anytime at all to get the pieces back up and together. It was quite amazing, as a child, to witness this. The man that operated the crane was very skilled. The day the man came to reconnect the actual workings of the tower, I know my Dad was very anxious. This was very expensive and they basically had one shot at it. Also, it was very dangerous. This man had to climb the tower, approximately 200 feet into the air and then reconnect the wiring. I know Dad breathed a sigh of relief when it worked and the man was on the ground. The whole process took all day."

Although I cannot definitely pinpoint the exact date, all the evidence points to July 16, 1969. In going through the Pratt Tribune newspapers at the library, I never found one article that specifically mentioned the fact of the tower going down or KWNS-FM going off the air for several weeks. But this didn't surprise me either, since the radio station and the Pratt Tribune were competitors. The only article that closely matched the only possible time frame and what I knew from bits and pieces of information from people was the July 17, 1969, article. The headline was, "Rain, Wind Hit East Of Pratt." The article went on to say, "A small low pressure system pushed its way into the above 100 degree temperatures of the Pratt area yesterday and caused rain and high surface wind east of town. The high wind developed quickly about 4:27 p.m. yesterday. Lasting only briefly, the reported damage occurred in a short time. A major part of the roof of the Field's Construction Co. building was blown away and just north of the construction building, a baseball backstop at the Pratt Junior College was also blown down. Large tree limbs were broken and strewn about an area near the Forestry Fish and Game Commission. Pratt Police reported a road crew had to be notified to remove limbs from Lake Road following the storm. Rain was also confined mostly to the lake area where the Forestry Fish and Game reported .32 inches. There was no report as to the velocity of the winds and no damage was reported within the city."

What became of the wreckage of the FM tower, I will never know. I am sure it was sold for scrap iron, which is too bad, as I would like to have had a piece of the old KWSK radio tower. The second FM tower went down in the late 1980's and was not put back up this time. The station had changed owners and the FM part of the station was no longer at Pratt, but out of Hutchinson, Kansas and the old FM tower no longer had any function. One final note on the tower was the mystery man who put the tower back up in 1969. This was none other than Dick Ogle, who had put the first one up in 1965. In talking to Dick about it, he said he couldn't remember the date or had kept any records on it either, but did remember putting it back up.

The only other thing worth noting before we close out 1969 is the passing of my ham license on November 11, 1969, and being issued the Novice call sign of WNØADS. A call sign I still have, only the call letters are WBØADS now and I hold the highest ham license there is, that of Extra Class. Although I now had a license, I couldn't talk to Gene on my radio. The Novice class was code only and Gene was strictly a "Single Side-Band" man or voice only. After I got my call, as I remember, I started looking toward trying to study and get my First Class Radiotelephone, so I could legally work at KWNS. But that's a story I will get to in the 1971 section and a nighttime DJ by the name of Chuck Fry.

1970, "Big Snow, Big Money and a Big Heart"

For 1970, the Broadcast Weekly Yearbook showed Bill Huffman as President and Program Director;

William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer; with Larry Waggoner as News Director. As far as Larry as News Director, I think somebody wasn't updating their notes, as Larry's last day at KWNS was January 25, 1967. Since the Broadcast Weekly only reports what it gets from the FCC and the FCC gets its information from the radio stations annual reports on personnel, I am not sure who was dropping the ball. As far as Bill Huffman, 1970 was the year he moved to Lawrence, Kansas having been at Pratt since 1955. Up at Lawrence, Bill would earn his MBA and PhD at the University of Kansas.

In the Pratt Tribune on March 13, 1970, it was announced that Mary Ann Young had been awarded a president's scholarship at St. Mary's of the Plains at Dodge City, Kansas. "Pratt High School senior, Mary A. Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Young, has been awarded a president's scholarship at the St. Mary's of the Plains College. Sister M. Cecilia Bush, president of the college, said the full tuition scholarship is awarded to students who scored above the 95th percentile of the college entrance examinations. The student must also be recommended by his or her high school counselor. St. Mary's of the Plains is a four year liberal arts college at Dodge City." Mary Ann went on to be the prosecutor for Warrensburg, Missouri for 16 years. Her mom said, "She NEVER lost a case" and is now in private practice.

Before I forget, Mary Ann's sister, Nancy, was a doctor for KU Medical Hospital for more than 20 years and is now in private practice. She is noted as one of the best doctors in the area. Nancy was in the new program for doctors with a four year scholarship and was Valedictorian of her High School class. Mary Ann's other sister Kathleen, graduated from Rockhurst College, currently works for the postal system and is studying to be a nurse.

In a small town like Pratt, there are always rumors or gossip floating around, but I don't remember too many about KWNS. There was one that a DJ was involved with drugs and some others, but one rumor I always remembered about KWNS, was that Bill's wife had won some contest and that she used the money to keep the station from going broke. Not true, so from a letter from Barbara on the matter, let's set the record straight.

Sometime in January or February, Barbara found a coupon in a magazine for the Alcoa Aluminum Company, cut it out and mailed it in. I think Barbara might have forgotten about it or figured someone else was going to win, kind of like I do with the Lottery. If someone is going to win, it probably will not be me and it will be someone back east. Well, one Sunday morning she received a phone call from a lady informing Barbara that she had won. Barbara said, "I honestly did not believe her and I called Bill at the station." They checked it out; it was true and a letter soon followed with plane tickets for the two of them.

On the morning they were to drive to Wichita, Kansas to catch the plane bound for Chicago, March 15, 1970, it snowed 18 inches, but the guard opened the road and they made the plane. (As far as the snow, that's another story we will cover in a minute or so.) The plane landed ok in Chicago with Bill and Barbara taking a taxi to a hotel. Barbara found out much later, that the whole deal was being conducted by an advertising agency and the lady was put out that she did not catch them at the airport, because they had cameras and everything arranged to film their arrival at the airport and coming off the plane. At the hotel, the Young's were wined and dined on the roof of the hotel, a very fancy place as Barbara remembered it and she said, "We even danced."

The next day, it was on to the television station. At the station, they had a huge stack of \$1 bills in the middle of the floor and a table with a roll of foil on it. Alcoa Aluminum, I am sure!! The idea was, with the cameras rolling, Barbara was to run across the room, grab the money and roll as much of it as she could in the foil. Barbara said she played their game as best as she could with the TV cameras going. Of course there was a time limit on the amount of time given to Barbara to wrap as many of the \$1 bills in the foil. After the time limit, she had the option to take the money wrapped in the foil or take a check for \$25,000. In talking to Barbara about it,

she said, "My mother didn't raise no fool. There was no way I could have wrapped that much money in the foil with the time they had given me. I TOOK THE CHECK!" Oh, and of course, Uncle Sam was right there also, to take his cut of \$8,000 without having to do a thing.

Back home, Barbara wanted Bill to take the rest for the station, but he flat refused to take one penny for KWNS. Instead, the Young's used it to put a new roof on their home. Barbara bought herself a new silver tea set as she was President for the local Garden Club. Barbara said, "We put on shows every Christmas at the Pratt Municipal Auditorium and used it to serve tea and cookies." With some of the money, Barbara bought Mary Ann, a beautiful yellow formal for her High School Prom. Lastly they bought a 16-foot ocean going boat from a local boat dealer here in Pratt, the name of the business, Barbara said she has long forgotten. One of Barbara's friends in the Garden Club had one similar to it and they took it to the Gulf of Mexico every winter. The Young's went to three Kansas lakes alternating every weekend that first summer of ownership and spent many weekends fishing, skiing and picnicking with it. Barbara said, "We sold the boat in Missouri, because no one wanted to go anymore. Jim had left home and the girls, Bill and I could not get it in and out of the water." With the last \$5,000, they bought an IRA, which Barbara said, "Was the best thing I ever did. It is helping me keep afloat today financially."

As mentioned before, when the Young's headed to Wichita on Sunday, March 15, 1970, it had snowed 18 inches. This was the great Kansas snowstorm of 1970. According to the National Weather Service, this storm still ranks as #2 for the top five worst snowstorms in Wichita, Kansas history. This particular storm is also listed as #3 of the worst storms in Oklahoma's history. I remember getting up on that Sunday morning and marveling at the size of the snowflakes; they looked as big as silver dollars and they just kept coming down and coming down, there appeared to be no end to it and all day long, there was no end to it.

It was this snowstorm and the Big Blizzard of 1971, that KWNS probably should get a gold star. During the storm of 1970, many people were without power, lines down, some were without gas for their furnaces. You name it, this was a major storm and KWNS provided a major source of information and communications for the Pratt area and its people. The reader must remember, this was 1970, there was no internet, no computers, no cellphones. The only other people in Pratt with radio equipment for emergencies besides the Police were the Ham operators. There were no scanners to listen in on what was going on. By the time the Pratt Tribune was delivered, it was old news. The ONLY source for the current goings on was KWNS AM-FM and at the heart of it was a man by the name of Gene McKinney. So who better to ask about the Great Storm of March 15-16, 1970, than my good friend Gene. Gene e-mailed me an audio clip about it and in his own words is his story.

"Well, as I recall, I had Saturdays off at KWNS. It had been quite a while, I guess, since we had made a trip back down to Pampa to visit with Helen's mother. So Friday, after work, well, we got in the car and took off for Pampa. I think we got there about 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening, it think was. I recall, that there were reports of some bad weather moving in and didn't think too much about it. Anyway, we stayed all next day Saturday and then along 6 o'clock or so in the evening when it started turning dark, well, we got back into the car and headed back for Pratt, because I had the Sunday shift. Before we left, my mother-in-law had previously baked a German chocolate cake and we took that cake back with us. We put it back in a box, back in the trunk, where we had more room back there. Anyway we got back into Pratt along about 10 o'clock or so, I forget how long it took to drive back up there. Anyway we were all tired and tuckered out and went on to bed. The next morning when I got up to go to work, well, there was about what, maybe five or six inches of snow on the ground, it was coming down pretty good. I took off for the station and we signed on the air normally. Well, about 9 o'clock or so I decided to look outside, as

you recall Ron, you couldn't see outside from the control room, you would have to get up and walk to a door or an outside window to look outside, that's what I did. Well to my surprise, we had a jim-dandy blizzard taking place out there about 9 o'clock in the morning; I didn't even know that it had blown in. I had remembered that cake that my mother-in-law had baked for us, that German chocolate cake was still in the trunk of the car. So man, I dashed out there right quick and opened the trunk and got that cake out and brought it back inside and that's what I had to eat for the next several hours. We had plenty of coffee on hand at the time, so we had the cake and coffee and made it through just fine. Oh by the way, I still love German chocolate cake, really good stuff and my mother-in-law, she was an excellent, excellent cook and she knew how to make those cakes, that was for sure. Well the snow storm was intensifying and to my surprise we were getting some phone calls from some folks that said they had lost the natural gas supply to their homes and they were out of heat and when I mentioned that on the air, without giving out names or addresses. Well, almost immediately we had people calling in and giving their address and wanting us to tell our listeners that any one who lived close by, were more than welcome to come to their house and share the heat with them until the storm was over and their gas supply was reconnected or whatever. That was an amazing story back then, and I guess maybe the Lord put me in the right place at the right time. I had no earthly idea, when I went to work that morning that I would be some body that had to bridge the gap and pass the important messages along. I think we may have gotten a phone call or two from the gas company saying they were working on the problem and were going to try to fix the problem as soon as possible. They too, of course, were battling the storm and it was hard to get to the problem and work on it. We still had plenty of chocolate cake on hand and plenty of coffee and that worked out OK. Ron, I can't remember if Bill Young ever called out to the station at that time, I don't know if he was at home, out of town or what. I would like to say, he called out there, but I can't say that, because I don't remember. He may have called out and just saying, go with ordinary listenable music and taking the phones and doing the best you can, we will try to get you some help out there as quick as we can. Being a daytime AM station, I think, I'm not sure, I think we went ahead and stayed on the air, working under the premise of emergency. In other words, when we have an emergency affecting the general public, well, to heck with the FCC, we stay on the air and do what we're trained to do. Of course, it would not really affect the FM, because we would just leave it on. But you know Ron, back then, 40 years ago, I don't think we had many FM listeners at that time. I have my doubts about people having an FM radio that would actually tune in to KWNS FM, that is just my happy idea about the situation. Well, Ron, finally, the storm gave up; some of the other staff members were able to make it into the station the next morning. I remember sleeping out in the studio, on top of a big old table out there. You could see it through the glass in the control room, not far from the FM transmitter setting there to one side. I think I had a blanket, I am not sure if I had one or not, anyway, I guess I slept pretty good. Anyway, I woke up in plenty of time to sign the station back on the air on Monday morning, but that Sunday was quite a day. Oh, by the way, I did receive a real nice card from the teachers from the Pratt school district. It had a picture on the front side of the card, a picture of old shoes hanging on a nail by the shoestrings. It said, "Your shoes would be hard to fill". And I was pretty much humbled by that. Because, by the way I felt about it Ron, I kinda felt that the Lord had me in that one place at that one time of his choosing, and by his help, I was kinda able to help the folks of Pratt and vicinity."

Well, as it always does, the snow melted, Pratt returned back to normal, life goes on, but it was Gene and KWNS that provided that vital link of information and comfort to the listeners, the reason radio stations are granted a license in the first place; to serve the public interest.

Just a side note, since we are in the year 1970. Mary Ann and I are both classmates of 1970 at Pratt High and graduated from the same in May 1970. Yes sir, the party was over and out into the cruel old world.

Back to the subject of KWNS serving the public interest. In doing research on KWSK and KWNS at the Pratt Public Library, going through all the Pratt Tribunes on microfilm, a job that took me about a year; only one time and one time only, did anything show up about a Pratt station getting an award of some kind. In going through the old Kansas Association of Broadcasters archives, nothing turned up on either one as to some sort of recognition presented to them by the organization. According to notes from Jim Young, the U.S. Army did give Bill a Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding service to the Pratt community. The only other recognition appears to be the award presented to Bill Young and KWNS by the Kansas Heart Association in September 1970. What makes this award and citation truly special is the fact that NO other station in Kansas received this, only KWNS. On September 19, 1970 at the Allis Hotel in Wichita, Mrs. Reva McAnarney, a local nurse at the Pratt Hospital, accepted the award for KWNS. On September 22, 1970, at Pratt, local doctor F. P. Wolff and Mrs. Reva McAnarney, officially presented the award to Bill. Fortunately, this piece of KWNS history was preserved by a nice photo and article in the Pratt Tribune on September 23, 1970. The front page headline was, "Local radio station recognized for efforts." The article went on to read, "Pratt Radio Station KWNS was recognized during the meeting of the Kansas Heart Association last weekend in the Allis Hotel in Wichita. An award was accepted by Mrs. Reva McAnarney for the station, and was presented earlier this week by Dr. F. P. Wolff and Mrs. McAnarney to William J. Young of the station. The award reads, "KWNS radio station awarded by the Kansas Heart Association for outstanding public information for radio stations." The citation, received by Mr. Young last week, states, "The Kansas Heart Association has voted to present KWNS with their 1970 Heart media award for radio, the only such award presented to radio stations in Kansas each year." The award is for continued support of the Pratt County Heart Association activities, hospitality to the state staff and field directors, and for programs carried about the importance of diet and other risk factors in relation to heart disease. The station was cited for providing those in their coverage area with heart fund news, making the station a worthy recipient of the medal. The meeting and annual awards luncheon was attended by Mrs. McAnarney, Dr. and Mrs. F. P. Wolff, Mrs. Roy Thornton, Sister Dolora of the Hospital, and Dr. Milton Muller, preceptee training in Pratt with Dr. Wolff. A Board of Directors meeting was held that evening in Wichita, with Dr. Wolff and Dr. Muller attending."

Sometime in 1970, Bill Young purchased the house at 103 South Oak in Pratt. The house was not bought with the intent of the Young's moving in, but for the new business that Bill started in it, with the McKinney's living in the house also. In the far north room of the house, Bill started a business by the name of "Radio and TV Parts, Inc." Bill Young was in partnership with Bob Hodges, of Scott and Hodges Insurance with Bill, the minority partner. The business sold radio tubes, picture tubes, TV and radio parts to the local TV repairmen and general public. Gene McKinney and his family lived in the rest of the house, rent free, because Gene and his wife Helen ran the store for Bill. I remember going into the store with my uncle Homer, who ran Detwiler TV on North Main, to get tubes, picture tubes, etc. I also spent a lot of time at that house with Gene, talking on his Ham radio set and watching him build a linear amplifier with a 4-1000A for the final, rocket science to my young eyes at the time. Now, as to the radio and picture tubes, I remember that the radio tubes were a "Raytheon" brand and not the best in the world. The tubes for the most part, just did not last like they should have. Bill purchased the picture tubes from some remanufacturer in Kansas. Sometimes you got a good one, but a lot of times, not the best in the world. I know, after a while, Homer quit using the tubes.

Sometime in the fall of 1970, Bill Young hired a young man in his early 20s, who had been involved in selling drugs, his name lost to time. Which brings us to another classic "KWNS-SAY WHAT??" moment and is best told by Gene in an e-mail to me. "Ron, on a different note, we had a young fellow there, I would say he was in

his early 20s, that had been involved in selling drugs. He got nailed and got busted and they sent him to prison in Texas. Anyway, he did a few months down there and while was there, they were in the process of helping him to get his life back together. Since he was young and get him straighten out and get him on the pathway to leading the right kind of life. To make a long story short, they helped him to get a first class radiotelephone license, like you and I have. Well Bill hired him and the poor guy, I felt sorry for him, because he was rather slow on the mic. In otherwords, he was was not really cut out for it. And when he came, well, he made it very clear, that didn't know anything about repairing radio transmitter or working on radio station equipment. He did not process any knowledge of that kind and all he had was a license that he picked up and that was it. Anyway, we did appreciate his honesty about the situation. Well, one thing about this young man, Bill had him reading the market report during the noon hour. As you recall, we had it back then. Every time he would come across the cattle report, well, every time he came across the word, Angus, Angus cows. Well instead of saying Angus cows, he would say Agnes, the girl's name! Well, Bill could just kill him for doing that, because every time he did that, Bill would rack him over every time he came out of the control room. I would say, well, you done it again, and all that kind of thing. But we all knew he would do it again the next day and he did."

The other thing this poor guy would not do was he would not go over his copy ahead of time. One day, he was to read a live spot for Dillion's here in Pratt. The copy was supposed to read, "Chickens...WHOLE...29 cents a pound. What went out over the air was...Chicken HOLES...29 cents a pound." This is when you know people are actually tuned in and listening, because Gene said someone called into the station wanting to buy a truckload!! Gene was by the AM transmitter, never laughing so hard in his life. Before you knew it, here come Bill Young, headed for the control room, but by the look on his face, wasn't as amused as Gene!

1971, "Detwiler, the New Kid at the Station"

For the year 1971, the Broadcast Weekly reported Bill Huffman as President and Program Director, William J. Young as General Manager and Chief Engineer and Larry Waggoner as News Director. I am not sure how Broadcast Weekly arrives at this information, but I am beginning to see a pattern. The only other thing worth noting from the Broadcast Weekly for the year 1971 is the renewal of the license for KWNS-AM-FM on May 28, 1971.

Pratt, in February, was hammered once again by a major snowstorm. On February 21st, 1971, an intense winter storm plowed into the Southern Plains and buried Pratt with more than 13 inches of snow. What made this storm different from last year and far more deadly and damaging was the constant 40 to 50 miles an hour winds that accompanied it, producing near zero visibility, bringing a large portion of Southern Kansas to a standstill. The storm began shortly before daybreak on the 21st with the storm hitting full throttle around 8 a.m. It unleashed its fury for almost 8 hours before easing up late in the afternoon. When the storm ended, all you could see of the parking meters on Main street was just barely the tops of them. The snow was almost level from side of Main to the other, from north to south. Car travel in Pratt came to a complete stop. The National Guard in Pratt was called out to move people about that were considered vital to the community services. Police, Hospital, City crews, Power plant employees were taken to and from work in half-tracks. And once again, KWNS was there to provide that vital link of information. I do remember that whoever was at the station was stuck there for the next three days until they could be plowed out, the name lost to time. Just like the year before, KWNS never did lose power, which is amazing, considering the wind. At the time of the storm, I was working at Montgomery Wards in Pratt. Two days

later, I was able to walk to work and that day all we had for a “customer” was a Doberman, that just wanted to get out of the cold.

One week later, it was time for the annual Home Show at the Pratt National Guard Armory on February 27th and 28th. This year sporting 50 different exhibits, a fashion show and of course free admission. You name it, there was everything from floral arrangements, plumbing and heating, home furnishings to mobile homes.

One of the things I remember about Gene around this time frame is the sometimes-heated discussions between him and Bill Young about the proper filament voltage for the 3CX2500F3 final in the AM transmitter. The recommended voltage was 7.5 volts and transmitter had a control knob to set the voltage at that amount, but you could also set the voltage higher or lower if you wanted to. Bill would back the voltage down to 7 voltages, sometimes even lower. According to Bill, doing that greatly improved the life of the tube. To rebuild the final tube at that time was close to a \$1000. According to Gene, however, that shorten the life of the tube and that’s where the trouble began. Gene was Chief Engineer and he would set it back at 7.5 volts. Bill would come in later and back it down, informing Gene that he might be Chief Engineer, but he was the boss. It stayed at the lower voltage, whatever Bill determined that might be. At the time, I was only 18 years old, didn’t know who was right or wrong, I was just enjoying the battle. In doing this book, I wondered however; just who WAS right, that 40 some years ago, Bill or Gene? It was a question I had to resolve.

One nice thing about computers is the vast source of information on the internet. I found a service bulletin put out by the Eimac Tube Company, the very company that built the finals used by KWNS. Bulletin #18 read, “In recent years, station managers have seen a substantial increase in replacement costs for power grid tubes. The blame can be placed on higher manufacturing costs due to inflation, volatile precious metal prices, and an uncertain supply of some exotic metals. The current outlook for the future holds little promise for a reversal in this trend toward higher prices. One way to offset higher operating costs is to prolong tube life. For years, station engineers have used various tricks to get longer operating life, with greater and lesser degrees of success. Success can be maximized, however, by understanding the various factors that affect tube life, and implementing a program of filament voltage management.” The bulletin went on to say, “The key to extending the life of a thoriated tungsten filament emitter is to control operating temperature. Emitter temperature is a function of the total RMS power applied to the filament. Thus, filament voltage control is temperature control; temperature varies directly with voltage. As the emitter temperature rises, the de-carburizing process is accelerated and tube life shortened. Figure 2 shows that the useful tube life can vary significantly with only a 5% change in filament voltage.” Bulletin #18 was 6 pages long, but in essence it said, that if reducing filament voltage did not affect power output or emissions, the life of the tube could be greatly extended by doing so. To me, here in 2014, I would say that Bill was right. Sorry Gene, with the evidence, I will probably have to side with Bill on this one.

In June, 1971, Wilmer E. Huffman sold his remaining 17% ownership to William J. Young. I am pretty sure at this point Bill bought out the other minor interests in KWNS, Inc. Now, was Bill at this point, 100% owner of KWNS, Inc.? I don’t think so. When KWNS, Inc. was dissolved on November 28, 1973, another name appears, that of John K. Rickard from Hutchinson, Kansas, and Bill’s silent partner. I will get to Mr. Rickard and what I know of him in the 1973 section.

Sometime in May to June 1971 shortly after school was out, Gene McKinney left KWNS and moved to Pampa, Texas, going to work for KGRO-AM in Pampa. At that time, Gene told me the reason for the move was the growing drug scene at Pratt High and wanted to remove his older daughters away from that problem and back to Texas was the answer for Gene.

Back to the subject of heated discussions, it was not uncommon for Bill to have some with the City of Pratt on the line that fed the station. KWNS was on the "South East Rural" feeder and thus was almost at the end of the line. The line was subject to a lot of things, from loss of power to low voltage or fluctuating voltage and frequency. I think it was the loss of power to the station that bugged Bill the most. No power, KWNS-AM-FM is off the air. One year, Bill apparently had had enough and Western Power ran a line to the station and KWNS was on that power grid for a while. But I remember, something happened with them and Bill was back to the City of Pratt. For about two years, it was back and forth with the power source finally stopping with the City of Pratt. About this time, Bill put in a back-up generator in back of the station, but it was undersized and could only run the AM transmitter on low power with the FM on normal power or the AM on high power by itself. If you look at the picture taken in 1971, showing the back view of the station, you will notice the two lines coming into the station and the shed in back for the generator.

During the time Gene was in Pratt, I was self studying to try to get my First Class Radiotelephone License. This meant a trip to the Federal Building in Kansas City, Missouri each time I took the test. And each time I would fail by one to three questions. The bad part is I would have to wait six months before I could take the test again. I finally gave up after my third attempt. I remember Gene would always play the record by Wilbur Harrison for me called, "Kansas City", when I was driving up. Well, my Mom was the one who would sometimes drive me up to Kansas City and after the third failed trip; she refused to do so again. So, for the time being, I was dead in the water on my hopes of working at KWNS, for real and legally.

Sometime before Gene left, Bill Young hired a DJ by the name of Charles Fry. Chuck was the nighttime DJ and on one of the many trips out to the station with Gene, I was introduced to Mr. Fry. One trip, I was what you would call, "Crying the Blues", to Chuck about my failures to obtain my license. Chuck just simply looked at me and said, "That's no problem, I have a phone number for Elkins Institute in Oklahoma City, where I got my license. I'll call them tomorrow and have them send me some information." True to his word, a week later, Chuck had the information. One problem, the six week course cost a cool \$1000. The only thing I could do was go to the Peoples Bank and borrow the money, which I did from Glenn Karns. Chuck got me setup with Elkins and shortly after graduating in May 1970, it was off to radio school in Oklahoma City. At O.K.C., I roomed with a young man by the name of Joel Antrim, who was from Montana.

One thing I might mention about Joel was that he was a student of the English language, always reading the dictionary. One night during some conversations, I guess he just could not take it anymore and said, "Good God Detwiler, does everybody in Kansas talk like that, I mean yeller, win-der, potater." I would say yeller for yellow, win-der for window and potater for potato, among other Kansas slang words. I just looked at him and said, "So what's your point?" Nothing seemed wrong to me, everybody in Kansas talks that way. It would be my hillbilly language that would get me in trouble with Bill Young one day in 1972 and produce maybe the top "KWNS-SAY WHAT!!" moment. After that and to this day, Joel said he can't watch Hee-Haw and the show's radio character, Charlie Fahquarson of KORN radio without laughing and thinking of me. Joel and I remain in contact to this very day.

When it came time to take my exams, it was at the Federal Building in Dallas, Texas. The man at the FCC would not let me take the test however, because six months had not elapsed since my last attempt at Kansas City, I was three weeks short! "xxx####@\$\$\$", was pretty much what I said to myself. I decided to wait six weeks, go back to Elkins and bum a ride with some people of that class session going to take the exams. After the time had lapsed, on July 27, 1971, I became the proud owner of a First Class Radiotelephone License, a license that is still

proudly displayed on my wall, even though the First Class no longer exists. My first day on the job at KWNS legally was August 2, 1971; life at the "The Mighty 1290" would never be the same!!

Sometime during my tour of duty at Elkins, Bill Young hired a young 27-year-old man by the name of John Phipps, going by the air name of "The Long Tall Texan". John had moved to Pratt from Garden City, working at KUPK starting in 1969. Now, what made John's air name so funny was the simple fact that John only stood 3'9" tall at the most! John's moniker didn't result from his stature, but from a song he used to sing. John used to play bass guitar in touring country music groups in Nashville, Tennessee; Tyler, Texas and Marshville, Wisconsin. Traveling as a musician was something John had wanted to do all of his life and when the chance came; John took it. He ended up visiting 26 states, Canada and Greenland in the time he was with the groups. One of the songs John played with the group was a piece called "The Long Tall Texan". John told me one time, "People remembered it and associated it with me. When I went into radio work, I wanted something that would be remembered. I didn't think John Phipps was too catchy so I called myself, the Long Tall Texan."

In the control room, John could hardly see over the top of the turntables. To do his show, John had to stand on a box to operate the control board, turntables, etc. I remember the first time I met John, walking to the control room and seeing this little guy, standing on that box, wondering to myself; how the heck was this going to work. I soon learned that what John lacked in height, he made up for in attitude and ability. I don't remember too many details about John, he was at KWNS for only maybe two more months after I came on board, but long enough to be another one of my top five "Unforgettable Characters". One detail I do remember was that John drove his own car. To see over the dashboard and to reach the necessary pedals, he had the vehicle modified. The first time I rode with him, I have to admit, I was more than a little nervous. Even with the thing modified, John could barely see over the dash and it was a sight to behold, watching him reach the pedals.

After he left the station, the next time I would see him was at the Pratt Pizza Hut on January 29, 1972. John had been hired by Pizza Hut, Inc. to be their promotional man, "Pizza Hut Pete." John was making a promotional stop in Pratt on January 29th and 30th, a Saturday and Sunday. An ad appeared in the Pratt Tribune on January 28th, inviting people to come out to the Pizza Hut at 1228 East First and "meet the 3' 9" Pizza Maker in person." At one of his breaks, I got the chance to sit down and visit a little bit with John. Sometime during the conversations, I told John that I was having trouble learning my job as Chief Engineer. Not blinking an eye, John replied, "What the hell do you expect, it looks like all it is to you is an 8 to 4 job. If you want to learn your trade, you have to put in time, your own time, for nothing off hours." Boy, was he right, good advice I used and it helped.

The next time I would run into John, in a roundabout way, was seeing him in a picture in the Hutchinson News in early 1972. Apparently, sometime after the Pizza Hut Pete thing, he went to work for KUPK in Garden City, Kansas. John was always involved with promotions for the station. One night, John was sent to cover a professional wrestling match in Garden City. After the show, John got his picture taken sitting on the shoulder of a future legendary wrestler, a little unknown man at the time, by the name of "Andre the Giant". It was this picture in the Hutch news that got my eye.

One of the people, thanks to the internet that I tracked down who had worked with John at KUPK was Jason Walker. Like so many people he had worked with, John had left a lasting impression on Jason as well. Jason wrote to me of his friend saying, "After spending two years at American Forces Radio and TV on Okinawa, I got out of the Marines in early 1972 and mailed dozens of air checks. I landed a gig going middays at KUPK in Garden City, Kansas, a typical small market station. Not only did I do the 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. show, I also handled morning news, production and was the "assistant chief engineer". KUPK had a jock named John Phipps, whose on-

air moniker was “The Long Tall Texan.” I listened to him as I drove into town the first day and figured he was some dude about 6’8”. Try 3’9”. A short guy. He could barely reach the turntables to cue up a record. He’d just lay the tone arm up on the disk someplace and take his chances. Sometimes there’d be several seconds of dead air before the needle hit the first note. Other times, the needle might end up several seconds into the music. Hey! We’re talking 30 years ago in a small market. In the summer of 1972, John did a promotional stunt for charity, certainly not for the Tall People of America. He would ride the Ferris wheel at the Finney County Fair and collect money for each hour he stayed on. He was allowed a five minute break every hour. After several hours and approaching a break period, John was looking tired. I don’t know what made me do it and it’s not an original prank, but I gave the operator five bucks and told him to keep it going. Following an additional 8 to 10 revolutions, John was getting ticked. He saw me laughing and hollered, “Walker, you sumbitch, I’ll get you for this!!” Turns out, John had to go to the can pretty bad. I’ve always been grateful that he didn’t fill up his coke cup and throw it down on me. To his credit, he laughed about the incident later. John soon left KUPK for greener pastures at KBUC in San Antonio. I heard that he died several years later. But I will never forget the Long Tall Texan.”

I think John might have had a fetish for Ferris wheels, because, the next year at the time of the Finney County Fair, Phipps and another KUPK DJ got into a quarrel over the air about how silly “Long Tall” looked wearing a ten-gallon cowboy hat. Phipps left in the middle of his show and disappeared for a day. Later he turned up; again riding the Ferris wheel, but refusing to come down until the operator had sold 100,000 tickets. Two days and 2,136 revolutions later, Phipps returned to his mike!

John said one time, “I’ll do just about anything for fame and fortune, particularly fortune.” Most of his exploits did not result in a fortune but have certainly brought him notoriety. Case in point is one Easter when John dressed up as the Easter Bunny, hopped along a main street in downtown Garden City and created a three-hour traffic tie-up!

One thing John said he never got to do, was make an appearance on the “Tonight Show”, to bring attention to the plight of little people in the United States. John Phipps would pass away sometime later in Texas, but not before being inducted into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame.

Sometime later in the summer of 1971, my good friend from Oklahoma City and Elkins, Jim Bowman, came to work at KWNS, another candidate for my list of top ten unforgettable characters. One thing I remember about Jim at radio school is that it is possible to turn a corner at 30 miles per hour in a Corvair. This was without warning on his part and the first time he did that, I may have filled my drawers.

In doing this book, I asked people to send me information on themselves and things about KWNS. Jim was kind enough to do so for me on December 17, 2010. So here is a little information about Jim Bowman from his own e-mail. “Jim Bowman came to KWNS in the summer of 1971. He has fond memories of KWNS including running evening baseball games, pattern change and the dicey process of getting the AM transmitter back on the air each morning. Also notable was the rural location and getting his car up in the 100mph range to make the trip brief on a road where he could “see tomorrow.” Being a big city kid, he also enjoyed stealing watermelons with Ron Detwiler, stealing an ear or two of fresh corn as harvest time came and puzzling at the sidewalks being rolled up at night. When Jim last visited Pratt in the fall of 2007, he was amazed to discover fast food had found its way to Pratt, Kansas . Too bad he is now too old to enjoy it. In 1971 Jim often drove a hundred miles for a BigMac, funny how we miss those days. Jim denies having girls drop in to see him at his apartment in those days. It is a lie; don’t believe a word of it. In September 1971 President Nixon signed the bill that reinstated the draft (congressional

authority to draft had expired in June 1971) and the Oklahoma City draft board took the first 32 numbers. While Jim was not opposed to military service, he wanted that service on his terms, driving to Hutchinson Kansas to join the Navy and keep President Nixon happy. Deferring his reporting to active duty so Bill Young could find a replacement, he left KWNS for his six year world tour in November 1971. His time in the Navy is a saga you don't want to hear. Jim was a clerk; he filed papers, he did nothing fun or exciting and would prefer to not talk about it. Using his vast political pull, Jim had a job with the FAA before he left the Navy, using a "technicality" to get him on the FAA payroll under the wire of a job freeze President Carter had invoked. It was a mistake. Jim believes that God did not ordain him to be a bureaucrat. After a year of the union complaining that Jim worked too hard, he resigned from the FAA, took his pension money (again a tactical move as the ability to take retirement with you was being killed by the Carter Admin.) and enrolled in college full-time. The GI Bill paid off handsomely for Jim. He has an MBA and is known around South Eastern Tennessee as "professor." After completing his MBA (finance), Jim was told he was too old for a PhD unless he shaved his legs, wore a skirt and had a minor in calculus. This is not a joke. That is what he was told when rejected for the program. How's that for a violation of law? Undeterred, he built and engineered radio and television stations in 7 states and for a generation has earned a meager living at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. While in management of technical support, he also grovels for every chance in any college to teach Economics, Statistics, Money & Banking, Finance and Research Methodology. He also routinely fills in for other professors and typically tutors three needy students each semester in either finance or economics or statistics. Additionally, he writes technical lesson plans and service manuals on a contract basis and is well known in the hotel and restaurant industry as an aggressive forensic auditor. Over all he is a genuinely boring person to hang around. Jim is still a commissioned officer in the Tennessee State Guard, currently serving as the Chattanooga area S-3 (Training and Operations Officer). Since Jim spends much of his time in a wheelchair, they don't ask him to march, much. He has been told he looks goofy in formations with a cane so they prefer he just fly a desk these days. As senior training officer, he has a habit of requesting to serve as OIC during the overnight shift on Guard missions (it is rare to see officers out after dark on missions). Jim believes it is missions after dark where his junior enlisted men allow lessons to sink in. With his heart in education, it makes sense for him to use this best time and teach by example. While commanding the 4th Regiment in Chattanooga is not out of the question, it is unlikely due to his age. Stuff happens folks. During Amateur Radio contesting sessions, look for Jim on 40 or 80 meters (W4DFS). An Extra class operator, Jim also serves as a Volunteer Examiner and runs "ham cram" classes which have brought 73 new hams into the world as of September 2010. Jim has three children and seven grandchildren stretched across this nation. Warning, don't mention this, he has pictures. Lastly, Jim is an avid competitive shooter. Don't ask; it's there. Jim teaches several shooter safety courses a year and has worked with all ages and even worked with one police department on gun safety training materials."

As the reader can see, Jim still certainly has a sense of humor about things and life. After Jim left KWNS, we lost track of each other, until one night in late October 2007. I got a call from Jim letting me know that he was going to be passing through Pratt to see his mother. I told him of course to stop by, but I was on crutches, due to a recent pinning of my broken hip. Jim said no problem; he had to use a cane to get around. We were quite a sight going back to visit the station. Jim had not been there since 1971. Of course Jim was back for the August 18, 2012, KWSK-KWNS reunion. One thing I better add for Jim at this point, is the fact that he is happily married to a lady by the name of Deb, who also came to the reunion.

Over the years I was at KWNS, I can only recall two daytime programs that were very popular with the adult listeners. One was "The Market Basket" with Catherine Newsom and the other was "The Trading Post", a

call-in program I wish was still going on. In the fall of 1971, Bill Young hired a 19-year-old kid from Boliva, Missouri by the name of Ed Hood. Ed brought with him the idea of the Trading Post, a show he had done in Boliva, pitching the idea to Bill. In 1971, Catherine Newsom left KWNS and the "Market Basket" show was discontinued. So I think it was no problem to buy Bill into the idea of the show. The trading post was like an "E-Bay" back in 1971. People would call into the station and Ed would put them live on the air with him, telling the listeners what they had to sell or what they were looking for. You name it; cars, cats, dogs, radios, TV's, lawnmowers, watches, all kinds of things would be traded on the air. As I recall, Ed's trading post show was Monday to Friday, following the 8:30 a.m. news to the 12-noon newscast. The following year, Ed married Patricia L. Keltner in Springfield, Missouri on July 15, 1972. Not long after that, Ed and Patty moved to Garden City, Kansas, Ed going to work for KUPK radio.

Sometimes when you are setting at that control board, you get the feeling that you are just talking to a microphone and that nobody out there is really listening. You of course give it your best, but you sometimes wonder. Thanksgiving that year was November 25, 1971 and yours truly pulled the 2 p.m. to sign-off shift that day. Thanksgiving around the Detwiler house was a big deal, just like other families and I wasn't too happy about being at the station. Of course I enjoyed our Thanksgiving meal at 12 noon, but I was going to miss out on the other stuff and the big meal at 6 p.m. and all the left-overs. After my shift started, I started crying the blues to my radio audience about having to work Thanksgiving, missing out on the food, etc. This is when, much to the coming distress of my stomach, I learned that people are listening and more important; be careful what you wish for. About an hour later, I heard a knocking on the control room door. I turned around, and there was a little old lady with a plate full of Thanksgiving goodies. I figured that she was going to leave it for me, but since it was being served on her finest china, she stood there and waited until I had finished every morsel. Well to make a long story short, before my shift ended, I would be visited by a total of six thoughtful ladies from the listening audience, each with a big plate of food and each not about to leave until I had finished every crumb in front of them. Fortunately at that time, I was 6'5" tall, weighed at most 155 pounds and had two hollow legs. A good wind would sometimes blow me away. Even at that, it was a test of personal fortitude. I learned two lessons that day. First, a lot of people are tuned in, just to listen to me. Second, be careful what you wish for; with all those people, you will probably get it!!

December 11, 1971, was the grand opening for the new location of Radio and TV Parts, Inc. at 622 East First. The store was located in the east side of Elmer Kimmel's shop. Elmer was one of the local electricians and was not using the east half for much, just storage, but working out of the west half of the building. As I recall, there was not much room there, but on the other hand, there wasn't that much at the other location either. Nothing new had been added to the store, just a change of location, as to why, I am not sure. Running the store was Kenneth Bates. Ken's wife, Virginia was the program director and typed the logs, etc., for the station.

1972, "One Wild Year"

For 1972, the Broadcast Weekly reported Bill Young as President and General Manager; James L. Hufford as Commercial Manager; Virginia Bates as Program Director; Catherine Newsom as Promotional Director; Charles Fry as News Director and some kid by the name of Ronald Detwiler as Chief Engineer. I don't know what happen, but looks like Broadcast Weekly updated their files finally.

I am not exactly sure when in 1972 I produced what might be considered the top "KWNS-SAY WHAT!!" moment. As a young lad of twenty at this point in time and raised in Pratt, Kansas; I had quite a vocabulary of

hometown slang. One of the other words that I mispronounced would have driven my buddy, Joel Antrim, up a wall and after a while, got to Bill Young. One of the things it took me a while to get used to doing was reading commercials live on the air. Recording them in the Production Room was fun; if you made a mistake, you could just back up the tape and try again until you got it right. Well, no amount of backing up the tape or going over the spot before I recorded it or read it on the air was going to help. In my mind, there was no problem, that's how the word was pronounced. It was a simple word, but it made a lot of people out in radio-land laugh, including the man and business that paid for the ad.

One morning it came time to read a 30 second spot for the Dairy Queen in Pratt, a business that was owned and operated for many years by Jerry Siemens. Jerry was the sponsor also of my bowling team, Dairy Queen, from 1967 to 1992. I read the spot again later on in the morning and was pretty proud of myself on the fine job I had done in reading it live on the air to billions of eager listeners. Well apparently it hadn't gotten quite the same results with Bill. After I read it the second time that morning, into the control room came Bill and said, "Ron I just want to tell you that you did a good job on those spots for Jerry, but what he is trying to sell are ham-BURGERS. What I see you from time to time, digging out of your nose, are ham-BOOGERS. Please get the word right." Out the door Bill went and I thought, "I thought everybody pronounced it, ham-boogers". I wasn't sure what part of the country Bill had come from, but on Sixth Street in ol' Pratt, Kansas, it was boogers. Unlike Don Hoagland's mistake with the Gadeke's Bakery spots, Jerry had heard both of my errors. A few days later, it was bowling night at Suburban Lanes and in came Jerry with a big smile on his face. Jerry had come out to watch us bowl and also the "Ham-booger" spots were on his mind. Jerry said business had picked up because of my "Hee-Haw" commercial and he wanted to thank me. I told Jerry about Bill's conversation with me and Jerry said, "I'll talk to Bill tomorrow". Next day Bill came into the control room and said, "OK Ron, Jerry's paying the bill. I guess it's hamboogers or he's pulling his ads". So next time you're in a McDonalds, Wendy's or whatever, think of ol' Rockin' Ronnie; the "Ham-booger King".

The Pratt Tribune reported on February 16th, that James L. Hufford had filed for the office of Mayor of Pratt. I am not sure when James came to work for KWNS. In the 17 years I was at the station, I saw so many people come and go; one day they were there and the next time you turned around, they were gone. It was like one day you show up for work and James is the new salesman. James had been living in Pratt since 1967, having retired from the Army after 23 years. One funny line in the Tribune article is, "Hufford presently holds a spot as sales manager for a local broadcasting firm". Since the paper and KWNS were competitors, God forbid if the paper mentioned KWNS, just simply a "local broadcasting firm". Thank goodness the times have changed as the Pratt Tribune did everything they could to help us on the radio station reunion. It would not be until the O'Malley years that there would be a solid relationship between the two. James was at the station at best only a year. Oh and by the way, James didn't get elected to Mayor either.

March 17th and 18th were the dates for the annual Home show. I think that last year's snowstorm just a week before the show, probably prompted Bill to move it to March. There were the usual booths of various merchants at the show. One thing that was being promoted to draw people in was the FREE giveaway of 1,000 trees from Delp's Christmas Tree Farm at St. John, Kansas. Delp's was a regular advertiser on KWNS over the years, particularly around the Christmas season. I cannot imagine why! The catch to the tree giveaway was, "given away to children accompanied by their parents". It's a good thing that the "Sixth Street Mafia" was all grown up now. I guarantee that we would have found a way of getting some of those trees, parents or not.

Sometime around late 1971 or perhaps early 1972, no one knows for sure, Bill Young started to entertain

the notion of selling the station. As to the reason, Barbara said, "He was a true promoter and had a terrific operating system, just not the income to keep it going, so he left and went to Bolivar, Missouri". As far as I know, Bill's first suitors were two men by the name of Kenneth M. Blevins and Dick Kruse.

Ken was born April 24, 1927, at Wichita, Kansas, graduating from Wichita North High School in 1945. He attended Central College at McPherson, Wichita State and Friends University both at Wichita, graduating from Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia, Kansas with a B.S. Degree in business education in 1950. Ken was a veteran of World War 2, serving on the U.S.S. Little Rock. On June 4, 1948, he married Dorothy Ragen, but divorced by the time he was in Pratt.

For anybody in the Pratt area, Ken was no stranger. If you watched KTVH, channel 12, you knew and recognized Ken Blevins. Ken was the news anchor for several years at channel 12. Ken quit KTVH and moved to Pratt in April 1972 with the intent of trying to buy KWNS. Carl Wilmoth, a dispatcher for the local Pratt Police Department, wrote a letter dated April 17, 1972, to Bill Young stating in part, "I would like to commend you and the station for the much better treatment of the early morning news since Mr. Blevins has been doing that particular segment. He has without a doubt added much interest to what would seem like run-of-the-mill news."

From the information available, it appears that Ken Blevins and Dick Kruse probably became friends when the two of them were working at KSKU at Hutchinson. Dick was Vice President and Station Manager in 1968, 1969 and 1970. Ken came on board at KSKU in 1969 and was News Director in 1969 and 1970. By 1972, Dick had moved on to KAYS in Hays, Kansas with Ken going to work at KTVH-TV in Wichita, Kansas.

Ken and I became friends during his short stay at KWNS. About this time, my very close friend David Lawrence came back to Pratt, having completed his time in the Army, the last stop being Viet Nam. Some nights Dave and I would go over to Ken's house on West Lake Road, drink some beers and play pitch. Other times, our normal routine was every night after the 10 p.m. sign-off, to "Hit the Circuit", which meant that for the next 5 or 6 hours, we would drive the country roads in Pratt county, consuming usually a case or two of beer. Once we hit the circuit, cruising speed was tops, 15 to 20 miles per hour. This was done in the event that if a problem came up, you didn't do much damage to yourself or somebody or something else. Another law of ours was no highways, it was ALWAYS back roads. One of the roads on the circuit was Lake Road, which always took us pass the house Ken was renting. One hot summer night about one in the morning, we were driving pass and threw a Cherry Bomb in the driveway, near the front door. Of course, there was a deafening loud boom. Dave and I were stopped in the middle of the road, in my 1970 fastback Mustang, drunk, laughing, enjoying the fruits of our labor. The next thing we knew, the front door flew open and two shotgun blasts rang out, administered by Ken Blevins, who was standing there in his birthday suit. I am pretty sure there was some choice cuss words uttered our way also. I hollered back at Ken not to shoot, it was just Dave and I. Ken replied, "Christ Detwiler, you idiots. Since I'm up now, let me get some clothes on. Come on in and we'll drink some of that cold beer I know you guys have". AND WE DID TOO.

Well through all this, I got to know Ken pretty well and Ken talked to me sometimes about his plans to buy the station; with me just listening. I can therefore say, that what killed the purchase was one thing. Ken on several occasions told me that he felt Bill Young was wanting too much for the station and didn't feel like he was getting a fair deal. The next thing I knew Ken was gone and no sale on KWNS. The next time Ken Blevins and Dick Kruse appeared in the Broadcast Weekly Yearbook was 1975. In 1974, they were working for Ross Beach and Robert E. Schmidt at KFEQ in St. Joseph, Missouri. Dick was listed as General Manager and Ken as News Director. Robert E. Schmidt with Clem Morgan put Pratt's first radio station on the air, KWSK, in 1952.

It appears that at the time, Bill had started the process of trying to sell KWNS; he was also in the process

of finding another radio station to buy. On September 15, 1972, it was announced in the Broadcast Weekly under the "Ownership Changes Applications" section on page 57, "Seeks assignment of license from Shepard of the Hills Broadcasting Co. to KBLR Inc. for \$175,000. Buyers: William J. and Barbara A. Young (together 100%). Mr. Young is General Manager and owns 51% of KWNS (AM) Pratt, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Young own minority interest in Radio TV Parts, Pratt, Kansas".

One of the people at KWNS I will NEVER forget is Gary Holland. If I had a list of my top five "Unforgettable Goofballs" at KWNS, Gary might make number two. The #1 "Goof" I will get to later. Gary was a very nice person, good voice, drank too much and had a great personality. He just did dumb things from time to time and somehow from time to time, I would get caught up in it. On February 27th, 1972, a Sunday, Gary had the sign-on shift to 2 p.m. From 2 p.m. to sign-off at 10 p.m., it was the "Rockin' Ronnie" show. I would usually walk into the control room about 15 minutes before my shift, see what was going on and if there was anything I needed to know. This particular shift change, there was something to pass on to me. Sometime that afternoon, around 1 p.m., Gary took a call from someone requesting a nice song by Tennessee Ernie Ford, to be played for two little old ladies in Coats, Kansas. The reason Gary couldn't play it was that on Sundays from sign-on to 2 p.m., it was nothing but religious programs, either taped or live from some of the churches in Pratt or done from the North Studio at the station. There was no chance to play the request until after 2 p.m., which fell to yours truly, ol' Ron Detwiler. Gary, in relaying the request to me, left out one small, but very important detail; they wanted a nice "Religious" song by Tennessee Ernie Ford. What I played was "Sixteen Tons". No problem, mission accomplished, right?? WRONG!! Two days later, a nice nasty gram arrived at the station. I remember Bill Young just handed the letter to me, never saying a single word about it. The letter dated February 29, 1972 said, "You Jerk: Thanks, but no thanks! If that was your idea of a joke I certainly have another name for it. Not only was the song insulting to the dear elderly ladies that I requested the song for but it humiliated the hell out of me. You're sick, man. No normal person would do a stupid thing like that. I think you owe an apology and an appropriate song to Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Norris and if you need suggestions here are two: "Put Your Hand in the Hand of the Man" or "Climb Every Mountain" but if you don't have either of these (I'm sure your stockpile is limited) then try to find a lovely hymn by Tennessee Ernie. Will be listening for the apology and song, if it isn't forthcoming, then read the Tribune. I don't know what your capacity is at KWNS but to me YOU STINK." I guess whoever wrote the letter wasn't pissed off enough yet, as there was a handwritten P.S. on the left side of the letter saying, "In case you have forgotten, the song you played was "Sixteen Tons". The letter was not signed, so there was NO apology by me on the air, NO follow-up song by Tennessee Ernie was played and funny, NOTHING ever appeared in the Pratt Tribune about it. Show-Biz, you got to love it!!

A few months after the "Sixteen Tons" incident was my next encounter with Gary and probably should be entitled; "Gary and the two drunk chicks". Once again, our story begins on a calm Sunday with Gary doing the sign-on to 2 p.m. with yours truly pulling the 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. sign-off shift. Thank goodness at shift change, Gary had nothing for me; all was quiet on the western front. My shift was going great, occasionally stepping out the back door of the station to enjoy a Marlboro cigarette and the warm spring afternoon. All that changed around 4 o'clock, when Gary walks into the control room with two scantily clad girls, all of them drunk. I think Gary had brought them out to the station to impress them, showing them around with the last stop being the control room.

As I recall, they were in the control room about 15 minutes, me talking to Gary and enjoying the eye candy, when we heard the front door slam shut. Now I swear, that after a while at the station, you could tell by the way that steel front door shut, who had just walked in and by the sound that day, it could only be Bill Young.

Both of us knew there was not enough time to get the girls out the back door before Bill came through the door to the AM transmitter room and the control room. Thinking quickly, because Gary was in no shape to, I took the two girls and hid them under the control board. Under the control board was a small space to the back and to the sides. Even with me seated at the controls in the chair, there was still ample room for two drunk giggling girls to hide. Sure enough, in walked Bill with Gary and especially me putting on my best "There's nothing happening out here" smile. It was extremely unusual to see Bill at the station on a Sunday afternoon. This was the first time I had ever seen him walk in on my shift. It seems Bill was bored at home, so he said he thought he would come out to the station and shoot the breeze with me for a little bit. I said to myself, "That was just great, just great, just why of all days Bill, did it have to be today". Bill started talking to us with me seated at the control board to block Bill's view of the open space underneath. After gently kicking the two of them to keep quiet from time to time, they decided to start playing and tinkling my legs. Now this is no problem until I started to read a commercial live on the air and they started to caress my legs farther up, while all the time trying to keep my voice on an even keel. I didn't mind talking to Bill, but under the circumstances, it seemed like he would never leave. Thank God he did, because the girls were starting to get into territory that was going to get us both into big trouble. As soon as that steel door shut again, I got the two of them out from under the board and told Gary quickly, "Get them out of here Gary, now!!!!" Gary tried to reply, "But??" I just as quickly yelled back, "Never mind Gary, I don't care how you do it, get them out of here, Gary, just get them out of here!" I am pretty sure if we had been caught, Gary would have been fired and me guilty and fired by association. Gary left the station not too long after that, going to Hutchinson and KWBW radio, my shifts once again quiet and trouble-free.

One of the things I loved about my shift was reading the news on the air, especially the national news. With the UPI teletype in the newsroom, there was plenty of news to pick and choose from. What I hated was the doom and gloom news all the time you had to read. So early on in my career, I always ended my news with a funny story; there was enough of the other crap in the world. Not too many of the stories do I remember, maybe only two or three have stuck in my brain these 40 plus years.

One story that comes to mind happened to a Moose Lodge up in Minnesota that year of 1972. That particular lodge lost their building to a fire in 1952. Not to be outdone and shut down, the lodge brothers voted to construct a new lodge with a 20-year mortgage. Well, before you knew it, 20 years had passed, the mortgage was paid off and the building was free and clear. So what now to do? There was nothing left to do, but have a mortgage burning party. People used to do those kinds of things back in the good old days, not just vegetate in front of a silly computer. Well, the lodge held one, one night with the ladies invited also. It was a big turnout by the lodge members and other local dignities. However, they made one fatal mistake that night; the mortgage burning ceremony was held inside the lodge!! Yep, you guessed it; they managed to burn the building to the ground. Pass the hotdogs and marshmallows, please!!

The other funny story I remember reading was not long after Kenny Rogers released his first major top ten hit in January 1977. The news article was about a bank holdup back east, the place I have long forgot. Well, a man walks into this bank, points a gun at the teller and demands lots of money. So far, so good, a successful heist so far. Not long after he gets out of town, however, the cops are in hot pursuit. The bank robber wasn't about to give up that easily, resulting in a long high speed chase. After a while, one of the back tires came off; tire, rim and all. Its seems that this genius had changed a flat back tire himself just before the robbery. I mean, come on, you can't rob a bank with a flat tire, can you?? On the other hand, you don't get very far, if you don't properly tighten the lug nuts either. Back to the scene of the crime; the lugs came off, the tire came off, the back of the car dropped to one side

and the sparks and other stuff started flying. The guy finally stopped, but just kept himself seated inside the vehicle. About 6 cops jumped out of their patrol cars, guns drawn and surrounded the getaway car. One cop opens the driver's door and points a gun at the guy's head, ordering him to get out. Inside is a slightly intoxicated, would-be bank robber, happily singing to himself, "You picked a fine time to leave me loose wheel", over and over!! Yep, you guessed it, it was being sung to the music of Kenny Rogers's, "You picked a fine time to leave me Lucille." The cops took "Otis" to jail, all the way still happily singing that verse. I think that's one of the things wrong with America today, we just don't have enough happy drunk bank robbers anymore!!

One thing I had learned about Bill Young by the time the fall of 1972 had rolled around was that when it came to the repair and maintenance of the equipment at KWNS; Bill was nobody's fool. And in the fall of 1972, there was one episode that brought this to the forefront. I don't remember exactly when it happened, but one night when it came time to change the station to nighttime power, things didn't go as it should. What you would normally do, was go to the phasor bank, simply push and hold the nighttime or daytime button down until a light came back on. By pushing the button, the transmitter switched to the proper phasor bank, be it the daytime or nighttime bank and all four towers had a large rocker switch too. If all five switches had moved into proper position, a light came on and you simply pushed the plates on button and KWNS was back on the air at 500 watts or 5,000 watts. One night the nighttime button was pushed and the ok light refused to come on; the towers would not move to the nighttime position. And yes, I know what the reader is thinking, we did check to see if the light bulb was simply burned out!! Bill came out and manually moved the rocker arms. When it came time for the daytime pattern, you had to go again to each tower's doghouse and manually move it back. For the next two weeks, that was the procedure and a "Class A" pain in the butt. Now as to the problem, that was simply and easily figured out. Somewhere, the underground cable to the West tower had an open circuit. That tower was the first in the "Christmas Tree String", with the East tower the last. The problem was that it was about 400 feet of underground cable from the main building to the West tower doghouse. So where in that 400 feet was the cable broke? You couldn't very well dig up all the underground cable. It was this problem that had even Bill buffaloed. I am sure Bill called some people, but with no success, because for the next 2 weeks, it was the same routine, night and day.

Then one morning, Bill told me to unhook and separate all the tower control wiring on the wall, at the back of the AM transmitter, which were located in the southeast corner, near the floor. I did as I was told, just not real sure what this was going to accomplish. Later on, Hap Kettering showed up from Southwest Bell Telephone with some test equipment. He hooked up a box to each set of wires, then put on some headphones and walked the line to the West tower, sweeping the ground with what looked like a metal detector. About halfway to the West tower, he spray painted a spot on the dirt and said, "This is where the break is, about 2 feet down. Be careful when you are digging, there are 3 other sets of cables there also." I thought to myself, "You can tell all that by sweeping that "Buck Rogers" thing over the ground"?? At that point, I figured Bill probably should make a call and have Hap hauled away in a rubber suit, but he didn't. What Bill did do was hand me a shovel, "Start digging, but be careful, you heard what he said!" I started digging, but very slowly and in a few hours I was down to the sets of cables. Just as Nostradamus had predicted, there was the break, down 2 feet from the surface and accompanied by 3 other sets of cables. When the cables were originally laided in 1963, you could tell that it had been nicked on the side. It had taken all this time to eat through one of the two conductors. It's a good thing I had not said a word about this wild goose chase; I hate the taste of crow. Now when it came time for the repair of the cable, which simply involved a 3 foot piece of the same type of cable, a couple of rolls of good electrical tape and something else I had never heard of called "Scotch Coat", whatever Bill said for this repair was OK by me. The repair was made and the towers

shifted back and forth just as they should and I had learned a lesson and respect for Bill's abilities as an engineer.

Not long after this, strange and weird things started happening to the Gates AM transmitter, the problem lasting about 3 weeks and not even Bill Young ever did figure it out, but yours truly DID,.....well..... sort of. Starting one day, for no apparent reason, the AM would just go off the air, the plate voltage would just kick off. A simple push of the plate-on button and you were back on the air. Before the transmitter would go off the air, however, there was a loud buzzing, the plate current meters for both modulator tubes would just go crazy and the overloads would trip the plate voltage.

Day after day, the problem continued, the modulator section still going crazy and you could tell by the look on Bill Young's face, he was going crazy too, NOBODY was coming up with what was causing the problem. I am sure after a period of time, Bill was on the phone with engineers at Gates Radio in Quincy, Illinois and other people he knew and I am also sure that there were some suggestions, but no cigar, nothing was working. There just didn't seem to be any rhyme, reason or pattern to it, or was there???

The transmitter had on several occasions kicked off on me, then one day I noticed something. One day I noticed it kicked off when I was playing a 45 rpm record by Glen Campbell called "True Grit". Thinking that it was a fluke, later on in the day I played it again and sure enough at the same identical spot in the record, the modulators went nuts and the AM was off the air. I still couldn't believe it myself, so I didn't say a word to anybody, especially Bill. The next day, I played it again and did a NASA countdown to the spot where I thought it would happen. Three, two, one and I pointed my finger at the transmitter and bang....we were off the air.....again. It was just a 10 second spot in the recording, but that was it, that appeared to be the problem. Later in the day, I repeated the experiment with the same results. I had found the problem and its name was Glen Campbell. I couldn't believe it, as crazy as it sounded, but I waited until the next day to tell Bill.

The next morning I called Bill into the control room and told him that I had found the problem to the AM kicking off the air. After I told him, I could tell by the look on his face that he was not amused and that I should be locked away in the booby hatch and the key thrown away. If somebody visited me at the nuthouse, on my cell door would be written, "The Idiot who said Glen Campbell shuts down transmitters"!!! I looked Bill straight in the eye and said, "I WILL PROVE IT". The next record coming up on my show was "True Grit", I said my countdown out loud again. 3, 2, 1, pointed my finger at the transmitter, shouted BINGO, off she went and I just stood there towering over Bill with a big "I told you so" look on my face. I walked out and put the AM back on the air, walked back into the control room and just looked at Bill and said, "Well, what are you going to do?" and waited for a reply. Bill just stood there with a blank look and was not saying a word.

Now, at that point, I was pretty pleased with myself, I had found the problem, but not how to fix this now solved mystery. What I was now anxiously awaiting to hear from Bill's lips was how he was going to fix the problem. Was it going to be as easy as changing a tube or two, a simple modification to the modulator section, changing out a component or two or what??? From yesterday to now awaiting Bill's answer, I had imagined about everything. I knew it was going to be something that even the engineers at NASA or Gates Radio couldn't even have dreamed of. I thought I was at last going to receive some of Bill's secret knowledge. Knowledge, I was convinced he could have only have received from Ancient Tibetan Electronic Monks or from knowledge Bill had received from aliens.

How Bill Young fixed the problem was not to be some fancy electronic mystical thing, but just good ol' common sense. After I walked back into the control room, Bill's blank look properly only lasted 5 seconds, tops. Bill then quickly looked back at me and said, "No problem, I can take care of that crap"! Bill then just as quickly

lifted the tone arm from the south turntable, which was still playing Mr. Campbell's fine song, took the 45 in his hands, broke it in two, threw it on the floor and stomped the daylights out of it. Bill looked back at me and proudly announced, "PROBLEM SOLVED" and walked out. I remember just standing there with a blank look on my face now. This was the answer I had waited to hear?? Beat the crap out of the record and that was IT!! Well, once again Bill was right; after that the AM transmitter never again had that problem, it had indeed been solved. Of course we never again played "True Grit" by Glen Campbell, it was the only copy we had. But I have often wondered what it was about THAT record that drove the AM nuts. In the 17 years I was at KWNS, that's the only record that had ever done that to the transmitters. I guess we will never know, it would have been one for the books back at Gates Radio.

In the late summer to early fall of 1972, Bill Young hired a man from Hutchinson, Kansas to work as an evening DJ, a young man by the name of Tim Hawks. To this day, I still consider Tim as one of the top key employees that was ever hired at KWNS. Tim got his start in radio at KWBW-AM-FM in Hutchinson, Kansas, moving on to KSKU-FM, also in Hutchinson, Kansas, and finally moving to Pratt with his wife Becky in 1972.

As the reader will recall, KWNS was at this point in time an "Easy Listening" type format, geared more toward the adult listening crowd. It was due to Tim Hawks, that in November of 1972, KWNS became for the first time in its history a top 40 format station. Tim said he believes, thinking back on it after 42 years, he got Bill Young to let him do top 40 by getting evening sponsorships. Tim said, "I was lucky enough to get Jerry Siemens from the Dairy Queen and Max Money from the Char Burg Drive-in to help sponsor the program. It seems to me that Don Williams with Don's Servateria also helped out and Plus 6, the Hallmark store owned by two of my friends, including Jeanette Siemens." The sponsors also received an ad on KWNS' "Top 40 Flyer" that was distributed around town. In the picture section of this book, you will find a picture of the only known surviving flyer from February 1973, thanks to my future wife Patty Route, who saved one.

Sometime after Tim had talked Bill into a top 40 format, he asked me one day if I would consider doing an oldies show. Tim said he had sponsors that were interested in that as well and Tim knew I had a vast collection of oldies and very good knowledge of oldies. To this day, when it comes to music, I am still stuck in the 50's and 60's. Of course I said yes and for the next five years, starting in November 1972, every Saturday night from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., "Rockin' Ronnie Dee" played the oldies. Like Andy and Louie-Louie, I played lots of requests, had people on the air, etc. I don't know if my show was as popular as their's, but I had quite a following, none the less. I still live in Pratt and it is not uncommon for people to address me on the street as "Rockin' Ronnie", even though almost 40 years have gone by since I have done my oldies show. One of the "Sixth Street Mafia" members was Randy Christensen, whom I had nicknamed "King Cool" about 1965. Randy does oil changes now at Doug Reh Chevrolet here in Pratt and when I enter that part of the building, all the mechanics know I am there. When Randy sees me, he always loudly announces, "Heyyyyy, Rockin' Ronnie!!!!" Of all the things I ever did at KWNS, playing my oldies show is the one thing I miss the most. But if it hadn't been for Tim Hawks, my oldies show might not have ever happened.

When Tim came to Pratt, he had a First Class Radiotelephone license and that was a requirement at the time. Tim wrote, "Bill was glad to show me how to do the readings on the directional antenna system and I was soon taking the readings all around the station weekly. The readings were done in specific locations a few miles from the station in every direction. There was always maintenance to do on the phasing units, the tower base stations, antennas, transmitters, and emergency generator. Ron Detwiler was a local DJ and engineer also, and was able to teach me from his own history with the station. Ron could climb towers and replaced all the tower lights when needed as well as any insulators that had broken due to wind or ice damage. Often on a Sunday night in the

summertime, you would see Ron seating atop one of the towers with a perfect view of the city and the sunset.”

Tim was luckier than I was with Bill Young in taking the weekly monitoring point readings. Bill took me out one time and one time only. The monitoring points consisted of what were considered ten key points around the station, with monitor point #7, 4 miles from the station. Of the ten points, five were taken for the daytime log and six were taken for the nighttime log, with only monitor point #5 common to both. On the daytime pattern, point #5 was by far the worst one to keep in line. The four towers were aligned on 97 degrees true north, with #5 .55 miles east of the station on the east main axis. The daytime pattern of KWNS was designed to push all the signal to the west, with VERY little power transmitted to the east because of possible interference with those stations located on 1290. The FCC maximum for that point was only 4.2 microvolts and as I have already stated, it was a bear to keep in line.

It was because of that #5 point that Bill took me out only one time. I did not get to take the readings until Don O'Malley owned the station. As I remember, it was a very nice summer day when Bill took me out to show me how to take the readings. There really wasn't much to it, just learning how to run the field intensity meter was the worst part, plus trying to remember where the monitor points were located. Even the ten points were not that difficult to remember, each was marked with a stake and its monitoring point number. When we got to #5, I watched Bill do his thing with the meter. As I was watching, I turned my sight back to the west and the station, but my view was blocked by a slow rising hill. I couldn't even see the tops of the four towers from where I was standing. I remember looking at where the #5 stake was driven in the ground along side the ditch and thinking that it's location for some reason didn't look right. I said to Bill, "I don't think that stake is located in the right spot." Bill didn't say a word, but I could tell by the look on his face, he didn't like the question. No sooner did I announce my question to Bill, that I started up the hill to catch a view of the four towers. If #5 was at the right spot, the four towers would appear to be in a straight line with me. When I got the towers in sight, sure enough they did not line up, the stake was about 50 feet too far to the south. I came back and proudly announced my find to Bill, who promptly told me to get into the van and we were off to #6 point, just south down the same same dirt road. Come to find out later, that Bill would move the stake up and down the road if he had to; to show the right reading. I had by accident discovered Bill's secret on monitor point #5 and I never did get to take readings while Bill owned the station. I guess Tim Hawks was smarter than me on that one. More to come later on Tim Hawks in the O'Malley years.

1972, "Connie Gotsch, A Rare Talent"

As I have mentioned several times, I saw many characters go through the doors of KWNS. Some, I no longer recall, there was just nothing about them to leave an impression on my mind. Others, I can still see a face in my mind's eye, but no longer recall a name. But there are a few others that I can recall a name, a face and some things about them. Some were outgoing type people; some were wild and crazy types and others just special and talented. One name at the top of that special and talented list is Connie Gotsch. Connie showed up at the station sometime in 1972, the exact date I don't think I ever did remember. She was just there one day and probably one year later just gone.

Born Constance Marie Gotsch in Oak Park, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, on January 3, 1948. Connie migrated with her parents to Princeton, New Jersey when she was 16 years old and graduated from Princeton High School. Connie went on to earn her Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master's degree in radio, TV and film at New York

University and her Doctorate in communications and education from Northern Illinois University. Connie's first TV show appeared on WNYC-TV, New York, while she was studying at New York University. At the University, she was also assistant to the Chief Communications Engineer. Connie also did some time at Olean, New York, running an air shift, gathering news, public affairs interviewing, editing, production and writing. From New York, Connie went to work in radio in Iowa, finally coming to KWNS in 1972. Connie told me, "In all those places I was doing many things: growing up, going to college, teaching, and doing radio". Connie was one of those people that you knew would not be there long; she was just too good and talented for a small station in Pratt, Kansas.

One thing I remember about Connie was the fact that she didn't own a car and never did. You see, Connie could see with magnification, but she could not drive since she was legally blind. Like Lou Constantino, Gotsch arrived in Pratt on the bus. I very distinctly remember her first day at the station. That morning Connie introduced herself to all the staff present that morning, finally getting around to me. Connie smiled, shook my hand and simply said, "Hello, my name is Connie Gotsch, glad to meet you"! To that, I simply replied, "Hello, my name is Ron Detwiler, also glad to meet you". All of a sudden, a BIG smile appeared on Connie's face, "Herrn Detwiler, einen guten deutschen Namen, ja"! I thought to myself, "I haven't the damnest idea what you just said, but it sure sounded sexy". Apparently, I had that blank look on my face. Connie quickly translated the greeting to me, "Mr. Detwiler, a good German name, yes"? Connie could speak several languages, but was very fluent in German. The other thing I learned about Connie was that she had a sly sense of humor, a very quick wit and could verbally cut you to pieces, if she had to. During her time in Pratt, Connie rented an apartment at the Ninnescah Apartments on north Ninnescah next to the Pratt Presbyterian Church. To get to the radio station, 3 ¼ miles east of Pratt, Connie sometimes walked, bummed a ride or lots of times, I would take her to the station or pick her up after her shift, especially when it was cold. One thing both Tim Hawks and I remember about Connie was that she was an excellent cook. Tim and his wife Becky can remember going over to Connie's apartment one night, enjoying some of her cooking, and listening to Connie talk about radio, television and her dreams of a long career.

With Catherine Newsom already gone and Ed Hood gone by this time, Bill Young was looking for someone to do a women's morning show similar to "The Market Basket" format again and Connie said that's why she was hired. That show was in the mornings, running for usually two hours. You could expect about anything on her show. Guests on the show ran the gambit from local dignities, the Post Office, the local Fish and Game, the Meninger Clinic in Topeka to local history interviews. Connie said she remembered, "Railroad hot boxes, snakes loose in the studio and a guy bringing in a hawk from the Fish and Game".

In October of 2011, I asked Connie to e-mail me anything she might remember about her time at KWNS. One funny story was interviewing someone from the Fish and Game about raptors on her morning show. In Connie's own words, "When my interviewee arrived, whoever the secretary was, came to get me with a particular look on her face. My interviewee was sitting in the waiting room with a box. The box had air holes. I asked what he had brought and he said a small hawk. I don't recall what kind it was. Just being out of NYC, I didn't know whether to run or be curious. Curiosity won out and I went into the studio with my guest. We took the hawk out and we talked about it. He had found her in his garbage can. Jim (Young) was on the board and he wasn't happy about a live bird in the studio, but there was nothing he could do about it. The hawk had never flown since she'd been found. She made a few comments in hawk language and we talked about the value of hawks. Then she walked to the edge of the table and flew around the studio. The interviewee and I were both spellbound and responded as such. Finally she landed and he picked her up and we finished the interview. Jim was shaken. I think he was frightened of animals".

The other story Connie remembered involved a bull snake, only this time the snake had not found its way into the AM transmitter, but another place in the station that produced a funnier result. The story involves Virginia Bates, who was the secretary at the time. I had the sign-on shift that day and went home after my shift was done that day at 8:30 a.m. with Jim Young taking over and doing his shift. Virginia Bates would come in around 9:00 a.m. to start her duties for the day, Virginia was just part-time help as I remember. Connie was in the north studio doing her show with Jim at the control board. About 10 seconds after Virginia came through the door and sat down at her typewriter, all Hell broke loose. The thing Connie next heard was a very loud scream and Virginia headed north back out the door. It seems that when she sat down and went to type at her typewriter, there was a very large bull snake coiled around it, looking back at her. Connie remembered, "She had a fit". Connie forgot to write how long it took to get poor Virginia back inside the station, but I can bet from that day on, she approached her typewriter more cautiously first thing in the morning.

Connie, like anyone else, who had a shift, did the newscast from a local level. And if you did the news, eventually there was going to be a story that you really didn't want to read. Again in Connie's own words, "The explosion was something that never should have happened. Some jerk had a propane tank for cooking in his basement, of all things. One day it exploded and his wife, son-in-law and grandbaby, aged 3, died of severe burns over a week's time. Saddest story I ever had to report". The funniest news Connie covered live involved a switch engine at the Rock Island Railroad on north Main in Pratt. Somehow, the engine got loose on the main line and like a good "Keystone Cops" short, the railroaders chased it until it ran out of fuel and brought it back. Connie ended the story with, "Well, it looks like the little engine that could did, but what a mess".

The reader will recall that Connie was born and raised "back east". I sometimes have wondered about those types of people from time to time. I think they watched too much "Gunsmoke", and apparently, Connie thought Pratt County was still infested with a tribe of Indians. This funny story about Connie is best told by Tim Hawks, since it involves both him and Connie. On the matter, Tim wrote, "Several events may bring smiles to some faces as well as some facts, however misconstrued. One was the arrival of Connie from New York, New Jersey, I can't remember. Connie was a young intelligent woman with a passion for radio and wanting to learn. One day, a few months after her arrival, she asked me (Tim Hawks) in a very honest and open way about our Indians. We asked WHAT Indians and she said she had been very worried about Indians since her arrival and expected an attack each morning at sunrise when she was walking to the station. She was very, very serious and it made us laugh. I explained that was only in the movies and was not going to happen in Pratt, Kansas (Maybe Medicine Lodge, but not Pratt)." No wonder Connie always liked it when I (Ron Detwiler) drove her sometimes to the station. I didn't realize at the time we could have been attacked at any moment by Casino building redskins!! You learn something everyday!!

What did Connie learn while she was at KWNS? I'm glad you asked. "I remember learning to prepare an interview at KWNS and how to ferret good ones out. I also learned how to sort out technology. You (Ron Detwiler) and Tim Hawks taught me how to make a control board sit up and sing". One other thing Connie proudly remembered was driving on the back roads and drinking beer with yours truly. Ahhhhh, those were the days!! One thing I do want to make perfectly clear at this point, is that I was always the perfect gentleman to Connie, on duty or off, a fact that looks like cost me getting into some of Connie's books, but I will get to that in a minute or so.

After Connie left KWNS in 1972, her career took her many places in the Midwest. She went back to school and got a doctorate in communication, taught for a while, finally to find a home at KSJE in Farmington, New Mexico in 1990 as its first Program Director. KSJE is a public FM radio station, a place she said she wanted to

be at all along. Connie never did marry. As she said in an e-mail to me, "Too DAMNED independent, I guess". If there's one thing I remember about Gotsch, she was one independent spirit.

A Renaissance lady, Connie loved opera from childhood and developed a love of photography at Farmington. It became a lifelong interest and Connie won many awards for her black and white gelatin prints developed in her own dark room. She travelled extensively, hauling along her camera equipment and took intimate photographs of the world she saw. Many of her shots came from her travels in Greece, Italy, England, France, Canada and of course Germany.

On KSJE and the Four Corners area, Connie was well known for her classical radio program, "Roving with the Arts" and her "Write on Four Corners" interviews. Connie was also quite an author, with too many published titles and awards to be listed here, but probably best known for three young adult novels about Belle the Dog and two adult fiction novels, "A Mouth Full of Shell" and "Snap Me a Future. The Belle series consisted of three award-winning books: "Belle's Star", "Belle's Trial" and "Belle's Challenge". She was also a long-time member of the New Mexico Press Women and ran the organization's annual communications contest from 2001 to 2010. She herself won a number of awards in the contest throughout the years. For her dedication and service to the organization, she was recognized with the 2007 Communicator of Achievement Award, the highest honor bestowed by the National Federation of Press Women.

The one book I want to further mention is, "A Mouth Full of Shell". When Connie wrote this one she used her experience in the world of broadcasting to color a story about a woman who must learn a new way to fight repression if she is to carve a new world for herself. When I found Connie again through the internet, among all the things of "Catching Up", the one book she told me a lot about was "A Mouth Full of Shell". Several characters in the book were based on actual people Connie had worked with in radio over the years. The main one, the villain of the story, was based on a KWNS employee. "A real stinker", Connie said. Now if you think I am going to reveal who it is, you are dead wrong. Like Jimmy Durante who said, "Goodnight Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are" and Carol Burnett's famous pull on her ear, both never did disclose who or what it meant. Connie asked me to never tell who her villain was based on at KWNS; the name I will take to my grave. When I was talking to Connie about the book, I asked her if any were based on me and she said no. Of course I asked her why and she said, " You were always the perfect gentlemen, always nice. Its easier to write about villains then the good guys". But Connie promised me that her next book had a mad scientist in it and was going to base it on me. Unfortunately in January 2012, Connie was diagnosed with advanced Colon cancer.

Connie finally had to quit her job as Program Director at KSJE, a position she held for 22 years and move to the Cedar Ridge Nursing Home in Farmington. At the home, Connie was still working on "Belles Trial" and even up to several hours before her death, was making editorial corrections to it with the help of her longtime friend, Margaret Cheesebro. Connie's humor was evident even up to the last day of her life. Margaret had been visiting Connie every day and she had been somewhat non-responsive on July 15, 2012 until another close friend, Roberta Summers, walked in. Margaret said, "I told her she was there. She perked up and said, "I have an announcement to make, I'm checking out"....She seemed very comfortable with it". This was about 12:30 p.m. That same afternoon Margaret returned to the nursing home to help Connie complete the editorial corrections to the third book in the Belle series, "Belle's Challenge". "I would take the manuscript to the hospital and we would work a chapter at a time or sometimes more", Margaret said. By the way, Margaret sent the completed manuscript to the publisher, who wrote back saying he intends to publish it . In true Gotsch style, musicians were scheduled to come and play classical music in her room at 6:30 p.m. Connie stuck around until 7:30 p.m. to hear the music and true to her word,

“Checked Out”.

If you think Connie’s story ended with her death, you would be wrong. Connie knew her time was short and while living, decided to leave her entire estate to set money aside for grants and scholarships for any interested artist in San Juan County in New Mexico. Connie was a big believer of the variety of Performing Arts in San Juan County. After her death on July 15, 2012, her friends and family worked together to make that happen. The Connie Gotsch Arts Foundation was established on April 13, 2013 at the Farmington Gateway Museum in Farmington, New Mexico with its motto, “Keeping the Arts Alive in San Juan County”.

I’m going to close the chapter on Connie with one of her favorite poems, one often attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson:

***To laugh often and much;
To win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;
To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived,
This is to have succeeded.***

And finally in Connie’s own words, one I heard her say at KWNS many times, “Enjoy the moment”.

If I do not close out the year of 1972 with this story, I will be SHOT by my wife. For a while, I had noticed this sweet thing cruising First and Main in a 1965 white Ford Falcon. I finally got up enough nerve to ask her for a date and on her birthday, December 18, we went out and went to the Barron Theater and watched John Wayne in Rio Lobo. The next night was my bowling night with the Dairy Queen and of course I invited my date, Patty Route, to watch. If she hadn’t insisted on keeping score all night, my life history might have turned out a little different. Well, the next day, I played “Aquarius” by the Fifth Dimension and said, “Here’s Aquarius by the Fifth Dimension going out to our little score keeper, thanks for all your help last night”. I guess that’s all it took, that was the guy she said she was going to marry, and we have been happily married almost 40 1/2 years as of this paragraph.

1973, “A Change is Coming”

For the year 1973, the Broadcast Weekly reported William J. Young as President and General Manager, Dave Blevins as Commercial Manager, Karen Crawford as Program Director, Catherine Newsom as Program Manager, James Young as News Director and Ronald Detwiler as Chief Operator.

On January 12, 1973, the FCC approved the sale of the station in Bolivar, Missouri to the Young’s. The announcement appeared in the Broadcast Weekly as follows, “KBLR(AM)-KLTB(FM) Bolivar, Missouri sold by Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenny to William J. and Barbara A. Young for \$175,000. Mr. Young is General Manager of and has a majority interest in KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kansas. He and Mrs. Young have a joint minority interest in Radio TV Parts, Inc. Pratt. KBLR is a daytimer on 1130 khz with 250w. KLTB operates on 106.3 mhz with 3kw and an antenna 200 feet above average terrain.” Bill was true to his word. The reader will remember he

One of the neat promotions Bill did with KWNS happened on February 17, 1973, with the “Band Marathon” broadcast live from the downtown Pratt Municipal Auditorium. The whole purpose of the event was to raise \$2000 to purchase new uniforms for the Pratt High Band. The broadcast started at 2 p.m. and was billed to go on until the goal was raised. As I recall, Bill Young himself, MC’ed the broadcast from the auditorium. The other reason I wanted to mention the marathon was that the Pratt Tribune was a sponsor of the KWNS show along with the Peoples Bank. I guess for a worthy cause such as this, the Tribune put aside the competitor thing for a bit. How long it took to raise the money, I am not sure, but the goal was met.

I don’t remember the broadcast, because shortly before the broadcast day by a week or two, I had given my two week notice to Bill and started working for the City of Pratt, working at the power plant. Oh, I forget to mention. You remember that sweet thing I played “Aquarius” to? Well, I proposed to her on January 8, 1973 and figured I was going to need a better job with more benefits and such. Patty and I got married on June 23, 1973. I might want to point out also, I was still working for Bill, but now on a part-time basis. In the 17 years, I worked at KWNS, I was always on the payroll, either part-time or full-time.

One week later after the “Band Marathon”, it was time again for the annual KWNS Home Show on February 24th and 25th at the Pratt National Guard Armory. This was the 8th annual show put on by KWNS and also celebrating the 10th anniversary of KWNS with free birthday cakes that were given away on both Saturday and Sunday. Other than the cakes, there were no other special events or promotions at this home show. I am pretty sure that Bill probably knew this would be his last one or at least, the next to the last one. One of the big things in 1973 was the reworking of the movie codes and Bill took advantage of this in the Tribune ad for the home show. “This show rated G, good for the entire family”. I would have also rated the cakes as “PG” or pretty good.

As I have mentioned several times, Bill Young and Bill Huffman didn’t care much for the rock and roll scene, but Bill Young did tolerate it several times, as evidenced by the Andy Airiola and Lou Constantino shows. Bill Huffman liked country music and Bill Young did too. As a DJ, I just naturally assumed that Bill Young liked all county artists, but I found out one day that wasn’t the case. One day, I am not sure what year; I decided to poke around the production room, where the record library was housed. I was getting kind of bored with the selection of music and artists I was playing and looking for something different. I came across a 45 of Johnny Cash called “Ring of Fire”. It caught my attention, because I had not seen any records by Johnny Cash at KWNS. I was soon to find out there was a reason for that. I liked Johnny Cash and I had always enjoyed “Ring of Fire”. I quickly took it back to the control room and the next chance I got, I played it. I bet it wasn’t long after Johnny belted out, “I fell into a burning ring of fire.....”, Bill marched into the control room and without saying a word, took the record off the turntable, broke it into and just like he had done with “True Grit”, stomped it into a million pieces. After Bill had determined Johnny was dead, he stormed out, leaving me with “dead air”, if you will excuse the pun. I remember just sitting in my chair with a stunned look on my face, but quickly grabbed another record and got it on the air. Pretty soon, a big smile appeared across my face and I thought to myself, “This has possibilities!!”. The next day I went to Gibsons, which at that time, was one block on north Main, on the east side and bought several Johnny Cash records with my own money. That day I played another Cash record with the identical same results from Bill. Pleased with myself, I hid the remainder of them at the station. When I thought Bill was in a good mood, I would dig one up and play it with always the expected results from Bill. I probably tormented Bill about half a dozen times this way, but he never said a word to me about it. In writing this book, I asked Barbara and Mary Ann about the Johnny Cash episode, but neither one could tell me what Bill had against him. Since Bill himself is the only one who can answer that one, I will never know. From that day forward, anytime I hear or see anything about

Johnny Cash, I cannot help but think of Bill Young and that day in the control room.

Johnny's brother Tommy Cash played the Pratt County Fair in the summer of 1973. I remember I was lucky enough to be on duty that night that Tommy was interviewed at the station. I got to talk to him for a few minutes, shook his hand and Tommy was back to the fair. I was so excited talking to him, that I forgot to get a picture, an autograph, nothing. But, it is one of my treasured memories at KWNS. Who interviewed Tommy? I don't remember, but I can tell you it wasn't Bill!

One country song that got a lot of airplay sometime in 1973 was the "Auctioneer Song" by Leroy Van Dyke. Bill must have liked it too, because for a period of time, it was getting a lot of requests and a lot of air time, day to day. The song was by no means a new song on the charts, first hitting the airwaves back in 1956. As I recall, like the record, "Ring of Fire", someone also had been poking around the record library and found it by accident and started playing it. The song became so popular on KWNS that people started calling into KAKE radio requesting it, also. There was one major problem for KAKE radio; they didn't have a copy and couldn't locate one either. The DJ's at KAKE started asking people where they had heard it and soon Bill got a call from Gene Rump from the Wichita station. Bill would not give him our copy; we were still playing the tar out of it, but he told Gene he would tape it for him. Bill offered to bring the tape over to him, but Gene wouldn't hear of it, HE would come out to Pratt and pick up the tape personally. At that time Gene Rump was the big man on campus at KAKE-TV, also. So this was a great honor to have him come out to Pratt, Kansas and KWNS. Gene told Bill he would be out in a couple of days. Well Bill cleaned up the station extra special and since I would be on duty that day of his arrival, I was told to wear a suit and tie. I guess whatever Gene Rump and KAKE radio did, they did in style, because that morning a big black stretch limo pulled into the parking lot with a chauffeured Gene Rump. Gene toured the station, I got to talk to him in the control room for a minute, Bill handed him the tape and Gene went back to Wichita with his prize. I tuned into KAKE later that day and sure enough the tape was being played and the time I listened, KWNS got the credit.

One of the jobs I both enjoyed and hated when I had the night shift was Royals baseball. I have never been a sports fan and never will be. Now as to the Royals, when a game was playing over KWNS, for the next several hours, it was gravy money, there was almost nothing to do, but play a commercial once in a while. I could put my feet up and enjoy a smoke from time to time, read a book; there just wasn't must to do, once the game started. What I hated with a passion was a double-header. The game usually started at 8 p.m., our time and could last until 1 to 2 a.m. in the morning; murder. About 30 minutes before each game, you dialed up the "Royal's Baseball Network" over a separate phone line to the station. It was a stepper phone line. You simply flipped a lever, dialed in a two-digit number and you were connected to the network. The next thing you heard was the booth announcers talking before the game and the background noise of the particular park in which they were playing. Of course, a voice would come on and announce, "This is the Royal's Baseball Network" from time to time and you knew you were connected and ready to go.

One night, I dialed up the network, did all the proper stuff as always. The next thing I heard wasn't the Royals game, but a man and a woman in a very heated conversation. Back then, in the good ol' days, there wasn't that much underground phone line, a few, but not many. Since it had been raining, I figured that I had dialed into a wet pair of lines, getting cross-talk or something had not switched right at the telephone company's main panel, I had no way of knowing. I started listening to the fight and it was a good one. This man and woman were getting after it, both cussing up a storm at each other. What I remember was that the man was unhappy about some small petty thing and the poor woman was on the receiving end of his insanity. After a while, he said, "That's it, what are

you going to do about it!!". All the time I had been listening, I wondered if they could hear me as well as I was hearing them. So to be on the safe side, I had been very quiet, not even a whisper came from my lips. But after his demand, without thinking, coming to the defense of this poor woman, I said, "I'd divorce your sorry bum ass is what I would do!!". On the other end, you could have heard a pin drop. Pretty soon, he said, "WHAT did you say!". I immediately said, "You heard me, I'd divorce your sorry ass!" Well, that really got him fired up and now it was the fight of the century going on, with him now accusing her of seeing another man. Thinking that I had done enough damage and had better be thinking of getting connected to the Royals, I hung up. When I looked up at the clock, I didn't realize that I had been listening to this ordeal for 20 minutes; I had only 5 minutes to go and the Royals had better be on the air. I dialed the number again and luckily this time, I had made contact. But to this day, I have always wondered what part of the United States; the two of them were in that night, if they had worked out the problem or if my accidental "help" had caused a divorce, for real. It's one of those things I am glad I will never know, but funny to think back on, at least from my side of the telephone that night.

After the failed sale of KWNS to Ken Blevins, there were no other serious buyers for the station. One Saturday in July 1973, I was getting ready to start my oldies show which ran from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. every Saturday night. As I recall, about an hour into my show or about 6 p.m., Bill came out to the station and was showing a man around. The gentlemen I had never seen before, but I thought nothing about it, other than the fact that Bill avoided the control room and introducing me to the stranger. The next month, I would know the reason; KWNS had been sold. I would not know the buyers names however until the fall of 1973 when it appeared in the paper.

The official announcement of the sale appeared in the August 20, 1973, edition of Broadcast Weekly on page 88 under "Ownership Changes Applications" section, "KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kansas seeks assignment of license from KWNS, Inc. to O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. for \$200,000. Seller: William J. Young, president, et al (100%). Mr. Young has interest in KBLR (AM) Bolivar, Mo. Buyers: Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George Kieffer (30%). Mr. O'Malley has interest in Swanco Broadcasting Co. Mr. Kieffer is advertising director for theater chain in Kansas City, Mo. Announced August 2." As far as the story of Don O'Malley and George Kieffer, we will get to that in a little bit.

Although the sale of KWNS was now in the hands of the FCC, Bill was very much involved with Radio-TV Parts, Inc. also. The store was relocated to 707 North Main in Pratt with a grand opening on November 1. Radio-TV Parts, Inc. was dissolved and Bill opened the first Radio Shack in Pratt with Eldon Witt as its first manager. I think the reason Bill burdened himself with the new store was just plain business sense. Radio-TV Parts, Inc. on East First was what you might have called a "hole in the wall" business. It just didn't have that much to offer, no room for future expansion, etc. For Bill to sell it and make a good profit there wasn't much to it. Radio Shack had a good location, lots of floor space, a well-known name, etc. All this made it easier for Bill to sell it in 1974.

Looking back on all this, I think Bill started the process of selling KWNS and getting out of Pratt on November 17, 1971. That's when he sold their house at 326 North Main to Roger Buntmeyer. Bill and Barbara then rented a place at 419 North Oak, just a half a block north of the Sacred Heart Church. All Bill was waiting on now, to get out of Pratt, was approval of the application by the FCC. The FCC approved the sale on November 20, 1973 with a final sale price of \$254,000.

Another loose end that Bill wrapped up after the sale was the dissolution of KWNS, Inc. on November 28, 1973. This was a special meeting that was called to discuss the liquidation of corporate assets and the

dissolution of the corporation. Only two people were present at the meeting, William J. Young as President and John K. Rickard as Secretary-Treasurer. I had always heard that Bill had a silent partner toward the end of his ownership at KWNS, but nobody knew a name. In a letter dated September 3, 2010, Barbara wrote, "I never had much knowledge of the business end of the station as I was a stay-at-home mom and Bill did not confide those things to me. Bill had a financial partner in Hutchinson, Kansas. His wife owned radio stations there. The partner was a silent one having no connection with Bill's operations." I contacted the State of Kansas on a hunch and sure enough they had in their archives, the original KWNS, Inc. papers. It was through the November 28, 1973 corporation papers that I learned the name of John K. Rickard, our mystery man and Bill's silent partner. However, in doing research on John, it opened up more questions than it answered. So, for the Young family and this book, here is what little I know about John K. Rickard.

It would have been nice to have just talked to John himself, but he died on September 15, 1988 at his home in Hutchinson, Kansas. At the time John was involved with Bill and KWNS, he was married to Bess Wyse, but unfortunately, she has passed on, too. In looking over John's obituary from 1988, I noticed that it showed two brothers, Laurel and Lysle in Medicine Lodge. It was a long shot. If they were alive, they would be in their 90's or pushing a 100 or better. Laurel was still in the phone book and that night luck was on my side; Laurel was alive and well, still living in Medicine Lodge, a young man of 93 years old. His brother Lysle had passed on a couple of years before. Laurel was the sole survivor of the family. On April 28, 2013, I had the pleasure of traveling to Medicine Lodge and talk to him about his brother John. Laurel, or "Dub", as he preferred to be called was in a rest home, in a wheelchair, but his mind still razor sharp. Laurel said he was called Dub starting in the first grade and the name has stuck ever since.

In talking to Dub, I soon found out that he was no stranger to KWNS or Pratt. Dub owned and ran Hibbard Drug Store from 1950 to 1991. Hibbard Drug was a regular advertiser for many years on KWNS, particularly with Catherine Newsom and "The Market Basket". In fact his brother John helped start Gerald's Serva-Teria in Pratt, later known as Don's Servateria for many years.

John K. Rickard was born September 1, 1903, on a little farm 3 miles east of Zenda in Kingman County. John grew up in the Zenda area, but graduated from Spivey High School. John never served in the military. Dub said, "John was born at the wrong time, he was too young for World War One and too old for World War Two." John married a girl by the name of Ruth, but were divorced some time later. John moved to Hutchinson in 1933 making a living selling life insurance. John was a life member of the Million Dollar Round Table for his company, meaning he sold at least a million dollar's worth of life insurance a year. John later married Bess-Wyse at Hutchinson in the middle 1950's. After Bess's death, John married a third time to Edith Esch.

One of the questions I posed to Dub was how he thought Bill and John might have gotten together on KWNS. Dub told me he had no idea; John never did talk to him about such matters. I figured that it was probably through Bill's church. Dub said, "Probably not, John was born, raised and died a Methodist." Since Bill was solid Catholic, the chances of that being the case were next to zero. Since John had been in the insurance business all his life, I thought maybe that was the answer. Dub seemed to agree, "John was a HECK of a promoter. John knew how to PROMOTE money. John was a fair straight shooter. He was probably more than willing to help Bill, all he asked was to get a fair return." The other possibility Dub said was John's second wife, Bess-Wyse Rickard. Dub said his brother had his good share of money because of the insurance business. At that point Dub laughed and said, "In fact, my brother had a special closet with 48, can you believe it, 48 suits!" But the real money was on Bess's side. Bess owned several radio stations in the Hutchinson area, including KWBW. Bess with the help of John P. Harris,

owner of the Hutchinson newspaper and W.D.P. Carey, director of the Carey Salt Company in Hutchinson started KTVH-TV in Hutchinson, Kansas in 1951. So how the two of them got together, we will never know the truth of the matter, other than it did happen.

Sometime in early 1974, the Young's moved to Bolivar, Missouri to run that radio station. Bill and Barbara bought an 80-acre farm; sold off 40 acres and the house and built a new 3,000 square foot home on the other 40 acres. This time however Bill hired a contractor to do the work. After a while, it became apparent to Bill that KBLR's location was too close to Springfield for economic success, even though he had everyone on the air advertising that could possibly be there. Finally on May 25, 1976, Bill filed an application with the FCC to sell KBLR-AM and KLTB-FM. It was reported in the Broadcast Weekly on June 7, 1976 under "Ownership Changes Applications" as follows; "KBLR-AM and KLTB-FM seeks assignment of license from KBLR Inc. to NPN Corp. for \$190,000. Seller: William J. Young who has no other broadcast interest. Principals in buyer are Charles Preston, Ray Neill and his son, Joe. Mr. Preston is engineer and announcer of KLEX (AM)- KBK (FM) Lexington, Mo. Ray Neill is employee of West Central Rural Missouri Development Corp., Stockton, Mo. and his son works for radio parts wholesale firm in Springfield, Mo."

It didn't take long for the FCC to approve the sale of KBLR with its blessing on July 8, 1976. Two days before the approval date however; Bill got a notice from the Broadcast Bureau notifying him of apparent liability for forfeiture of \$500 for operating with excessive power. In all the years Bill was in the radio business here at Pratt, Kansas and Bolivar, Missouri, Bill had NEVER been written up for or had a fine levied against him by the FCC. Just two more days and Bill would have left the broadcast business forever with an unblemished record. I would have hated to be there that day at KBLR, but I think I felt a tremor back here in Pratt, Kansas.

After the sale of the station in Bolivar, Missouri, the Young's moved to Warrensburg, Missouri. There, Bill obtained a real estate license, bought a restaurant, where they enjoyed a good living for a while. Bill later sold the restaurant, moved to Harrisonville, Missouri, and bought the Montgomery Ward store there. Bill sold that out and moved to Pleasant Hill, Missouri. Barbara started working as a secretary in a doctor's office in Kansas City and did so for 7 years. The next move was to Waverly, Missouri where Bill repaired and sold Zenith televisions. All was fine until Walmart started selling Zeniths. From there, it was Lexington, Missouri; because that's where the Young's church was and that's where Bill's son, Jim was located. In Lexington, Bill bought a house and started selling silk flowers for the New York Company located in Blavelt, New York to florist shops. Barbara quit her job in the doctor's office and the two of them went out on the road every week traveling 7 states to visit the florist shops. The Young's however had not sold the house in Pleasant Hill, but had rented it out for 8 years. They did decide to give up the Lexington house because they were making payments and the one in Pleasant Hill was paid for.

After the move from Lexington to Pleasant Hill, Bill felt he was ill after the move. They still went out on the usual sales trips and Barbara discovered that Bill had Glioblastoma brain cancer. Barbara said to this day, she is still not certain if Bill's brain cancer was the result of working on electronic equipment or if it had festered in his brain since the time he was in Osaka shortly after the dropping of the atomic bomb. After the diagnosis, Bill lived approximately two more years, Barbara taking care of him at home. She said it was not a good existence, but he never complained once. Bill lost his battle on May 5, 1997, and was buried in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Barbara wrote me saying, "My only regret is that I did not keep a diary of our life (together). It was interesting, lovingly, happy and sad at the end, May 5, 1997."

"The Big O", "The Don O'Malley Years"

Yes sir, that's how I will always remember Donald J. O'Malley, "The Big O", my favorite boss from KWNS. In doing this history book on KWNS, it finally dawned on me one day that I am probably the only person to have worked for all the owners of KWNS under that call sign and without a doubt; Don was my favorite boss. Like Bill Young, Don was one hell of a salesman and promoter. So let us get to it; the background story of Don and his lifelong friend and business partner, George Kieffer!

Don O'Malley was born November 26, 1934 and raised in the Kansas City, Missouri area. George Kieffer was born August 10, 1935 and raised in the Kansas City area also. It was at Hogan High School as freshmen in 1948, that Don and George first became friends and have remained very close friends to this day. After they graduated from Hogan High School in 1952, Don went off to college and George joined the Navy. When George was discharged from the service in 1956; Don and two of their other high school buddies, Bob Klug and Bill Dalton drove out to California to pick George up. George recalled they had a great time driving across the western half of the country in a brand new '56 Chevy owned by Bob Klug.

Back at Kansas City, George returned to school and worked as a disc jockey for KIMO radio. Don started selling general advertising with a company called Jay-Marc Advertising Agency; mainly radio, TV and print. Things got tough for Don however when the owner moved him to commission only.

As Don circulated around the Kansas City area in 1957, he began to hear rumors about a new radio station coming to town, a daytimer named KBKC at 1480 on the dial. Don said, although they were six months away from going on the air, he persistently kept in touch with Tom Beal, one of the owners. The application for the station was filed with the FCC on November 14, 1956 by Mission Broadcasters Incorporated. Tom Beal with a 29.8% interest was one of the three principal officers in the corporation. At the time, Tom was Commercial Manager for KLWN in Lawrence, Kansas. John L. Humphreys, an engineer for KOAM in Pittsburgh, Kansas, also had a 29.8% stake in the new station. The other owner was Carl F. Mannin, a Kansas travel agent, having a 16.4% interest and President for the group of investors.

On April 25, 1957, the FCC granted a license for the new station in Mission, Kansas. The studios were located at 436 West 47th Street in Kansas City, Kansas and granted a frequency of 1480 kilocycles, 500 watts of daytime only power and a directional pattern. The following month, the station was assigned the call letters KBKC. KBKC went on the air October 25, 1957 with Don O'Malley, the first employee hired, heading up the sales as Sales Manager. General Manager was Tom Beal and John L. Humphreys as Station Manager. In August 1957, Tom Maupin was elected President of KBKC. Tom Maupin was formerly a travel and tour expert specializing in arranging delegations of radio and TV executives to Russia and Eastern Europe.

Don did not know it, but on July 7, 1957 his life was about to change. That hot July day, Don's brother invited him to a picnic and also set him up with a blind date; a girl named Teresa O'Brien. Teresa told me, "It was love at first sight!" A few months later, Don and Teresa were set to go a party one night, but Don said he needed to stop by the Catholic Church they attended. Not thinking too much of it at the time, Teresa went inside the Sanctuary with Don. Teresa said when they got in front of the statue of the "Blessed Mother", Don proposed to her. Teresa immediately said yes and they were later married on November 16, 1957.

As time went on, Don got to know other radio salesmen and he felt he fit right in; he had found a home in KBKC radio and working for Tom Beal. Don said he also loved taking the Ampex recorder to potential advertisers with samples of the programming. At that time, most of Kansas City's radio stations were near each other on the downtown hills of the city. When he would meet up with other more experienced salesmen, they would ask how he got Jack Henry's exclusive clothing or Manor Bakery or First National Bank on the air, etc. Don simply replied, "I

just called on them”, not knowing that those were considered by the other salesmen as tough businesses to sell to. Don was a natural born salesmen. As time passed, his confidence rose and he began to believe that he could be successful in the radio business. In the September 1, 1958 issue of Broadcast Weekly under Help Wanted, Don placed an ad as follows, “SALESMAN, KBKC, KANSAS CITY IS EXPANDING. Need ambitious, creative Account Executive. Must have desire to work for \$10,000 first year. High guarantee, commissions and expenses paid. Rush photo and resume to Don O’Malley, 5618 Holmes, Kansas City, Missouri.” What fruit the ad produced or who Don hired from the ad has been lost to time.

I think the other thing Don enjoyed about working for KBKC was all the promotions and fun things the station did. Don was a fun person to be around and he did lots of promotions and fun things, no matter where he was. When KBKC celebrated its first birthday, it was done in style with a series of station promotions during an eight-week campaign. The station personnel (including Don) served birthday cake and distributed free door prizes to more than 2,000 visitors at a hi-fi music show in Kansas City’s Bellerive Hotel. The on-air part of the birthday promotion offered more than \$3,000 worth of prizes to listeners who displayed numbered car window stickers bearing the call letters and frequency of the independent music-news station with lucky numbers being announced periodically. Some 20,000 stickers were distributed in the first two weeks alone. Part of the birthday blowout also was weekly “appreciation” cocktail parties for advertisers and agency personnel at the KBKC studios; something I am sure, Don thoroughly enjoyed, being in sales, you know.

One of the neat promotions Don came up with happened in the Christmas sales season of December 1958. KBKC in cooperation with a local florist started a word-of-mouth campaign to promote the new station in town; in others words, to gossip about KBKC. The station offered poinsettia plants to listeners who would telephone 10 other persons telling them about KBKC and then send their lists of names and phone numbers to the station. How did the promotion pan out?? Well, more than 5,000 names were submitted with the delivery of over 500 plants by the poor florist; so you tell me??

In June 1959, Don’s sales department at KBKC was starting to enjoy a banner sales month at the station, all because on June 19, 1959, the Kansas City “International Typographical Union Local 80” went on strike against the Kansas Star and Kansas City Kansan newspapers. It’s simple; nobody to set the type, no newspaper. So during the strike, businesses turned to the radio and TV stations to spend their money. The strike might have been hurting the two newspapers, but apparently not the businesses in the Kansas City area. A local survey showed that business was at a normal or higher-than-normal pace since the newspaper strike started. Most of the businesses reported in the survey, that the increased customer traffic was the direct result of intensive radio-TV advertising. Back at KBKC, I am sure Don and his sales team were taking advantage of the strike for all it was worth. KBKC was also printing daily news bulletins for restaurants and other retail stores and also sold advertising to a theater chain to cover the printing expense. Most of the increased sales were weekly packages of 50-100 spots coming from entertainment sources, clothing stores, real estate and employment agencies, but the money for a short time did ROLL in. On a side note, shortly after the strike, George Kieffer graduated from Rockhurst College and joined Don on the sales staff of KBKC.

Although the newspaper strike and other things produced some good money, the more experienced salesmen taught Don that there was little security as a radio salesman. Don was offered sales jobs at other larger stations in town such as WHB, KCMO and WDAF-TV, but he stayed with Tom Beal’s small station out of loyalty to the man who gave him his start in radio broadcasting. In time though, Beal sold the station to a Texas company called, “Public Radio Corporation” for \$400,000, which also brought in their own management and sales staff. The

sale also included a nice \$60,000 consultancy contract for Beal. Public Radio Corporation was owned by two people; Lester Kamin, who also owned KIOA in Des Moines, Iowa and KAKC in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Charles M. Gaitz. Kamin had 92% and Gaitz owned 8%. Kamin, was of course in broadcasting and Gaitz was a Doctor. The sale of KBKC was announced on September 4, 1959 and approved by the FCC several months later. On March 7, 1960, Don found a new position with KCMO-FM as Account Executive. KCMO-FM was by no means a new station, having gone on the air in 1949 at a frequency of 94.9 megacycles. The sale of KBKC had left a bad taste in his mouth and he knew that he needed to put together a plan with specific goals for himself. Little did Don know his life was about to take another direction.

On a cold winter day in February 1961, Don had just finished a presentation at the Merrit Owens Advertising Agency. Merrit looked at him and said, "Don, I think I may have something for you." In a few days Merrit called and told him, "I have an appointment for you for Wednesday of next week to meet with Ken Greenwood at the Town House Hotel in Kansas City, Kansas." Don graciously thanked Merrit for the introduction with Greenwood, who by this time was legendary in Kansas City radio as having been the top salesman at WHB 710, the strongest station in Kansas City.

At the time Ken interviewed Don; he had already resigned from WHB. Some local Kansas City people said they would like Ken to put together a radio station and asked Greenwood to manage it. For Ken, that was kind of a thrilling prospect. So Ken found himself in management and ended up at WPEO in Peoria, Illinois as part owner of a little teapot radio station. The two local people mentioned were Merrit Owens who owned Merrit Owens Advertising and local attorney Lee Vaughn. Merritt and Lee had an interest in WPEO, also KQEO in Albuquerque, New Mexico and KDEO in El Cajon, California. On May 1, 1959, they also bought a station in Wichita, Kansas from J.W. O'Connor and Harry H. Patterson, for \$210,000 including liabilities for two-thirds interest. The station was none other than future legendary station KLEO. Merritt and Lee now had a group of four stations called Radio Active Incorporated with Ken Greenwood as President and part owner of that group. It's interesting to note that all the stations the Merritt-Vaughn group purchased, the call letters ended in "EO". This was not the result of a call letter change, so planned or coincidence, who can say.

One other thing I had better mention about Don's future boss and mentor, Ken Greenwood. This is the man who first put Johnny Carson in front of a microphone and best told in Ken's own words, when I interviewed him, "When I was in Nebraska, another fellow Bill Wiseman and I...I wrote the music and he wrote the book for a show called "The Squirrel's Nest" and you'll never believe it, but the star of the show for one year was a fellow by the name of Johnny Carson, who was a fraternity brother of mine. When we graduated, he got the scholarship to WOW in Omaha and I got the scholarship to KFOR in Lincoln. One of his routines involved interviewing pigeons on the roof of the local courthouse that would allegedly report on the political corruption they had seen. As I remember, Carson also supplemented his income by serving as master of ceremonies at local church dinners, attended by some of the same politicians and civic leaders that he had lampooned on the radio. Well, the mayor got incensed and called the manager of the station and he fired Carson for having run this series of his tape recordings on the air. Johnny went out to Hollywood and the rest of it is history. He was befriended by Jack Benny and that's history now. He always joked that he owed his success to the birds of Omaha."

After Don's interview with Ken Greenwood, the next weekend Don and his wife Teresa drove to Wichita, Kansas to visit KLEO 1480 and their new hometown. Back at Kansas City, after Don had moved on to KLEO, George Kieffer joined KCMO-FM where Don had just left. When Don hired on at KLEO, the pay was \$640 per month plus health insurance. After a few months, Don felt at home with Greenwood's new company that owned

several stations. Don said Ken would come into the KLEO sales room near the end of each day to teach and to train. That's another thing Ken was famous for, the Greenwood sales method. Later on in life, Ken launched a sales training company called "Greenwood Performance Systems". Ken also taught the KLEO sales team a lot about people, how to read them, how to anticipate their actions, etc. The Dale Carnegie courses that Don took while in Wichita also taught him that setting career goals was essential for long-term success. He set his goals to someday be the sales manager at KLEO, to be the best salesman in the entire company and to someday be the general manager of KLEO.

When Don arrived at KLEO, home of the "Good Guys" in April 1961, the station was as mentioned before, owned by Radio Active Incorporated. KLEO was located at 1480 kilocycles on the dial, transmitting 5,000 watts in the daytime and 1,000 watts at night, both with a directional pattern. The studios were located on 255 North Broadway and for you history buffs; the phone number was Hobart 4-2387. The 1961 Broadcast Weekly yearbook listed Ken Greenwood as President; Don J. O'Malley as Commercial Manager; Ric Marshall as Assistant Station Manager; Don Lowrey as Promotional Manager; Marc Allen as News Director and Len Ballard as Chief Engineer. I would love to include a lot about KLEO in this book, but a whole history book could be written on just that station, something I hope very soon someone takes on, while the key players are still alive.

In July 1961 Greenwood announced that he had sold all of his stations to the family who owned Swanson Foods. Don said he was very disappointed at the news. The sale of KBKC in 1959 and the new bosses bringing in their own people had left a bitter taste in Don's mouth and this looked like a repeat to him. But Ken Greenwood explained to him why the stations were being sold and reassured Don that he (Greenwood) would continue to manage them. Don at this point had not known Ken personally too long, so wasn't too sure to take him at his own word. Frank Boyle, who worked as a national rep for Greenwood's two radio groups at the time, described Ken as radio's "John Wayne", not for his passion for hunting and fishing, but for his high principles. Frank said, "Ken's biggest admirers were his competitors, they knew best just how good Ken was." In other words, if Ken Greenwood said it, you could take it to the bank, just like the Duke.

Again, Ken announced in July 1961 that he had sold out to Swanson Foods, the same Swanson family that created the TV dinners. In my same interview with Ken, I asked him about the Swanson family and Swanco Broadcasting connection. Ken told me, "Well, the phone rang one evening and I was at home wondering what I was going to do. We still had the stations and one of our stockholders went out to raise his garage door and dropped dead of a heart attack. I didn't know what was going to happen to our little group. So the phone rang and it was a broker. He said, "I think you need to talk to a fellow by the name of George Bowles", who handled their account for them. He was with Tatham-Laird in Chicago. He had bought them (Swanson Foods)-how times change-one spot, one time a week on television. And that helped that company go from small time to very big time. Before the war, and during the war, they had packaged chicken for the armed services. Gilbert, or Clarke, one or the other came up with the idea of frozen dinners. They had that product ready to go and George arranged the advertising and everything for them and everything turned to gold for them. These were the Swanson brothers, Gilbert and Clarke. Well, Clarke was the older brother and Gilbert was the younger brother. He invited me up to Omaha to meet them and get acquainted and see if they liked me and I liked them-which we did. We formed an alliance that became a company-their station that they had already purchased, KOIA. We put out with the rest of the Wichita, Albuquerque and San Diego stations that we had. We had sold Peoria (WPEO) in the meantime. And that was the beginning of what was originally called Swanco Broadcasting, which when the two younger brothers came into the picture, Gary and Clarke Jr., they changed it to Swanson Broadcasting. I asked Ken, "About what year was this happening?" Ken

replied, "About 1961 or thereabouts, about the time we brought KRMG."

On September 27, 1961, the FCC approved the sale of KLEO to Swanco Broadcasting. The Broadcast Weekly announced the sale in the July 24, 1961 edition as follows, "KLEO Wichita, Kansas and KQEO Albuquerque, New Mexico: Sold by K. R. Greenwood and associates to George A. Bolas and group for \$665,000, of which \$365,000 is for KLEO and \$300,000 for KQEO. Mr. Bolas, a Chicago advertising executive, is President of the buying company, Swanco Broadcasting Corporation, which last May received FCC permission to acquire KIOA Des Moines, Iowa, for \$600,000. Gilbert C. Swanson, Omaha, Nebraska, businessman, is Chairman of Swanco; Mr. Bolas is President. Mr. Greenwood, President of Dandy Broadcasting Corporation will become Executive Vice-President of Swanco, Mr. Bolas announced. KLEO is a fulltime station on 1480 kilocycles with 5 KW daytime and 1KW nighttime. KQEO is fulltime on 920 kilocycles with 1KW daytime and 500 W nighttime. Mr. Greenwood and his associates, Lee Vaughn and Merritt Owens, formerly owned KDEO, El Cajon, California. Broker in the Wichita and Albuquerque transactions was Blackburn and Company." True to his word, Don worked for Ken Greenwood for the next 13 years and over those next 13 years; Don learned just how lucky he was to have had a mentor and boss like Greenwood. Don learned many skills that would serve him well at KWNS.

The 1962 Broadcast Weekly listed George Bolas as President; Edward A. Montray as General Manager; Donald O'Malley as Commercial Manager; Don Lowery as Sales Promotion Manager; Bob Freeman as Program Director; Emily Kaye as Publicity Director and Earl Russell as Chief Engineer. One name worth noting in the listing is Earl Russell, who would end up being Chief Engineer for KLEO for over twenty years.

Back in Kansas City in 1962 George Kieffer joined Durwood Theatres, a small regional circuit of 11 screens. George stayed with them for 17 years, working in all aspects of the theatre business. During that time, the company became a national organization and is now AMC Theatres. George said, "During my years in the film business, and after I left AMC, I worked for Dickinson Theatres, was a consultant to the industry, operated an advertising agency for ten years that primarily worked for motion picture companies, and started a film company called "Interstar". Our first release for Interstar was "Highlander II", which got us off to a great start. Interstar was a joint venture with Group W Productions. Eventually I wound up in Television as a Vice-President and Division Manager for CBS. I headed up a division called Eyemark". While still working in the theatre business, George joined Don in the adventure of radio station ownership, but we will get to that in a minute or so.

Over the course of his stay at KLEO, I am sure that Don ran into all sorts of characters and probably like me, can't remember half of them. One DJ that Don did remember came to the station in 1965 and although his time was only one year, Billy O'Day left a lasting mark on KLEO radio.

Born Art Ferguson in 1946, Kearney, Nebraska; he grew up to be a high school athlete and sports editor for his school newspaper and at age 16 worked at the town's radio station, KGFW. From Kearney, he went on to work at KLEO in 1965 and KOMA in 1966. Billy's real fame began in 1967, when he went to work at KHJ in Los Angeles and has been on the radio in that area ever since. He received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on January 10, 1990 and inducted into the Nebraska Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame on August 19, 1999. On July 18, 2008, he was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame. For such a famous DJ, Billy O'Day doesn't ring much of a bell does it?? Maybe I should mention that when he was at KOMA, he inherited his air name from the previous host there and has used that moniker to this very day. Down in Oklahoma City at KOMA, Billy O'Day became Charlie Tuna and now you know the rest of the story!!

As I have mentioned several times in this book, if you grew up in the '60s around the Wichita area, KLEO was "THE" AM station to listen to. It was a dynamic station with all kind of promotions going on and with Don as

head of sales, there is no way he wasn't involved in them also. One of the events I remember hearing about, but never getting to go see was the "KLEO, Battle of the Bands" at the Cotillion in Wichita. In 1966, the battle consisted of local groups with the Jokers, Bushmen, Bird and the Worms, and the Sun and the Shades. The Bird and the Worms were so named because they had a female drummer. At the close of the concert, the audience expressed their opinion. Richard Leslie, whose father built the Cotillion in 1960 recalled, "The way you used to vote--when everybody came though they got a ticket. After the bands played, they put it in their favorite's ballot box. As I remember there was little damage or vandalism. The '60s were different from today. Those were not violent times. If you had gangs, they were just kids who ran together. They weren't carrying guns or anything". Yes indeed, the times have changed in America and in radio.

Another KLEO promotion that I do remember and Don was involved with was the annual "KLEO Moonlight Swim" at Joyland Amusement Park in Wichita. I think in 1967 and 1968, when I would go to visit my cousins, we all went to the swim event and I remember the KLEO booth and DJ's. One of those years, KLEO DJ Jerry Munday rode the rollercoaster at Joyland for 24 hours straight. Now if Don was present at the Cotillion and Joyland affairs, I don't remember, I was only 15 years old and really wasn't looking for him.

One thing the reader might wonder is; just how much money did Don and his sales team generate some years for KLEO? In a big market like Wichita, the thought had entered my brain also. Those figures however were difficult to locate, but I did manage to locate one article in the Broadcast Weekly in 1966, that gave KLEO a total sales figure of \$1,315,500 for that year. How much percentage of that did Don get; I can only guess. I do know that Don was such a good salesman and General Manager, that Ken Greenwood later promoted him to Vice President of Swanson radio stations.

One thing you can take to the bank is the fact that Don O'Malley is Irish through and through. Don was a people person and the staff at KLEO thought a lot of Don. They thought so much of Don, that one year on St. Patrick's Day; the DJ's dyed themselves green, totally from head to toe and did their shows with paper bags on their heads. According to Don, this probably would have been at the old downtown studios in the MISCO building at 1015 N. Broadway. Now, as far as the paper bag on the head thing, I am not quite sure if that is a time honored Irish custom on St. Paddy's Day or just the antics of some half-crazy DJ's. I think my vote is on the latter.

Jumping to 1968, Don become General Manager of KLEO, thus fulfilling the personal goals he had set for himself a few years before. The 1968 Broadcast Weekly Yearbook listed the following; K. R. Greenwood as President; Donald J. O'Malley as General Manager; Marc Alan as Commercial Manager; Don B. Williams as Program Director; Larry Profit as Promotional Manager; D. Cameron as News Director and Earl Russell as Chief Engineer.

One program on KLEO that always captured my imagination, started in the early '60s, was "The Wallpaper Session". The program ran on KLEO into the 1970s and was hosted by a good friend of Don's, the Reverend Dr. George T. Gardner. The "Session" was a talk show, a kind of "Underground Program". Unlike the current talk-host programs of today run by brain-dead morons, programs that all they do is manage to yell and talk nonsense; "The Wallpaper Session" was highbrow, a thinking man's program. Now you have to remember the '60s, was a period of turbulent times in America and there were certainly no end of controversial topics to discuss on the Session. Everything from the raging Vietnam Conflict, birth control, civil rights, you name it; eventually they were covered on the program, but I never remember the program getting out of hand, there was always good positive feedback, good call-ins and good expert guests on the show. And during his time at the helm of KLEO, Don saw to it that "The Wallpaper Session" would be on the air. I think the reason Don loved this program may be due to the

fact that was also a fan of Edward R. Morrow, the legendary radio and TV news reporter. Don believed that radio should teach, motivate, not just be an instrument of entertainment. I think Morrow summed it up this way and although talking about TV, it still applies to radio, "To those who say people wouldn't look; they wouldn't be interested; they're too complacent, indifferent and insulated, I can only reply: There is, in one reporter's opinion, considerable evidence against that contention. But even if they are right, what have they got to lose? Because if they are right, and this instrument is good for nothing but to entertain, amuse and insulate, the tube is flickering now and we will soon see that the whole struggle is lost. This instrument can teach, it can illuminate; yes, and it can even inspire. But it can do so only to the extent that humans are determined to use it to those ends. Otherwise it is merely wires and lights in a box. There is a great and perhaps decisive battle to be fought against ignorance, intolerance and indifference. This weapon of television (radio) could be useful." I think Edward R. Morrow would have loved and approved of it and the topics that aired on "The Wallpaper Session". I can only hope that radio will someday return to its roots.

One thing I remember about Don when he owned KWNS was that he was not afraid to do an editorial or voice an opinion from time to time on the air, if there was something going on in the Pratt area that he didn't like or maybe didn't care for. And if Don wrote or did an editorial, you can bet he had his ducks in a row, before it aired. No sooner had he become General Manager at KLEO, he wrote a letter to the Editor of Broadcasting magazine blasting them on a half truth article they had run on August 19, 1968. Don's letter said, "Why does BROADCASTING continue to understate the accomplishments of broadcasting? On page 41 (Broadcasting, August 19), the top half of the page is headed "Top oil companies spend \$65 million in TV in '67." What an understatement of the real story: "Top oil companies spend \$88 million in broadcasting." The facts of the story are that 17 oil companies used newspaper and magazine space for only 16.7% of the total. Broadcasting combined for 83.2% of the total. Let's tell the whole story and sell the entire broadcast media. Signed; Don O'Malley, General Manager, KLEO, Wichita, Kansas." At KWNS, Don ran several editorials over the years, but unfortunately, the contents of those editorials are lost to time.

I would like to think that because of Don, a few top rock and roll acts managed to do concerts at the Cotillion and Century II; after all, he was the General Manager and it got his approval or it didn't happen. The late 60s was at its peak both in terms as far as music and groups. The concert was always simply billed as "Another KLEO Presentation". Although I cannot say for sure, all the groups that came to Wichita over the years; the "Monkees", "The Cowsills", "The Yardbirds", "The Carpenters", "Glen Campbell", "Three Dog Night" and "Vanilla Fudge" were among them.

July 1969. All you have to do is mention that date and you know where it is going, the Moon landing. For millions of people, including myself, still the number one event they ever witnessed in their life. Don and KLEO did not let the historical event go by without a creative station promotion that coincided with the U.S. landing on the Moon in 1969. KLEO chartered a plane to fly over Wichita at night dropping thousands and thousands of Styrofoam "moon balls" all over the city. On the morning after the drop, the station's promotion mysteriously tied the moon balls to the moon landing...offering no explanation as to how the moon balls were delivered all over Wichita. The population of Wichita was now on a mission, searching for those moon balls in their yards, in parks, everywhere across the town. The reason for the search? Each moon ball had a number that corresponded to a prize. How many of the balls were found is unknown. It's a stunt you couldn't pull off today, but back in 1969, it fit right into the times.

May 17th to May 19th 1973 marked the annual meeting for the Kansas Association of Broadcasters, held

that year at the Ramada Inn in Kansas City, Kansas. Over the years, Don had been a regular supporter of the KAB both in station dues to the KAB and attendance at the annual meetings. That year Don was elected by the members as Secretary-Treasurer, the term to last from May 1973 to May 1974. This would mark the first year that he held an office, but it would certainly not be his last.

Besides all the goals that Don had set for himself and had fulfilled, one remained for him. One day in late 1972, while back visiting in Kansas City, Don talked to his old high school friend George Kieffer about his desire to own a radio station. George liked the idea, and he became the partner that Don needed. Don and George started looking at many radio stations in the western part of the country that were for sale. But, time and time again, the deals at some point would fall through, again and again. After a while of this, Don thought seriously of giving up and just staying with the Swansons.

There was one station though that kept coming up via different brokers. Looking back on it now, Don told me, "It was as if God intended me to buy only one specific station." Of course, that station was KWNS. After a station visit in July 1973 and two weeks of back and forth by the lawyers, the evening came for Don to sign the letter of intent. The broker had promised to buy him the biggest steak in Kansas if the deal was to go through and that evening it did!! However, Don was so excited, maybe nervous, that all he could do was sit and watch the other men eat their own big steaks. Don did manage to sign the letter of intent that night, even if he hadn't eaten a bite of his food. The sale of KWNS was announced in the Broadcast Weekly on August 2, 1973; Don O'Malley and George Kieffer were to be the proud new owners of KWNS with FCC approval.

Don's first day in Pratt was October 27, 1973, the day of Pratt's annual Halloween parade down Main Street. Don wasted no time in promoting KWNS and its new owners. Marching in the parade was two of Don's sons, Brian and Pat. Little Brian was dressed up as an Indian Chief and Pat was inside a box with KWNS painted on all four sides. This would be just a small foretaste of Don as a promoter. The O'Malley family consisted of Don, his wife Teresa and five sons, Don Jr., Mike, Terry, Pat and Brian. The O'Malley's lived in a big two-story house, 422 South Oak, all the time they were in Pratt. Don also had a different view of Pratt. George Kieffer, Don's partner in KWNS, said, "Don, always referred to Pratt as Pratt America...Don't know if that was something that the people of Pratt had created or that Don dreamed up, but I loved it and I picked that up and always used it when I talked to anyone about Pratt. It is a very accurate description of the city." According to Don's son Pat, he thinks that description for Pratt may have come from Don's father, Francis P. O'Malley. Sometime after Don took over KWNS, his Dad came to Pratt for a visit. Pat remembers Don showing his father around the station and Pratt with that proud "look what I did" face on. After that visit, Francis started referring to Pratt as "Pratt America" and it appears that Don picked it and has used it ever since. I was born and raised in Pratt, have lived here all my life and can safely say, it is something that Don and his Dad dreamed up and did use quite regularly as I remember.

Although the FCC would not approve the sale until November 20, 1973, I don't think Bill or Don both were too worried about it. A change of ownership normally wasn't that messy, not like applying for a new station. Bill was busy getting things ready to move to Bolivar, Missouri and Don was busy moving from Wichita to Pratt. In addition to personal effects that he hauled in from Wichita, Don brought some discarded equipment he had, primarily from KLEO. One of the items I helped Don get out of the trunk of his car was an RCA BC-3C audio console, which had seen duty at KLEO, but we will get to the story of that console later.

On Tuesday, November 20, 1973 the FCC approved the sale of KWNS and Pratt was buzzing with the news of the change of ownership. In the Pratt Tribune on November 23rd, was a nice picture of Don and Bill shaking hands and the following article, "Pratt radio stations are sold. Radio stations KWNS and KWNS-FM of

Pratt have been sold to O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Company, it was announced Wednesday by William J. Young, president of KWNS, Inc. The Federal Communications Commission gave final approval to the sale on Tuesday, Nov. 20. Don O'Malley, president and general manager of the new company, has moved to Pratt with his wife Teresa and their five sons, Don 15, Mike 14, Terry 13, Pat 11, and four year old Brian. They are making their home at 422 South Oak. O'Malley, 38, is the former vice-president and general manager of radio station KLEO in Wichita. He was employed by the station for over 13 years. According to O'Malley, no major changes are planned at this time for the station, but some minor alterations will be made to provide the listening public with even greater entertainment and information."

On Tuesday December 18, 1973, a large winter storm started to roar through Kansas. The storm continued on into Tuesday night and was continuing Wednesday as utility crews fought all night to maintain electric services to both Pratt and a wide 10-county area served by Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative and Kansas Power and Light. The Pratt Tribune reported, "Electric power service was disrupted beginning shortly after dark Tuesday as the high winds and ice caused lines to whip and break.....Pratt radio station KWNS was unable to begin its usual broadcasting schedule because of loss of service from Western Light and Power Company. Station manager Don O'Malley reported that clocks at the station stopped about 1:30 a.m. and when staff members began arriving about 5:30 o'clock this morning, they began putting the station on an auxiliary generator and got on the air about 8:30 a.m. Normal service from Western Light and Power was resumed about 9:00 o'clock. Numerous persons were inconvenienced by not having ability to learn whether schools were open and reports of other information." Don had already started to change the relationship between KWNS and the Pratt Tribune for the better. As a matter of fact; Jim Zeltner, Manager for the Pratt and writer of the popular column, "The Left Hand Corner", gave a Tribune "Tip of the Hat" to Don on a couple of occasions in the paper.

During my time at KWNS, I had seen a lot of promotions ranging from pens, cookbooks, remotes, crazy on air quizzes; you name it. By the time 1973 was slowly drawing to a close and with Don and Tim and others, some of the things these guys could dream up; I figured the sky was the limit. Well I was wrong, I forgot about outer space. Comet Kohoutek was first sighted by Czech astronomer Lubos Kohoutek on March 7, 1973. Many astronomers believed at the time that this was the comet's first visit to the inner Solar System, which would result in a spectacular display of outgassing. Even before its close approach to the sun, set for December 24, 1973, Kohoutek was hyped by the media as the "Comet of the Century", with KWNS also caught up in the frizzy, billing it as the "Celestial Discovery of the Century". Kohoutek's display was considered a let-down, possibly due to partial disintegration when the comet closely approached the Sun prior to its Earth flyby on January 14, 1974. Even though it had a tail 25 degrees long, plus an anti-tail, as I remember it was difficult to view. Tim Hawks recorded the spot that promoted the telescope giveaway for the next two months, "To mark the discovery of the passing of the Kohoutek-KWNS comet, KWNS is giving away a 200 power reflector telescope. With this telescope, you can view the celestial discovery of the century, just as the professional astronomers do. To be eligible to win the KWNS telescope, send a postcard to KWNS Comet, Box 486, Pratt, Kansas. On January 14, a card will be drawn from those received and that person will win a 200 power telescope from KWNS. Watch for the Kohoutek-KWNS comet, now showing in your local sky." Who won the telescope? Nobody remembers. But it did generate a ton of postcards, more listeners to the new "Mighty 1290" and more sponsors. And that's the name of the game, isn't it?

1974, "What A Year!", "O'Malley's Marauders"

The 1974 Broadcast Weekly Yearbook listed William J. Young as President and General Manager; Dave Blevins as Commercial Manager; Karen Crawford as Program Director; Catherine Newsom as Program Manager; James Young as News Director and Ronald Detwiler as Chief Engineer. By the time Don took over control of KWNS in October 1973, all the others throughout the year of 1973, had fled the coup and replaced by short timers. Only Tim Hawks and I (Ron Detwiler) were left of the old guard.

Many new people starting showing up at the station in 1974 and 1975. When I started thinking back about the ages of all of us that worked for Don during the time he owned KWNS were, I couldn't believe that we were ever that young. I was only 22, Don seemed like he was always, "The Ol' Man" at 38. Like me, the rest of us were all just kids in our 20s. It seemed like there was nothing we couldn't conquer.

When I first made contact again with Don in 2006, I remember him telling me how lucky he was to have had the staff that he did. One conversation over the phone, Don said, "You know Ron, I was pretty nervous about owning my own station at the time, but I was blessed by God with a very good staff, people that knew their jobs and people you could depend on. People like you, Tim Hawks, Ron Jones, Roger Harvey and Matt Musil. I could never have done it without you guys." On several occasions, Don would tell me the same thing, sometimes referring to us as "O'Malley's Marauders", his "Dream Team".

Don might have been nervous about owning a station for the first time, but I was very nervous about who this Don O'Malley was and his sons. From the start, Don, Jr., Mike and Terry were working at their Dad's station in various capacities. I wasn't yet sure how their attitude was going to be toward the other employees. I didn't have to wait too long to find out. One night I was at the station working on some things and I remember I was standing by the modulator section of the AM transmitter taking some readings and making some notes. Terry O'Malley was the night DJ. Well while I was standing there, Terry came out of the control room with a Snickers candy wrapper in his hand. Instead of throwing it in the trash, Terry tossed it on the floor, smiled at me and said, "That ought to piss the old man off!!!!" From that moment on, I knew the kids were going to be all right. All the boys were great people to be around; none of them could have cared less that their Dad owned the station.

Now as to Don himself, right from the start, Don always had a smile, a word of encouragement, a suggestion on how to do things better. Don always had the time for me or any other employee, no matter what it was. Tim Hawks wrote, "Don was a key person in my life, always encouraging, always happy to see me, always a friend." Ron Jones wrote, "The older I get, the more I understand what a positive impact the people at KWNS had on me as I was developing my skills. My deep appreciation to Don O'Malley for his confidence in me for the opportunity to be a part of his operation."

It was only a few months after Don took over, that I received a letter from him with comments on my show, my oldies show I ran on Saturday's from 4 p.m. to sign-off at 10 p.m. Don wrote, "Ron, Last Saturday evening I made a special point to listen to your show. I liked what I heard. From what you tell me the listener response is good, so they too like what they hear...you are playing a lot of music and it flows well. Keep it up. Perhaps we can develop some recorded promotional announcements for your show." Now as to my engineering skills, Don thought they were so good that sometime in early 1974, I was hired back at KWNS as a full-time employee and Chief Engineer. However, Arlyn Bradford, my boss at the Power Plant, wouldn't let me go either and kept me on as a part-timer and plant engineer.

Whenever Don called me on the phone or talking to me face to face, he would always start with a smile and "Heyyyyyy Detwilerrrrr!!!!" and Don would then tell me what was on his mind. Well one Saturday night, Don called my house. After I picked up the phone, said hello, there was Don's voice, "Heyyyyyy Detwilerrrrr, what cha

doin'??" I simply replied, "Nothing". Don quickly replied, "Good, come on over and let's get drunk". Never argue with the boss. I remember getting pretty loaded that night with Don and talking about a lot of radio stuff, but too drunk to remember any of it to this day! Don had taken a liking to me and from that night on, I knew that the father as well as the entire O'Malley family was going to be OK in my books.

Time flies when you are having fun and once again it was time for the 9th annual KWNS Home Show at the National Guard Armory on February 23rd and 24th. Don billed this show as, "We have 30 reasons why you should attend the annual KWNS Home Show", which alluded to the fact that there were 30 booths at the show. From the ad in the paper, there was nothing special about this show. In defense of Don, I don't think he had been in Pratt long enough to fully get his feet on the ground with everything at the station yet.

On February 13th, on the front page of the Pratt Tribune was a nice big article entitled, "Leukemia Radiothon Broadcast". It went on to say, "The National Broadcast Council has set a goal of \$500,000.00 for its second annual leukemia Radiothon to be aired on KWNS Radio for 24 continuous hours beginning Saturday, 7:00 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. Sunday." What I found interesting about the article was the mention of the second annual broadcast. Thinking that I had overlooked something, I went back to the library and rechecked the microfilm for 1973, but found nothing about the 1973 Leukemia Radiothon. Again, this didn't surprise me. But with Don, there was a new Sheriff in town and the relationship between the Pratt Tribune and KWNS was already taking a turn toward mutual cooperation. And to drive that point home for good, in the "Lefthand Corner" of a December 1973 paper was a nice award to Don by Jim Zeltner of the Pratt Tribune. Jim's comments was, "Don O'Malley of the KWNS Radio fame called this morning to pass along some information about last night's PRIDE meeting. What with all the other things going on, there just wasn't enough people to be everywhere. Anyhow, Don explained the PRIDE Committee had discussed transportation in the area, had talked about a community post card, discussed ideas concerning recycling of cans and paper and discussed some things that could be done with the Pratt County Lake. Thanks for the call Don, and just for the public record we've enjoyed all the cooperation between KWNS and the Tribune". I think that pretty well sums it up, thanks Jim, so enough said on that subject.

Another interesting mention in that article is, "Tim Hawks is coordinating the local programs and explained he would accept volunteers. Singers, groups, choirs, bands or nearly any entertainment is being sought. Advance arrangements are requested to be made with Hawks". Tim wore many hats at KWNS; engineering, sales, promotions, Miss Kansas Pageant, remotes, you name it, Tim was certainly one of Don's right hand men. Tim was a good engineer too, but like the rest of us engineers, needed a helping hand from time to time. Tim said, "During my time at KWNS, two engineers came in to help me fix the transmitter, Larry Waggoner from Wichita and Bill Turney from KWBW in Hutchinson. Thanks guys, you were there to help when I was out of answers." I worked with Tim on a day-to-day basis back then and at the time, I didn't think too much about such things. But looking back at those long-ago days and the big picture; it's easy to see now why Don always considered Tim as one of his "Marauders", the glue of KWNS.

How much money was raised from the Radiothon, it's hard to say, since the Tribune didn't do any follow-up on it. The Radiothon was done one more time to my knowledge and that was it. Whether KWNS decided not to continue it or the National Broadcast Council used other stations is unknown or simply discontinued it. I think the latter is probably the case. I knew Don and Tim well enough to know that they truly loved these types of local events, because they were great for Pratt and KWNS.

If you knew Don, there was no doubt that he was Irish and that he loved beer and on St. Patrick's Day, green beer was the order of the day. The first St. Patrick's day Don was at KWNS was the start of an annual

O'Malley tradition of serving green beer to his clients. As Pat O'Malley recalls, his Dad did this maybe for only two years. The party was at the Pratt Knights of Columbus Hall or at the O'Malley home. One thing the O'Malley boys remember was having green hands for days from dying the beer!

Another one of my top five KWNS unforgettable characters and another of Don's "Marauders", arrived in June 1974, a "Wild Man" by the name of Ronald Lee Jones. Ron was hired by Don as an evening announcer; his air shift was from 6-10 p.m. six days a week. Ron said, "Nearly starved to death on what I was making!" Ron's air name was "Rockin' Ron Lee". One of Ron's gifts was his ability to do all kinds of different voices, everything from a cricket to a pirate to a dead-ringer Wolfman Jack; "RRRRRR, I know what ye mean matey!!!" In the 1975 section, we will get to one of Ron's Dairy Queen spots and what I consider to be the best commercial ever produced at KWNS. Ron was a very good announcer, a real live-wire on the air and with all his voices, it was always a fun filled evening on the "Mighty 1290". It seems Ron was gifted musically too. Tim Hawks said, "Another character I remember is Ron Jones. Ron played bass guitar and I stopped by his apartment many times to listen to him jam to the latest music."

Ron had been in Pratt and on the air less than two weeks when Mother Nature decided to do a dance on Pratt, Kansas on Monday, June 10th. The reader will have to remember that the station building was 2¼ miles east of Pratt surrounded by basically nothing. The studios offered nothing as a tornado shelter; you were on your own! A tornado was reported on the ground near the station and a frightful event best described by Ron Lee, "One evening with the weather doing a nasty dance during my second week on the air, a tornado warning came across the weather wire with its characteristic "ding-ding-ding-ding-ding". As I was reading the warning on-air, it occurred to me that the place of the tornado was right where I was! Here I am in a cinder block building surrounded by glass (control room) on all four sides. I'm DEAD! After reading the warning and starting a record, I climbed under the old Gates control board and pulled the microphone down with me. I subsequently read the warning until the expiration time while under the console!" I can only say to Ron Jones, no guts, no glory!! Many a time I sat on top of one of the towers and watched a storm boil in!! More on my buddy Ron Jones to come!

Speaking of Ron Jones and the Dairy Queen, this is a good spot to jump back over to Tim Hawks and one of his funny stories about Jerry Siemens and the good old Dairy Queen. An event that Tim reminded me of in an e-mail, one I had forgotten, was the annual hamburger-eating contest at the Dairy Queen in Pratt, America. And in 1974 this auspicious drama was covered by KWNS. Tim set up a remote broadcast to cover the contest with Tim's close friend Jerry Siemens, owner of the Dairy Queen. How many contestants there were, I don't know. But Tim certainly remembered the winner. This chowhound would pound the burgers into a small ball while eating one, and take just one or two bites to get it down. Tim said he doesn't remember how many he ate to win, but he did remember the vomit when it was over. Well ya know, those "Hamboogers" will do that to a man.

Sometime in March 1974, Don informed me that it was time for the renewal of the KWNS AM-FM licenses. Since I was Chief Engineer, Don also gave me the bad news that part of the license renewal process involved an antenna proof for the AM side, audio proofs for both the AM and FM transmitters and that those tasks fell on my shoulders. Unlike Bill Young, Don was not an engineer, never was, and had no intentions of ever being one. Great!! I had some idea what he was talking about, but no clue as how to do them. The last license renewal was approved by the FCC on May 28, 1971 and before that on June 28, 1968; both having been done by Bill Young or possibly by some consultant, since the station didn't have the equipment to do it. I hadn't been involved with either one, so I had no idea how to go about it. I mentioned all this to Don, but it didn't work. Don had already anticipated such a problem and said, "That's no problem. I've already contacted Larry Waggoner in Wichita to

come out, bring the equipment, the paperwork and show you how to do it." I thought to myself, "Equipment?? Paperwork?? I'm DOOMED."

Well, I knew who Larry Waggoner was, since he had married a local girl. What else I knew about him came from my Uncle Homer, who ran a TV repair shop on north Main in Pratt, but I had never meet Larry. A few nights later, I meet Larry at the station to go over the details. He brought with him some strange looking equipment and of course all the paperwork. The first thing Larry explained to me was how to do the AM antenna pattern proof of performance. The proof consisted of ten radials with ten points on each radial around the station, making in all 100 monitoring points to be taken on both the daytime and nighttime patterns. All I had to do was plot the points on a county map, take the readings and log my results on the FCC form. No sweat.

However, when Larry got around to telling me about the transmitter audio proofs, the acid started building up in my stomach. Larry explained it all to me in rapid fire fashion. It seemed in my mind as if he took about 1 second to explain it all. No more than he had started, he said, "There you go Ron, see you later!" I watched Larry walk out the door. I looked at the papers, equipment and thought to myself, "What the hell did he say? Is he serious!! I'm supposed to do this!"

Now as to the antenna proof, that was a piece of cake. Terry O'Malley rode "shotgun" with me in my 1969 Econoline van to the tune of 300 to 400 miles all over Pratt County and some to the south. I took the readings and Terry's job was to record them. Luckily, all the readings fell pretty darn close to the original readings that had been taken in 1963 when the patterns were first set up.

The audio proofs were a different story. They had to be done after 10 p.m., which was sign-off. Tones had to be fed to the transmitters at different frequencies; something you couldn't do during the normal broadcast day, hence the tests were done after sign-off. One night the AM transmitter was done, followed the next night by the FM side. The proofs would run to sometimes 1 to 2 o'clock in the morning. I remember the night I was doing the AM proof; the phone rang about 1:30 a.m. Well it wasn't Don O'Malley, but some kid wanting me to play a record. What!! You're supposed to be in bed, sound asleep!! So what did I tell him? That standard answer all DJ's used, "Sure kid, I'll get that right on!" One thing Larry warned me about was the fact that the audio curve probably wouldn't quite follow the standard curve, potentially at the higher frequencies. It would be close, but no cigar. Sure enough, some points were just outside the curve, but with the push of an eraser and pencil, that point was now within accepted limits. It was a miracle, but I think the procedure was better known as "Fudging"; at least that's what the big boys told me. But I didn't know about such things, as far as the FCC knew!

Well, somehow it all got done between Terry and myself, at least my part of the renewal process. My nerves survived the ordeal and everything turned out OK, just as Larry Waggoner had promised it would be. I don't know if Larry knew something I didn't or had more faith in my abilities to do the tests than I did or what. The FCC also thought that everything was up to code at KWNS and renewed the licenses on May 31, 1974. After the whole thing was over, I could finally say that it had been fun, but thank God I never had to do another one.

June 1974 and it was time again for the annual Miss Kansas Pageant. Before Hawks arrived, I helped Bill Young set up the audio. When Don O'Malley took over, it was Tim's baby to do the audio for the Pageant. I have to admit that I enjoyed setting up the microphones, console, everything it took for the audio of the Pageant, but as far as the Pageant itself; I could have cared less. Tim however loved the Miss Kansas Pageant. In Tim's own words, "Another event I will always remember was the Miss Kansas Pageant. KWNS always did the audio for the Pageant, and since I was the Chief Engineer, that fell to me during my tenure at KWNS. I sat right below the stage and loved the women that sang or danced their way to become Miss Kansas. In particular, I remember Jana Lynn Salmons

from Colby Community College and Hanson, Kansas. She wore a beautiful red dress and had blonde hair. They put a red spotlight on her dress and a white light on her face and hair. She sang magnificently and easily won the contest. I met Jana many years later in Hays, Kansas where she worked at the Chamber of Commerce. I told her I would always remember her performance.”

The next of Don’s “Marauders” arrived in Pratt in the summer of 1974; a young kid by the name of Matt Musil, coming from KNDY in Marysville, Kansas. Matt’s on air name was Dan Musil. A native of Frankfort, Kansas, Matt graduated from Kansas State University with a major in Radio-TV Journalism and a minor in coaching. He played football, baseball, basketball and ran track in high school. Before Matt turned his attention to the radio business, he even played baseball up to semi-professional level. Of course he had an air shift, we all did; his primary function however was to cover all the sporting events in Pratt and surrounding areas as Matt was the Sports Director, but also did double duty as Program Director one year.

For the most part, Matt did the color and play by play coverage by himself. But, when it came time for Pratt Community College events, Matt formed a team with Ron Moddelmog, Athletic Director at PCC. Musil and Moddelmog created such a following on the air in Pratt that the Tribune on October 3, 1975 printed a picture of the “Two Amigo’s” and a short story that read as follows, “Dan Musil, Sports announcer for KWNS Radio Station, Pratt, and Ron Moddelmog, Athletic Director at PCC, form a team each time the Beavers take to the gridiron to give a play by play description of the contest. The Sports fans who attend the football games rarely see the two announcers since they are kept busy throughout the sports event from their location at the top level of the crowd’s nest. Musil is a graduate of KSU, Manhattan, and Moddelmog received his degrees from Kansas State College of Emporia.”

I had seen a lot of Sports announcers come and go over the years and without a doubt, Matt was the best that I had ever heard. As a matter of fact, a few months after Matt had started, Tim Hawks asked me what I thought of him. I guess being the oldtimer at the station; my opinion was sometimes worth something. I looked straight at Tim and said, “He won’t be here that long”. Tim had a surprised look on his face, “WHAT!” I quickly replied, “He’s too good.” In the summer of 1976, Matt left and joined KTVH-TV in Wichita, his first job in television. He later served two years as sports director at WTVM-TV in Columbus, Georgia before coming to KHOU-TV in Houston, Texas in 1980. Still at KHOU to this day, he has served in several different capacities. Matt has seen duty as Exec. Producer of Sports, Weekend Sports Anchor and co-host of “11 News This Morning”.

Musil is now married and has three children and two grandchildren. He is always involved with a number of local charitable organizations and organizes and hosts two low-cost youth basketball camps each summer in Houston, called “Hoops for Kids”. One is in west Houston and one downtown. Matt’s biggest contribution to the community however is through his annual charity golf event, “The Matt Musil All-Star Golf Classic”, which is held each fall. Over the past 22 years, it has managed to raise close to \$2,000,000 for Houston area charities.

Another person that Don thought a lot of and considered a cornerstone and support of the station was Pratt local, Alice R. Bowe. Alice was hired in the spring of 1974 to do and type the program logs as Traffic Director. I think another important function that Alice did, was trying to keep all of us kids in line from time to time, earning her the title of “Mama Alice” from some of us. Later on in 1974, Don put Alice on the air with a morning program similar in format to the one Catherine Newsom had done with “The Market Basket”. Like Catherine, Alice had a very popular program on the air, a good radio voice and personality; it was a fun program to listen to. Like Connie Gotsch before her, Alice interviewed many people also.

Sometime in 1974, Don and Alice decided to do a cookbook simply titled, “Alices Recipes”. At the time, I

did not get a copy, but thanks to her daughter Susan; I now have a copy in my KWNS archives. One of the proud sponsors of the book was "The Stafford County Flour Mills Company" located in Hudson, Kansas, a sponsor that had been on KWNS almost from day one. The recipe book ended up being about a 100 pages thick. KWNS family members Dee Davis, Becky Hawks and Teresa O'Malley even submitted their own favorite recipes. You notice I said "family" and not "team members". I always figured that if it's a team, all that means is that management at any time can change the players. Sure it was a team effort at KWNS, but the O'Malley's always made you feel like you were part of a family. OK, off the soapbox. Even Don's mother in Kansas City, Missouri sent one in on chocolate pie, my favorite. But I guess for me, if it's made out of chocolate, it's always my favorite! To show how popular Alice's show was, recipes were sent in all over the country; Lillian Paleilsky from Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Martha Bingenheimer also from Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Mrs. Fred Stoecker from Oakley, Kansas; Nora Kluver from Pundas, Minnesota and Kay Smith from Helena, Oklahoma, just to name a few. Now as to those recipes coming in from Wisconsin and Minnesota; it's just a thought, but you might want to go out and double check the daytime AM pattern Tim! This would be the last cookbook ever put out by a Pratt radio station, a lonely reminder of the good ol' days. In the fall of 1977 Alice left KWNS to become the developer and director for RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) for Pratt. A place geared to the needs of senior citizens in Pratt and the surrounding communities. Alice passed away on September 12, 2006 at Pratt Regional Medical Center. Alice's husband Henry (Hank) Bowe passed away on March 25, 1996.

While we are in 1974, one KWNS employee I want to mention is Don Shorock. When I started to formulate the idea of a web site to promote the KWSK-KWNS reunion, it was Don that set up the actual website. Through the internet, I was able to locate Don in Great Bend in August 2010 and with his help start the process that has led to all of this. Don was really looking forward to the reunion here in Pratt, but he passed away suddenly on December 2, 2010 at his home in Great Bend at the age of 66 years old. Before Don passed away, he did e-mail me some information about himself and KWNS.

From 1962 to 1966, Don attended Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. During those years, he was an announcer/engineer at KTJO-FM, a 10-watt FM on campus station at 88.1 MHz. In 1974 Don was a social studies/speech teacher at Cunningham High School in Cunningham, Kansas. He was finishing up his Masters Degree studies at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma, knowing that he was going to have more time on his hands. Don happened to speak with Tim Hawks, when Tim was doing a remote broadcast from Lanterman Motors on south Main. Don said he mentioned to Tim his radio experience in college and Tim replied, "Come on out and visit the station, we're looking for part-time help with radio experience." Don said the main control board at KWNS was identical to the one he worked on at KTJO. As it turned out, the help that was needed was on the Sunday morning shift, which was quite compatible with Don's schedule. So for a few years, Don Shorock was the announcer/engineer at KWNS on Sunday mornings. Don emailed saying, "I'd arrive at 6:00 a.m. to warm up the transmitters and prepare the news and weather. I'd sign on at 7:00 a.m. and would work until 2:30 p.m. when another announcer would relieve me." On July 4, 1976 Don married Nora Jean Doubek of Pratt, Kansas. In 1977, Don started looking for full-time radio work in news. Since that position was full at KWNS, Don O'Malley mentioned to Don that he heard KVGB in Great Bend was looking for a newsman. Don was interviewed and hired at KVGB, becoming News Director in May 1977, working there until May 18, 1980. In 1979, Don became a father and he said that he needed to make more money than he could make in small-town radio, no matter how much he enjoyed the job itself. Don's last day at KVGB was May 18, 1980. After that, Don was employed by the State of Kansas as an Employment Specialist until his death.

One thing Don O'Malley did a lot of, were remote broadcasts. They were done everywhere from sporting events, car dealerships, new businesses, you name it. All of them were done with a little portable FM transmitter that we all called "The Marti". Back at the station up on the FM tower was the receiving antenna. The "Marti" was preferred over a phone line because of the excellent audio quality, but it had a limited transmitting range of about 11 miles. But from Pratt, it was the "Cat's Meow". The number one remote broadcasts that Pratt people remember to this day were the ones that Don O'Malley himself personally did from the "Uptown Café". The remote broadcasts were part of a package deal that Bob Eastes, owner of the Uptown, had arranged with Don. As I remember, there were weekly broadcasts from the Uptown, Don interviewing the owners on the specials, to talking with the customers on the air. It was a very popular program at the time and as I said, people remember it fondly to this day.

During some of the remote broadcasts from the Uptown, Don would present to some lucky person, "The KWNS Good Neighbor Award". I asked Don what was the background story on the award. In Don's own words on September 6, 2010, "It's been a long time Ron, but I'll try. From time to time, someone in Pratt or Pratt County would do a special kindness or give special service to the community. We would simply recognize this person with an on the air comment or announcement and send them a certificate, suitable for framing, recognizing their kindness or activity. We tried to be, as the certificate says, Good Neighbors." Don ended the e-mail with "Ah, those were the days!!..." Indeed they were Don!

In 1974, I didn't work too many if any night shifts, only my oldies show on Saturday nights from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. sign-off. One night however, I will never forget. As I recall it was a very hot July evening getting toward dusk. I had just started playing "Lay Lady Lay" by Bob Dylan and had walked out the back door of the station to smoke a cigarette and take in some fresh night air. I can still hear the large iron-core laminations of the modulation transformer "singing" Bob's song behind me in the Gates AM transmitter cabinet. Outside the air was so still, it was eerie. You could feel the electricity in the air and you could smell the freshly cut wheat fields and newly turned ground. I lit the cigarette and started looking to the south toward the four AM towers. As soon as I brought my head up toward the towers, I instantly went into panic mode. All the towers had a faint eerie blue glow and sparks were jumping across the guy-wire insulators. At that point, my eyes were a big as silver dollars; I froze and the cigarette slowly dropped from my mouth. For a moment I didn't know what to think of this, I had never seen it before or heard anyone else mention it. It wasn't affecting the transmitters as far as I could tell, then it hit like a ton of bricks, what I was observing was nothing more than "St. Elmo's Fire". Nothing more than a huge static build-up on the towers. I went to the weather teletype and sure enough, there was a major wind storm coming in from western Kansas. A few hours later, the dust storm hit Pratt. In all the years I worked at KWNS, I only witnessed the phenomena twice. I wish that in 1974 there were camcorders, it was such a beautiful display, it is hard to imagine and describe. Since that time, anytime I hear "Lay Lady Lay" on the radio, I cannot help remembering that night; the modulation transformer singing. the hot July night, the smell of that cut wheat and watching one of nature's truly beautiful shows.

As mentioned earlier, when Don arrived in Pratt in October 1973, I helped him unload many items from the truck of his car. There were all kinds of equipment, tape decks, etc. Tim Hawks later on discarded all the stuff as it was mostly junk. I took all the stuff home and broke it down to every nut, screw, bolt, terminal strip; you name it and organized it all into parts-drawer cabinets. 40 some years later, I am still from time to time using stuff from that pile of so-called junk! Thanks Tim for all the free goodies. There was only one item that escaped the junk pile and that was an RCA BC-3C audio Consolette. One of the areas in the station that was in need of an upgrade was the Production Room, particularly the mixer board. The one in use at the time was a little Bogen MXM mixer. Not the

best in the world, but I guess it got the job done, as it had been in use since 1963. The production room also lacked a patch panel to connect it to the main control room if you needed to, among other things.

Sometime in the spring, Don made it clear to me that he wanted to update the Production Room, using that console from KLEO. The console was not in the best shape in the world and was going to need a lot of work before it could be used. Fortunately, Don had the book that had come with it which included a full-blown schematic and everything. Through the summer when I had the time, I would work on it in the engineering room. The engineering room at that time was pretty much a disaster area; an “Enter at your own risk” thing. In the summer of 1975, I remodeled that room, but we will get to that story in the 1975 section.

It was these types of projects and other things that made me one of the “Marauders”. There wasn’t much, to a point, that I couldn’t do. Even at a young age of 22 years old, I had very good skills in electricity, electronics, carpentry, metal working, you name it. Don said he thought of me like Mr. Scott on Star Trek, I was his “Miracle Worker”. That’s why Don hired me away from the Pratt Power Plant. I looked at that control board and told him it was going to take some time to put the thing back in shape, think about what I wanted to do in the production room when the time come, etc. I told Don, until I had built the whole project in my mind and was satisfied with it, it would have to wait. Don simply smiled at me and said, “Let me know when you are ready”. That was Don.

Now as to a little history on that control board. According to Don, it was the original control room board when KLEO went on the air, November 24, 1958. KANS had changed its call letters to KLEO that year. The BC-3C was only produced in 1957 and 1958, making it a very rare console. The board is now on display at the Pratt County Historical Museum in its radio and TV section. As of 2014, it would be worth about 6,000 to 7,000 dollars. In doing some research on it, I found an interesting article in Broadcast Weekly dated December 1, 1958. It had nothing to do with that BC-3C, but on the KANS to KLEO call letter change announcement. It seemed that the Wichita listeners learned that KANS had changed its call letters with the help of an aggressive promotion by KLEO. Giving teeth to the drive were three VERY attractive ladies and three basset hounds who mixed with shoppers in the downtown section of Wichita. After all, it was the Christmas shopping season, what better timing for it. They passed out candy kisses bearing the inscription, “Here’s a kiss from KLEO and have you tried listening to 1480?” See that’s another thing wrong with radio today, no pretty girls passing out free kisses anymore! On second thought, it might have been the girls passing out the candy kisses and the dogs giving out the...never mind! Moving on!

In addition to the RCA control board, a different turntable was added; a rugged Gates just like the ones in the main control room. My uncle Homer supplied a rack for the Ampex tape recorder and Larry Waggoner furnished a nice patch panel. With the RCA board, it was possible to easily add all this stuff to it, plus two cart machines and still have room for future expansion. Local handyman and carpenter Mark Eckoff did the bench work and other details. When I decided to pull the trigger on the upgrade, Don gave me two weeks to complete it. While the work was in progress, no new commercials could be recorded, all were read live on the air. With all the planning and forethought to the project, it was completed right on time and a nice addition to the station. The “new” production room made it so much easier to record spots and opened up new ideas on how to produce them. Several pictures of it are in the picture section of this book. The production room project and remodeling the engineering room were two of my proudest works at the station. I was always looking for ways to improve the station and or its appearance to the public.

For a radioman, December and the holiday season are very important season to the station. Of course, one main reason is the holiday ads and the money from those ads; but it’s also the kids’ programs that aired, the holiday

music played and special Christmas programs performed live on the air, among other things. For the O'Malley family, it was also a special time for them and the annual station Christmas party at their home. I remember it was always a good time with plenty to eat and plenty to drink and there was always a gift exchange. I can't remember who's name I drew, but I remember Don Shorock had drawn my name in 1975. What did I get? A nice T-shirt that said on the front, "I Got it at the City Dump". The "City Dump" was a junk shop in New York City. The main thing that made the event a success was Don's wife Teresa, described by Tim Hawks in an e-mail to me, "I still remember the Christmas parties Don had at his home; a place with a certain atmosphere that his wife Teresa made sure was friendly and warm". On a side note, besides the annual Christmas party at the O'Malley home, there were also the annual summer picnics at Lemon Park. Sometimes during the year, it wasn't unusual for Don, out of the blue, to cater a meal at the station too.

Throughout the month of December, KWNS aired many Christmas programs, but on Christmas Day that year, in cooperation with several local and area groups, a special Christmas day program was aired. According to the Pratt Tribune, "... O'Malley explained the program would begin at 1 p.m. Christmas day and continue through 3 p.m. All the arrangements have been recorded by KWNS Radio personnel. Those participating in the special program will be members of Friends Bible College, the Pratt Community Junior College Choir, the Reputables, a local music group and local singer Miss Kim Moore." I remember during the O'Malley years, every Christmas there were lots of special programs.

1975, "The Gang's all Here", "JONES!!!!!!!"

The 1975 Broadcast Weekly simply reported Don O'Malley as President and General Manager with Tim Hawks as Chief Engineer. One thing worth noting is KWNS moving from the Mutual Radio Network to the ABC Radio Network. The ABC Network was a good network with Harry Reasoner, Geraldo Rivera and others. I think the reason for the change was that ABC had the sound of a more modern, young and upbeat network. Mutual had more of the air of the older generation.

February 22 and 23rd marked the tenth annual KWNS Home Show at the Pratt National Guard Armory. As always, free admission, lots of display booths and live broadcasts on both days. As far as I can tell or found, there was nothing extra special done to promote the tenth anniversary of the Home Show, as far as KWNS was concerned or involved. The 1975 show did however feature a Style Show at 2:30 p.m. daily, put on by Joyce's and Chadd's Ltd., followed at 3:30 p.m. by a Stereophonic Organ Concert by Sunshine Music of Wichita.

On March 27, 1975 the Tribune reported the engagement of Ron Jones to Donna Birdzell as follows, "Mrs. Jean Birdzell announces the engagement of her daughter Donna to Ron Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe B. Cagle, Derby. Miss Birdzell is a graduate of Pratt High School and is attending Pratt Community Junior College. She is employed by the Barron Theatre. Mr. Jones is a graduate of Derby High School and Kansas Midwestern School of Broadcasting. He is employed by KWNS. A June 14 wedding is being planned." I certainly remember Donna behind the snack counter at the Barron. She was always very polite and always a nice smile on her face.

April 1, 1975 was a strange day at the station, but it was April Fool's Day, so what did I expect. For the life of me, I can not remember this guy's name, but can still picture him in my mind. He was a big guy, not fat, just stocky and muscular. Very nice personality, just did weird things from time to time. As I remember he had a four hour shift that day and the ONLY song he played was "Dead Skunk" by Loudon Wainwright III over and over. The single had been released in November 1972 and hit the number 16 spot on Billboard in March 1973, so I guess it

was fair game on April 1, 1975. How this genius got Don to approve this stunt is beyond me, but Don never was opposed to a good joke now and then. I remember that not long into his shift, we started getting phone calls ranging from, "Get that guy off the air" to burning the place down, you name it. Each time he would play it again, I just stood outside the control room, shaking my head and just wondering how long this was going to last. If they did storm the place and burn it to the ground, I was ready. I had my supply of hotdogs and other stuff all set to go, although I forgot a lawn chair. He got through his shift in one piece and we all survived that day. Looking back on it now, it was a pretty good stunt and a good memory.

Now if you think this guy was goofy, just hold on to your seat, there are other crazy people in the world. This song has been played every Friday near 9 a.m. on Top 40 radio station KRRY (Y101) in Quincy, Illinois since 1985. Y101 disc jockeys Dennis Oliver and Jeffrey Dorsey claim they have played "Dead Skunk" more than any other radio station in the United States. Now why would you play "Dead Skunk" every Friday morning at 9 a.m. going on for 29 years now? Well it seems that back in 1985 the two were looking for a song to end the week and start the weekend. Dennis Oliver had used "Hey Jude" by the Beatles at the station he had worked at before KRRY, so Jeffrey proposed using "Dead Skunk" as THE song to end the week. To make matters worse, these two lunatics have been singing along to the song also for 29 years, as if Wainwright wasn't punishment enough!! Yes sir, some people aren't meant to have children! Jeffery said, "Now I know we won't win any awards for our singing, but I do know that there are many of you who sing along with us in your cars, homes and offices. We even have Bernie in Hamilton, Illinois on a dead skunk search each week for us. Call it crazy or stupid, but if we ever stopped playing it, I guarantee you would miss it." I don't know Jeffrey, but out here in Kansas, we are used to breathing fresh air, so I would not put it to a vote!

Sure enough, on June 14, 1975 Ron married Donna at the First Baptist Church in Pratt and not long after that, he left KWNS to pursue his First Class Radio Telephone license from Elkin's Institute in Denver, Colorado. While Ron was in school, Donna stayed with her mother. It's funny, but all these years I thought Jones had a First Class when he first came to Pratt and not a Third Class license. To be on the air at that time, I thought a first was required, but the rules had changed I guess. A third was good enough, but to do any engineering, a First was a necessary item. However, thinking back on it now, Don told me one time that all his family, except Brian had a Third Class license, taking the test at Wichita. I didn't look at the other people's licenses to see if they were legal or not, I figured that was Don's problem.

Halfway through his studies at Elkins, Ron got a call from Don O'Malley to see if he would be interested in becoming the station's Chief Engineer when he received his First Class License. Ron said he jumped at the opportunity, which also meant his air shift moving to the afternoons; something Ron came to like alot. Although Ron's normal shift was no longer nights, he would still have to come in sometimes at night or after sign-off to work on things, whatever it might be. It was on one of those after sign-off excursions, that Ron got his first taste of engineering to the fact; that sometimes things are not as simply as their seem.

Shortly after Jones came back as Chief Engineer sometime around August 1975 and with all his new found "Knowledge", Ron felt it was his duty to make the FM transmitter sound better. So Ron convinced Don to let him purchase a digital voltmeter, which Ron was also convinced would aid in the task of tweaking up the FM exciter. I had tuned up that miserable tube laden beast many times and if I had known what he was taking on; I would have strongly advised him to leave the damn thing alone. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. At the time, what I used to tune up the exciter was a good old Simpson 260 Analog meter, nothing fancy, but a time proven good meter and all we had at the station. The digital type meters were just starting to come out and Ron thought he just had to have one. Well,

after its arrival and after the FM signed off one Sunday evening, Ron commenced to make the FM sound better! Feeling mighty proud of his perceived accomplishment, he kicked the plate voltage on, but nothing happened!! It was at this point that Ron quickly figure out that his newly acquired digital voltmeter had not worked as intended and actually had got him into trouble! The FM was now off the air and Ron couldn't figure out what he had done wrong, but he knew the digital meter was the problem. Larry Waggoner had to be brought in to save the day once again. Come to find out, Ron's new fancy meter didn't have enough RF shielding, which caused some erroneous readings. What magic meter did Larry bring with him to tune the beast? His own trusty Simpson 260 Analog meter, saving the day by tweaking up the exciter so that it would function again. HHmmmm!!!! I learned of Ron's adventure several days later and asked him how he fixed that new meter so it wouldn't happen again. Jones took the meter apart and showed me where he had put metal foil in the proper places and assured me that the meter was OK, but a valuable lesson was learned that Sunday night. Ron's next lesson would in July 1976 with this one being a bit more costly, but we will get to that one in a minute or so, so stay tuned!

One of the areas in the station that I always considered a disaster area was the engineering room. This is where all the parts, tubes, background music units, repair equipment, etc. were kept. There was no order to things in that room, just piles here and there. The rest of the station wasn't too bad, but I didn't have that much control over it either, but I was Chief Engineer and that room was MY domain. One day, I had had enough of the clutter and approached Don about remodeling the room; adding a nice combination workbench and desk, shelves and adding paneling to the walls, getting the whole room back in shape once again. Don had no problem with the idea, just needed to know the cost. As I recall, the whole thing was done for a little over \$400. Redoing the walls was a piece of cake, as was stripping and repainting the floor, but when it came time for the workbench and desk, that was another matter. I considered myself pretty good at carpentry, but I was smart enough to know also that what I had pictured in my mind was probably a little bit beyond my skills. Fortunately for me, my uncle John was a master craftsmen with wood. Between all of us in the Detwiler family, there wasn't much we couldn't handle, build or construct; particularly my dad Don, my uncle John, my uncle Homer and myself. In June or July of that year, in my dad's driveway, the workbench and desk were built by John and myself and transported out to the station. I had enough sense to make sure the bench and desk were not wider the engineering room door, but had not thought of the length of the bench being a problem. To get the bench straight though the door and turn it into the room, it was too long. At that point, my dad was giving me that look, if you know what I mean. The solution was to remove part of the suspended ceiling, tip the bench up in the air as it was going though the door and turn it at the same time. It's a good thing I was in my 20's and my dad was in his 40's at the time, as that thing was not light. The desk was a piece of cake as it was much smaller. I did learn a valuable lesson on that project, in that you cannot think of every small detail sometimes. About a month later, the new engineering room was completed. The room was spotless, everything in its place and a place for everything. Everything was cataloged; organized down to every book, screw, tube, bolt and maintenance log. One regret I do have is that I never did take one picture of the construction or a few pictures of the completed room. I wish I had. It was the last time that room ever looked that good. You think you are going to be young forever and there would always be a chance to snap a picture of it. However, as that old saying goes, "Youth is wasted on the young".

Besides seeing a lot of people pass though the doors, over the years I must have heard hundreds of commercials produced and aired. I produced a few in my time, but I don't think any of mine stood out for anything. I had a good enough voice and all that, but I was hired for my engineering skills. There were people at KWNS that had voices good enough for the networks, but the commercials seemed dry and mono-tone; there was nothing about

them that years later would still be stuck in your memory. One person that was a head above the rest in that department on good, clever and original spots was Ol' Ron Jones. Ron had a wild and crazy imagination, a youthful drive and a wide range of voices. One of Ron's commercials was a 30 second spot he did for the Dairy Queen in April of 1975 and has my vote for the best, most clever and fun spot ever produced at "The Mighty 1290".

Every once in a while, Jerry Siemen's, owner of the Dairy Queen in Pratt would have a banana split blowout. I could always tell when Jerry was having one. Anytime I saw a bright red 1968 Chevy 396 SS headed down Sixth Street driven by my Grandmother, Faye Detwiler and her friend Miss Finley riding shotgun, both in their 80s, you could bet it was to the Dairy Queen and some banana splits. You could also take it to the bank, that once they started to the Dairy Queen, you better not get in the way; they were on a mission from God!! Well anyway, Ron's spot was 30 second long, basically only saying "banana split" in many of his repertoire of voices. Here's Ron's commercial with the voice in parentheses, "OH banana split (crusty old englishmen); banana split (kid); banana split baby, get down!!! (Wolfman Jack) WHOOOOAAAA!!!!; banana split (Aristocrat); split bananas (crazy person); CUT IT OUT WISE GUY!!; banana split (normal voice); banana split (baby); banana split baby!! (Wolfman Jack); banana split (very low, gravelly voice); Only April 23rd and 24th at the Dairy Queen in Pratt for only 49 cents and remember that's banana GOOD!!" About anything that Ron produced, you could bet was going to be good, different and would catch the ear of the listening audience. Thanks to Ron, I have in my audio collection from KWNS, many of his spots and I still laugh at that one every time I play it.

One of Ron Jones' most remembered promotions by the author and the O'Malley boys was his "Rockin' Ron's Pool Party" at the Pratt Municipal Pool by the hospital. The pool was open when the Pratt schools were closed for the summer break, so Ron's event was probably around the July or August months. Ron would bring his audio equipment to the pool and D.J. the event poolside at the north end of the pool. As I recall, Ron did the event two summers in a row, when he was in Pratt. One thing I most definitely remember was driving by and seeing the pool PACKED.

The last of who Don considered as one of his "Marauders" and another one of my favorite people from KWNS was a young man by the name of Roger Harvey. Roger's air name was Roger Allen. Roger and Matt Musil were in college together at KSU in Journalism and Mass Communications with Matt graduating in 1974 and Roger in 1975. After KSU, Roger started looking around for a job in radio, but with not too much success. One job offer did turn up however at KXXX in Colby, Kansas. Having grown up at Hugoton, Kansas, his Dad employed at the Hugoton natural gas field, he was not too crazy about living at Colby. Like Hugoton, Colby was not at the end of the world, but you could almost see it from there! His old buddy, Matt Musil, came to his rescue and helped him to get an interview with Don O'Malley and a job at KWNS in mid-August 1975. About the same time that Roger had his interview with Don, he married Karen Brady, a local girl from Kingman, Kansas on August 16, 1975. Roger said two or three weeks after the wedding and honeymoon, he was living in Pratt at 1416 East Sixth and working nights as the nighttime rock and roll DJ. According to Roger when he started, Matt Musil was the Sports Director; Harvey Watson was the Music Director and Dee Davis doing sales.

With the mention of those names, I might want to point out something before moving on. One thing the reader might or might not be considering is; did the revolving door stop when Don O'Malley and George Kieffer took over KWNS? On that point I can say without hesitation, NO. Just because Don was now running the show now, that didn't seem to slow up the number of people that came and went through that steel door. I still saw a lot of good talented people come and go. I never could figure out why people in the broadcast business tended to be drifters. Outside of Tim Hawks and myself, I can't recall anyone else that stayed as long as we did.

Well back to Roger. He was a big guy, 6'3 to 6'5 inches tall, about the same height as I was, but had a little more meat on his bones than I did. Now at this point in time, I tipped the scales at less than 155 pounds, a good breeze would blow me away. Roger had a trademark moustache, a very good voice on the air and like Don and me, loved to drink beer. By accident I also found out that Roger liked to hunt and owned a shotgun.

In 1974 or 1975, I started to build a "sweep tube" linear amplifier for my ham rig. To get the 1500 watts out of the four 6KD6 finals however required forced air-cooling and some glass chimneys. I couldn't afford to buy the chimneys, but the 8008 rectifier tubes in the Gates AM transmitter were just the perfect diameter; I just had to cut them to length. Over a period of time, I saved up a number of them, due to either failure or just time to change them out. I had a place for them in the engineering room and they were marked "JUNK". That was my first mistake. My second mistake was not telling people that although they were marked junk, I still had a purpose for them and it was best to leave them alone. One night I came out to the station to get some, take them to the Power Plant shop and cut some to length, but they were all gone! I remember standing there with a "You have got to be kidding me look" on my face. The next thing I hear is the blast of a shotgun behind the station. I opened the back door, stepped out and there is Roger happily having target practice with my tubes and his 12-gauge shotgun!! I can't remember what I said to Roger, but he could tell I was not a happy camper. But not all was lost, I didn't have to kill Roger as the following month it was time to change out all six of the 8008 tubes and I had a supply again. More on Roger later.

KWNS, "You Did WHAT!!" Moments

One of my favorite TV shows in the late 1970's was "WKRP" and if you didn't find every episode very funny, obviously you hadn't work in radio. Almost every one I could relate to someone or something that had happen here in little old Pratt, Kansas. If you remember the show, Les Nessman, the news director for radio station WKRP wished he had his own office and so he created his own private workspace out of thin air. Les would always say, "This is where the walls of my office would be if I had walls." When you approached his office or work area (the imaginary walls were marked by masking tape on the carpet floor), you had to simulate knocking on a door that wasn't there before he would acknowledge your presence. What made that very, very funny is that two years before it even aired on WKRP, I saw it happen at KWNS.

Sometime after Don O'Malley took over, he turned part of the big North Studio in several office spaces, but with no walls between them, no wall partitions, just masking tape on the floor to show where your territory was. Two adjoining "Offices" belonged to Sam Knipp and Bill Studer, both with farming and with sales at the station. One afternoon I was busy in my nice engineering room cleaning up some spotmaster carts that I had left soaking overnight in a bucket of soapy water. After which I had planned to spend the rest of the afternoon quietly putting new tape on them. Usually when I was done with them, you would swear to God that they were brand new. Later on in the afternoon, it was just Sam and Bill at their desks and me working on rewinding tapes. Pretty soon I heard some loud voices, I am sure some cuss words too and what got my attention was the sound of desks being pushed back and forth. My peaceful afternoon was being interrupted by all this racket, so I headed to the North Studio and the source of this confusion. Sure enough, there was Bill and Sam in a heated debate over a desk leg on the wrong side of Heaven. After awhile, they asked me what I thought, big mistake!! I calmly looked at them at a smile on my face and pointed out the fact that the tape had not been laid right, it was not at 90 degrees to the wall, so a filing cabinet was on the other's territory also by at least an inch or more. That fired up the fight again and I coolly went

back to the engineering room, proud of myself. How did the argument turn out? I don't know, after my lecture on geometry, I was back in my room with a devilish grin, listening to the noise and thinking that life didn't get any better than this!

One of the things I hated reading on the air was funeral obituaries, especially if they were Mexican, Chinese, Japanese, etc. I mean who the hell can produce those names, let alone read them. One day I had had enough of it, I guess. The next day I read an obituary that I had entirely made up. The name, relatives, address in Pratt, the whole thing was fake, but stuff I could read. We got some calls wondering who in the dickens had died. It kept some people in Pratt wondering all right, because the following day at the Palace barbershop, where I still get my hair cuts to this day, nobody could figure it out, that they had been bamboozled. I just sat in the chair enjoying the conversation, knowing the truth of the matter! One of the smarter things I did At KWNS, probably not.

As the reader can probably tell by now, I loved to pull a prank or joke on people at the station, including the boss. How I managed to work there as long as I did, amazes even me to this day. One prank I am still proud of, involved Tim Hawks, myself and the daytime AM pattern. Sometimes when you checked the patterns, some monitoring points were off a little, just enough that an adjustment had to be made to the proper phasor bank, be it nighttime or the daytime bank. Although marks had been made by the various cranks for each tower, showing you what affect each had on the pattern, it was by no means an exact science. It was a class "A" pain in the butt. You would make an adjustment, then run all the points again and check the readings. One trip to check the daytime points was about 22 miles. If it was still off or had produced a different effect then you wanted, it was back to the station and try, try again, but every time you made even the least change, it was another 22 miles to check the results.

One day Tim had to make some adjustments to the daytime phasor bank and I was ready. I had planned this for sometime, just waiting for the proper moment. One thing I forgot to mention was that each tower had a large sampling loop at the base, with an equal run of coax back to the tower phase angle monitor. To get the runs at exactly equal lengths, the difference was made up by a small length of coax at each loop. It was the small piece of coax that I was going to have my fun at Tim's expense!

That day Tim made his adjustments, got into his car to go and recheck the readings. As soon as Tim was out of sight, I went to the west tower and exchanged the coax with a shorter piece, screwing up the readings at the station "Phase Angle Monitor". About an hour later, Tim came back to the station and I could tell by the look on his face, that he was pleased with the results in the field. His happiness soon disappeared when he looked at the phase angles between the towers. Tim made some more changes and back in his car to once again to check the pattern. Once again as soon as Tim was out of sight, it was back to the west tower and I put the original length of coax back in place! Tim came back and now the monitor points were screwed up and when he looked at the phase angles, they were screwed up too. At this point all Tim could say was, "\$\$\$@#@#@###%%" . Some more changes and once again Tim was off to the 22 mile circuit and recheck them ONE MORE TIME!! This time when Tim was out of sight, I went to the phasor bank and put the cranks back to the setting he had tried the first time, which would have worked if it hadn't been for me. Tim came back with that happiness glow once again on his face and when he looked at the phase angles, he was in hog heaven. Tim looked at me and said, "Man, I don't know why, but I have never had that much trouble making a correction!" I calmly replied, "It happens Tim!" I thought the joke was funny back then, but I could never bring myself to tell Tim what I had done to him. At the reunion in August 2011, 36 years later, I gave Tim the details of my stunt. And like the trooper that Tim was, all he could was laugh and laugh about it. Thank goodness, I don't think I could outrun him now.

One person I enjoyed working with was Joel Kroebel. Joel had a somewhat warped sense of humor like I

did. I was never able to locate him for the reunion, but Joel did produce one memorable embarrassing moment and I was standing outside the control room by the AM transmitter when it happened. Looking back on it now, I am glad the FCC didn't hear it, the stunt probably would have gotten both Joel and Don in BIG trouble.

That day, when Joel was on the air, all of a sudden he makes the announcement that he is going to make a phone call to some lucky household in the listening area, the phone number picked at random. Thinking it was some new promotion, my ears perked up. But he soon announced that was going to pretend that he was a telephone repairman. Well that really got my attention, wondering where this was all going. Joel dialed the number and a woman answered, both of them live on the air. He told the lady that he was a telephone repairman with Ma Bell and that he was doing some repairs on her line. He then informed her that under no circumstances was she to answer the phone once he hung up, because the high voltage would kill him. The lady thanked him and hung up. Joel played a few records and then told the listening audience, "Let's see if she will answer the phone". Joel called the number and let it ring a good number of times, but she would not answer. Five or ten minutes later, Joel said, "Let's try again and see what happens". This time when Joel called, he just let the phone ring and ring and ring and ring. I guess the lady was getting tired of listening to it ring and decided to take a chance and answer it. As soon as the phone picked up, Joel let out a bloodcurdling scream and then you could hear the terrified woman say, "OH MY GOD, I KILLED HIM!!" and quickly hung up. Thank God, Joel had used a false name and everything, as this could have been a very dangerous legal stunt for the station. I would call this the second dumbest stunt at KWNS. I will take credit for the dumbest one on record here in a minute or so.

Tim Hawks said his most embarrassing moment was during a bad thunderstorm and possible tornado near Pratt. It all started innocent enough. That day, a calm Kansas day at that point, Tim and I were headed to install a "Background Music" system at a bank northwest of Pratt. Riding with us in the O'Malley station wagon was Pat O'Malley, about 12 or 13 years old at the time. Pat recalls that the only reason Don sent him with us was to, "keep you guys from having too much fun, so he said I HAD to go with you guys!" At the bank, Tim and I put Pat to work and had him install the FM receiving antenna on the roof. After the job was done and we were headed back to Pratt, we saw a big storm brewing to the south and it hit Pratt about the same time we drove into town. The station was off the air!! First thing Tim did was to drop Pat off at his house, then "dumped" me off at my home at 921 East Fifth. As a matter of fact; I still live at that same location. Getting out of the station wagon, I told Tim I was headed to the station and would meet him there. After that it was back to west Pratt and Tim picked up his wife Becky. If there was a tornado, Tim wanted her with him, he later said. Tim was now in a RUSH to get back to the station and get it on the air, so he decided to turn his car into an emergency vehicle by simply turning on his hazard flashers. Between him and the station was only one traffic light controlled intersection, First and Stout. The light was red, but Tim was now an emergency vehicle in his mind and a red light meant nothing. Tim forgot to pass that misguided piece of information to the car now headed north on Stout Street through the intersection with a nice green light to watch over them. Tim "T-boned" the car. "Luckily no one was hurt and I did make it to the station later" as Tim later recalled. What the "Big O" thought about it, I can not repeat, since this is a "G" rated book.

Terry O'Malley recalled that his most memorable experience at KWNS was the time he made another announcer laugh while reading the news in the control room. While the stunt was not the first time it had been pulled at the station, it's still a good one. If you stayed in radio long enough, somebody sooner or later, was going to do their best to get you to break up on the air. The announcer in question had come from KEYN in Wichita as far as Terry can remember. This guy was a strange one, a real sour-puss, no sense of humor. One thing I remember about Terry was that he most definitely had a sense of humor and if you didn't; you were open season for Terry. To

get to this guy, Terry went to the glass window in the North studio, which was directly in front of the announcer at the control board. At the window, Terry took his shirt off and kept rubbing his chest and belly up and down against the glass and I am sure, making faces until his guy totally lost it on the air. Well, Terry learned that paybacks sometimes are Hell. In a fine effort at revenge, the next time Terry was the one reading the AP wire news stories on the air, that same announcer came into the control room behind him, calmly reached down next to Terry with his cigarette lighter and set the news copy Terry was reading on fire!! Terry said the next thing out of his mouth was some words that would have made George Carlin and his album of words not said on the air, PROUD! All poor Terry could think of or do was say, "We'll be right back after this commercial!"

I will however take credit for what I consider the most embarrassing moment at KWNS or what might be better labeled as the dumbest thing ever pulled at the station. Thank goodness 40 plus years have passed and the statute of limitations has run out also. This was about the time O'Malley took over ownership of KWNS. My good buddy David Lawrence had gotten out of the Army and had returned to Pratt. The reader will recall that one of our routines every night was to hit the circuit and drink some cases of beer. Before I got married, it was almost every night, but after that wedding ring went on, just once in a while. I can recall only doing this crazy stunt twice, but that was twice too many, looking back on it now. Usually our drinking trips around the country roads of Pratt County would last until 3 to 4 o'clock in the morning. On two occasions in the wee hours of the morning, we ended up back at the station. In our state of inebriation, we thought it would be funny to sign the station on at high power and dedicate some songs to the FCC monitoring station in Grand Island, Nebraska. Having the station on at that time was certainly not illegal, but having it on at 5,000 watts instead of 500 watts certainly was. The interference to other stations on 1290 had to be terrible. The callsign we signed on with probably was illegal too, a four letter word I will not repeat here. Our "Show" usually lasted about 15 minutes, then quickly off the air and out the door. I am just glad the FCC never zeroed in on our show as this would have been BIG, BIG trouble for Don and myself. Dumb, you bet it was, I can only apologize to Don and George, they never knew until now. Do I still think back on it? Sure sometimes and I still can't help but smile about those long gone days of youth and the crazy stuff we did. You see we all have a time machine, that which takes us into the future are called dreams and those that take us into the past are called memories and I would not trade any of them.

1976, "More Fun"

The 1976 Broadcast Weekly Yearbook reported Don O'Malley as President and General Manager; Dan Musil as Program Director; Roger Allen as Music Director; Harvey Watson as News Director and Tim Hawks as Chief Engineer.

On January 3, 1976 at 5:48 p.m. I became a father for the first time with the birth of my son, Christopher Wayne Detwiler. Besides being my first born, Chris was also the first grand child on both sides of the family and the first bicentennial baby for Pratt. On January 4, 1976 Harvey Watson proudly read the announcement written by Dee Davis of my son's birth on the 12 noon news cast, "Christopher Wayne Detwiler was born January 3rd in the Pratt County Hospital. It may seem an ordinary news item, but Christopher is the first baby born in Pratt County in 1976; therefore he is the first Pratt County bicentennial baby and is also the first Pratt County leap year baby. He is the first Pratt child of Ronnie and Patricia Detwiler and is the first grandchild of Don and Goldie Detwiler. Christopher Wayne Detwiler accomplished many firsts this past January 3rd and we wish him well." Just to set the record straight, Dee forgot to mention in that news article, that he was also the first grandson for my wife's parents,

Charles and Gladys Route.

One date I want to make note of is February 19, 1976. This is the date when "The Pratt Shopper" was formed as a Kansas Corporation #0433862 with Don O'Malley as the "Registered Agent" for it and the O'Malley home as the place of business. The Pratt Shopper had actually been started in late 1964 by Charles Taylor down at Taylor Print Shop, as it was known then. It ran in competition with the "Pratt Homesteader" put out by the Pratt Tribune. According to Jeff Taylor, son of Charles Taylor, sometime in late 1975, Don had learned that some radio station in Hutchinson or Wichita had purchased "The Hutchinson Bee", a little advertising newspaper like the Pratt Shopper. Don thought that sounded like a great idea for him to try and approached Charley about buying the Shopper from him. Charley sat down with his sons Brian and Jeff one night at the dinner table and talked it over. According to Jeff, his dad felt that the Shopper was starting to become more of a pain than it was worth, as the printing side of the business was starting to take off more and more. Don later shot Charley a price and Charley simply looked Don straight in the eye and said, "SOLD"! Jeff said that he was pretty sure that the printing of the Shopper after that was done either in Larned or Lyons and delivered back to Pratt for distribution, but couldn't remember which. Unfortunately, I have been unable to locate any copies that would have been published by Don, to comment much more on the matter. In June 1979, Don sold it to Chuck Barnes; owner of the Pratt Tribune and dissolved the corporation on June 15, 1979. Chuck Barnes combined its existing one and the Pratt Shopper into "The Sunflower Shopper" and it has been known by that ever since.

I sometimes think that Ron Jones had somehow offended the radio gods and like Hercules labors, been given three tasks at KWNS when he arrived. Although the exact time is not known; at some point during his stay at KWNS, Ron Jones was appointed Music Director and that was Jones' second "labor". His first was the FM exciter re-tweaking. I always thought we had a good supply of new records that came out. If you followed Billboard, it seemed like it wasn't long before they hit the control room. Since I was in engineering, I really didn't follow the current playlist that well, I was a die hard 50's and 60's music fan. So Jones probably had a better handle on that than I did. The next day after his new position was accorded, Ron was promptly on the phone with many record companies and the phone line was SMOKIN'!! It had now become Ron's mission to try to increase the amount of records that KWNS would receive. He called all the record companies he could think of, or locate in Billboard magazine and in his best DJ voice, convince them to put KWNS on the mailing list. Ron said that when he got off the phone, the person at the other end must have thought he had just been talking to the Music Director of the greatest radio station west of the Mississippi river. Some of the tactics that Ron used bordered on blackmail, but hey, if it works, why not! Apparently it did, because records started coming in from labels I had never even heard of. Things would have been all right for Jones, but for some reason he didn't use the WATS (Wide Area Telephone Service) line, a flat rate long distance service that we had at the station, to make his calls. Well all-good things must end and Jones' came at the end of the month when the phone bill hit Don's office or more likely the fan. Ron said, "I remember Don O'Malley ripping me a new one for the phone bill that month!" Well, that's how it goes in show biz!

May 1976 arrived and it was time once again for the KAB convention and election of new officers in Wichita, Kansas, the location not reported in the KAB history. At the convention, Ken Jennison took the gravel from Pat Powers/KTPK as President with Don O'Malley chosen to be President-Elect. Don's term would be May 1976 to May 1977 with his automatic move to President of the KAB also in May 1977. It was a lengthy convention, but nothing that needs to be reported in this section.

About May to June of 1976, Tim Hawks left KWNS and Pratt to become Chief Engineer at KMAN at

Manhattan or as Ron Jones has always called it, “Man-happiness”. I remember about the time that Tim was due to leave Pratt, he came out to the station on a Saturday night during my oldies show to say goodbye. Tim and I talked about the good times we had the five years we worked together at KWNS. Tim shook my hand and handed me a 45 record, a song by Tommy James and the Shondells called “Crystal Blue Persuasion”. I looked at Tim and said, “What’s this for?” Tim smiled at me and replied, “Anytime you hear this song, think of Tim Hawks”. It worked, because anytime I hear it, a smile comes to my face and I remember my good friend Tim Hawks. Tim would come back to Pratt and again work at the station under a different call sign from 1980 to 1985. One final note before I close the chapter on Tim Hawks. Tim himself had one final thing he wanted to say about Pratt and KWNS in an e-mail to me, “Pratt and KWNS were full of good memories for my wife Becky and myself; the radio station, the customers, the Methodist church, the lake, the community college, the country club, the pageant and friends, especially Jerry and Jeanette Siemens. My first supporter at KWNS was Ron Detwiler and to this day is a blessing to KWNS and to my life as a friend.”

In June 1976, Don hired a young man by the name of Jonathan Q. Hyde as the KWNS program director to replace God knows who. Back at KSU, Jonathan had been friends with Matt Musil and Roger Harvey, who suggested him to Don for the job. Between KWNS and after graduation from KSU, Jonathan was at KNCK, a little 500 watt daytime station at 1390 kilocycles on the dial, in Concordia, Kansas. Soon after he started, Musil told him he was leaving KWNS for TV in Wichita. “Great!! That left me with the JuCo and HS football and basketball broadcasts, as well as the 6 a.m. sign-on to 12:30 morning shift and my regular programming duties”, Jonathan e-mailed me.

When Jonathan came to Pratt, his wife was already pregnant and Jonathan’s oldest son was born in Hutchinson in September of that year. As he remembers his time at Pratt, “It was a busy and exciting time”. It was just about to get better! Which brings us to another “KWNS, You Did WHAT!” moment.

In mid-November, Jonathan had to move his wife and new baby into a local motel due to a water main break at his rental home. That day Jonathan and Roger Harvey headed for Miami, Oklahoma to broadcast a Pratt Community College football game. It would end up being what Jonathan said was, “An experience that ultimately led to my transitioning into a public relations and fund raising career”. And just for the record, if the reader ever goes there, it is pronounced, “My-am-uh” not “ee”. In the summer of 1972, my good friend David Lawrence and I went to Miami, Oklahoma to visit his Grandmother who was head of one of the Indian Nations there. That night we went to a bar and Dave informed me quite strongly it was pronounced “My-am-uh”, “We can’t fight all of them Indians”. Jonathan and Roger must have done all right on the name of the town during the game or they would not have made it out of town in one piece.

As Jonathan recalled, the 5-hour trip in the company car, a blue Opal stationwagon was uneventful. The game went as usual.....Pratt lost decisively. The boys did the post-game and waited for Coach Ron Gardner to come to the press box for an interview, as he did after each game, win or lose; it didn’t matter. It would be almost midnight before Jonathan and Roger packed up, got a bite to eat and headed back to Pratt America. They were making good progress until about a mile or two outside Sharon, Kansas on Highway 160. They had run out of gas leaving a hefty walk into town, in the middle of the road, in the middle of the night. When the boys reached Sharon.....there was nothing. No one awake, no public phone, no gas stations period, the streets had all been rolled up, even a church they wandered through had no phone. Sharon, Kansas is what you might call a “Plum and Duck Town”. Duck around the corner and you are plum out of town!! Jonathan said they killed some time huddled in a door-way on main street out of the cold wind.

About 5 a.m. Jonathan and Roger figured it was safe to start wandering around town. Eventually they spotted a couple of homes with the lights on. They chose one and knocked on the door. An elderly woman had gotten up to tend to her husband. She came to the door to the sight of Roger and Jonathan; Roger quite tall and Jonathan quite short, both bundled in coats, both probably after the long night, looking like something the cat brought home, both probably looking quite ominous to the poor woman. Jonathan remembered she seemed quite shocked and scared to see them, so much so, that she wouldn't open the door, but eventually did call Roger's wife. Today there probably would have been gunshots and the poor woman turning the dogs loose on them!

90 minutes later, the Calvary arrived by the name of Karen, with gas. The "Adventure" ended at 8:30 a.m. in the morning, 18 hours after they had started, when they dropped Jonathan off at the motel where his wife and baby were staying. There were of course, no cellphones in those days, so I am sure that his wife was fit to be tied wondering where he had been all that time.

Jonathan said, "For \$20 (to do the game) and the use of the company car, I wasn't quite sure that was how to use my Journalism skills". So in July 1977, he bid farewell to KWNS, Don O'Malley and Pratt to become the first director for Avila College in Kansas City. The next year the President promoted him to Development Director and Jonathan has spend the better part of four decades in "not-for-profit" fund raising.

Jonathan said he still fondly remembers his three years in small market radio, "but I did not have much association with it until a year ago, when I moved to the Prairie Corinth neighborhood...right across the street from Mike O'Malley... who was a junior at Pratt High School in 1976-77. It has been fun remembering that year and getting to know Mike and Pat better. I will always cherish those experiences and I have always had the greatest respect for Don, not only because he gave me a chance, but because he was the consummate professional, well respected and had great respect for the work of his staff".

One thing I learned to admire and respect at KWNS was the ruggedness and durability of the Gates equipment that founder Bill Huffman had installed at KWNS. This stuff was built like a tank and some of it might have weighed as much. The Gates equipment rarely gave any trouble at all. It was seldom that you had a component failure. It was just well engineered and well built stuff. The Gates engineers had designed the line to run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, week in and week out, if you wanted to. They had thought of everything.....well, maybe not everything...they hadn't counted on a KWNS engineer by the name of Ron Jones and a Dorrough limiter salesperson!! This would be Ron's third and final task ordained by the radio gods.

Sometime around the second week in July 1976, the station was visited by a Dorrough limiter traveling salesman. Dorrough Limiters was a young upstart company founded in 1973 by Mike Dorrough. The salesman convinced Don and Ron to put his product in the Gates AM transmitter audio chain, because according to this guy, it would significantly improve the AM coverage area. It was such a fantastic device that he also said that it would nearly double the range of the AM pattern! Jones said, "He even allowed us to try it out free until he came back through the area. What a fantastic device indeed! We HAD to do this!" The salesman helped Ron install the new limiter and called the station several hours later and reported that he could hear KWNS-AM clearly in Denver, "Wall-to-Wall" clear out there. That was a pretty good sales angle, since the original daytime AM pattern was somewhere between Garden City, Kansas and the state line. Just as predicted by the Dorrough guru, the limiter had almost doubled the range of the daytime signal to the west of Pratt. Ron said, "After the signal report from Denver, it triggered a significant discussion at KWNS, about what our commercial rates ought to be, since our coverage area had increased."

It was indeed a fantastic device! During the trial period, some of the current readings on the AM

transmitter were equally fantastic. Ron reported, "Why, look at those 8008 rectifier tubes glow with excitement!" The Gates engineers had designed the KWNS BC-5P to be a 5,000 watt transmitter with a capable carrier output of only 5600 watts. With the new limiter, the transmitter was now being pushed to the limits of maybe what a 7,000 watt transmitter would normally do. The wild blue glow of the 8008 rectifier tubes was a warning, but nobody at the station had caught on to the dangers, not yet. Of course, all good things must come to an end, and sure enough, it did about two weeks later when the transmitter kept tripping off on overcurrent. KWNS-AM was off the air.

Don O'Malley called me out to the station that day to help Ron troubleshoot the problem. As best as I could determine, the modulation transformer had shot craps. But I had no way to prove that was the trouble. I had to be sure on my call, since the transformer was going to be very expensive item to replace. I placed a quick call to Larry Waggoner and explained the problem to him. As always Larry had a surefire answer, "That's no problem Ron, it's like any other transformer. Just disconnect all the leads going to it and feed 115 volts A.C. into the primary side and read the voltage output on either side of the center-tapped secondary. I'll bet there is a big difference." I did as Larry commanded and sure enough, the two voltages were not even close. The main modulation transformer had gone south for the winter and Don O'Malley was not a happy camper. As Jones recalled, KWNS was off the air three days before a new transformer arrived by plane at the Wichita airport.

I don't remember who picked up the transformer at the Wichita airport terminal, but I would probably say it was Don himself. I do remember helping Ron carry that heavy thing back to the transmitter and supervising him hooking it up. Of course, the "Mr. Fantastic", the Dorrrough limiter had already been taken out of the circuit. It didn't take but a few minutes to complete the task, say a few "Hail Mary's" and push the "plates on" button. The transmitter came to life and KWNS-AM was on the air! Don was happy, Jones was happy, I was happy, but needless to say, the Dorrrough salesperson didn't make a sale and was gladly and politely given back his limiter.

August 1, 1976 is certainly one Sunday I will never forget. I had been working at the station on various odd jobs. I remember cutting down several small trees along the road to the station and down in the bottom area where the AM towers were located. My fulltime employment was once again at the Power Plant, the date I don't remember. My work at KWNS that day was as a part-time engineer. It was a typical hot August afternoon, hitting 100 degrees that afternoon and I remember I was glad when it was done and being able to go home and relax in the cool. I got back to my home late that afternoon, walked in and my wife Patty told me, "The Power Plant called earlier and they need you there as soon as possible." When I got to the plant, I found out that the high speed forced draft motor on the 14,000 kilowatt turbine would not work. With that unit down, the Western Power intertie was fully loaded. It was now two steam units and a diesel unit, plus the intertie carrying the City of Pratt; not good.

I think I got to the plant around 4-5 p.m. that day and started troubleshooting the low and high speed fan circuits. The problem was found and we started building steam pressure again. About 7:52 p.m., the boiler was up to 500 pounds of steam and Bill Barnes, the Chief Engineer, had just attempted to engage the turbine, when the boiler exploded, the blast heard as far away as 5 miles. The east side of the building was blown out, I-beams as wide as 16 inches bent like toothpicks. Every side of the boiler was blown out and destroyed except for the front where the six burners were; the spot where I was standing. I had been working for close to three hours on the west side of the boiler where the fan switchgear was located and had just walked around to the front of the boiler and was looking into the port hole for #6 burner, when the explosion happened. The three story B&W boiler had been designed, in the event of a firebox explosion, to rip open like it did on all possible sides, except for one; the front, the only safe spot. If the explosion had happened only 6 seconds sooner, I would not be here to write this story.

There were three employees there that day; Bill Barnes, Tom Woodson and myself. Apparently the trauma

of the explosion got to Bill and Tom; Tom leaving the Plant later that year and Bill the next spring. After the Barnes exit, I was promoted to Chief Engineer, never again to return to KWNS in a fulltime capacity. I worked at the station part-time until walking out in 1982, but that's another story.

Not long after the modulation transformer failure and the boiler explosion, Ron Jones left KWNS for a Studio Engineer's position at KSU's KSAC radio and Ron's been with K-State in various positions ever since. Several years after Ron left the station, my wife and I went to visit Ron and Donna at Manhattan. While the wives were back at Ron's house talking, Jones took me for a tour of where he worked and KMAN/KMKF radio where he worked part-time. As I was walking through the lobby, a picture caught my eye, a picture of the station manager, Lowell Jack and the "Big Guy", Gordon Jump from WKRP fame.

Jump launched his career in broadcasting in Kansas, having heard about the radio and television curriculum at Kansas State University and decided to enroll. Gordon graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1957. Lowell Jack, station manager at KMAN gave Jump his first broadcasting job at the Manhattan radio station. "I was a summer replacement for another announcer and I thought I would be so good that Lowell would never hire the other guy back," Jump said. But Jump was bad, so bad that Lowell fired him, telling him to find another job, that unless he worked a little harder, he would never amount to anything! Well shortly after Jump's rise to fame in WKRP, he came back to Manhattan to "rub it in" on Lowell Jack, who was still the station manager. Rub it in he did and a nice picture hangs in the lobby at KMAN to commemorate the roasting. I learned that lesson early in my work career, to always treat people with respect, no matter what. You never know what the future holds for you or them.

Jones and I remain close friends to this day and although I had some fun with him at his expense in this book, I want the reader to know he was a good engineer at KWNS, just young and starting out, but weren't we all!! Before I close the chapter on Jones, Ron had one final thing he wanted to say about his days at KWNS, "The older I get, the more I understand what a positive impact the people at KWNS had on me as I was developing my skills. My deep appreciation to Don O'Malley for his confidence in me for the opportunity to be a part of his operation!"

As mentioned before, Musil left the station in the summer of 1976, followed by Ron Jones in August or September. News Director Harvey Watson in the early Fall of 1976. Tim Hawks had departed in May or June. For a while, it seemed like rats on a sinking ship. With Harvey's departure, Roger Harvey was moved to News Director and I was Chief Engineer again, although part-time, Don had nobody else, so I handled the problems as best as I could until a replacement could be hired. Roger wasn't News Director too long however, moving into sales not long after, a move Don O'Malley would not regret. In sales, Roger found a job he was born to do, he was a natural born salesman. Of the different positions Roger had at KWNS, I remember him as a top-notch salesman the most. Besides a good salesman, Roger was an excellent promoter and in the fall of 1976 I teamed up with him on one of them.

By this time, disco was at its peak across the United States and of course, disco was a dance craze. Roger came up with the idea of doing disco dances. As I recall, nobody else was doing dances in Pratt at that time. But neither one of us wanted to spend the money for store bought equipment. I suggested to Roger that we buy the stuff from "Heathkit" and that's where I came in. On my 4 p.m. to midnight shift at the Power Plant; I slowly assembled the mixer board, loadspeakers and main amplifier from the kits. The idea for using Heathkit had actually come from Ron Jones. Ron had already built one of those mixer boards and I always thought it was a dandy, it would work just fine for what Roger and I wanted. The only things we purchased assembled were two good turntables and microphones.

After about 4 to 6 weeks I had all the stuff assembled and tested, we were ready to disco. Roger was the front man, doing all the promoting of the dances. We never did use the Pratt Tribune to advertise the dances, only word of mouth, flyers on storefronts and the radio station. We did some class reunions and some other events, but the main focus was the dances, all held at the Pratt Municipal Auditorium. What we charged for the dances, I don't remember, it wasn't much. I remember that we always had a huge crowd for them however. Roger usually MC'd the thing, I was the behind the scenes engineer, who made sure everything ran perfect, and it did. The dances usually lasted a couple of hours and I have to admit that they were a lot of fun to do. Roger and I did the disco scene until the early summer of 1977.

1977, "Bill Farmer, The Number One "Goof" at KWNS"

The 1977 Broadcast Weekly Yearbook reported Don O'Malley as President and General Manager; Dan Musil as Program Director; Roger Allen as Music Director; Harvey Watson as News Director and Tim Hawks as Chief Engineer.

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters annual Convention for 1977 was held at Topeka, Kansas at the Ramada Inn on May 19th to May 21st. Don O'Malley took over as the new KAB President; Bob Templeton was elected President-Elect and Ralph Butlet from KARD-TV took over as Secretary/Treasurer. Leon Geisert/KABI, Jack Burke/KSAC and Jim Harbart/KSEK-KMRJ were elected to board positions. This would mark the last time Don held a position in the KAB. Between KWSK and KWNS, Don was the only person to ever hold an office in the KAB.

In July, Don decided to send Farm Director Bill Studer to the summer meeting for the National Association of Farm Broadcasters at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C. The convention that year ran from July 10th to the 13th. Little did Don know, with that convention he had just changed his life and the future of KWNS radio.

Bill boarded the plane at Wichita; seated next to him was Larry Steckline, owner of KJLS-FM in Hays, Kansas and Farm Director at KFRM-AM in Salina, Kansas. While talking to Larry on the trip, Bill mentioned to him that he ought to buy the station at Pratt and turn it into a fulltime farm station. It seemed Bill wasn't too pleased with the format of KWNS. He felt that you were either a top-forty station or a farm station but you can't be both. He said it was hard to sell farm advertising to people when after the farm markets, the next thing they heard was Mick Jagger and the Stones! Bill remembered mostly doing the talking with Steckline mainly taking it all in.

Larry later made what Don told me was, "An offer I couldn't refuse!" A month or so passed with the brokers working out the details for the purchase with the "Letter of Intent" finally signed by Larry on September 28, 1977. Studer said, "It looked like KWNS had been sold, thanks to me and the next thing I knew I was out the door!" It would not be until November 3, 1977 that the FCC would be petitioned about the sale.

Late August to September 1977 thereabouts, Roger Harvey left KWNS for a sales position at WREN in Topeka, Kansas. The only reason I remember the time frame was due to a record by MECO. The first "Star Wars" movie had just come out and shortly after the movie release, MECO came out with a disco version of the movie theme in August 1977, a monster hit. Roger and I were doing another one of our disco dances at the Pratt Municipal Auditorium to a large crowd of young people. We just finished playing the MECO record and Roger announced before the next record, to be sure to visit the Barron Theater and see "Star Wars". So I am pretty sure of the Harvey departure time frame. When Roger left, I sold my interest in the dance equipment to him. The dances were fun to help him do, but NOT my bag solo. A little more on Roger in a moment or two.

Now as to Bill Farmer. He was born in Pratt, Kansas on November 14, 1952. Bill said, "It was a lonely place, there wasn't an awful lot to do." One thing Bill became captivated by was the movies at the Barron and Trail Drive-in Theaters, especially the cartoons. As a young boy, Bill discovered he had a knack for imitating the voices he heard on the big screen. Bill said, "Of all the cartoon characters, Goofy was always my favorite." Growing up in Pratt, Bill loved to pull a prank or two with his voices. Bill told me when I interviewed him at his cousin Phil Farmer's house, "It was great for pranks Ron. At the Sonic, we'd pull up to the fast food drive-through speaker and I'd order the burgers as Walter Brennan, sometimes John Wayne or Jimmie Stewart." I remember once in a while I would be next to Bill's car or across the parking spots from him, but close enough to listen in on the fun, especially the poor girl or boy's response on the speaker. It was never a dull moment!

After high school, Bill went to college at KSU, where he earned a degree in broadcast journalism. By the time Bill finished KSU, his repertoire of voices had grown to more than 100. After KSU, Bill's first job in radio was at KWNS, Don hiring him sometime in September or so, not long after Roger Harvey left. About a week after Bill's arrival, Don called me out to the station to meet Bill and show him the ropes of the AM patterns, taking the monitoring point readings, etc. Every week I would show Bill how to take the readings, eventually watching Bill take them and every week showing Bill where the points were located around Pratt County. Every trip with Bill was what you might have called an adventure. If I hadn't known Bill, I would have thought I was hauling around a crazy person, someone with split personalities. One trip might be Bill only talking as Walter Brennan, another trip might be Goofy; you get the picture. Usually by the time we got back to the station, my jaw muscles were hurting so bad from laughing at Bill. At the station, of course were the maintenance log, tower readings and many other duties that a Chief Engineer needed to know.

One of the funny stories I remember about Bill involved the south turntable, Bill decided something wasn't quite right about it. I came out to the station and there was Bill in the control room and the south turntable in a million pieces. I looked at Bill, looked at the mess and looked at Bill again and without thinking said, "Bill, I'm gonna kill ya! What da hell is this?" Bill tried to explain the problem to me, I gave Bill some pointers and some not needed advice, "You torn it apart, YOU put it back together!"

Bill was probably at KWNS at best a year, maybe a year and a half, tops. After Pratt radio, Bill said, "I kicked around in radio for a few years, got into standup comedy for about five as an impressionist before finally coming out to Hollywood in 1986 and striking the big time with the Goof." Yep, Bill is the official voice of Goofy and Pluto for Disney studios. In the summer of 2011, when Bill was back for a class reunion, I had the honor of setting down with my old friend and talking about some of the good old days in Pratt and KWNS. When I introduced my grandson Anthony and daughter Lindsay to Bill, he put on his best "Goofy" face and voice and said, "Ah-hyuck, glad to meet you Anthony... Ah-hyuck, glad to meet you Lindsay!!" Lindsay just laughed at Bill, but poor four-year-old Anthony didn't know what to think, he hadn't connected the two together yet.

Bill has done the voice so many years now that Bill said, "Doing the voice of Goofy has become second nature to me. In the beginning, I had to stop and think what his motivation was, but now he lives inside me." Just so the reader knows, in the 2011 interview, I informed Bill of the 1977 section title, he said, "I would be honored Ron." Even Bill's wife introduces him to people as "Goofy." Bill doesn't take it personally, it's a character that he's kinda grown attached to!

The FCC was finally petitioned by Lesco Inc. on November 3, 1977 to purchase KWNS. The announcement appeared in the November 14, 1977 Broadcast Weekly under "Ownership Changes" on page 66 as follows, "KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, KS. (AM: 1290 khz, 5kw-D, 500 W-N; FM: 93.1 mhz, 29 kw)- Seeks assignment

of license from O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. to Lesso Inc. for \$277,000, plus \$99,000 covenant not to compete. Sellers are Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George D. Kieffer (30%), who have no other broadcast interests. Buyer is owned by Laurence E. Steckline (95%) and William D. Kuhn (5%), owners of KJLS (FM) Hays, Ks. Mr. Steckline is applicant for new FM at Liberal, Ks. Ann. Nov. 3." The FCC approved the sale on December 28, 1977.

Shortly after Larry took over KWNS, he applied to the FCC on January 23, 1978 to change the call letters to KWLS-AM-FM. Larry had a station in Hays and Liberal, Kansas both ending in LS. I think the reader can figure out the reason. The FCC approved the call letter change on March 6, 1977. Well that date marked the end of "The Mighty 1290" as far as the call sign KWNS was concerned, but not quite the end of our story, not yet.

On January 29, 1997, the station was sold to Great Empire Broadcasting of Wichita. Legendary Wichita broadcaster Mike Oatman didn't own it long however, selling it to Goodstar Broadcasting on March 27, 1997. From there, it went to Waitt Radio, Inc. on May 3, 2001 to its present owner, Rocking M Radio, Inc. on August 31, 2007 and the present call letters of KMMM, but still going by "The Mighty 1290". The current General Manager is Lisa Coss; Dick Anderson, Troy Maydew and Glen Cunningham heading up Sports with local air-personality Carl Raida and everything else coming out of Manhattan, Kansas via satellite.

Rocking M Radio, Inc. is currently the largest owner and operator of radio stations in Kansas. The day of "Mom and Pop" radio stations are long gone in the radio business. The current format of KMMM is what is called "AC Pure". This is a 24-hour music format that was produced by the Waitt Radio Networks and then by Dial Global under its Dial Global local banner. Its playlist is usually composed of adult contemporary music released from the 1970s to the present day, mainly targeting the 25-54 year old listeners.

Nothing much is left of the original station, save the two Gates phasor units and the four AM towers. The FM tower is long gone; all that is left is the concrete base. Yes, and for you former KWNS alumni, all the potholes in the road are still there, the same spots in the road going to the station and no, you shouldn't drink the water. Oh, the original building is there all right, you just cannot see it from the front. Sometime in the early 80s, another building was built over and around the original KWNS concrete block shell. If you know where to look on the inside, you can still see it and the original back and east sides of it are still there. All that is left of the control, production and newsrooms are just empty shells. I guarantee however, that I can stand there and in my "Mind's Eye" all those empty rooms come back to life, the old Gates AM transmitter starts glowing and singing again. The teletypes start spitting out paper again and the smells of that station fill the air once more. And if I look long enough, old friends long past and some still alive come out of that control room and walk right past me. A thousand good memories are there just for the taking, all I have to do is smile and remember the good ol' days, not so long ago at KWNS, "The Mighty 1290".

After the sale of KWNS, Don and George started looking for another radio station to invest in, finally settling on one in Greeley, Colorado, KYOU-AM and KGRE-FM, applying to the FCC on June 12, 1978. It was reported in the Broadcast Weekly on June 16, 1978 under "Changing Hands Announced" on page 41 as follows, "KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo.- Sold by Meroco Broadcasting Co. to O'Keef Broadcasting Co. for \$770,000. Seller is owned by Elwood Meyer (67.1%), his wife Helen, (2.9%); George Drew, commercial manager of KYOU (20%), and Barnard Houtchens, Greeley attorney, (10%). Buyer is owned by Donald O'Malley (70%) and George Keiffer (30%) who recently sold KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kan. KYOU is on 1450 khz with 1 kw daytime, 250 w night. KGRE is on 92.3 mhz with 25 kw and antenna 470 feet above average terrain."

During a good portion of the time that Don was in the process of buying the Greeley station, he was still

living in Pratt. Sometime in that period, Don approached me about moving to Greeley and becoming Chief Engineer for his station. Although the idea of moving to Colorado and all that scenery was tempting, I was happy being Chief Engineer of the Pratt Power Plant, radio didn't look that stable to me, nor could I count on how long Don would own the station. People in radio seemed like they moved around too much and that was NOT my bag. I turned Don down flat, a decision I have never regretted. In August 1978, Don talked Roger Harvey, who was at WREN in Topeka, Kansas at the time, into joining him at KYOU-KGRE in Greeley. By April of 1980, Roger had had enough of radio and started a career in beer distribution.

Don O'Malley and George Kieffer officially got out of the broadcast business for good on November 30, 1983 with the sale of the Greeley station. It was announced in the Broadcast Weekly on December 19, 1983, "KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo. (1450 khz, 1 kw-D, 250w-N; 92.5 mhz, HAAT, 470 ft.)- Granted transfer of control of O'Kieffe Broadcasting Co. from certain shareholders (84.325%); none after) to Kenneth R. Greenwood (15.675% before; 100% after) for \$310,000 plus assumption of liabilities. Sellers are Donald J. O'Malley (51.036%), Marc McLean (5.817%) and George Kieffer (27.472%). None have other broadcast interests. Buyer is Tulsa, Okla. broadcast sales consultant and has been appointed, by bankruptcy court, receiver for KMYZ-AM-FM Pryor, Okla. He also has interest in KPNC-FM Ponca City, Okla. Action Nov. 30."

The 100% buyer of KYOU-KGRE was none other than Don's old friend Ken Greenwood. It's interesting to note besides Ken's name, that of Marc McLean who also had an interest in the station. In talking to Don's son Terry, an attorney now in Denver, the station wasn't doing that great, it was too close to Denver and the big stations there. I think Don and George felt it was time to get out.

After the sale in Greeley, Don's next stop was Overland, Kansas. In 1984 they formed a company that provided mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, strategic alliances, advisory, and valuation services to small and medium-sized privately held businesses. The company is now known as O'Kieffe and O'Malley Inc., formed by the merger of the O'Malley Company and O'Kieffe Inc. in 1994. The company is run by Don's son Mike as President. Don himself is now retired and still married to his bride Teresa. George is also retired and is living at Raintree Lake in the Kansas City area and only 20 miles from his old buddy Don O'Malley.

The O'Malley's wrote saying of Pratt and KWNS this way, "The years at KWNS were probably the best years Don and his family ever knew. The O'Malleys will always be grateful for the wonderful friends they met while in Pratt, Kansas." Several times talking to Don on the phone, he sometimes said his biggest regret was selling KWNS. He said he wished he had kept the station and stayed in Pratt. Some of us wished you had too Don. On KWNS and "Pratt America" George Kieffer simply wrote, "I have such pleasant memories of Pratt and what a terrific place it is!"

Welp; there you have it, the story of KWNS, "The Mighty 1290" from its humble beginnings in 1958 and it's founder Bill Huffman to Bill Young and Don O'Malley. I'm sure Walter Cronkite would have said, "And that's the way it was, the KWNS radio story, from Pratt, Kansas, this is Walter Cronkite reporting". For me it's been a journey that started on August 20, 2010 and the Pratt radio station history books and the reunion on August 18, 2011 and will probably end this summer of 2014 with the printing of the "KWNS Radio Story". It's been a vision that has taken me thousands of hours on the computer, the internet and other resources. It's a journey that has helped me find former employees and owners, without whose help, it would have been impossible to document this important part of Pratt's history, again my thanks to all of you. It's been a chance also to share with you some of the funny, crazy and wild things that went on. For those of us who worked at KWNS, I am sure we all have precious memories when it was fun to be in radio. I have always been thankful to have worked in radio when I did; it is an era we will

never see again.

I promised Don O'Malley that at the end of the book I would include his favorite Irish Blessing that goes as follows:

May you always have work for your hands to do.
May your pockets hold always a coin or two.
May the sun shine bright on your windowpane.
May the rainbow be certain to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend always be near you.
And may God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

One of the things I found difficult in this book on KWNS was how to end the story, what the last paragraph would be like. For the reader that might seem simple, but for me it always seemed like I had "Writer's Block" on the subject, I just could not come up with anything until one night in my sleep. One of the things my wife found out very early in our marriage was that in my sleep, I am sometimes visited by my "Muse". It was not unusual for me to wake up, having solved a problem at the station in my sleep. After waking up, I would go out to the station, sometimes even at 3 a.m. and sure enough, that fixed the problem, my "Muse" was always right!! But don't tell my wife that my personal Muse looks like Sharon Stone! A few months ago, Sharon visited me in my sleep. I remember her whispering in my ear, "Why don't you end the book just like you ended every broadcast day at KWNS, you big dummy!" True story. So who am I to argue with my Muse!! The same sign-off was used all those years at KWNS, the only difference was "KWNS, Inc." changed to "O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Company". And finally thanks to you the reader for joining me on this wonderful adventure in Pratt radio history. I hope you enjoyed reading about it as much as I did putting it together.

At this time radio stations KWNS and KWNS-FM sign off the air. Both stations are owned and operated by (KWNS, Inc.)(O'Malley-Keiffer Communications Company). KWNS operates on 1290 kilohertz at a daytime power of 5,000 watts directional and 500 watts directional nighttime power. KWNS-FM operates on 93.1 megahertz at a continuous effective radiated power of 29,000 watts. Both transmitters, studios and offices are located 2 ¼ miles east of Pratt. On behalf of the staff and management, I wish you a very pleasant goodnight.

The End?

Newspaper Articles
Including The Following:

<i>The Pratt Tribune</i>	<i>Page 130</i>
<i>The Hutchinson News</i>	<i>Page 184</i>
<i>The Pratt Beaver</i>	<i>Page 190</i>

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Guard Inspection Set For Feb. 9

Military Brass Coming to Pratt For First Inspection of C Battery of KSG.

An inspection by the Fifth Army, Kansas adjutant general, 35th division, 130th Field Artillery group, and 161st Armored Field Artillery staff personnel will officially launch C Battery, 161st Armored Field, Pratt's national guard unit, here Thursday evening, February 9, according to information received here today.

Local stimulation to the unit during the past six months has been considerable. Nels Anderson, chairman of a Chamber of Commerce military affairs committee, reports.

Delay in organization has been caused by selecting and certifying officers, by arrangements for armory space, and by national policies that have cut down on the recruitment of national guard personnel.

C Battery will be limited initially to 17 people, Anderson says. Arrangements with the Pratt city governing body have been completed for the lease of the No. 4 hangar as an armory and it is in the process of being remodeled until it will be classified as one of the best in the state.

John Wilkerson, Ray Broadbooks and Cal Hanson will be leaders in the new organization. Wilkerson, who commanded a Marine reserve unit prior to taking command of C Battery, was with the artillery of the Second Marine division during the war; Broadbooks was an air corps gunner; Hanson was a Marine Corps captain with shipboard, tank and other combat experience.

An unusual coincidence is that Anderson was a national guard colonel and took the 161st Field, artillery, then a regiment, into federal service at the start of the war. C Battery was then located in Lyons. Wilkerson was in the 161st, D battery of Olathe, for nearly six years early in the 1930s. Dick Eaton, with ordnance experience in the navy, and Merle Combs, with army quartermaster experience, are two veterans in the young unit. One or two more veterans may be added, Wilkerson indicates.

Others enlisted in C Battery include Harold Glad, Dick Patton and Ben Billings, Pratt students; St. Kenny Hillard, telephone company employee; Bill Keller, Santa Fe employee; three Cunningham men; seniors, Bob Urban, Billy Huffman and Jack Watkins; and Kermit Satz, employed at Jett's.

Drs. M. E. Christmann and Fredrick Wolf are medical examiners for the unit.

January 31, 1950

VOLUME XXXIII

The Left-Hand Corner

Bill Huffman, Cunningham, Pratt Junior college student, serves as a sports reporter in rounding up news on the Ninescah league of high schools in this area. He got a tip the other day on a reported injury in practice at Coats and—sensing a good depe-story—he set out to find the name of the injured player. It turned out that it was an injury all right and that it happened in practicing for a football game. But the injured was blonde Charlene Allen, cheerleader for the Bulldogs. She twisted an ankle practicing gymnastics to be used in leading the cheers.

October 18, 1950

Guards Are Balking at Settlement

WALLA WALLA, Wash. (AP)—Prison guards balked at reentering the state penitentiary here today, fearing rebelling prisoners may have hidden weapons during a two-day revolt for use against them.

The guards called for an armed task force to precede them in a thorough search of the prison before moving in to take over control of the institution.

Thirty guards and 21 state patrolmen, the latter armed with rifles and sawed-off shotguns, assembled at 5 a.m. the hour agreed upon by revolt leaders and state officials for a formal end of the rebellion.

But after a conference with Warden Lawrence Gilmore Jr., the



JOINS FIRM—Bill Huffman, a son of Mrs. Mabel Huffman of Cunningham, has joined John Hampton, a local accountant here. The firm will be known as the Hampton-Huffman Accounting office. Huffman is a graduate of Pratt Junior college and Kansas University.

July 7, 1955

The Pratt Daily Tribune



"VOICE OF DEMOCRACY" WINNER—Doug Farmer, left, winner of the Pratt county Voice of Democracy contest, and Bill Huffman, Jaycee contest chairman, hold the plaque won by Farmer in the speech contest held in the municipal clubrooms last night. Farmer's speech will be recorded and sent to Kansas Jaycee headquarters for judging along with other local winners in the state. (Tribune Photo)

November 20, 1956



Huffman Seeks License For New Radio Station

A radio broadcasting license for a proposed new Pratt radio station was applied for with the Federal Communications Commission today.

The application was made by Bill Huffman, 507 N. Main, who is listed as owner and general manager of the proposed station.

Huffman is a partner with John Hampton in the Hampton and Huffman accounting firm here and will remain with that firm when the radio station is put into operation.

The proposed station will be constructed three and one-fourth miles east and one-fourth mile south of Pratt, with both studios and transmitter to be located at that site, Huffman said.

The station would operate on a day-night basis, broadcasting at 5,000 watts daytime and 1,000 watts nighttime. The daytime range of the station would cover an area roughly 215 miles by 185 miles, Huffman said.

The area would include Wichita, Hutchinson, Hays, Garden City and Alva, Okla.

The general manager said he expected FCC approval by Oct. 1 and that construction would start soon after. He said plans called for the station to be on the air within 60 days after final approval from the FCC.

Transmission would be from four towers, each 170 feet tall, Huffman said.

Tucker Back

Huffman said the proposed station would employ 15 persons, including two announcers and three engineer-announcers. Dave Tucker, formerly of Greensburg and Pratt, will be station manager and Mrs. Velda Stubbs of Hutchinson will be program manager, Huffman said.

Tucker was formerly with KWSK here and is now working for a radio station in Nebraska.

Huffman said plans call for emphasis on live sports coverage, including Kansas University and Kansas State football and basketball games as well as broadcasts of Pratt high school and junior college sports events.

Several other local "live" shows are also scheduled, Huffman said, as well as "disc jockey" and other music shows.

Proposed call letters of the station are KEES, Huffman said, but those, as well as station frequency, must be approved by the FCC.

The Left-Hand Corner

Another "good neighbor" act is being performed today. Seven neighbors of Calvin Lewis, who lives northwest of Pratt, are plowing and one-waying his ground for him. Lewis is confined to Pratt County hospital with an infected finger. He injured three fingers on his right hand April 13, while loading milk cans. All the fingers healed except the little finger, which became infected and will keep him confined to the hospital for quite sometime.

A stranger might have thought he was in the wrong place at Pratt high school this morning. Today was the annual senior "Hobo Day," with seniors appearing in various costumes. Costumes were judged by a panel of teachers with prizes going to students with the best costumes.

Pratt municipal airport is expected to be a busy place next Sunday morning. That's the time set for the annual fly-in breakfast held by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Dunkin, airport managers. Dunkin is busy laying in eggs, bacon and coffee to serve the large crowd of pilots expected between 7 and 11 a.m. Last year more than 200 persons were served and Dunkin had to make a hop to a farmer's house in his plane to get more eggs when his original supply ran out.

Fred Razook and the Jayhawk cafe have received a certificate from the American Restaurant magazine for an editorial feature award. The cafe was the subject of a feature article in the May issue of the magazine, which mentioned Razook's participation in community affairs by turning over

May 15, 1958

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Milady's

Mrs. Evelyn Hillard, Editor



MRS. WILMER E. (BILL) HUFFMAN

Fort-Huffman Wedding Solemnized in Arkansas

Double ring wedding vows were exchanged at 2:30 p.m. Sunday by Miss Jo Ann Fort, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harley F. Fort, Rogers, Ark., and Wilmer E. (Bill) Huffman, 507 N. Main, son of Mrs. Mable E. Huffman, Cunningham, in the First Christian church at Rogers, Ark.

The Rev. William L. Miller Jr., pastor of the church, read the marriage ceremony before an altar of white gladioli and greenery. Miss Aris Eiston and Mrs. Doris Eiston gave the nuptial music.

Bridal attendants were Miss Colleen Davis, maid of honor, and Teresa Bland, Rogers, Ark., flower girl.

Miss Davis wore a powder blue organza gown over blue tulle with matching headband and shoes. She carried a bridal bouquet of pink rosebuds.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of dusty rose satin fashioned with short sleeves, v-neckline with inset of Chantilly lace studded with sequins and seed pearls. The voluminous christening gown was of white satin skirt of unpressed pleats extended into a chapel train. Her tiered fingertip veil of imported silk illusion fell from a Swedish crown of pearls. She carried a double bouquet surrounded by white and pink rosebuds.

The church parlors was the scene for the reception held immediately following the ceremony. Mrs. Curtis A. Stubbs, Huffman was and Mrs. Paul Thompson, Rogers, Ark. were reception hostesses.

After a honeymoon in the Ozarks, the couple will be at home July 1 at 311 Lawrence.

June 1, 1959

Humidity—66 per cent	take the lead in establishing a world rule of law.
Precipitation—00	More than 4,000 lawyers and members of their families turned out Monday night for a White House garden party, during which Eisenhower spent 25 minutes chatting and shaking hands with his guests.
Moisture received this year—\$5.38	Today, the Supreme Court arranged a special session so 1,900 of the visiting lawyers could be formally admitted to practice before it.
Same period last year—15 70	Each lawyer pays a \$25 fee. The money is to help pay the cost of appeals by impoverished litigants.
FORECAST	
SOUTHWEST KANSAS — To-night fair and warm lows around 70 southerly winds 15-20 miles per hour; Wednesday fair and hot southerly winds 20 miles per hour, highs near 100.	
NATIONAL WEATHER By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS	
	High Low Pr.
Albany, cloudy	92 71 .02
Albuquerque, clear	95 70
Anchorage, cloudy	58 47
Boston, cloudy	93 76
Chicago, clear	79 70
Cleveland, cloudy	86 67 1.12
Denver, clear	92 56
Des Moines, clear	77 66
Detroit, cloudy	86 64 .13
Fort Worth, clear	93 72
Honolulu, cloudy	85 76
Indianapolis, rain	89 70 .60
Kansas City, clear	86 65
Memphis, cloudy	91 71
Milwaukee, clear	76 55 .04
New Orleans, clear	91 69
Oklahoma City, clear	87 69
Omaha, cloudy	75 67
Phoenix, cloudy	102 79
Pittsburgh, cloudy	88 67 .30
Portland Ore., cloudy	75 M
Rapid City, clear	0 M
St. Louis, cloudy	88 73
San Francisco, clear	59 52
Seattle, cloudy	61 57 .01
Washington, clear	92 76
(M — Missing)	

Huffman May Get Position

First Lieutenant W. E. Huffman of Pratt's National Guard unit said today he expects to officially assume command of the local outfit sometime near the first part of October.

Lt. Huffman has been acting commanding officer of the unit since the present commander, Capt. Ray Broadbooks, has moved to El Dorado.

Lt. Huffman said the battalion commander in Dodge City told him he would assume command here when command was relinquished by Capt. Broadbooks.

An inventory would precede the change in command here, Lt. Huffman said.

August 30, 1960

AT PRATT COUNTY

HOSPITAL

Admissions Tuesday

Mary Patricia Warren, 321 Champa

Bill Wolf, Great Bend

Ronald Heflin, 524 S. Jackson

Mrs. Maude Badders, 614 Nyrtle

Dismissals Tuesday

Diana Williams, Pratt

John Fisher, Pratt

Charles Coley, Pratt

Bruce Rolo, Pratt

Terry Hoskins, Pratt

Mrs. Clara Vedders, Nebraska

Mrs. Helen Warren, Byers

Surgery Tuesday

Mrs. Martha Rhee, minor

Mrs. Warren, minor

Daniel Haning, minor

Births Tuesday

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Huffman, 311 Lawrence, a daughter born 3:55 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce.

December 12, 1961

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Radio Station Gets Federal Go-Ahead

The Federal Communications Commission late yesterday granted permission to Wilmer (Bill) E. Huffman of Pratt to proceed with construction of an AM radio station here.

Huffman said that construction of the facilities will probably commence about the first of March, primarily because of weather conditions.

The station is to be located about two miles east of Pratt on the south side of US highway 54. This location is near the new sale pavilion that is being built on the north side of the highway.

The station will operate on 1290 kc with 5,000 watts of power during the daytime and 500 watts at night. Huffman said that although he had a 24-hour broadcasting permit, plans called for initially operating from about 5:30 a.m. until midnight.

Calculated range of the station will be from about Wichita on the east to Lamar, Colo., on the west, and from near Dalhart, Tex., on the south to McCook, Nebr., on the north.

Huffman has 20 acres for the station site, which will also provide space for the four towers planned. The building, which will be of a special masonry materials, will be L-shaped. It will be approximately 50 feet long on both sides of the L.

There will be eight or nine full-time employees, Huffman said.

Top Citizens To Be Honored By Jaycees

Several outstanding local citizens will be honored at the annual Jaycee awards banquet to be held at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 15, in the Municipal Auditorium.

Awards will be presented to the outstanding young farmer, representative young teacher, outstanding senior citizen, boss of the year, and an outstanding Jaycee, who will receive the key-man award. Also one person will be named to receive the Jaycee Distinguished service award.

The banquet, which kicks off Jaycee Week, Jan. 15 to 21, will be open to the public. Tickets are now on sale from any Jaycee; at the Swinson Motor Co., First National Bank, The People's Bank, the Barron Barber Shop and the Chamber of Commerce office. Deadline for reservations will be Jan. 12.

Nominations for awards in any of the specified categories may be made at the Chamber of Commerce office or through any Jaycee. Screening committees have

January 5, 1962

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Progress Report No. 1

Central & Western Kansas'
New Radio Station

KWNS 1290 KC
PRATT, KANSAS

(2 1/2 Miles East of Pratt, Kansas
on Highway 54)

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

Federal Communications Commission announced yesterday their denial of petitions for reconsideration filed by Pier San. Inc. of Wichita and Francis C. Morgan, Jr., formerly of Pratt.

Ground breaking ceremonies were held recently.
Ground work is now completed.
Building construction to begin immediately.
Tentative air date to be announced later. Watch this paper each Friday for further reports.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE MISS KANSAS
PAGEANT. JUNE 7-8-9

June 2, 1962

Progress Report No. 2

Central & Western Kansas'
New Radio Station

KWNS 1290 KC
PRATT, KANSAS

(2 1/2 Miles East of Pratt, Kansas
on Highway 54)

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

Building foundation is now completed
Tower bases have been completed.

Tentative air date to be announced later. Watch this paper each Friday for further reports.

June 8, 1962

Progress Report No. 3

Central & Western Kansas'
New Radio Station

KWNS 1290 KC
PRATT, KANSAS

(2 1/4 miles east of Pratt Kansas
on Highway 54)

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

The first concrete blocks of the building construction were laid yesterday.

The first 60 ft. of the four 190 ft. towers have been erected.

Tentative air date to be announced later. Watch this paper each Friday for further reports.

June 15, 1962

Progress Report No. 4

Central & Western Kansas'
New Radio Station

KWNS 1290 KC
PRATT, KANSAS

(2 1/4 miles east of Pratt Kansas
on Highway 54)

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

All of the concrete blocks for the building walls have been laid. The floor and wall construction will be completed during the next 10 to 15 days.

Next progress report in 2 weeks. *July 6, 1962*

June 23, 1962

The Pratt Daily Tribune

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 5

KANSAS
WEATHER
NEWS
S P O R T S

1290 KC

Pratt, Kansas

5000 Watts Day **500 Watts Night**

Our roof which is being manufactured in Wichita, Kansas will be made of prebess concrete slabs. Plans call for its erection onto the building Friday morning, July 13, 1962. Visitors will be welcome.

The plumbing is currently being installed. The floors will be poured with ready mix concrete, upon completion of the plumbing within the next week to 10 days.

The program schedule is currently being revised. All suggestions on programs desired are welcome.

Write to Bill Huffman, Box 486, Pratt, Kansas

July 7, 1962

RADIO

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 6

KANSAS
WEATHER
NEWS
S P O R T S

1290 KC

Pratt, Kansas

5000 Watts Day **500 Watts Night**

The prebess concrete slabs for our roof were set on the building Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The finishing work on the roof will be completed next week.

The floors have been poured and partitions will be installed upon completion of the roof.

The program schedule is currently being revised. All suggestions on programs desired are welcome.

Write to Bill Huffman, Box 486, Pratt, Kansas

July 20, 1962

Education Board Meet Date Fixed

Labor Day has caused a change in the date of the regular meeting of the Pratt Board of Education and Board of Regents, Superintendent Kenneth S. Hill said today.

The meeting has been changed from Monday night to Tuesday night at 7:30.

On the agenda for the monthly meeting are 14 items. These include the consideration of contracts for three teachers. Also to be discussed is a request by radio station KWNS for permission to live-broadcast local athletic contests.

A report on enrollment is expected to be given.

Several items dealing with the new school or with the remodeling program are listed. There is to be consideration of final payments on the new buildings and of allowances for change orders, as well as the consideration of change orders not yet to be completed.

The approximate cost for playground surfacing is scheduled for reporting, and there will be talk of the location of the sidewalk north of the new cafeteria building.

The closing of Washington Street across the Southwest school grounds is to be decided, word from the Superintendent indicates.

HDU, 4-H Leaders Meeting Scheduled

Leader training meeting on Making Breads for HDU and 4-H leaders will be held Wednesday



TED LEROY HITE
—Sports Director

Sports Director Here for KWNS

Sports Director for the new Pratt radio station KWNS has arrived in Pratt. Ted Leroy Hite comes from Paducah, Ky., where he was sports director of station WPAD the past three years.

Other past radio experience includes serving four other stations as a disc jockey and newscaster in addition to sports.

Born in Iowa, Hite attended high school in Lebanon, Mo., and William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va.

A Navy veteran, the new Prattan lettered in four sports during his high school years. He gained All-American recognition in high school football. He also played one year of college football and three years of service football. Hite participated in basketball both in college and in the service.

Hite and his wife, Sharon Leeanna, are expecting their first child in December. They are now residing at 318 N. Pine.

August 31, 1962

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Can P & L D the Negro population - protested

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 7

KANSAS

W EATHER **1290** KC

N EWS

S PORTS Pratt, Kansas

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

4-190 Ft. Towers have Been Erected. Transmission Equipment is Now Being Installed.

The program schedule is currently being revised. All suggestions on programs desired are welcome.

Write to Bill Huffman, Box 486, Pratt, Kansas

September 1, 1962

dent of Dodge City. Rule. Mooreland, Okla.

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 8

KANSAS

W EATHER **1290** KC

N EWS

S PORTS Pratt, Kansas

5000 Watts Day 500 Watts Night

Transmitting equipment is currently being installed and if progress continues according to schedule we will begin to broadcast a test signal tonight at 12 midnight. All equipment tests will continue from midnite to local sunrise for approximately 2 weeks.

The program schedule is currently being revised. All suggestions on programs desired are welcome.

Write to Bill Huffman, Box 486, Pratt, Kansas

September 28, 1962

AT PRATT COUNTY

HOSPITAL

Admissions Tuesday

Tony Penclton, 508 S. Taylor Dr.

James O. Bowling, 119 S. High Mr

Karen Englehardt, Preston Mo

Mrs. Gordon Faulkner, Rt. 3, in

Haviland N

Mrs. W. E. Sullivan, 604 N Oak din

Dismissals Tuesday Mr

Richard McCormick, Pratt N

Donald Bryan, Pratt, hos

Surgery Tuesday Sat

Kelley Detwiler, minor Cle

Mrs. Martha Boo, minor an

Births Tuesday ter

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse W. Harvey, an

210 N. Oak, a daughter, born an

at 12:02 p.m. She weighed 6 pounds Bu

and 12 ounces. gu

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hite, 318 N.

pp Pine, a son born 7:30 p.m. He

weighed 8 pounds and 4 1/2 ounces.

November 28, 1962



The Pratt Daily Tribune



PRATT
KANS.

Have You Heard
The Great New Sound?

It's On

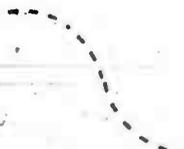
KWSK

The BETTER SOUND in Radio



1570. on your dial

- ★ Expanded News Coverage
- ★ Latest In Sports and Market Returns
- ★ The Best In Music
- ★ Up To The Minute Weather Information



It's Simply Great
The Better Sound
of KWSK

November 21, 1962

The Pratt Daily Tribune

KWNS Slates Open House

An open house will be held Sunday, Dec. 30, for Kansas' newest radio station, KWNS, in Pratt. The open house will enable local citizens to see the new facilities before the station goes on the air, owner Bill Huffman said.

The new station is located two and one-fourth miles east of Pratt on Highway 54.

Free gifts will be given to the first 500 adults attending the open house, Huffman said. Free coffee and donuts will be served during the event, which is scheduled from 1 to 5 p.m.

No date for going on the air has been established, Huffman said.

December 27, 1962

2 1/4 MILES EAST OF PRATT -KWNS- 2 1/4 MILES EAST OF PRATT

OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 30th, 1962
(PRE-AIR DATE)

SEE 1963'S NEWEST MODEL OF RADIO
A BRAND NEW LOOK—A BRAND NEW SOUND
YOUR CHANCE TO SEE IT BEFORE GOING
ON THE AIR

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FREE GIFTS TO THE FIRST 500 ADULTS
FREE COFFEE AND DONUTS

Everyone's Invited To Attend 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

See Radio-Active Radio In Action
Sunday, December 30th, 1962, 1 to 5 p.m.
KANSAS' NEWEST RADIO STATION

2 1/4 MILES EAST OF PRATT -KWNS- 2 1/4 MILES EAST OF PRATT

December 28, 1962

KWNS Goes On Air

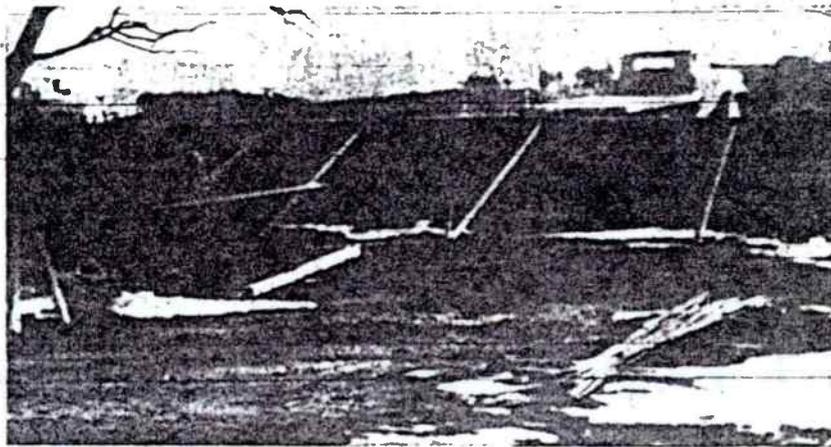
Pratt's new radio station, KWNS, goes on the air at 5:30 a.m. Friday.

KWNS Manager W. E. Huffman made the announcement today, adding that the station would be operating on a full schedule.

On-the-air hours Monday through Saturday are 5:30 a.m. to midnight. Sunday hours are 6 a.m. to midnight.

Beginning Friday night, the station will broadcast live ball games played by Pratt schools' teams.

A highlight of the regular broadcasting schedule is "Jimmie Fiddler."
(Continued on Page Six)



WORK PROGRESSES — Workmen are progressing on a new bridge at the east end of Sixth Street. The photo here

looks east from Sixth Street. Considerable road and bridge work is being done in that section of town.—Tribune Photo

January 17, 1963

The Pratt Daily Tribune

KWNS

(Continued from Page One)
dler's Hollywood News" to be heard ten times daily.

Wayne Poucher, a well-known news analyst, will be featured daily in a 15-minute commentary program on world news.

Daily, during the morning hour a local 30-minute homemakers show will be aired.

In the late afternoon, a disc-jockey program is planned during which the top 40 popular tunes will be played by requests.

A 25-minute program each week day afternoon will be broadcast from colleges in the area including those in Hays, Sterling, Haviland, Wichita, Lindsborg, and Pratt.



January 17, 1963

KWNS

KWNS

KWNS Prize Page Instruction Box

THIS IS YOUR KWNS PRIZE PAGE! VALUABLE PRIZES CAN BE YOURS JUST FOR LISTENING TO HAPPY RADIO - KWNS - 1280 - IN PRATT! FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW YOU CAN ENTER THE KWNS PRIZE PAGE CONTEST SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 7 COLUMN 2.

KWNS

KWNS

January 26, 1963

The Pratt Daily Tribune



Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoagland

First Christian Church Setting For Shaffer, Hoagland Wedding

The First Christian Church was the setting for the wedding of Miss Linda Kay Shaffer and Donald H. Hoagland, Jan. 20, at 3 p.m.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Len Hoagland, 307 N. Main, and Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt C. Shaffer, Dodge City.

Rev. Doran Myers performed the ceremony.

Miss Donna Renner, Wichita, sang "O Promise Me" and "Wedding Prayer" as the couple knelt at the altar. Mrs. W. E. Huffman, provided the traditional organ music.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a dress of white delustered satin with lace applique on the skirt and at the neckline. The fingertip veil was held with a crown of net and pearls. She wore a strand of cultured pearls, a gift of the bridegroom. She carried an orchid surrounded by a circlet of white feathered carnations.

Miss Sherril Sue Goff, Dodge City, was the maid of honor and Miss Karo Shaffer, sister of the bride was the bridesmaid. They

wore dresses of red satin brocade, and had red velvet headpieces with white velvet bows.

Gaylon Pankratz, Pratt, served as best man and the groomsmen was William E. Huffman, Larry Shaffer, brother of the bride, Manhattan; Bill Parker, Pratt; Jon Hartman, and Frank Peter- stle, Hays, were the ushers.

The candlelighters were Karen Shaffer and Sharon Seaman, Dodge City.

A reception was held in Fellowship Hall, following the wedding with Mrs. O. M. Whorst, Medicine Lodge, serving the cake. Mrs. Jack Vermillion, Cunningham, poured the punch. Others assisting were Mrs. Vir. Cummings, Mrs. Kay Reed, Mrs. Ernie Mellon, Mrs. Basil McManaman, Mrs. Paul Barstow and Mrs. H. C. Bradley.

Miss Judy Hoffman, Dodge City, had charge of the gift table and Mrs. Bill Parker was in charge of the guest book.

For going away the bride chose a navy blue and white suit. Her corsage was the orchid lifted from her bridal bouquet.

The bride is a graduate of Pratt County College. The bridegroom attended the Pratt County College and Wichita University. He is now an announcer for the radio station KWNS.

The couple is at home at 307 N. Main.

News
Nancy Baxter

lines, the hand made item becomes a woman who can sew—or knit—or her fingertips. She can create for her-

January 26, 1963

KWNS PRIZE PAGE!!

VALUABLE PRIZES CAN BE YOURS?? YES, YOU CAN WIN VALUABLE PRIZES JUST FOR LISTENING TO RADIO KWNS—1290—RADIO IN PRATT, KANSAS.

Here's all you have to do. Just cut out the KWNS Prize Page from your newspaper and print the names of each sponsor you hear on KWNS during the first week of broadcasting. Individual sponsors should be placed on the Prize Page only once. For each correct sponsor printed on the Prize Page two prize points will be given. For each incorrect sponsor placed on the Prize Page one prize point will be subtracted from your total correct points. Stay tuned to KWNS—1290—RADIO for further details on the many wonderful prizes you can win just by keeping a sponsor list on the KWNS—1290—RADIO Prize Page. All Prize Pages should be mailed to

PRIZE PAGE
KWNS RADIO
PRATT, KANSAS

January 26, 1963

The Pratt Daily Tribune

There will be a registration fee for the clinic.

Open House Set At Pratt Armory

An open house is scheduled Monday night at the local National Guard Armory from 8 to 10 p.m.

Communications equipment, weapons, howitzers, and military vehicles, in addition to other numerous items of army equipment, will be on display.

According to Captain Wilmer E. Huffman, guard personnel will be on hand to answer questions parents have regarding their sons' current or future military obligation.

Regular scheduled classes will be conducted and visitors interested may attend. Coffee and donuts will be served.

February 2, 1963



		
ROY HADDEN —Lions	BILL HUFFMAN —Optimists	DR. J. W. JACKS —Rotarians
<p>PRESIDENTS-ELECT — These three Prattians have been elected by their respective service clubs to take over as president in the near future. Most of them will begin their terms at the first meeting in July. From left to right they are</p>		
<p>Roy Hadden, Lions; Bill Huffman, Optimists; and Dr. J. W. Jacks, Rotary. The Kiwanis will elect a new president later this year, to take over in January, a club representative said.—Tribune Photos</p>		
<p>June 20, 1963</p>		

The Pratt Daily Tribune



AUBREY MAYS
—Station Manager



WILLIAM J. YOUNG
—General Manager

New Managers Hired For Station KWNS

William J. Young of Phoenix, Ariz., has been named general manager of Pratt radio station KWNS. The announcement was made today by Bill Huffman, station owner.

Young is the second top staff member to be hired within the past month. Aubrey Mays took over duties as station manager in June.

Huffman is anticipating that with the personnel addition, he will have more time to devote to public relations in interest of the station and to participation in civic affairs of the community.

Young will assume the duties of general manager immediately. In Phoenix, Ariz., he was engineer of television station KOOL, Channel 10. Previous to that, he was engineer of KTVI, Channel 2 in St. Louis, Mo. He has had 17 years experience in radio and television sales and engineering.

Young who is 36 years old, was born and raised in Belleville, Ill., and is a veteran of World War II.

Mays, who is 27, came here from Seminole, Tex., where he was station manager of radio station KTFO. He has been in radio since 1954 in the Texas towns of Levelland, Plainview, Odessa, Midland, and Amarillo. As station manager of KWNS, he is in charge of time sales and supervisor of personnel.

Mays is married and he and his wife, Tommye, have three children, Mike, 7; Sandra, 5; and MRich, 4.

Young and his wife, Barbara, have four children, James, 13; Mary Ann, 10; Nancy, 5; and Kathy, 2.

KC Man Released

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — Karl Edwin Bates, who has two artificial legs and walks with a cane, was absolved of a murder charge after a preliminary hearing Tuesday in City Court.

Judge Norman B. Sortor said he was convinced it was justifiable homicide and Bates was protecting his own life.

Bates was accused of the shooting death of Jennings Barnes at the Bates apartment on July 2.

Testimony indicates Barnes was visiting a woman on the floor above and twice dropped in on Bates to offer him a drink.

"I wanted to get rid of him, but I was afraid to ask him to leave," Bates testified.

He said Barnes turned off the lights one by one. Bates groped in a desk drawer for a pistol, turned on the desk light and shot Barnes.

"I couldn't get away and I was scared, Bates said.

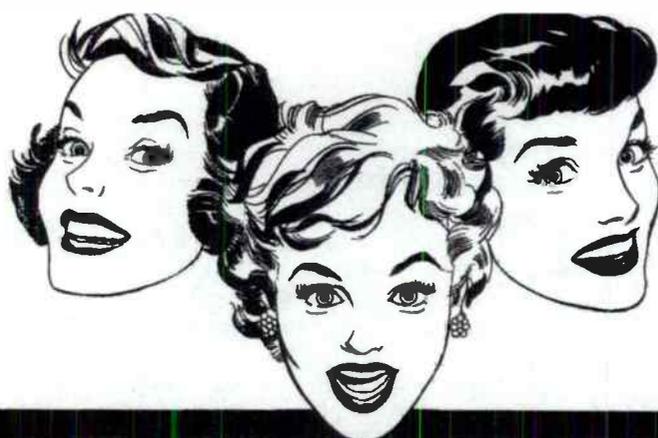
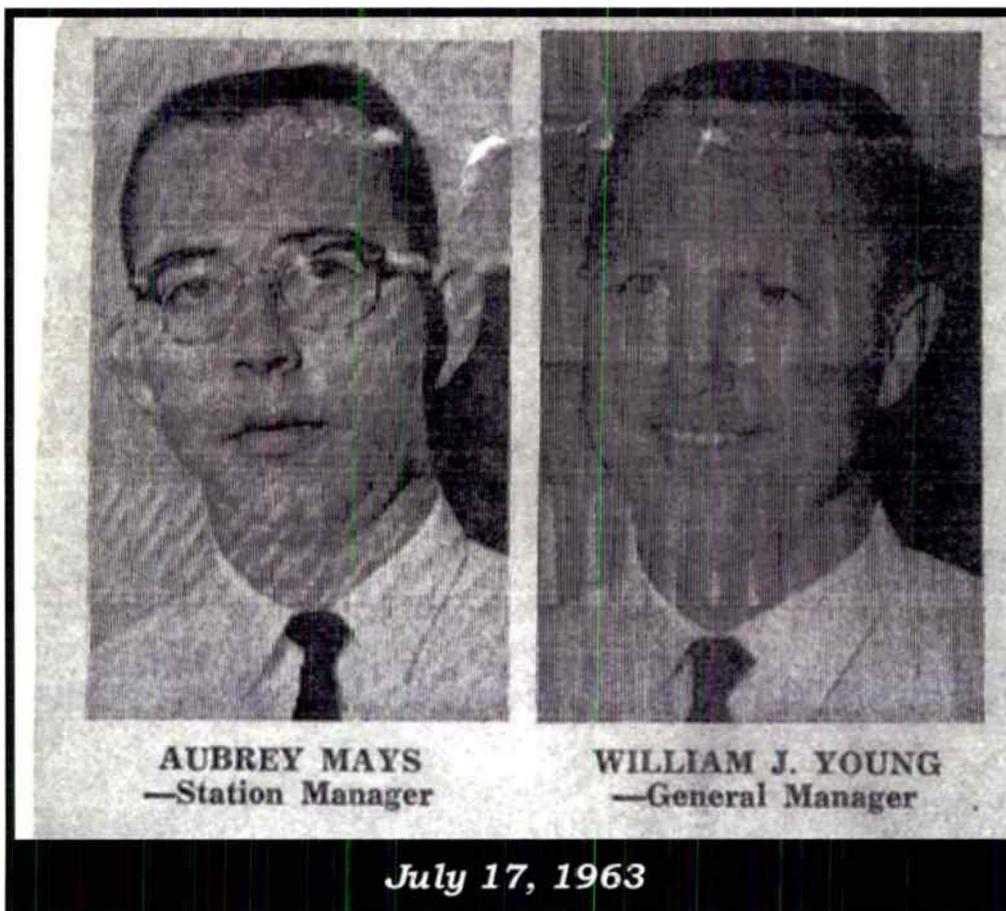
Bates is 44. Barnes was 26. Barnes was awaiting trial on a charge of assault with intent to kill a truck driver on July 2, 1962. The truck driver still is in a hospital recovering from the beating.



K W N S

July 17, 1963

The Pratt Daily Tribune



VARIETY
IS THE SPICE OF LISTENING

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Calendar Feb 9 1964 Pratt, Okla. Tribune-Page 9

STRENGTHEN AMERICA

SCOUTING CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

SCOUT WEEK
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

MEET OUR LOCAL

BOY SCOUTS

ON THEIR

54TH Anniversary



We extend our sincere congratulations to all the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Scout leaders for their contribution in making our community a better place to live. These boys and men can be justly proud of being members of the Boy Scouts of America. This organization, locally and nationally, has done a marvelous job in helping boys to become well-informed, well-adjusted members of our society.

— Join and Serve Our Local-Boy Scout Units —

Pack #22
Pratt Rotary Club
Bob W. Haffner, Scoutmaster
Gene Cassin

Unit #23
Alpha Unit
Stanley Brown
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #24
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
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William Christensen

Unit #25
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Unit #101
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William Christensen

Unit #102
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #103
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #104
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #105
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #106
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #107
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #108
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #109
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

Unit #110
Charles Burdick
John Hanner
Niles Curry
Helen Curry
Doris Crawford
William Christensen

This Message Is Sponsored By The Following Firms Who Believe In Scouting

- Pratt Area of Insurance Agencies
- Baker Insurance Agency
- Bales Insurance Agency
- Sanders Insurance Agency
- Scott & Hodges Insurance
- D. H. Thompson Insurance
- Flowers by Adams
- Woolwines
- Reed's Standard Services
- Skaggs Ace Hardware
- Gambles
- Green Lumber Co.
- B. F. Goodrich

- Cine Motor Company
- Robinson Implement Company
- Ray's '66' Service
- Ortmeyer Lumber Company
- Western Auto Associate Store
- T.G.E.Y. In Pratt
- Vincent & Graber Tire Company
- Central States Finance Co., Inc.
- J. M. McDonald Company
- Pratt Tribune
- Swinson Motor Co., Inc.
- Lesb Pontiac Company
- The Peoples Bank
- Milno Pharmacy
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- Pinkerton Motors, Inc.
- Klinton's Restaurant
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- P. K. Pharmacy
- The Printing Press
- Parson's Jewelry
- Owl Drug Store
- Ayres-Calbeck Mortuary
- Quality Laundry
- Baker Messer Drug
- Stoats Fine Service
- Pratt Furniture Company
- Cassel's Skelly Service
- Jo-Mar Dairies & Employees
- Schmidtberger Firestone
- Acme Quality Paints, Inc.
- J. C. Penney Co.
- Milison Insurance Agency
- Lewter Food Lot, Inc.
- Calbeck Furniture & Music
- Parrish Hotel

- Dwano's Conoco Service
- First National Bank
- El Rancho Motel & Cafe
- Freund Studio
- Hillcrest Motel
- KWNS
- Safeway
- G-W Sporting Goods, Inc.
- Daskocil's Frozen Food Lockers
- Dillans
- Treat Motors Inc.
- Unique Cleaners



February 9, 1964

The Pratt Daily Tribune



HOOTENANNY ATTRACTION — A local western swing band, the Midnite Ramblers, will open Pratt's first hootenanny Saturday night in the Municipal Auditorium. Twenty acts have been registered for the event being sponsored by the Pratt Kiwanis.

Midnite Ramblers are (left to right) George Wallace, Larry Simmons (band leader), Buck Hazen, Larry Hoffman, Lonnie Detmer, and Creed Badders
—Tribune Photo

February 20, 1964



The Pratt Daily Tribune

ounces and has been named grandfather.

Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Boots E. are great-grandparents.

Salina.



LADIES DAY IN PRATT Saturday, October 17th

— FEATURING —

GIFTS — PRIZES — ENTERTAINMENT

ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 1:30 P.M. MUNICIPAL BLDG.

FREE TICKETS

GET YOUR FREE TICKETS AT ONE OF THE
FOLLOWING MERCHANTS.

Ackley Florists
Alexander, Dr. W. F.
Ayres-Calbeck
Baker Insurance
Baker-Messer Drug
Bales Insurance
Barker Plumbing & Heating
Bell, Dr. T. H.
Bernard's Shoe Store
Blondell Hardware
Briggs Hotel
Brungard's Shoes
& Casual Wear
Calbeck Furniture
Calbeck Hotel
Country Kitchen
Catalina Motel
Central States
Char Burg
Chuck Wagon
Cline Motors
Clyde's Market
Coulter Service Co.
Diamond Sporting Goods
Dillons—North
Dillons—South
Drive In Market—East
Drive In Market—West
Duckwall, A. L.
Epp's Coin Shop

First National Bank
Flanders, Dr. R. A.
Flint Sales & Service
G & W Sporting Goods
Gambles
Gerald's Serva Teria
Goodrich, B. F.
Goodyear Service Store
Gadeke's Bakery
Green Lumber Co.
Hampton Investment Co.
Hearn Repair Shop
Hillcrest Motel
Hoffman Electric
Independent Lumber Co.
Jacks, Dr. J. W.
Jan-Ken
Jerry's APCO Service
Jetts
Jo Mar Dairies
Kansas Power & Light
Keith's Typewriter Co.
Kennedy Jewelry
Knight, J. A. & Sons
KWNS Radio Station
Lesh Pontiac
Litwin's
Lorane's
McDonald, J. M. Co.
Marshall Motor Parts
Mid-Continent LP Service

Milne's Pharmacy
Howard Moyer Motor Co.
New Deal
Ninnescah REA
Oklahoma Tire & Supply Co.
Owl Drug Store
Otis News
Owston's Jewelry
P-K Pharmacy
Hotel Parrish
Parson's Jewelry
Pennock Rest Home
Penney, J. C. Co.
The Peoples Bank
Peter Pan Cleaners
Pratt Air Service
Pratt Clinic
Pratt County Hospital
Pratt Feedlot
Pratt Tribune
Pratt Equity Exchange
Pratt Furniture
Pratt Glass Co.
Pratt Monument Co.
Pratt Van Lines
Printing Press, The
Quality Cleaners
Quality Laundry
Reed's Standard Service
Robinson Implement Co

Rosebowl
Safeway Store
Sanders Insurance
Schantz Texaco Service
Scott & Hodges
Sears Roebuck & Co.
Skaggs ACE Hardware
Southwestern Bell Telephone
Staats Fina Station
Stanion Wholesale Electric
Russ' Market
Spear Clothing Co.
Suburban Lanes
Sweetbriar Shop
Swisher Sporting Goods
Swinson Motor Co.
Thompson, D. H.
T G & Y Store
Trout Motors, Inc.
Tupper Office Supply
Utz Flowers
Van Blaricum, Dr. J. W.
Western Auto Associate
Western Savings Ass'n.
Williams Mortuary
Wiluna's
Woodward Appliance
Woolwine Supply
Young's Mobil Service

GIFTS ON DISPLAY IN THE WINDOW AT JETTS DEPARTMENT STORE

October 14, 1964

The Pratt Daily Tribune

**WE'VE BEEN
ON THE AIR
FOR 2 YEARS
BRINGING TO YOU
THE LATEST
NEWS
WEATHER
SPORTS
and ENTERTAINMENT
WE THANK YOU
PRATT
ON YOUR 80th BIRTHDAY
KWNS
1290 On Your Dial**

October 31, 1964

Construction on Pratt Equity's new grain dryer, which will use gas faster than the rest of Pratt during the summer—is expected to begin this week.

The dryer, to cost about \$30,000 will be able to handle 1,000 bushels per hour, removing five percentage points of moisture in that time, and will be used for all types of grain.

The grain dryer is the second major addition announced by the Equity in recent months. Plans were announced several weeks ago for construction of a large feed mill by the organization. — The Pratt Daily Tribune, Aug. 9, 1960

Renovate Pool

City commissioners voted to accept a swimming pool renovation bid of the Braymen-Meinking company of Topeka, and to accept the bid of the Layne-Western company of Wichita for filtering equipment.

The Braymen-Meinking construction cost will be \$56,719 which includes work on the filter system and new pool bottom. \$32,130, and bath house remodeling, \$4,589. The Layne company's bid for the filtering equipment was \$18,423. — The Pratt Daily Tribune, Feb. 18, 1960



Don't miss the TENNESSEE ERNIE FORD SHOW



Coming
your way
every
Sat. morning
Station KWNS
1290 ON YOUR DIAL

presented by your
SOHIGRO DEALER

Farmers Grain & Merc. Co.,
Cullison

Loren Baker Liquid Fertilizer
Service, Pratt

Pratt Equity Exchange

Sawyer & Medicine Lodge
Equity Exchange

SCHMIDTBERGER
Firestone
2 miles west on Highway 34

29. Auto Services

HOSPITALS WOULD HAVE fewer pedestrian patients if there were more patient pedestrians. Don't trust to luck ... have your brakes checked and the necessary repairs done NOW Safety First Auto Repair, 1132 N. Main, Pratt.

REPAIRING RADIATORS IS our business. We strive to please all our customers by doing the best job possible on your radiator at the lowest possible cost to you. Stop by and talk over your radiator problems with us. Safety First Radiator Repair, 1132 N. Main, Pratt.

COMPLETE CAR SERVICE! Wash, Lube & Oil changes. Eubank Oil E. 1st. Pratt.

LESH PONTIAC SERVICE! gives you all the brakes! Trained men is your-guarantee of safer, smoother breaking power; Stop in! 115 W. 4th.

WASH, LUBE, OIL, CHANGE OR just gasoline. Try MOBIL.

April 18, 1965

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Marian Award To 12 Sacred Heart Girl Scouts

Last Sunday, 12 Cadette Girl Scouts of the Sacred Heart Parish received one of the highest awards available in Scouting, the Marian Award.

This award is made possible by the Youth Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D.C. and the Girl Scouts of America.

The award was developed to help girls become better members of their faith, to recognize in all they do the many oppor-

tunities for living the teachings of their church and the principles of the organization to which they belong.

The requirements completed by these girls help them to further develop knowledge of their Catholic faith as they enjoy an educational and recreational leisure time program.

Receiving the Marian Award were the following girls: Janet Blasi, Doris Churchill, Patricia

Crollett, Janet Freeman-Roseann Hacker, Leanne Hitt, Patricia Routte, Marilyn Stevens, Cindy Tasset, Mary Ann Young,

of Troop 270, with Mrs. Gene Brown and Mrs. Leland Fling as leaders; Tomicia Thomas, of Troop 272, with Mrs. Ronald Bales as leader; Cathy Tasset,

of Troop 261, with Mrs. Gene Hilgenfeld and Mrs. Gilbert Walker. Assisting the girls with their

requirements were their pastor, Father John Vesecky, Sister DeSales, Mrs. Charles Routte and several of their mothers.

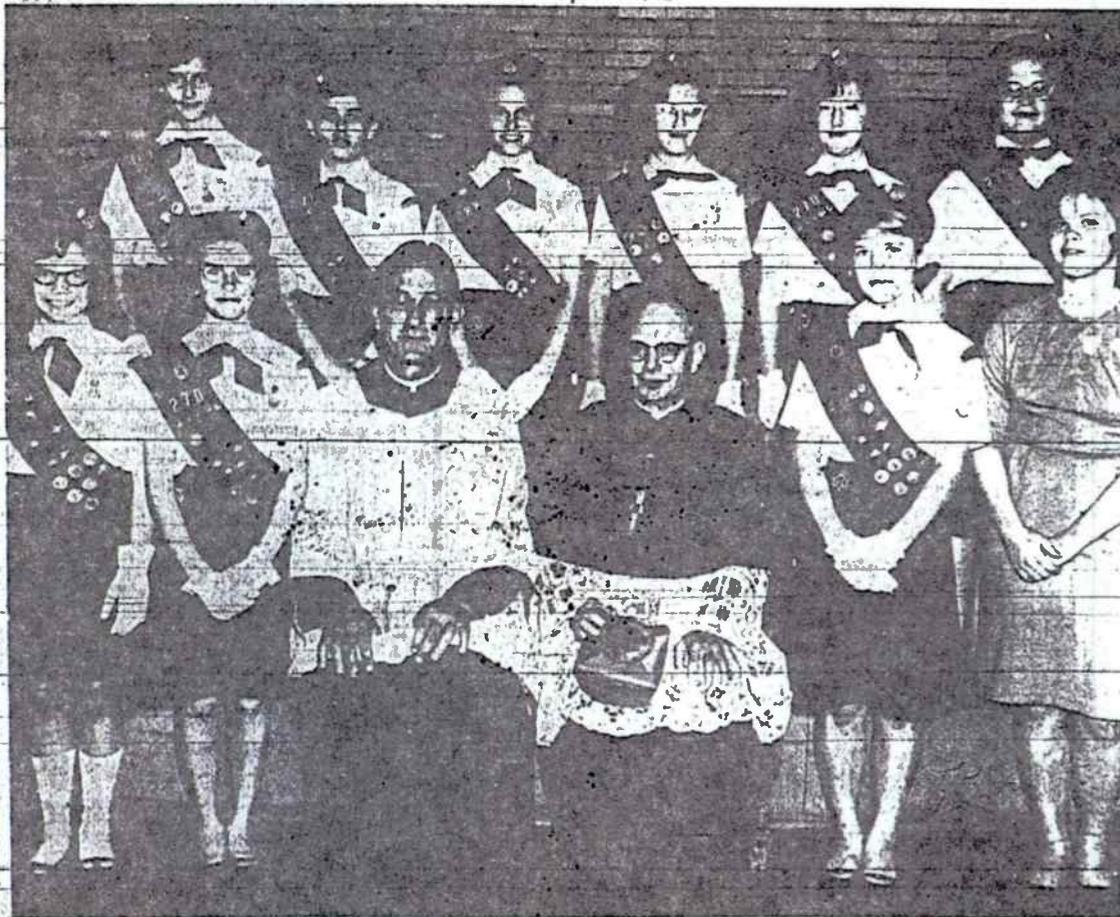
These are the only Marian Awards to be given this year in the Dodge City Diocese.

Bishop Marion F. Forst formally recognized the girls of Sacred Heart Parish in a ceremony held at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Dodge City on Sunday, Feb. 28.

These Cadette Scouts received this coveted award after the 8 a.m. Mass Sunday and were honored immediately afterwards

with a breakfast and reception in the school hall. Sunday evening the girls and their families enjoyed a picnic and wienie roast on the school grounds.

Special guests included Father John Vesecky, Father Francis Jordan and the St. Joseph Sisters of the school teaching staff.



GIRL SCOUTS GET MARIAN AWARD—The 10 girls pictured above, all of the Sacred Heart Parish here, Sunday received the Marian Award.

one of the highest in Scouting. Front row, left to right, Leanne Hitt, Janet Blasi, Father John Vesecky, Bishop Marion F. Forst, Cindy Tasset, Mary Ann Young; back row, Roseann Hacker, Doris Churchill, Janet Freeman, Tomicia Thomas, Marilyn Stevens, Patricia Routte. Not pictured are Patricia Crollett and Cathy Tasset.

ker, Doris Churchill, Janet Freeman, Tomicia Thomas, Marilyn Stevens, Patricia Routte. Not pictured are Patricia Crollett and Cathy Tasset.

May 19, 1965

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Party Line Program To Be Heard On Radio Station KWNS

Superintendent of Schools Kenneth S. Hill announced today that Radio Station KWNS is offering time on Wednesday for representatives of the Board of Trustees of the Pratt Community Junior College to answer questions which listeners may call in to the program.

Times for the program are from 3 to 5 p.m. and again from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. and will be operated like a "party line" program.

Listeners are asked to call in questions regarding the proposed bond issue to build a new junior college campus, and will have answers given or explained to all listeners of the station.

October 19, 1965



HOMECOMING CANDIDATES — Three senior girls in Pratt High School will compete tonight for Homecoming Queen. The three are, left to right, front row, Beverly Hertlein, Cindy

Stenion, and Barbara Freeman, Junior attendant is Sylvia Frazier and sophomore attendant is Diana Hillard. — Tribune Photo

October 22, 1965



The Pratt Daily Tribune

IT'S **FREE!** IT'S **FREE!**
—ADMISSION—
TO THE
KWNS

HI-FI STEREO SHOW

THIS WEEKEND—OCTOBER 30th-31st
AT THE
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY IN PRATT
OPEN DAILY — 1 p.m.—10 p.m.

October 26, 1965



ably serve the farmer.

**LOOK OUT
LUKE
SPOOK**
HAS COOKED
UP A WITCH'S
BREW OF
THRILLS!
CHILL!
SUSPENSE!
FOR A
HOWLING
Halloween

2 BIG FEATURES
"Black Sunday"
AND
"Castle of Blood"

COME EARLY, SEATS GO!

SATURDAY NIGHT
SHOWS STARTS AT 12:00
ALL SEATS \$1.00

Barron
THEATRE

SEE THE LATEST IN...

AM-FM RADIOS . . . TELEVISION . . . STEREO
. . . HI-FI . . . RECORD PLAYERS . . .
TAPE RECORDERS . . . ELECTRONICS . . .

AT THE **KWNS-FM**

HI-FI STEREO SHOW

SATURDAY & SUNDAY—October 30th & 31st
AT THE
NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY IN PRATT
FREE Admission! Open Both Days 1 p.m.-10 p.m.

October 29, 1965

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Attica Falls In 4th Quarter

ATTICA — The Attica Bulldogs fell to their ninth consecutive loss of the season against no wins as Oxford stormed back in the final quarter of play to salt away the win.

Becker rammed over from one yard away in the second quarter and Broce kicked the PAT to send the Bulldogs to the front with a 7-0 lead by halftime and Broce kicked a 27 yard field goal in the third quarter to extend the Attica lead but Oxford caught fire in the final quarter as they scored two TDs to take the lead.

Wright did everything right for Oxford as he rambled 65 yards to score and score the other two TDs on a 10 yard run and a 2 yard plunge. Hendricks kicked two PATs.

Oxford	Attica
Statistics	
6	7
156	64
0	43
30	25
Score by Quarters	
Oxford	0 0 7 13 20
Attica	0 7 3 0 10

Griffin; TACKLES — Marv Hladkik and Bob Stankovich; MIKE MAN — Dan Tarabella; LINEBACKERS — Jay Shapiro and Mike Rhoades; DEFENSIVE BACKS — John Porteus and Rodney Snyder; SAFETY — Leon Harden; and RAMBLER — Dave DeMauro.

Bill Stern

brings you the greatest stories in SPORTS

5:05 p.m. DAILY
KWNS

1200 K.C.

SPONSORED BY

Scott & Hodges

INSURANCE REAL ESTATE
LOANS

121 S. Main GR 2-4451



November 13, 1965

WALT DISNEY'S most hilarious comedy
THAT DARN CAT
TECHNICOLOR
NOW SHOWING
SHOWS AT 7:15 - 9:15
MAYNARD, 1st. & Hwy. 21st.
CHILDREN 50c

Barton THEATRE

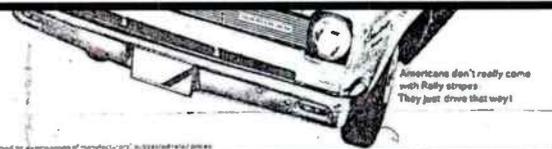
SAWDUST PARTY
7:30 p.m.
February 21st
National Guard Armory
DEMONSTRATION • REFRESHMENTS • DOOR PRIZES • Join us for an evening of fun, demonstration and entertainment. See how the Great Power Shaper is so much more on the latest report. It's hot. Be our guest.

W.R. Green Limited

Get ready now. Open a Savings Account here and add to it regularly. Crush the blow when the time comes.

WESTERN SAVINGS

PRATT, KANSAS



Americans don't really come with Rally stripes. They just drive that way!

Win Big at your friendly American Motors/Rambler Dealer!

FLINT SALES & SERVICE, INC., 519 S. Main, Pratt, Kansas

DON'T MISS!

the all new

HOME SHOW

SEE THE LATEST IN HOME BUILDING, DECORATING, APPLIANCES, FURNISHINGS, CONVENIENCES — GARDENING IDEAS!

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 20th & 21st
12 NOON to 9 p.m. EACH DAY

at the NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY **PRATT**

Miss PRATT, DIANE FARMER, Representing the 1966 Miss Kansas Program Will Be Present Each Day!

FREE GIFTS FOR THE LADIES!

SPONSORED BY RADIO STATION **KWNS**

February 17, 1966

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Bill Huffman Joins Swinson Motor Firm

The appointment of W. E. Huffman as business manager of Swinson Motor Company, Inc., was announced today. The appointment was effective Tuesday of this week.



Bill Huffman
—New Position

Grain Sold in Market

The grain sold in the market today, said the grain sold to processors and grain handlers in simultaneous action. "What it accomplished," Swinson members received from 15 to 20 cents a bushel more for their corn and from 40 to 50 cents more a bushel for soybeans than they would have received at harvest time.

Closing July prices at Chicago Wednesday were \$1.29 1/2 a bushel and \$2.21 1/2 a bushel on soybeans.

Tew, Delmar Schmittler, Darrell Saville
Community Leaders — Bill Harding, Mrs. George Tew, Dwight Parr, Mrs. Dwayne Strube, Delmar Schmittler

Firemen Receive Pay Raise

The Pratt City volunteer firemen received a long awaited pay raise with the passing of an ordinance at last night's commission meeting. Firemen will get \$5 for each fire call and \$1 for each practice drill. The raise is \$1 in each category.

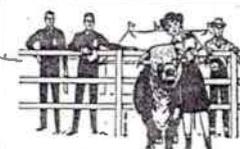
A complaint from a citizen that parking violation tickets were not being served was discussed by the commissioners. Specifically named in the complaint was the parking lot North of the Tribune office building and last meter block on South Main.

The commissioners indicated that there would be stricter enforcement of parking meter violations.

Residentials Rezone
Two residential areas were rezoned in a report received by the commissioners by the city planning board which also met last night.

The areas were rezoned to "neighborhood business." Rezone were lots 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, Block 22 in the Simpson addition and lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, Block 42 in the Grandview addition.

Other Business
In other business the commissioner okayed an easement for a gas line across the North portion of airport farm land. Payment to the city is \$1 a rod. The gas line will run to the Pratt Feedlot facilities.



THANK YOU!

We Wish To Extend "A Big Thanks" To The Following Purchases of Livestock At The Pratt County Fair

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> —Metcher Pucking Co. Kinton's Restaurant Sawyer Co-Op Equity Exchange Trout Motors, Inc. Fletcher Food Service, Inc. J. S. Dillons and Sons Dasko's Frozen Food Lockers Pratt Equity Exchange Pratt Livestock Commission Co. First National Bank in Pratt Keith's Typewriter Co. Kennedy Jewelry Iuka State Bank The Peoples Bank Cairo Co-Op Equity Exchange Midland Transportation Co. Sawyer Hardware Ayres-Calbeck Mortuary Tribune Publishing Co. Yoward Moyer Motors Pratt Feedlot Inc. C. T. Eubank Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. Hartwell Machinery Co. Lesh Motors, Inc. First National Travel Service Howell Grain Co. Iuka Co-Operative Exchange Geo. Hearn Repair Shop Coats State Bank Jett's First National Bank Cromer Bros. Robinson Implement Co. B.P.D.E. No. 1451 Banbury Auction Service Broyce Johnson Drive-In Markets Mobil Oil Co. The Printing Press Woolwine Supply Co. Williams Mortuary Harold Miskimen J. M. McDonald Co. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers Grain & Merc. Co. Western Savings Association Pratt Lions Club Carter Barker Harrison Williams M.F.A. Insurance Dougherty Bros. Isabel Co-op Equity Exchange Johnson Ditching Service Swinson Motor Co., Inc. Bonson Farm Service Eddie Randle—Moorman Feed Co. C. D. Goyen & Son DeKalb Feed—Herb Randle Country Cousin Sausage Kincheloe Implement Co. Read's Standard Service Palace Barber Shop Darrel Miller Fletcher Amana Products Swisher Sporting Goods & Western Wear Spear's Men's Wear B & G Hog Farm Brungrard's B. F. Goodrich Baker-Messer Drug Medicine Lodge Sales J. C. Panney Co. International Harvester Sales & Service Billy DeVault W. R. Green Lumber Co. Ortmeyer Lumber Co. P. K. Pharmacy Owl Drug Store Isabel State Bank Vincent & Graber Tire Co. Wilson Electric Co. Diamond Sporting Goods Co. Young's Mobil Service K.W.N.S. Radio Station Leo Miller Fred Bolt Pratt Police Department Pratt Furniture Co.
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THE LIVESTOCK SALE COMMITTEE IN BEHALF OF ALL THE 4-H BOYS & GIRLS





February 24, 1966

August 3, 1966

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Luci's Expecting

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lucie Johnson Nugent is expecting a baby sometime in June, the Washington Post reported today in a copyright story.

The article by Marie Smith added that President and Mrs. Johnson aren't looking for publication about the baby event, preferring to await Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Nugent's own formal announcement. It would be the Johnson's first grandchild.

The Nugents, who were married last Aug. 6, live in Austin, Tex.

Reception At Cullison

CULLISON — Approximately 100 persons attended a Reception honoring Lyman A. Hickel; Sunday, Jan. 23, at the Cullison Community Church. Mr. Hickel recently retired after serving 36 years as Rural Mail Carrier at Cullison, Kansas.

Tea, coffee, cake, and nuts were served from a table that was covered with a blue tablecloth and gold lining. A silver tea service was used at each end of the table. A small box cake, made by Mrs. Pete Hice, was used as a centerpiece.

Gold tapers flanked the cake. Mrs. LeeRay Coward and Mrs. Margaret Michael served, while Mrs. Leeman Hadsell served the cake. Mrs. Pete Hice presided at the guest-book and Mrs. Orville Miles received the many gifts.

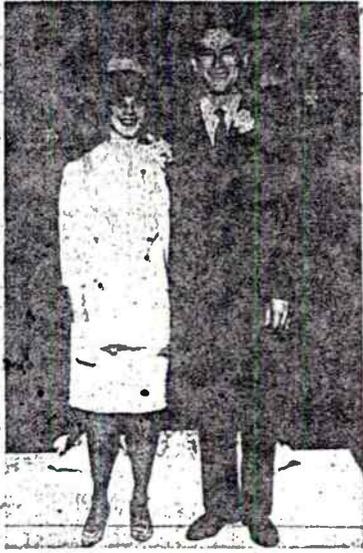
Background music was provided by Wendell Heff playing the piano; then later he accompanied Denise Hice while she sang "Wagonwheels." "Tumbling Tumbleweeds." She also sang a song "I've been working on the rail route" of which she compiled the words.

Hostesses for the event were Mrs. LeeRay Cowen, Mrs. Pete Hice, Mrs. Orville Miles, Fay Hadsell, Mrs. Donald Elliott, Mrs. Troy Baker, Maggie Grossman, Mrs. Clyde Adams, Carrie Snyder, and Lena Hetschert.

Out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Russell Michael, Mrs. Ed Barach, Mr. and Mrs. Marilyn Michael, Wichita, Kan.; Mr. and Mrs. Barney Wetzer, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Flory, Mr. and Mrs. Ansel Crouse, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hugler, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Glesby, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Mills, all of Pratt; Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Doolittle, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Lewis, all of Preston; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Fankhauser, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Casaligham, Mr. and Mrs. George Freeman, all of Haviland; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Byche, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Valzer, all of Iuka; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hudson, Hopewell.

Wedding Guests

Out of town guests attending the Barker-Waggoner wedding were Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Waggoner, parents of the groom; Cheney; Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Waggoner and son; Mr. and Mrs. Beloit; Claude; Mrs. Traditional wedding marches were played by Mrs. Lura Dye, Jill Jan and Jim, Wichita; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leasure; Mr. and Mrs. James T. Dye, all of Iuka; Mr. and Mrs. Ed



Mr. and Mrs. Larry P. Waggoner

Barker-Waggoner Nuptials Saturday

Miss Billie Ann Barker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cabell Barker, Pratt, became the bride of Larry P. Waggoner, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Waggoner, Cheney, Saturday at 2 p.m. in the First Christian church. The bride wore a white tulle-trimmed gown decorated with twin bouquets of large yellow and white mums. The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a white silk three-piece suit edged in crimson and satin. Her headpiece was a small satin crown with a short veil of illusion. Her shoes were blue suede pumps and she wore a single white orchid with a yellow center. For accessories she wore a ring belonging to her grandmother, Mrs. L. L. Barker of Pratt. The traditional sixpence was in her shoe.

Her attendants were her bridesmaid at Wichita State University, Miss Pat Winter, Sattalia, who was maid of honor, Miss Hattie Smith, a student at the girls, was bridesmaid. They wore identical dresses of a dusky yellow linen cut in a simple A-line. Their headpieces were yellow roses of illusion centered with pearls and featuring a short veil. They wore matching yellow shoes and carried a single long-stemmed white rose tied with white ribbon.

The groom was attended by David Barker, Pratt, as best man and Robert Barker, Wichita, groomsmen, both brothers of the bride. The ushers were Kenney Wetzel, Pratt, and James T. Dye, Jr., Wichita. Traditional wedding marches were played by Mrs. Lura Dye, organist, Mrs. Keith Hultman, sang "Because," and "Whither Thou Goest," from the "Song of Ruth," before the altar. Just before the exchange of rings, Mrs. Kerr sang "The

Hand, One Heart." "The Lord's Prayer" was sung preceding the benediction. The reception was held in the home of the bride's parents. The reception table was covered with a natural colored linen cloth. The centerpiece was a large silver basket of yellow and white carnations flanked by white candle holders. The bride and groom were seated in white chairs in silver candle holders. The cake on a large silver plate, was topped with white bells and yellow rose. It was also decorated with yellow roses and a tiny white Bible. Mints and nuts were served on silver trays and composites. A silver coffee service was at the opposite end of the table. A small table covered with a natural color cloth held a silver punch bowl and cups. The bride's attendants served the punch and coffee and Mrs. David Barker, sister in law of the bride, cut the cake. She was assisted by Miss Janis Berger, cousin of the bride.

Mrs. Waggoner is a junior at Wichita State university majoring in Spanish and French. She is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, honorary society and AWSA court. She was a member of Spurs as a sophomore and a floor director at Grace Wilkie Hall. She plans to continue her education.

Mr. Waggoner has attended Emporia State Teachers college and Kansas State university. He has been news director at KWNS the past two and a half years. He recently resigned his position to resume his studies at WSU for a degree in broadcasting.

The couple left for a week's honeymoon in the south where they will stop briefly for a visit with the bride's maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lura Nelson and Mr. Nelson in Malvern, Ark. They will be at home after Feb. 4 at 5208 East Central in Wichita.

Bo

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ANNUAL HOME SHOW

Open
1:00
To
10:00
DAILY

THIS WEEKEND

! MARCH 4th & 5th
Pratt National Guard Armory

FREE!

FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

FREE!

Sponsored By
KWNS
Radio In Pratt

Refreshments Available For Your Pleasure!

Plan Now To Attend!

March 1, 1967

February 3, 1967

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Page 8-Pratt, Dak. Tribune - Monday, April 24, 1967

<p>Davies Design Products 95 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Municipal Power Plant 32 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Transit Mix 7 employees</p>	<p>The Pratt Tribune 30 employees</p>	<p>Mid-Kansas Irrigation 6 employees</p>
<p>Doskocil Frozen Food Lockers 13 employees</p>	<p>We Salute Pratt's Industries During Kansas Products Week</p>			<p>Harvest Brand 10 employees</p>
<p>Fletcher Packing Co.-Fletcher's Food Ser. Inc. 42 employees</p>	<p>Hillcrest Hotel Owston's Jewelry Statts Finb Service Woolwines Young's Mobil Service Treat Motors, Inc. Winfrays' Water Services, Inc. Vincent Tire Co. Unique Cleaners & Tailors Swinson Motor Co., Inc. Stanton Wholesale Elect. Co. Scott & Hodges Ins. Robinson Implement Co. Sanders Insurance Agency Reed Standard Service Pratt Van Lines, Inc. Saars Pratt Furniture Co. Pratt Equity Exchange Service Station Pratt Cable TV Pizza Hut Parson's Jewelry Parrish Hotel P. K. Pharmacy Myers Radio & TV Service Owl Drug Store Penny's Howard Mayer Motors Milnes McDonalds Montgomery Ward & Co.</p> <p>Williams Mortuary Kimmel Electric Co. Pratt Industrial Development, Inc. Ackley Florists Acme Quality Paints, Inc. Baker Insurance Agency Benson Farm Service C & L Construction Co., Inc. Catalina Motel Central States Finance Co., Inc. Donald's Servo-Teria Baker-Messer Drug Pratt Chamber of Commerce Deluxe Cleaners Jett's Gambles Gibson Discount Center Bales Insurance Agency Hazel's Blossom Shop Ken's "66" Service Klinton's Restaurant Gene's Conoco Service Bernard's Shoe Store Drive-In Markets Eubank Oil Co. Iesh Motors Inc. Holiday House Motel Hoffman Electric Co., Inc. Jerry's APCO Service Wisby Art Studio</p>			<p>Printing Press 7 employees</p>
<p>Foreman Pipeline Co. 7 employees</p>				<p>Protection Hatching 6 employees</p>
<p>Frisble Ice Co. 2 employees</p>				<p>R & R Tank Co., Inc. 28 employees</p>
<p>Ed Hertlein—Ari-In Glass 2 employees</p>				<p>Schafer Plow Co., Inc. 75 employees</p>
<p>Jo-Mar Dairies Co. 8 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Equity Exchange 20 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Manufacturing Co. 2 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Monument Co. 1 employee</p>	<p>Taylor Printing Shop 2 employees</p>
<p>Radio Station KWNS 7 employees</p>	<p>WHAT KANSANS BUILD... BUILDS KANSAS</p>			<p>Waters Rock Shop 2 employees</p>
<p>J. A. Knight & Sons 10 employees</p>	<p>Gadeke's Bakery 12 employees</p>	<p>Pratt Feedlot 40 employees</p>	<p>Cross Manufacturing 19 employees</p>	<p>Hoover Sign Co. 2 employees</p>

April 24, 1967

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Ladies . . .

You're "Queen For
A Day" in Pratt
On October 7th . . .
Ladies Day!

— FEATURING —

Gifts—Prizes—Hospitality
And Values

ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 1:45 P.M.
IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AFTER THE
PRATT COMMUNITY JUNIOR COLLEGE
HOMECOMING PARADE.



HERE ARE YOUR PARTICIPATING LADIES DAY HOSTS

Ackley Florists	Hillcrest Motel	Pratt Clinic
Ayres-Calbeck	Jan-Ken	Pratt County Hospital
Baker-Messer Drug	Jettis	Pratt Feedlot
Barron Theatre	Jo-Mar Dairies	Pratt Furniture
Char Burg	Kansas Power & Light	Pratt Tribune
Chuck Wagon	KWNS Radio Station	Pratt Equity Exchange
Clyde's Market	Litwin's	Pratt Glass Co.
Coultter Service Co.	Lorane's	Printing Press, The
Dillons—North	McDonald, J. M. Co.	Safeway Store
Dillons—South	Milne's Pharmacy	Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.
Drive In Market—East	Owl Drug Store	Statis Film Service
Drive In Market—West	Oils News	Stanley Wholesale Electric Co.
Duckwall, A. L.	P-K Pharmacy	Spear Clothing Co.
Gambles	Ponney, J. C. Co.	Thompson, D. H.
Geo. Heard Repair Shop	The Peoples Bank	Tread Motors, Inc.

GET YOUR FREE TICKETS

FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT AT ANY ONE OF THE BUSINESS LISTED

September 28, 1967

The Pratt Daily Tribune



TO MANAGE CABLE — Bill Young (right), accepts congratulations from Richard Jonas, regional manager of Telesis Corporation after accepting the position of general manager of the Pratt Cable TV operation.—Tribune Photo

Young Joins Pratt Cable TV

Bill Young, for five years manager of radio station KWNS in Pratt, has accepted the position of general manager of the Pratt Cable TV operation effective immediately.

The joint announcement issued by KWNS and Pratt Cable TV said Young will continue to serve as general manager of KWNS and KWNS-FM. Station manager for KWNS will be M. L. (Lee) Eneff.

"We are very happy to be associated with Mr. Young and KWNS," said Richard Jonas, regional manager of Telesis

Corporation and Pratt Cable TV.

Young added that "We will bring to the people of this area, through the media of radio and cablecasting, local news and sports coverage, as well as special event programming."

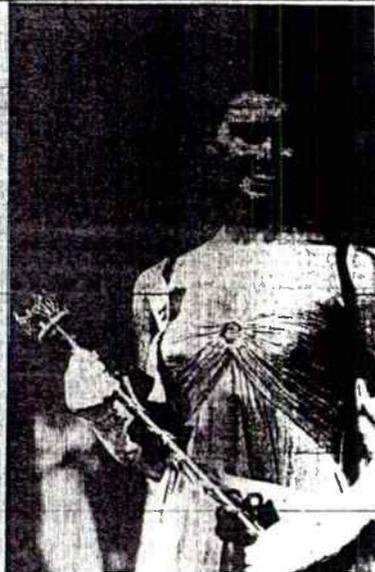
Young came to the radio station here from Phoenix, Ariz., where he was with channel 10 television. Prior to that he spent 15 years — 10 in television and five in radio — in St. Louis, Mo., his hometown.

Young and his wife, Barbara, have four children, ages 16, 14, 9 and 6.

October 19, 1967

The Pratt Daily Tribune

WELCOME
DEBBIE
.
.
OUR
MISS AMERICA



FROM THE
PRATT
Jaycees ★ Jaynes
AND
PRATT
MERCHANTS

The PRATT JAYCEES and JAYNES wish to thank the following merchants for their financial support in making this page available. A Jaycee organization is only as good as the town that supports it and our town is the greatest!

AGAIN, THANK YOU PRATT MERCHANTS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF ALL JAYCEE PROJECTS

Pratt Furniture Co.	Keith's Typewriter Co.	J. A. Knight & Sons	Woolwines
OTASCO	Tupper Office Supply	Jeanno's Beauty Salon	Val-Ray Flowers
Milnes	Williams Mortuary	Mid-Continent L-P Service, Inc.	Wilma's Fashions
Barron Theater	Pratt Equity Exchange	Swinson Motor Co.	Deluxe Cleaners
Saleway	Scott & Hodges Insurance	Kennedy Jewelers	Benson Farm Service
B. F. Goodrich	Dick's Mobil	Kansas Coin Shop	Hearn Sales & Service
Brungard's	House of Beauty	K.W.N.S. Radio	Barron Barber Shop
Hampton Investment	Carler's Cafe	Cable T.V.	Handy Appliance
Guarantee Mutual	First National Bank in Pratt	Ortmeyer Lumber Co.	Bill Soerries Plumbing & Heating
Peter Pan Services	Skaggs ACE Hardware	Caialina Motel	Reed's Standard Service
Donald's Serva-Teria	Staats FINA	Hillcrest Motel	T. P. Burger House
Drive-In Market	Litwin's	Montgomery Ward	Evergreen Motel
Dillons	P. K. Pharmacy	Wisby Art Studio	El Rancho Motel & Cafe
Baker-Messer Drug	Dairy Queen	Vincent Tire Co.	Pizza Hut
Blkes Burger-Bar	Chuck Wagon Cafe	Keller's K. T. Service	McDonalds
Swafford Sales Co.	Lesh Motors, Inc.	Frisbie Ice & Beer	Cutter's Quality Cleaners
Student Body Pratt Jr. College	Reece Business Machines	Unique Cleaners	The Pratt Tribune
Parsons Jewelry	Pepsi Distributor in Pratt	Beau Studio of Photography	Stanion Wholesale Electric
Owl Drug Store	Troul Motors	Gambles	Hoover-Sign Co.
Sears	Calbeck Furniture	Royal Barber Shop	Pratt Glass Co.
		Perryman Gulf Service	Sander's Insurance

October 26, 1967

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Plan Now To Attend!!

THE ANNUAL
KWNS

HOME SHOW

In Pratt

AT THE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

FREE--ADMISSION--FREE

—THIS WEEKEND—

Sat., Sun., March 2 & 3

From 1 to 10 p.m.

Featuring MISS KANSAS

Booths — Displays — Demonstrations
Fun — Prizes — Surprises
2 Days of Live Radio Broadcasting
by Kwns

Don't Miss It! It's Fun And Everyone Is Invited To Attend

March 1, 1968

BFGoodrich

BIG 15 cu. ft. WHITE KING VERTICAL FREEZER

- 10 Net storage capacity, 207 lbs.
- 3 refrigerated shelves, 1 adjustable shelf, 4 inner door shelves.
- Freezer rack, selector light, defrost magnetic snap door gaskets and roll-out basket for easy storage.
- Temperature range: —20° to 0°.
- M. M. P. Tecumseh compressor.

NO MONEY DOWN

\$177.77

USE YOUR "choice-charge" ACCOUNT

Contemporary styling! Select hardwood veneers and solids with Oil Walnut finish.

\$159.95

FROM

BFGoodrich

BIG 22" Economy ROTARY MOWER

A TRULY OUTSTANDING MOWER VALUE-LOW-LOW PRICED AT

\$44.88

GRASS BAG \$6.95

NO MONEY DOWN

OPEN A "CHOICE-CHARGE" ACCOUNT
Put "Buying Balance" in your budget

1. Buy with NO MONEY DOWN
2. Pay within 30 days with NO CARRYING CHARGE

The Lefthand Corner

By **BILL SOUTHARD**

You folks with a yen to improve the old circulation and tone up muscles you've forgotten you owned should plan on being at the high school stadium at 6:30 a.m. Monday. That's the first session of thrice weekly workouts for the Trotters club, a group J. O. Dickeyson made more or less famous last summer.

Thirty-five minutes of walking and jogging are on the agenda. If the others move too fast, just set your own pace.

Volunteers are needed for some phases of the 1968 Head Start program, scheduled to begin June 10 and run for 60 days, reports Donna Fletcher.

Several individuals with cars and driver's licenses are needed to help in the transportation department; individuals are needed to help out in the kitchen for the noon meal; and several classroom volunteers are being sought, she said. The latter need not be high school graduates and will fill in as assistants for teachers and teacher aides. It's not necessary that volunteers be available every weekday — just help when you can.

A program on Head Start will be aired over KWNS at 8:30 a.m. next Tuesday.

Quenten Hannawald, one of the sepmasters loading up yesterday to head for the camporee site, was figuring on a good rain this weekend. He said it seldom fails to rain some during the camporee and a couple of times it rained so hard the campers needed help getting out of the camp area.

...buffs should enjoy

May 4, 1968



The Pratt Daily Tribune



James Christopher Young

Son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Young
324 North Main

James has attended Pratt schools for five years. He has been active in Choral groups, as a soloist to Music Festival and other events, in the band and orchestra, in Latin Club, as President, and in Pratt High Singers.

A member of the Sacred Heart Church in Pratt, he has served as an officer of the CYO, and been the recipient of citizenship awards. James works as news director, engineer, and announcer on KWNS, "KWNS-FM" radio in Pratt. He holds an FCC license. After graduation he plans to attend St. Mary College at Dodge City, to which he has received a music scholarship, and then go on to a larger university to study musicology-conducting.

He cited music theory and singing the Judge in Trial by Jury during high school as his most memorable moments.

Pratt Cable TV & KWNS



May 25, 1968

Radiothon Tomorrow Final UF Push

The last concerted effort to tie up loose ends in the 1968 United Fund campaign is planned tomorrow as drive leaders and other community figures state a "radiothon" aimed at collecting the final \$4,000 needed.

Beginning at 1 p.m. and continuing until 10 p.m. or later, dozens of individuals will take turns presenting entertainment, auctioning items and just talking in a KWNS broadcast designed to put the lid on the goal of \$31,604.

Chairmen have been assigned for each hour's presentation during the afternoon and evening program and each chairman is responsible for the activity in his time slot. They

Order your Russell Stover Christmas candies now! P.K. They

have invited guests to chat and a number of merchants have contributed articles to be auctioned during the broadcast. Arrangements have been made through a transportation committee to pick up additional items donated for the auction,

KU Band To March At Orange Bowl

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP)—The University of Kansas marching band will present a "Salute from One Sunshine State to Another" at halftime of the Orange Bowl football game in Miami Jan. 1 in which Kansas plays Penn State.

Prof. Kenneth Bloomquist, band director, said the 152-member band will open the show by playing "Moon Over Miami," followed by "Sunny." As it plays "Sunny" it will form

as well as cash contributions or "in kind" gifts such as farm products.

Overall chairmen for the radiothon are Bob Swafford and Jim Hungerford.

Among chairmen assigned to hourly time periods are Conrad

a sunflower, then will do a dance-drill routine to "Your are My Sunshine." The finale will be a medley of K.U. songs including "I'm A Jayhawk," "Stand Up and Cheer," and "Fighting Jayhawk."

To prepare for the halftime show, an Orange Bowl parade appearance, and two scheduled concerts, the band will fly to Florida on Dec. 27 and will begin a practice schedule the same day.

Gilham, Bud Petz, Darrell Saville, Bill Harding, Thayer Carmichael, Father William Vogel, the Rev. Walter Hargraves, Jim Bunyan and others.

Technical director for the show is Everett Brown, a member of the Pratt Community Junior College faculty.

The nine organizations which are benefitting from the United Fund this year are the Red Cross, the USO, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kansas Children's Federation, Arthritis Foundation, the local cerebral palsy organization, the mental health association and the Salvation Army.

Larry Swinson is serving as president of the Pratt County United Fund for the current year. Campaign chairman is Hungerford and Swafford is regional drive chairman.

December 13, 1968

The Pratt Daily Tribune

DON'T MISS IT! . . .
FREE ADMISSION TO THE
HOME SHOW!
SATURDAY & SUNDAY!

February 22nd & 23rd At The National Guard Armory
 - Starts At Noon Each Day ! ! !

- ★ **FREE ADMISSION!**
- ★ **FREE ENTERTAINMENT**
- ★ **40 DIFFERENT EXHIBITS**

Of Home Conveniences

- ★ **2 DAYS OF RADIO BROADCASTING**

FREE ADMISSION FREE

February 21, 1969

PLAN TO ATTEND!
THE ANNUAL
PRATT
HOME SHOW

Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 28 & Mar. 1st
In The National Guard Armory

FREE ADMISSION

- ★ **Free Entertainment** ★ **Fashion Shows**
- ★ **Over 40 Different Exhibits**

Produced By KWNS Radio

February 20, 1970

Rain, Wind Hit East Of Pratt

A small low pressure system pushed its way into the above 100 degree temperatures of the Pratt area yesterday and caused rain and high surface wind east of town.

The high wind developed quickly about 4:27 p.m. yesterday. Lasting only briefly, the reported damage occurred in a short time.

A major part of the roof of the Field's Construction Co. building was blown away and just north of the construction building, a baseball backstop at the Pratt Junior College was also blown down.

Large tree limbs were broken and strewn about an area near the Forestry Fish and Game Commission, Pratt Police reported a road crew had to be notified to remove limbs from Lake Road following the storm.

Rain was also confined mostly to the lake area where the Forestry Fish and Game reported .32 inches.

There was no report as to the velocity of the winds and no damage was reported within the city.

The small front did bring a slight cooling effect to the area as the unofficial temperature at noon today was 94 degrees. The coolness over a week of 100 degree plus days.

Docking Declares

July 17, 1969

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Make Your Plans Now!

ATTEND

THE ANNUAL

—Pratt—

HOME SHOW

SATURDAY and SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 28 and MARCH 1

In The National Guard Armory
in Pratt

Starts at NOON Each Day!

FREE ADMISSION

BETTER LIVING
FOR THE 70's

- ★ FREE ENTERTAINMENT
- ★ FASHION SHOWS
- ★ 40 DIFFERENT EXHIBITS

- HOME FURNISHINGS
- BUILDING PRODUCTS
- PLUMBING & HEATING
- FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS
- APPLIANCES
- VEHICLE DISPLAYS
- NEW CLEANING PRODUCTS
- POWER & LAWN EQUIPMENT
- MOBILE HOMES
- MANY, MANY MORE

— Plus —

2 Days Of Live Radio
Broadcasting On KWNS

DON'T MISS IT!
2 BIG DAYS OF FUN!
AT THE

—PRATT—
HOME SHOW!

Produced By: KWNS Radio

**February
26, 1970**



Lesson On Marijuana

Mrs. C. G. Elliott was the hostess for the Green Thumb Garden Club, Tuesday evening, with nine members present, and a guest Miss Ollie Hoeme. Roll call was answered with a favorite rouse plant.

In charge of the business meeting was Mrs. Elliott. She introduced Mrs. Daryl Meredith who gave the lesson on identification and growth habits of marijuana, commonly called wild hemp.

For the program, Mrs. Betty DuVault showed slides, the courtesy of the Eastman Kodak Co., of flowers and flowering trees from different areas in the United States. They also included instructions for flower photography and the correct use of film and film.

The group was furnished by the hostess and won by Mrs. DuVault. For the Show and Tell, Mrs. Elliott had a bouquet of daffodils from her garden, and two antique chairs which have been refinished by Mr. Elliott.

St. Patrick's motif was carried out in the refreshments of individual cakes and mint served with coffee. The next meeting will be at the Western Hotel, 11:30 p.m., with Mrs. Nelson as the hostess.

Mary Ann Young Scholarship To Mary Ann Young

Pratt High School senior Mary A. Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Young, has been awarded a president's scholarship at the St. Mary of the Plains College.

Sister M. Cecilia Bush, president of the college, said the full tuition scholarship is awarded to students who scored above the 95th percentile on college entrance examinations. The student must also be recommended by his or her high school.

St. Mary of the Plains is the four year liberal arts college at Dodge City.

March 13, 1970



Mary Ann Young

326 N. Main

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Young

In the Fall I plan to attend St. Mary of the Plains College where I will major in pre-law. After graduation from college I hope to go on to law school, possibly at Washburn University.

KWNS Radio Station

May 15, 1970

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Junior College are sponsoring a car caravan to Garden City Saturday to show support of winning team.

Persons interested in driving to Garden City or needing rides should be at the juco parking lot by about 4 p.m. Saturday. The caravan will depart for Garden City about 4:30 p.m.

Rubella immunizations are being given throughout the day at the Pratt Municipal Building to area children ages one through five.

The German Measles shots are being given through the support of the county and state health departments. They will be offered until 6 p.m. today and are recommended for children under the age of 11.

Registration is still open for this weekend's Fall Frolic which will be hosted by the Pratt Firefighters Club. Covering Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the public is cordially invited to partake of the fun and activities whether or not they park a trailer or a camper unit.

Scheduled for Sixth Street
(Continued on Page 12)



IN RECOGNITION of the service of Pratt radio station KWNS, W. J. Young is presented an award from the Kansas Heart Association. Dr. F. P. Wolff, right, displays the medal, which Mrs. Reva McAnarney, center, accepted for the local station during the state meeting, last weekend. —Tribune photo by Busy Patton

Local radio station recognized for efforts

Pratt Radio Station KWNS was recognized during the meeting of the Kansas Heart Association, last weekend in the Allis Hotel in Wichita. An award

was accepted by Mrs. Reva McAnarney for the station, and was presented, earlier this week, by Dr. F. P. Wolff and Mrs. McAnarney to William J. Young, of the station.

The award reads "KWNS radio station, awarded by the Kansas Heart Association, for outstanding public information for radio stations." The citation, received by Mr. Young, to last week, states "The Kansas Heart Association has voted

to present KWNS with their 1970 Heart media award for radio, the only such award presented to radio stations in Kansas, each year."

The award is for continued support of the Pratt County Heart Association activities, hospitality to the state staff and field directors, and for programs carried about the importance of diet and other risk factors in relation to heart disease. The station was cited for providing those in their

coverage area with heart fund news, making the station a worthy recipient of the medal.

The meeting and annual awards luncheon was attended by Mrs. McAnarney, Dr. and Mrs. F. P. Wolff, Mrs. Roy Thornton, Sister Dolora of the Hospital, and Dr. Milton Muller, preceptee training in Pratt with Dr. Wolff. A Board of Directors meeting was held that evening in Wichita, with Dr. Wolff and Dr. Muller attending.

The Weather

LOCAL WEATHER
Yesterday's high—74
Last night's low—48
10 a.m. temperature—52
Wind direction—North

September 21, 1970

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Monday SPECIALS
 MISSES DRESSES Size 8-18
 Reg. \$15-\$42 NOW \$7 to \$21

TALBOTT KNIT TOPS BRICK & GREENS
 REG. \$11-\$14 NOW \$5
 A FEW SKIRTS LEFT

TALBOTT BLUE MEDITERRANEAN
 20% OFF

HALF SIZES 12 1/2 to 18 1/2
 REG. \$15-\$31 NOW \$5 to \$17

Junior Dresses and Sportswear **\$5 Each**

Misses WEATHERCOATS 20% off

Car Coats REG. \$10 to \$15 NOW \$19 to \$25

WILMA'S
 STORE HOURS 9:30-5:30

PLAN TO ATTEND!
 THE ANNUAL PRATT
HOME SHOW
 Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 27 & 28
 In The National Guard Armory
FREE ADMISSION
 ★ Free Entertainment ★ Fashion Shows
 ★ Over 50 Different Exhibits
 Produced By KWNS Radio

February 18, 1971



Make Your Plans Now!
ATTEND
 THE ANNUAL
 — Pratt —
HOME SHOW
 THIS WEEKEND!
 SATURDAY and SUNDAY
 FEB. 27-28
 In The National Guard Armory
 In Pratt
 Starts at NOON Each Day!

FREE ADMISSION

BETTER LIVING FOR THE 71's

- ★ FREE ENTERTAINMENT
- ★ FASHION SHOWS
- ★ 50 DIFFERENT EXHIBITS

- HOME FURNISHINGS
- BUILDING PRODUCTS
- PLUMBING & HEATING
- FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS
- APPLIANCES
- VEHICLE DISPLAYS
- NEW CLEANING PRODUCTS
- POWER & LAWN EQUIPMENT
- MOBILE HOMES
- MANY, MANY MORE

— Plus —
 2 Days Of Live Radio
 Broadcasting On KWNS

DON'T MISS IT!
 2 BIG DAYS OF FUN!
 AT The

— PRATT —
 AREA
HOME SHOW!
 Produced By: KWNS Radio

February 25, 1971

The Pratt Daily Tribune



Announcing!!!
Grand Opening

Dec. 11, 1971

To be given away
C-B Base Sta. Radio

No one under 16 eligible
Need not be present to win

Enjoy Free
Coffee & Donuts

Radio & TV Parts Inc.

622 East First

Phone 672-3584

Pratt, Kan.

December 9, 1971

Coming to Pratt
THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

with
FREE GIFTS
for
ALL!

Pizza Hut
Pete



Meet the 3'9" Pizza Maker in Person
Appearing at the New Pratt

PIZZA HUT

THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING
12:00 NOON UNTIL 8:00 P.M.

Bring the Family! Fun for All!

1228 East First Phone 672-3631

January 28, 1972



The Pratt Daily Tribune

Hufford files

James L. Hufford, 49 year old resident of 702 Curtis, yesterday filed for the city office of mayor.

Retired from the army after 23 years, Hufford moved to Pratt in 1967 after a year as a senior foreign service officer for the department of state aid for international development. He served fifty months in the Republic of Vietnam and six months in The Kingdom of Thailand during his army career.

Married to the former Mrs. Verda A. Tarr, Hufford presently holds a spot as sales manager for a local broadcasting firm.

He holds a membership in many organizations, some of which are the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge 2208, the Elks Lodge of Pratt and Park Hills Country Club.



James Hufford

February 16, 1972

Plan Now To Attend

The Annual

KWNS HOME SHOW in Pratt



At The National Guard Armory

This Weekend

March 18-19

—Free Admission—

Doors Open at Noon both Sat. & Sun.

Booths—Displays—Demonstrations
Fun—Prizes—Surprises



1,000 Free Trees to be given away to Children
accompanied by parents.

2 Days of Live Radio Broadcasting by KWNS Radio

Don't miss it! Come discover what's new for 1972.

March 14, 1972



The Pratt Daily Tribune

Follow The Parade To

**The Annual
KWNS
Home Show
This Weekend**
March 18-19 At The National Guard Armory in Pratt

FREE ADMISSION
Doors Open at Noon both Saturday & Sunday

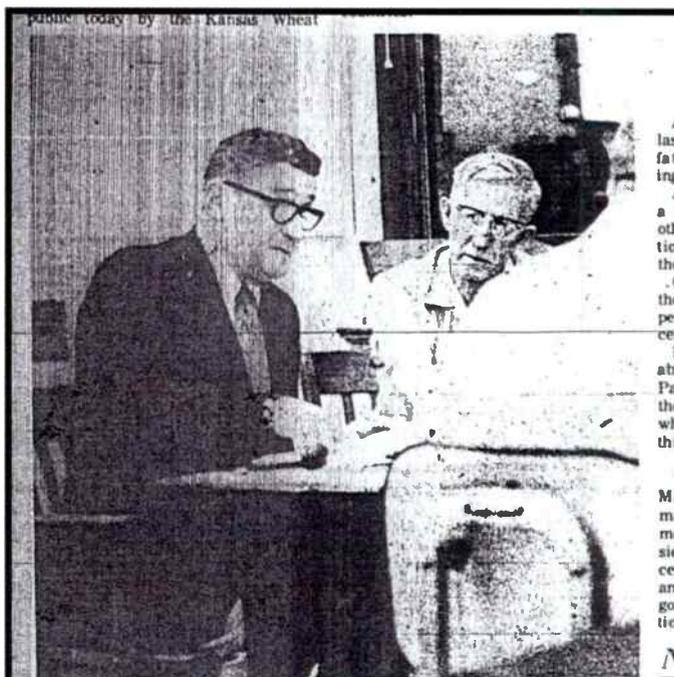
Booths - Displays - Demonstrations
Home Furnishings - Building Products - Plumbing
Heating Fixtures - Floral Arrangements - Appliances
Camp Vehicle Displays - Power & Lawn Equipment

Don't miss the fun, prizes and surprises.
This Show "G" - Good for the Entire Family!

2 days of Live Broadcasting by
KWNS Radio, Pratt

Free - 1,000 Trees to be given
away to children accompanied
by their parents.
Last Game Last Series

March 18, 1972



BUDGET HEARING—Six people attended the hearing Wednesday night on the 1973 City of Pratt Budget. James Hufford queries City Clerk Harlan Blachly and accountant Glen Crawford.

The 20.117 mill levy and \$3,423,725.19 budget was approved later in the session and the city fathers thanked the persons in attendance for their municipal participation.—Tribune Photo

Lunches, books

August 10, 1972

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Pyle guilty

ruted the privileged communication between doctors and Pyle could be cross-examined by the state. Pyle was not placed on the stand.

On the charge of aggravated arson, Herd said the state had not proven there was a body in the fire, pointing out that the official from the state fire marshall's office and the KBI investigators all established this in the prosecution's case.

"There was no one in there when the fire started and after it was over," Herd said, "and I use the plaintiff's evidence to point this out." The defense attorney said, "There must be proof beyond a reasonable doubt of death."

Referring to murder, the Coldwater attorney said the estate of the Mrs. Millar is in trust because authorities consider her a "missing person". He refuted the prosecution claim that the ranch was a "motive for murder" and said "your not dealing with property,

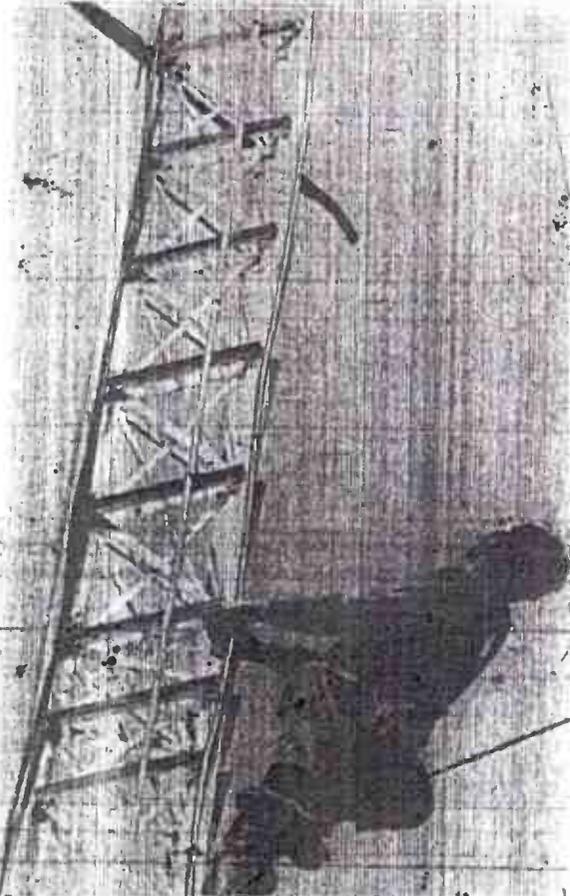
you are dealing with the life of a human being".

Herd asked the jury to arrive at a verdict of not guilty on first degree and second degree murder and not guilty on aggravated arson.

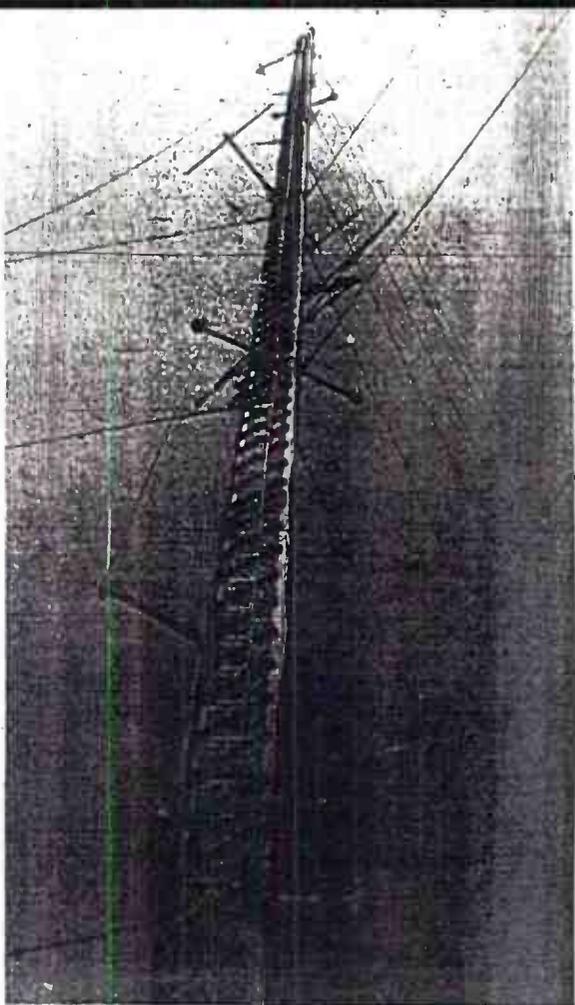
The prosecution asked the jury, "What reasonable explanation is there for her missing than she's dead" and reviewed testimony that Mrs. Millar has not been seen by "loved ones" and friends, plus has not drawn financial support.

The fact Pyle phoned his wife to report what he should not have known was termed by Focht as the "one key fact". He said the defendant, also had 345,000 reasons for a motive because the 3,180 acre ranch was scheduled to be sold to the Meade rancher for \$345,000.

Jurors have decided not to disclose the events of the six hours of deliberation beyond a verdict.



NEW LOOK—A new look was given to the Ninescuh Rural Electric Cooperative radio tower west of Pratt Wednesday after Dick Ogle, Russell painted the structure. His job began as a hobby 12 years ago. Tribune Photo by Richard Gwin



LIGHT CHANGE—Changing a light in a radio tower 300 plus feet off the ground is not a job just everyone wants but for Bob Ogle, Russell, it was a full hobby that became a fulltime job. The top light on the tower west of Pratt is three feet tall and weighs 75 pounds. Tribune Photo by Richard Gwin

Hobby now fulltime job

What began as a hobby and a means to earn extra money some 12 years ago became a fulltime job that few people envy.

Dick Ogle, Russell, climbs radio and television towers. He changes lights and paints the structures to keep them in compliance with federal regulations. To date he hasn't found a tower too tall to climb.

Wednesday, Ogle was found on the radio tower owned by Ninescuh Rural Electric Cooperative, west of Pratt. Person or persons unknown had apparently used a high powered rifle to break lights on the tower structure.

From the ground the top light, about 350 feet off the ground, appears to be

hardly bigger than a tall light on a car but Ogle explained the light was actually three feet tall, weighed 75 pounds and cost approximately \$500 to replace. While on the tower, Ogle was painting the structure also.

Ogle explained that he had been a preacher for 12 years when he began climbing towers as a hobby and to make some extra money. Noting that there was little competition in the field, Ogle turned his hobby into a fulltime effort and has now been in the trade about 12 years.

Besides several of the local towers, Ogle has also topped most of the television and radio towers in the Wichita area.

"Smart bombs" used

SAIGON (AP)—Guided by laser light beams or television cameras, the electronic "smart bombs" U.S. pilots

cut. Officials report no signs of major movement of war materials from China.

June 1, 1972

The Pratt Daily Tribune



Patricia Routte

Engagement announced

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Routte, 1106 E. Maple, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Patricia Ann to Ronald W. Detwiler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Detwiler, 1001 East Sixth.

Miss Routte, a graduate of Pratt High School, and Pratt Community Junior College, is attending Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia, majoring in secretarial science. Mr. Detwiler is a graduate of Pratt High School and Elkins Institute of Radio. He is announcer and chief operator at Radio Station KWNS at Pratt.

The date of June 23 has been chosen for the wedding.



January 20, 1973

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Band Marathon

Talent Show

On

KWNS Radio

Saturday February 17th

Broadcast Live From The Municipal Building
Starting At 2:00 p.m. Until The Goal Of \$2,000⁰⁰
Is Reached.

Call Your Donation In To A Member Of The
Pratt High School Band At The Chamber of
Commerce 672-5501 Or KWNS Radio Station
672-5581 From 2 o'clock Until The Goal Is Reached.

For Your Convenience Arrangements Have Been
Made For You To Charge Your Donation To Your
BankAmericard Or Master Charge Through
The Peoples Bank.



Bands

Vocal

Dramatics

Refreshments Will Be Available

All Money Donated Will Be For New Band
Uniforms For The Pratt High School Band

This Ad Is Being Sponsored By The

THE PEOPLES BANK

Pratt's Full Service Bank

The Pratt Tribune

129 S. Main Street

672-5511

February 16, 1973

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Friend of Cunningham.

planned.

Follow The Parade To

The 8th Annual

KWNS

Home Show

This Weekend

Feb. 24 - 25

At The National Guard Armory
in Pratt

FREE ADMISSION

Doors Open at Noon both Saturday & Sunday

Booths — Displays — Demonstrations
Home Furnishings — Building Products — Plumbing
Heating Fixtures — Floral Arrangements — Appliances
Camp Vehicle Displays — Power & Lawn Equipment

Don't miss the fun, prizes and surprises.
This Show rated "G"—Good for the Entire Family!

2 days of Live Broadcasting by
KWNS Radio, Pratt

Free— 10th Anniversary
Birthday Cakes to be
given away both days.



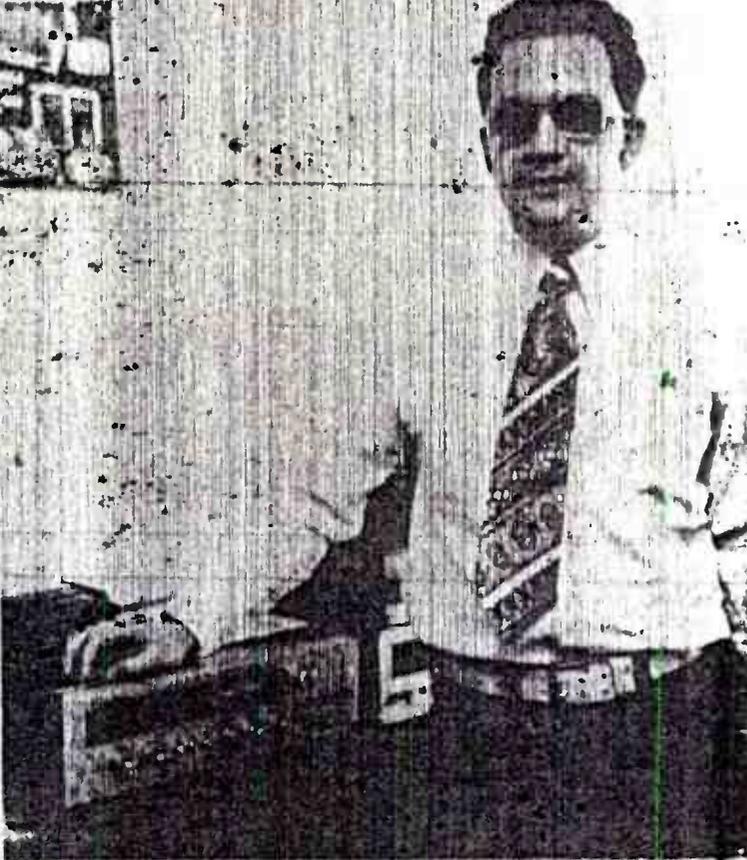
February 20, 1973

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Blaine Hadley, Pratt freshman, was

changes in tradition affect students and schools. In addition, Mr. Goyen

new just this morning will crown the king immediately following the parade



Grand opening for Radio Shack

The Radio Shack is currently holding its grand opening in Pratt at 707 North Main. The store is managed by Eldon Wilt and carries stereo equipment, radio and television parts and other electronics equipment.

Wilt, a native of Sawyer, has lived in Pratt for 10 years. He lives at 1101 Champa with his wife, Wanda, their three year old daughter, Lana, and six month old son, Lance.

The Radio Shack carries a large stock of component stereo receivers, turntables, speakers and reel-to-reel, eight track and cassette tape players.

"This store has probably the largest selection of quality stereo equipment with the lowest prices in Pratt," commented Wilt.

The store also carries citizens band equipment, hard to find patch cords and other connections and does repair work on all types of tape players.

The Radio Shack has a large selection of merchandise on hand and will be receiving much more shortly. The store's grand opening runs through Saturday and has something of interest for everyone.

Grand opening

The Radio Shack, 707 North Main, is currently celebrating its grand opening in Pratt. Store manager Eldon

Wilt feels the store has one of the largest and finest selections of stereo equipment in Pratt as well as a large stock of other electronics equipment.--Tribune Photo

Bombs threaten El Dorado bank

EL DORADO, Kan. (AP) — Fire was discovered in a car owned by Mike Hamm, vice president of the First National Bank, and later Thursday there

November 2, 1973

RADIO
Sales and Service
 AT A PRICE YOU CAN AFFORD TO PAY
Complete
SATISFACTION



Pratt radio stations are sold

Radio stations KWNS and KWNS-FM of Pratt have been sold to O'Malley-Kiefer Communications Company, it was announced Wednesday by William J. Young, president of KWNS Inc. The Federal Communications Commission gave final approval to the sale on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

Don O'Malley, president and general manager of the new company, has moved to Pratt with his wife Teresa and their five sons, Don 15, Mike 14, Terry 13, Pat 11 and four year old

Brian. They are making their home at 422 South Oak.

O'Malley, 38, is the former vice-president and general manager of radio station KLEO in Wichita. He was employed by the station for over 13 years.

According to O'Malley, no major changes are planned at this time for the station, but some minor alterations will be made to provide the listening public with even greater entertainment and information.



New owner

Don O'Malley, left, president and general manager of O'Malley-Kiefer Communications Company, is shown with William Young, president of KWNS Inc., after the Federal Communications

Commission gave final approval Tuesday to the purchase of KWNS and KWNS-FM radio stations by the company. O'Malley is the former vice-president and general manager of KLEO radio station in Wichita.—Tribune Photo by Rex Zimmerman.

November 23, 1973

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Winter storm roars through TribArea

By Chuck Barnes, Jayne McKinzie and Jim Zeltner

A large winter storm roared through Kansas Tuesday and Tuesday night and was continuing Wednesday as utility crews fought all night to maintain electric services to both Pratt and a wide 10-county area served by Ninescah Rural Electric Cooperative and Kansas Power and Light, slippery roads and streets provided numerous reports of minor accidents and closed at least one highway serving Pratt, isolated Pratt and numerous TribArea towns from long distance telephone service, closed schools, and otherwise disrupted pre-holiday activity with a blizzard-like ice, wind and snow combination which had residents reeling from the cold, wintry blast.

Electric power service was disrupted, beginning shortly after dark Tuesday as the high winds and ice caused lines to whip and break, and the major loop lines surrounding the Pratt city broke loose and line service crews were kept busy tying into older existing circuits to maintain service in residential areas. Numerous reports of lightning sightings were made by individuals seeing high voltage lines strike together and causing brilliant arcs which were mistaken for lightning.

No Radio

Pratt radio station, KWNS was unable to begin its usual broadcasting schedule because of loss of service from Western Light and Power company. Station manager Dan O'Malley reported that clocks at the station stopped about 1:30 a.m. and when staff members began striving about 3:30 o'clock this morning, they began putting the station on an auxiliary generator and got on the air about 8:30 a.m. Normal service from Western Light and Power was resumed about 9:00 o'clock. Numerous persons were inconvenienced by not having ability to learn whether schools were open and reports of other information.

Long Distance Service

Pratt has again been isolated from

long distance telephone service, according to Jim Hungerford, local manager of Southwestern Bell. He stated that crews were working in an attempt to get the service restored. As of this morning, long distance service was available only to Coats and Iuka.

Hungerford explained that the lack of service was due to the wind tangling the wires. He said that some pole damage

was found but it was not thought to be disrupting service.

The long distance service went out between 9:30 and 10 p.m. Tuesday. The Tribune was also cut off from leased wire service from the Associated Press news service.

PCJCFinals

Final tests scheduled for students at Pratt Community Junior College

Wednesday afternoon were canceled this morning. Finals scheduled for today have been rescheduled for a.m. Friday and the final scheduled 3:00 p.m. this afternoon was reached for 10:00 a.m. Friday.

Thursday finals are expected to begin at the regularly scheduled time in Iuka, Preston Schools Closed

School was held today for student Unified School District 382 in Pratt although there was no bus service. According to Superintendent Skillet, the schools would remain and no plans were being made to discontinue classes early.

Elementary schools at Preston Iuka were closed.

Minor Traffic Accidents

Due to icy streets nine minor accidents were investigated by the Police Department Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

The intersection of Third and Ninescah Streets was the location of an accident about 4 p.m. Tuesday. J. Leak, 315 Lawrence, driving a Dodge and Susan K. Eastes, 1423 Sixth, driving a 1973 Chevrolet, collided as Ms. Leak was traveling west on First and Ms. Eastes was traveling north on Ninescah. Both reportedly thought had the green light.

Lorena N. Epley, 724 South M driving a 1966 Buick, and Earl J. T. 410 South Ninescah, driving a Chevrolet, collided at First and Ninescah Streets. Ms. Epley was traveling west on First and Taylor had stopped at the stop sign on Ninescah proceeded to make a left turn into the accident occurred.

The Pratt Community Junior College parking lot was the location of an accident about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. C. Hult, 211 South Oak, driving a Ford pickup was attempting to back into the lot when he hit a 1965 Ford driven by Stanley G. Thompson, 710 North Thompson was reportedly stopped at the accident occurred.

Information on one of the traffic accidents is reported beneath the

Pam Riley awarded \$100 Tribune scholarship

Pamela Sue Riley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brette Riley, 338 North Ninescah, and a senior Journalism advertising student at University of Kansas, Lawrence, is the recipient of a \$100 scholarship awarded by The Pratt Tribune, is was announced today by Tribune publisher Chuck Barnes. The scholarship is a part of the newspaper's prize while winning the Hutchinson Kansas State Fair Better Newspaper Contest Sweepstakes for daily newspapers under 5,000 circulation in 1971.

Miss Riley has been active in student publication work since being on the staff of the Pratt High school annual during her junior year in high school, and has also been a member of the Pratt High Mirror, and was a student at Pratt Community Junior College one school year before transferring to KU.

In addition to her school activities, Miss Riley has earned approximately 60 percent of her school expenses, including her high school years, employed by the Milne Drug store in Pratt, summer vacation employment in Estes Park, Colo., and as a cashier at Sam's Discount Drugs and as a clerk at McDonald's in Lawrence.

Upon graduation from KU next spring she hopes to be employed by a public relations firm, involved in either advertising research or advertising selling and her ultimate goal is as a public

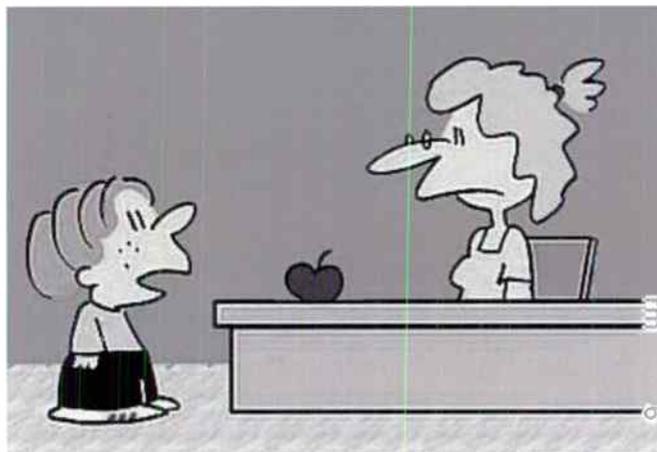


Pamela Sue Riley

relations director for a large firm.

The scholarship award, in the form of a check from the Kansas Press Association, may be used by the recipient as she sees fit.

December 19, 1973



"That's Karl with a 'K' — My parents named me after a radio station."

KWNS

Leukemia Radio-Thon broadcast

The National Broadcast Council has set a goal of \$500,000.00 for its second annual Leukemia Radio-Thon to be aired on KWNS Radio for 24 continuous hours beginning Saturday, 7:00 p.m. through 7:00 p.m. Sunday.

Locally, KWNS Radio will broadcast from the Chamber Rooms at the municipal building. Don O'Malley, station owner and manager, explained there would be several hours of local fill with local entertainment and interviews.

Tim Hawks is coordinating the local programs and explained he would accept volunteers. Singers, groups, choirs, bands or nearly any entertainment is being sought. Advanced arrangements are requested to be made with Hawks.

Local clubs or groups who wish to participate in collecting for the Leukemia research are urged to bring these collections to the municipal building where they will be added to the grand state total via telephone hookup.

The local station will air until midnight Saturday and then break away Sunday morning to air the normal religious services. Entertainment is needed for both Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.

The money collected will be used exclusively for Leukemia research. Leukemia is a disease that affects the blood-forming organs. Normally the white blood cells are concerned with fighting infection. However, in the leukemic person there is an overproduction of abnormal white cells which disrupts the production of red blood cells and interferes with clotting. In addition, these abnormal white cells are unable to fight infection.

"Leukemia is a disease that takes the lives of more children than any other," states National Chairwoman

Shirley Jones. "Though it is considered a childhood disease, it afflicts even more adults. It will go on taking lives until research finds a cure. That's what our Radio-Thon is all about."

KAKE Radio in Wichita will be the headquarters for a state network and will coordinate ten Kansas Stations with the National Broadcast.

During the broadcast, pledges can be called into a central telephone number announced several times each hour. Donations may be mailed to the Leukemia Society of America, 1405 S. Hydraulic, Wichita, Kansas.

Hearst considering demands of food for poor, elderly

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — The father of Patricia Hearst says he is taking "most seriously" the demands of her abductors for \$70 of free food for each of California's poor and elderly. He says he will do his best to cooperate.

The kidnapers demanded by letter that Randolph A. Hearst make the distribution of free food before they will even negotiate for the release of his 19-year-old daughter. The food would cost an estimated \$175 million.

bionese Liberation Army demands received by mail Tuesday.

"I just hope you will do as they say, Dad, and do it quickly," she said in a recording addressed to her mother and father. Hearst is president and editor of the San Francisco Examiner and board chairman of the Hearst Corp.

Miss Hearst, kidnaped on Feb. 4, said she had a "few scrapes and stuff" and a cold, but was comfortable and getting medicine.

February 13, 1974

The Pratt Daily Tribune

3 miles N. on 281 672-2344

We Have 30 Reasons Why You Should Attend The Annual

KWNS Home Show

Saturday - Sunday
Feb. 23 And 24
At The
National Guard Armory

Reasons

1. Hearn Sales & Service	16. Marsh Engineering
2. Independent Lumber Co.	17. Hawley Bros.
3. Furniture Manor	18. Mac's Hobby Shop
4. Schmidtberger's, Inc.	19. Miracle Water
5. W.R. Green Lumber Co.	20. Custom Interiors
6. Sears	21. Beauty Staff
7. Fred Chamberlain	22. Culligan
8. Western Savings Corp.	23. Kirby Co.
9. Bernard's Shoes	24. Quality Photo Co.
10. Pratt Mobile Housing	25. Tupperware
11. Gambles	26. Board Of Realtors
12. Milts TV	27. Electrolux
13. Pratt Furniture	28. Pilot Knob Book Nook
14. Home Appliance Center	29. Jet-Lite
15. Lanterman Motors	30. Eula's Beauh Pleat

Free Admission
Doors Open Noon Both Days

15

February 20, 1974

The Pratt Daily Tribune



The Lefthand Corner

By Jim Zeltner

We'd like to add our tip of the hat to the 4-Hers who earned awards Tuesday night. This is a fine group and a great organization that could be recommended for every young person.

Sorry but the Guy Lombardo presentation tonight is for Community Concert members only. Not too many months ago this was explained but there has been some question so we thought we'd remind you.

Don O'Mally of the KWNS Radio fame called this morning to pass along some information about last night's PRIDE meeting. What with all the other things going there just wasn't enough people to be everywhere.

Anyhow, Don explained the PRIDE Committee had discussed transportation in the area, had talked about a com-

munity post card, discussed ideas concerning recycling of cans and paper and discussed some things that could be done with the Pratt County Lake. Much of this is still in the information stage but another meeting will be held Dec. 10 and possibly by that time more information can be gathered and plans can be further studied.

Thanks for the call Don. And, just for the public record we've enjoyed all the cooperation between KWNS and The Tribune.

Happiness is being in out of the wind.

Don Lira to speak

Don Lira, Foster Care Specialist

November 13, 1974



The Pratt Daily Tribune

The Weather

Local Weather

Yesterday's high—57
 Last night's low—22
 10 a.m. temperature—32
 Wind direction—North Northeast
 Wind velocity—15-20 m.p.h.
 Precipitation—none
 Moisture this year—30.61 inches
 Same period last year—40.41 inches
 Sunset—5:24 p.m.
 Sunrise tomorrow—7:50 a.m.

Forecast

Winter storm watch tonight and Tuesday, mostly cloudy and cold with occasional rain or freezing rain, changing to snow tonight; low low to mid 20s; mostly cloudy and cold with occasional snow Tuesday; snow possibly becoming heavy; high low 30s; east to northeast winds 10-20 m.p.h. tonight. Precipitation probability 40 per cent tonight, 60 per cent Tuesday.

Vital Statistics

Deaths

Henry Simpson, 86, Pratt
 Harold Bud Trantham, 63, Medicine Lodge
 Melva Grace Huck, 46, Coldwater
 Margaret Stover, 75, Colwich
 Tom M. Bowling, 48, Cunningham

—Today's Prayer—

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined" (Isaiah 9:2 RSV)

PRAYER: In this Christmas season we thank You, heavenly Father, for sending Christ, Your Son, our light. Let His light shine upon us today and overcome our dark thoughts of sorrows and fears. Help us be radiant Christians, Amen.

prisoners overpowered the jailer and fled the Riley County Jail Saturday night. Two were back in custody Sunday night.

Authorities said Dennis Bradford, 26, of Manhattan was caught at a house here several hours after the escape.

John Rice, 26, Chicago, was captured by Riley County police while walking along Kansas U7 in the eastern part of the city.

Both men offered no resistance. Still at large are Gerald Friz, 22, St. Louis, and Clarence Childs, 19, Los Angeles.

The prisoners overpowered jailer Fred Vandergrift and took his keys. When he went downstairs for help, the four lowered themselves out a second-story window on bed sheets.

Bradford was convicted in the death of a ranch hand in Manhattan and had been sentenced to 48 years to life in prison.

KWNS radio announces day

KWNS Radio, in cooperation with several local and area groups, have slated a special Christmas day program, according to Don O'Malley, station owner.

O'Malley explained the program would begin at 1 p.m. Christmas day and continue through 3 p.m. All the arrangements have been recorded by KWNS Radio personnel.

Those participating in the special program will be members of Friends Bible College of Haviland, the Pratt Community Junior College Choir, the Reputables, a local music group, local singer Miss Kim Moore and Mrs. R. H. Turner playing the Lunt Merner Carillon.

O'Malley noted the station could be located at 1290 on the radio dial.

Kinton Restaurant closed Tuesday and Christmas Day. Open Dec. 24th.



December 23, 1974

10th ANNUAL KWNS HOME SHOW

Saturday, February 22 — 12:00-9:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 23 — 12:00-7:00 p.m.

NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

FREE ADMISSION

THERE WILL BE OVER 30 DISPLAY BOOTHS

LIVE RADIO BROADCAST

★ Style Show at 2:30 daily. The latest Spring Fashions by Joyce's & Chadd's Ltd.

★ Stereophonic Organ Concert at 3:30 daily by Sunshine Music of Wichita

February 20, 1975

The Pratt Daily Tribune



Donna Birdzell and Ron Jones

June wedding planned

Mrs. Jean Birdzell announces the engagement of her daughter Donna to Ron Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe B. Cagle, Derby.

Miss Birdzell is a graduate of Pratt High School and is attending Pratt Community Junior College. She

is employed by the Barron Theatre.

Mr. Jones is a graduate of Derby High School and Kansas Midwestern School of Broadcasting. He is employed by KWNS.

A June 14 wedding is being planned.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Book World

March 27, 1975

The Pratt Daily Tribune



Tibbetts on radio

Jed Tibbetts, a 1975 graduate of Pratt Community College, discovered his interest in radio announcing as a result of Ron Heape's Radio Class taught at PCC. Tibbetts earned his third class license last spring and has been employed by KWNS Radio this summer working as a substitute announcer when the regular employees are on vacation.

Starting September 1, Jed will attend an eight weeks radio school in Denver, Colo., that will qualify him for a First Class license. Following graduation from the radio school, he plans to become a full-time announcer wherever the opportunity arises.

Enthusiasm for announcing is shared by Jed's brother, Mike, who plans to follow in his older brother's footsteps and enroll in the college radio class. Tibbetts said he gives Ron Heape of PCC credit for getting him started in the field of radio announcing. Jed makes his home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Tibbetts on River Road.

meeting of the College Board of T in recognition of their service to Community College.

Both men retired as trustees close of the last academic year.

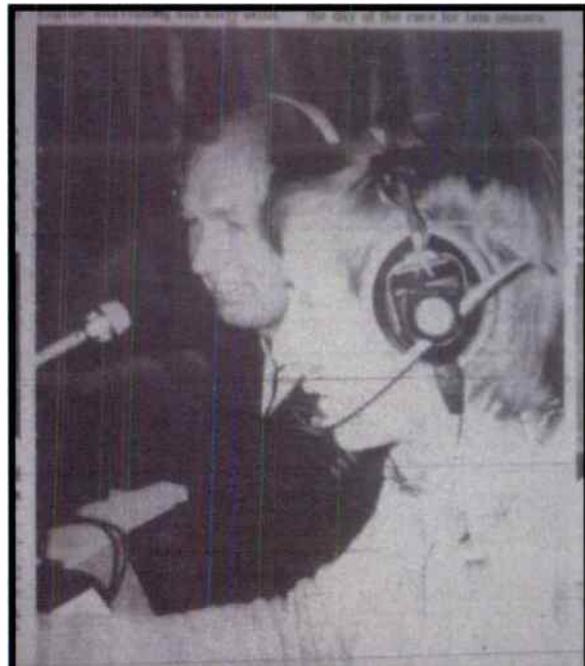
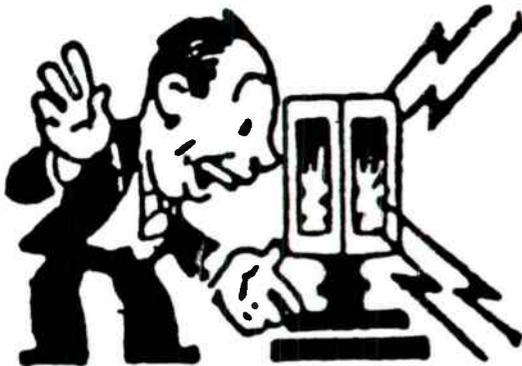


Angood floors

Sports fans attending basketball games in the Pratt Community College Sports Arena this year will see some changes that were made this summer. The word "PR" is painted in large letters at one end of the court, "BEAVERS" at the opposite end, and the letter "A" is painted in the center circle.

The individual responsible for the lettering is Jerry Angood, who has his talent and materials at the disposal of the Beaver Club. Angood stated that he at Pratt Community College two years ago and is interested in seeing his material continue to grow. Angood is employed at Pratt Glass Co. and resides at 1116 Larmer.

August 14, 1975



Ron Moddelmog

Dan Musil

Team announces games

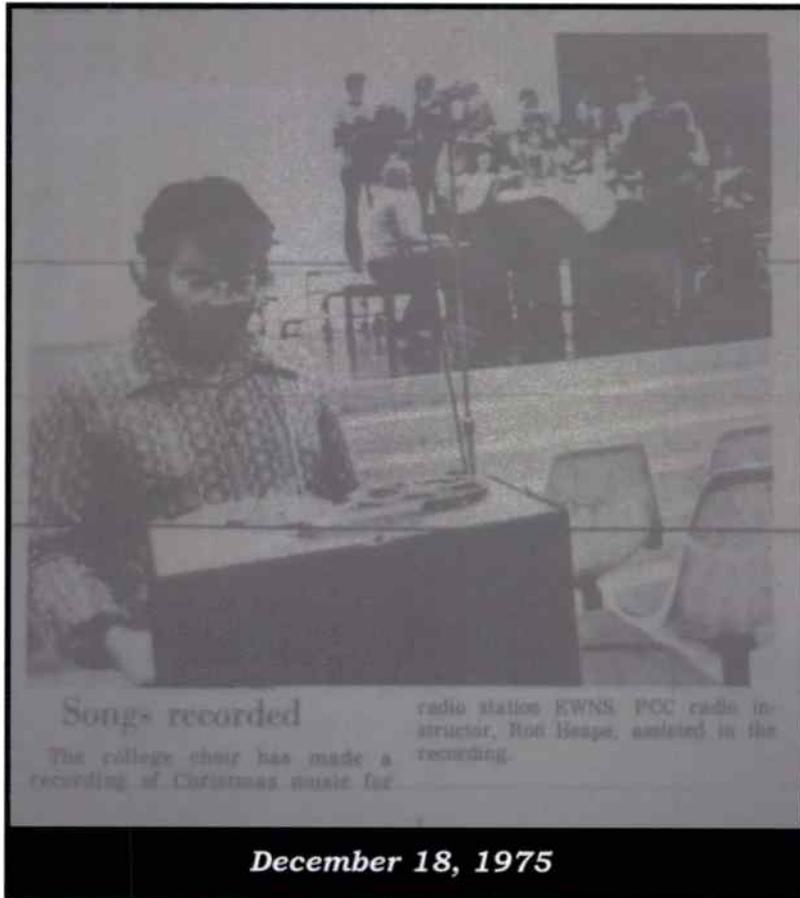
Dan Musil, sports announcer for KWNS Radio, Pratt, and Ron Moddelmog, Athletic Director at PCC, form a team each time the Beavers take to the gridiron to give a play-by-play description of the contest. The sports fans who attend the football games rarely see the two

announcers since they are kept busy throughout the sports event from their location at the top level of the crowd's tier.

Musil is a graduate of KSU, Manhattan, and Moddelmog received his degree from Kansas State College of Emporia.

October 30, 1975

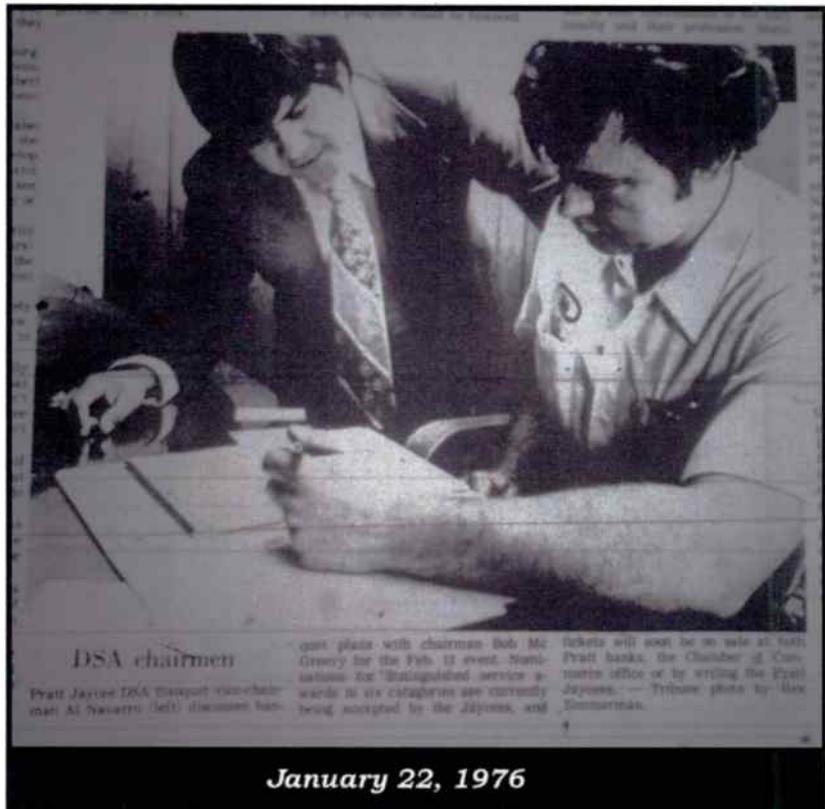
The Pratt Daily Tribune



Songs recorded
The college choir has made a recording of Christmas music for

radio station EWNS. PCC radio instructor, Ron Beape, assisted in the recording.

December 18, 1975



DSA chairmen

Pratt Jaycee DSA chapter vice-chairman Al Swarrio (left) discusses han-

gout plans with chairman Bob McGroery for the Feb. 12 event. Nominations for "Outstanding service awards" in its categories are currently being accepted by the Jaycees, and

tickets will soon be on sale at both Pratt banks, the Chamber of Commerce office or by writing the Pratt Jaycees. — Tribune photo by Max Zimmerman.

January 22, 1976

Bicentennial wedding unites pair

Nora Jean Doubek and Donald Walter Shorock were united in marriage on the Bicentennial 4th of July in the First United Methodist Church, Pratt. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Van Doubek, Pratt and Mr. Mrs. Walter Shorock, Kearny, New Jersey.

Rev. Phil Chestain officiated, reading the scripture from a Bible presented to the couple by the groom's parents.

The center aisle of the church featured hurricane lamp pew markers and foliage, and the altar was flanked with arrangements of red and white carnations, foliage, and white glads.

Mrs. R. H. Turner provided the organ music. The vocal soloist was Bob Lager, Omaha, Nebraska. He sang "Wedding Prayer" and "The Lord's Prayer", accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Lager.

Honor attendants were Mrs. Robert Polak, Pratt, sister of the bride, and Captain Paul Shorock, Loring A.F.B., Maine, a brother of the groom. Bridesmaids were Miss Kenne Giffin, Lawrence, and Miss Debra Nossaman, Hays. Groomsmen were Eric Shorock, Ashland, Wisconsin, and Bob Doubek, Moscow, Idaho. The guests were seated by Robert Polak, Eric Shorock, and Bob Doubek.

The Brides' attendants wore floor-length haired gowns of bright navy dotted swiss, featuring high necklines, short flared sleeves, and lace-trimmed cape collars. The raised waists were also marked with lace. They wore white picture hats trimmed with bands of the dotted swiss and single red carnations, and carried nosegays of red and white carnations and baby's-breath, with red and white

dotted ribbon streamers.

The men of the wedding party wore navy tuxedos and white ruffled shirts. Their boutonnieres were red carnations. The best man wore the dress uniform of the U. S. Air Force.

Given in marriage by her parents, the bride was escorted to the altar by her father. Her gown, fashioned by her mother, was of white dotted swiss trimmed with venise lace on the flared skirt and at the slightly raised waist. The dress featured a square neck and short flared sleeves, both lace-trimmed. The bride wore a chapel-length illusion mantilla veil with lace motifs, and carried a cascade of red and white miniature carnations mixed with baby's-breath.

The mother of the bride wore a long dress of multi-print Quiana, and the groom's mother chose a long print dress in beige and rose. Both wore corsages of feathered white carnations.

Following the ceremony a reception was held in the parlor and Fellowship Hall of the church. The reception table was covered with a white lace cloth and decorated with an arrangement of carnations. The four-tiered cake was white, accented with tiny red roses, and was topped with white doves. The couple drank a punch toast, using silver toasting goblets given to them as an engagement gift by the groom's grandparents. Assisting at the reception were Miss Linda Jensen, Wichita, Mrs. Paul

Shorock, Mrs. Bob Lager, and Misses Chris and Carol Lager, Omaha. Wheat bags were distributed by Susan and Sara Lager.

After a wedding trip to Northern New Mexico, the couple is at home in Cunningham. Don is engaged in insurance sales, sign-painting, and part-time announcing at radio KWNS. He is a graduate of Kearny (New Jersey) High School., Ottawa University, The University of Kansas, and Northwestern State University, Alva. Nora graduated from the Pratt public schools and Pratt Community College. She holds a degree in English Education from Kansas State College, Pittsburg.

Out-of town guests at the Doubek-Shorock wedding included: Dr. and Mrs. H.D. Doubek and Doug, Bellewille, Kansas; Bob and Sherry Lager and daughters, Omaha; Bob Doubek, Moscow, Idaho; Eric Shorock, Ashland, Wisconsin; Capt. and Mrs. Paul Shorock, Maine; Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Hamer, Chanute; Mr. and Mrs. Noel Mullendore and Mrs. Norval Yantis, Howard, Kansas.

At 6:30 p.m. July 3rd, a dinner was hosted at Dor's Servateria by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Shorock, Kearny, New Jersey, following the wedding rehearsal of their son to Nora Doubek. The tables were arranged in a T-formation, and were centered with an arrangement of red and white carnations around a hurricane lamp. Red and white votive candles with ruffles of navy dotted swiss were also placed on the tables. Gifts to their attendants and their mothers were presented by the couple.



Mr. and Mrs. Donald Shorock

July 24, 1976

The Pratt Daily Tribune

Transformer puts KWNS off the air

The Pratt area radio station KWNS was off the air Wednesday following the loss of a transformer in the AM transmitter, it was reported by station manager Don O'Malley.

A new transformer is being shipped from the Gates Radio Co., Quincy, Ill., and it usually takes about 24 hours for the equipment to arrive in Wichita, it was explained. Station personnel will drive to Wichita to pick up the replacement, and it is hoped the station will resume AM broadcasting, in normal operation, by Thursday, O'Malley stated.

The FM portion of the station was not affected by the transformer failure, and is in normal operation, it was explained.

July 28, 1976



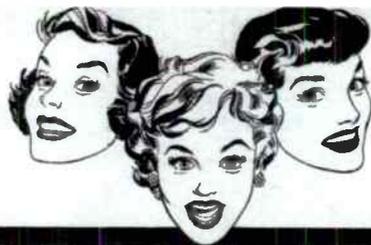
The Pratt Daily Tribune



BEAVER BENCH - The Pratt bench last night looked impressive as they contributed greatly to the Beaver's season opener win 80-81 over the Northeastern Oklahoma Mavericks last night as bench personell Morris Codes (31) passes off

to Jim Schuster (24). The Pratt Beavers will be looking for number two tonight at the Pratt Community College sports arena as they face Houston at 8:00 p.m. - Tribune Photo.

November 18, 1976



VARIETY
IS THE SPICE OF LISTENING

The Hutchinson News

symbolism—frugality, economy in government.

Well, it now appears the President has made his point, if not over-made it. Many people in this capital believe it is time for him to turn the lights back on . . . A veteran Washington correspondent said that Washington boasts of being a world capital, but at night it is more like East Berlin . . . As one man put it, "Come on, turn the lights back on, Mister President. We can afford it."

New Announcer On KARD-TV

The Kansas State Television Network announces the addition of Ralph Seeley to the KSN announcing staff on KARD-TV.

Seeley served in the U. S. Merchant Marine before enlisting in the army where he served as an M.P. in Italy until February 1947.

Seeley enjoys archery, chess and reading. He has been active in amateur dramatics since the age of 5.

A married man, he moved

his wife Beverly and three daughters from Pratt, Kansas where he was Operations Manager of KWNS Radio.

OUR BRANCH OFFICE IS AS NEAR AS YOUR MAIL BOX



It's easy to save by mail! All you need do is fill out the mail order blank below and enclose your

May 2, 1964



The Hutchinson News

Farm and Fancy

Adventures of a Tourist

By JANE BAUMAN

Motel East of Zaneville, Ohio.

It seems that the harder you have to work to get away for a vacation, the worse you want to go.

And unless all the cattle are on the loose at home, so far it's worth it.

We're zooming east on Interstate 70 on our way to Baltimore to spend a few days with old friends, the Don Harrys, who visited us two years ago. They loved the farm, and we like their beach cottage on Chesapeake Bay near Cove Point.

Mike remarked at the start of our trip Monday morn, "Boy, it didn't seem to take any time to get to Blutch this morn, but I guess that's because it's such short part of the distance we have to go yet."

Relativity, no doubt. Like feeling thin when you've just starved off ten pounds, even tho' you know you're still too fat.

But Man! It's nice to join the overweight tourists in over-air conditioned restaurants to eat food you didn't cook — and smugly listen to the family gripe because their eggs aren't fried right when you didn't fry 'em.

So far the only thing we've remembered that we forgot was Pappy's swim trunks. But Mike has two pair along, one is a gaudy, knee-knocker type which his dad detests. So Mike gally offered Pappy that pair . . . which won't be the ones Dad will wear . . .

Since on a superhighway, you sort of soar over or around the big cities and little towns, Pappy listens to St. Louis ball-games and cheers Cepeda on while the kids read or argue.

So we stop now and then to replenish snack and science fiction supplies. And today at a West Terre Haute IGA book rack, Mike and Max were bent down busily sorting through the paperbacks when this little old lady slipped up to them and whispered, "Listen boys, you can get those same books for ten cents each at 6th and Spruce." (It's friendly info like that which really saves us tourists money. I thought she worked in the place and was bawling them out.)

And "it's-a-small-world" thing happened down among the tasseled corn and shiny green soybeans at a Jewett, Ill., filling station.

Pratt Student

Pappy pulled up to a gas pump to use his credit card and this dark and handsome young man glanced at our Pratt County, Kansas car tag. Quickly, he inquired, "Say, do you live in Pratt?"

"No, but near there." Pappy replied.

"Well," the friendly young man explained, "I just graduated from Pratt Juco, and I'm on my way home to Pittsburgh, Pa. My name is Louis Constantino."

"Well, what do you know?" Pappy chor-tled. "You're the KWNS disc jockey." (who spins the platters and makes with the kooky chatter on the "Louie, Louie Show.")

And so it was. Pappy and the boys listened to him occasionally on their tractor radios. And I'd listened to "Louie, Louie" on his going-away show. . .

And tomorrow Louie should be home, and we should be hugging the five Harrys. And I hope I can get the rest of the machinery grease out from under and from around Pappy's fingernails. It takes a couple of days to get his discolored cal-louses looking white collar worker clean.



Jane

August 6, 1967

The Hutchinson News



Mrs. Dennis Ary
(Annette Simkins)



Mrs. Charles Fry
(Arlene Ryland)

attended Dodge City Community College, and Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, and is a biology teacher.

Charles Fry
Arlene Ryland

Pratt will be home for Arlene Ryland and Charles Fry, who were married Saturday, in the Sabetha United Methodist Church.

Parents of the couple are Mrs. Thomas Ryland, Sabetha, and Loy Fry, McPherson.

Rev. Kirby C. Hayes officiated at 7:30 p.m.; Mrs. C. Robinson provided the music.

Matron of honor and best man were Mrs. Ray Jolley, Palos Verdes, Calif., and Frank Rensberger, Denver, Colo. Other attendants were Mrs. Don Ryland, Lawton, Okla., and Roy Parson, Buffalo.

Harold Lear, Ottawa; Monnie Miller, Topeka; Bob DeTour, McPherson; and Ken Alderfer ushered. Taperlighters were Kim and Brenda Jolley, Palos Verdes.

The reception was in the church.

Mrs. Fry was graduated from Sabetha High School; Mr. Fry attended Hutchinson Community College and is employed by KWNS Radio, Pratt.

August 8, 1971

Pratt now has city manager

Change in government goes smoothly

PRATT — A commission-manager form of government is 10 months old here and judging from the reactions of local officials and residents, the arrangement appears to be working.

Prior to the changeover to the new type of government, with five commissioners and a city manager, the commissioners and the mayor had to handle the duties of the city manager. Each commissioner was in charge of several city departments, such as fire, utilities and police, resulting in a great deal of administrative work for commissioners. After much discussion and a petition drive, an election was held and the commission-manager idea was voted in.

Hired was James Pearson

to serve as city manager and take over the responsibilities of the commissioners.

"Of course I'm prejudiced, but I think it has been going very well," Pearson said.

"I think we get things done more quickly in the departments, with a full time city administrator," Pearson said.

"I also think that things are done more quickly as there is more coordination between the departments," Pearson said.

Pearson said the first thing he did when he became city manager was to open the lines of communication between city leaders and residents.

"We have to be responsive

the high plains

Hutchinson News Sunday, Mar. 24, 1974 Page 29

to the needs and desires of the public," he said.

Pearson says he still keeps the door open but is now taking steps to improve the city's financial procedures and generally streamline government.

"We are trying to change city financial administration right now, and it is a real headache," he said.

"Inflation has also affected us a great deal, probably even more than cities the size of Hutchinson. This means that we will have to watch our

budget," he said.

Also causing problems in Pratt is the fuel situation. When the municipally owned power plant here was forced to convert to diesel fuel during cold portions of the winter, Pearson estimates that the cost of running the plant was five times what it was when the plant is running on natural gas.

"We are still making money on the plant," Pearson said. "But the profit margin has been reduced."

Pratt Mayor, Conrad Gilham also says the arrangement seems to be working out. Under the manager form of government, the mayor is chosen by his fellow commissioners. The title is primarily an honorary one.

"I have seen morale improve, along with improved supervision in the city departments," he said. "On the whole, it has smoothed out a lot of rough spots."

Gilham said the city had been lucky to have many dedicated persons in previous years working as commissioners and this may have delayed going to a commission-manager system.

Commissioner Clyde Williams says the move to a city manager has re-

sulted in better coordination of city departments.

However he said he was spending as much time doing city business as he had before, when he had charge of two city departments.

"I spend as much time as before, but I think it is worthwhile," he said.

Williams also said he thought the city manager system initially resulted in higher costs.

"It costs more to have a full time manager than part time city administrators — at least at first," he said.

Agreeing with Gilham on the open door policy on city government was Don O'Malley, manager of KWNS Radio, Pratt.

"I think we have a great relationship between the media and the city," he said. "There is no struggle in obtaining information."

"I haven't been here very long, so I don't know firsthand," but I understand there were problems before. But with this new system and the people working for the city, we have no problem at all," he said.

Other persons surveyed seemed to have the same opinion.

"It worked fairly well before, but it was too much work for the individual commissioners. This is a better system," a Pratt professional man said.

"Things didn't change much," a local housewife said. "They seem to get things done."

March 24, 1974

The Hutchinson News

May weddings



Mrs. Douglas Fisher
(Anita Parks)



Mrs. William Gee
(Debra Schurr)

medical secre-
ler Clinic. Hai-
usband attended
Community Jun-
d is an office as-
suech Products

erholz

ing in Mexico
Mrs. Steve An-
y were married
aturday in the
hinson United
urch. Rev. Wes-
fficiated.

eholz, the former
the daughter of
nobloch, 16 East
ene Cyr of El-
usband is the son
Mrs. Jay Anker-
rman, South

tendants were
uman, Hutchin-
aymond Bahl,
attendants were
a Bitner, Nicker-
Connie Yutzky,
n were David
usty Foss.

weds will be at
3 at 1707 East
The bride, a grad-
ckerson High
mployed by Wes-

Debra Schurr
William Gee

United in marriage at 7
p.m. Saturday were Debra
Faye Schurr and William
McLean Gee, Rev. Vern
Greenhalgh officiated in the
First Christian Church.

The bride is the daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Schurr,
1407 West 24th. Her husband
is the son of Mr. and Mrs.
Jerry M. Gee, Stafford.

A brother and sister of the
couple, Jerry Gee, Manhat-
tan, and Sheryl Schurr,
served as best man and maid
of honor. Bridesmaids: Mar-
cia Hurley, Topeka; Mary
Gallon, Fredonia; and Nancy
Meyer, Emporia. Groomsmen
were Tom Strigler, Houston,
Tex.; Ron Jackson, Manhat-
tan; and Larry Martin, Bar-
lesville, Okla.

Pratt will be home for the
newlyweds following a short
wedding trip. Mrs. Gee was
graduated from Hutchinson
Community College and
Kansas State University,
Manhattan. She is an ele-
mentary physical education
teacher. The bridegroom at-
tended KSU and is employed
by KWNS Radio Station,
Pratt.

Rita Lankton
Mickael Foulk

A double-ring ceremony in
the Kingman Christian
Church united Rita R. Lan-
kton and Mickael R. Foulk in
marriage.

Their parents are Messrs.
and Meses. Ralph Lankton,
Winfield, and Norman Foulk,
Kingman. Rev. Robert Pate-
naude officiated at 10:30 a.m.
Saturday.

Mrs. H. R. Colgin served
her sister as matron of honor.
Best man was Leland Wilson.

Other attend-
land Wilson,
Mike Rinke and

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643
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Let Robert Smith
your favorite Eu
on canvas for you

We are planning our itinerary for a
rope. Because several of our friends
ings of specific scenic spots, recall
travel, we are making this offer for
You will have first opportunity to

May 26, 1974



Barbara
Caywood

Pratt's Musil had a thrill

This story is a bit late, but I just found out about it
the other night and it's well worth repeating. Before
the Hutch Juco-Pratt basketball game at the Arena
Tuesday, I was talking to Pratt athletic director Ron
Moddelmog, who also does color for KWNS radio on
Pratt Juco sports.

"Did you know that Chris Schenkel was our color
man during the fourth quarter of our football game at
Haskell?" he said.

"THE Chris Schenkel, the ABC Chris Schenkel?" I
asked.

It was THE Chris Schenkel and Ron suggested I talk
to KWNS play-by-play man Dan Musil about the expe-
rience.

Incredible

"It was an incredible experience," said Musil, a na-
tive of Frankfort and a 1974 graduate of Kansas State.

Schenkel and the ABC-TV crew were in Lawrence
for the telecast of the Kansas-Colorado game. A sup-
porter of Haskell American Indian Juco and the botter-
ment of Indiana education in the United States,
Schenkel decided to pay a visit to the Pratt-Haskell
football game that Saturday night.

"I was down on the sidelines before the game and
Haskell athletic director Wayne Postoak told me Chris
Schenkel might be there," Musil recalled. "I asked if
maybe he could come up and be our halftime guest and
he said sure. He wasn't there by halftime, so then I
just asked if he could come over so we could introduce
him and have him say a word or two."

"Right at the beginning of the fourth quarter, the
door opened and in walked Postoak and Schenkel. I
practically dropped my mike and ran over to introduce
myself and ask if he could say a word over the station."

Musil says Schenkel came on over, Moddelmog (who
usually does color) handed over his mike and the fun be-
gan.

Surprised

"The game was kind of out of hand, so we just
started talking," Dan said, "but then someone made a
pretty good run and Chris said, 'You'd better tell the
people about that' so I did. He said he was amazed that
I did all the numbers and stuff from memory since he
used prompters for everything."

"As it turned out, he stayed the whole fourth quarter
and ended up doing color for us. It was so great, I'm
still excited about it. The guys back at the station went
bonkers and fortunately, remembered to turn the tape
on, so I've got the whole thing on tape."

Dan said at the start of the game he was dead tired,
having done a high school game the night before and
then attending the KU game in the afternoon. "But af-
ter meeting Chris and having him on the air for a
whole quarter, I was so excited, I stayed wide awake
all the way back to Pratt."

He's everywhere

Another interesting tale that could go into the small
world department comes from Hutchinson Quarterback
Club member Chet Dirks.

Last week Chet was making some preliminary calls
to line up teams for next year's Quarterback Club Clas-
sic. One of the teams on his list was College of South-
ern Idaho in Twin Falls, currently ranked No. 1.

When he called CSI, he asked for head coach Boyd
Grant and the man who answered the phone said Grant
was in a coaches meeting and asked if he could take a
message.

"I started to tell him what I was calling about and
then I asked, 'Who's this?'"

The voice at the other end - in Twin Falls, Idaho, -
said, "This is Gene Keady."

"I almost dropped the phone," Dirks said.
Seems Keady, former Blue Dragon head coach and
now top recruiter for the University of Arkansas, was
at CSI looking at their super forward Kenny Davis, an
all-NJCAA tourney pick last year.

More recruits

Speaking of recruits, a couple of fair-sized gridders
were in looking over the Blue Dragon operation the
other night. Letterman Dan Muder was showing the
ropes to visitors Jeff Jennings and Dean Kolich during
the Pratt game.

January 30,
1976

The Hutchinson News

Knipp joins KWNS farm reporting staff

Sam A. Knipp, a native of Scott City, will join radio station KWNS, Pratt, to establish a farm broadcast department.

Knipp, a 1976 graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture journalism, grew up on a family farm specializing in livestock and grain. During the final year of his education at KSU, he was the recipient of an intern scholarship from radio station WIBW, Topeka, where he has served as a member of their agriculture broadcast team.

With the establishment of the farm broadcast department June 1, KWNS will expand its agriculture news broadcast time to 15 hours per week. This time will include market reports and analysis as well as general information to farmers and ranchers.

May 23, 1976

The Pratt Beaver

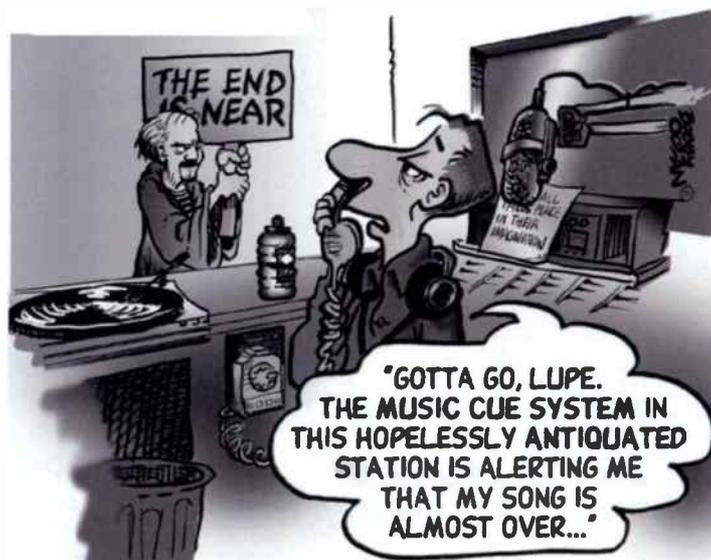
Class Studies Broadcasting

In Radio Production and Broadcasting classes, the students studied radio announcing, continuity, writing, sports broadcasting, and experienced actual programming in the college radio station via local KWNS. The second semester Radio Broadcasting students planned, supervised, and produced a fifteen minute program broadcasted three times a week. The broadcast featured school news, sports, and recorded music. Interviews with students, instructors, and special guests were a vital part of the program. Mr. Everett Brown was the instructor.

IN THE COLLEGE production booth students prepare to broadcast their self-composed news stories. LEFT TO RIGHT Jane Harms, Harold Rogers, and Leslie Yoast.



1967 Yearbook



The Pratt Beaver



GARY EVANS, Russ Fincham, and Loren Snyder check flight plans for cross-country with Mr. Dwight Hardy.

Class Studies Broadcasting

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IN THE COLLEGE production booth students prepare to broadcast their self-composed news stories. LEFT TO RIGHT Jane Harms, Harold Rogers, and Leslie Yoast.



1967 Yearbook

The Pratt Beaver



RADIO BROADCASTING

Radio Broadcasting
The record dances that the KPJ discjockeys sponsored raised funds to be put toward new equipment to be utilized in the newly formed radio station.

PCC students enjoyed the relaxing music broadcasted by the qualified students assigned. The dances were also appreciated.

The students appreciate the Board's cooperation in forming KPJ.

Dick Marsh and Dennis Harnos check out new equipment at station KPJ.



(F. Row) Michael Slabaugh, Bob Hall, Ricky Birdsong, Ron Heape. (Back Row) Stan Green, Ervin Games, Clarence Madden, Rolile Lewis, Dan Conner.

1975 Yearbook

The FCC Files:

KWNS Time Line-----Page 194

Actions Of The FCC-----Page 207

Broadcast Weekly

Yearbooks-----Page 222

FCC History Cards-----Page 228

KWNS Time Line

Fall 1957: Bill Huffman starts planning the possibility of constructing a new radio in Pratt, Kansas.

January 1958: First contact with the Federal Communications Commission concerning the availability of radio frequencies.

February 1958: Vir N. James, Consulting Radio Engineer, Denver, Colorado, contacted to prepare a frequency search for a full time radio station in Pratt, Kansas.

February 19, 1958: Mr. Eugene O. Edwards, Manager, Broadcast Transmitter Sales for Gates Radio Company, Quincy, Illinois, contacted to obtain information and prices of needed radio station equipment.

March 17, 1958: Joe Engle, Gates Radio Company, sales engineer, stationed in Colorado comes to Pratt to visit with Bill Huffman.

March 27, 1958: Contingent Order #03831 with Gates Radio Company for a total radio equipment sale of \$47,200.

April 16, 1958: Signed an option to purchase a tract of land east of Pratt, where KWNS was later constructed, from Nellie M. Penrod, 420 S. Pine, Pratt, La Verne Penrod Green and husband Ralph Green all of Pratt, Kansas for \$2,337.50.

May 17, 1958: Mr. Vir N. James signed the initial Engineering Exhibit for the Application for a Construction Permit for 1290 KC, 1 KW, night and 5 KW Daytime, both having different directional patterns.

May 18, 1958: Initial filing of FCC Form 301 for a construction permit of a 5KW daytime, 1KW nighttime radio station in Pratt, Kansas on 1290KC with FCC by Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kansas.

May 22, 1958: Announced by the FCC the filing of a new station in Pratt, Kansas by Wilmer E. Huffman P. O. Box 486 Pratt, Kansas on 1290 kilocycles, 5KW watts daytime, 1KW nighttime directional pattern with unlimited hours. Estimated construction costs \$61,766. First year operating expense \$60,000. First year revenue \$68,000. Sole owner is Wilmer E. Huffman, Certified Public Accountant.

January 6, 1959: Two separate applications are filed with the Federal Communications Commission for a 500 watt daytime only radio station on 1290 kilocycles at Larned, Kansas.

KWNS Time Line

The first by Francis Clem Morgan, Jr. 1108 Champa, Pratt, Kansas. Estimated construction cost \$14,545. First year operating cost \$24,000. First year revenue \$30,000. Clem, Jr. was employed by KWSK in Pratt, Kansas at the time of filing. The second filing was by Pier San, Inc. P.O. Box 933, Wichita, Kansas. Estimated construction cost \$12,825. First year operating cost \$24,000. First year revenue \$25,000. Pier San, Inc. is composed of equal partners Webb Pierce and Jim Denny, co-owners of WJAT in Swainsboro, Georgia. John Bozeman (Max Sanders) owner of KSIR in Wichita, Kansas, K. W. Pyle and Port Early employees of KSIR.

January 12, 1959: Announced by the FCC the applications of Francis Clem Morgan, Jr. and Pier San, Inc.

April 13, 1959: Notice of plan to exercise option to purchase land sent to Nellie M. Penrod.

May 12, 1959: Filed by Bill Huffman, amended engineering report, reducing night time power from 1000 watts to 500 watts.

May 15, 1959: Received postcard from FCC, acknowledgement of receipt of amended engineering request to reduce nighttime power to 500 watts.

October 14, 1959: Received Notice Of Objectional Interference from FCC.

Appendix 1:

KOIL, Omaha, Nebraska, nighttime pattern, 1290 kilocycles. KSCB, Liberal, Kansas, daytime pattern, 1270 kilocycles. KTRN, Wichita Falls, Texas, daytime pattern, 1290 kilocycles. KUOA, Siloam, Arkansas, daytime pattern, 1290 kilocycles.

Other Proposals:

BP12749 Larned, Kansas, Francis C. Morgan, Jr., BP12750 Larned, Kansas, Pier San, Inc. and BP12870 Ratan, New Mexico.

Appendix 2:

Francis C. Morgan, Jr.

Appendix 3:

Pier San, Inc.

October 29, 1959: Submitted updated information to FCC.

February 29, 1960: FCC applications to be considered beginning March 26, 1960. Docket 12749 Francis C. Morgan, Jr. 1290 kilocycles, 500 watt, daytime. Docket 12750 Pier San, Inc. 1290 kilocycles, 500 watt, daytime.

KWNS Time Line

March 8, 1960: Submitted by Francis C. Morgan, Jr. to FCC, amendment to BP12749, “Programming Section”.

April 13, 1960: Issued by Chief Hearing Examiner James D. Cunningham. Designated for consolidated hearing, applications for new AM stations to operate on 1290 kilocycles. Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San, Inc. with 500 watt daytime and Wilmer E. Huffman with 500 nighttime, 5,000 watts daytime unlimited hours with DA-2 antenna pattern. Made KSOK, 1280 kilocycles in Arkansas City, Kansas party to proceeding. Commissioner Bartley concurred in part but favored multiple ownership issue. Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman will preside at hearing scheduled to commence on June 13, 1960 in Washington, DC.

April 19, 1960: Scheduled prehearing conference for Tuesday, May 10, 1960 at 10:00 am in Washington, DC in proceeding on AM application of Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kansas, et al.

April 20, 1960: Order by FCC for Wilmer E. Huffman to appear at hearing scheduled to commence on June 13, 1960 in Washington, DC.

April 26, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. On request by Broadcast Bureau and without objection by other parties, ordered that prehearing conference scheduled for May 10 at 10 am, will be held at 9 am instead on same date in proceedings of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San, Inc. for AM facilities in Pratt and Larned, both Kansas.

June 2, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. Granted motion by Pier San Inc. and rescheduled certain procedural dates in proceeding on its application for new AM station in Larned, Kansas, et al. Informal exchange of engineering exhibits from June 7 to June 21, 1960. Final exchange of engineering and log exhibits from June 22 to July 6, 1960. Notification of witnesses from June 30 to July 14, 1960. Hearing from July 7 to July 21, 1960.

June 30, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. On request by Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kansas and without objection by other parties, rescheduled dates previously set in proceeding as follows: Final exchange of engineering and lay exhibits from July 6 to August 8, 1960. Notification of witnesses from July 14 to August 17, 1960. Hearing from July 21 to September 14, 1960.

July 28, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. On request of Wilmer E. Huffman and without objection by other parties, continued dates for final exchange of engineering and lay exhibits from August 8 to August 17, 1960 and for notification of witnesses

KWNS Time Line

from August 17 to September 6, 1960 in proceeding on his application for AM facilities in Pratt, Kansas, et al.

August 1960: Exhibit 8, "Need for Unlimited Time Broadcast Facilities" for FCC hearing included letters of support from the following:

1. Wilbur S. Kraisinger, County Agricultural Agent.
2. Marion Ackley, President, Pilot Club of Pratt, Kansas.
3. Glenn Henson, Manager, Calbeck Furniture and Music.
4. B. V. Hampton, President, Pratt Industrial Development, Inc.
5. K. Wayne Ayres, Chapter Chairman, American Red Cross, Pratt Co. Chapter.
6. Jennie McKinley, County Superintendent, Barber County Public Schools.
7. Kenneth S. Hill, Superintendent of Schools, Pratt Public Schools.
8. Mamie Longnecker, County Superintendent, Kingman County Kansas.
9. Gertrude Bonecutter, County Superintendent, Pratt County Kansas.
10. Mr. Clarence Hillard, Executive Secretary, Pratt County Chapter ARC.

September 12, 1960: Further Prehearing Conference. In attendance were Francis X. McDonough, attorney for Wilmer E. Huffman. A.L. Stein, attorney for Francis C. Morgan, Jr. John B. Kenkel, attorney for Pier San, Inc. Ray Paul, attorney for FCC Broadcast Bureau. Herbert Sharfman, FCC Presiding Examiner.

September 14, 1960: Hearing conducted by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. In attendance were Francis X. McDonough, attorney for Wilmer E. Huffman. A. L. Stein, attorney for Francis C. Morgan, Jr. John B. Kenkel, attorney for Pier San, Inc. Ray Paul, attorney for FCC Broadcast Bureau. Herbert Sharfman, FCC Presiding Examiner. Francis C. Morgan, Jr. was questioned at length.

November 30, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. On request by Broadcast Bureau and without objection by other parties, extended from December 1, 1960 to December 22, 1960 time to file proposed findings and from December 15, 1960 to January 5, 1961 for replies in proceeding on AM applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kansas et al.

December 19, 1960: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. Upon request by Broadcast Bureau, extended from December 22, 1960 to January 20, 1961, time to file proposed findings and from January 5, 1961 to February 3, 1961 for replies in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San Inc., for new AM stations in Pratt and Larned, both Kansas.

KWNS Time Line

January 19, 1961: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. Upon request by Broadcast Bureau and without objections by other parties, further extended from January 20 to January 27, 1961 and from February 3 to February 10, 1961, time for filing proposed findings and replies in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San, Inc. for AM facilities in Pratt and Larned, Kansas.

January 23, 1961: "Proposed Findings of Fact" submitted to FCC by Francis X. McDonough and Thomas S. Sullivan of firm Dow, Lohnes and Albertson, Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Wilmer E. Huffman.

January 27, 1961: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. On request by Pier San, Inc., further extended from January 27 to February 1, 1961 and from February 10 to February 15, 1961, time to file proposed findings and replies in proceeding on its application for new AM station in Larned, Kansas. Et al.

February 1, 1961: "Proposed Findings Of Fact and Conclusions Of Law" submitted to FCC by Francis X. McDonough and Thomas S. Sullivan of firm Dow, Lohnes and Albertson, Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Wilmer E. Huffman.

February 1, 1961: "Proposed Finding Of Fact" submitted to FCC by A. L. Stein, Warner Building, Washington, DC, attorney for Francis C. Morgan, Jr.

February 1, 1961: "Proposed Finding Of Fact" submitted to FCC by Arthur H. Schroeder of firm Miller and Schroeder, 218 Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorney for Pier San Inc.

February 14, 1961: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman. Upon request by Pier San Inc. and without objections by other parties, further extended from February 15 to February 17, time to file replies in proposed findings in proceeding on its application for new AM station in Larned, Kansas. Et al.

February 17, 1961: "Reply To Proposed Findings" submitted to FCC by: Francis X. McDonough and Thomas S. Sullivan of firm Dow, Lohnes and Albertson, Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Wilmer E. Huffman.

February 17, 1961: "Reply To Proposed Findings" submitted to FCC by: Arthur H. Schroeder & John B. Kenkel of firm Miller and Schroeder, 218 Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Pier San, Inc.

KWNS Time Line

February 17, 1961: “Reply To Proposed Findings” submitted to FCC by: A. L. Stein, attorney, Warner Building, Washington, DC, attorney for Francis C. Morgan, Jr.

March 29, 1961: Issued by Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman: Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman issued initial decision looking toward granting application of Pier San Inc. and denying applications of Francis C. Morgan and Wilmer E. Huffman. From Page 35, Paragraph 95: “Accordingly, because public interest, commercial and necessity will be served, thereby, It Is Ordered, This 27th day of March, 1961, that unless an appeal from this initial decision is taken by a party to the Commission or the Commission reviews the Initial Decision on its own motion in accordance with the provisions of Section 1.153 of the Rules, the application of Pier San, Inc., for a construction permit for a new standard broadcast station at Larned, Kansas to operate on 1290 KC, with 500 watts power, daytime only, is Granted, and that the competing applications of Wilmer E. Huffman and Francis C. Morgan, Jr. are Denied. Signed: Herbert W. Sharfman, Hearing Examiner, FCC. March 29, 1961”.

April 28, 1961: Issued by Commissioner Fredrick W. Ford. Granted petition by Wilmer E. Huffman and extended to May 8, 1961, time to file exceptions to initial decision in proceeding on his application and those of Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San Inc. for AM facilities in Pratt and Larned, Kansas.

May 8, 1961: “Exceptions to Initial Examiners Decision” submitted to FCC by Francis X. McDonough and Thomas S. Sullivan of firm Dow, Lohnes and Albertson, Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Wilmer E. Huffman.

May 8, 1961: “Statement in Support of Initial Decision” submitted to FCC by Arthur H. Schroeder & John B. Kenkel of firm Miller and Schroeder, 218 Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Pier San Inc.

May 8, 1961: “Exceptions to Initial Examiners Decision” submitted to FCC by A. L. Stein, attorney, Warner Building, Washington, DC, attorney for Francis C. Morgan, Jr.

May 9, 1961: “Broadcast Bureau Petition to Accept Late Filing of Exceptions and Brief in Support” submitted by Kenneth A. Cox, Chief, Broadcast Bureau. “We believe that the need of some 9,000 persons for the first nighttime service far outweighs the need for a first local outlet in Larned. We believe a grant of the Pratt application would best serve the public interest, and for this reason file the following exceptions to the Conclusions of the Initial Decision”.

May 17, 1961: Petition by Pier San, Inc. “For Extension of Time File Replies to Exceptions”

KWNS Time Line

to May 26, 1961.

May 22, 1961: Order granting extension of time to May 26, 1961, by Ben F. Maple, Acting Secretary FCC.

May 26, 1961: "Reply to Exceptions" submitted to FCC by Arthur H. Schroeder & John B. Kenkel of firm Miller and Schroeder, 218 Munsey Building, Washington, DC, attorneys for Pier San Inc.

June 1, 1961: By order, FCC Commission, granted petition by Broadcast Bureau to accept its filing of exceptions and supporting brief in proceeding on applications for new AM stations of Pier San Inc. and Francis C. Morgan, Jr. to operate on 1290 kilocycles, 500 watts daytime in Larned and Wilmer E. Huffman to operate on 1290 kilocycles, 5,000 watts daytime and 500 watts nighttime DA-2 in Pratt, Kansas.

July 6, 1961: Commission scheduled following proceedings for oral arguments on September 14 and September 15, 1961, on applications of Pier San Inc., Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Wilmer E. Huffman.

September 25, 1961: KEES call letters assigned to KSIJ in Gladewater, Texas.

August 29, 1961: Notice to Reschedule Oral Arguments Before the FCC in Washington, DC.

October 4, 1961: FCC Commission directed preparation of document toward granting application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new AM station to operate on 1290 kilocycles, 5,000 watts daytime, 500 watts nighttime DA-2 in Pratt, Kansas and denying applications of Pier San Inc. and Francis C. Morgan, Jr. for new stations on 1290 kilocycles, 500 watts daytime in Larned, Kansas. March 29, 1961 decision looked toward granting Pier San Inc. and denying Morgan and Huffman applications.

October 6, 1961: Issued by Chairman Newton N. Minow. Granted motion by Pier San, Inc. and corrected in various respects, transcript of oral argument in proceeding on its AM application. Et al.

January 3, 1962: By decision, FCC Commission granted construction permit to Wilmer E. Huffman for new AM station on 1290 kilocycles, 5,000 watts daytime, 500 watts nighttime, DA-2, unlimited hours in Pratt, Kansas. Commission by a vote of 3 for, 2 against, 1 abstaining and 1 not in attendance.

KWNS Time Line

February 8, 1962: Pier San Inc. filed "Petition for Reconsideration".

February 8, 1962: Francis C. Morgan, Jr. filed "Petition For Reconsideration and Rehearing".

February 16, 1962: Broadcast Bureau files opposition to "Petition for Reconsideration".

February 19, 1962: Wilmer E. Huffman files opposition to "Petition for Reconsideration and Rehearing".

February 21, 1962: Pier San Inc. files response to Morgan's petition.

March 2, 1962: Pier San Inc. reply to opposition.

April 2, 1962: Call letters KPRT assigned to Pratt radio station.

April 30, 1962: Call letters KWNS assigned to Pratt radio station.

May 22, 1962: Bill Huffman conducts groundbreaking ceremonies.

May 29, 1962: By memorandum and order, FCC Commissioners readopted its January 3, 1962 decision granting application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new AM station to operate on 1290 kilocycles, 5,000 watts daytime, 500 watts nighttime, DA-2 in Pratt, Kansas and denied petitions for reconsideration filed by Francis C. Morgan, Jr. and Pier San Inc. Commissioner Bartley again dissented. Commissioner Lee dissented. Commissioner Cross concurred in part and dissented in part and issued statement.

June 2, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.1. Federal Communications Commission announced yesterday their denial of petitions for reconsideration by Pier San Inc. of Wichita and Francis C. Morgan, Jr. formerly of Pratt. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held recently. Groundwork is now complete. Building construction to begin immediately.

June 8, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.2. Building foundation is now complete. Tower bases have been completed.

June 15, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.3. The first concrete blocks of the building construction were layed yesterday. The first 60 feet of the 190 feet towers have been erected.

KWNS Time Line

June 23, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.4. All of the concrete blocks for the building walls have been laid. The floor and wall construction will be completed during the next 10 to 15 days.

July 7, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.5. Our roof which is being manufactured in Wichita, Kansas will be made of prestress concrete slabs. Plans call for its erection onto the building Friday morning, July 13, 1962. Visitor will be welcome. The plumbing is currently being installed. The floors will be poured with ready mix concrete, upon completion of the plumbing within the week to 10 days. The program schedule is currently being revised. All suggestions on programs desired are welcomed.

July 20, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.6. The prestress concrete slabs for our roof were set on the Tuesday (July 17) and Wednesday (July 18) of this week. The finishing work on the roof will be completed next week. The floors have been poured and partitions will be installed upon completion of the roof.

August 31, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune. Ted Leroy Hite from Paducah, Kentucky hired as KWNS Sports Director, the stations first employee.

September 1, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.7. Four, 190 towers have been erected. Transmission equipment is now being installed.

September 2, 1962: KWNS granted extension of completion date to December 3, 1962.

September 28, 1962: Reported in Pratt Tribune, Progress Report No.8. Transmitting equipment is currently being installed and if progress continues according to schedule, we will begin to broadcast a test signal at 12 midnight. All equipment tests will continue from midnight to local sunrise for approximately 2 weeks.

December 21, 1962: KWNS granted modification of construction permit to make changes in daytime directional pattern.

December 28, 1962. Station has an open house from 1 to 5 pm.

January 16, 1963: KWNS granted modification of construction permit to make changes in daytime directional pattern.

January 18, 1963: KWNS signs on the air for the first time on Friday at 5:30 am. Bill Huffman

KWNS Time Line

turns the equipment on, plays the Star Spangled Banner and announces, "This is KWNS radio, "The Mighty 1290" in Pratt, Kansas, signing on the air".

April 29, 1963: After completion of test period, KWNS granted final license approval.

May 27, 1963: First of 4 ads ran in the "Help Wanted" sales section of Broadcast Weekly looking for Sales Manager and Station Manager.

July 17, 1963: Reported in Pratt Tribune. Aubrey Mays from Seminole, Texas hired in June as Station Manager. Also hired in June, William J. Young from Phoenix, Arizona as General Manager.

September 3, 1964: KWNS, Inc. is formed. 1,000 shares were be sold at \$100.00 each. Members are Wilmer E. Huffman, William J. Young, John Schrepel, Delmar Riney and B. V. Hampton. Three more members were added before a license change was submitted to the FCC on November 25, 1964, namely, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon.

November 25, 1964: New FM station application filed by Wilmer E. Huffman. 93.1 megacycles, 29,000 watts. Antenna height above average terrain, 120 feet. P. O. Box 486, Pratt, Kansas. Estimated construction cost \$25,000. First year operating cost \$10,000. First year revenue \$15,000. Principal owner is Wilmer E. Huffman. Mr. Huffman is licensee of KWNS and is seeking transfer of control of facility.

November 25, 1964: Seeks assignment of license from Wilmer E. Huffman (100%) to KWNS, Inc. owned by Wilmer E. Huffman (54.8%), William J. Young (10.7%), John Schrepel (10.7%). Delmer Riney, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon each with 5.4% and B. V. Hampton with 2.2%. Consideration of \$51,000 and assumption of \$65,750 corporate liabilities. Mr. Young is General Manager of KWNS.

December 21, 1964: FCC granted assignment of license from Wilmer E. Huffman (100%) to KWNS, Inc. owned by Wilmer E. Huffman (54.8%), William J. Young (10.7%), John Schrepel (10.7%). Delmer Riney, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon each with 5.4% and B. V. Hampton with 2.2%. Consideration of \$51,000 and assumption of \$65,750 corporate liabilities. Mr. Young is General Manager of KWNS.

February 25, 1965: KWNS, Inc. granted construction permit for new FM station on 93.1 megacycles.

April 6, 1965: KWNS, Inc. granted SCA on sub-carrier frequencies of 38 kilocycles and 67

KWNS Time Line

kilocycles for new FM station.

April 19, 1965: Call letters KWNS-FM assigned.

May 28, 1965: Granted renewal of license for KWNS-AM.

July 5, 1965: KWNS, Inc. subscribes to Audio Program Services to supply background music reel to reel tapes for KWNS-FM.

August 11, 1965: Granted license for KWNS-FM and to specify type transmitter.

April 18, 1965: Ron Nedblake, former account executive with KMBC-FM Kansas City, Missouri joins KWNS AM-FM as national sales manager.

October 30 and 31, 1965: Hi-Fi Stereo Show at the Pratt National Guard Armory to promote new KWNS-FM.

February 26 and 27, 1966: KWNS holds its first Home Show at the Pratt National Guard Armory.

July 3, 1967: Announced in Broadcast Weekly, KWNS AM-FM joins National Association of Broadcasters.

July 28, 1968: Granted renewal of license for KWNS-AM-FM.

September 10, 1968: KWNS-AM-FM seeks transfer of control of KWNS, Inc. from Wilmer E. Huffman (51% before, 17% after) to William J. Young (17% before, 51% after) for consideration of \$34,000.

February 28, 1969: KWNS-AM-FM granted transfer of control of KWNS, Inc. from Wilmer E. Huffman (51% before, 17% after) to William J. Young (17% before, 51% after) for consideration of \$34,000.

July 16, 1969: High windstorm hits east of Pratt about 4:27 pm bringing down the KWNS-FM tower. This was the former KWSK tower purchased by KWNS, Inc., when KWSK ceased operations.

March 15, 1970: Record snowfall paralyzes Pratt area. KWNS still on the air providing

KWNS Time Line

emergency radio service to Pratt area listeners. Chief engineer Gene McKinney snowed in at the station.

September 21, 1970: KWNS awarded by the Kansas Heart Association for outstanding public information for Kansas radio stations.

May 28, 1971: Granted renewal of license for KWNS-AM-FM.

June 1971: Wilmer E. Huffman sells his remaining 17% ownership to William J. Young.

December 21, 1971: Grand Opening of Bill Young's Radio and TV Parts, Inc. at 622 East First in Pratt, Kansas.

Summer 1972: Ken Blevins and Dick Kruse, both of Wichita, Kansas attempt to purchase KWNS, but without success.

September 15, 1972: Announced in Broadcast Weekly, "Ownership Change Applications" section. KBLR-AM and KLTB-FM, Bolivar, Missouri, seeks assignment of license from Shepherd of The Hills Broadcasting Company to KLBR Inc. for \$175,000. Sellers are: Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenney, partners. Buyers are: William J. Young and Barbara A. Young (Together 100%). Mr. Young is general manager and owns 51% of KWNS, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Young own minority interest in Radio Parts Inc. in Pratt, Kansas.

January 12, 1973: FCC granted sale of KBLR-AM and KLTB-FM by Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenney, partners to William J. and Barbara A. Young for \$175,000.

May 1973: Donald J. O'Malley elected Secretary/Treasurer for the Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

June 25, 1973: KWNS-AM-FM joins the Mutual Broadcasting System.

August 20, 1973: Announced in Broadcast Weekly under "Fates and Fortunes" section. KWNS AM-FM Pratt, Kansas sold by William Young and John Rickard to Donald J. O'Malley and George D. Keiffer for \$248,000. Mr. O'Malley is manager of KLEO-AM Wichita, Kansas. Mr. Keiffer is an employee of American Multi-Cinema, Kansas City, Missouri. Broker: Ralph E. Meador, Lexington, Missouri.

November 2, 1973: Bill Young opens Pratt's first Radio Shack store at 707 North Main.

KWNS Time Line

November 20, 1973: FCC approved sale of KWNS.

November 28, 1973: KWNS, Inc. consisting of William J. Young and John K. Rickard is officially dissolved.

June 17, 1974: Broadcast Bureau approved license renewal of KWNS AM-FM.

February 22 and 23, 1975: Last KWNS Home Show, held at the Pratt National Guard Amory.

May 1976: Donald J. O'Malley elected as President-Elect for the Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

July 28, 1976: KWNS-AM off the air on Wednesday, due to burned out modulation transformer. FM side of station unaffected.

July 29, 1976: KWNS-AM back on the air Thursday.

May 1977: Donald J. O'Malley elected President for the Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

November 14, 1977: Reported in Broadcast Weekly under "Ownership Changes" section. KWNS AM-FM seeks assignment of license from O'Malley-Keiffer Communications Company to Lesso Inc. for \$277,000 plus \$99,000 covenant not to compete. Date filed November 3, 1977.

January 23, 1978: Reported in Broadcast Weekly under "Changing Hands Action" section. Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from O'Malley-Keiffer Communications Company to Lessco Inc. for \$277, 000 plus \$99,000 not to compete. Granted December 28, 1978.

March 6, 1978: Reported in Broadcast Weekly, KWNS-AM-FM changed to KWLS-AM-FM.

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Hounds, Kisses Announce KLEO

Wichita listeners learned that KANS changed its call letters to KLEO the past fortnight—with the help of aggressive promotion by the station. Giving teeth to the drive were three attractive ladies and three basset hounds who mixed with shoppers in the downtown section of the Kansas city. They passed out candy kisses bearing the inscription, "Here's a kiss from KLEO and have you tried listening to 1480 [kc]?"

December 1, 1958
Page 98

APPLICATIONS

Douglas, Ga.—R. W. Woodruff 1480 kc, 1 kw D. P.O. address Box 217. Estimated construction cost \$18,900, first year operating cost \$18,000, revenue \$30,000. Mr. Woodruff is in accountancy. Announced Jan. 12.

Larned, Kan.—Francis C. Morgan Jr. 1290 kc, 500 w. P.O. address 1108 Champa, Pratt, Kan. Estimated construction cost \$14,545, first year operating cost \$24,000, revenue \$30,000. Mr. Morgan is employe of KWSK Pratt, Kan. Announced Jan. 12.

Larned, Kan.—Pier San Inc. 1290 kc, 500 w D. P.O. address Box 933, Wichita, Kan. Estimated construction cost \$12,835, first year operating cost \$24,000, revenue \$25,000. Owners are equal partners Webb Pierce and Jim Denny co-owners of WJAT Swainsboro, Ga.; John Bozeman owner of KSIR Wichita, Kans, and E. W. Pyle and Port Early, employes of KSIR. Announced Jan. 12

January 19, 1959
Page 106



FCC Applications To Be Considered Beginning March 26, 1960

BP-12736—KNOW Austin, Tex., Pioneer Bcstg. Co. Has: 1490kc, 250w, unl. Req: 1490kc, 250w, 1kw-LS, unl.

BP-12738—KOYL Odessa, Tex., Mid-Cities Bcstg. Co. Has: 1310kc, 500w, D. Req: 1310kc, 1kw, D.

BP-12749—New, Larned, Kan., Francis C. Morgan Jr. Req: 1290kc, 500w, D.

BP-12750—New, Larned, Kan., Pier San Inc. Req: 1290kc, 500w, D.

February 29, 1960
Page 93

• ROBERT LIVINGSTON, in sales department of WMAL-TV Washington since 1949, appointed local sales manager. He also will represent station in Baltimore area.



MR. LIVINGSTON

• DON O'MALLEY, formerly sales manager of KBKC Mission, Kan., to KCMO-FM Kansas City as account executive.

• RICHARD KRELSTEIN joins KBOX Dallas as account executive.

March 7, 1960
Page 94

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)

Broadcast Weekly Magazine

New AM Stations Actions By FCC

Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kan.; Francis C. Morgan Jr., Larned, Kan.; Pier San Inc., Larned, Kan.—Designated for consolidated hearing applications for new am stations to operate on 1290 kc. Mr. Morgan and Pier San with 500 w D, and Mr. Huffman with 500 w-N, 5 kw-LS, DA-2 (BP-12021, 12749, 12750); made KSOK Arkansas City, Ark., party to proceeding. Comr. Bartley concurred in part but favored including multiple ownership issue. Ann. April 13.

***April 18, 1960
Page 105***

By Chief Hearing Examiner
James D. Cunningham

■ Scheduled hearings in following proceedings on dates shown: May 20: Application for relinquishment of positive control of WJPB-TV Inc., permittee of WJPB-TV (ch. 5) Weston, W.Va., by J. P. Beacom through sale of stock to Thomas P. Johnson and George W. Eby; June 13: Am applications of Brockway Co. (WMSA) Massena, N.Y., et al., Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kans., et al., Brandywine Bcstg. Corp., Media, Pa., et al., June 20: Am application of Pioneer Bcstg. Co. (KNOW) Austin, Tex.; June 21: applications of Talliesin Bcstg. Co. and Douglas G. Oviatt & Son Inc., for new fm stations in Cleveland, Ohio. Actions April 14.

***April 25, 1960
Page 111***

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Scheduled prehearing conference for May 12 at 2 p.m., in proceeding on application for relinquishment of positive control of WJPB-TV Inc., permittee of WJPB-TV (ch. 5) Weston, W.Va., by J. P. Beacom through sale of stock to Thomas P. Johnson and George W. Eby. Action April 19.

■ Scheduled prehearing conference for May 10 in proceeding on am applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kans., et al. Action April 19.

***April 25, 1960
Page 106***

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ On request by Broadcast Bureau and without objection by other parties, ordered that prehearing conference scheduled for May 10 at 10 a.m. will be held at 9 a.m. instead on same date in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan, Jr., and Pier San Inc., for am facilities in Pratt and Larned, both Kansas. Action April 28.

***May 9, 1960
Page 105***

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Issued statement and order after prehearing conference in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan Jr., and Pier San Inc., for new am stations in Pratt and Larned, both Kansas; continued hearing from June 13 to July 7. Ann. May 10.

May 23, 1960 Page 105

**ACTIONS OF THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

**By Hearing Examiner
Herbert Sharfman**

■ Granted petition by Wilmer E. Huffman and continued from May 31 to June 7 date for informal exchange of engineering exhibits in proceeding on his application for new am station in Pratt, Kans., et al. Action May 23.

**May 30, 1960
Page 82**

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman
■ Granted motion by Pier San Inc. and rescheduled certain procedural dates in proceeding on its application for new am station in Larned, Kans., et al; hearing continued from July 7 to July 21. Action June 2.

**June 13, 1960
Page 113**

**By Hearing Examiner
Herbert Sharfman**

■ On request of Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kans., and without objection by other parties, rescheduled dates previously set in proceeding as follows: final exchange of engineering and lay exhibits—July 6 to Aug. 8; notification of witnesses—July 14 to Aug. 17; hearing from July 21 to Sept. 14. Action June 30.

**July 11, 1960
Page 105**

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ On request of Wilmer E. Huffman and without objection by other parties, continued dates for final exchange of engineering and lay exhibits from Aug. 8 to Aug. 17 and for notification of witnesses from Aug. 17 to Sept. 6 in proceeding on his application for am facilities in Pratt, Kans., et al. Action July 28.

**August 8, 1960
Page 92**

**By Hearing Examiner
Herbert Sharfman**

■ On request by Broadcast Bureau and without objection by other parties, extended from Dec. 1 to Dec. 22 time to file proposed findings and from Dec. 15 to Jan. 5, 1961, for replies, in proceeding on am applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kan., et al. Action Nov. 30.

**December 12, 1960
Page 95**

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Upon request by Broadcast Bureau, extended from Dec. 22 to Jan. 20, 1961, time to file proposed findings and from Jan. 5 to Feb. 3, 1961, for replies in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan Jr., and Pier San Inc., for new am stations in Pratt, and Larned, both Kansas. Action Dec. 19.

**January 2, 1961
Page 63**

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

Upon request by Broadcast Bureau, and without objection by other parties, further extended from Jan. 20 to Jan. 27 and from Feb. 3 to Feb. 10 time for filing proposed findings and replies in proceeding on applications of Wilmer E. Huffman, Francis C. Morgan Jr., and Pier San Inc., for am facilities in Pratt and Larned, Kan. Action Jan. 19.

January 30, 1961
Page 84

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

On request of Pier San., further extended from Jan. 27 to Feb. 1 and from Feb. 10 to Feb. 15 time to file proposed findings and replies in proceeding on its application for new am station in Larned, Kans. et al. Action Jan, 27.

February 6, 1961
Page 90

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Upon request by Pier San Inc., and without objection by other parties, further extended from Feb. 15 to Feb. 17 time to file replies to proposed findings in proceeding on its application for new am station in Larned, Kans., et al. Action Feb. 14.

February 27, 1961
Page 87

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Hearing examiner Herbert Sharfman issued initial decision looking toward granting application of Pier San Inc. for new am station to operate on 1290 kc, 500 w, D, in Larned, Kans., and denying applications of Francis C. Morgan Jr. for same facilities in Larned and Wilmer E. Huffman for new station in Pratt, Kans., to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Ann. March 29.

April 3, 1961
Page 91

By Hearing Examiner Herbert Sharfman

■ Hearing examiner Herbert Sharfman issued initial decision looking toward granting application of Pier San Inc. for new am station to operate on 1290 kc, 500 w, D, in Larned, Kans., and denying applications of Francis C. Morgan Jr. for same facilities in Larned and Wilmer E. Huffman for new station in Pratt, Kans., to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Ann. March 29.

April 3, 1961
Page 91

By Commissioner Frederick W. Ford

■ Granted petition by Wilmer E. Huffman and extended to May 8 time to file exceptions to initial decision in proceeding on his application and those of Francis C. Morgan, Jr., and Pier San Inc., for am facilities in Pratt and Larned, Kan. Action April 28.

May 8, 1961
Page 158

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Other Actions

■ By order commission granted petition by Broadcast Bureau to accept its late filing of exceptions and supporting brief in proceeding on applications for new am stations of Pier San Inc., and Francis C. Morgan Jr., to operate on 1290 kc, 500 w. D, in Larned, and Wilmer E. Huffman to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, in Pratt, Kan. Action June 1.

June 12, 1961
Page 96

Other Actions

■ Commission scheduled following proceedings for oral argument on Sept. 14 and Sept. 15: fm application of Peoples Bcstg. Corp., Trenton, N. J.; am applications of Brandywine Bcstg. Corp., Media, Pa., Boyertown Bcstg. Co., Boyertown, Pa., and Dinkson Corp., Hammonton, N. J.; am applications of Pier San Inc., Larned, Francis C. Morgan Jr., Larned, and Wilmer E. Huffman, Pratt, Kansas; and Sunbury Bcstg. Corp. (WKOK) Sunbury, all Pa. Action July 6.

July 17, 1961
Page 85

Call Letters Assigned

KEES Gladewater, Tex.—Golden Triangle Enterprises; changed from KSIJ.
KANI Wharton, Tex.—V. M. Preston; changed from KWHA.
KNIN Wichita Falls, Tex.—Wichita Bcstg. Corp.; changed from KSYD.
KHOK Hoquiam, Wash.—Twin Cities Bcstg. Co.; changed from KHOQ.
KIXI Renton, Wash.—Robert L. McCaw; changed from KUDY.
KLME Laramie, Wyo.—Albany Bcstrs. Inc.; changed from KBBZ.

September 25, 1961
Page 103

Hearing cases

STAFF INSTRUCTIONS

■ Commission directed preparation of document looking toward granting application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new am station to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, in Pratt, Kan., and denying applications of Pier San Inc., and Francis C. Morgan Jr., for new stations on 1490 kc, 500 w. D, in Larned, Kan. March 29 initial decision looked toward granting Pier San and denying Morgan and Huffman applications. Action Oct. 4.

October 9, 1961
Page 104

ACTIONS ON MOTIONS

By Chairman Newton N. Minow
■ Granted motion by Pier San Inc., Larned, Kan., and corrected in various respects transcript of oral argument in proceeding on its am application, et al. Action Oct. 6.

October 16, 1961
Page 96

New AM Stations Actions By FCC

Pratt, Kan.—Wilmer Huffman. Granted 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N. P. O. address Box 486, Pratt. Estimated construction cost \$61,766. First year operating cost \$60,000, revenue \$68,000. Mr. Huffman, sole owner, is C.P.A. Comrs. Lee and Cross dissented; Comr. Bartley abstained from voting. Action Jan. 3.

January 15, 1962
Page 77

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Hearing Cases Final Decisions

■ By decision, commission granted application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new am station to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, in Pratt, Kan., and denied applications of Pier San Inc. and Francis C. Morgan Jr. for new stations on 1290 kc, 500 w, D, in Larned, Kan. Comrs. Lee and Cross dissented, latter with statement; Comr. Bartley abstained from voting. March 29 1961 initial decision looked toward granting Pier San and denying Morgan and Huffman applications. Action Jan. 3.

January 15, 1962
Page 79

CALL LETTERS ASSIGNED

KPRT Pratt, Kan.—Wilmer E. Huffman.
WSEL Pontotoc, Miss.—Pontotoc Bcstg. Co.
KFTW Fredericktown, Mo.—Robert F. Neathery.
KHTN Houston, Mo.—Radio Co. of Texas County.
KLUC Las Vegas, Nev.—Meyer (Mike) Gold; changed from KRBO.
WJRZ Newark, N. J.—Bergen Bcstg. Corp.; changed from WNTA.
WAAK Dallas, N. C.—Fred H. Whitley.
WFNL North Augusta, S. C.—Harry Hammond; changed from WSSL.
KTCT Merkel, Tex.—Taylor County Bcstg. Co.

April 2, 1962
Page 129

CALL LETTERS ASSIGNED

KXEX Fresno, Calif.—Atlas Bcstg. Co.; changed from KEVC.
KSNO Aspen, Colo.—Aspen Bcstg. Co.; changed from KCKI.
KICM Golden, Colo.—Norman Bcstg.; changed from KTWL.
WMET Miami, Fla.—Latin Bcstg. Corp.; changed from WMBM.
WMBM Miami Beach, Fla.—Community Service Bcstrs. Inc.; changed from WMET.
WJRC Joliet, Ill.—Radio Joliet.
WLUV Loves Park, Ill.—Loves Park Bcstg. Co.
KWNS Pratt, Kan.—Wilmer E. Huffman; changed from KPRT.

April 30, 1962
Page 79

Other Actions

■ By memorandum opinion & order, commission (1) readopted its Jan. 3 decision granting application of Wilmer E. Huffman for new am station to operate on 1290 kc, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, in Pratt, Kan., and denied applications of Pier San Inc., and Francis C. Morgan Jr., for new stations on 1290 kc, 500 w, D, in Larned, Kan., and (2) denied petitions for reconsideration filed by Mr. Morgan and Pier San. Comr. Bartley abstained from voting; Comr. Lee dissented; Comr. Cross concurred in part and dissented in part and issued statement. Action May 29.

June 4, 1962
Page 80

Actions of Aug. 24

■ Following stations were granted extensions of completion dates as shown: WDOK Cleveland, Ohio, to Dec. 28; WNIA Cheektowaga, N. Y., to Oct. 15; WPPA Pottsville, Pa., to Nov. 7; WNOG Naples, Fla., to Dec. 15; KMLB Monroe, La., to Oct. 15; KVAS Astoria, Ore., to March 3, 1963; WTOD Toledo, Ohio, to Dec. 15; KLZ Denver, Colo., to Dec. 27; WISZ Glen Burnie, Md., to Feb. 8, 1963; WCBS New York, N. Y., to March 1, 1963; conditions; WNBC New York, N. Y., to Feb. 23, 1963; conditions; KWNS Pratt, Kan., to Dec. 3; WSLC Clermont, Fla., to Nov. 1; WHGB Harrisburg, Pa., to Oct. 1; WOLF Syracuse, N. Y., to Dec. 21; WPTZ (TV) North Pole, N. Y., to Nov. 1.

September 3, 1962
Page 81

Broadcast Actions by Broadcast Bureau Actions of Dec. 21

WVOR (FM) Rochester, N. Y.—Granted mod. of cp to increase ERP to 50 kw.
KWNS Pratt, Kans.—Granted mod. of cp to make changes in daytime DA pattern.
WHTC Holland, Mich.—Granted mod. of cp to make changes in ant. system; condition.

December 31, 1962
Page 66

ACTIONS OF THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

**Broadcast Actions
by Broadcast Bureau
Actions of Jan. 16**

KWNS Pratt, Kans.—Granted mod. of cp to make changes in daytime DA pattern.

KLUC-FM Las Vegas, Nev.—Granted mod. of cp to increase ERP to 5.8 kw; and change type trans. and type ant.

■ Granted following stations SCA on sub-carrier frequency of 67 kc: KLRO (FM) San Diego, Calif., and WMRN-FM Marion, Ohio.

**January 28, 1963
Page 101**

**Broadcast Actions
by Broadcast Bureau
Actions of April 29**

■ Granted licenses for following: KHDN Hardin, Mont.; KLOM Lompoc, Calif.; WOKA Douglas, Ga.; KWNS Pratt, Kan.; WSJR Madewaska, Me., and specify main studio location and remote control point, WTHM Lapeer, Mich., and specify studio location and type trans. and redescribe trans location; condition.

**May 6, 1963
Page 104**

Help Wanted—(Conf'd)

Sales

Salesman-announcer to operate remote studio in county seat town of 5000. Midwest. Send resume and tape. Box G-368, BROADCASTING.

Wanted: Announcer with first phone for summer relief. WAMD, Aberdeen, Md.

Sales Manager-Station Manager for new 5000/500 watt directional fulltime KWNS Pratt, Kansas. Small competitive market with large potential for hard worker. Profit sharing and chance for investment for productive manager. Also need area salesman commission basis and first phone announcer. Immediate openings contact Bill Huffman, owner.

**May 27, 1963
Page 86**

**New FM Stations
Applications**

Pratt, Kan.—Wilmer E. Huffman. 93.1 mc, channel 226, 29 kw. Ant. height above average terrain 120 feet. P.O. address Box 486, Pratt. Estimated construction cost \$25,000; first year operating cost \$10,000; revenue \$15,000. Principal: Wilmer E. Huffman. Mr. Huffman is licensee of KWNS Pratt and is seeking transfer of control of facility. Ann. Nov. 25.

**December 7, 1964
Page 84**

**Ownership Changes
Applications**

KWNS Pratt, Kan.—Seeks assignment of license from Wilmer E. Huffman, to KWNS Inc., owned by Mr. Huffman (54.8%), William J. Young (10.7%), John Schrepel (10.7%), Delmer Riney, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon (each 5.4%) with B. V. Hampton (2.2%). Consideration \$51,000 and assumption of \$65,750 corporate liabilities. Mr. Young is general manager of KWNS. Assignor filed for CP for new FM Nov. 25. Ann. Nov. 25.

**December 7, 1964
Page 87**

**Ownership Changes
Page 62**

KWNS Pratt, Kan.—Granted assignment of license from Wilmer E. Huffman, to KWNS Inc. owned by Mr. Huffman (54.8%), William J. Young (10.7%), John Schrepel (10.7%), Delmer Riney, George T. Chandler, George C. Lemon and J. C. Lemon (each 5.4%) with B. V. Hampton (2.2%). Consideration \$51,000 and assumption of \$65,750 corporate liabilities. Mr. Young is general manager of KWNS. Assignor filed for CP for new FM Nov. 25. Action Dec. 21.

**December 28, 1964
Page 62**

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

New FM Stations Actions By FCC

Pratt, Kan.—KWNS Inc. Granted CP for new FM on 93.1 mc. channel 226. 29 kw. Ant. height above average terrain 120 feet. P.O. address Box 486, Pratt. Estimated construction cost \$25,000; first year operating cost \$10,000; revenue \$15,000. Principal: Wilmer E. Huffman. Mr. Huffman is licensee of KWNS Pratt and is seeking transfer of control of facility. Action Feb. 25.

***March 8, 1965
Page 90***

BROADCAST ACTIONS by Broadcast Bureau Actions of April 6

KWNS Inc., Pratt, Kan.—Granted SCA on sub-carrier frequencies of 38 and 67 kc for new FM.

■ Granted SCA on sub-carrier frequency of 67 kc for following: WTGI(FM) Hammond, La.; Communication Broadcasting Inc., Lafayette, La., for new FM.

***April 12, 1965
Page 76***

Existing FM Stations Action By FCC

CALL LETTERS ASSIGNED

- KCAB-FM Dardanelle, Ark. — Central Arkansas Broadcasting Inc.
- KLOM-FM Lompoc, Calif. — Lompoc Broadcasting Inc.
- KILB(FM) Long Beach, Calif.—John Lamar Hill, Changed from KFOX-FM.
- KFOX-FM Los Angeles—KFOX Inc. Changed from KVXN(FM).
- KCER(FM) Redding, Calif.—Charles J. and Elma A. Reed.
- KEER(FM) Salinas, Calif. — Roy A. Eaton.
- WALZ-FM Jacksonville, Fla.—Rowland Broadcasting Inc. Changed from WQIK-FM.
- WFIW-FM Fairfield, Ill.—Wayne County Broadcasting Co.
- KWNS-FM Pratt, Kan.—KWNS Inc.

***April 19, 1965
Page 95***

Broadcast Actions By Broadcast Bureau Actions of May 28

■ Granted renewal of licenses of following main and co-pending auxiliaries: KOGA Ogallala, Neb.; KWNS Pratt, Kan.; KOCW (FM) and SCA Tulsa, Okla.; KSTF(TV) Scottsbluff, Neb.; KBTR Denver; KBTB (TV) Denver; KWAT Watertown, S. D.; WMNT Manati, P. R.

***June 7, 1965
Page 97***

Radio series sales. . .

Audio Program Service (Triangle):
KWNS Pratt, Kan.; WTAS-FM Crete, Ill.,
and WBLR Batesburg, S. C.

***July 5, 1965
Page 48***

Broadcast Actions By Broadcast Bureau Actions of Aug. 11

WTMB-FM Tomah, Wis.—Granted license for FM and specify type trans.

KWNS-FM Pratt, Kan.—Granted license for FM and specify type trans.

WKNT Kent, Ohio—Granted license for AM and specify type trans.

***August 23, 1965
Page 94***

**ACTIONS OF THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Fates & Fortunes

Ron Nedblake, former account executive with KMBC-FM Kansas City, Mo., joins KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan., as national sales manager.

April 18, 1966

Page 68

Renewal of Licenses, All Stations

■ Broadcast Bureau granted renewal of licenses for the following stations and co-pending auxiliaries: KVBC(FM) Grand Forks, N. D., KWNS Pratt, Kan. and WSAM Saginaw, Mich. Action June 28.

July 8, 1968

Page 71

Ownership Changes Applications

KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan.—Seeks transfer of control of KWNS Inc. from Wilmer E. Huffman (51% before, 17% after) to William J. Young (17% before, 51% after). Consideration: \$34,000. Ann. Sept. 10.

September 16, 1968

Page 94

NAB radio code list picks up 5 members

A gain of five stations was recorded by the National Association of Broadcasters radio code from April 15 to May 15 as 45 stations were added and 40 were withdrawn. In the same period, KBAK-TV Bakersfield, Calif., withdrew from the TV code.

Radio additions: KARK Little Rock and KASC-FM Conway, both Arkansas; WHUS(FM) Storrs and WSHU(FM) Bridgeport, both Connecticut; KNAB Burlington, Colo.; WFTW-AM-FM Fort Walton Beach and W000-FM DeLand, both Florida; WLYB Albany and WMAC Metter, both Georgia; WSIU(FM) Carbondale, WWKS(FM) Macomb and WZBN Zion, all Illinois; KRIT(FM) Clarion, Iowa; KABI Abilene, KBTO El Dorado, KCLO-AM-FM Leavenworth, KCRB Chanute, KEWI Topeka, KFLA-AM-FM Scott City, KLKC Parsons, KNDY Marysville, KRSL-AM-FM Russell, KULY Ulysses, KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, and KEYN, KFDI, KQTY(FM) and KWBB, all Wichita, all Kansas; WMGO Canton, Miss.; KJSK-AM-FM Columbus, Neb.; KCCC Carlsbad, N. M.; WIQT Horeheads, N. Y.; KALV Alva, Okla.; WMSP-FM Harrisburg, Pa.; WBLC Lenoir City and WJKM Hartsville, both Tennessee; WEET Richmond, Va.; WWJC Superior, Wis.; KOWB Laramie, Wyo.

July 3, 1967

Page 35

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Wrong emphasis claimed

EDITOR: Why does BROADCASTING continue to understate the accomplishments of broadcasting? On page 41 (BROADCASTING, Aug. 19) the top half of the page is headed "Top oil companies spend \$65 million in TV in '67." What an understatement of the real story: "Top oil companies spend \$88 million in broadcasting." The facts of the story are that 17 oil companies used newspaper and magazine space for only 16.7% of the total. Broadcasting combined for 83.2% of the total.

Let's tell the whole story and sell the entire broadcast media.—*Don O'Malley, general manager, KLEO Wichita, Tex.*

(The story, as reported, was based on Television Bureau of Advertising's report on TV expenditures. The figures for other measured media were stated in full as supplementary information.)

September 23, 1968
Page 18

Ownership Changes Actions

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan. — Broadcast Bureau granted transfer of control of KWNS Inc. from Wilmer E. Huifman (51% before, 17% after) to William J. Young (17% before, 51% after). Consideration: \$31,000. Action Feb. 28.

March 10, 1969
Page 84

Renewal of Licenses, All Stations

■ Broadcast Bureau granted renewal of licenses for following and their co-pending aux.: KSOK (AM) Arkansas City, Kan.; KTAT (AM) Fredrick and KTLQ-AM-FM Tahlequah, both Oklahoma; KTOP-AM-FM Topeka, Kan.; KTOW (AM) Sand Springs, Okla.; KTTT-AM-FM Columbus, Neb.; KUSH (AM) Cushing, Okla.; KVOE-AM-FM Emporia and KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, both Kansas; KWOE-AM-FM Clinton, KWON (AM) Bartlesville, KWPR (AM) Claremore, and KXOJ (AM) Sapulpa, all Oklahoma; WREN (AM) Topeka, Kan.; KJAK (FM) Oklahoma City; KROA (FM) Aurora, Neb.; KVRO (FM) Stillwater, Okla.; *KOVF-FM Kearney, KWHG (FM) Lincoln, and *KUCV (FM) Lincoln, all Nebraska; KCKT (TV) Great Bend, Kan.; KOTV (TV) Tulsa and KSWO-TV Lawton, both Oklahoma; KTVH (TV) Hutchinson, Kan. Action May 28.

June 14, 1971
Page 73

Ownership Changes Applications

■ KBLR (AM)-KLTB (FM) Bolivar, Mo.—Seeks assignment of license from Shepherd of the Hills Broadcasting Co. to KBLR Inc. for \$175,000. Sellers: Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenney, partners. Messrs. Neathery and McKenney own KBHM (AM) Branson, Mo. Mr. Neathery owns or has majority interest in: KWPM-AM-FM West Plains, KALM (AM) Thayer and KUKU (AM) Willow Springs, all Missouri, and KAMS (FM) Mammoth Spring, Ark. Mr. McKenney owns KALN (AM) Iola, Kan., and KRMO (AM) Monett, Mo. Buyers: William J. and Barbara A. Young (together 100%). Mr. Young is general manager and owns 51% of KWNS (AM) Pratt, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Young own minority interest in Radio TV Parts, Pratt. Ann. Sept. 15.

October 30, 1972
Page 57

Changing Hands Approved

■ KBLR (AM)-KLTB (FM) Bolivar, Mo.: Sold by Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenney to William J. and Barbara A. Young for \$175,000. Mr. Young is general manager of and has a majority interest in KWNS (AM) Pratt, Kan. He and Mrs. Young have a joint minority interest in Radio TV Parts Inc., Pratt. KBLR is a daytimer on 1130 khz with 250 w. KLTB operates on 106.3 mhz with 3 kw and an antenna 200 feet above average terrain.

January 29, 1973
Page 29

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Ownership Changes Actions

■ KBLR(AM)-KLTB(FM) Bolivar, Mo.—Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from Shepherd of the Hills Broadcasting Co to KBLR Inc for \$175,000. Sellers, Robert F. Neathery and L. C. McKenney, partners. Messrs Neathery and McKenney own KBHM(AM) Branson, Mo. Mr Neathery owns or has majority interest in: KWPM-AM-FM West Plains, KALM(AM) Thayer and KUKU(AM) Willow Springs, all Missouri, and KAMS(FM) Mammoth Spring, Ark. Mr McKenney owns KALN(AM) Iola, Kan. and KRMO(AM) Monett, Mo. Buyers William J. and Barbara A. Young (together 100%). Mr. Young is general manager and owns 51% of KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kan. Mr and Mrs Young own minority interest in Radio TV Parts, Pratt. Action Jan. 12.

**January 29, 1973
Page 76**

Mutual reaches 597 mark

Mutual Broadcasting System has announced the signing of 22 stations as affiliates of the Mutual Radio Network. They are: KGU(AM) Honolulu; WQFM(FM) Milwaukee; KCSJ(AM) Pueblo, Colo.; KJIM(AM) Fort Worth; KXRX(AM) San Jose, Calif.; WNHC(AM) New Haven, Conn.; WERI-AM-FM Westerly, R.I.; WLTD(AM) Evanston, Ill.; WCER AM-FM Charlotte, Mich.; WMIX-AM-FM Mount Vernon, Ill.; WIBU(AM) Poynette, Wis.; WPET-FM Greensboro, N.C.; WRBJ AM-FM St Johns, Mich.; KBBQ(AM)-KBBY(FM) Ventura, Calif.; KWNS-FM Pratt, Kan.; WBLR(AM)-WLTB-FM Bolivar, Mo. MBS affiliates now total 597.

**June 25, 1973
Page 50**

Fates & Fortunes

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan.: Sold by William Young and John Rickard to Donald J. O'Malley and George D. Kieffer for \$248,000. Mr. O'Malley is manager of KLEO(AM) Wichita, Kan. Mr. Kieffer is an employe of American Multi-Cinema, Kansas City, Mo. KWNS(AM) operates full time on 1290 khz with 5 kw day and 500 w night. KWNS-FM is on 93.1 mhz with 29 kw and antenna 120 feet above average terrain. Broker: Ralph E. Meador, Lexington, Mo.

**August 20, 1973
Page 67**

Ownership Changes Applications

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kans.—Seeks assignment of license from KWNS Inc. to O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. for \$200,000. Seller: William J. Young, president, et al (100%). Mr. Young has interest in KBLR(AM) Bolivar, Mo. Buyers: Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George D. Kieffer (30%). Mr. O'Malley has interest in Swanco Broadcasting Co., licensee of KLEO(AM) Wichita, Kan.; KKYX(AM) San Antonio, Tex.; KQEO(AM) Albuquerque, N.M.; KRMG(AM)-KWEN(FM) Tulsa and KKNQ(FM) Oklahoma City, both Oklahoma and WBYU(FM) New Orleans. Swanco also operates CATV system in several Florida communities. Mr. Kieffer is advertising director for theater chain in Kansas City, Mo. Ann. Aug. 2.

**August 20, 1973
Page 88**

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Changing Hands

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan.: Sold by KWNS Inc. to O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Inc. for \$254,000. William J. Young is president of KWNS Inc. Mr. Young also has interest in KBLR(AM) Bolivar, Mo. Buyer principals are Donald J. O'Malley and George D. Kieffer. Mr. O'Malley has interest in Swanco Broadcasting Co., licensee of KLEO(AM) Wichita, Kan.; KKYX(AM) San Antonio, Tex.; KQEO(AM) Albuquerque, N.M.; KRMG(AM)-KWEN(FM) Tulsa and KKNQ(FM) Oklahoma City, both Oklahoma, and WBYU(FM) New Orleans. Swanco also operates CATV system in several Florida communities. Mr. Kieffer is advertising director for theater chain in Kansas City, Mo. KWNS operates full time on 1290 khz with 5 kw day and 500 w night. KWNS-FM is on 93.1 mhz with 29 kw and antenna height 120 feet above average terrain.

December 10, 1973
Page 31

Ownership Changes Actions

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kans.—Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from KWNS Inc. to O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. for \$254,000 (BAL-7948, BALH-1871, BALRE-2554). Seller: William J. Young, president, et al. (100%). Mr. Young has interest in KBLR(AM) Bolivar, Mo. Buyers: Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George D. Kieffer (30%). Mr. O'Malley has interest in Swanco Broadcasting Co., licensee of KLEO(AM) Wichita, Kan.; KKYX(AM) San Antonio, Tex.; KQEO(AM) Albuquerque, N.M.; KRMG(AM)-KWEN(FM) Tulsa and KKNQ(FM) Oklahoma City, both Oklahoma, and WBYU(FM) New Orleans. Swanco also operates CATV system in several Florida communities. Mr. Kieffer is advertising director for theater chain in Kansas City, Mo. Action Nov. 20.

December 10, 1973
Page 60

Renewal of Licenses All Stations

■ Broadcast Bureau granted renewal of licenses for following AM and FM stations in Kan., Neb. and Okla. (released in two separate lists as shown), including co-pending aux., and SCA's when appropriate, on May 31. List No. 1: KABI-AM-FM Abilene, Kan.; KADA(AM) Ada, Okla.; KAFG(FM) Oklahoma City; KALN(AM) Jola, Kan.; KANS-FM Larned, Kan.; KARD(FM) Wichita, Kan.; KAYS(AM) Hays, Kan.; KBEL(AM) Idabel, Okla.; KBIX(AM) Muskogee, Okla.; KCKN(AM) Kansas City, Kan.; KCLO-AM-FM Leavenworth, Kan.; KCNI(AM) Broken Bow, Neb.; KCOW(AM) Alliance, Neb.; KEBC(FM) Oklahoma City; KELR(AM) El Reno, Okla.; KFH(AM) Wichita, Kan.; KFLA-AM-FM Scott City, Kan.; KFNB(FM) Oklahoma City; KFOR(AM) Lincoln, Neb.; KFRM(AM) Salina, Kan.; KGMT(AM) Fairbury, Neb.; KGOU(FM) Norman, Okla.; KGOY(FM) Bethany, Okla.; KHAS(AM) Hastings, Neb.; KHKS(FM) Lincoln, Neb.; KICT(FM) Wichita, Kan.; KJHN(AM) Hugo, Okla.; KIMB(AM) Kimball, Neb.; KJRG-AM-FM Newton, Kan.; KJSK-AM-FM Columbus, Neb.; KKAN(AM) Phillipsburg, Kan.; KLAU(FM) Lawton, Okla.; KLIN(AM) Lincoln, Neb.; KLMS(AM) Lincoln, KLOE(AM) Goodland, Kan.; KLTR(AM) Blackwell, Okla.; KMMJ(AM) Grand Island, Neb.; KNOR(AM) Norman, Okla.; KOCY(AM) Oklahoma City, KODY(AM) North Platte, Neb.; KOGA(AM) Ogallala, Neb.; KOLK(AM) Okmulgee, Okla.; KOKN(AM) Pawhuska, Okla.; KOMA(AM) Oklahoma City; KOTD(AM) Plattsmouth, Neb.; KRGJ(AM) Grand Island, Neb.; KRHD(AM) Duncan, Okla.; KROA(FM) Aurora, Neb.; KRPT(AM) Anadarko, Okla.; KSID(AM) Sidney, Neb.; KTAT(AM) Frederick, Okla.; KTCH(AM) Wayne, Neb.; KTOK(AM) Oklahoma City; KTTT-AM-FM Columbus, Neb.; KUSH(AM) Cushing, Okla.; KUVR-AM-FM Holdrege, Neb.; KVRO(FM) Stillwater, Okla.; KWBE-AM-FM Beatrice, Neb.; KWCO(AM) Chickasha, Okla.; KWNS-FM Pratt, Kan.; KXXY(FM) Oklahoma City; WBBZ(AM) Ponca City, Okla.; WJAG-AM-FM Norfolk, Neb.; WNAD(AM) Norman, Okla.; WOW(AM) Omaha

June 17, 1974
Page 48

Ownership Changes Applications

■ KBLR(AM)-KLTB(FM) Bolivar, Mo. (AM: 1130 khz. 250 w-D; FM: 106.3 mhz. 3 kw)—Seeks assignment of license from KBLR Inc. to NPN Corp. for \$190,000. Seller: William J. Young who has no other broadcast interests. Principals in buyer are Charles Preston, Ray Neill and his son, Joe. Mr. Preston is engineer and announcer of KLEX(AM)-KBEK(FM) Lexington, Mo. Ray Neill is employe of West Central Rural Missouri Development Corp., Stockton, Mo., and his son works for radio parts wholesale firm in Springfield, Mo. Ann. May 25.

June 7, 1976
Page 52

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Ownership Changes Actions

■ KBLR(AM)-KLTB(FM) Bolivar, Mo. (AM: 1130 khz. 250 w-D; FM: 106.3 mhz. 3 kw)—Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from KBLR Inc. to NPN Corp. for \$190,000. Seller: William J. Young who has no other broadcast interests. Principals in buyer are Charles Preston, Ray Neill and his son. Joe. Mr. Preston is engineer and announcer of KLEX(AM)-KBEK(FM) Lexington, Mo. Ray Neill is employe of West Central Rural Missouri Development Corp., Stockton, Mo., and his son works for radio parts wholesale firm in Springfield, Mo. (BAL-8693, BALH-2296, BALRE-3022). Action July 8.

August 2, 1976
Page 68

Broadcast Journalism

Larry Pond, assistant news director, WAVE-AM-TV Louisville, Ky., named television news director.

Gerald R. Jensen, assistant news director, WHO-TV Des Moines, Iowa, promoted to news director.

Don Shorock, reporter, KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kan., joins KVGB-AM-FM Great Bend, Kan., as news director.

May 23, 1977
Page 65

Fines

■ KLTB(FM) Bolivar, Mo.—Broadcast Bureau notified licensee of apparent liability for forfeiture of \$500 for operating with excessive power. Action July 6.

■ WVOE(AM) Chadbourn, N.C.—Broadcast Bureau notified licensee it incurred apparent liability for \$750 for violation of rules by failing to file financial reports for 1973 and 1975, failing to maintain ant. input power to within 90 percent of licensed value or by failing to have logs kept by employes competent to do so having actual knowledge of facts required. Action July 14.

August 9, 1976
Page 54

Ownership Changes Page 66

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, KS (AM: 1290 khz, 5 kw-D, 500 W-N; FM: 93.1 mhz, 29 kw)—Seeks assignment of license from O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. to Lesso Inc. for \$277,000, plus \$99,000 covenant not to compete. Sellers are Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George D. Kieffer (30%), who have no other broadcast interests. Buyer is owned by Laurence E. Steckline (95%) and William D. Kuhn (5%), owners of KJLS(FM) Hays, Ks. Mr. Steckline is applicant for new FM at Liberal, Ks. Ann. Nov. 3.

November 14, 1977
Page 66

Changing Hands Actions

■ KWNS-AM-FM Pratt, Kan. (AM: 1290 khz, 5 kw-D, 500 w-N; FM: 93.1 mhz, 29 kw)—Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. to Lesso Inc. for \$277,000, plus \$99,000 covenant not to compete. Sellers are Donald J. O'Malley (70%) and George D. Kieffer (30%), who have no other broadcast interests. Buyer is owned by Laurence E. Steckline (95%) and William D. Kuhn (5%), owners of KJLS(FM) Hays, Kan. Mr. Steckline is applicant for new FM at Liberal, Kan. Action Dec. 28.

January 23, 1978
Page 65

ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

(Broadcast Division)
Broadcast Weekly Magazine

Changing Hands Announced

■ KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo.: Sold by Meroco Broadcasting Co. to O'Keef Broadcasting Co. for \$770,000. Seller is owned by Elwood Meyer (67.1%), his wife, Helen, (2.9%); George Drew, commercial manager of KYOU (20%), and Barnard Houtchens, Greeley attorney, (10%). Buyer is owned by Donald O'Malley (70%) and George Keiffer (30%) who recently sold KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kan. KYOU is on 1450 khz with 1 kw day time, 250 w night. KGRE is on 92.3 mhz with 25 kw and antenna 470 feet above average terrain.

**June 19, 1978
Page 41**

Ownership Changes Applications

■ KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo. (AM: 1450 khz, 1 kw-D, 250 w-N, FM 92.3 mhz, 25 kw)—Seeks assignment of license from Meroco Broadcasting Co. to O'Keefe Broadcasting Co. for \$770,000. Seller Owned by Elwood H Meyer (67.1%) his wife, Helen (2.9%), George Drew (20%) and Barnard Houtchens (10%). Buyer Owned by Donald O'Malley (70%) and George Keiffer (30%). Neither has other broadcast interests. Ann. May 19

**June 19, 1978
Page 64**

Changing Hands Actions

■ KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo. (AM: 1450 khz, 1 kw-D, 250 w-N, FM 92.3 mhz, 25 kw)—Broadcast Bureau granted assignment of license from Meroco Broadcasting Co. to O'Keefe Broadcasting Co. for \$770,000. Seller, Elwood H. Meyer (67.1%), his wife, Helen (2.9%), George Drew (20%) and Barnard Houtchens (10%). Buyer, Donald O'Malley (70%) and George Keiffer (30%). Neither has other broadcast interests. Action July 17

**August 7, 1978
Page 67**

Changing Hands Approved

■ KYOU(AM)-KGRE(FM) Greeley, Colo.: Sold by Meroco Broadcasting Co. to O'Keef Broadcasting Co. for \$770,000. Seller is owned by Elwood Meyer (67.1%), his wife, Helen, (2.9%); George Drew, commercial manager of KYOU (20%), and Barnard Houtchens, Greeley attorney, (10%). Buyer is owned by Donald O'Malley (70%) and George Keiffer (30%) who recently sold KWNS(AM) Pratt, Kan. KYOU is on 1450 khz with 1 kw day time, 250 w night. KGRE is on 92.3 mhz with 25 kw and antenna 470 feet above average terrain.

**July 31, 1978
Page 35**

■ KYOU(AM)-KRGF(FM) Greeley, Colo. (1450 khz, 1 kw-D, 250 w-N; 92.5 mhz; 25 kw, HAAT: 470 ft.)—Granted transfer of control of O'Keefe Broadcasting Co. from certain shareholders (84.325%; none after) to Kenneth R. Greenwood (15.675% before; 100% after) for \$310,000 plus assumption of liabilities. Sellers are Donald J. O'Malley (51.036%), Marc McLean (5.817%) and George Keiffer (27.472%). None have other broadcast interests. Buyer is Tulsa, Okla., broadcast sales consultant and has been appointed, by bankruptcy court, receiver for KMYZ-AM-FM Pryor, Okla. He also has interest in KPNC-FM Ponca City, Okla. Action Nov. 30.

**December 19, 1983
Page 91**

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

KBKC (October 26, 1957): 1480 kc; 500 w-D, DA. 4913 Woodson, Mission, Kan. Phone Hedrick 2-1480. Mission Broadcasters Inc. (original owner).

Rep Hollingbery.

Tom E. Beal, pres, gen mgr & sales director; Roy D. Stanley, station mgr & technical director; Jerry Fullerton, program director; Don O'Malley, promotion mgr; Chuck Goodman, sports director; Roger Wilson, news director; Janis Johanson, women's director.

1958 Broadcasting Yearbook

KBKC—Kansas City—1957

Frequency: 1480 Kc.....Power: 500 Watts
 Owned By.....Mission Broadcasters, Inc.
 Address.....5913 Woodson, Mission, Kan.
 Tel.: HEdrick 2-1480.....Independent
 Representative.....Hollingbery
 Pres., Gen. Mgr.....Tom E. Beal
 Sta., Program Mgr.....Roy Stanley
 Commercial Mgr.....Don O'Malley
 Sales Prom., Publicity Dir.....Bill Harmon
 Chief Engineer.....Bob Artz
1959 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO (1936): 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N. DA-2. 255 N. Broadway. Phone Hobart 4-2387. Radio Active Inc. (acquired station May 1, 1959).
 Rep Eastman.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Don O'Malley, coml mgr; Ric Marshall, asst station mgr; Don Lowrey, prom mgr; Marc Allen, news dir; Len Ballard, chief engr.

1961 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO—Wichita—1936

Frequency: 1480 Kc..Power: 5 Kw. d.; 1 Kw. n.
 Owned By.....Swanco Bestg. of Kan.
 Address.....255 N. Broadway
 Tel.: HO 4-2387.....MBS
 Station Representative.....Eastman
 President.....George Bolas
 General Manager.....Edward A. Montray
 Commercial Manager.....Donald O'Malley
 Sales Prom. Manager.....Don Lowery
 Program Director.....Bob Freeman
 Publicity Director.....Emily Kaye
 Chief Engineer.....Earl Russell
 Owners of: KQEO, Albuquerque; KIOA, Des Moines.

1962 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT, Pratt County

KWNS (Nov. 20, 1962): 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. P. O. Box 403. Phone Greenwood 2-5581. Wilmer E. Huffman (original owner).

Wilmer E. Huffman, gen mgr; Jo Ann Huffman, prog dir; Clarence Evans, chief engr; Ted Hite, sports dir.

1963 Broadcasting Yearbook

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

RLEO—Wichita—1936

Frequency: 1480 Kc. Power: 5 Kw. d.; 1 Kw. n.
 Owned By.....Swanco Bcstg. of Kan.
 Address.....6610 W. 13th
 Tel.: WH 3-0255.....MBS
 Station Representative.....Eastman
 President.....George Bolas
 General Station Mgr.....Edward A. Montray
 Commercial Manager.....Donald O'Malley
 Sales Prom. Manager.....Bob Freeman
 Program Director.....Marc Alan
 Publicity Director.....Creeta Bressler
 Chief Engineer.....Earl Russell
 Owners of: KQEQ, Albuquerque, N. M.; KIOA,
 Des Moines, Iowa; KRMG, Tulsa, Okla.

1963 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Nov 20, 1962: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500
 w-N, DA-2. Box 403. Greenwood 2-5581. Wilmer
 E. Huffman.

Spec progs; C&W 20 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, owner & farm dir; William
 J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Aubrey Mays,
 stn mgr & sports dir.

1964 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2.
 6610 West 13th. Whitehall 3-0255. Swanco
 Bcstg of Kansas Inc.. (acq 10-1-61). See Swanco
 Bcstg Stns.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

Edward A. Montray, vp & gen mgr; Donald J.
 O'Malley, coml mgr; Marc Alan, prog dir; Jack
 Barr, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1964 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Nov 20, 1962: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500
 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581.
 Wilmer E. Huffman.

Spec progs; C&W 20 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, owner & farm dir; William
 J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr.

1965 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2.
 6610 West 13th (67212). Whitehall 3-0255
 Swanco Bstg of Kansas Inc. (acq 10-1-61). See
 Swanco Bstg Stns.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

Edward A. Montray, vp & gen mgr; Donald J.
 O'Malley, coml mgr; Marc Alan, prog dir; Jack
 Barr, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1965 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500
 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581.
 KWNS inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Rep: Spot Time Sls. Spec progs;
 C&W 20 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William
 J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Wag-
 goner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant
 120 ft. Prog sep from KWNS. Stereo.

1966 Broadcasting Yearbook

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th (67212). Whitehall 3-0255 Swanco Bcstg of Kansas Inc. (acq 10-1-61). See Swanco Bcstg Stns.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

Edward A. Montray, VP & gen mgr; Donald J. O'Malley, coml mgr; Paul King, prog dir; Larry Reed, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1966 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Spec progs: C&W 84 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Waggoner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1967 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th (67212). Whitehall 3-0255 Swanco Bcstg of Kansas Inc. (acq 10-1-61). See Swanco Bcstg Stns.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

Edward A. Montray, VP & gen mgr; Donald J. O'Malley, coml mgr; Bob Roberts, prog dir; Jerry Webb, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1967 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Spec progs: C&W 84 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Waggoner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

RUSSELL (913) Russell county

KRSL Jan 11, 1956: 990 kc; 250 w-D. Box 666. (67665). 483-3121. Kilo Beste Co. (acq

1968 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th (67212). Whitehall 3-0255 Swanco Bcstg of Kansas Inc. (acq 10-1-61). See Swanco Bcstg Stns.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Marc Alan, coml mgr; Don B. Williams, prog dir; Larry Proffitt, prom mgr; D. Cameron, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1968 Broadcasting Yearbook

PRATT (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Spec progs: C&W 84 hrs wkly.

Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Waggoner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1969 Broadcasting Yearbook

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th (67212). Whitehall 3-0255 Swanco Bcstg of Kansas Inc. (acq 10-1-61).

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Marc Alan, coml mgr; Don B. Williams, prog dir; Michael Green, prom mgr; Joe Montgomery, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1969 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 kc; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Spec prog: C&W 84 hrs wkly. Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Waggoner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1970 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 kc; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th. (67212). 943-0255 Texas Star Bcstg (acq 10-1-61).

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Rod Rademadner, coml mgr; Don B. Williams, prog dir; Bobby Brooke, prom mgr; Joe Montgomery, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1970 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). Greenwood 2-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Net: MBS. Spec prog: C&W 84 hrs wkly. Wilmer E. Huffman, pres & prog dir; William J. Young, gen mgr & chief engr; Larry Waggoner, news dir.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1971 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 khz; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 6610 West 13th. (67212). 943-0255 Texas Star Bcstg (acq 10-1-61).

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman. Format: Contemp.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Rod Rademadner, coml mgr; Bob Roberts, prog dir; Mike Miller, prom mgr; Hank Booth, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1971 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). 672-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Rep: Walton. Format: MOR.

Net: MBS. Spec prog: C&W 84 hrs wkly. William J. Young, pres & gen mgr; James L. Hufford, coml mgr; Virginia Bates, prog dir; Catherine Newsom, prom mgr; Charles Fry, news dir; Ronald Detwiler, chief engr.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1972 Broadcasting Yearbook

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 khz; 5 kw-D, 1 kw-N, DA-2. 5610 E. 29th St. (67220). 685-0261. Swanco Bcstg Inc.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman. Format: Contemp.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Rod Rademadner, coml mgr; Bob Roberts, prog dir; Mike Miller, prom mgr; Hank Booth, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1972 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). 672-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Rep: Walton. Format: MOR.

Net: MBS. Spec prog: C&W 84 hrs wkly.

William J. Young, pres & gen mgr; Dave Blevins, coml mgr; Karen Crawford, prog dir; Catherine Newsom, prom mgr; James Young, news dir; Ronald Detwiler, chief operator.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1973 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 khz; 5 kw, DA-2. 5610 E. 29th St. (67220). 685-0261. Swanco Bcstg Inc.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman. Format: Contemp.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Rod Rademadner, coml mgr; Bob Roberts, prog dir; Mike Miller, prom mgr; Hank Booth, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1973 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt (316) Pratt county

KWNS Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). 672-5581. KWNS Inc. (acq 1-1-65).

Rep: Walton. Format: MOR.

Net: MBS. Spec prog: C&W 84 hrs wkly.

William J. Young, pres & gen mgr; Dave Blevins, coml mgr; Karen Crawford, prog dir; Catherine Newsom, prom mgr; James Young, news dir; Ronald Detwiler, chief operator.

KWNS-FM July 1, 1965: 93.1 mc; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup KWNS 50%.

1974 Broadcasting Yearbook

KLEO 1936: 1480 khz; 5 kw, DA-2. 5610 E. 29th St. (67220). 685-0261. Swanco Bcstg Inc.

Net: MBS. Rep: Eastman. Format: Contemp.

K. R. Greenwood, pres; Donald J. O'Malley, gen mgr; Rod Rademadner, coml mgr; Bob Roberts, prog dir; Mike Miller, prom mgr; Hank Booth, news dir; Earl Russell, chief engr.

1974 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt

KWNS — Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2. Box 486 (67124). (316) 672-5581. O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co (acq 11-21-74). Rep: Walton. Messma, Gray. Format: Variety Net ABC/E. • Don O'Malley, pres & gen mgr; Tim Hawks, chief engr.

KWNS-FM — July 1, 1965: 93.1 mhz, 29 kw Ant 120 ft. Dup AM 100%

1975 Broadcasting Yearbook

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook

Pratt

KWNS—Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, Box 486 (67124). (316) 672-5581. O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. (acq 11-21-73). Net: ABC/E. Rep: Walton, Messina. Format: Variety. Spec prog: Farm 9 hrs wkly. ■ Don O'Malley, pres and gen mgr; Dan Musil, prog dir; Roger Allen, mus dir; Harvey Watson, news dir; Tim Hawks, chief engr. ■ Rates: \$6.25; 4.80; 6.25; 4.80.

KWNS-FM—July 1, 1965: 93.1 mhz; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup AM 100%. ■ Rates same as AM.

1976 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt

KWNS(AM)—Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, Box 486 (67124). (316) 672-5581. O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. (acq 11-21-73). Net: ABC/E. Rep: Walton, Messina. Format: Variety. Spec prog: Farm 9 hrs wkly. ■ Don O'Malley, pres and gen mgr; Dan Musil, prog dir; Roger Allen, mus dir; Harvey Watson, news dir; Tim Hawks, chief engr. ■ Rates: \$6.25; 4.80; 6.25; 4.80.

KWNS-FM—July 1, 1965: 93.1 mhz; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup AM 100%. ■ Rates same as AM.

1977 Broadcasting Yearbook

Pratt

KWNS(AM)—Jan 19, 1963: 1290 khz; 5 kw-D, 500 w-N, DA-2, Box 486 (67124). (316) 672-5581. O'Malley-Kieffer Communications Co. (acq 11-21-74). Net: ABC/E. Rep: PRO/Meeker. Format: Variety. Spec prog: Farm 15 hrs wkly. ■ Don O'Malley, pres and gen mgr; Rod Nelson, prog dir; Brian Smith, coml mgr; Terry O'Malley, mus dir; Rob Mackey, news dir; Bill Farmer, chief engr. ■ Rates: \$10; 8; 8; 8.

KWNS-FM—July 1, 1965: 93.1 mhz; 29 kw. Ant 120 ft. Dup AM 100%. ■ Rates same as AM.

1978 Broadcasting Yearbook

FCC History Cards For KWNS

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form – 3” by 5” filing cards – for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). The History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only one set is known to exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images. Generally, they have been left as negatives as those are often easier to read.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They were not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found.

FCC History Cards

Form BC 126
June 1954 4245

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

EFF: K W L S 2-15-78
x K W L S (4-25-63)
X K P R T

Date first licensed 4-29-63 Call letters X K P R T

Station location Pratt, Kansas

LESSO, INC. (AL 12-28-77 EFF: 1-1-78)
x O'MALLEY-KIEFFER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY (AL 11-20-73 EFF: 11-21-73)
X KWNS, INC. (AL-12-21-64; E P: 1-1-65)

Name of licensee x WILMER E. HUFFMAN

Transmitter location On U.S. Hwy. 54, 2.5 miles E. of Pratt, Kansas (BP 1-3-62)

Main studio location Same as transmitter.

FORM BC-121
Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call (4-16-62) KWNS
Letters NEW K P R T

Name WILMER E. HUFFMAN
(P.O. - Box 486, Pratt, Kansas)

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Status	Date
BP-12,021	5-18-58	Construction permit for a new standard broadcast station to be operated on: Frequency - 1290kc Power - 5kw 500w, 1kw LS DA-2 Hours of operation - Unlimited Trans. location - On U.S. Hwy 54; 2.5 miles east of Pratt, Kansas Studio location - Same as transmitter Engr. - Vir N. James, Denver, Colo.	GRANTED	1-3-62
Rec'd	5-20-58		Cond'l re: Phase Mon.,	
Filed	5-20-58		Field meas. equip., DC & complete non-DA proof.	
AMENDED	5-12-59	Amended to change power from 1kw, 5kw-LS to 500w, 5kw-LS, change type trans. (Gates BC-5p2) and make changes in directional antenna (DA-2)	After Hearing Docket No. 13469 Order Issued.	
Rec'd	5-13-59			
BMP-10,459	7-24-62	Mod. of CP (EP-12,021 amended , which auth. new standard broadcast station) for extension of completion date from 9-3-62 to 12-3-62.	CHANGED	8-24-62
R.S.F.	7-27-62			

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.

FCC History Cards

FORM BC-121
Aug. 1955

#2

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters KWNS

Name WILMER E. HUFFMAN
Pratt, Kansas

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMP-10,641 R. & F.	10-29-62 10-31-62	Mod. of CP (BP-12,021 as mod., which auth. a new standard broadcast station) for ext. of completion date from 12-3-62 to 2-3-63.	GRANTED (Issued with BMP-10642)	12-21-62 to 2-3-63
BMP-10,642 R. & F.	10-6-62 10-10-62	Mod. of CP (BP-12,021 as mod., which auth. a new standard broadcast station) to make changes in Daytime direction/antenna pattern. Supt: Mr. James	GRANTED	12-21-62
BMP-10,643 R. & F.	12-25-62 12-31-62	Mod. of CP (BP-12,021 as mod., which auth. a new standard broadcast station) to make changes in direction/antenna pattern daytime.	GRANTED	1-16-63
BL-9897 Rec'd Filed	12-23-62 12-26-62 1-16-63	Lic to cover CP (BP-12,021 as mod) which auth a new standard broadcast station.	GRANTED	4-29-63

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.

FORM BC-121
Aug. 1955

#3

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters KWNS

Name KWNS, INC.
WILMER E. HUFFMAN
Pratt, Kansas

1290ke

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BAL-5296 R & F	11-18-64 11-19-64	Voluntary assignment of license to KWNS, INC. (Request waiver of Section 1,597 of Rules) Atty. Dow, Lohnes and Albertson	GRANTED	12-21-64 Eff: 1-1-65
BR-4245 R & F	2/25/65 3/1/65	Renewal of license Atty. Dow, Lohnes & Albertson	GRANTED	5-28-65
BR-4245 R. & F. 409991 MAR 28 1968	2-26-68 3-4-68 3-4-68	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Attys-Dow, Lohnes & Albertson (L. Adrian Roberts) AMENDED 6-12-68 re: commercial practices AMENDED 6-17-68 re: engineering	GRANTED	6-26-68

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.

FCC History Cards

1290c

Form BC-121 #4
Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call KVNS
Letters KVNS

O'MALLEY-KIEFFER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

Name XKWS, Inc.
Pratt, Kansas 67124

File No	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
ETC-5726 R & F FEE PD: \$30 Form 316 SEP 1 1959	9-3-68 9-4-68 #15664 (SEE OVER)	Voluntary transfer of control of lic. corp. from Wilmer E. Huffman to William J. Young Atty - Dow, Lohnes & Albertson	GRANTED EFF.	2-28-69 4-11-69
BR-4245 R & F PN Recd. PRESS MAR 5 1971	2-13-71 2-26-71 "	RENEWAL OF LICENSE J.A. Roberts, Atty. (Dow, Lohnes, Albertson)	GRANTED	5-28-71
BAL-7948 R & F FEE PD: \$1000 FORM 316 (ALSO SEE FM) MAR 2 1973 Pub. notice filed 5-10-73	7-23-73 7-25-73 #21811 SEP FM	Voluntary assignment of license to O'MALLEY-KIEFFER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY Atty - Koteen & Burt	GRANTED Req. Grant Fee EFF: Fee: \$4,800.00 paid (INCLUDE FM) 063,12-18-73, \$261290 Letter 10-11-74 req. additional \$240.00	11-20-73 \$ 5,080.00 11-21-73

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.

1290c

Form BC-121 #5
September 1969
6-63

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call KWLS
Letters KWNS

LESSO, INC.

Name O'MALLEY-KIEFFER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY
PRATT, KANSAS

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-4245 R & f PN Recd. PRESS	2-20-74 3-4-74 " 18 MAR 1974	RENEWAL OF LICENSE	GRANTED	9-16-74
BR-4245 R & F PN Recd. PRESS	1-26-77 1-31-77 " MAR 2 1977	RENEWAL OF LICENSE AMENDED 5-2-77 re: programming	GRANTED	5-10-77
PTC-8521 R & F FORM 315 (ALSO SEE FM) PN REC'D PN filed	10-20-77 10-27-77 12-8-77 11/14/77	Voluntary transfer of control of lic corp from Donald J. O'Malley and George D. Kieffer to Lesso, Inc. Over Atty for transferor - Koteen & Burt for transferee - Miller & Schroeder	GRANTED EFF:	12-28-77 1-1-78
BAL-7948 R & F FORM 316 (ALSO SEE FM) PN REC'D	10-15-77 10-27-77 NOV 23 1977 12-8-77	Voluntary assignment of license to LESSO, INC. (contingent on grant of above TC-8521) Atty - Miller & Schroeder	GRANTED EFF:	12-28-77 1-1-78

F.C.C. - WASHINGTON, D.C.

FCC History Cards

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD					
Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
BP-12021	1-3-62	1290kc	500w, 5kw DA-2	LS U	3-3 9-3-62
	CP for a new standard broadcast station, (Cond'1)				
BP-12021 (1)	3-14-62	Mod. of CP(BP-12021) to assign Call Letters.			
BMP-10,459 (2)	8-24-62	Mod. of CP (BP-12021 as mod) for ext. of completion date to			12-3-62
BMP-10641 BMP-10642 (3)	12-21-62	Mod. of CP(BP-12,021 as mod.) to make changes in daytime directional antenna pattern, and for extension of completion date to 2-3-63.			
BMP-10737 (4)	1-16-63	Mod. of CP(BP-12,021 as mod.) to make changes in daytime directional antenna pattern.			
BL-9897	4-29-63	1290kc	500w-5kw DA-2	U	4-29 6-1-63
	Lic. to cover CP (BP-12,021 as mod) which auth. a new standard b/c station.				
BAL-5296	12-21-64	Voluntary assignment of license to			
	Eff: 1-1-65	KWNS, INC.			
BR-4245	6-28-65	1290kc.	500w, 5kw, 0w DA-2	Unl	6-1 6-1-68
BR-4245(S)	6-28-65	RENEWAL			6-1-71
BR-4245	2-11-69	Vol. TC			
EFF.	4-11-69				
BR-4245(S)	5-28-71	RENEWAL			6-1-74
EB3A	5-22-72				
BAL-7948	11-20-73	VOL AL EFF: 11-21-73			
Contel	11-21-74	Markin: Para. 1 only.			
BR-4245(S)	11-16-74	Renewal of license			

FCC History Cards

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD					
Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To
COMTEL	7-21-75	Phases are corrected to read W(#1) Day 90.5°; Night 4.5°, W(#2) Day minus 134°, Night 165.5°. show corrections on next authorization			
BR-4245(L)	5-10-77	Renewal			6-1-80
BTC-8521	12-28-77	Vol TC	EFF:	1-1-78	
BAL-9193	12-28-77	Vol AL	EFF:	1-1-78	
E B S A	2-15-78	Issued new Call Letters			
BR800201YH(L)	5-30-80	RENEWAL	OF LICENSE		6-1-83

FCC History Cards

RE:BTC-5726 - Bank ltr re loan filed 9-30-68(transferee)
Ltr re loan - filed 10-31-68
Bank ltr re loan filed 11-9-73

RE: BTC-8521 - Signature Page with both transferor's sig
filed 10/31/77
Correction re: financial totals on agreement(transferee)
filed 11/8/77
RE: Amended 11-21-77 Correction re financing(re non-compe
update re B/C & busi int covenants)
AMENDED 12-12-77 fin & prog. data

Incorporation Papers

KWNS 1964-----Page 236

KWNS 1974-----Page 241

Pratt Shopper-----Page 246

All Documents Courtesy of State of Kansas

Historical Museum in Topeka, Kansas

Unless Otherwise Noted.

Note—Articles may be prepared independently of this form. This form to be used if space is adequate.

Articles of Incorporation

We, the undersigned, incorporators, hereby associate ourselves together to form and establish a corporation FOR profit under the laws of the State of Kansas.

FIRST: The Name of the Corporation is KNNS, INC.

SECOND: The Location of its Principal Place of Business in this state is East 54 Highway

THIRD: The Location of its Registered Office in this State is
Professional Building Pratt Pratt
(Number) (Street) (Town or City) (County)

FOURTH: The Name and Address of its Resident Agent in this State is
B. V. HAMPTON
(Individual) Pratt Pratt
(Number) (Street) (Town or City) (County)

FIFTH: This Corporation is organized FOR profit and the nature of its business is: To generally engage in radio broadcasting, both FM and AM. To design, erect, build, equip, operate, maintain, buy, sell, hire, lease, rent, or in any other manner acquire, use, operate, turn to account, or dispose of receiving, transmitting, and broadcasting stations for the dissemination of news, reports, concerts, operas, lectures, speeches, information, and any and all other lawful purposes; and generally, to buy, produce, manufacture, sell, or otherwise acquire or dispose of, and to use, operate, turn to account, and deal in and with any and all articles necessary, convenient, or incidental to the maintenance, operation, repair, or equipment thereof, including the supplying of electricity or any and every form of power now known or which may be hereafter discovered.

To radiate, receive, and utilize electromagnetic waves; to send and receive signals, messages, and communications; and to create, install and operate a system of communication, whether national or international.

To take, acquire, purchase, own, hold, rent, lease, mortgage, sell, exchange, improve, cultivate, develop, and otherwise to deal in and dispose of all property, real and personal, or every description that may be necessary or convenient for the transaction of its business, or incident to, or capable of being used in connection with, the aforesaid businesses or any of them.

* Address of Resident Agent and Registered Office, as set forth in the above THIRD and FOURTH paragraphs of Articles of Incorporation must be the same. (Ch. 17, Art. 44, 1959 Supp.)

SIXTH: The total amount of capital of this corporation is \$100,000.00 and the total number of shares into which it is divided is as follows: (Describe fully the class or classes of stock and the value of each.)

1000 shares of common stock, class par value of \$100.00 dollars each
 shares of _____ stock, class _____ par value of _____ dollars each
 shares of _____ stock, class _____ without nominal or par value and consid-
 eration therefor \$ _____
 shares of _____ stock, class _____ without nominal or par value and consid-
 eration therefor \$ _____

Statement of all or any of the designations and the powers, preferences and rights and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, in respect to any class. No stockholder shall sell his stock without first offering it to the corporation, or to existing stockholders, for purchase at the fair market value. However, the principal stockholder may sell the controlling interest in said corporation, provided, the minority stockholders' interests or shares are sold at the same price per share, if said minority or any portion thereof desire to sell.

Statement of Grant of Authority, as may be desired to be given to the Board of Directors, if given. To make, alter or repeal the By-Laws of the corporation; to authorize and cause to be executed mortgages and liens, upon the real and personal property of this corporation. To hold directors' meetings within or without the State of Kansas, at such places as may be, from time to time designated by resolution of the Directors.

SEVENTH: The Amount of Capital with which this Corporation will commence business is _____
One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars
(One Less Than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000))

EIGHTH: The Names and Places of Residence (P. O. Address) of each of the INCORPORATORS:

<u>Wilmer E. Huffman</u>	<u>311 Lawrence</u>	<u>Pratt, Kans.</u>
<u>William J. Young</u>	<u>323 North Main</u>	<u>Pratt, Kans.</u>
<u>John Schrepel</u>	<u>721 W. Fourth</u>	<u>Pratt, Kans.</u>

Delmar Riney	316 So. New	Pratt, Kans.
B. V. Hampton	573 Terrace Drive	Pratt, Kans.

NINTH: The Term for which this Corporation is to exist is ONE HUNDRED YEARS.
TENTH: The Number of Directors shall be Not less than Three (3), nor more than Ten (10)

In Testimony Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our names this 3rd day of
September, A. D. 1964

Wilmer E. Huffman
Wilmer E. Huffman

William J. Young
William J. Young

John Schrapel
John Schrapel

Delmar Riney
Delmar Riney

B. V. Hampton
B. V. Hampton

STATE OF KANSAS,
COUNTY OF Pratt } ss.

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for Pratt County, Kansas,
the above-named Wilmer E. Huffman, William J. Young, John Schrapel, Delmar Riney, and
B. V. Hampton

who are personally known to me to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument of writing, and
duly acknowledged the execution of the same.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my
name and affixed my official seal, this 3rd day of

September, A. D. 1964
Hoque Wright
Notary Public.

[SEAL]

My commission expires April 14 1966

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

RECEIVED OF KVNS, INC.

and deposited in the State Treasury, fees on these Articles of Incorporation as follows:

SEPTEMBER 4, 1964 19 Application fee \$35.00
Filing and Recording Fee \$ 2.50
Capitalization Fee \$ 100.00

By *William J. Shinn*
Assistant Secretary of State.

Paul W. Shanahan
Secretary of State.

FORM No. 201 C

FILED
PAUL R. SHANAHAN
SEP 4 1 10 PM 1964
SECRETARY OF STATE

LIST OF BASIC COMPONENTS OF KWNS RADIO EQUIPMENT

Land 1200 x 750 feet approx. 21 acres		\$ 3,073.50
Engineering-Survey & Hearing		4,285.83
Attorney Fees		6,606.30
Building		20,887.92
Heating and Air Conditioning equip	2,436.08	
Desks, chairs, file cabinets, typewriters	2,731.43	
Transmitter and tubes	14,711.49	
Antenna system, coupling equipment, cables, Sampling loop, dirtwork, etc.	20,960.47	
Phasor, Phase monitor & related equip.	9,646.00	
Frequency Monitor & Modulation Monitor equip	1,486.62	
Studio technical Equipment (listed) Total	9,143.20	
1-M5236A Dualam Console & tubes		
4-Mike stands		
4-Microphones		
4-8" speakers-wall baffles & equip		
2-CE510 A Turntables		
1-Limiting Amplifier and tube kits		
1-Level Devil Amplifier & tube kits		
1- Blamote remote amplifier		
2-Rack mounted PT-6 Magnecord recorders		
1-S-53A Magnecord recorder		
1-Howark Recorder		
1-Wollensak Recorder		
2-Rack cabinets		
1-Field Intensity Meter		
3-15" Clocks		
2-Headphones		
1-Air Alert Receiver		
1-Distortion Meter		
1-Gain Set		
1-Audio Oscillator		
1-ATC Portable cartridge machine		
Meters, mic cable, plugs, spare tubes, cartridges, spare parts, etc.		
Freight on transmitter, phasor and equip	896.02	
Installation & Proof of Performance	17,504.92	
Total of Equipment		<u>79,516.23</u>
Grand Total		<u><u>\$114,369.78</u></u>

This is Bill Huffman's original worksheet to estimate station costs for 1964 KWNS Incorporation. Courtesy: Bill Huffman

K. W. N. S., INC.

Professional Bldg., Pratt,

Twenty second

January

74

Twenty second

January

74

Elw111 M. Shanahan

Sherman A. Parks

LAW OFFICES

HAMPTON, MURRAY & HAMPTON

DRAWER H • PROFESSIONAL BUILDING

PRATT, KANSAS 67124

B. V. HAMPTON
BILL MURRAY
BILL HAMPTON, JR.

January 15, 1974

TELEPHONE:
AREA CODE 316
672-5523

Corporation Department
Office of Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: K. W. N. S., Inc.

Gentlemen:

On November 28, 1973, we forwarded to you Stockholders' Consent to Dissolution and Affidavit of William J. Young, President of the above-referenced corporation, together with a check in the amount of \$20.00 to cover the fee, and asked that you enter these documents in your records to effect the dissolution of this corporation. We further requested that the Certificate of Dissolution be mailed to our office.

In checking our records, we find that we have never received the Certificate of Dissolution. Will you please look into this matter and forward the Certificate of Dissolution to our office at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you,



B. V. Hampton of
HAMPTON, MURRAY & HAMPTON

BVH/gh

LAW OFFICES

HAMPTON, MURRAY & HAMPTON

DRAWER H • PROFESSIONAL BUILDING

PRATT, KANSAS 67124

November 28, 1973

B. V. HAMPTON
BILL MURRAY
BILL HAMPTON, JR.

TELEPHONE:
AREA CODE 316
672-5533

Corporation Department
Office of Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: K. W. N. S., Inc.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith please find Stockholders' Consent to Dissolution and Affidavit of William J. Young, President of the above-referenced corporation, which we ask that you enter in your records to effect the dissolution of the corporation. A check in the amount of \$20.00 is enclosed for the fee for this service, and we ask that you forward the Certificate of Dissolution to our office.

Thank you,



B. V. Hampton of
HAMPTON, MURRAY & HAMPTON

BVH/gh

Enclosures: 3

KWNS 1974 Incorporation Papers Page 3

MINUTES OF SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE
STOCKHOLDERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF K.W.N.S.,
INC.

A special joint meeting of the stockholders and Board of Directors of K. W. N. S., Inc., a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Kansas, was held at Pratt, Kansas, on the 28th day of November, 1973,

The following persons were present at the meeting:

John K. Rickard William J. Young

Thereupon, after discussion concerning the liquidation of corporate assets and the dissolution of the corporation, the following resolution was, upon motion duly made and seconded, unanimously adopted:

"BE IT RESOLVED: That the assets of the corporation be liquidated, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Treasurer be and he is hereby directed and authorized to pay liquidation dividends to the stockholders as funds become available therefor, to be apportioned among their respective shares of stock, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the officers be and they are hereby authorized and directed to file the necessary certificates and take such action as may be required to dissolve the corporation, as provided by the statutes in such cases."

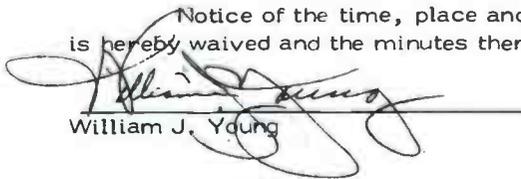
Thereupon, the acts, conduct, and business transactions of the officers and directors of the corporation were approved and confirmed by the stockholders and Board of Directors.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, same was adjourned.


John K. Rickard, Secretary

* * * * *

Notice of the time, place and purpose of the above and foregoing meeting is hereby waived and the minutes thereof approved.


William J. Young


John K. Rickard

Q-4053

74 JAN 22 PM 3:06

FILED
WILLIAM H. SHAWHAN
SECRETARY OF STATE
KANSAS

EC-3 2 43650 ***+20.00

STOCKHOLDERS' CONSENT TO DISSOLUTION

We, William J. Young, President, and John K. Rickard, Secretary-Treasurer, of K. W. N. S., INC., a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Kansas, whose Registered Office is Professional Building, Pratt, Kansas 67124, in the County of Pratt, Kansas, do hereby certify that we, the undersigned, being all of the directors and stockholders of said corporation having voting power, hereby consent to the dissolution of said corporation, this 28th day of November, 1973.



William J. Young, President

(SEAL)



John K. Rickard, Secretary-Treasurer

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF PRATT, SS:

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 28th day of November, 1973, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, came William J. Young, President of K. W. N. S., Inc., who is personally known to me to be the same person who executed the above and foregoing Stockholders' Consent to Dissolution as stockholder, officer and director of said corporation, and he duly acknowledged the execution of the same as President of said corporation and acknowledged the same to be the act of the corporation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.





Gaye E. Horn, Notary Public

My Commission Expires June 18, 1976.

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF RENO, SS:

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 28th day of November, 1973, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, came John K. Rickard, Secretary-Treasurer of K. W. N. S., Inc., who is personally known to me to be the same person who executed the above and foregoing Stockholders' Consent to Dissolution as stockholder, officer and director of said corporation, and he duly acknowledged the execution of the same as Secretary-Treasurer of said corporation and acknowledged the same to be the act of the corporation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.



Irene Ebersole
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: March 13, 1976

473

LAW OFFICES
HAMPTON,
MURRAY & HAMPTON
PRATT, KANSAS

Cancelled - June 15, 1979
PRATT SHOPPER, INC.

D-43386

423 South Oak
Pratt, Kansas 67124

Donald J. O'Malley

100,000 sh C NPV

Kansas

Pratt

February 19, 1976

PERPETUAL

Pratt Shopper Inc. Papers Page 1

Page Two - Articles of Incorporation

STATE OF KANSAS }
 } SS.
COUNTY OF PRATT }

Personally appeared before me, a Notary Public in and for Pratt County, Kansas, the above named Donald J. O'Malley, who is personally known to me to be the same person who executed the foregoing instrument of writing, and duly acknowledged the execution of the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal this 17th day of February, 1976.


Notary Public

(SEAL)

ALAN HANSON
State Notary Public
Pratt County, Kansas
My Commission Expires
July 28, 1978

My appointment expires:

Pratt Shopper Inc. Papers Page 2

'76 FEB 19 AM 8:57

FILED
ESTELLE M. SHAWHANAM
SECRETARY OF STATE
KANSAS

D-43386

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

FEB 18 3

06700 ****50.00

I, the undersigned, Incorporator, hereby form and establish a corporation for profit under the laws of the State of Kansas.

FIRST: The name of the corporation is Pratt Shopper, Inc.

SECOND: The location of its registered office in Kansas is 422 South Oak, Pratt, Pratt County, Kansas 67124, and the resident agent in charge thereof at such address is Donald J. O'Malley.

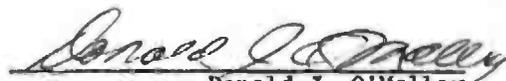
THIRD: This corporation is organized FOR profit and the nature of its business or purposes to be conducted or promoted is: To engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the Kansas Corporation Code.

FOURTH: The corporation shall have authority to issue 100,000 shares of common stock with no par value.

FIFTH: The name and mailing address of the Incorporator is Donald J. O'Malley, 422 South Oak, Pratt, Kansas 67124.

SIXTH: The names and mailing addresses of the persons who are to serve as Directors until the first annual meeting of the stockholders or until a successor is elected and qualified, are Donald J. O'Malley, 422 South Oak, Pratt, Kansas 67124 and Teresa E. O'Malley, 422 South Oak, Pratt, Kansas 67124.

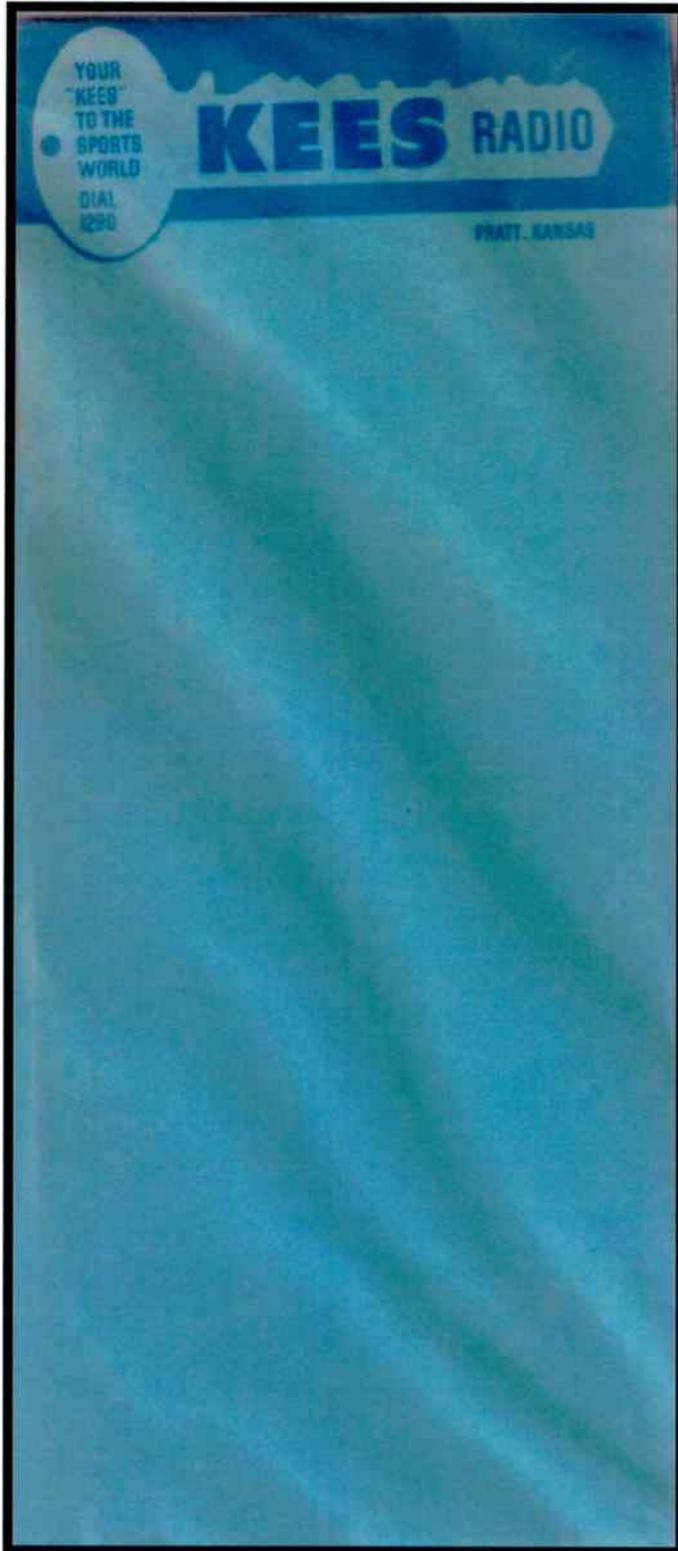
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 17th day of February, 1976.


Donald J. O'Malley

DN

***Misc. Letters
and
Other Stuff***

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

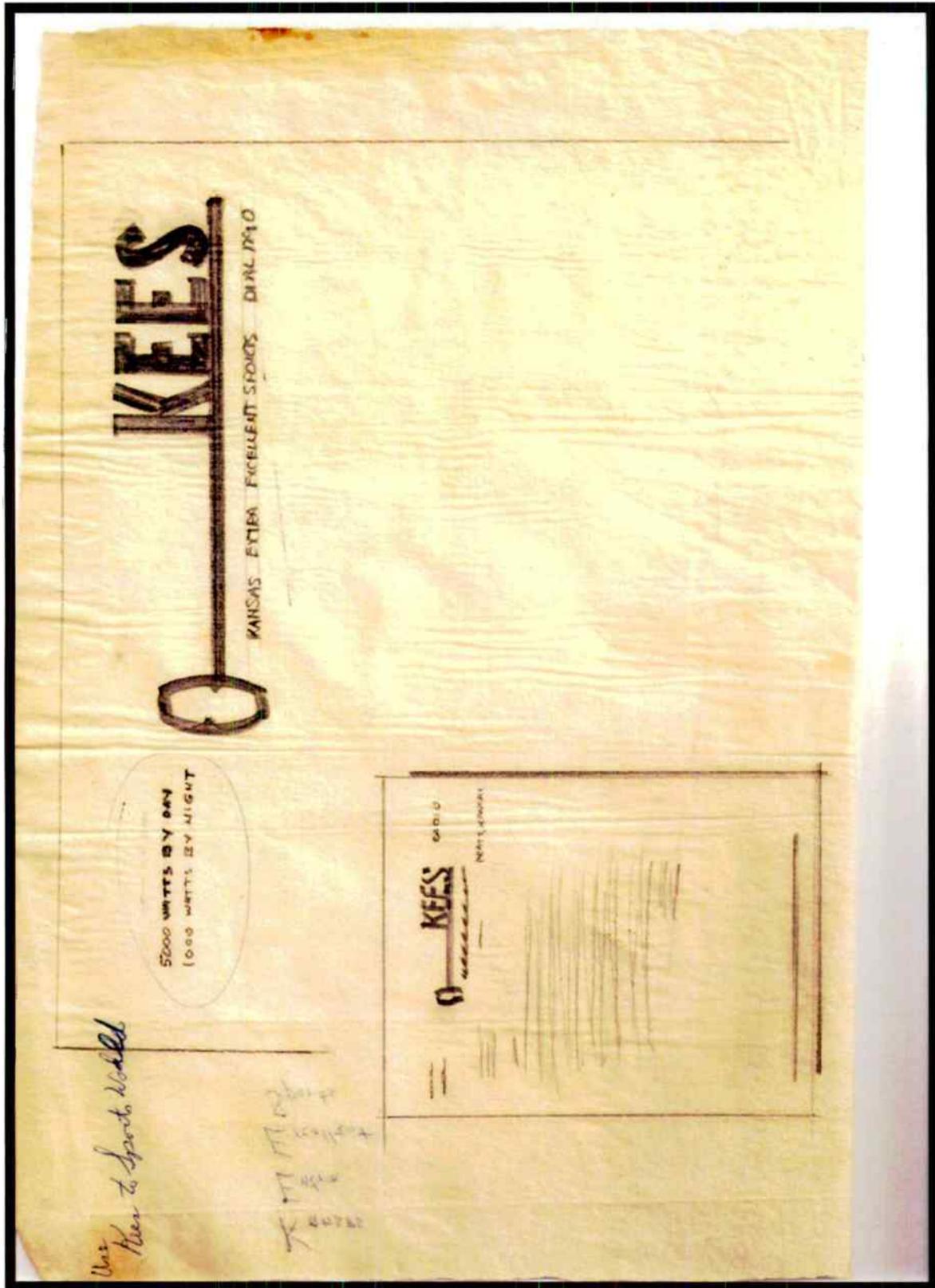


The original call letters for the new Pratt radio station were to be KEES. Even with the protest period, Bill Huffman still hoped to apply and get those call letters when it was over. In 1958 Bill designed and had Conard Gilham at the Printing Press in Pratt run up some stationary.

Unfortunately the legal battle took too long and the FCC issued KEES to a station in Gladewater, Texas on September 25, 1961. When Bill was given the final OK for a construction permit on January 3, 1962, the next set of call letters issued was KPRT on April 2, 1962, which were promptly rejected by Bill. The next set of call letters Bill applied for were KWNS and issued by the FCC on April 30, 1962 and the rest is history!

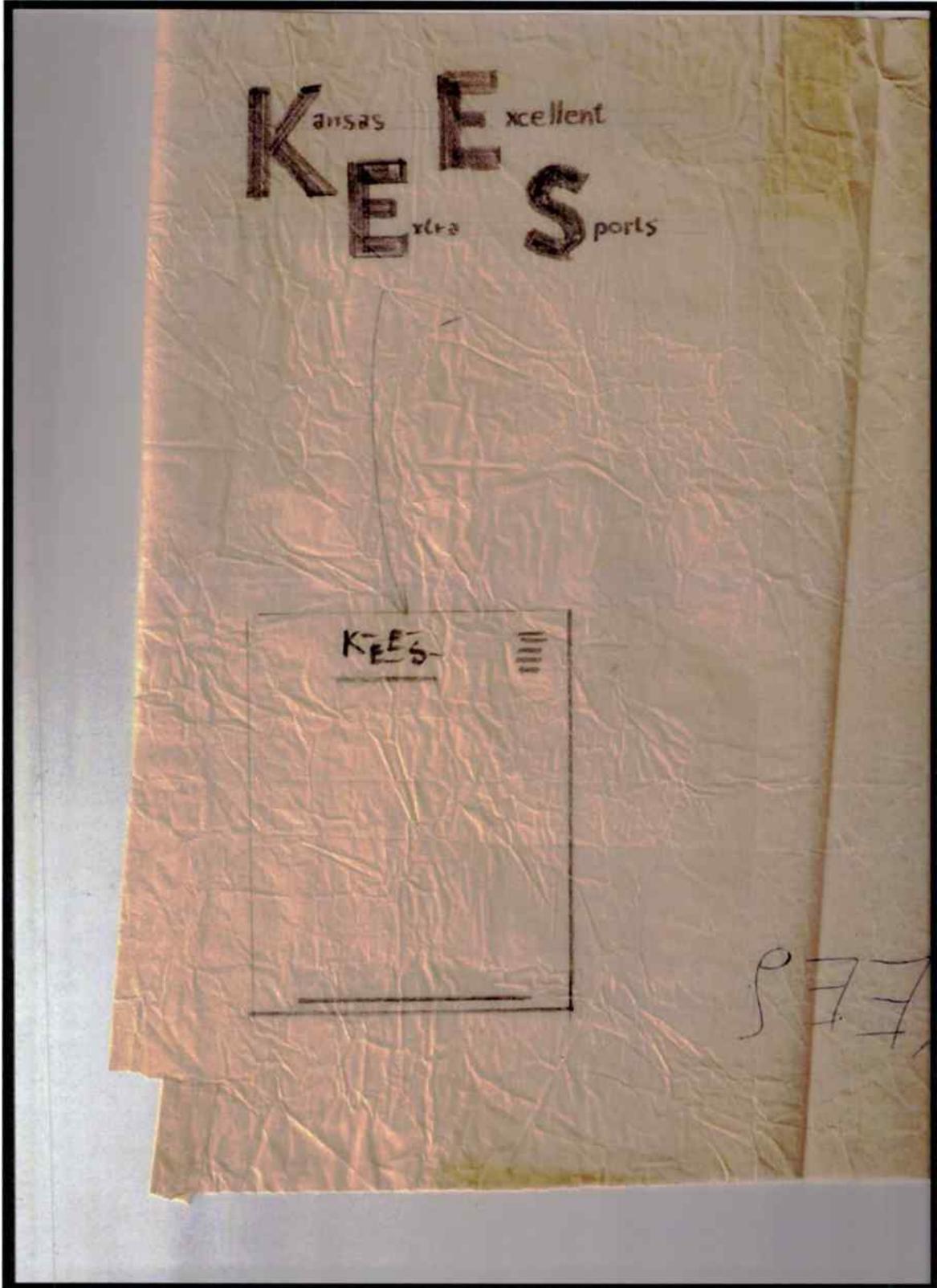
Courtesy: Bill Huffman

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



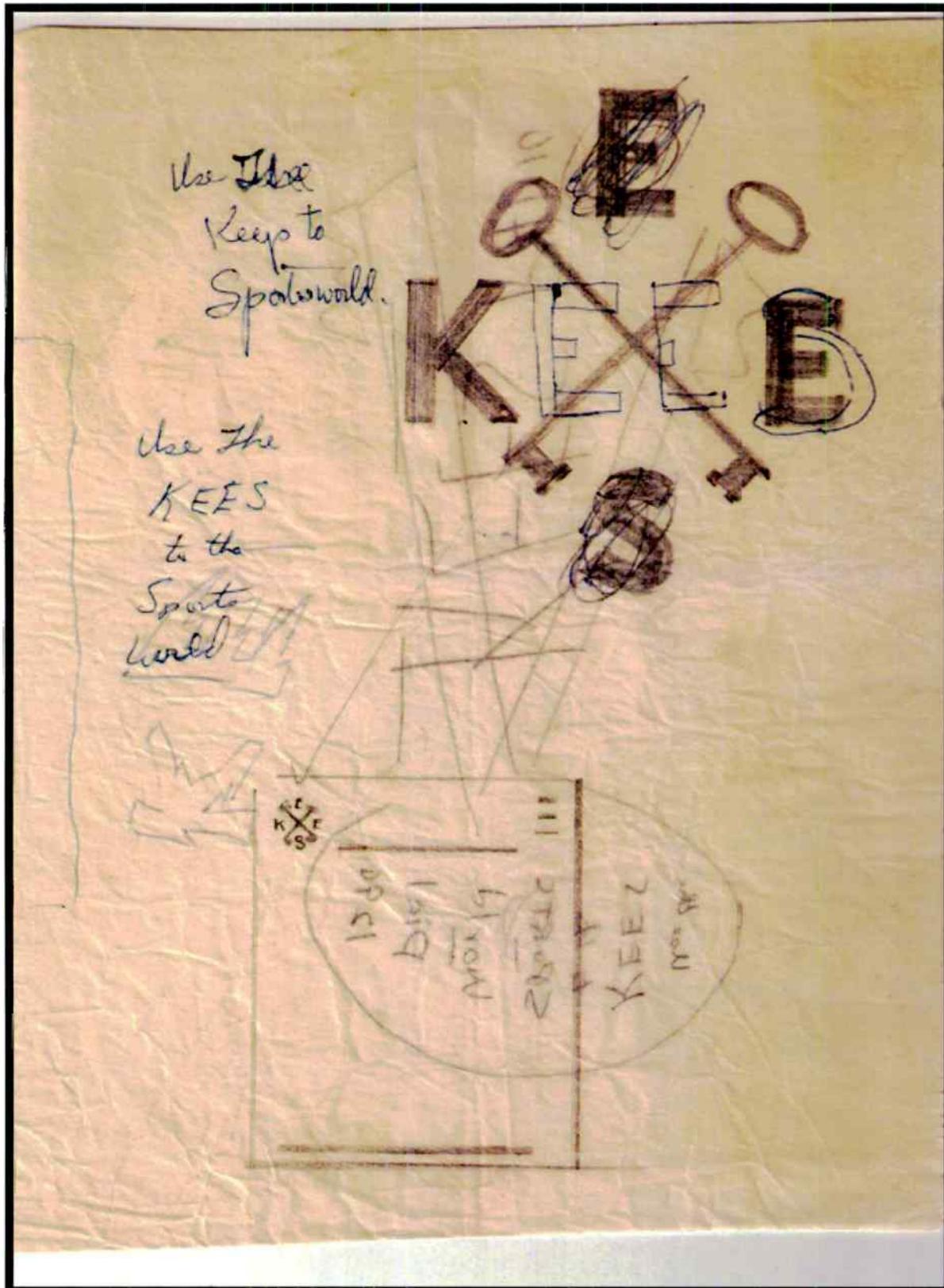
Bill's original doodling and artwork, 1958.
Courtesy: Bill Huffman

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



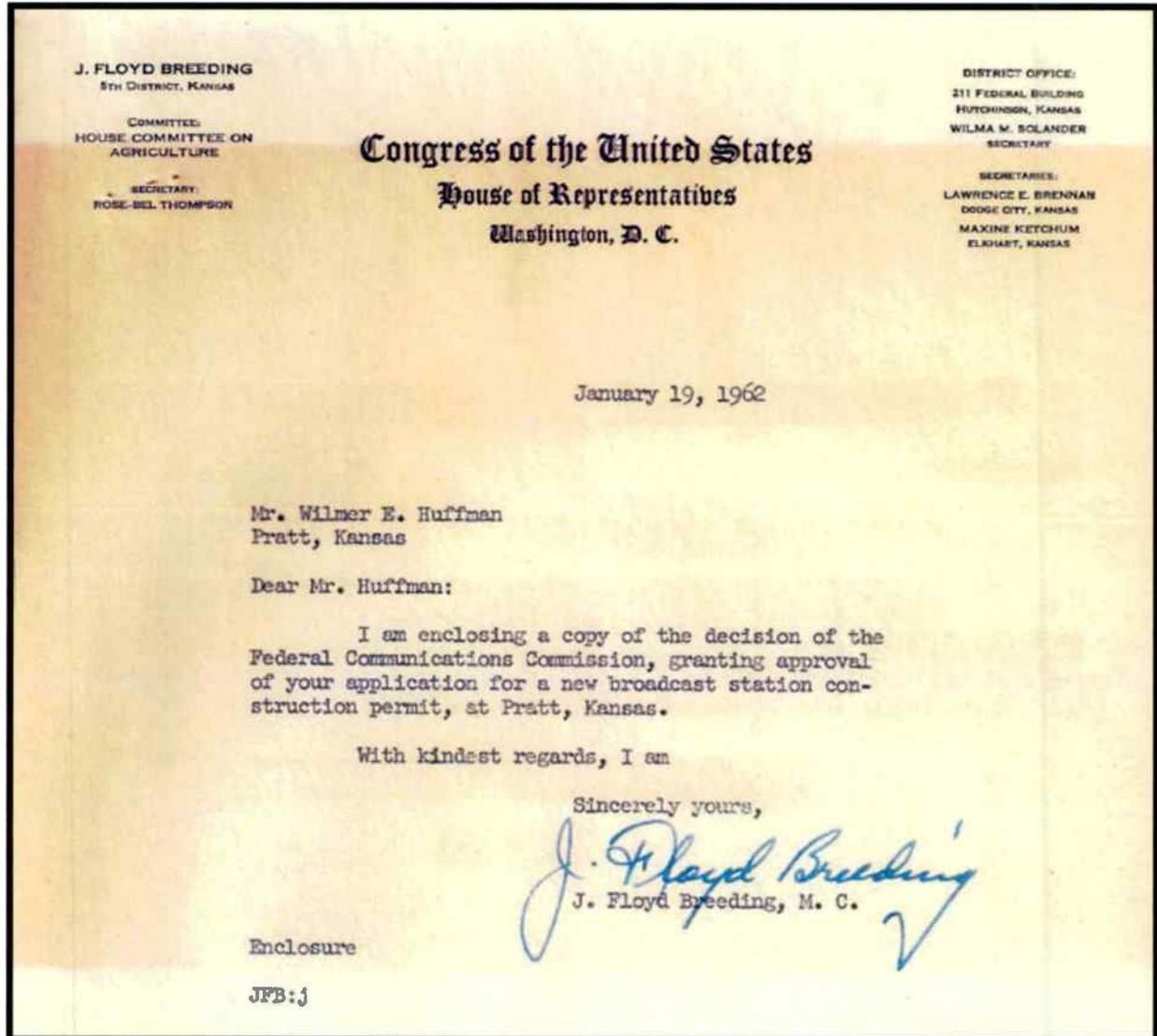
*Bill's original doodling and artwork, 1958.
Courtesy: Bill Huffman*

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



**Bill's original doodling and artwork, 1958.
Courtesy: Bill Huffman**

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



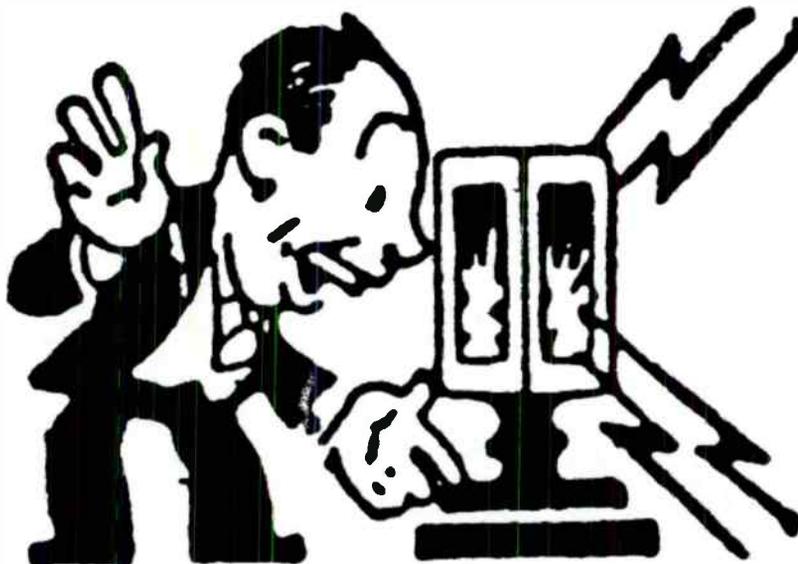
Courtesy: Bill Huffman



Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

<p>CLASS OF SERVICE This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.</p>	<h2>WESTERN UNION</h2> <h3>TELEGRAM</h3> <p>1201 (4-90) W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT</p>	<p>SYMBOLS DL=Day Letter NL=Night Letter LT=International Letter Telegram</p>
<p>The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination</p>		
<p>4-4344</p>		
<p>=WUCO49 (W BUA163) GOVT PD=BU WASHINGTON DC FEB 21 1962 WILMER E HUFFMAN= 516P EST= = PRATT KANS=</p>		
<p>PLEASED TO ADVISE YOU THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATINS COMMISSION IS TODAY MAILING YOUR LICENSE TO OPERATE NEW BROADCAST STATION AT PRATT YOU SHOULD RECEIVE LICENSE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS= FLOYD BREEDING MEMBER OF CONGRESS= =(559PMC)C</p>		
<p>PHONED 603 P.M.</p>		
<p>THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE</p>		
<p>February 21, 1962</p>		

Courtesy: Bill Huffman



Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

<p>CLASS OF SERVICE This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">WESTERN UNION</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">TELEGRAM</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">W. P. MARSHALL, President</p>	<p>SYMBOLS</p> <p>DL=Day Letter NL=Night Letter LT=International Letter Telegram</p>
<p>The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.</p>		
<p>WU012 (W NFA007) GOVT PD=NF WASHINGTON DC FEB 21 1962</p>		
<p>=WILMER E HUFFMAN=</p>		<p>1030A EST</p>
<p>PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT PRATT KANS</p>		
<p>=FCC ADVISED ME YOUR APPLICATION FOR NEW STATION WAS GRANTED YOUR INTEREST I THINK IS IN CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND I HAVE BEEN ASSURED THIS IS GOING FORWARD BY MAIL TO YOU TODAY REGARDS=</p>		
<p>SENATOR JAMES B PEARSON=</p>		<p>PHONED</p> <p>1014 A.M.P.M.</p>
<p>1002AM</p>		
<p>THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE</p>		

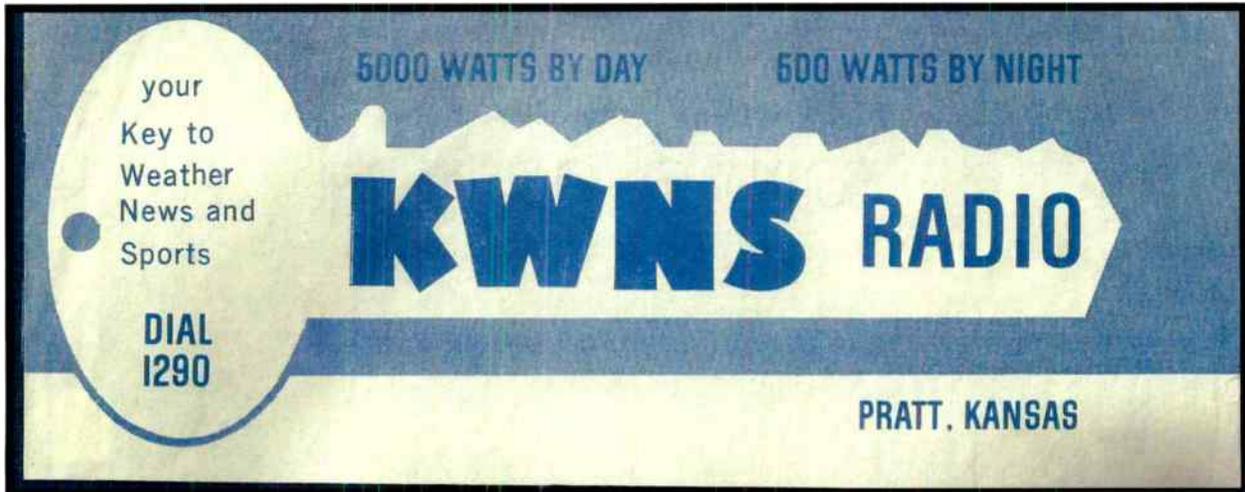
February 21, 1962

<p>CLASS OF SERVICE This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">WESTERN UNION</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">TELEGRAM</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">W. P. MARSHALL, President</p>	<p>SYMBOLS</p> <p>DL=Day Letter NL=Night Letter LT=International Letter Telegram</p>
<p>The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.</p>		
<p>WU14 (W NFA022) GOVT PD=NF WASHINGTON DC 6 1022A EDT=</p>		
<p>=WILMER E HUFFMAN=</p>		
<p>PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT PRATT KANS=</p>		
<p>FCC ADVISES PETITIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION BY GRANCIS C MORGAN JR AND PIER SAN INC DENIED ACCORDINGLY IT WAS ORDERED THE 29TH DAY OF MAY 1962 THAT DECISION (32 FCC 1) ADOPTED ON JANUARY 3 1962 BE READOPTED I SEE NO FURTHER BARRIER TO YOUR PROCEEDING WITH CONSTRUCTION=</p>		
<p>SENATOR JAMES B PEARSON=</p>		<p>PHONED</p> <p>10 41 A.M.P.M.</p>
<p>937A CST</p>		
<p>1962 32 FCC 1 3 1962 ALSO 29TH=</p>		
<p>THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE</p>		

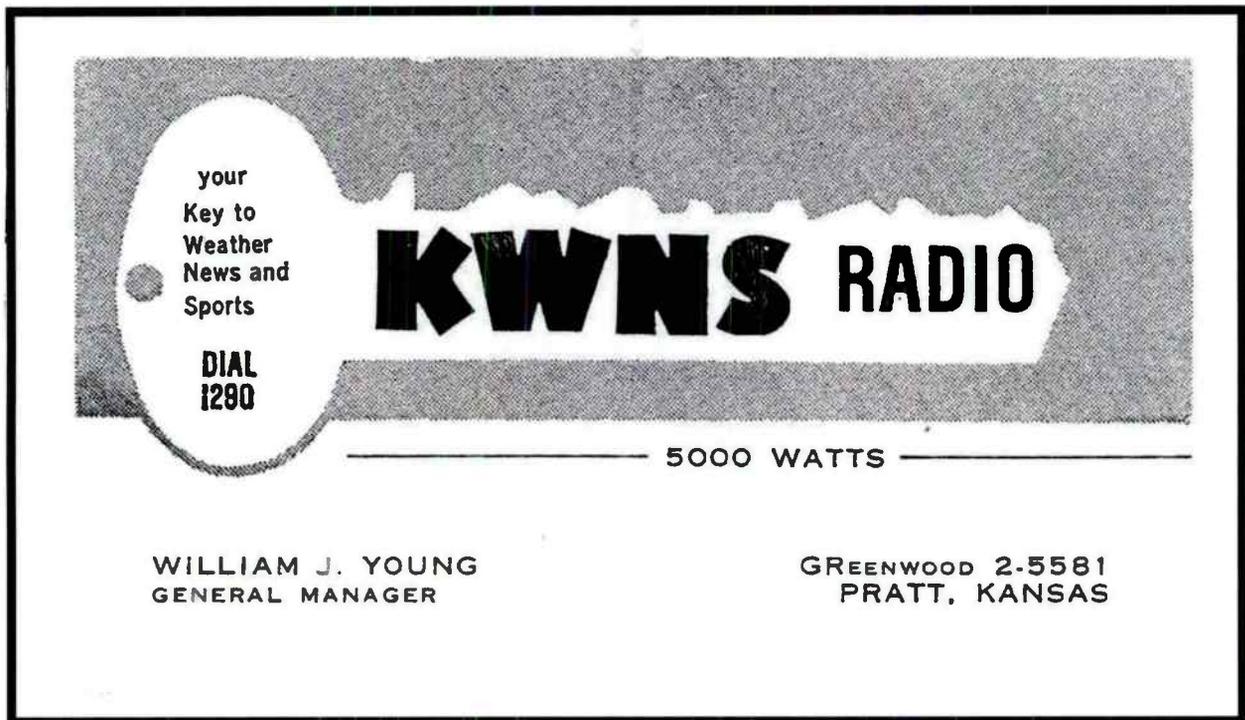
May 29, 1962

Courtesy: Bill Huffman

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

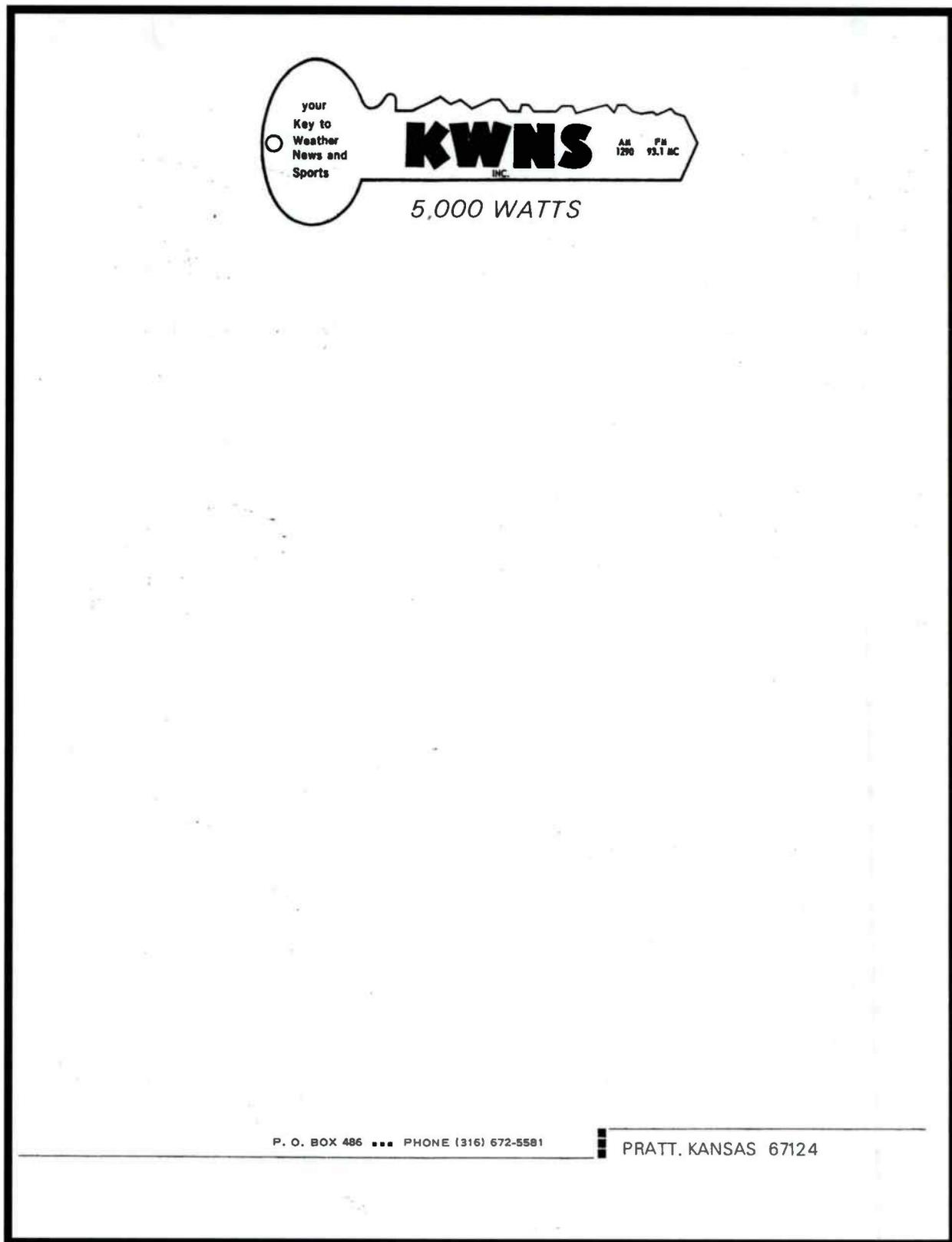


*1963 KWNS Letterhead
Courtesy: Young Family*



*1963 KWNS Letterhead
Courtesy: Young Family*

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



P. O. BOX 486 ■■■ PHONE (316) 672-5581

PRATT, KANSAS 67124

1968 KWNS Stationary
Courtesy: Young Family

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

to Ronny D.:

I would like to hear Time is
tight by Booker T + the M.G.s.
all the way through. I would like
to hear the album by Steppenwolf
on Monday night at 9:15. What
do the letters I'm on a radio
stand for? the brother of mine
used to be a disc jockey on radio (on
KAR E on 1240, in Wichita). He
now is the president of the
Midwestern School of Broadcasting
in Wichita. Have you heard of him
before? His name is Tony
Creamer. So Tony

Sincerely yours:
Richard Pratt

1971 Fan Letter from Richard Pratt
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

use today They
Jan 11, 1972
Pratt Kans

Hi Ron

Saturday was
my Birthday I would
like to hear a song
it is just a close
Walk with thee
or
it is no ~~secret~~
secret what
God can do

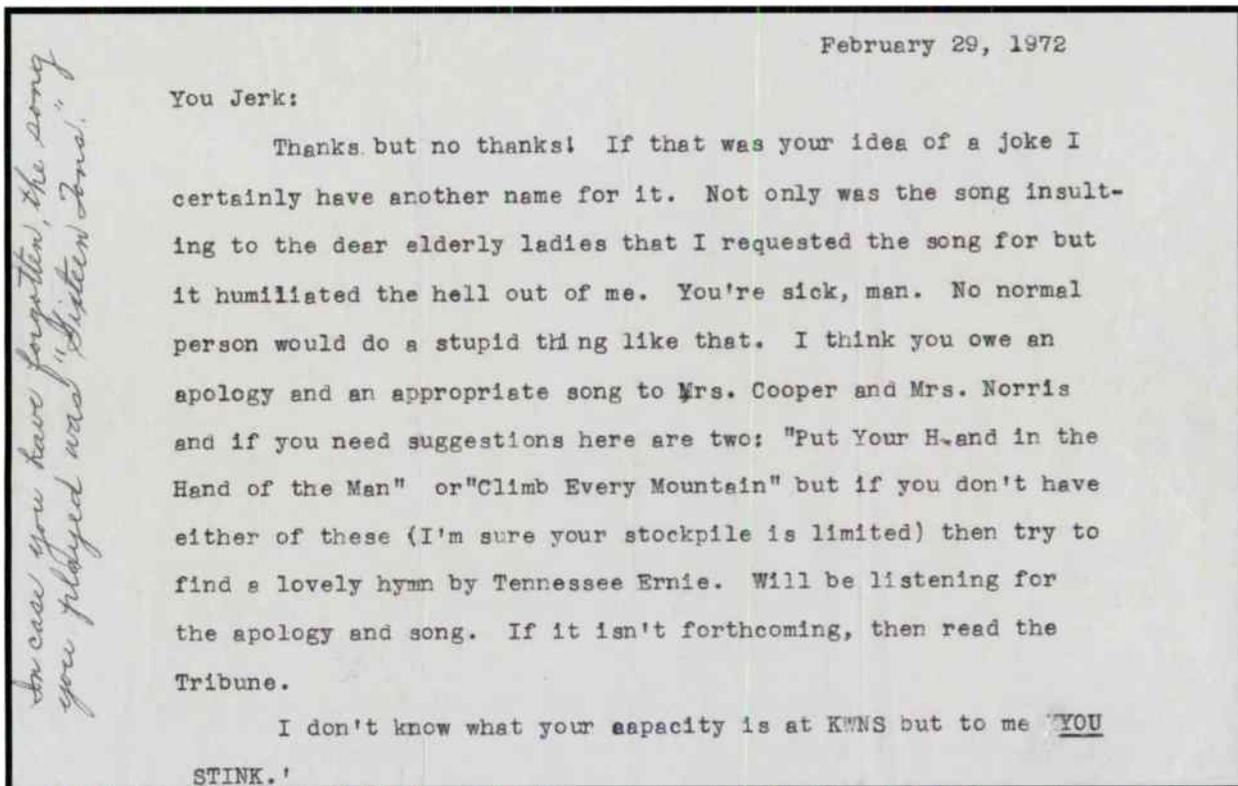
Jan 8 1909 is my
Birthday

Mary Zumalt
614 N Thomas
Pratt Kans
67124

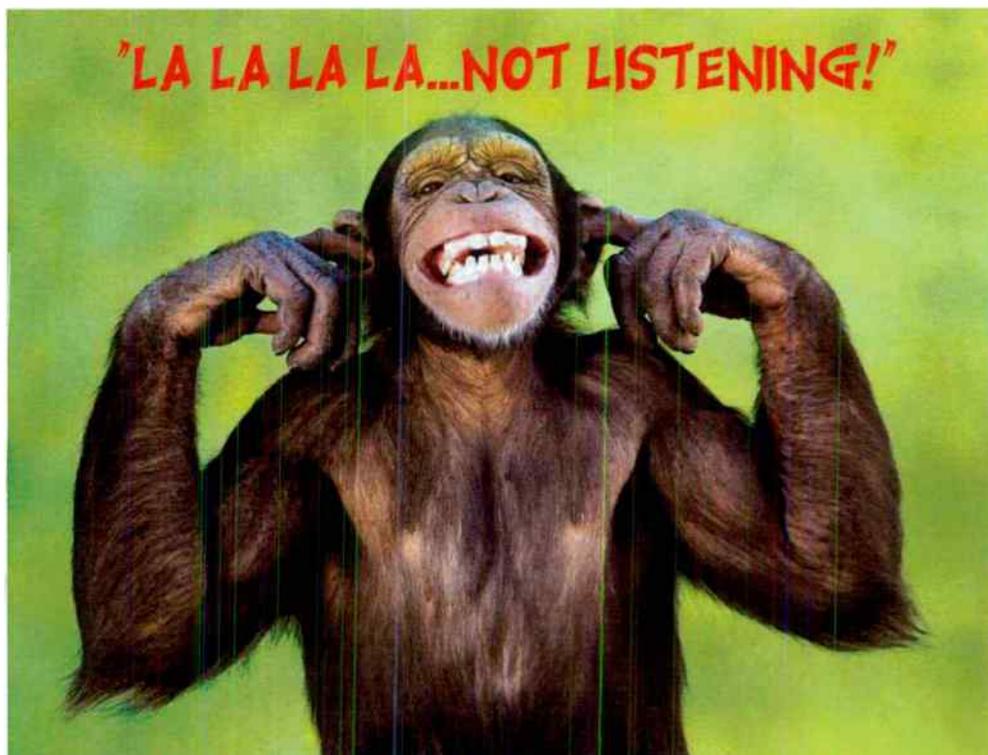
telephone 2-2084

January 11, 1972 Fan Letter from Mary Zumalt
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



**February 29, 1972 Fan Letter (Nasty Gram)
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler**



Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

FIVE

Post Office Box 104
Pratt, Kansas 67124
April 17, 1972

Mr. William Young
Station Manager
K W N S Radio
East Highway 54
Pratt, Kansas 67124

Dear Mr. Young:

At this time I would like to take the opportunity to comment on the recent change in the early morning programming at K W N S.

To say the least, I'm dissatisfied with the change from the country type music that was being played from 6:00 A.M. until 8:30 A.M. to the "morgue" music that now comes on after the 7:00 A.M. news. I would like to commend you and the station for the much better treatment of the early morning news since Mr. Blevens has been doing that particular segment. He has without a doubt added much interest to what would seem like run-of-the-mill news.

Also in regard to the programming of the music portion of the time spent on the air, I do very much like the Chuck Fry show and the type of music that is selected for his program. I hope that this type of music will be continued.

I suppose you would consider me opinionated and you would be right. I like country and western music, but I also like the creative type of music that is played in the evening hours. I like them all, with the exception of the "rock and roll" or whatever you will. I would be in favor of reconsideration for placing country and western back on the air from the time after the 7:00 A.M. news until 8:30 A.M.

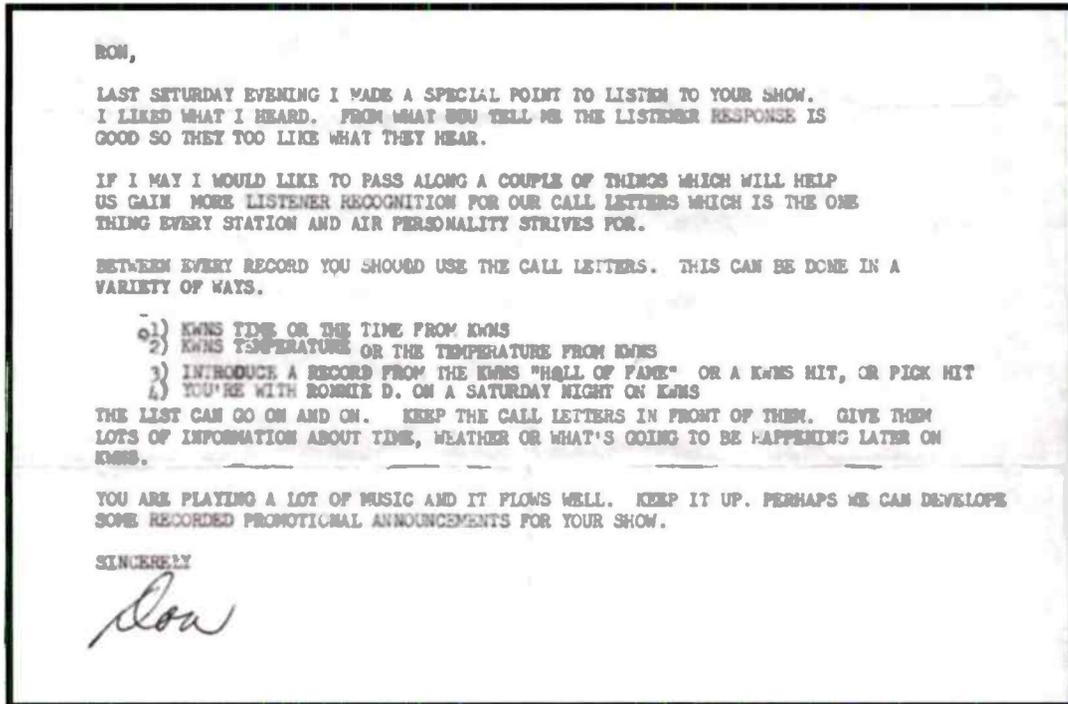
It is my hope that these few comments and suggestions will be of some help in considering the type of programming you have.

I remain respectfully,

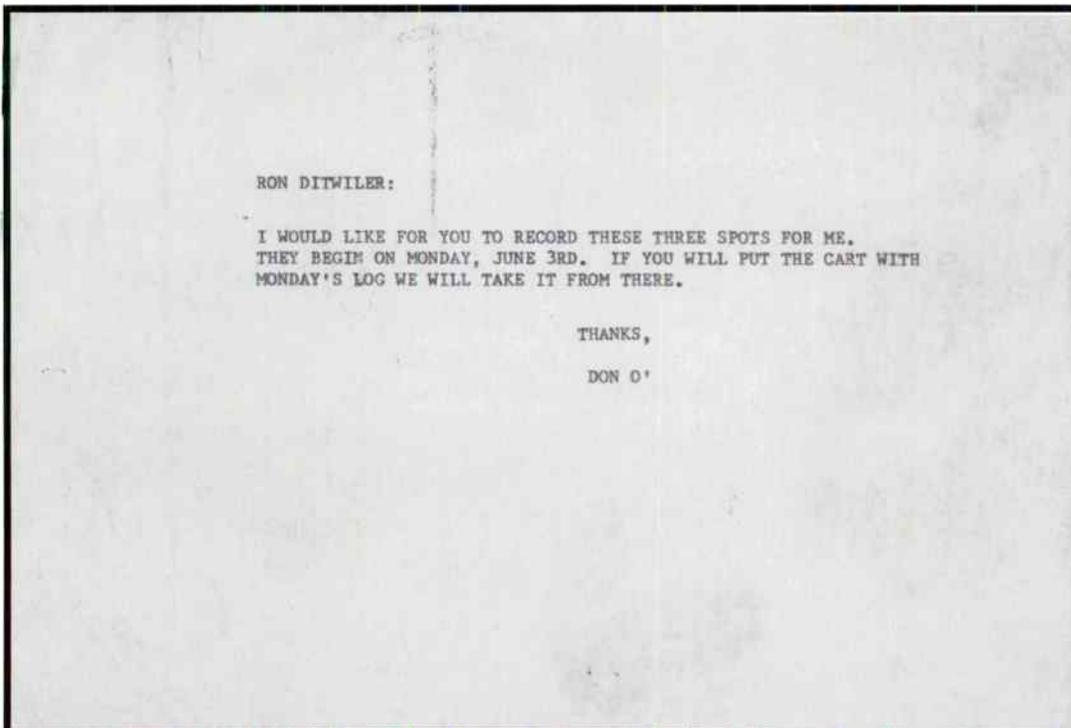

Carl R. Wilmoth

April 17, 1972 Fan Letter
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff



**January 1974 Letter From Don O'Malley
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler**



**June 1974 Letter From Don O'Malley
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler**

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

fm - RADIO - am



OTTAWA, KANSAS
66067

OTTAWA BROADCASTING COMPANY

P. O. BOX 16 • AREA CODE 913 CHERRY 2-1220

July 13, 1974

Ronald Detwiler, Chief Operator
KWNS Radio
Pratt, Ks. 67124

Dear Engineer:

Our chief engineer has taken a challenging new job and will be leaving.

This is a good, growing, small market station. It is non-directional 250 watts daytime AM; 6700 KW FRP FM, using 1 KW transmitter and 8-bay antenna on 400 foot tower.

The station has the test equipment, instruction books, file cabinets, workbench -- everything needed to maintain the transmitting equipment and studio equipment. There is a control room/studio, production studio, and news room studio. A very good small market operation.

Chief Engineer Douglas Campbell has diagrammed any minor modifications and has prepared a brochure which would be helpful. Doug would like to be here to acquaint his successor with everything. He will leave it all in order.

If you know a man who could fill the job and would like the opportunity have him call Station Manager Burt Brewer or me here at KOFO -- (913) 242 1220. (Or, perhaps he would like to talk first with Doug Campbell to learn what's involved, then call Burt or me.)

Sincerely

Rod Cupp
Roderick B. Cupp
General Manager
rbc/c

Home phones:
Doug Campbell 242 1649
Burt Brewer 242 3953
Rod Cupp 242 1500

Station location: At the south end of
Ottawa on US 59.



THE RADIO VOICE FOR THE HEART OF EASTERN KANSAS

KOFO Letter July 23, 1974
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

2040KH

PATS

-----NOT FOR BROADCAST-----

KANSAS AND MISSOURI BROADCASTERS: UPI BROADCAST IN KANSAS CITY WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND ITS THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO OUR REGIONAL REPORT IN RECENT WEEKS. SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- GEORGE HEAL, KSAL, SALINA, KAN.
- MIKE OVERTON, KSAL, SALINA, KAN.
- ERN DEKAMP, WTD, SPRINGFIELD, MO.
- RON PRICE, WGEN, QUINCY, ILL.
- RICK CHEATUM, KUPX, GARDEN CITY, KAN.
- PAUL KOESTER, KDMO, CARTHAGE, MO.
- BUELL WARREN, KDMO, CARTHAGE, MO.
- JACK GARLACH, KGLD, GARDEN CITY, KAN.
- CRAIG BRYANT, KSIS, SEDALIA, MO.
- BOB PHILLIPS, KODE, JOPLIN, MO.
- JOE PATTERSON, KWAN, PITTSBURG, KAN.
- MIKE DAILEY, KODE, JOPLIN, MO.
- RAUDY GAINES, WMBB, WICHITA, KAN.
- DAV CORPSON, KTWC, ENSIGN, KAN.
- MURRIS JAMES, KITS, SPRINGFIELD, MO.
- TON WAHL, KITS, SPRINGFIELD, MO.
- BARBARA MCMAHON, KITS, SPRINGFIELD, MO.
- MIKE ELLSTON, KLD, WICHITA, KAN.
- BYRON MADDOX, KLED, WICHITA, KAN.
- GREG BYRON, KLED, WICHITA, KAN.
- MARILYN BAGGS, KODE, JOPLIN, MO.
- BOB DUNDAS, KCKT, GREAT BEND, KAN.
- JIM FARNEY, KAKE, WICHITA, KAN.
- RICH HARKINS, KKKX, COLBY, KAN.
- ENNIE PEARCE, WJHW, TOPEKA, KAN.
- DON SNOROCK, KANS, PRATT, KAN.
- PETE GARDNER, KAYC, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- LEE FRANKS, KAYC, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- JERRY JONES, KAYC, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- JIM ALDRIDGE, KFRD, COLUMBIA, MO.
- GARY RESERVE, KANS, LARNED, KAN.
- JIM CLAUGHTON, KAOI, CARROLLTON, MO.
- JIM PULLINS, KFAL, FULTON, MO.
- HELMUT RUPARD, KINZ, INDEPENDENCE, KAN.
- RAMEY RAY, KINZ, INDEPENDENCE, KAN.
- CHARLES GRAY, WDAF, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- MIKE RUSSELL, KALK, IDLA, KAN.
- TIM SHERWOOD, KUPX, GARDEN CITY, KAN.
- BILL SASS, KEYS, EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, MO.
- ALAN SCOTT, KANS, PRATT, KAN.
- MIKE JONES, KXJC, ST. JOSEPH, MO.
- TINY FURCELL, KAKE, WICHITA, KAN.
- MIKE MCCOY, KCHS, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- STEVE DAWSON, KCHS, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- TAMI THOMAS, KCHS, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- BOB MEADE, WHS, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- LARRY MOORE, KMBC, KANSAS CITY, MO.
- BILL DAMENBARGER, KICH, CONCORDIA, KAN.

OUR THANKS ALSO TO THOSE OF YOU WE MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED OR WHO, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, COULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN THIS LIST. OUR APOLOGIES IF YOUR NAME OR AFFILIATION IS MISSPELLED.

PLEASE KEEP CALLING US WITH YOUR NEWS ITEMS, COLLECT TO 316-471-2070.

UPI BROADCAST-KANSAS CITY

UPI 01-18 06:45 PCE

**January 18, 1975 KWNS Teletype Copy
Courtesy: Alan Rogers**

Misc. Letters and Other Stuff

K W N S NEWS 8/3/76

THE PRATT CITY COMMISSION IN LAST NIGHT'S MEETING GAVE APPROVAL TO THE 1977 CITY BUDGET WHICH WILL RAISE \$314,100.94 IN TAXES ON A MILL LEVY OF 20.972. THIS LEVY IS .826 MILLS LESS THAN THE 1976 LEVY. IT WILL PROVIDE FOR ABOUT THE SAME PROGRAMS AS THE CURRENT BUDGET, BUT WILL PROVIDE FOR 5% SALARY AND FRINGE BENEFIT INCREASES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES.

THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN WAS DISCUSSED. MAYOR CONARD GILHAM WAS DIRECTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE PLAN WITH OTHER MAYORS OF THE COUNTY AND TO BRING THE RESULTS OF THAT DISCUSSION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE remainder of the COMMISSION AT A SPECIAL MEETING TO BE CALLED LATER THIS WEEK.

THE COMMISSION RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECEIVED A COPY OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S MINUTES WHICH GAVE ~~APPROX~~ CONDITIONAL APPROVAL TO TRANSFER THE SIXTH STREET PARK AREA TO U.S.D. 382 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

MAY-BELL MONTGOMERY APPEARED BEFORE THE COMMISSION TO PROTEST HER ASSESSMENT RELATING TO STREET IMPROVEMENTS IN FRONT OF HER PROPERTY AT 1404 EAST 3rd. THE COMMISSION TOOK NO ACTION ON THE PROTEST.

AT THE REQUEST OF CITY MANAGER JIM PEARSON, THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A RESOLUTION COMENDING CITY EMPLOYEES RON DETWILER, BILL BARNES AND TOM WOODSON FOR THEIR WORK AT THE TIME OF AND FOLLOWING THE EXPLOSION AT THE MUNICIPAL POWER PLANT SUNDAY EVENING.

ABOUT 15 PRATT RESIDENTS WITH VARIOUS INTERESTS ATTENDED THE MEETING

**August 3, 1976 KWNS News Copy
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler**



***KWNS 1963
Sign-on Staff-----Page 268***

***Other KWNS
Employees-----Page 272***

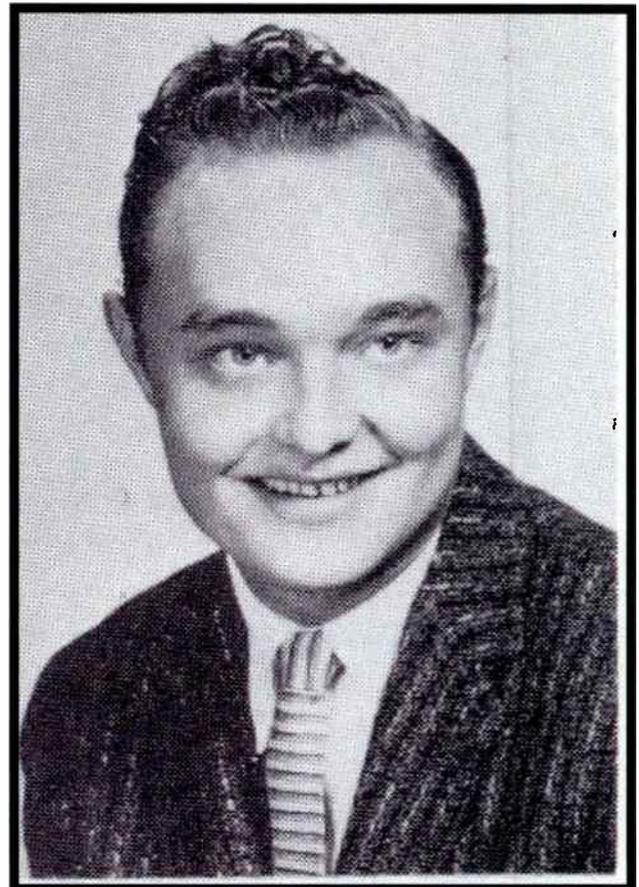


KWNS 1963 Sign-on Staff



Wilmer E. (Bill) Huffman

Don Hoagland



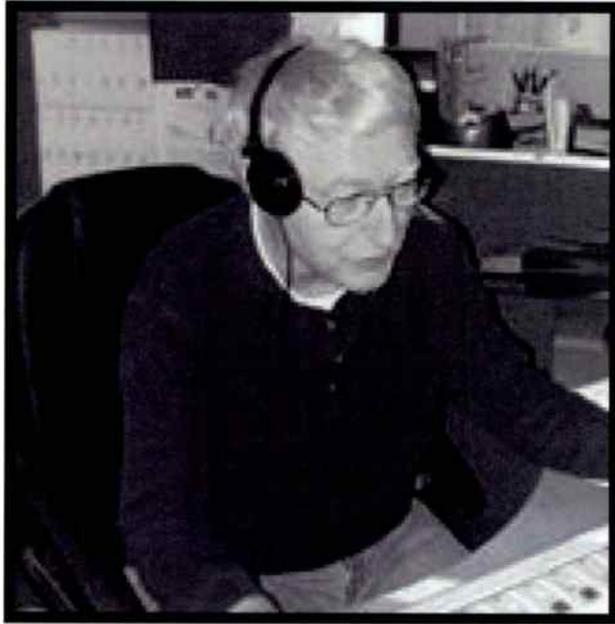
KWNS 1963 Sign-on Staff

Evelyn Hillard



Gaylon Pankratz
(At the controls of KANS)

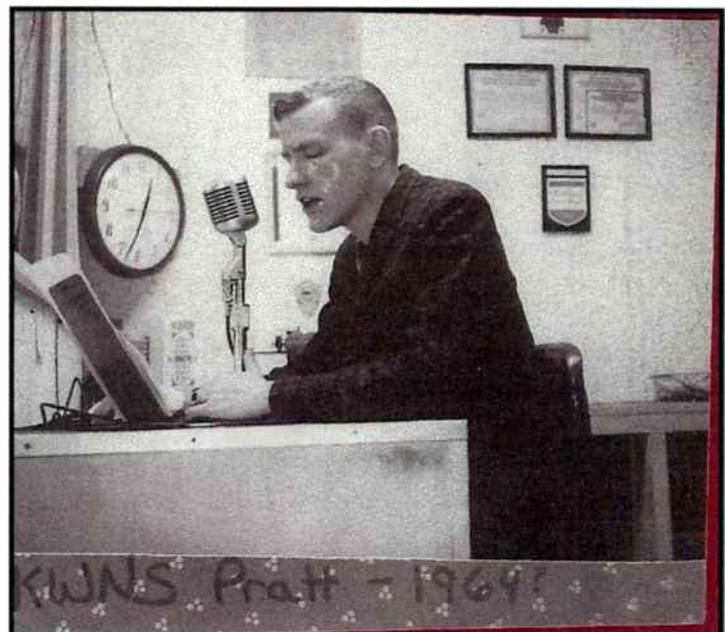
KWNS 1963 Sign-on Staff



Jay Phillips

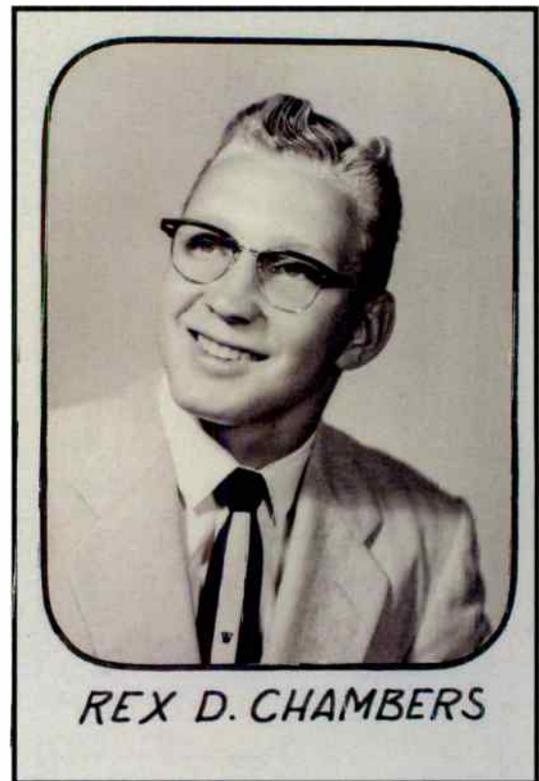
(At the controls of KDMS-AM, KLBQ-FM)

Larry Waggoner



KWNS 1963 Sign-on Staff

Rex Chambers

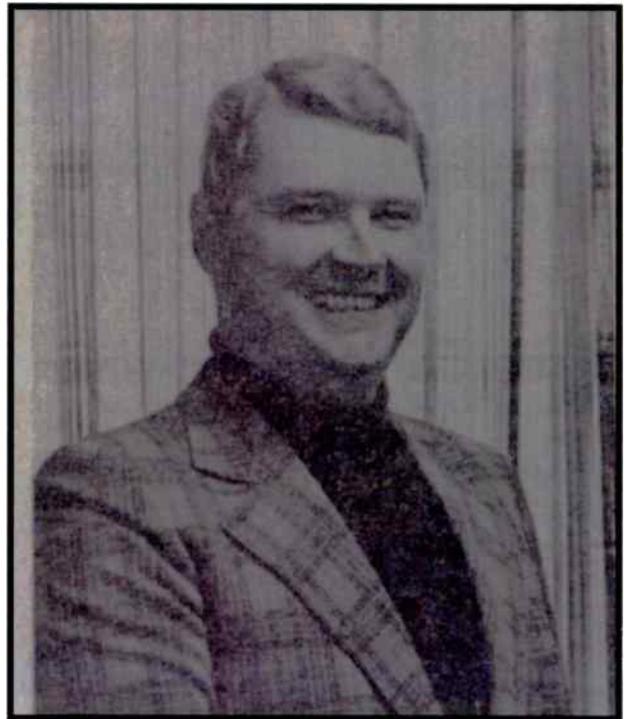


Ted Hite

Other KWNS Employees



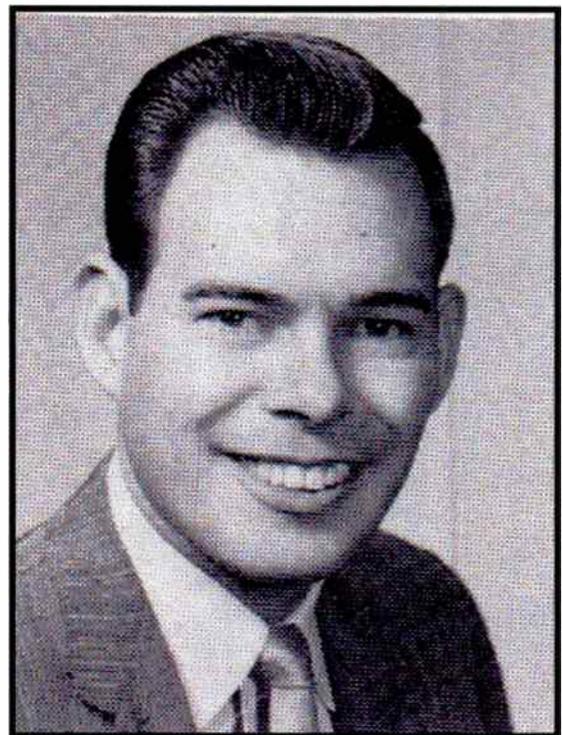
***William J. Young
Owner***



***Donald J. O'Malley
Owner***

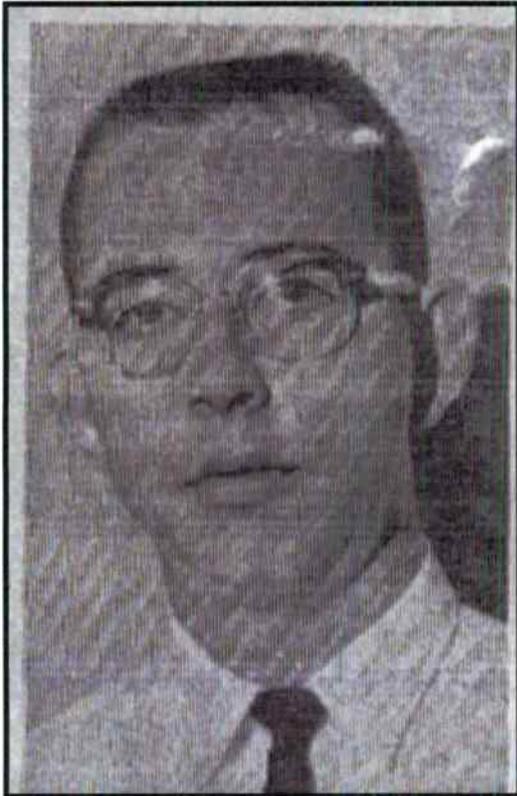


***George Keiffer
Owner***



Jack DaVault

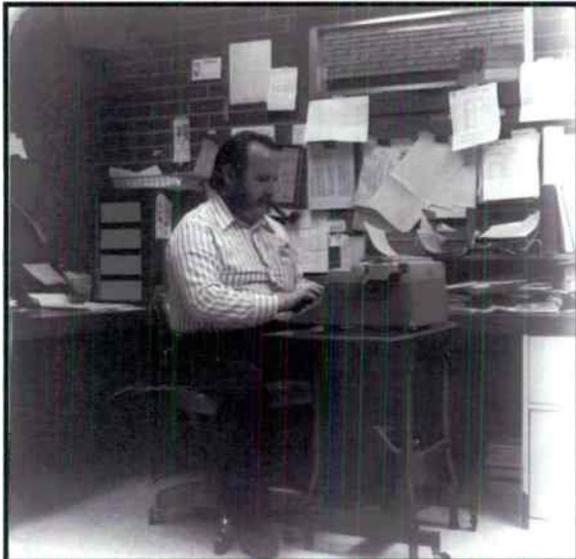
Other KWNS Employees



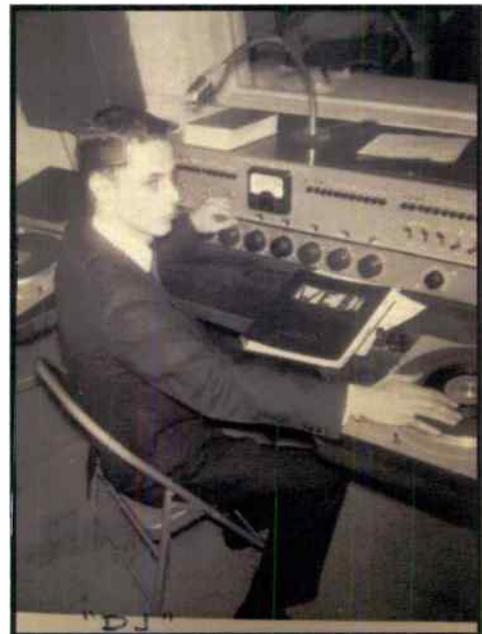
Aubrey Mays



***J. Larry
"James" Simmons***



Don Shorock
(At KVGB)

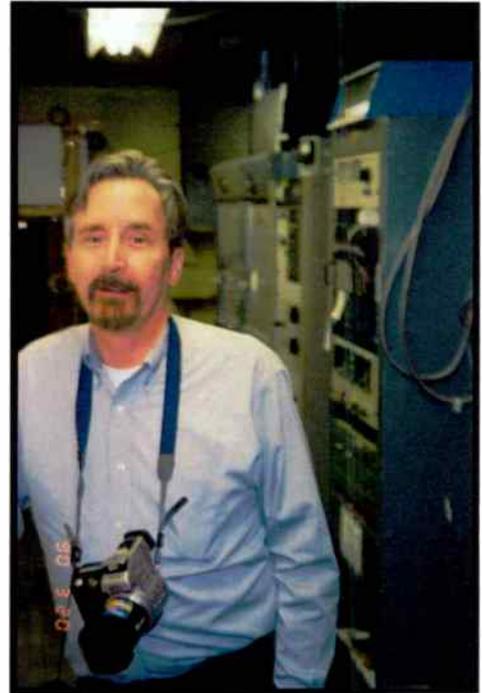


Jerry Bertram
(At the controls of WEBT)

Other KWNS Employees



Barbara Young



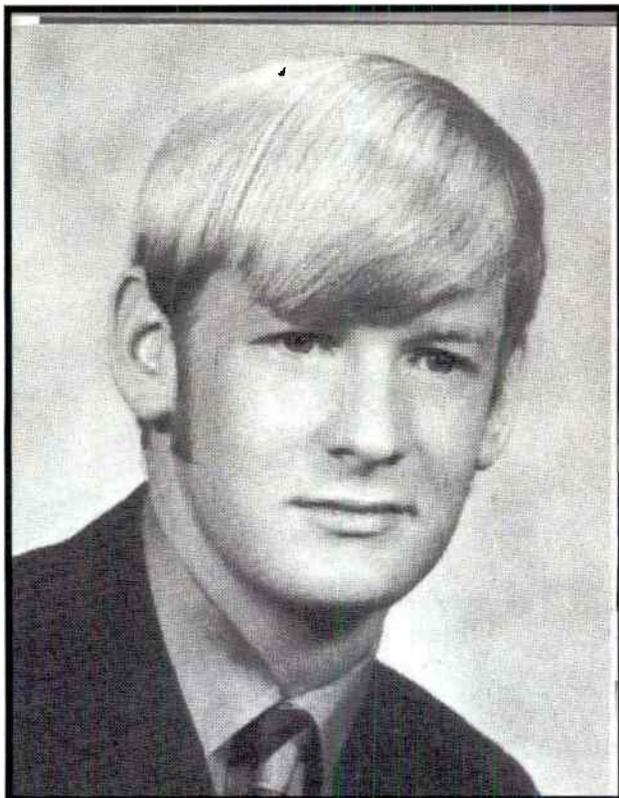
Jim Bowman



Chuck Fry

Gene McKinney

Other KWNS Employees



Bill Farmer



Alan Rogers



Mary Ann Young



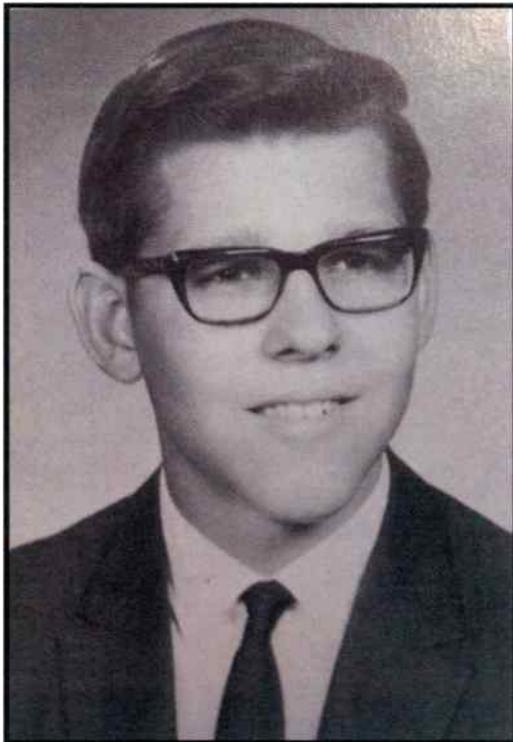
Ron Jones

Other KWNS Employees



Connie Gotsch

(On the air at KSJE Farmington, New Mexico)

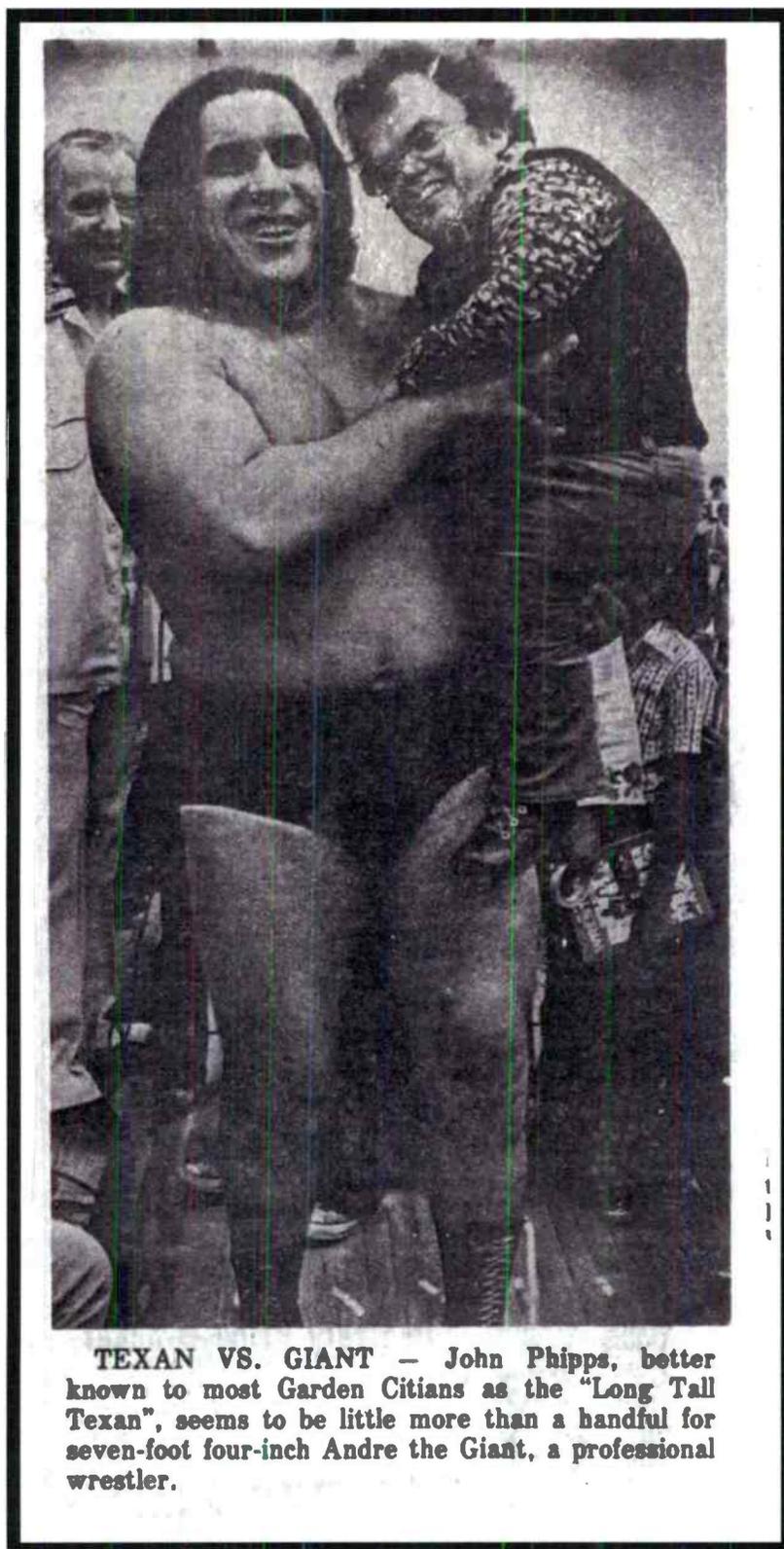


Tim Hawks



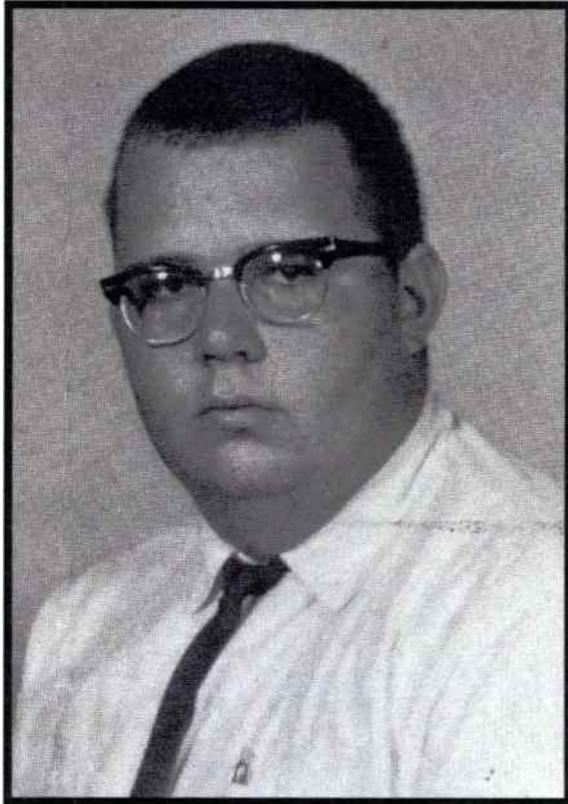
Alice Bowe

Other KWNS Employees

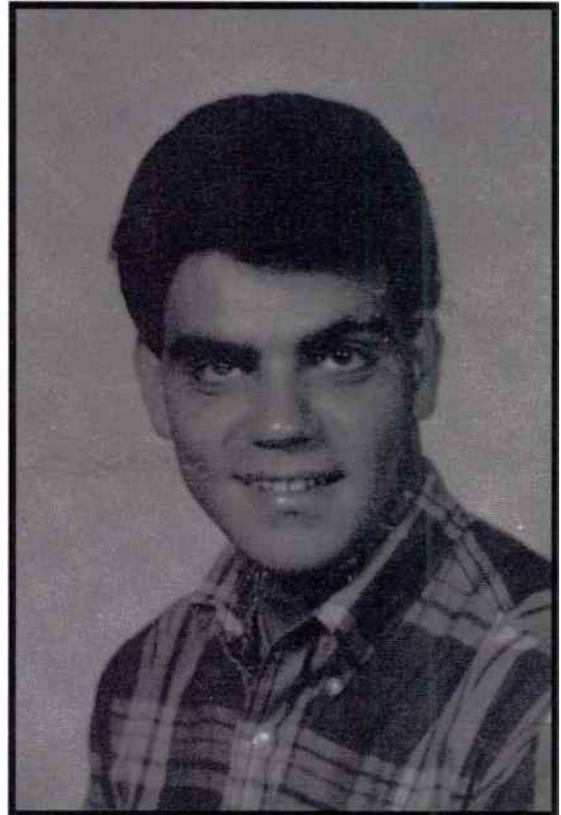


John Phipps

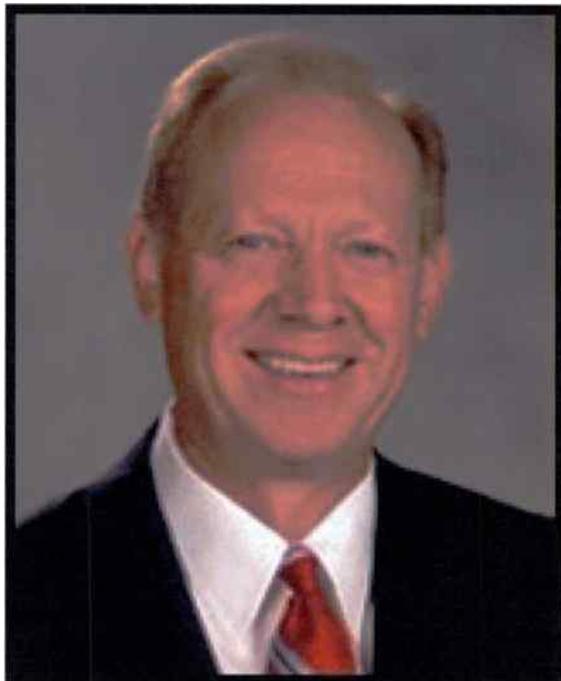
Other KWNS Employees



Harold Rogers



Lou Constantino

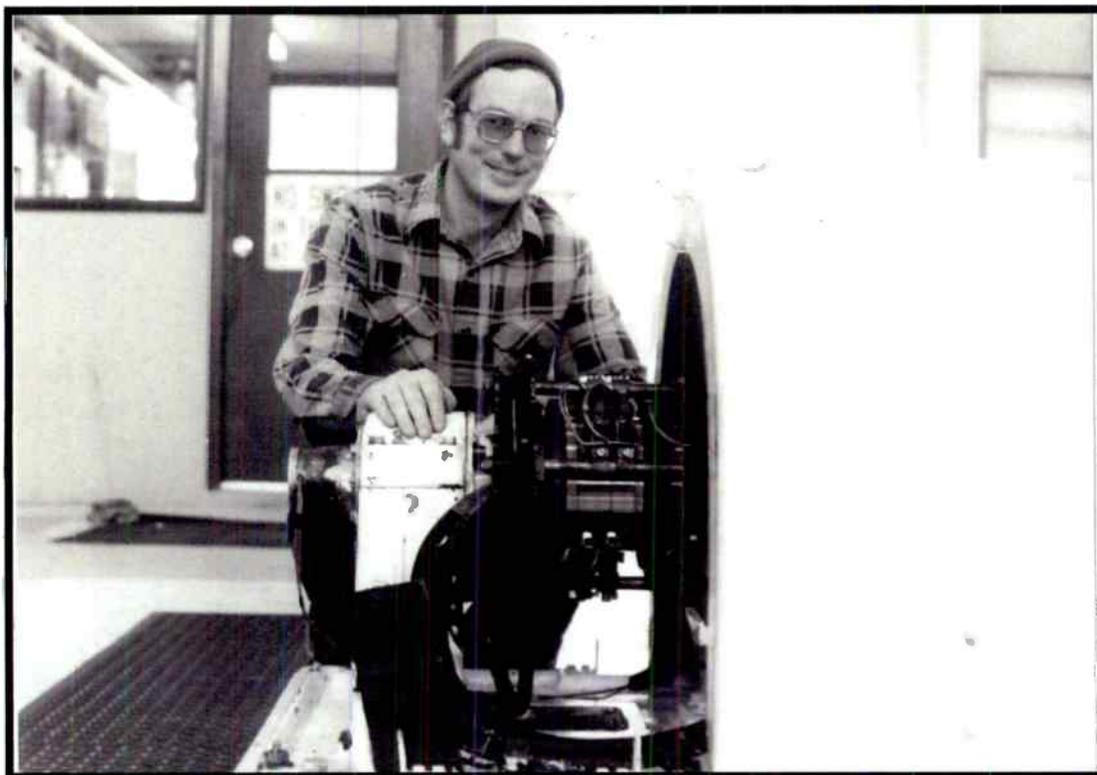


Matt Musil



Ed Hood
(At KIUL)

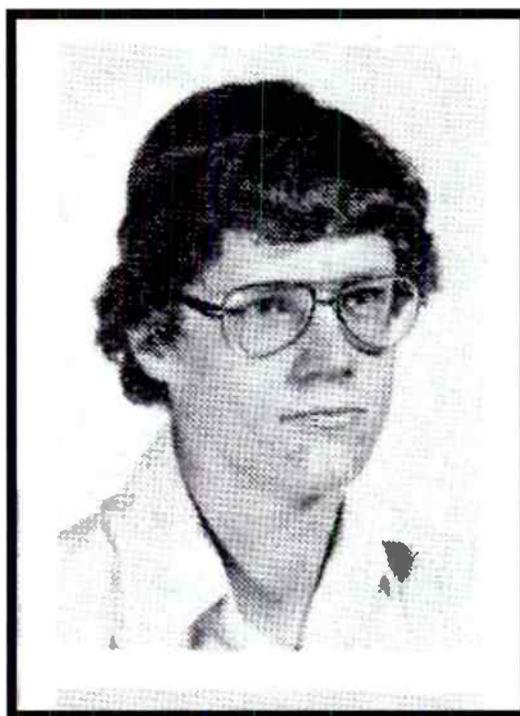
Other KWNS Employees



Ron Detwiler
(At Pratt Power Plant)

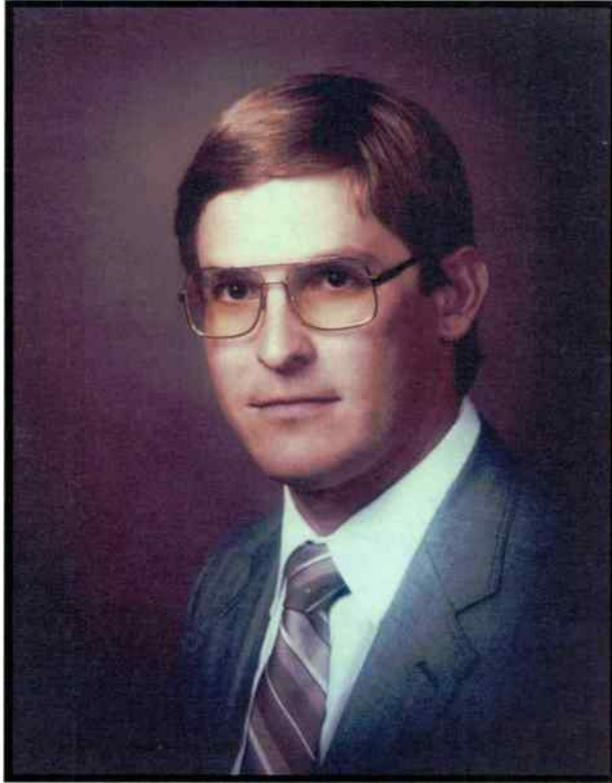


Ken Blevins



Terry O'Malley

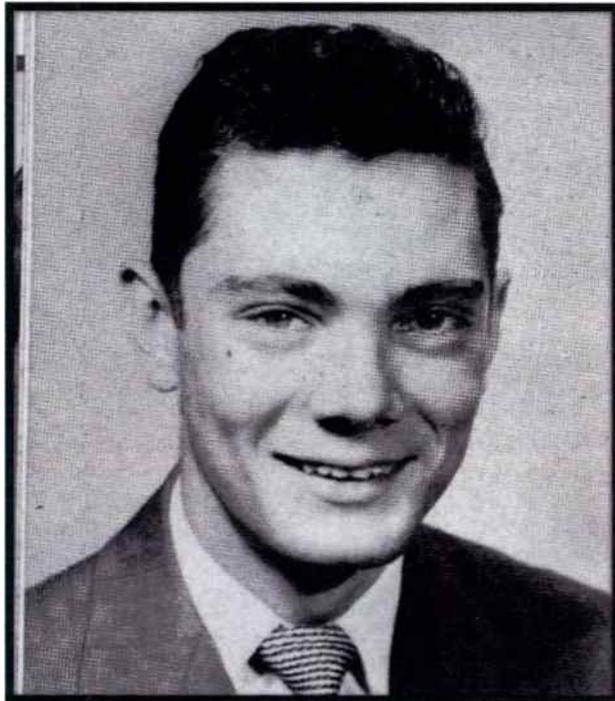
Other KWNS Employees



Bill Studer



Catherine Newsom



Dave Blevins



Gary Holland

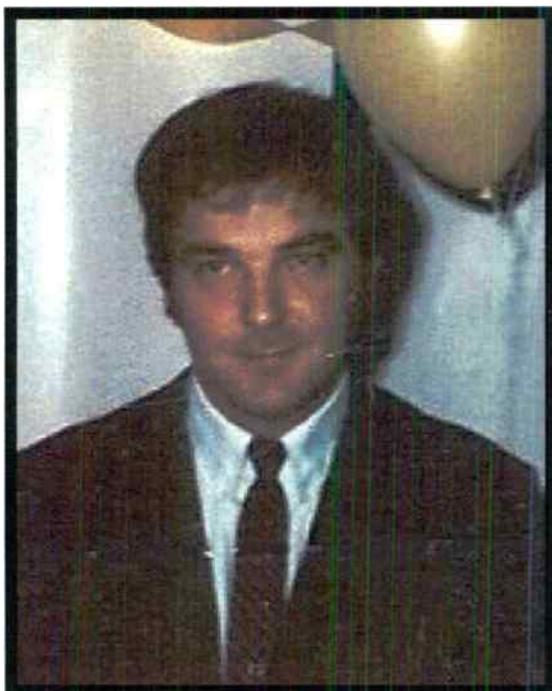
Other KWNS Employees



James Hufford



Jim Buchanan



Larry Allen

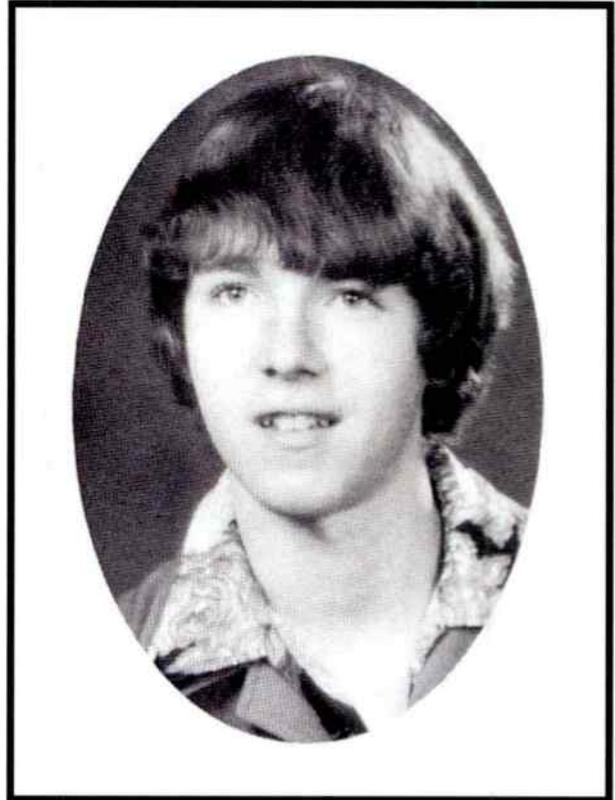


Don O'Malley, Jr.

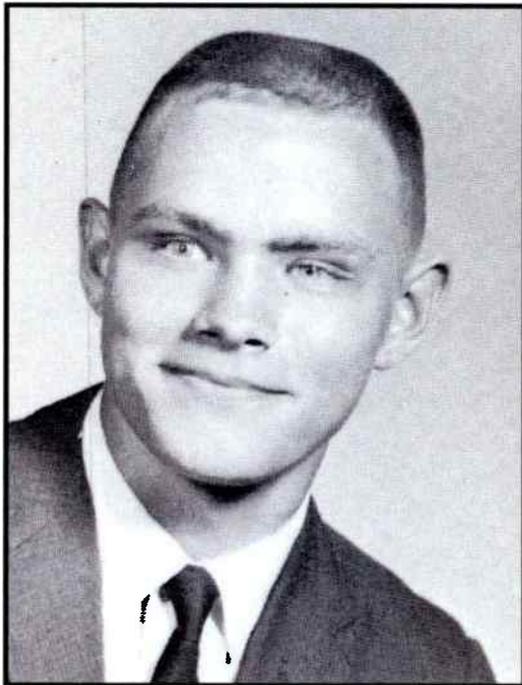
Other KWNS Employees



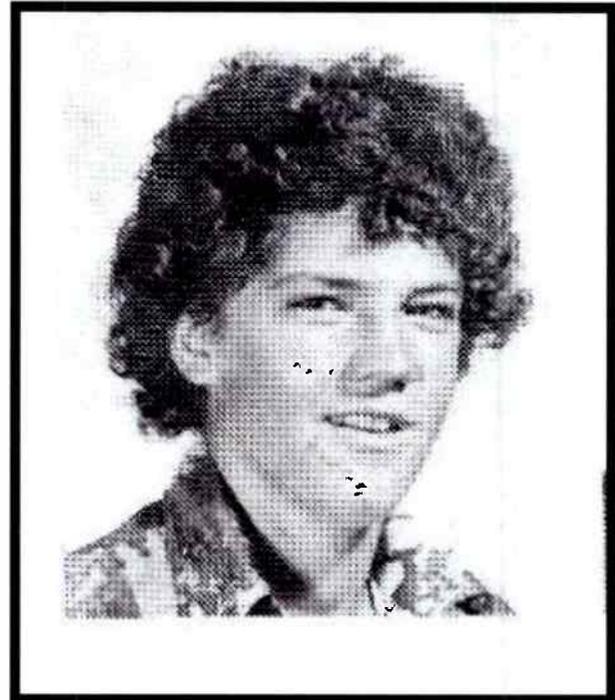
Jonathan Hyde



Mike O'Malley



Jim Young



Pat O'Malley

Other KWNS Employees



***Group photo of the KWNS gang taken at
the 1975 Homeshow***

Front Row L-R: Joel Kroebel, Ron Jones, Don O'Malley, Roger Harvey

Back Row L-R: Dee Davis, Matt Musil, Alice Bowe

Other KWNS Employees

(No Picture Available)

***Clarence Evans
Chuck McDonald
Ralph Seeley
Andy Airiola
Keith Balfow
Lyle McVay
Dub Kelley
Al Navarro
Virginia Bates
Harvey Watson
Brian Smith
M. L. Eneff
Dan Freely***

***Don Herbert
Charles Smith
Ken Scott
James Bradshaw
Sam Knipp
Jed Tibbetts
Ron Heape
Adam Scott
Karen Crawford
Rod Nelson
Rob Mackey
William L. Gee
Jim Martin***

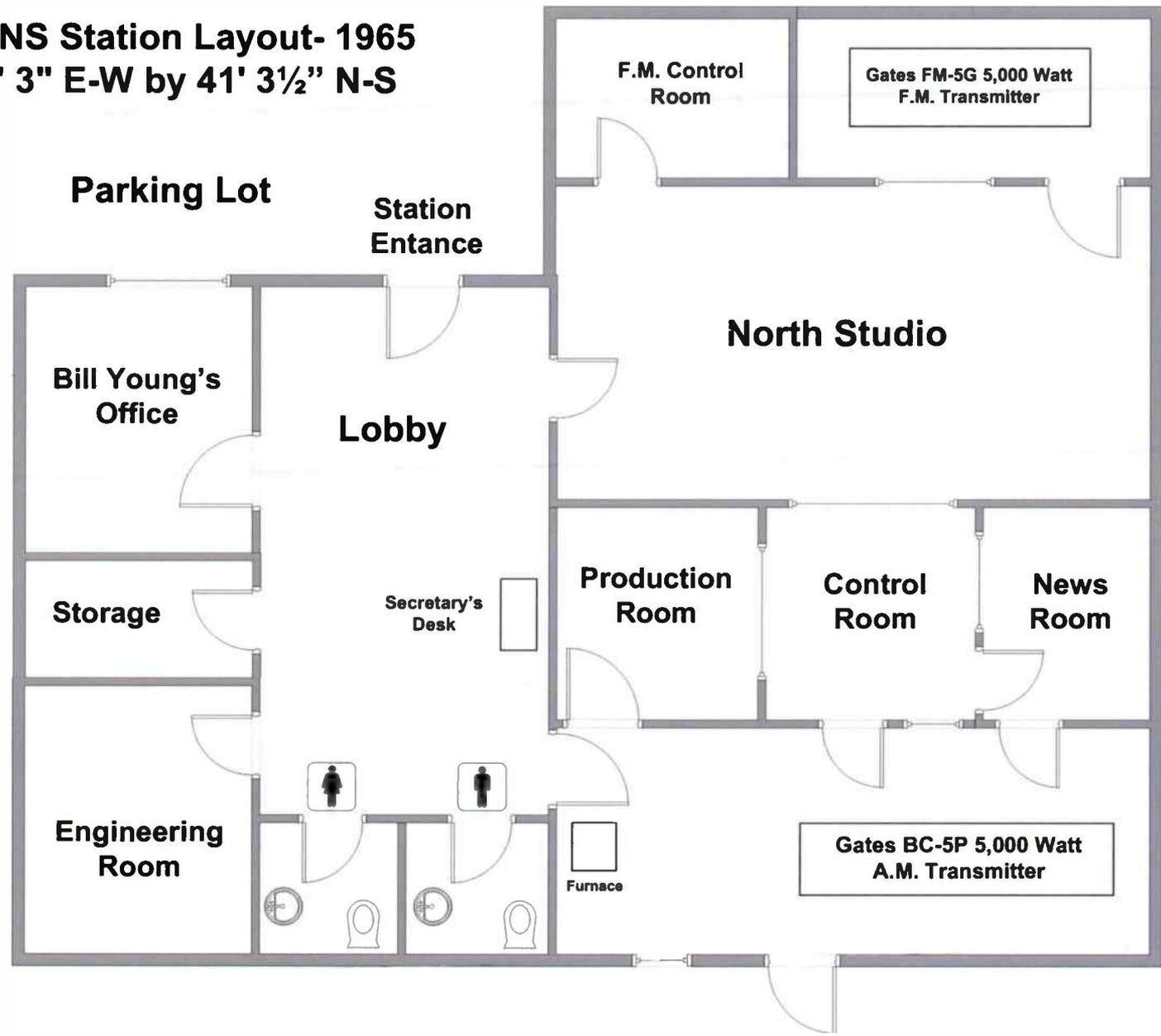


OOOOhhhhh Andy, you're a Dandy!!!!

KWNS
Station
Equipment, etc.

KWNS Station Layout

KWNS Station Layout- 1965
47' 3" E-W by 41' 3½" N-S



KWNS Station Equipment



Front view of the Gates BC-5P AM transmitter. The BC-5P was produced between the years 1957 to 1966. Like all equipment back then, it was built like a tank, the whole transmitter weighing in at 3,000 pounds. Looking at the picture L-R is the final driver section with a 4-250A tube, the final section with a 3CX2500F3 tube and the modulation section with a pair of 3CX2500F3's for the audio finals. Next to the modulator section was the audio rack with the limiter and compression limiters, patch panel, antenna monitor and frequency monitor, etc. A fan was installed by Bill Young and local electrician Elmer Kimmel in the front top panel door in the modulator section in the summer of 1972, so this picture was taken prior to that fan installation. This is the only photo of the AM transmitter known to exist.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment



View of the KWNS AM Phasor banks, left is the daytime bank and the right is the nighttime bank. Normal antenna was 10.2 Amperes for the daytime pattern and 3.2 for the nighttime pattern. Just above the banks, the exhaust ductwork for the original Gates AM transmitter is still visible. The original Gates Phasor units are still in use today and with the four AM towers in back are all that remains of the equipment that Bill Huffman started the station with. This picture was taken in December 2007.

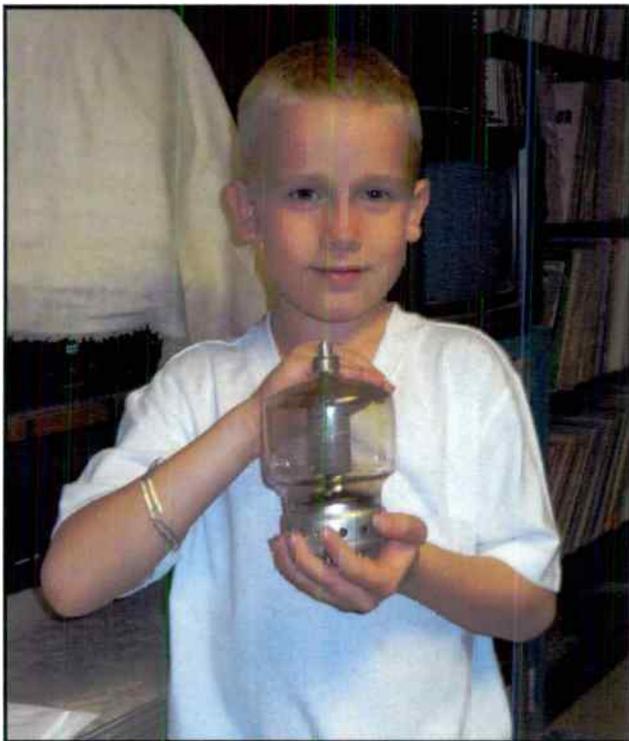
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



KWNS Station Equipment



Picture of the original Gates "Sta-Level" and "Level Devil" limiters used at KWNS. On display at the Pratt County Historical Society Museum. Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



Author's grandson, Anthony Detwiler, holding a 4-250A tube taken out of the AM transmitter sometime in the 1970's. The tube had probably started losing emissions or as we say in the broadcast business, "Gone Soft".

***Photo Courtesy: Ron Detwiler
Tube Courtesy: KMMM Radio***

KWNS Station Equipment



Potomac Instruments, Inc. Phase Angle Monitor, serial number 733 installed by Tim Hawks and Ron Detwiler in July 1975. The reason for replacing the original Gates monitor is lost to time. The FCC approved the new monitor and new readings on July 21, 1975. The monitor has been in continuous use since that time and has never been sent in repair, only recalibrated from time to time.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



View of the KWNS Control Room in the Summer of 1971. In front is the Gates "Dualux" dual channel console. The console was from a series known as "The High Watter" line. If you will notice the square face plates for the VU meters, that is a tell tale sign as to the vintage, as the earlier models had rounded VU covers. The "Dualux" had 21 input circuits; seven for microphones, four for turntables, five for remotes, one for network and four for tape machines. All the pre-amps boards used a 12AX7 tube. Since all the Gates equipment was purchased new, they were probably built for KWNS in 1962 sometime. To the left is a "Magi" tape recorder purchased from KWSK in 1965. Also to the left are two "Spotmaster" cart machines. The push button panel located near the bottom of the cabinet was to remotely control the Ampex tape machine located in the Production Room to the west of the control room. A second "Magi" was housed in an audio rack at the back of the control room.

Photo Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment



Anthony Detwiler holding a power supply rectifier board for the Gates FM-5G FM transmitter.

***Photo Courtesy: Ron Detwiler
Board Courtesy: KMMM Radio***

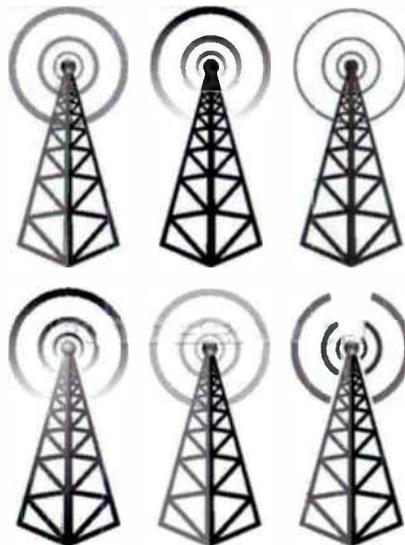


View of "Marti" FM Remote Pickup Unit used for the remote broadcasts of KWNS. Invented by George Marti. Marti Electronics, beginning in 1960, manufactured the model M-30BT fulltime in Cleburne, Texas. The "Marti" was specially designed for use within a 10-15 mile radius from the station. Located behind is the Loop antenna and coax line for the unit. "Marti" remote unit currently preserved and on display at the Pratt County Historical Society Museum. Photo Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

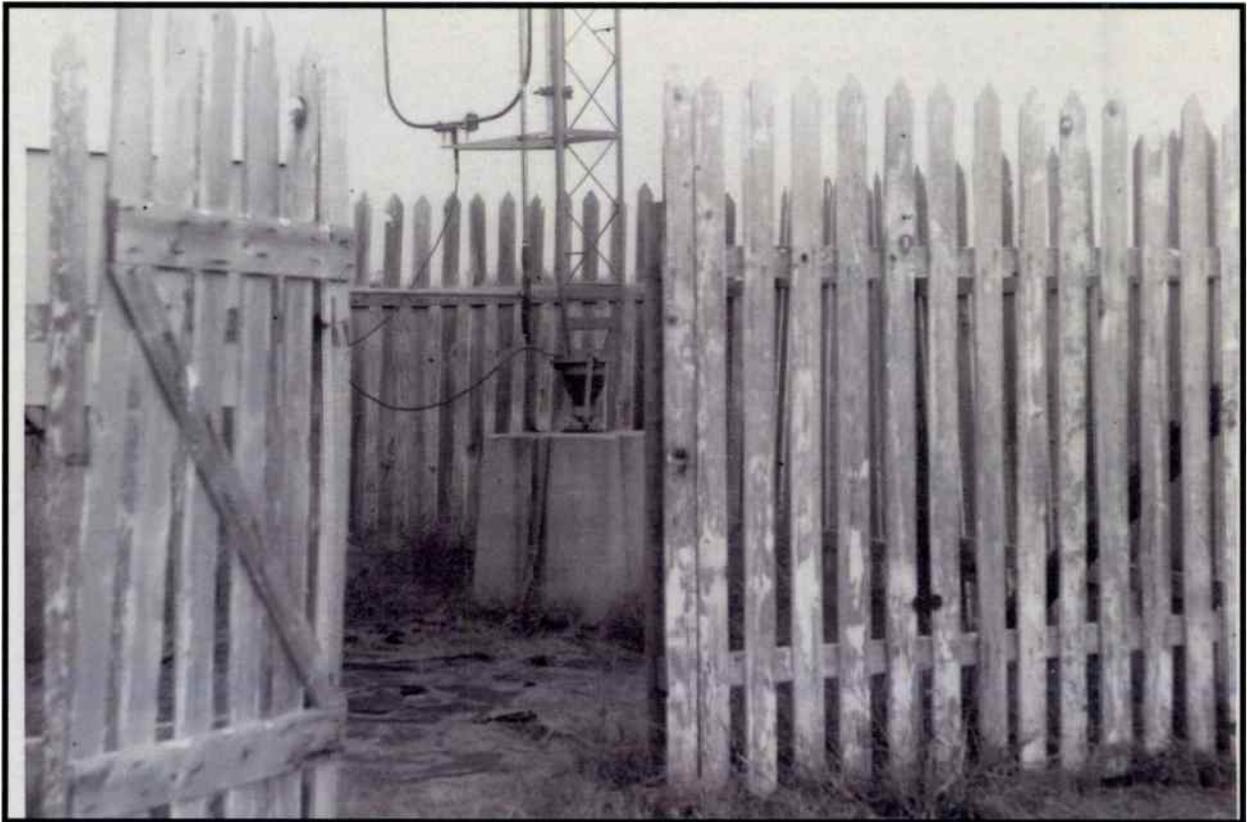
KWNS Station Equipment



Nems-Clarke 120E Field Intensity Meter used to check AM day and nighttime patterns. Unit ran on tubes and batteries and is still considered a very accurate piece of equipment, even today. The 120E's are highly sought after and will easily bring a price of \$2,000 or more.

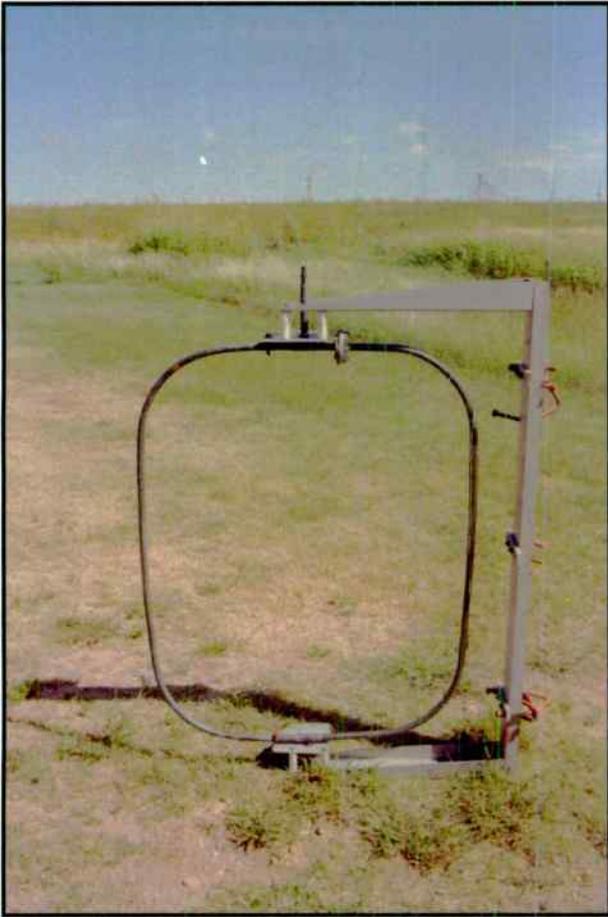


KWNS Station Equipment



View of the East Tower base area. Picture taken in the summer of 1971, when the author was working on the ceramic standoffs for the conduit that feed the top beacons. Just behind the gate in the picture is the doghouse that enclosed the necessary capacitors, coils and rocker arm for the day and nighttime patterns. Although not seen, is a handle that could be pulled to measure the base current to the tower. Mounted on the side of the tower is the sampling loop antenna to measure the phase angle and power to each tower. Each tower sat on a large insulated base with two large metal balls spaced very close together for lightning discharges. Going down the side of the concrete base, one can see the wide copper strap connecting to the massive copper wire ground plane grid for each tower. Photo Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment



Sampling Loop Antenna. This is one of the original loops when KWNS went on the air. The loops were removed in the 1990's when the beacons and side conduits were removed also and up to date loops installed.

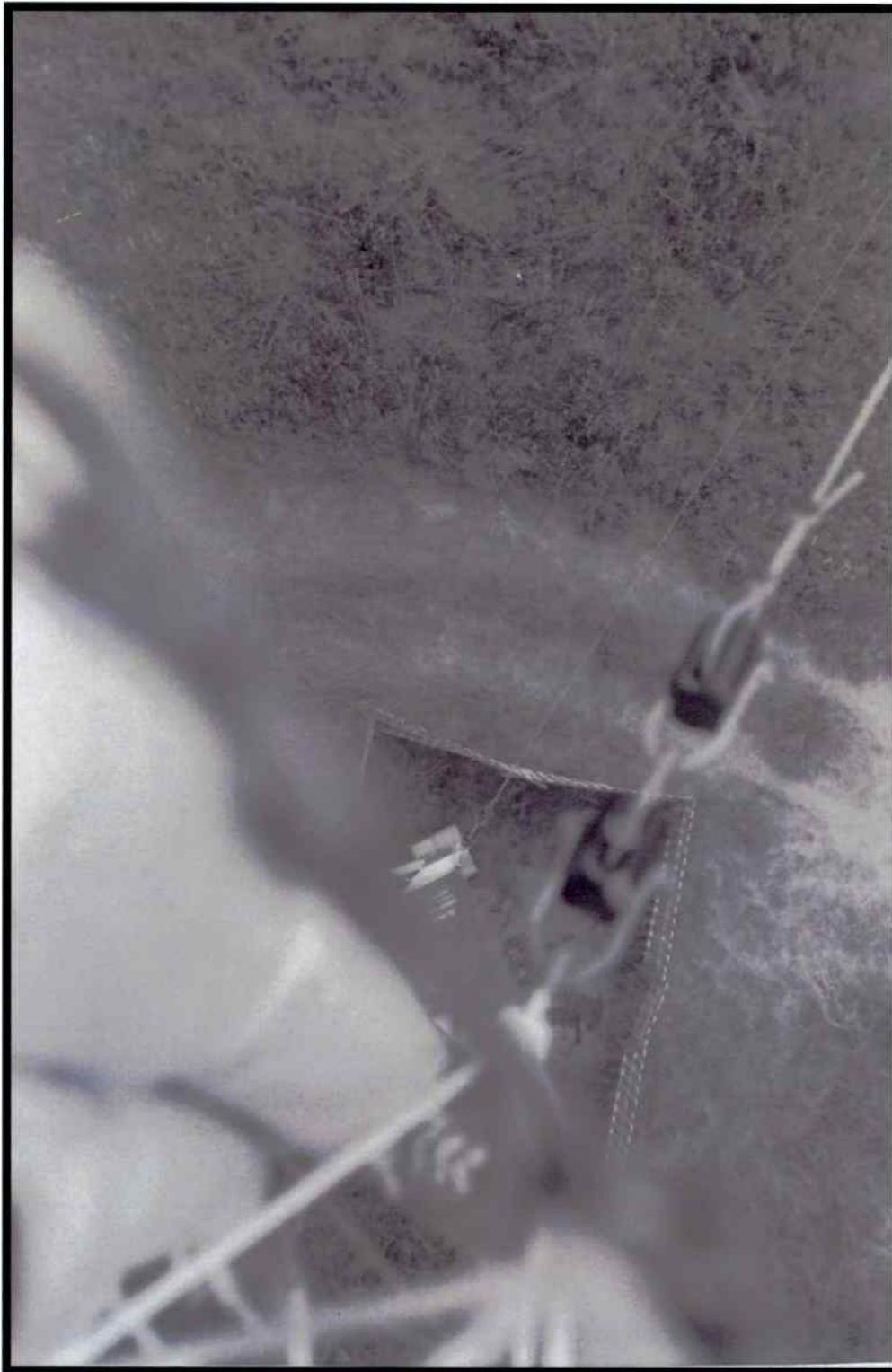
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

All that remains of the FM tower assembly is the base.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



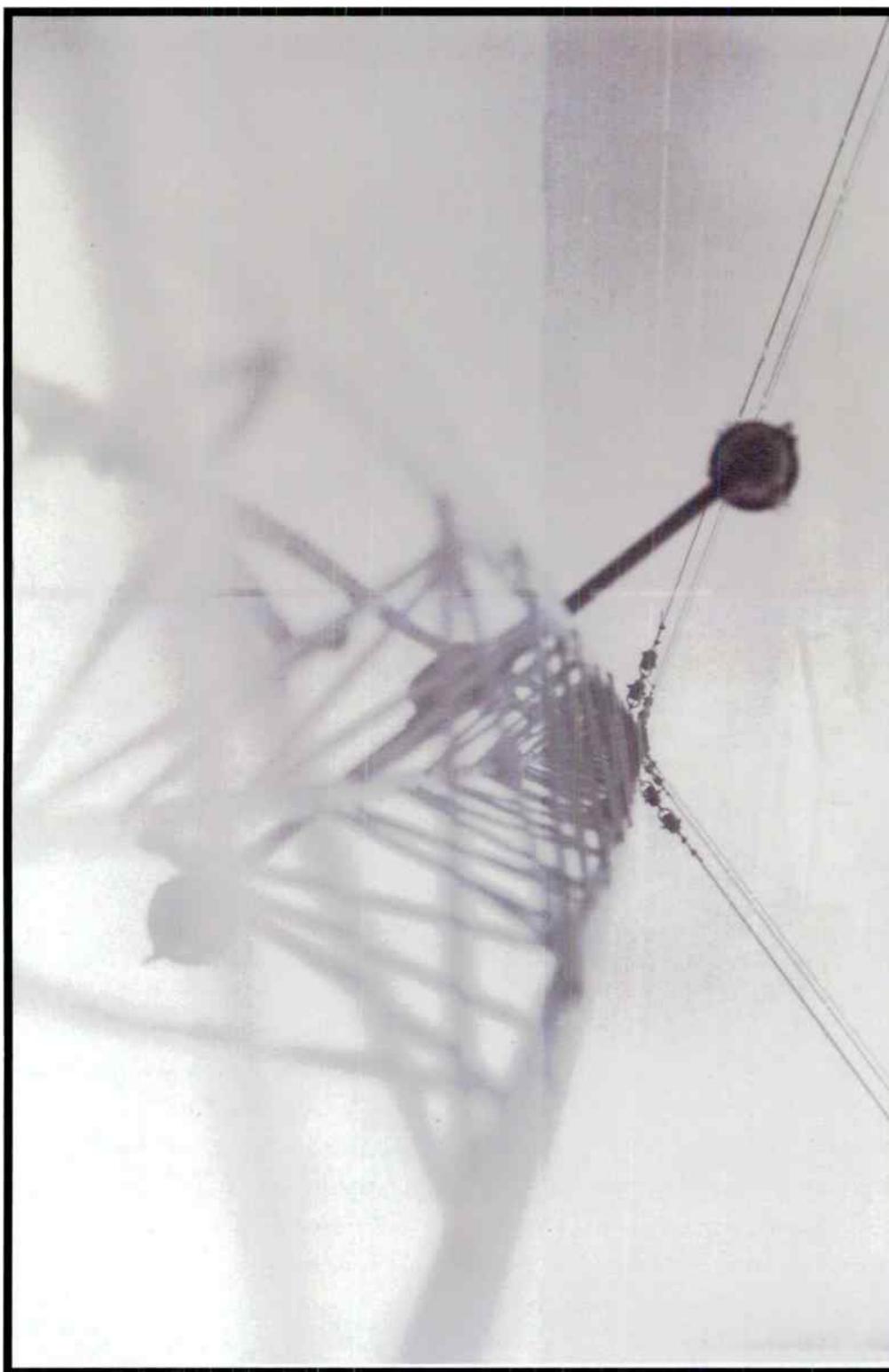
KWNS Station Equipment



Ron Detwiler, summer of 1971, working on the East tower looking straight down at the tower base and fence area. Note the well worn car tire path to the south of the picket fence.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

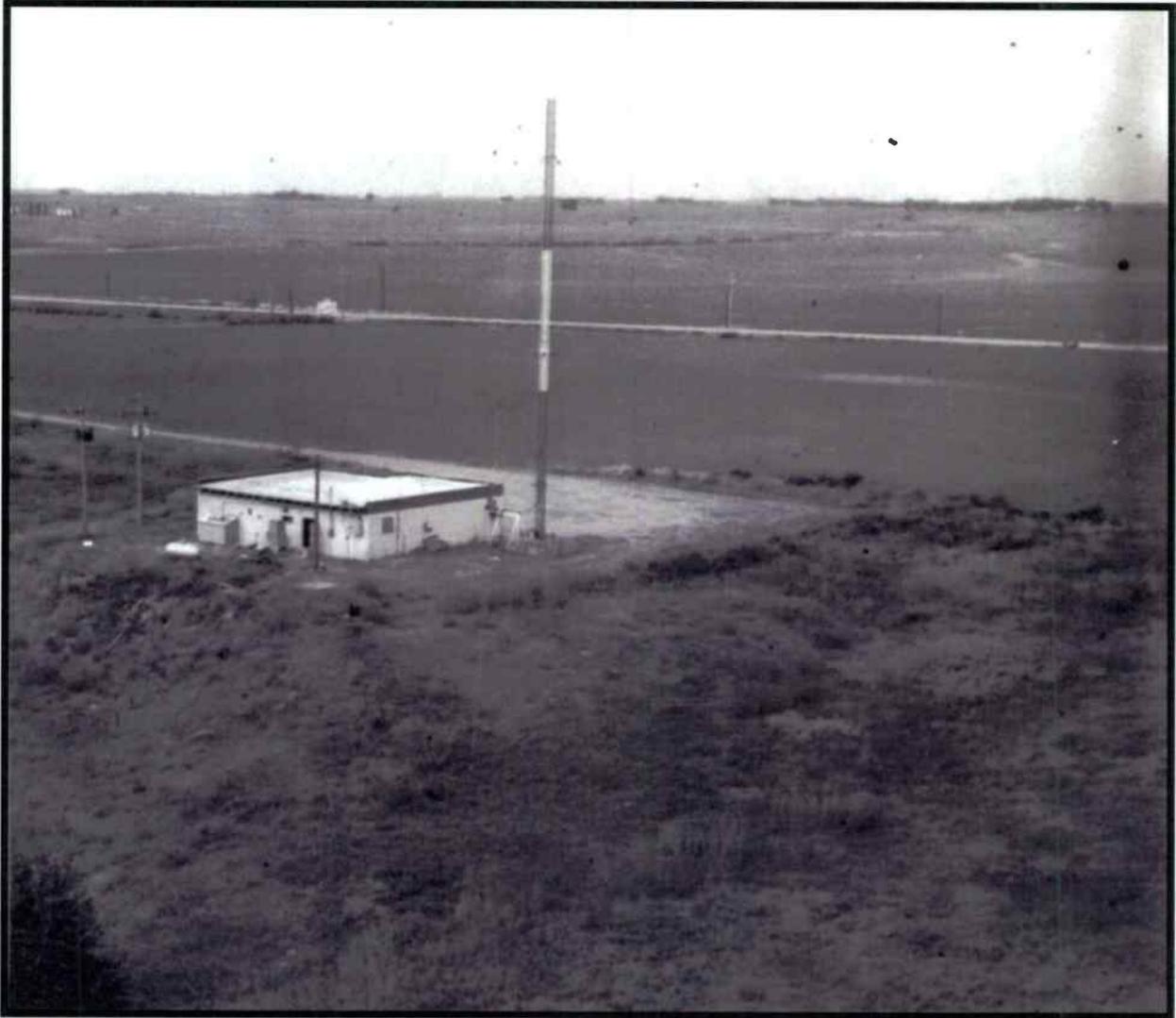
KWNS Station Equipment



Ron Detwiler, summer of 1971, working on East Tower looking straight up the tower. Picture was taken at about the 100 feet level just below the halfway side beacons seen in the picture.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

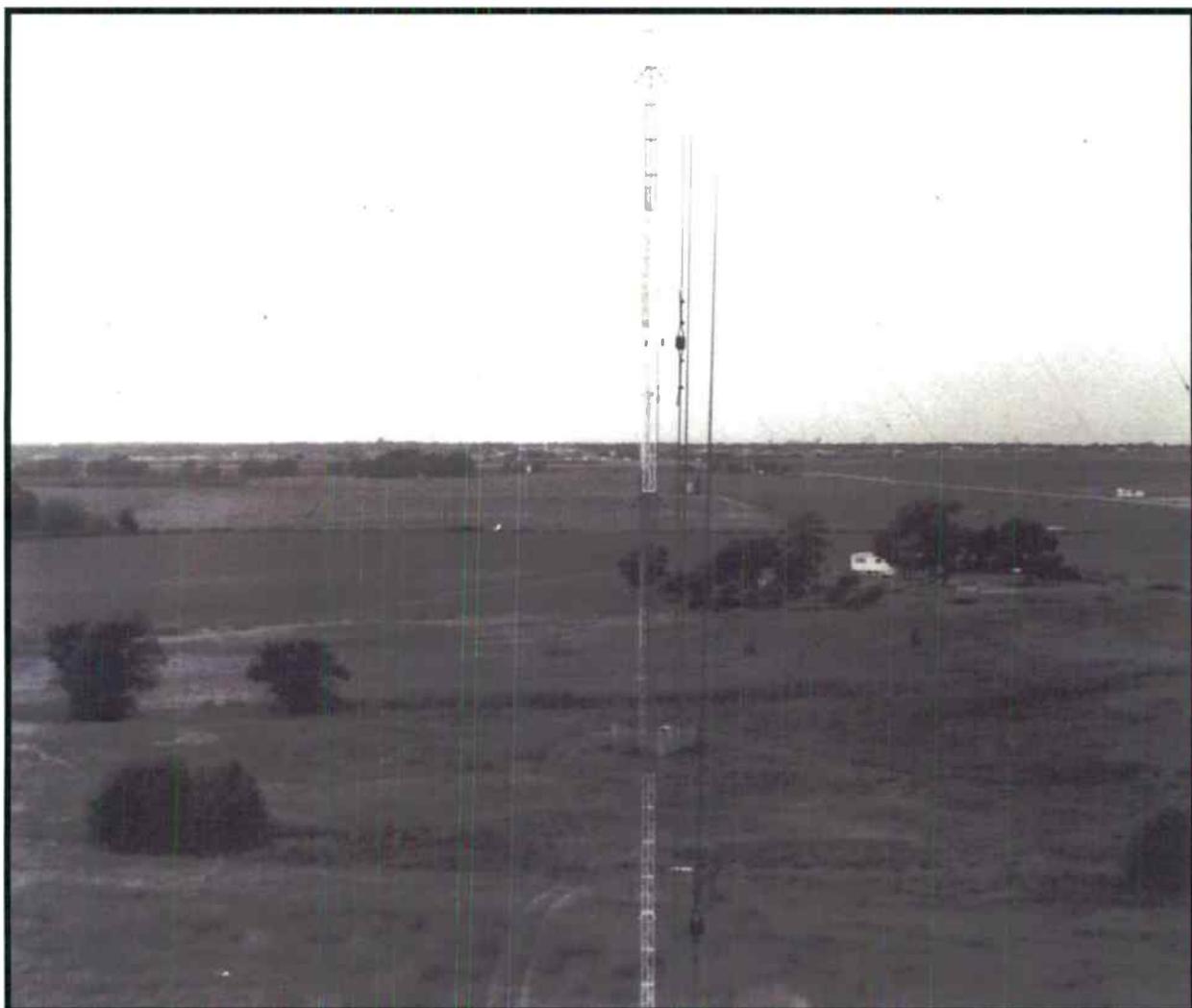
KWNS Station Equipment



View of the KWNS station complex taken from the top of the East Tower. To the east of the main building is the KWNS-FM tower. Between the tower and the building on the white legged structure is the coax iso-coupler for the FM feedline. The purpose of the iso-coupler was to isolate the tower and feedline from ground, so as not to affect the AM patterns. To the left are the two Power Company service lines feeding the station, City of Pratt and Western Power. At the time of the photo, the south line, the City of Pratt was supplying the station. At the back of the station and to the left of the photo is the wood enclosure that housed the back-up generator. Bill aquired the generator though a "trade-out". The unit was first installed in the engineering room, but the first time it was used, the noise was terrible and exhaust fumes and smoke filled the station, thus prompting the move to the outside of the station. Also visible is the propane tank that supply fuel to the generator and main building. At the top of the picture is Highway 54 and the KWNS sign at the entrance road to the station.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment



Ron Detwiler, summer of 1971, working on the East Tower, looking back straight west toward the East Center, West Center, West towers and Pratt, Kansas. Easily visible in the picture to the west is the dog house and fence for the West tower. Also the well traveled path around the West tower base, to take the daily base current readings, heading toward the author.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment



Ron Detwiler, summer of 1971, working on East tower, looking back straight west toward the East Center, West Center, West towers and Pratt, Kansas. This picture, taken more to the north, shows the road from Highway 54 to the station and yes all the potholes are still there to this day. Just in the picture to the right are the two service lines to the station.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

RADIO

KWNS Station Equipment



View taken of all four towers, September 1974. Picture taken from the West tower looking back east. All tower fences appear to have been recently painted.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

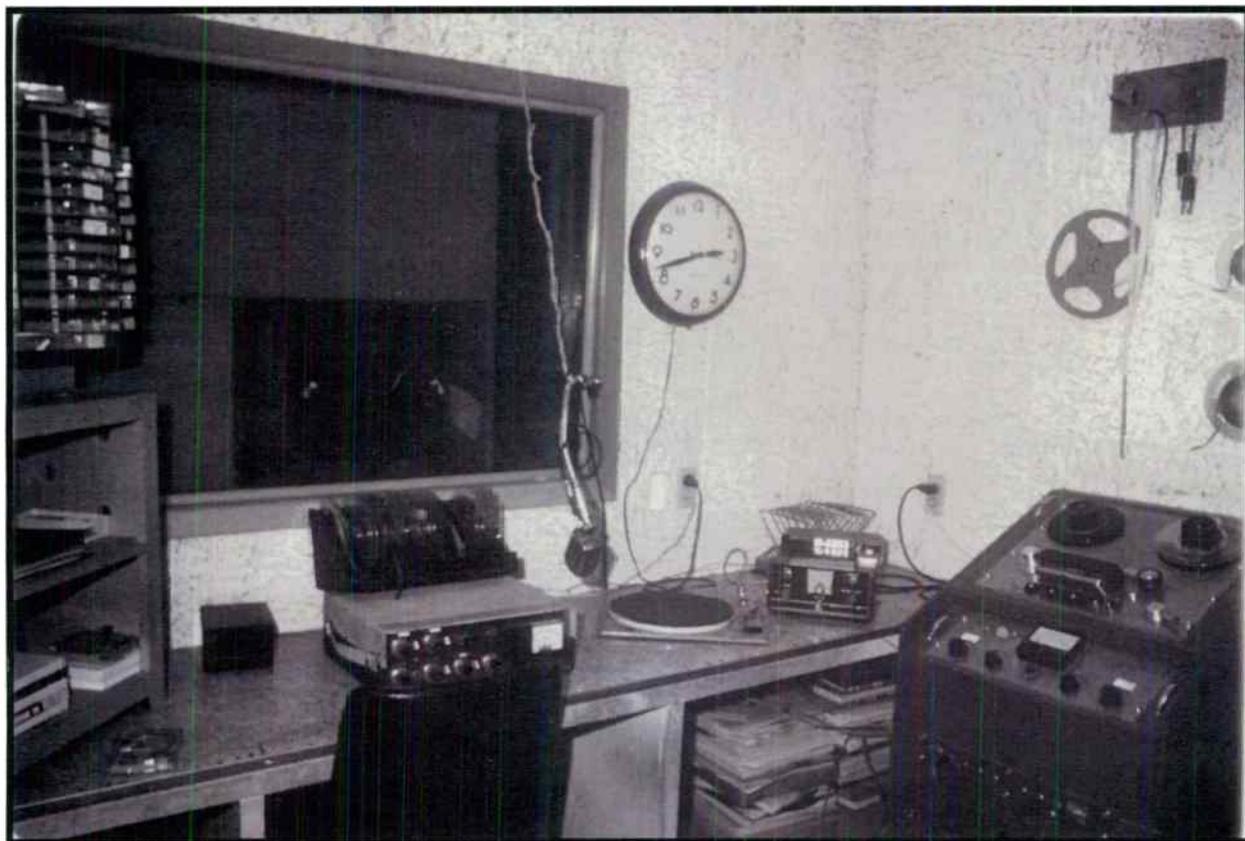
KWNS Station Equipment



Picture of the UPI and National Weather Service teletypes in the News Room. Picture taken, September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

KWNS Station Equipment



Picture of the KWNS Production Room from the summer of 1971. To the right is the Ampex tape recorder used to record all commercials at the station. In the front is the Bogen model MXM mixer board, Shure 56E microphone hanging from the window frame, turntable and Spotmaster cart machine to record the "Spots". Worth noting is a rotating cart rack to the left and near the top of the picture. This is one of the items that came from KWSK when it was bought out in 1965. The rack was built by KWSK Chief Engineer Ron Pasha in October-November 1963 from an August 1963 article in Broadcast Engineering.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Station Equipment

LETTERS to the editor

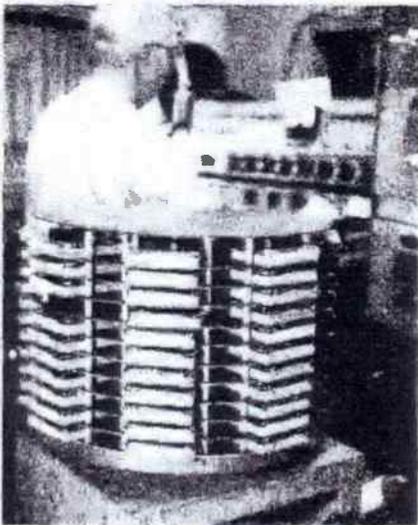
DEAR EDITOR:

In the June 1963 "Engineers' Exchange" department, there appears an article entitled Remote Amplifier, by Mr. Philip Whitney. I would like information concerning the type and voltage of the battery used to power this amplifier. Also, I wish to know the number and model of the coupling transformer between the last two transistors and the line.

In addition, can you tell me if a low impedance microphone can be used with this amplifier?

JOSE MARQUEZ
XETV, Tijuana, BC, Mexico.

The supply voltage is nine volts. While the author used an RCA VS-300, an equivalent or any other small nine-volt battery will work. The transformer is a UTC 0-20; a low impedance microphone can be used.—Ed.



DEAR EDITOR:

We built the rotating tape cartridge rack described in the August issue of BROADCAST ENGINEERING; it adds a touch of efficiency and decor to our control room. For the rotating bearing we used an old phonograph turntable, sans motor. Another possibility is a "lazy susan" bearing, available at some hobby shops and hardware stores.

Ronald Pesha
Chief Engineer, KWSK, Pratt, Kansas
As evidenced by the accompanying photo, you seem to have done a good job. Readers, take note of Ron's ideas on the bearing—Ed.

November 1963 Broadcast Engineering article. In the letter to the editor by KWSK Chief Engineer Ron Pesha is a picture of the rotating cart rack mentioned on the last page. This picture was taken at the downtown studios of KWSK in November 1963. At the controls is KWSK owner, Clem Morgan.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



KWNS Station Equipment



Closeup of the original Bogen MXM mixer board from KWNS in the radio room at the Pratt Historical Society Museum.

***Courtesy:
Ron Detwiler***

Scan of the cover of the instruction manual for the two Magnecord PT6A recorders at KWNS that came from KWSK.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



KWNS Station Equipment



View of the frontage of the station, the entire FM tower and antenna system. The original FM tower was the old KWSK AM bought by KWNS, Inc. in 1965. This tower went down on July 16, 1969 in a bad wind storm east of Pratt. The structure shown in this picture is the replacements from that storm for the FM operation. In the picture also is the blue Opal company station wagon.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Construction Pictures

KWNS Site (1962)

Page 308

Production Room (1974) Page 321

***(All pictures courtesy of Bill Huffman
unless otherwise noted)***

KWNS Site (1962)



KWNS Owner and Founder Bill Huffman breaking ground for the new station on May 22, 1962. Picture taken looking to the west.



Patty Detwiler on March 15, 2014 standing in the same area that Bill Huffman broke ground on May 22, 1962. View is of the current KMMM Radio building.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS Site (1962)

DEED

THIS INDENTURE, Made this 16th day of April, 1959, between Nellie M. Penrod, a widow, and Maxine La Verne Penrod Green and Ralph E. Green, her husband, of Pratt County, Kansas, of the first part, and Wilmer E. Huffman, of Pratt County, Kansas, of the second part,

WITNESSETH, That said parties of the first part, in consideration of the sum of one and more dollars, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents grant, bargain, warrant, sell and convey unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, all of the following described real property situate in the county of Pratt and State of Kansas, to wit:

A tract of land in the North Half (N/2) of the Northwest Quarter (NW/4) of Section Six (6), Township Twenty-eight (28) South, of Range Twelve (12) West of the 6th P. M., more specifically described to wit: Beginning at the southeast corner of said North Half (N/2) of the Northwest Quarter (NW/4) above described, thence 204 feet west to a place of beginning, thence west 1200 feet, thence north 750 feet, thence east 1200 feet, thence south 750 feet to place of beginning.

Together with an easement 20 feet in width over and across the N/2 NW/4 of said Section 6 for right of way and road or highway purposes, including the right of ingress and egress and the laying and maintenance of such utilities as the grantee may deem proper. Such easement shall follow the present roadway leading to the improvements upon the land last described.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all and singular, the above granted premises, together with the appurtenances and every part thereof, unto the said Wilmer E. Huffman, his heirs and assigns, forever; save and except, the grantors reserve for themselves, their heirs and assigns, an undivided one-half (1/2) interest in and to the oil, gas and minerals in and under and that may be produced from the above described land for a period of ten (10) years and during production.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands, the day and year first above written.



Nellie M. Penrod

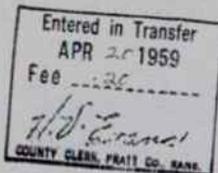
(Nellie M. Penrod)

Maxine La Verne Penrod Green

(Maxine La Verne Penrod Green)

Ralph E. Green

(Ralph E. Green)



303

KWNS Land Deed Page 1
Courtesy: Pratt County Court House

KWNS Site (1962)

304

#2-Deed:

STATE OF KANSAS, PRATT COUNTY, SS.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 17th day of April, 1959, before me, the undersigned, a notary public in and for the county and State aforesaid, came Nellie M. Penrod, a widow, and Maxine La Verne Penrod Green and Ralph E. Green, her husband, who are personally known to me to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument of writing, and such persons duly acknowledged the execution of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal, the day and year last above written.



(My commission expires Aug 6, 1961)

Dale Gardner
Notary Public

State of Kansas }
Pratt County } SS:

This instrument was filed for record on the 17th day of April A.D. 1959 at 11:00 o'clock AM and duly recorded in book 27 on page 303 fees \$ 1.00
Register of Deeds

KWNS Land Deed Page 2

Courtesy: Pratt County Court House

KWNS Site (1962)



West side of KWNS property, May 1962.



***Patty Detwiler at same spot as top picture, March 15, 2014
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler***

KWNS Site (1962)



Looking south, May 1962. Bill Huffman's car setting north of where the power pole feeding the present station now stands. One can see in the picture two wooden stakes showing where the KWNS building would be erected. To the left in the picture is an asterisk showing the location for the National Guard Rifle Range. According to historical documentation, the site was utilized by Detachment 1, Battery B, 1st Battalion Field Artillery of the Kansas Army National Guard or KSARNG. The site was used as a small arms qualification range and for annual rifle practice beginning sometime after Bill purchased the property in 1958. The site was used for small arms training with the M16 rifle, 5.56mm munitions. According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the rifle range was approximately 200 yards in length. Munitions were fired from the west toward wooden targets located at the base of a small hill, approximately 20 feet high. The range was closed in the mid-1980s.

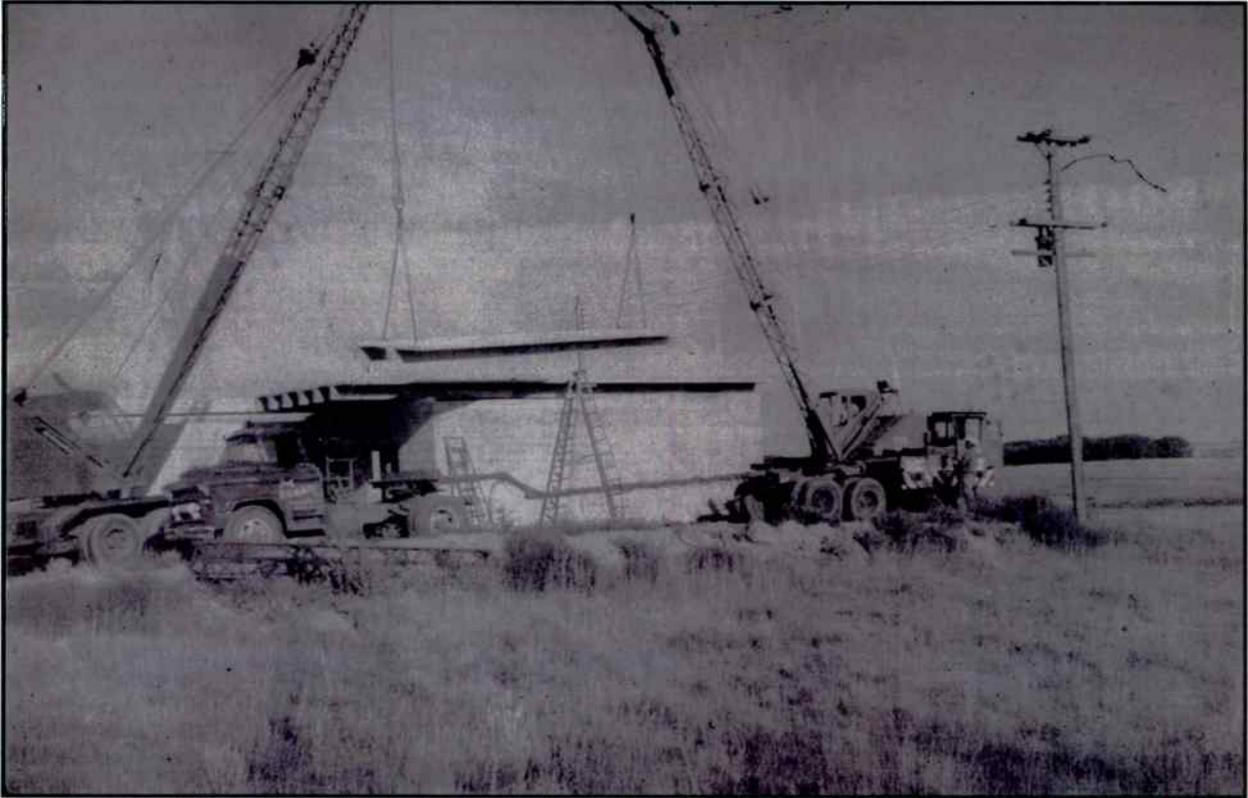
KWNS Site (1962)



Same view angle as the picture on previous page, showing current front view of the station, now KMMM radio. In the 1990's, another building was constructed over the original KWNS building. Behind the building in the snap-shot are the East and East Center towers.



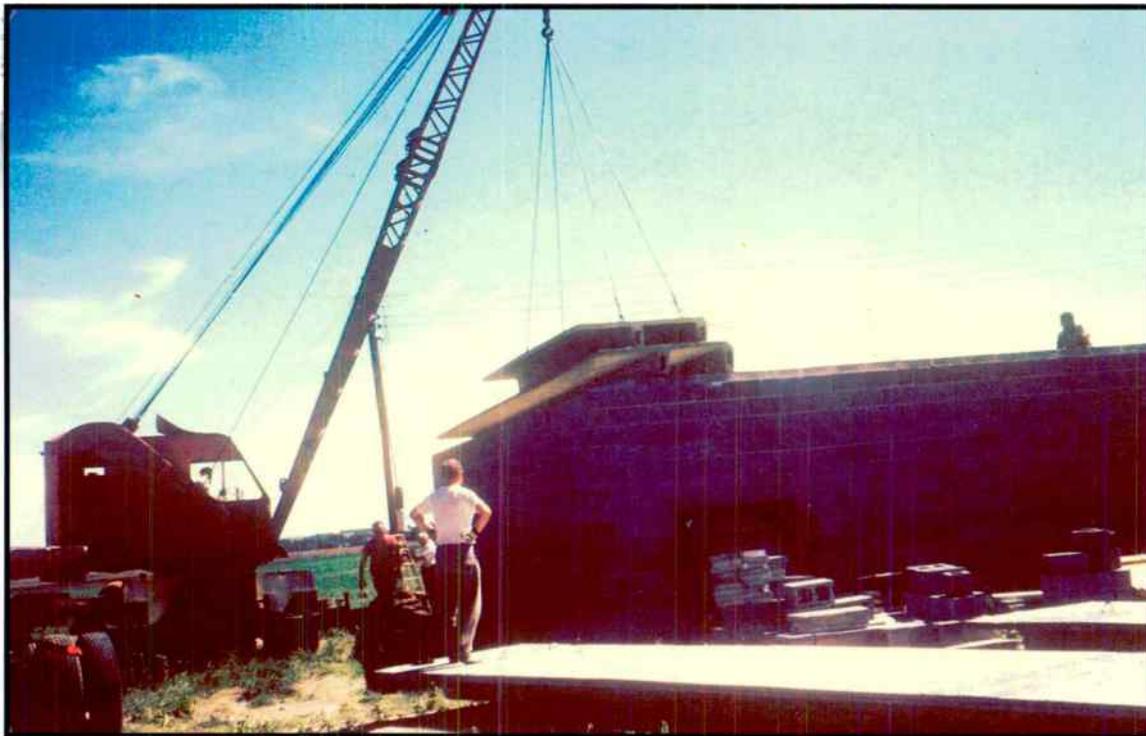
KWNS Site (1962)



The last of the pre-stress concrete slabs being installed on Wednesday, July 18, 1962. This picture was originally a color photo, but was in bad shape and color faded that it was converted to black and white and digitally restored. If the reader will notice the power pole behind the station, there is only one transformer mounted at the top. Only single phase power was being supplied to the station for construction at the time the picture was taken. Since the Gates AM transmitter required three phase power, one or two transformers were added later, depending if it was an open loop or closed loop delta connection.

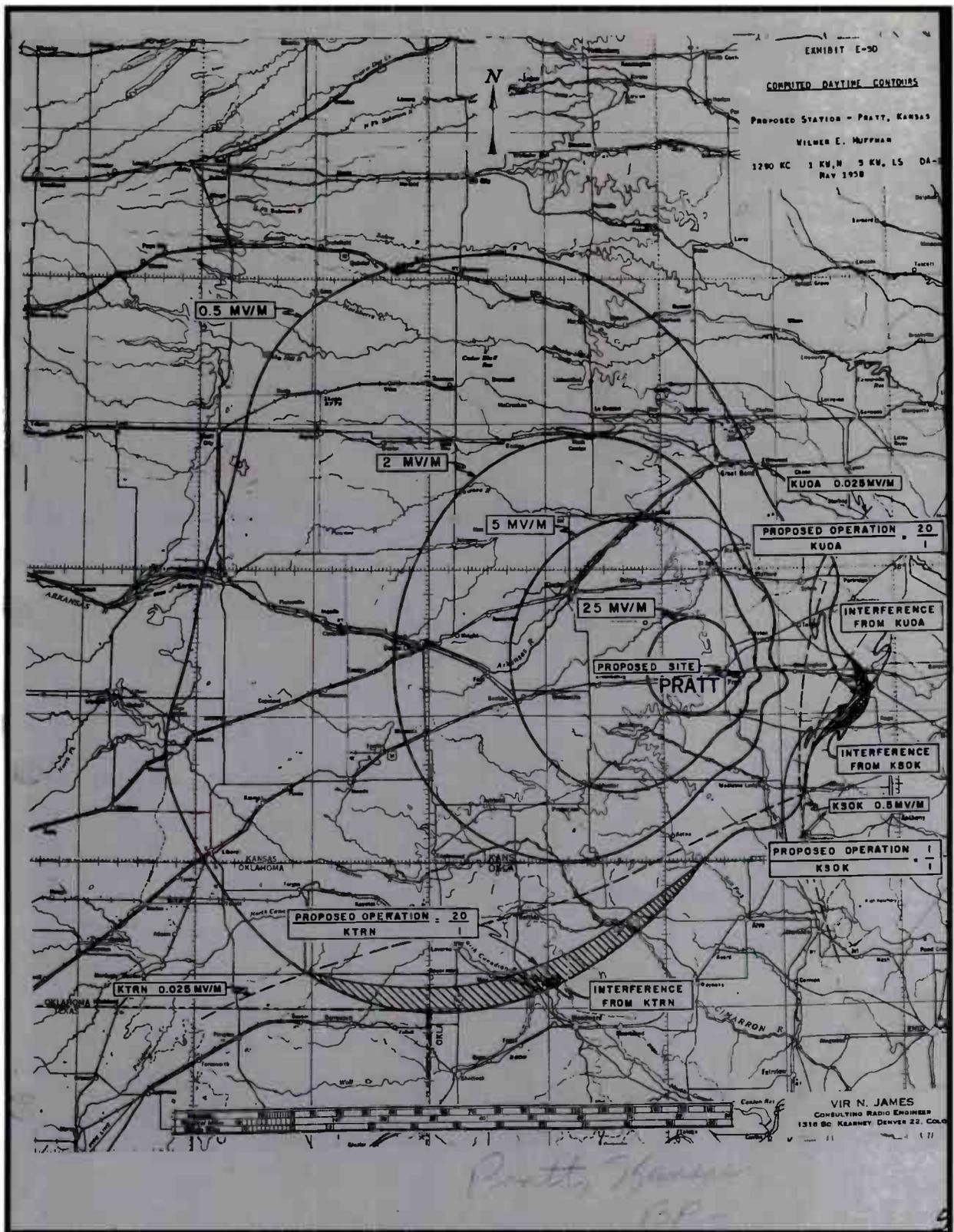


KWNS Site (1962)



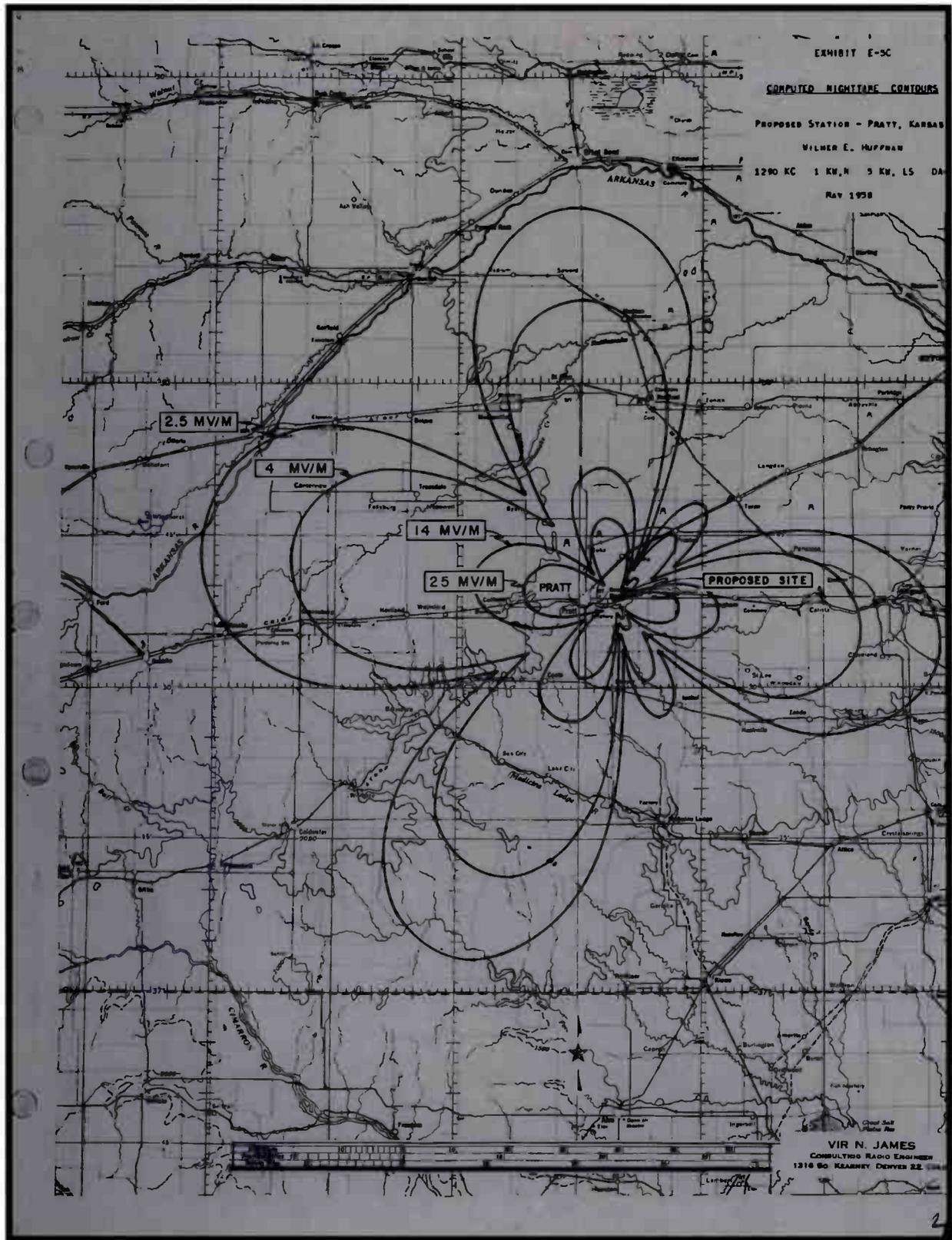
The first of the pre-stress concrete slabs starting to be installed on Tuesday, July 17, 1962. In the background, one can see the East and East Center towers starting to rise into the sky. The first 60 feet of the 190 feet towers had been erected in June.

KWNS Site (1962)



**Proposed Daytime Pattern, May 1958.
5,000 watts Daytime power**

KWNS Site (1962)



*Proposed Nighttime Pattern, May 1958.
1,000 watts Nighttime power*

KWNS Site (1962)



Dick Ogle, KWNS' official "Tower Man" pulling up the "new" FM tower for KWNS-FM. Not actually a new tower, this is the old KWSK AM tower first put up in 1952, south of Pratt and a used tower at that time, too. The purpose of the white building to the east is a work building for Ogle's equipment and tools. If the reader will notice that the FM tower is not perfectly straight with the East AM tower in the background, which indicates that the tower sections were not yet fully aligned nor the guy wires fully stretched when this picture was taken.

KWNS Site (1962)



Another shot of the FM tower installation. In this picture, one can see better the misalignment still present in the uprightness of the tower. The vehicles in front belonging to KWNS employees. Still unknown at this time was the effect the new grounded FM tower was going to have on the AM patterns.

Production Room (1974)



Local handyman Mark Eckoff gluing down the formica sheeting for the counter top. The speaker was used to hear what was going out over the air. When the microphone for the production room was turned on, The speaker was muted to prevent feedback. Under the speaker was a little red light indicating that the mic. was open and you were on the air. The project was started in the Fall of 1974.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Production Room (1974)



Picture taken of the completed production room looking at the south half of the bench top. In the background is a gray "Radio Shack" flashlight that originally came from the Radio Shack store when Bill Young owned it. Next to the flashlight is a bottle of denatured alcohol used to clean tape heads. A heavy-duty Gates turntable was installed to replace the one used since 1963. Homer Detwiler supplied the audio rack to provide a more compact installation for the Ampex recorder and patch panel. The patch panel was supplied by Larry Waggoner. The round black looking object in front of the rack is a tape demagnetizer. Also in the picture are a couple of patch cables laying loose.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Production Room (1974)



Another view of the completed Production Room project looking at the north half of the bench top. The left "Spotmaster" cart machine was used for record and playback both, while the right one was playback only. The main control board in the picture was an RCA BC-3C that was KLEO's original board when it went on the air under that call sign. The board was rebuilt by Ron Detwiler for service at KWNS. The bank of buttons was used to remotely control the Ampex recorder just as you could from the control room to the east. In the corner is a small gray terminal box for a telephone line interface connection to the board. The cart machines and RCA board are presently on display at the Pratt County Historical Museum radio room.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

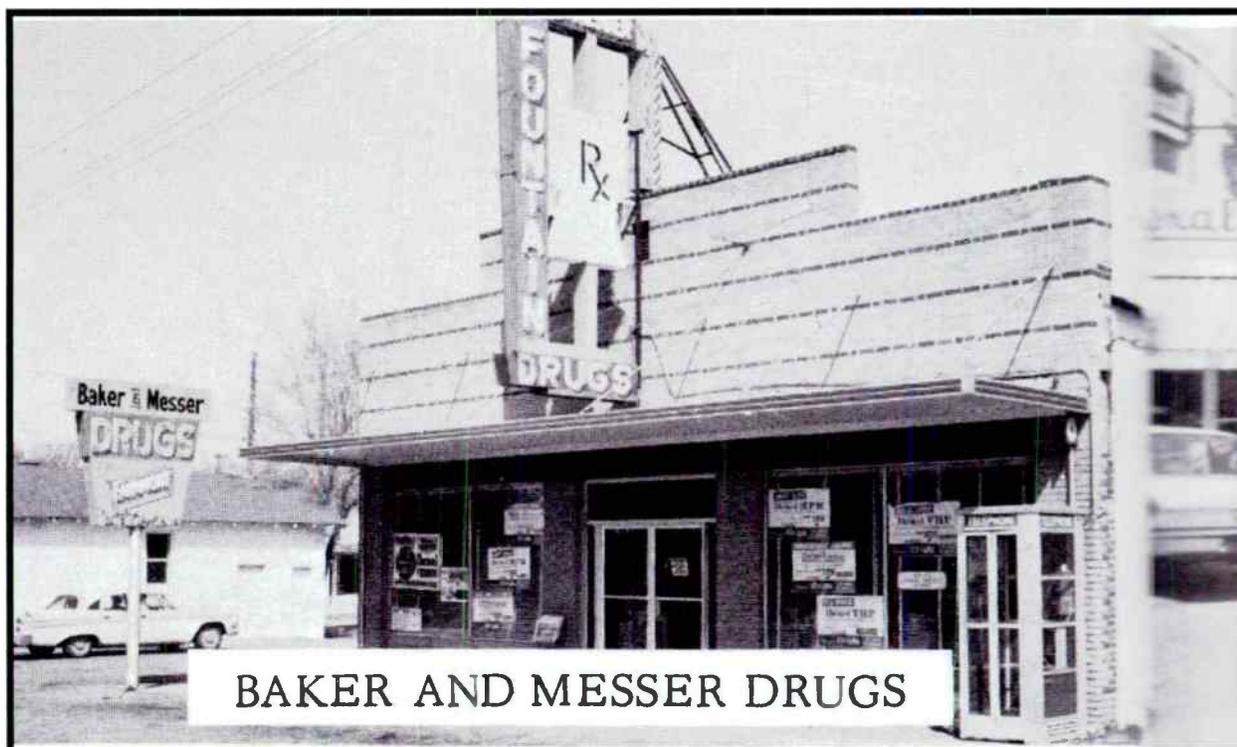
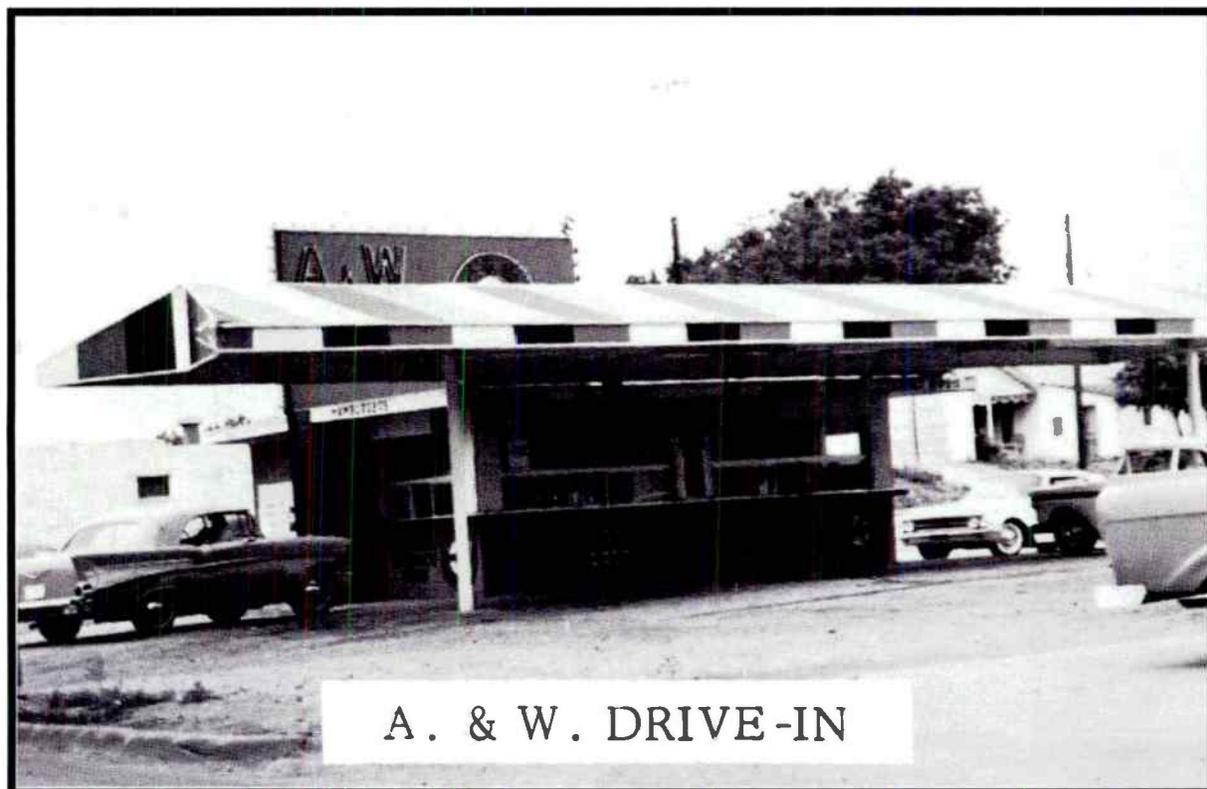
***"And Now a Word
From Our Sponsors"***



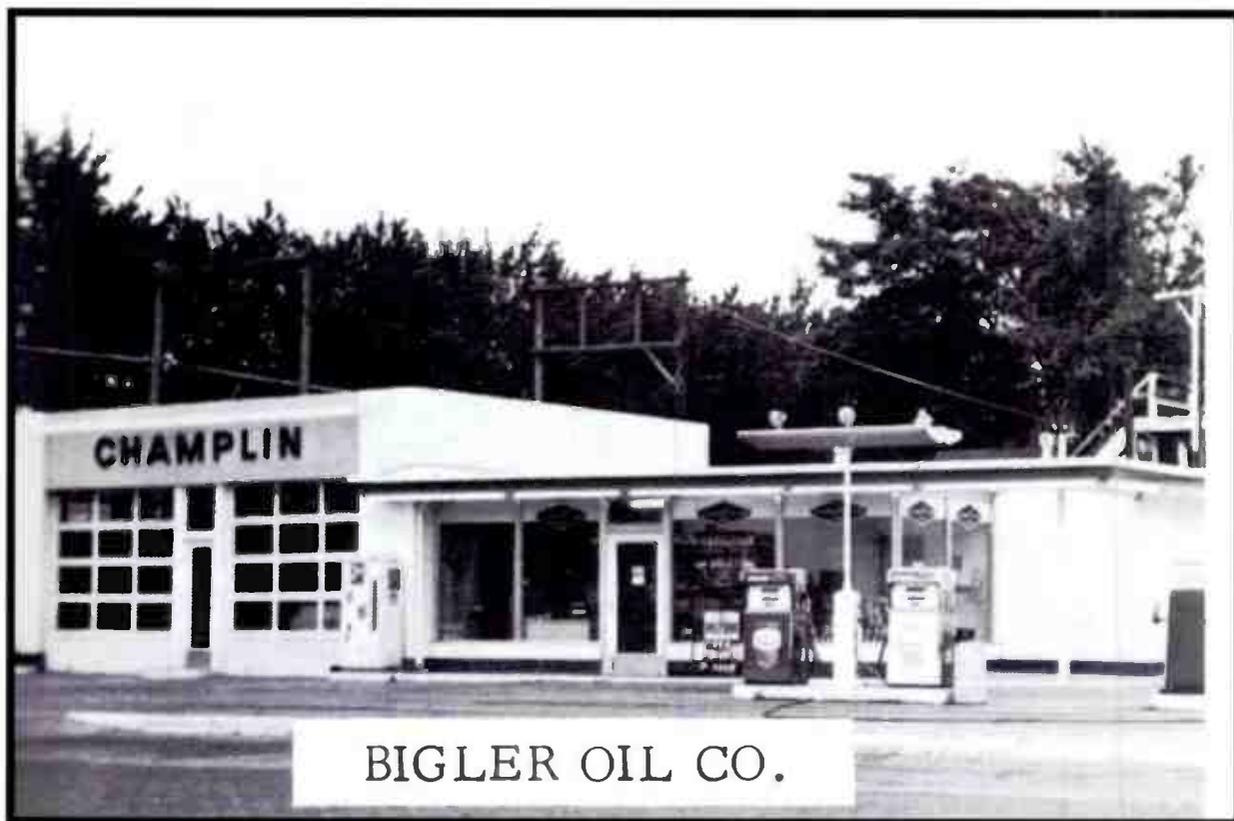
***"You are listening to
KWNS, "The Mighty 1290",
on your Radio Dial"***

Photos Courtesy: Pratt JUCO 1963 Yearbook

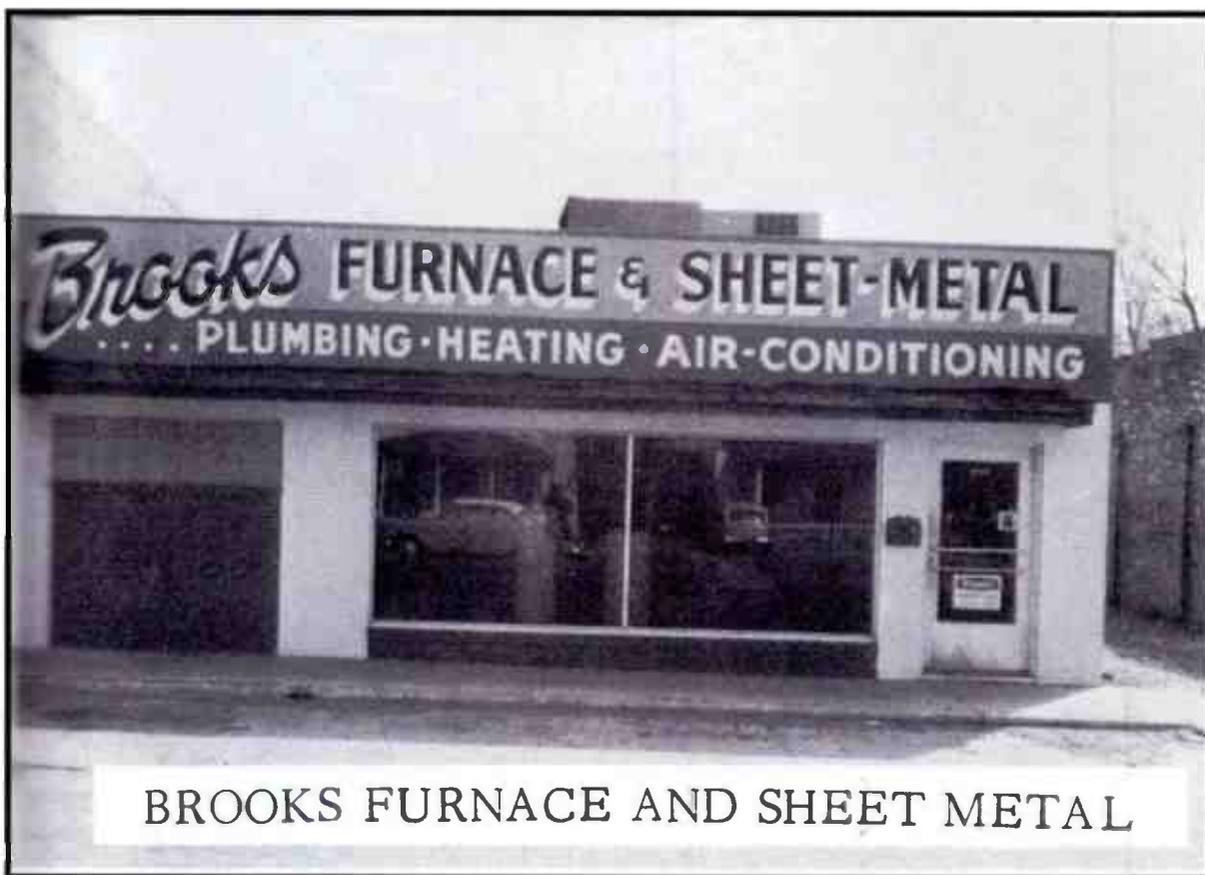
KWNS Advertisers-1963



KWNS Advertisers-1963



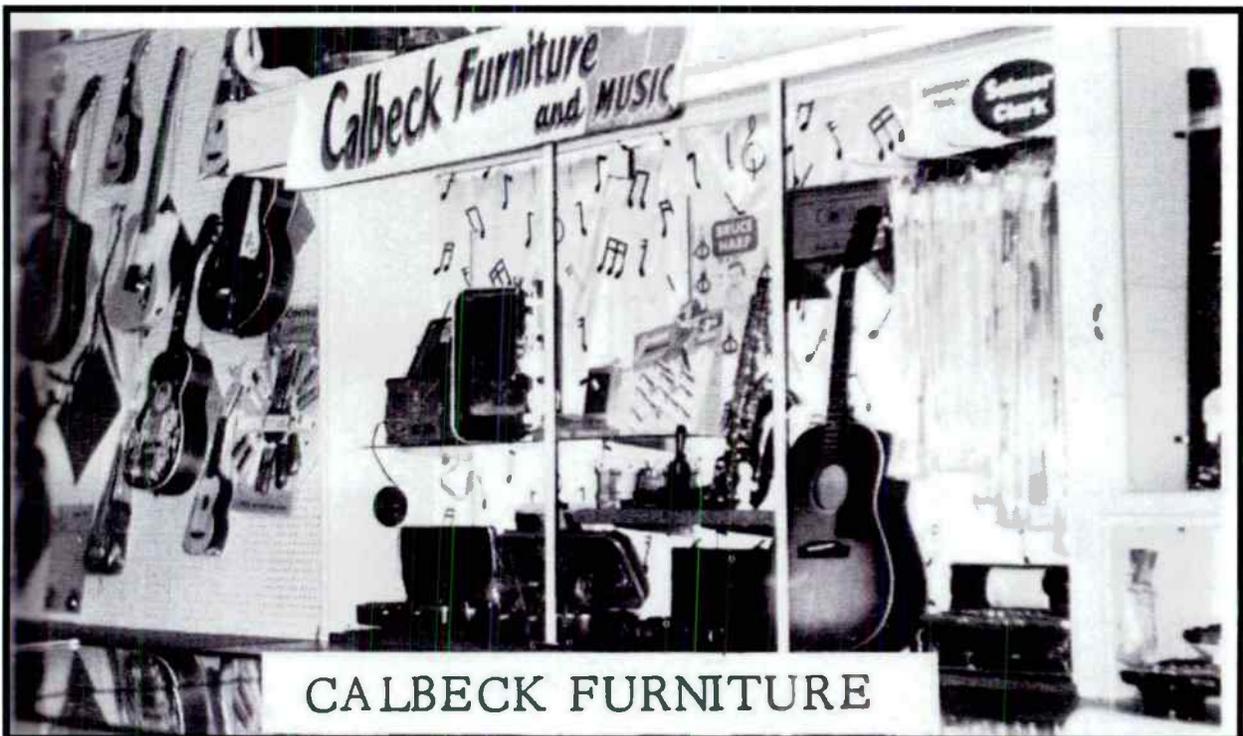
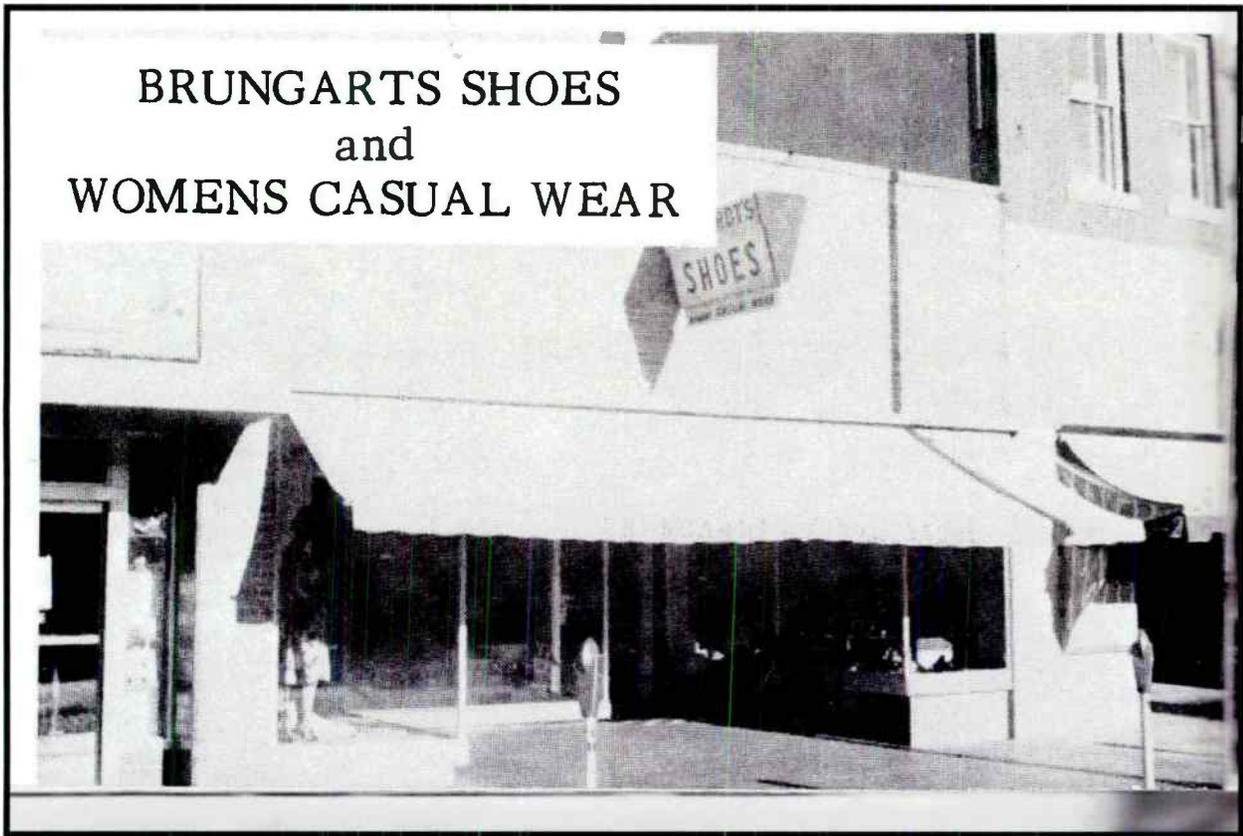
BIGLER OIL CO.



BROOKS FURNACE AND SHEET METAL

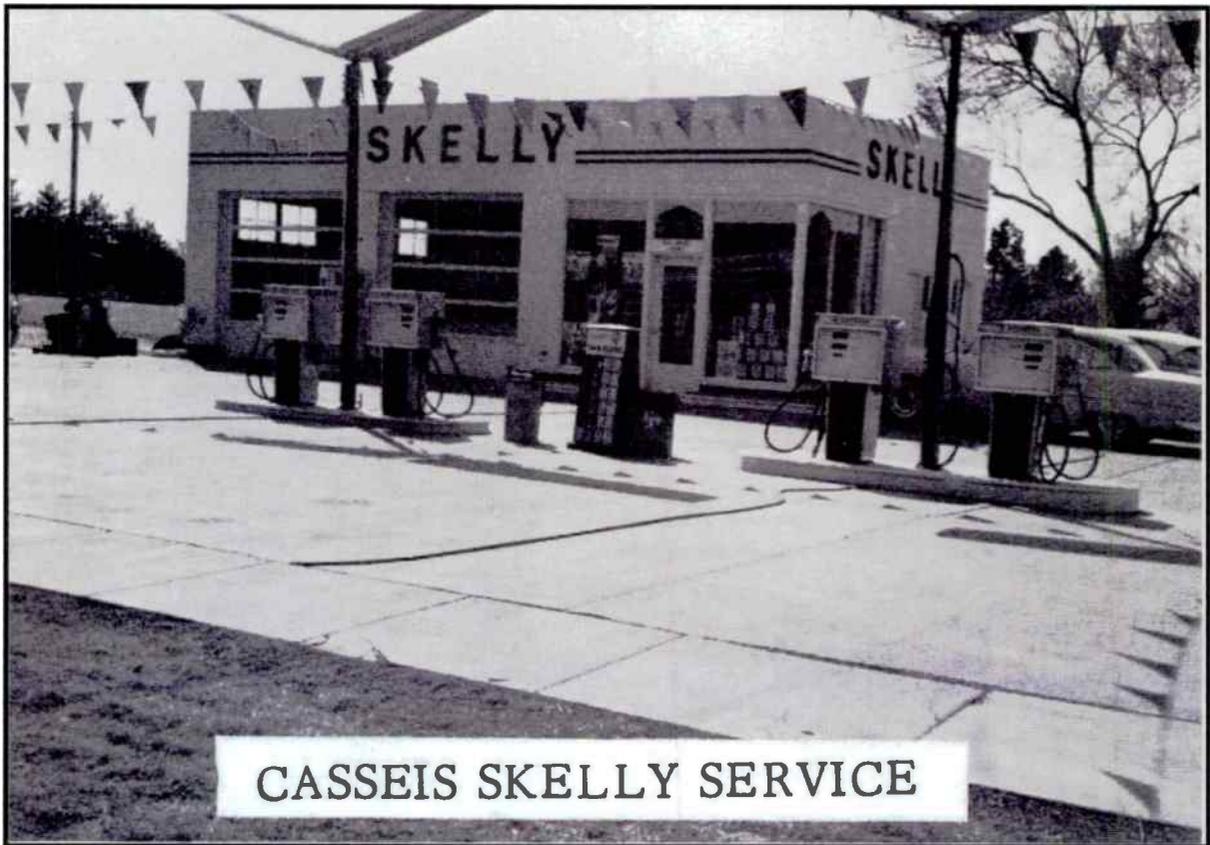
KWNS Advertisers-1963

**BRUNGARTS SHOES
and
WOMENS CASUAL WEAR**



CALBECK FURNITURE

KWNS Advertisers-1963



CASSEIS SKELLY SERVICE

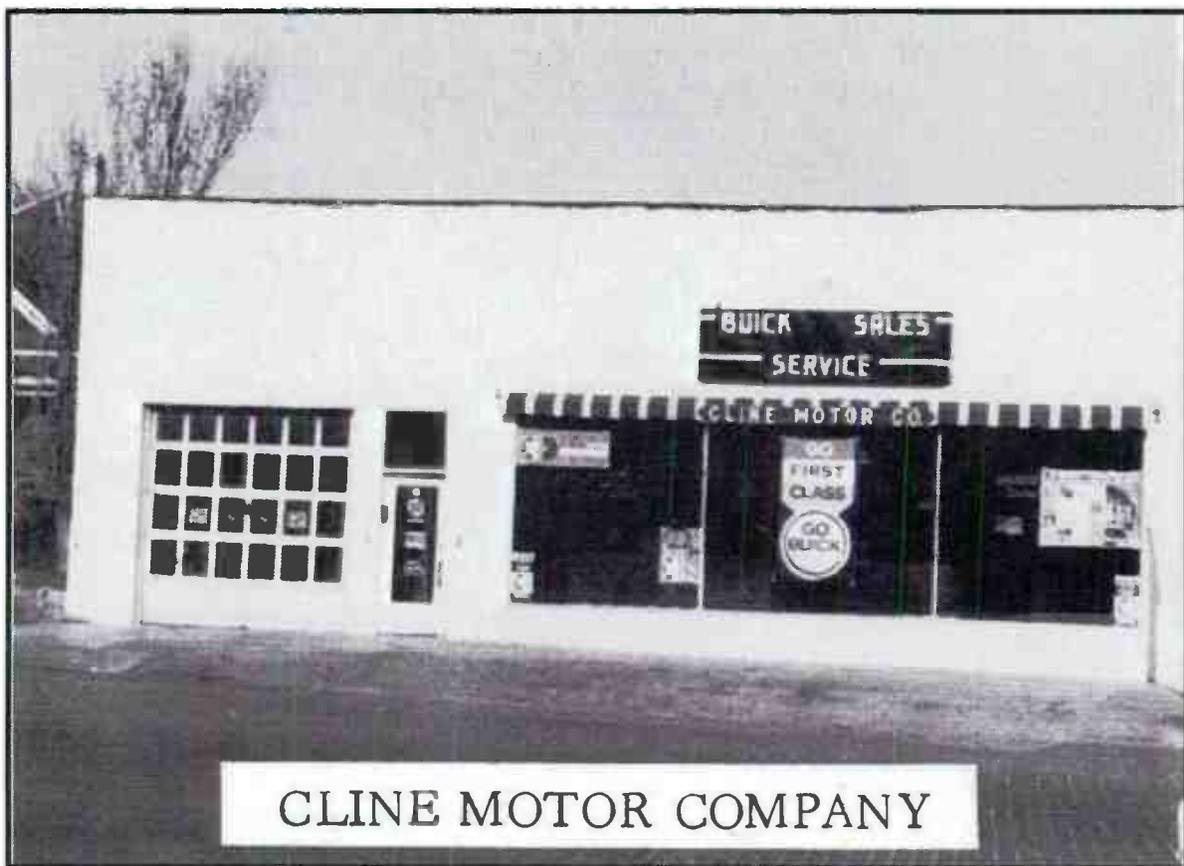


MOTEL CATALINA

KWNS Advertisers-1963

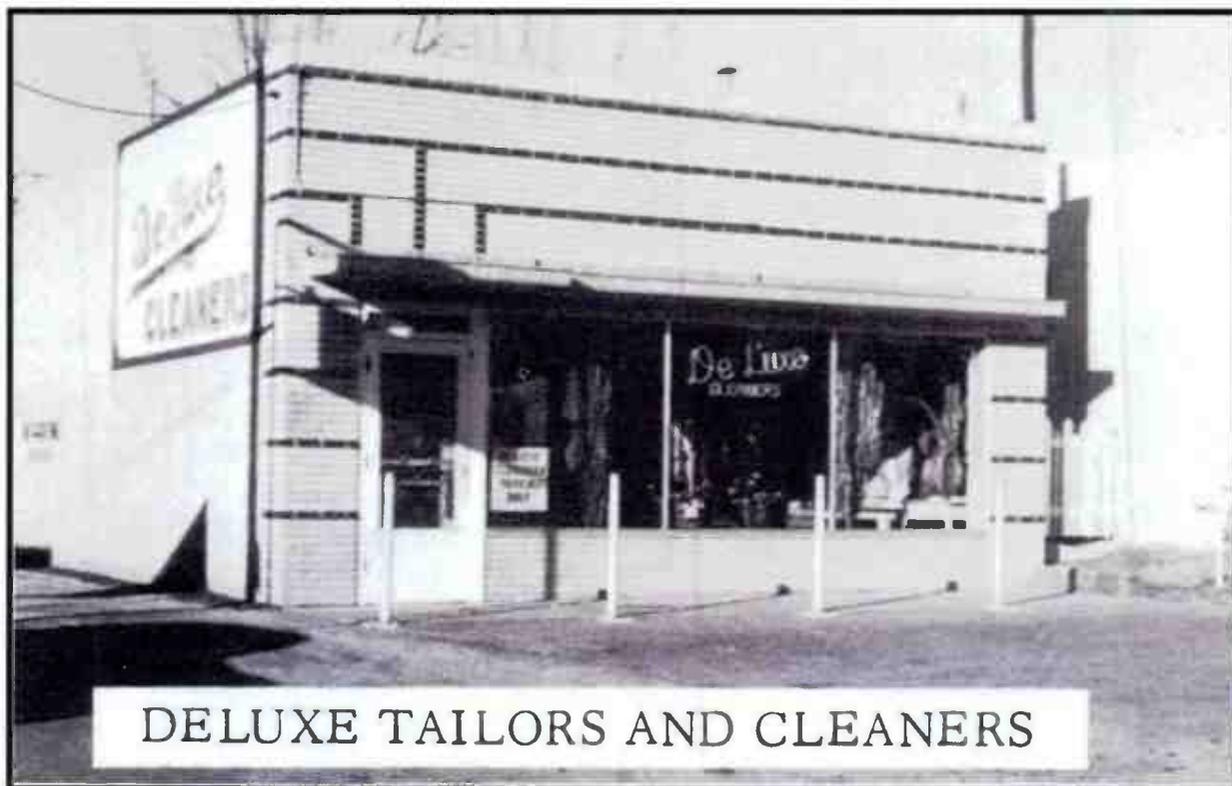


CHAR BURG DRIVE - INN

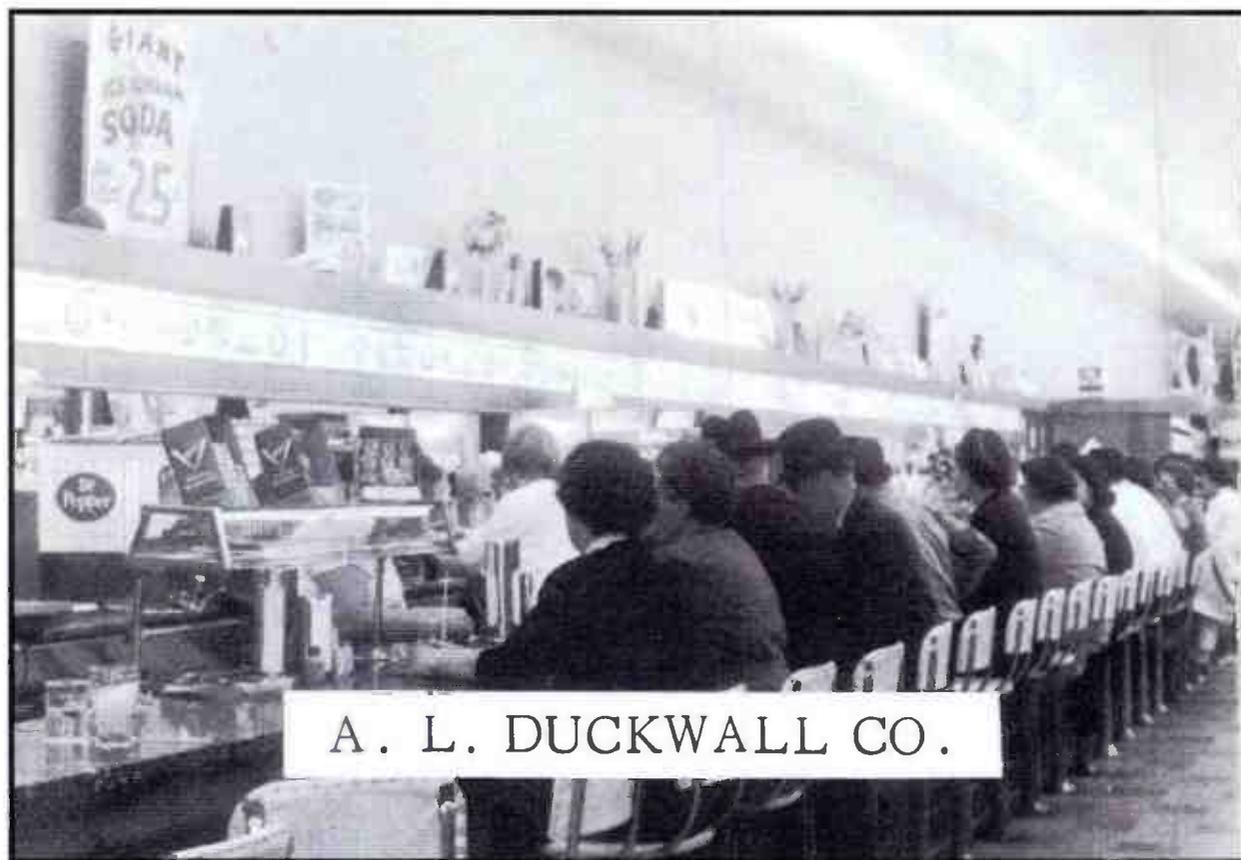


CLINE MOTOR COMPANY

KWNS Advertisers-1963

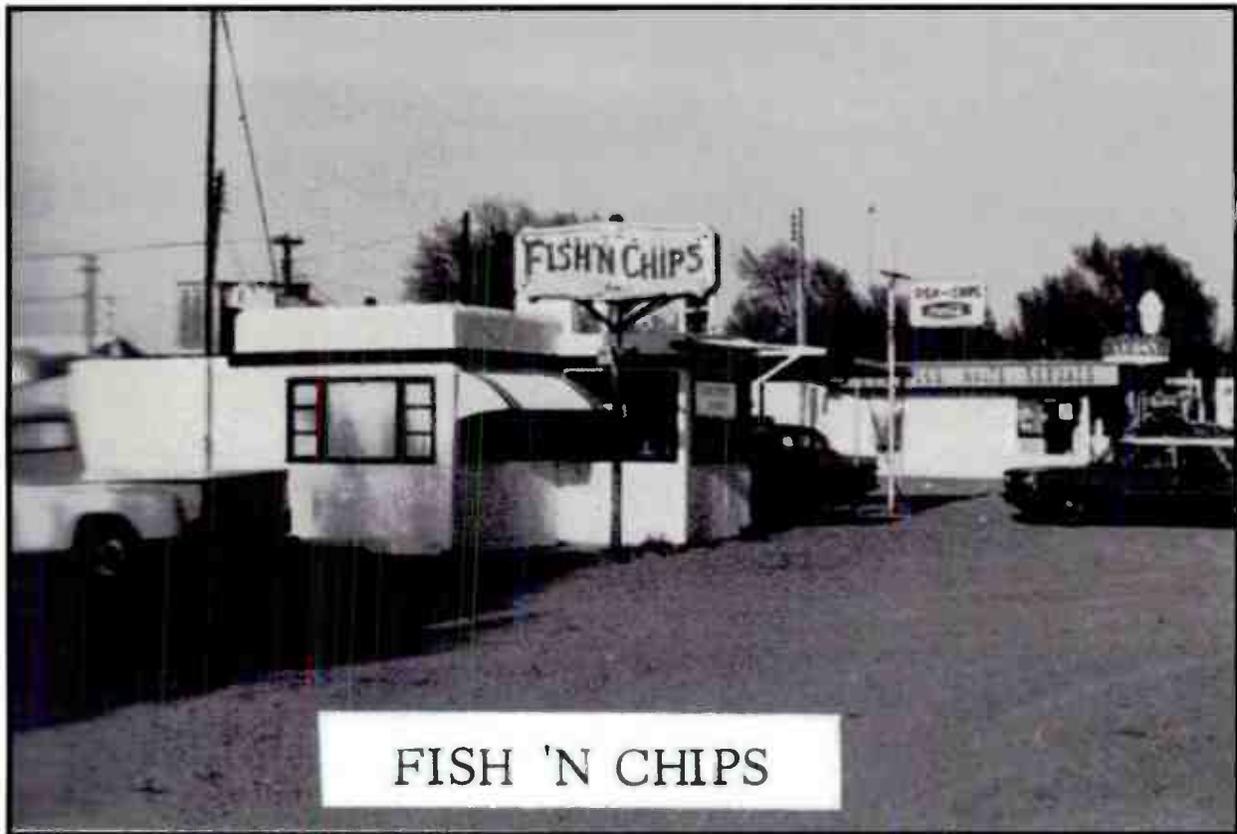


DELUXE TAILORS AND CLEANERS



A. L. DUCKWALL CO.

KWNS Advertisers-1963

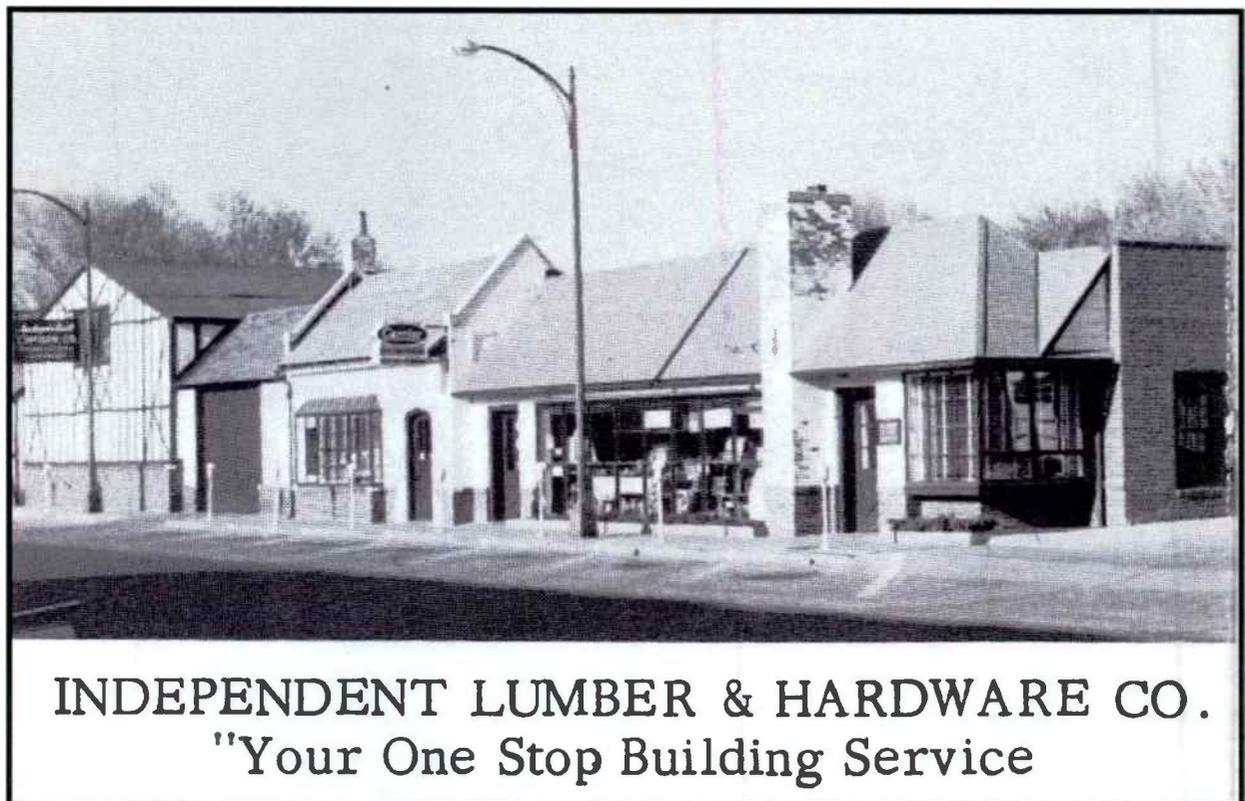


FISH 'N CHIPS

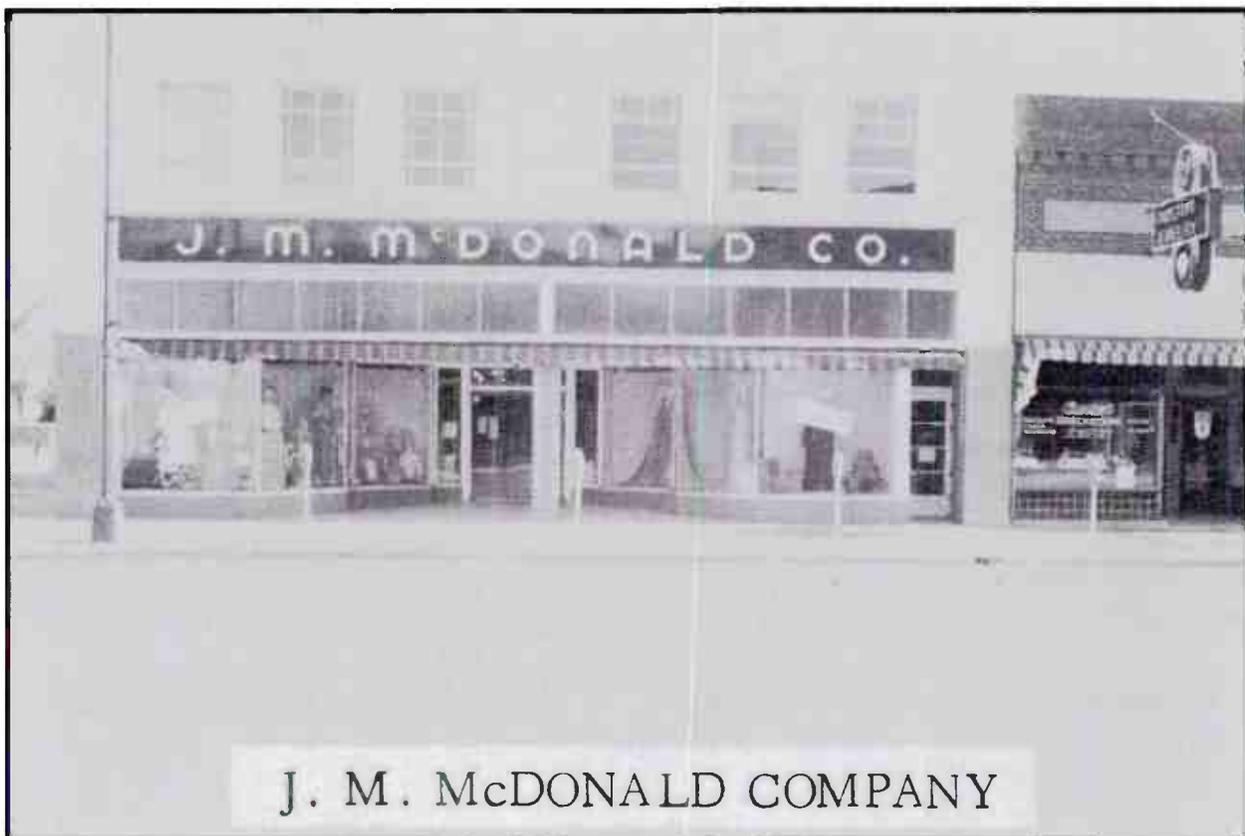
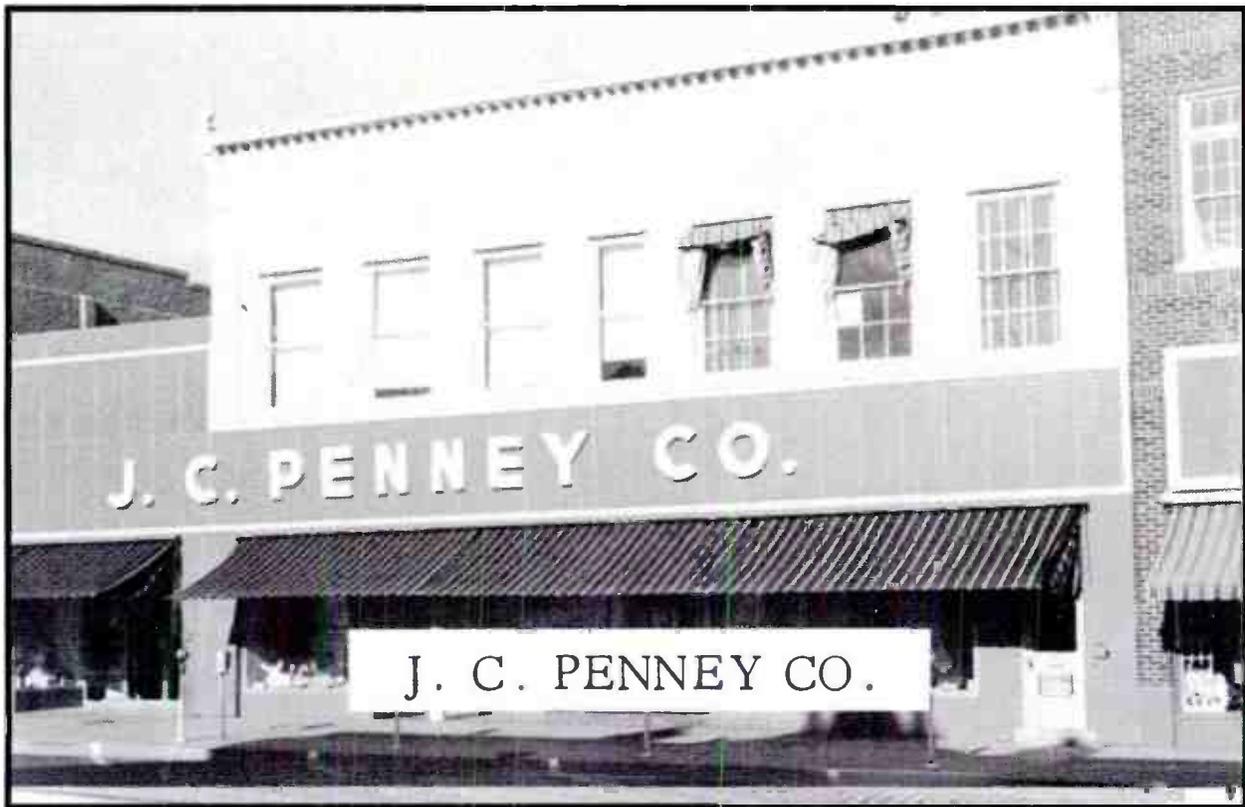


GOODYEAR SERVICE STORE

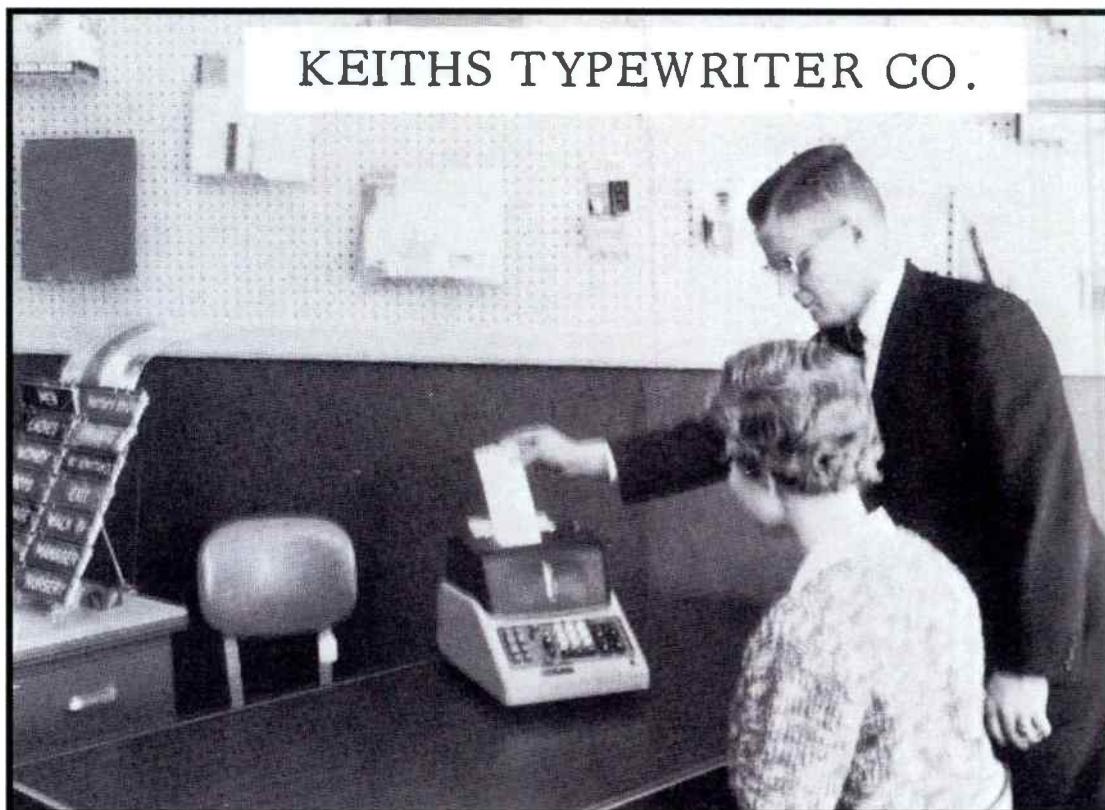
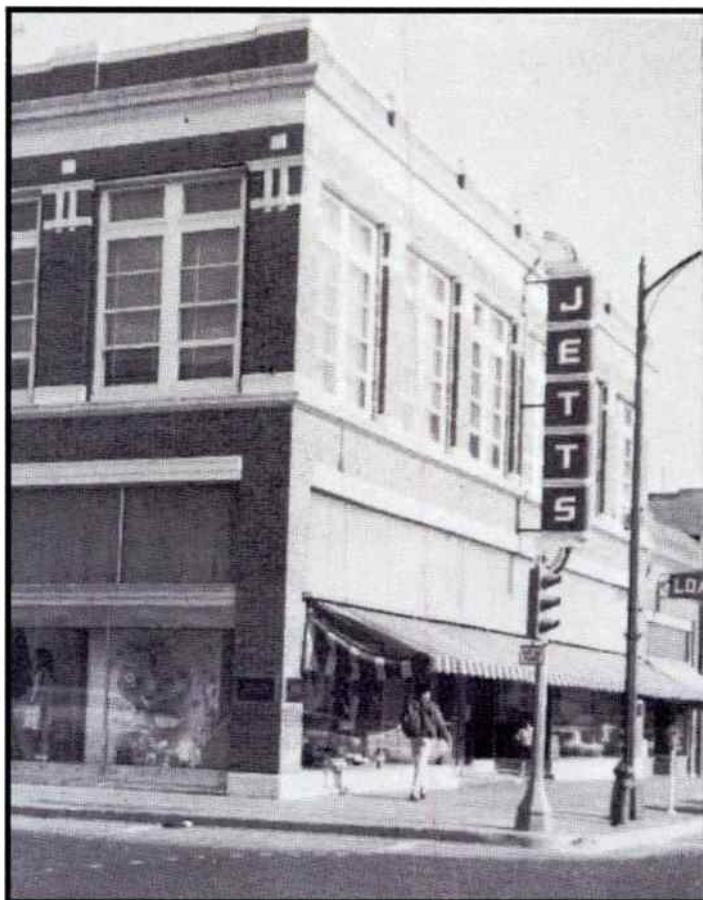
KWNS Advertisers-1963



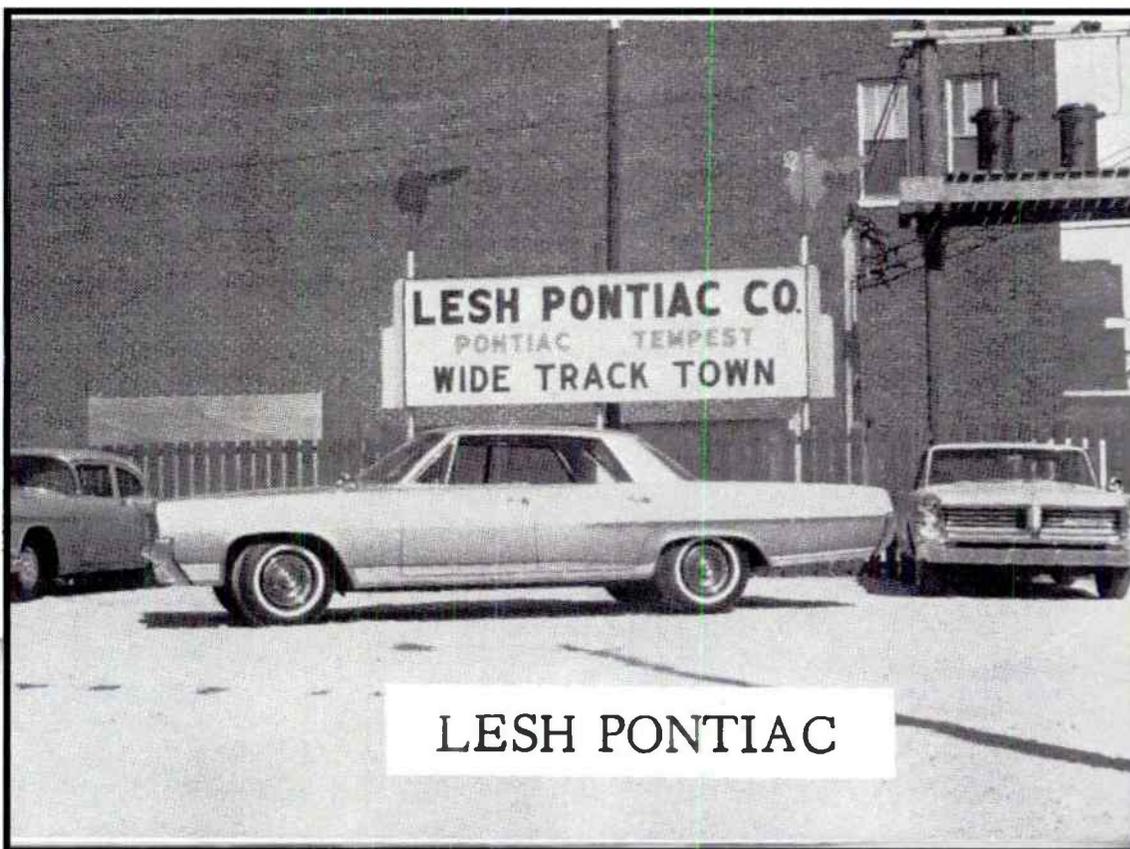
KWNS Advertisers-1963



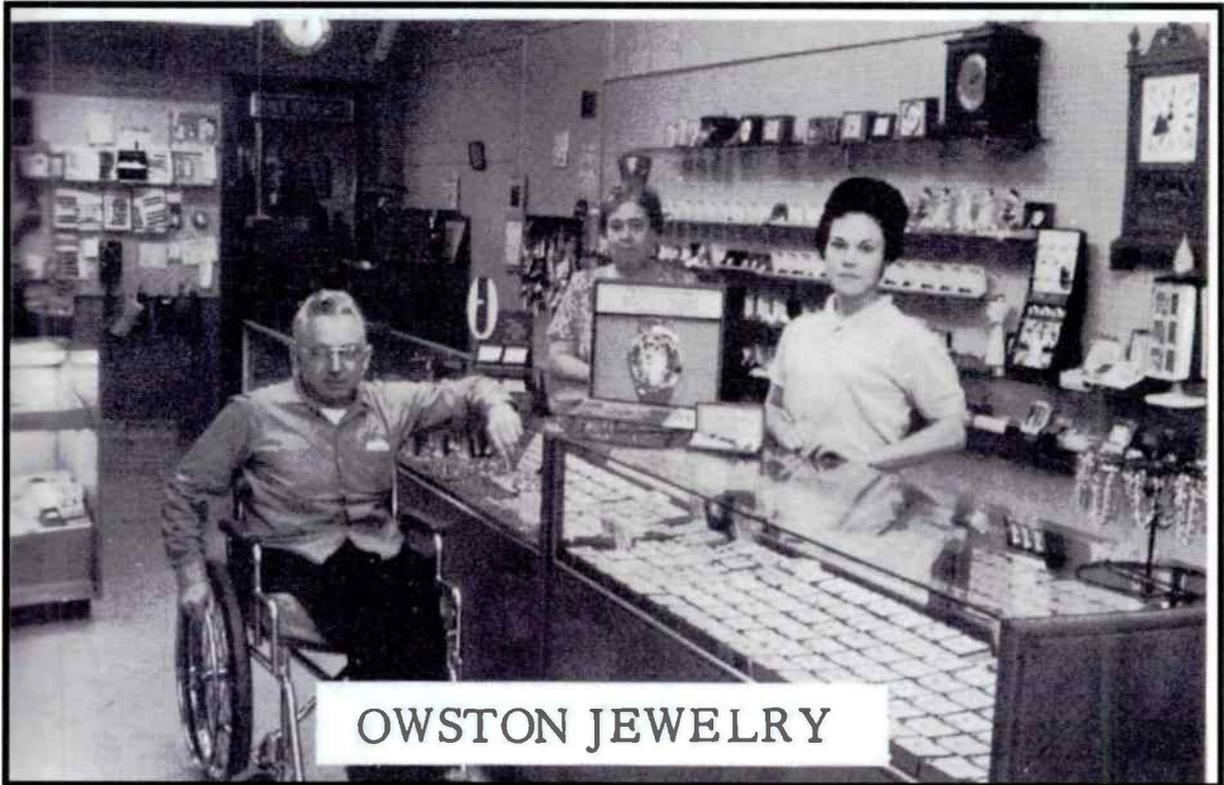
KWNS Advertisers-1963



KWNS Advertisers-1963



KWNS Advertisers-1963

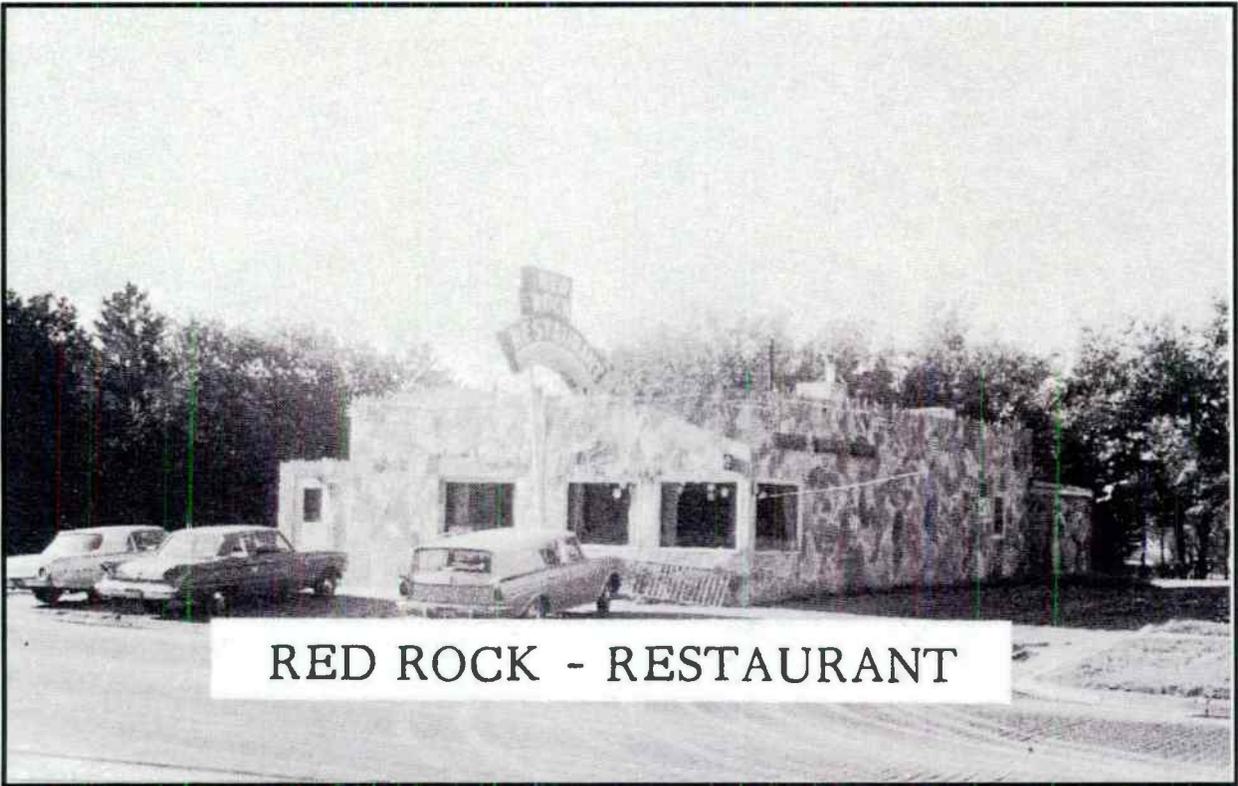


OWSTON JEWELRY



PRATT EQUITY EXCHANGE

KWNS Advertisers-1963

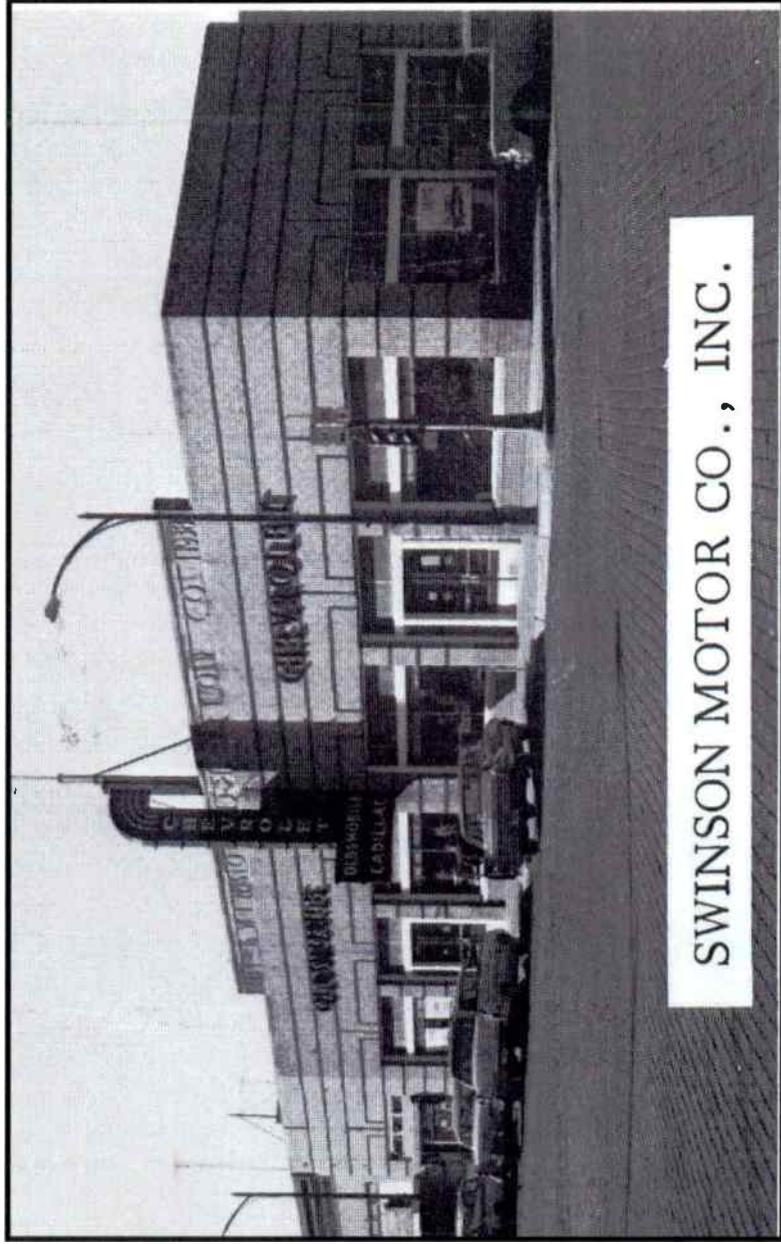
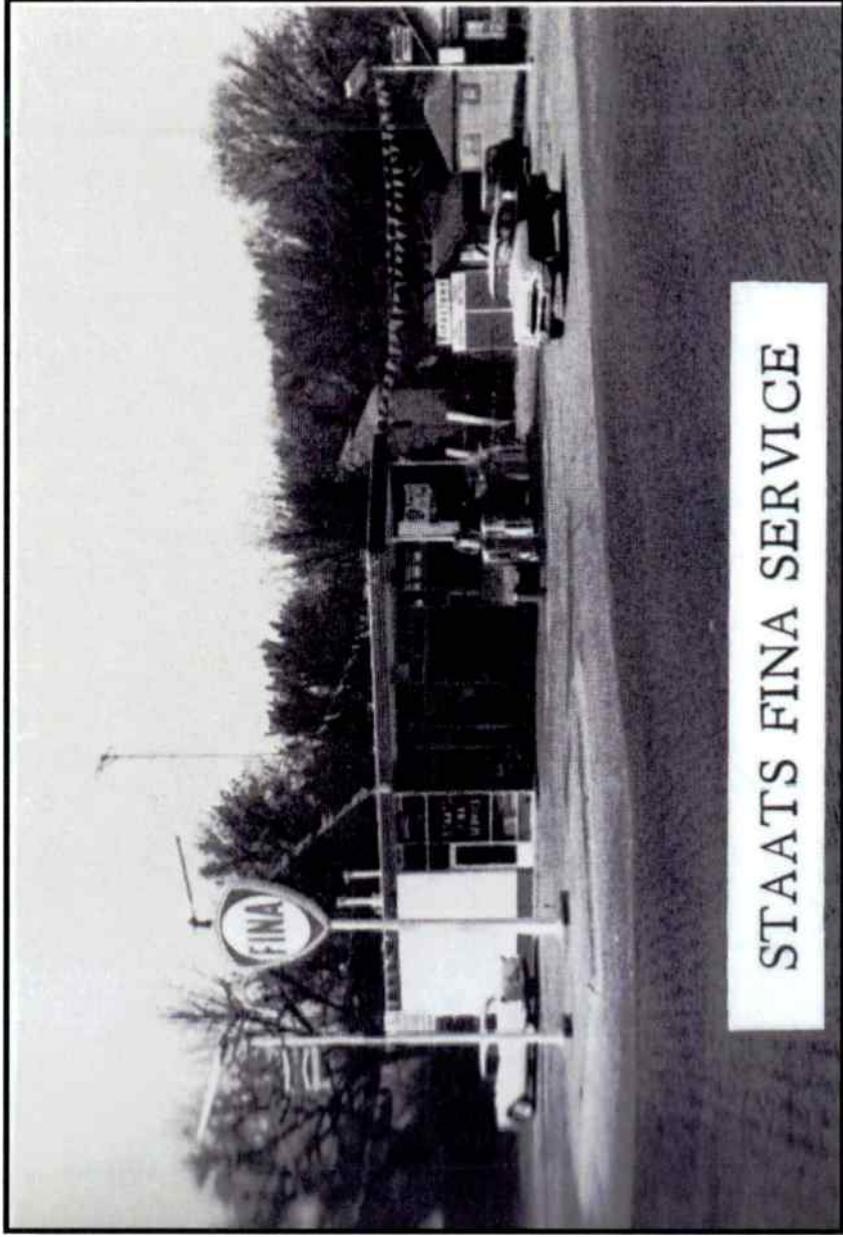


RED ROCK - RESTAURANT

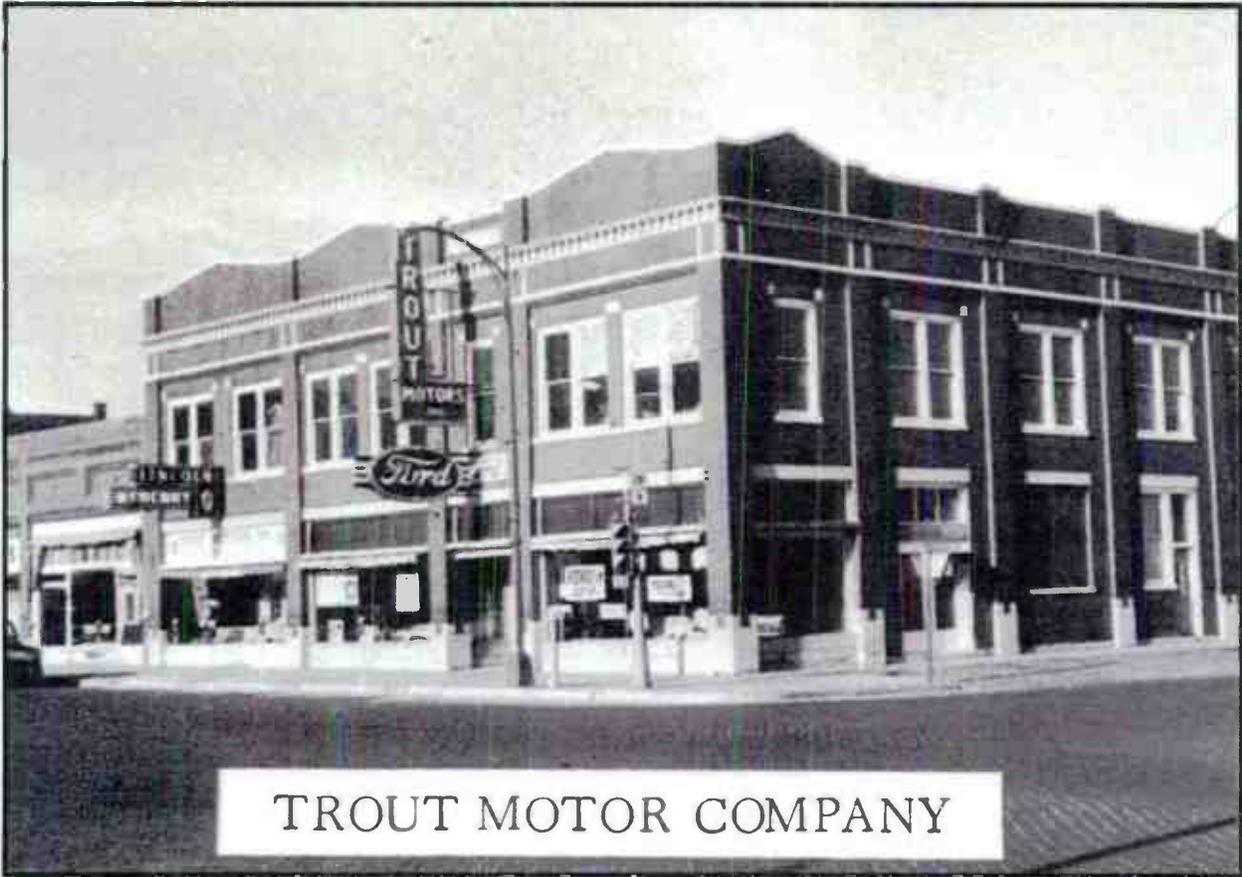


SCHMIDTBERGER FIRESTONE

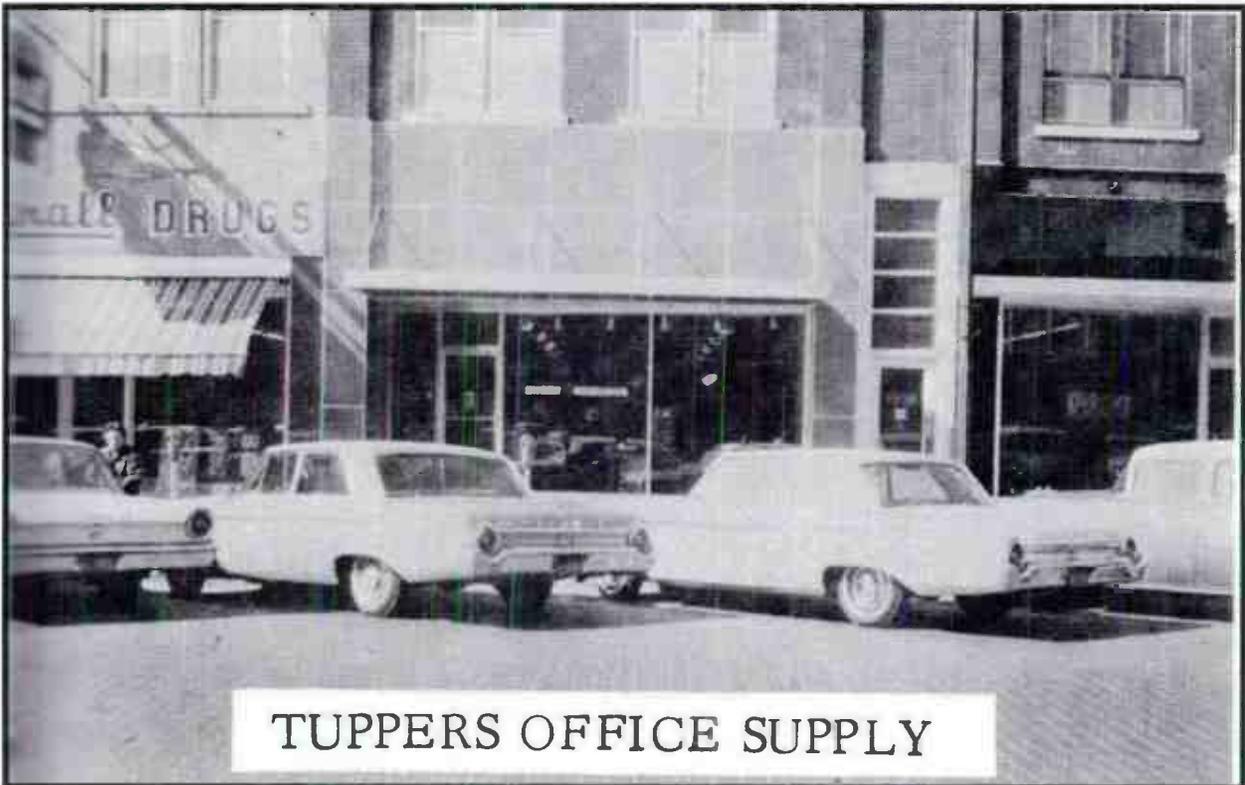
KWNS Advertisers-1963



KWNS Advertisers-1963

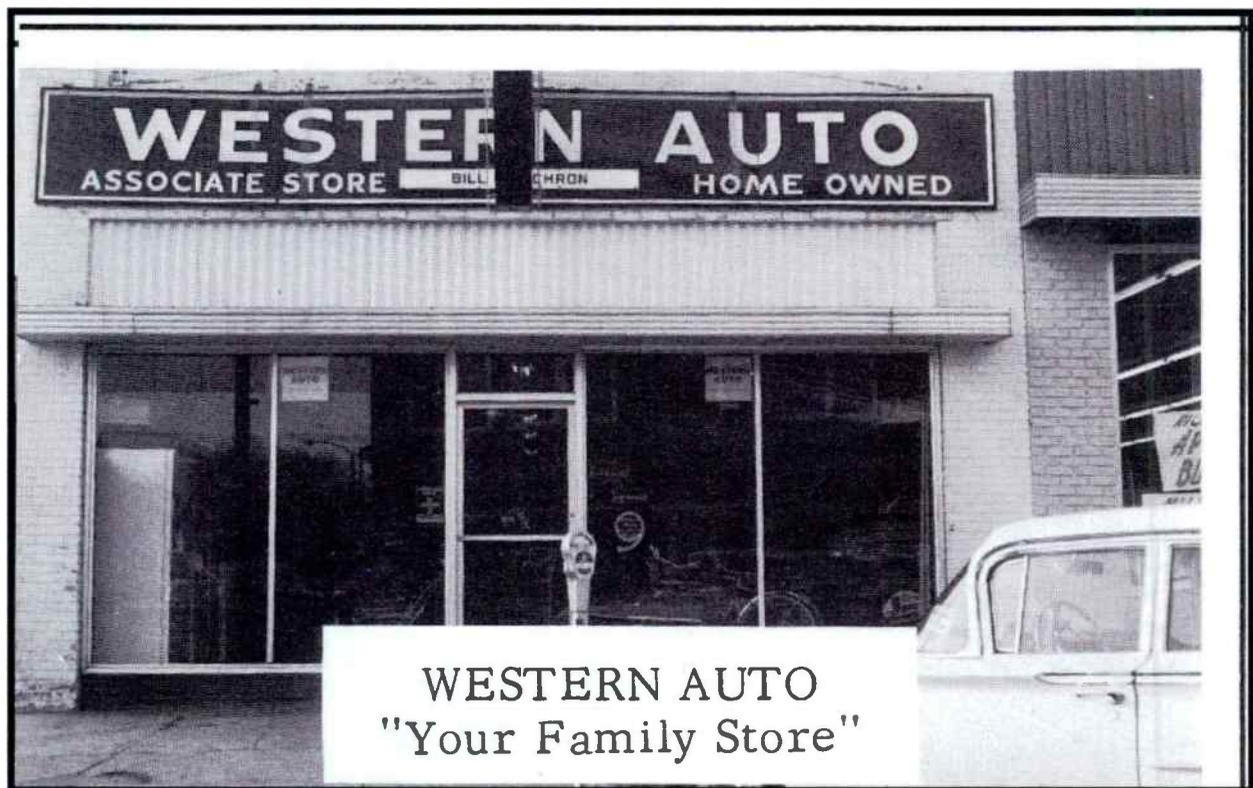


TROUT MOTOR COMPANY



TUPPERS OFFICE SUPPLY

KWNS Advertisers-1963



Misc. Pictures

Misc. Memorabilia

And

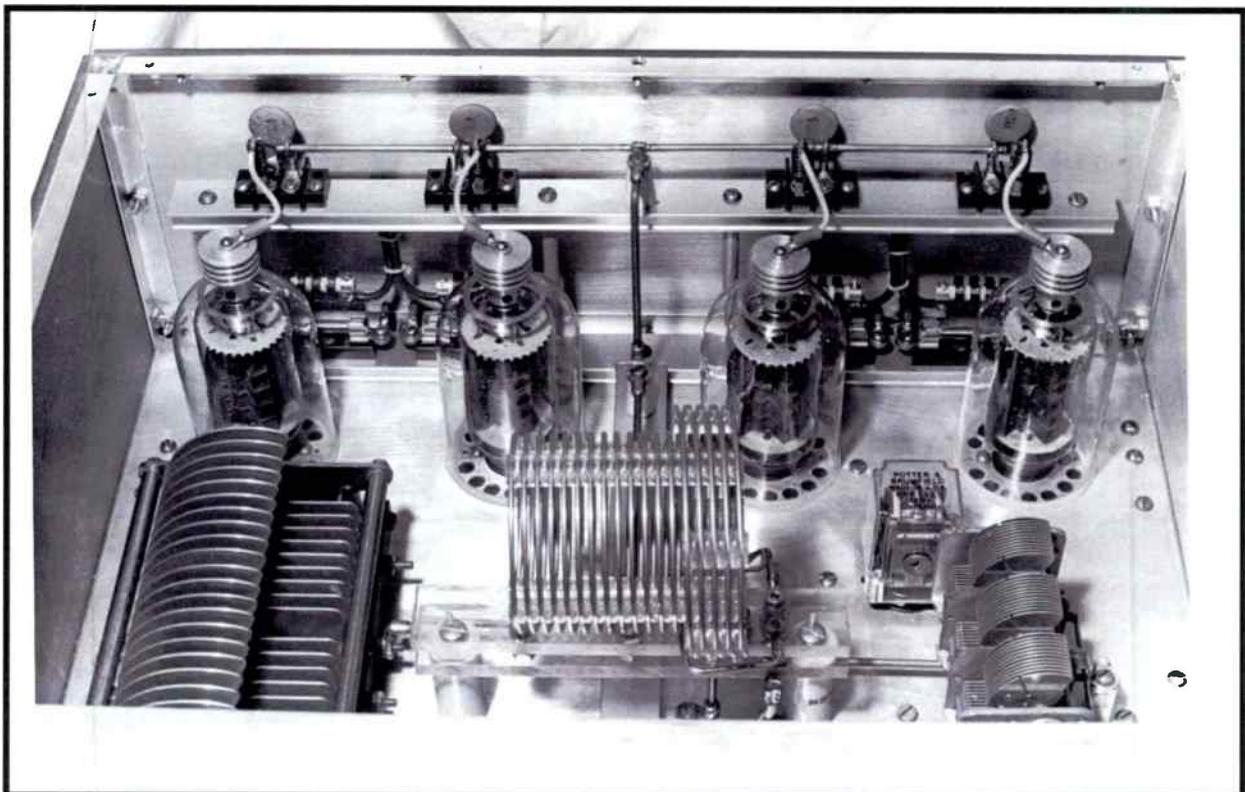
Assorted Stuff

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Picture of a 8008 tube taken from the Gates AM transmitter, saved from the shotgun of Roger Harvey! Beside the tube are two finished glass tube chimneys for the authors' 1500 watt ham radio linear amplifier built in 1975. the homebrew amp. required four chimneys.

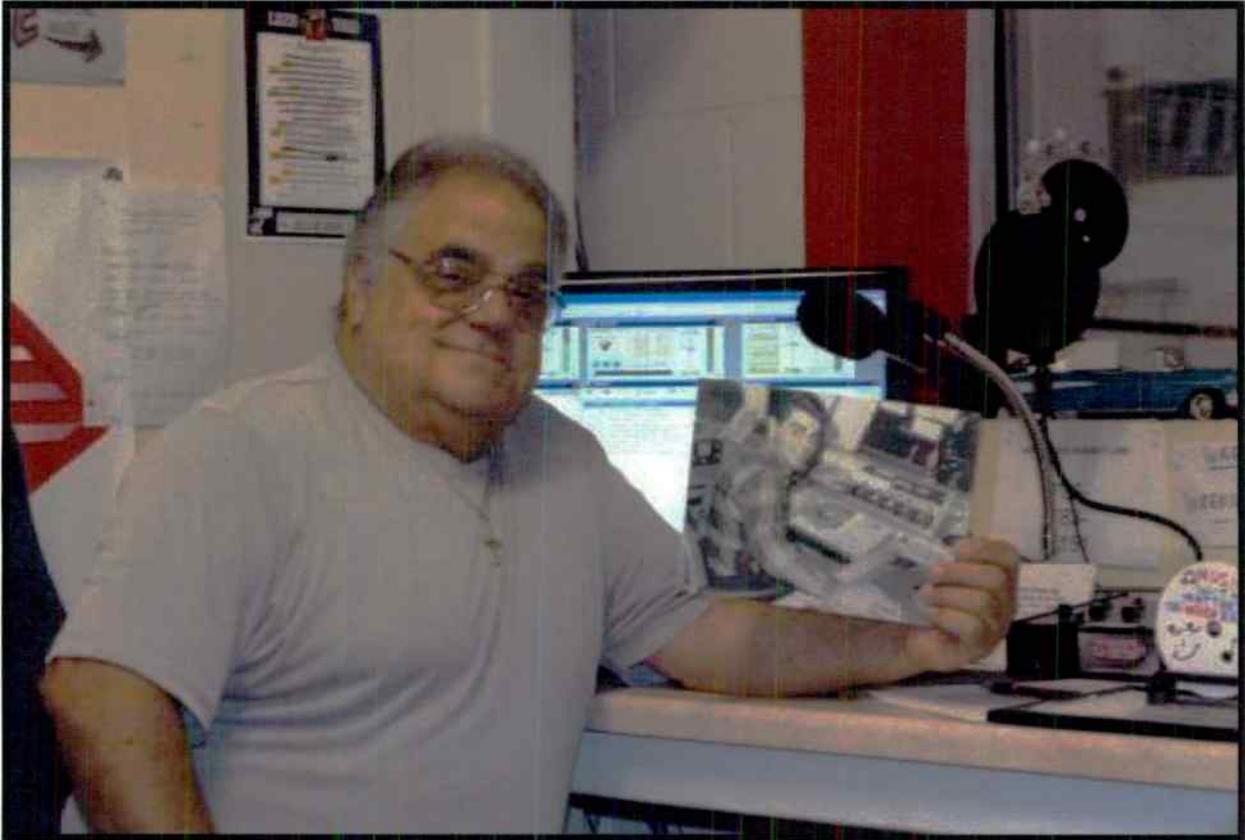
Courtesy: Jim Zeltner



Picture of the finished amplifier with the four glass chimneys cooling the 6KD6 finals. The amp. was used for several years before being sold.

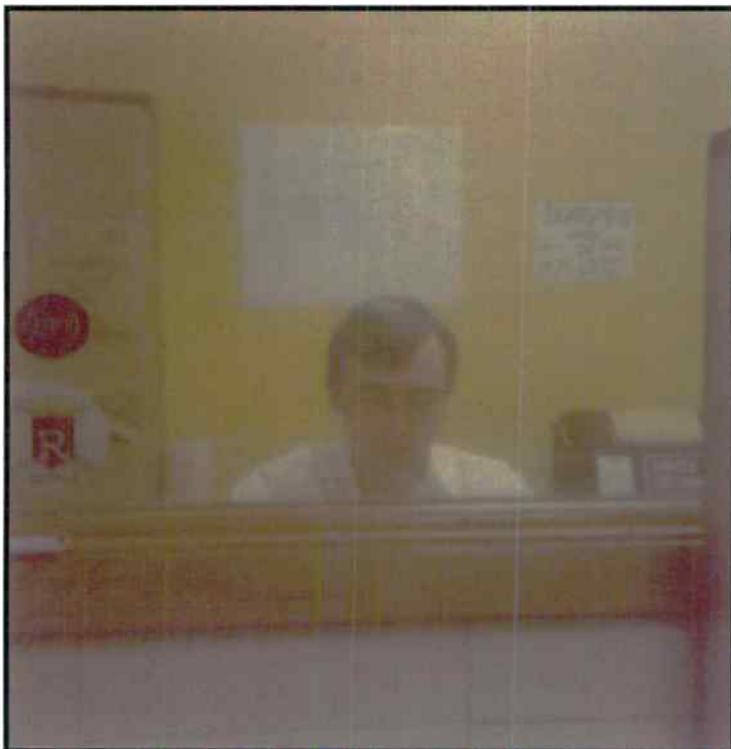
Courtesy: Jim Zeltner

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



September 2012, Lou Constantino at the controls of Topeka radio station WREN, holding a picture of himself taken at KWNS in the fall of 1968.

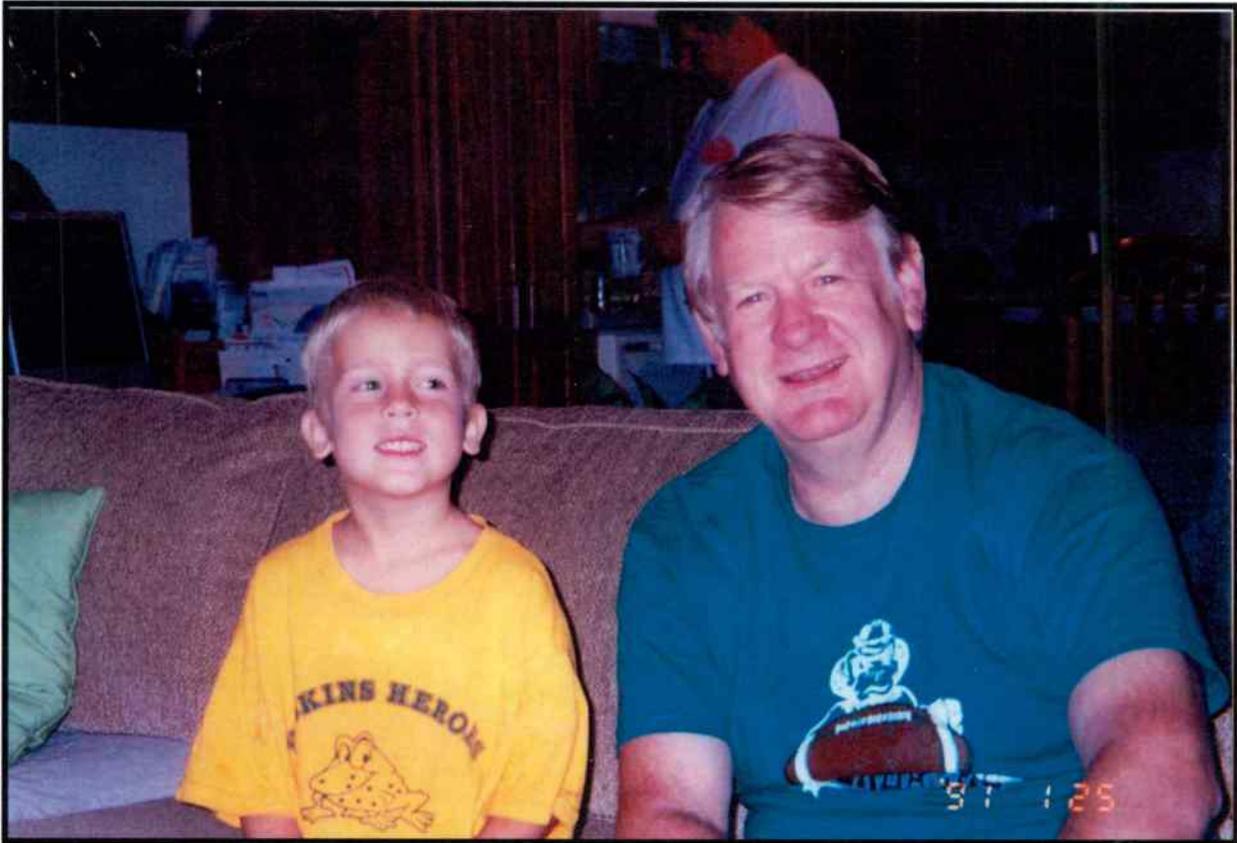
Photo courtesy: WREN Radio



Alan Rogers giving the news from the KWNS news room. The news room was located directly east of the control room. Right behind Alan is the UPI teletype machine. Picture taken, September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Anthony Detwiler visiting with KWNS alumni Bill Farmer, the official voice of "Goofy" for Disney studios. Picture taken at Bill's cousin Phil Farmer's home in October 2011. Bill was back in Pratt for a High school class reunion.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

***"OK out there in radio land,
here's the "My Mother-in-law
moved out polka", ONE
MORE TIME!!!!"***



Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Bill Farmer and future "Rockabilly Hall of Famer" Roy Head. Picture taken in the North studio of KWNS, March 11, 1978.

Courtesy: Bill Farmer



*Scan of an original
KWNS decal.*

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Original Pratt Tribune Photo used for front page story in the Pratt Tribune on September 21, 1970, "Local radio station recognized for efforts."

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



RENEWAL

The United States of America

NUMBER
P1-17-4149

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

RADIO TELEPHONE OPERATOR LICENSE

FIRST CLASS

(General Radiotelephone Certificate)

This certifies that

** WILLIAM JEROME YOUNG **

SEX M	HEIGHT 5 11FT.....IN	WEIGHT 192	COLOR EYES Blue	COLOR HAIR Brown	DATE OF BIRTH Feb. 23 1925 MONTH.....DAY.....YEAR.....
----------	----------------------------------	---------------	--------------------	---------------------	--

IS A LICENSED RADIO OPERATOR, AUTHORIZED, SUBJECT TO ANY SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT PLACED HEREON, TO OPERATE THE CLASSES OF LICENSED RADIO STATIONS FOR WHICH THIS CLASS OF LICENSE IS VALID UNDER THE ORDERS, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, ANY STATUTE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ANY TREATY TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS A PARTY.

THIS LICENSE IS GRANTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREOF AND OF ALL LEGISLATIVE ACTS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND TREATIES TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS SIGNATORY, AND ALL ORDERS, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WHICH ARE BINDING UPON RADIO OPERATORS, ARE MADE A PART HEREOF AS THOUGH SPECIFICALLY SET OUT IN FULL HEREIN.

NEITHER THIS LICENSE NOR THE RIGHTS CERTIFIED TO HEREIN SHALL BE ASSIGNED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED TO ANY OTHER PERSON.

PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUANCE: KANSAS CITY, MO. APR 17 1967

DATE AND TIME OF EXPIRATION: APR 17 1972 AT THREE O'CLOCK A. M., EASTERN STANDARD TIME.

SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT:



Federal Communications Commission

William Jerome Young
(Licensee)

W. Bowell
(Issuing Officer)

Ben F. Waple
(Secretary)

NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

Front view of Bill Young's First Class Radiotelephone License.
Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

WARNING

FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, BE SURE THAT THE RADIO EQUIPMENT IS COVERED BY A CURRENTLY VALID RADIO STATION LICENSE. A LICENSED OPERATOR OF THE PROPER CLASS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER FUNCTIONING OF THE TRANSMITTER. ALL LICENSED RADIO OPERATORS SHALL OBEY AND CARRY OUT THE LAWFUL ORDERS OF THE MASTER OR PERSON LAWFULLY IN CHARGE OF THE SHIP OR AIRCRAFT ON WHICH THEY ARE EMPLOYED.

PROHIBITIONS: UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OR USE OF MESSAGES.
 USE OF OBSCENE, INDECENT OR PROFANE LANGUAGE.
 FALSE OR DECEPTIVE SIGNALS OR COMMUNICATIONS.
 UNNECESSARY, UNIDENTIFIED OR SUPERFLUOUS COMMUNICATIONS.
 WILLFUL OR MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH COMMUNICATIONS.

KNOW YOUR CURRENT RADIO LAWS, TREATIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS. THEIR OBSERVANCE WILL SERVE BOTH YOUR INTEREST AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

SERVICE RECORD

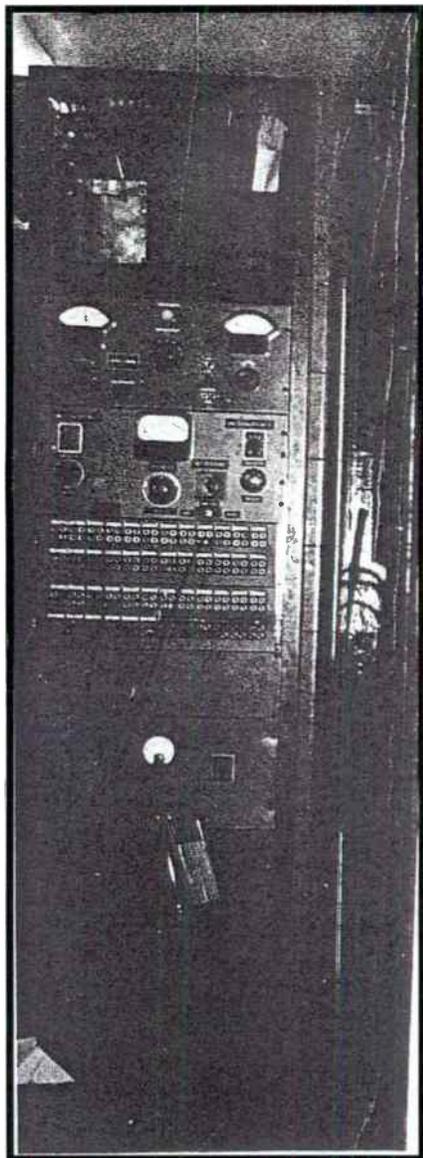
This is to certify that the holder of this license has served as radio operator under my orders during the period named.

NAME	SHIP OR OTHER STATION		PERIOD	CHARACTER OF TECHNICAL SERVICE PERFORMED (SATISFACTORY OR UNSATISFACTORY)	CERTIFIED BY	
	CALL LETTERS	TYPE(S) OF EMISSION			SIGNATURE	TITLE (STATION LICENSEE, MASTER, MANAGER, AUTHORIZED ALL)
RADIO STATION KWON'S	(A3)	From APR., 1967, to APR., 1972,	S	[Signature]	[Title]	
RADIO STATION KWON'S-FM	(C)	From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,	S	[Signature]	[Title]	
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				
		From _____, 19____, to _____, 19____,				

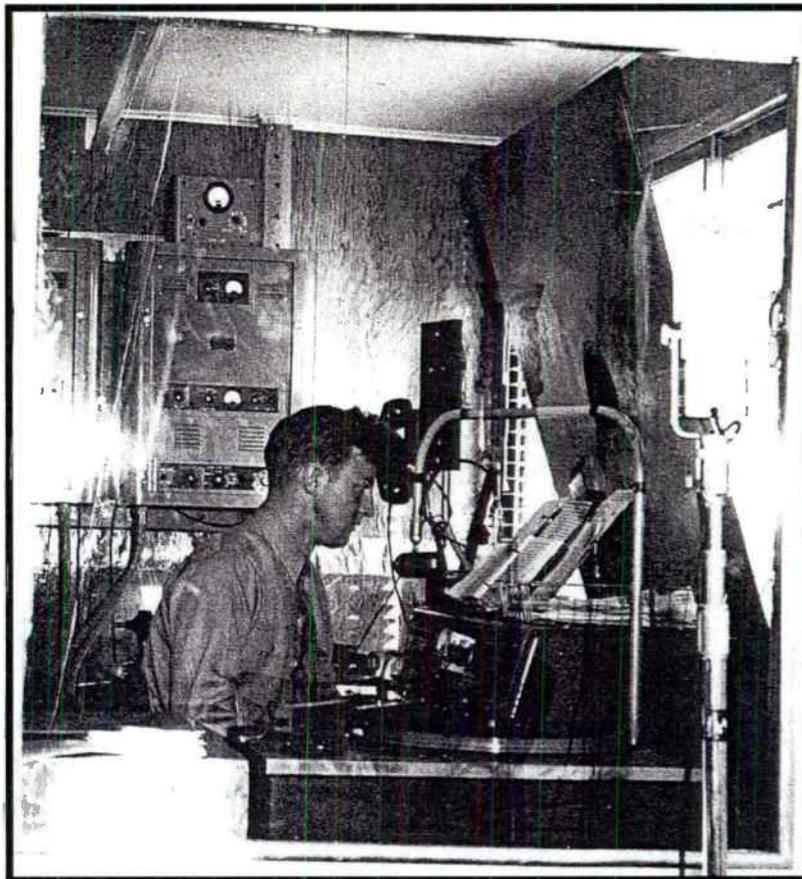
F.C.C.-WASHINGTON, D. C.

Back view of Bill Young's First Class Radiotelephone License.
 Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



***KRAL equipment
Circa 1947-1948
Courtesy: Kathleen
Nestor***



***Bill Young at the board of radio station KRAL
in Rawlins, Wyoming, circa 1947-1948.***

Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor



Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

"The 1290 Frequency Contenders"



Wilmer E. Huffman



Francis C. Morgan, Jr.

Pier San, Inc. Group



***John Bozeman
"Mac Sanders"***



***Country Legend
Webb Pierce***



***Nashville Legend
Jim Denny***



K.W. Pyle

***No Photo Available
For Port Early***

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



O'Malley's first day in Pratt was October 27, 1973, just in time for Pratt's annual Halloween parade down Main Street. Marching in the parade was two of Don's sons, Brian and Pat. Little Brian was dressed up as an Indian Chief and Pat was inside a box with KWNS painted on all four sides.

Courtesy: O'Malley family

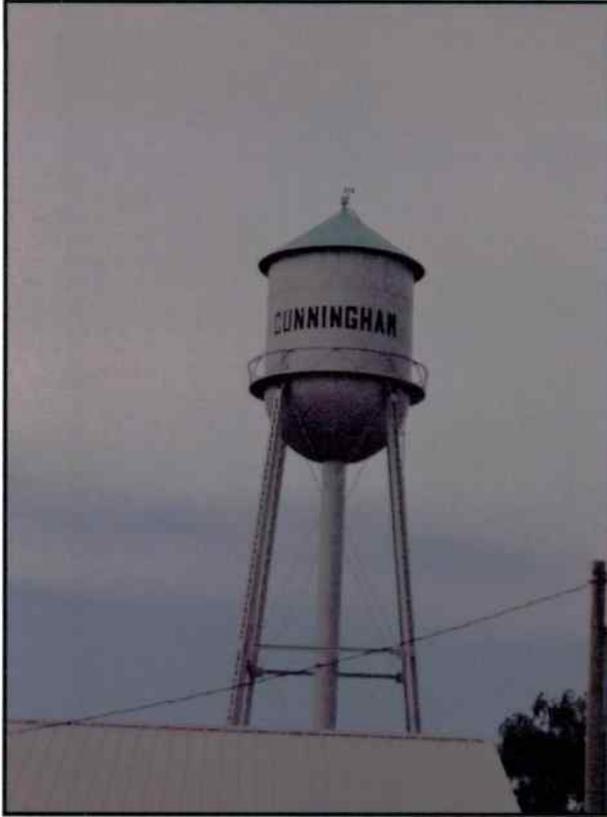
COMPANION STORYTELLER JUDGE
SPECTATOR CRAICSTER DOCENT

DOMNAL Ó MÁILLE
FREE ENTERPRISE CAPITALIST

2314 West 95th Street
LEAWOOD, KANSAS 66206-1908
913-908-7040 irishxmanom@yahoo.com

Don O'Malley's "business" card

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Cunningham Water Tower, that Bill Huffman as a young boy, climbed to the top of and sat on top of. The reader can see by the picture, that it was no easy task to climb up the tower legs, let alone set on top of the tank. The same tower is still in use to this day.

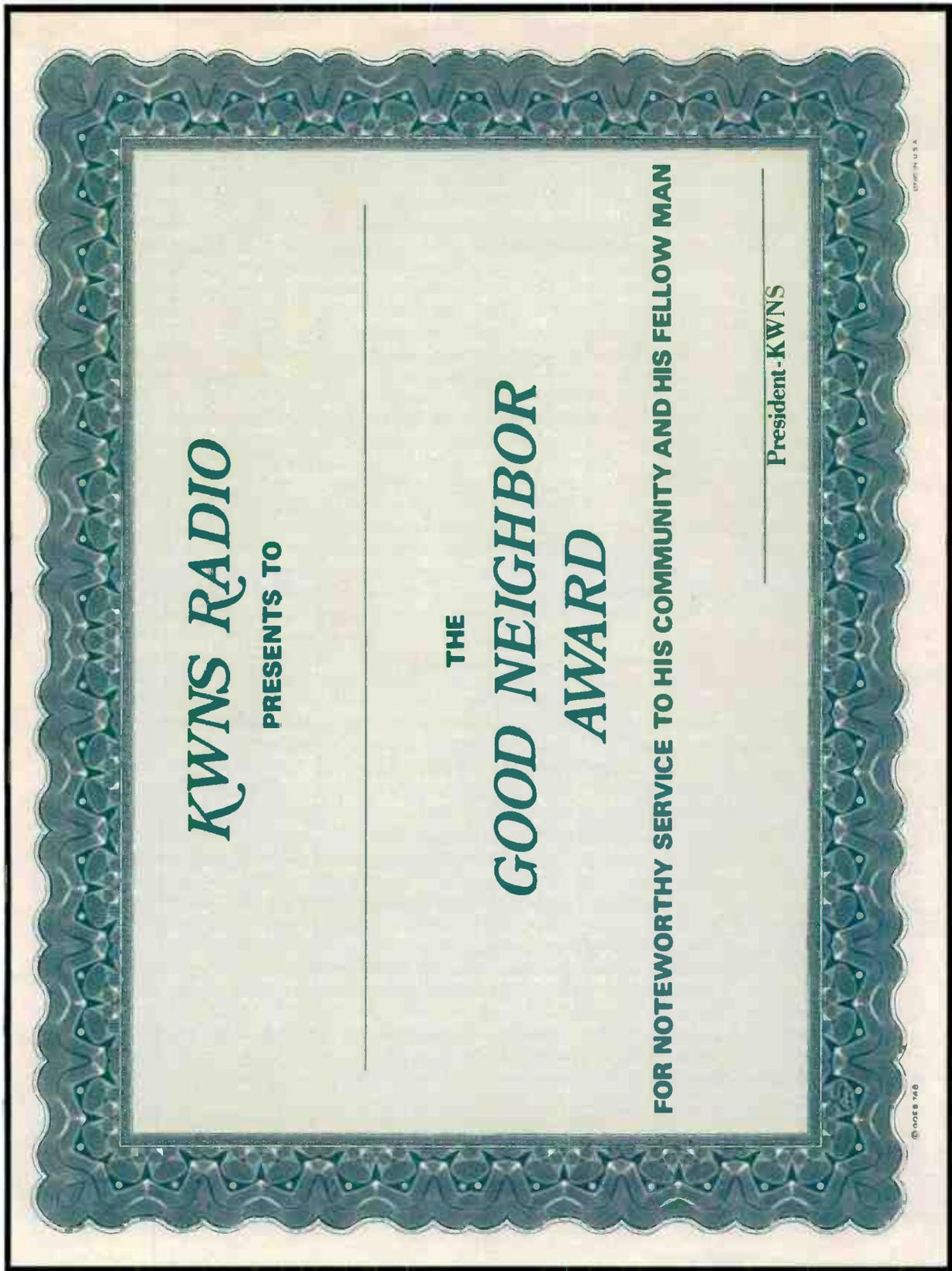
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



This is a picture of a Cushman Model 53, that Bill, as a junior and senior in high school, used for his paper route in Cunningham, Kansas.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Scan of a KWNS "Good Neighbor Award" Certificate. Like the true Irishman that Don O'Malley was, the award is green colored.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



A young Matt Musil posing on the west side of the KWNS sign that guarded the entrance to the station on highway 54. Although no picture exists that clearly shows the other side, that side had only the call letters in large letters. The sign was designed and hand painted by local sign-maker Jerry Angood at Pratt Glass. Picture taken in September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

MAINTENANCE LOG
 KWNS AM
 1290 KILOHERTZ
 5000 WATTS DAYTIME DIRECTIONAL
 500 WATTS NIGHTIME DIRECTIONAL

CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME (ADVANCED)
 CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (NON-ADVANCED)

DAY Saturday
 DATE 6 March 87

TRANSMITTER AND ANTENNA MONITOR READINGS

TIME BEGAN		COMMON POINT	LOOP CURRENTS				PHASES			
			W	WC	EC	E	EC/W	EC/WC	EC/EC	EC/E
DAY	3:00 PM	10.2	40	96	100	47	+89	-136	0	+117
NIGHT	4:00 PM	3.2	64	106	100	72	+8	+166	0	+147

TRANSMITTER READINGS							
FINAL RF SECTION		DRIVER		IPA		OSC	
Ep	Ip	Ig	Ip	Ig	Ip	Ig	Ip
5000	1.35						
1500	.52						

FCC MAX	READING	FCC MAX	READING
20.5D	1 <u>12.6</u>	4.1D	6 <u>4.5</u>
5.1N	2 <u>5.4</u>	3.7N	7 <u>3.7</u>
3.9N	3 <u>3.6</u>	15.2D	8 <u>12.5</u>
5.6D	4 <u>5.0</u>	44.1N	9 <u>42.0</u>
4.2D	5 <u>4.4</u>	38.9N	10 <u>38.2</u>
53.5N	<u>48.0</u>		

LOOP CURRENTS

DAYTIME		TIME BEGAN		NIGHTIME		TIME BEGAN	
TOWER	READING	FCC RATIO	PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE	TOWER	READING	FCC RATIO	PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE
W	40	.42	4.8	W	64	.61	4.7
WC	96	104	7.7	WC	106	102	3.8
EC	100	100	—	EC	100	100	—
E	47	.46	1.02	E	72	.71	1.01

BASE CURRENTS

DAYTIME		TIME BEGAN		NIGHTIME		TIME BEGAN			
TOWER	READING	FCC RATIO	RATIO	PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE	TOWER	READING	FCC RATIO	RATIO	PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE
W	3.8	.545	.542	.4	W	2.2	.551	.550	.8
WC	6.8	.988	.971	1.7	WC	3.4	.846	.850	1.04
EC	7.0	1.00	1.0	—	EC	4.0	1.0	1.0	—
E	3.3	.449	.471	1.04	E	2.54	.654	.635	3.0

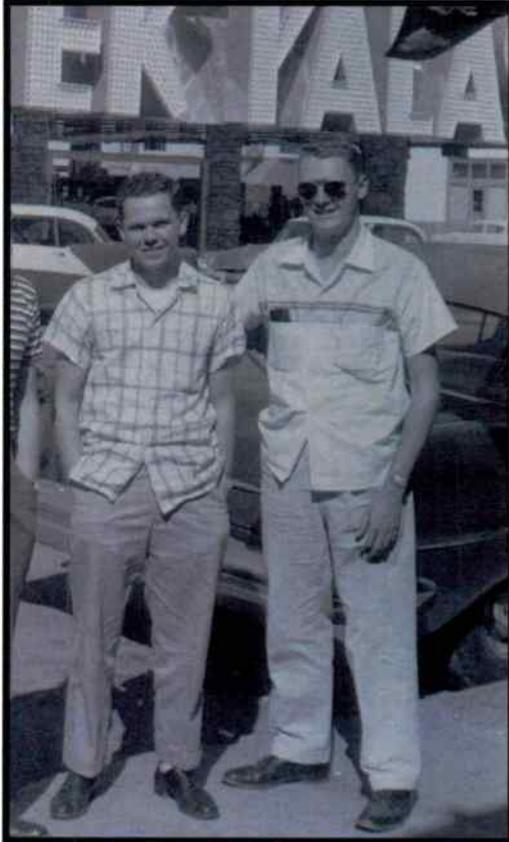
MAINTENANCE LOG
 KWNS FM
 29,000 ERP
 93.1 MEGAHERTZ

TIME BEGAN	EP	IP	OUT RF	VSWR	IPA	DR

Scan of a KWNS Maintenance Log. One of these was filled out everyday by the station Chief Engineer. In 1974, Ron Detwiler designed this log sheet and Patty Detwiler typed it out and printed it out at Skyline School when she was the Superintendent's Secretary. The master sheet had to be done twice however, as the first one was promptly ate by the memo-graph machine. I remember she cried all night over the first one.

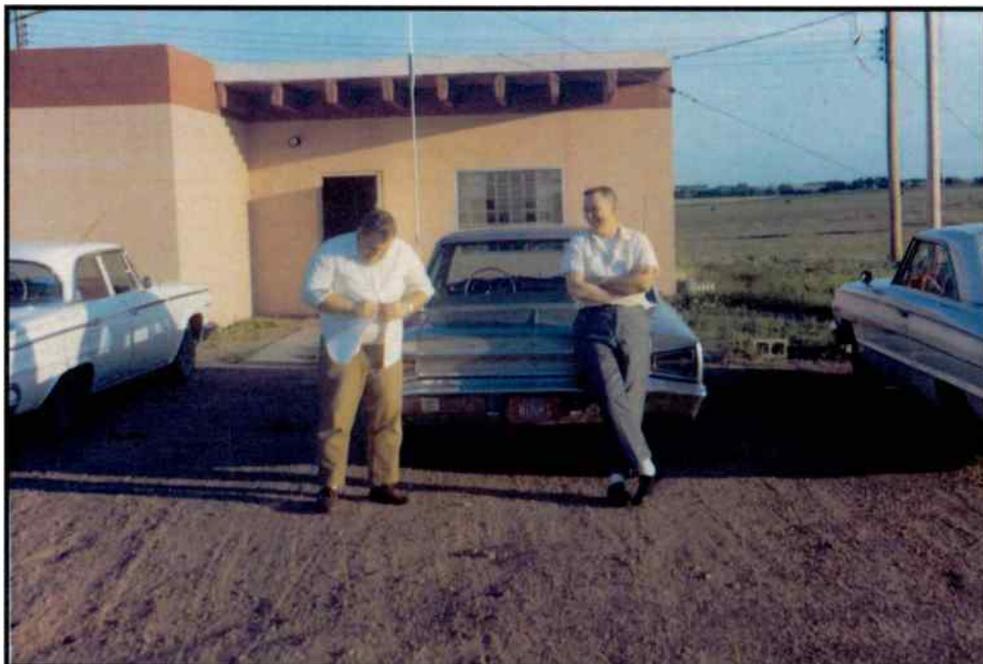
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Picture of George Kieffer and Don O'Malley posing for the camera in Reno, Nevada, 1956. When George was discharged from the service, Don and two of their other high school buddies, Bob Klug and Bill Dalton drove out to California to pick George up.

Courtesy: George Kieffer



Chief Engineer Gene McKinney and Night DJ Chuck Fry getting ready to pose for the camera. Picture taken in the summer of 1970. To the left is Chuck's Plymouth, Gene's in the center with the ham tag on it and the author's Galaxy 500 to the right.

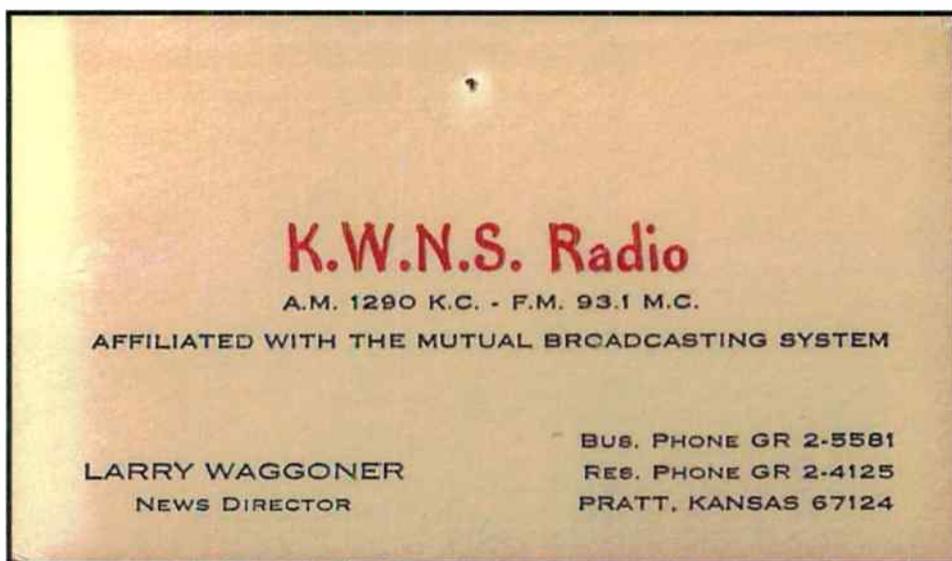
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

KAN ZONES 8..9
9 30 PM CST SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17 1973
...TRAVELERS ADVISORY TONIGHT...
CLOUDY AND COLD WITH OCCASIONAL SNOW ACCUMULATING ONE TO THREE INCHES
THE REST OF TONIGHT. LOWS MID TO UPPER 20S. LIGHT SOUTH TO
SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS. CONSIDERABLE CLOUDINESS AND COOL WITH A CHANCE
OF LIGHT SNOW OR SNOW FLURRIES SUNDAY. HIGHS LOW TO MID 30S.
SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS 10 TO 20 MPH. PARTLY CLOUDY AND COLD SUNDAY
NIGHT. LOWS MID TO UPPER 20S. PARTLY SUNNY AND A LITTLE
WARMER MONDAY. HIGHS UPPER 30S TO LOWER 40S.
50/30/20

Pulled from the KWNS National Weather teletype on February 17, 1973 near sign-off.

Courtesy: Patty Detwiler



Courtesy: Larry Waggoner



Courtesy: Roger Harvey

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



View of parking lot and front of station in September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers



Alan Rogers on the air, September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

KWNS

AM 1290 IN FM 93.1

PRATT COUNTY

OFFICIAL HIT PARADE

WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 15, 1973

This Week

1. Dancin' In The Moonlight	King Harvest
2. Keeper Of The Castle	Four Tops
3. Eagle Eye (High Flyer)	Tranquility
4. Do It Again	Steely Dan
5. Could It Be I'm Falling In Love	Spinners
6. Stir It Up	Johnny Nash
7. Peaceful Easy Feelin'	Eagles
8. Why Can't We Live Together	Timmy Thomas
9. Dreidel	Don McClean
10. Love Train	O'Jays
11. Long Life and Success to the Farmer	Martin & Finley
12. Everybody	Medicine
13. Were Gonna Have A Good Time	Rare Earth
14. Love Music	Raiders
15. Oh, Babe What You Say	Hurricane Smith
16. I Can't Move No Mountains	B.S.&T.
17. Living Together Growing Together	5th Dimension
18. Neither One of Us	Gladys Knight
19. Sandman	Lettermen
20. Last Song	Edward Bear

For All Your Music Needs

ALCO'S
Record Dept.

ALBUMS 45's TAPES

Listen to the Oldies

RONNIE DEE

Saturdays from 5 to 10 P.M.

Plus
PRATT, KANSAS

YOUR HALLMARK CARD &
GIFT SHOP

Commonwealth Theatres

February 11-13
THE UNHOLY ROLLERS
Rated R

February 14-17

Walt Disney Presents **SNOWBALL EXPRESS**
&
THE MAGIC OF WALT DISNEY WORLD
Rated G

★ ★



Show Times

Sun. 2:00-7:30-9:30
Mon. & Tues. 7:30 only
Wed. thru Sat. 7:30 & 9:30

1st National Bank
Pratt, Kansas

*FREE CHECKING ACCOUNTS FOR
HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE STUDENTS*

KWNS weekly "Hit Parade Flyer" from the week ending February 15, 1973. The idea for the flyers was the work of Tim Hawks. The flyers were distributed all over Pratt business' each week. How long the promotional flyers were done is unknown. My future wife, Patty Route saved this one for her scrap book and is the only one known to exist.

Courtesy: Patty Detwiler

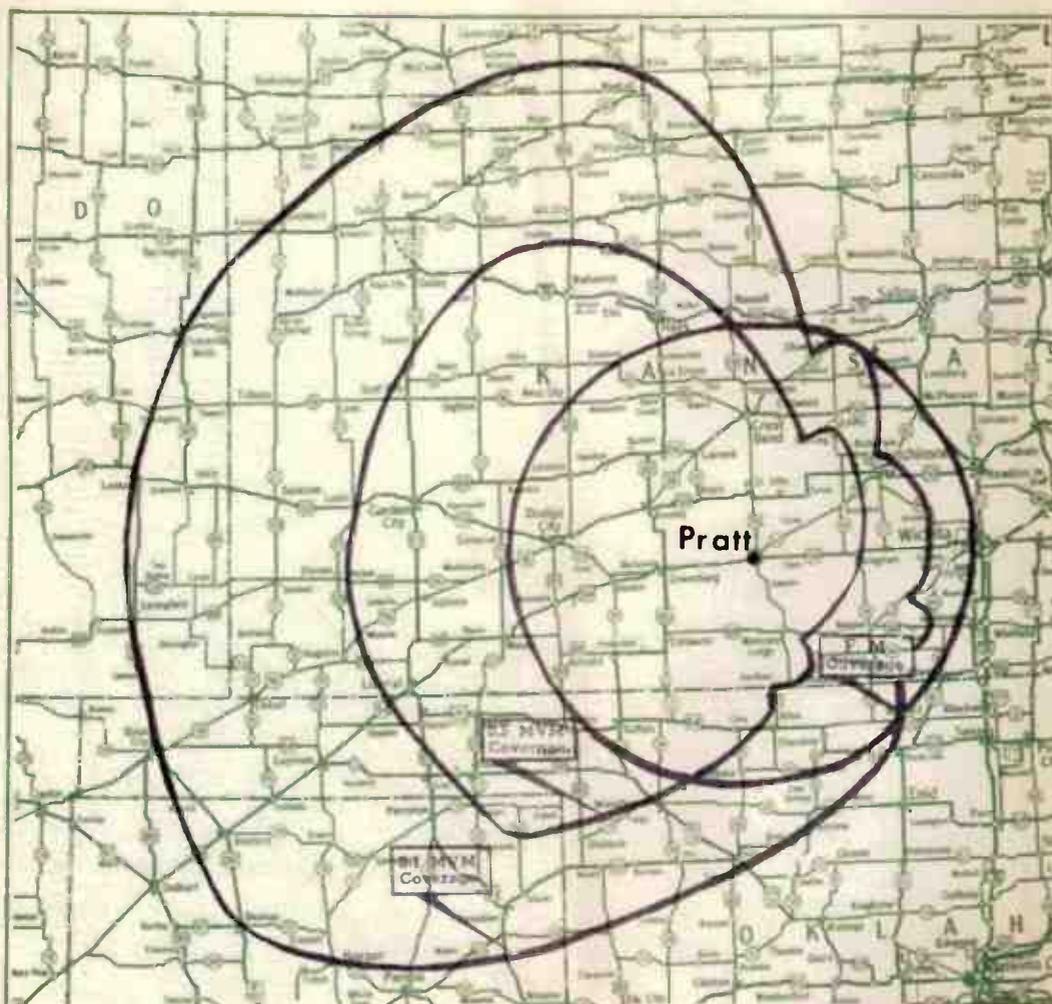
Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

KWNS
AM-FM

316-GR-2-5581
Post Office Box 486

Pratt, Kansas

5,000 Watts
1290 on the dial



"The voice of the great wheat belt."

KWNS Coverage Flyer from 1965. The new flyer was printed shortly after KWNS-FM went on the air, showing also the FM pattern.

Courtesy: Larry Waggoner

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Alice Bowe at her desk typing the station logs. Behind her to the left is the door to the AM transmitter and control room. To the right is the men's restroom. Picture taken in September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers



Don O'Malley posing for the camera beside the door to the AM control room. Behind Don is the AM transmitter room.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers



Laurel "Dub" Rickard, longtime owner of Hibbard Drug Store and sponsor of KWNS, at his home in Medicine Lodge, Kansas talking to the author about his brother, John Rickard. Picture was taken on April 28, 2013 and at the time, Dub was 93 years old.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Remote broadcast booth at the 1968 Home Show at the National Guard Armory. From left to right: Catherine Newsom, Bill Young and Larry Allen.

Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

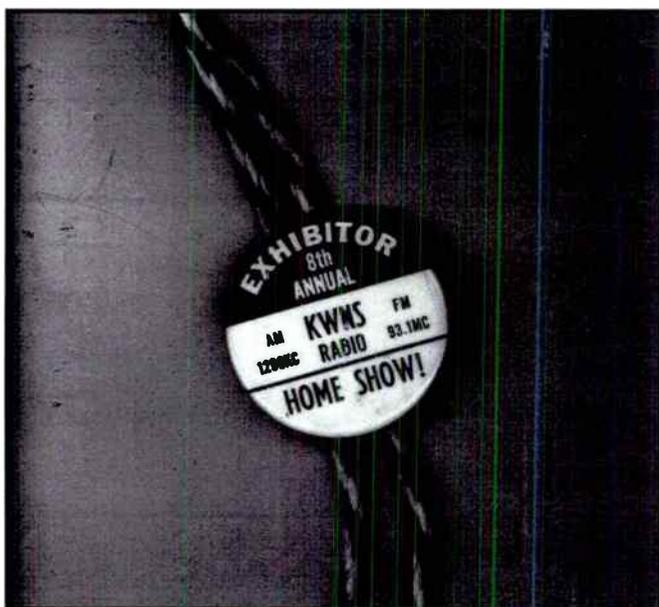


Bill Young and the "KWNS Mobile News Van" getting ready to do a remote broadcast from Third and Main in Pratt for the Saturday Parade of the 1968 Miss Kansas Pageant. Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

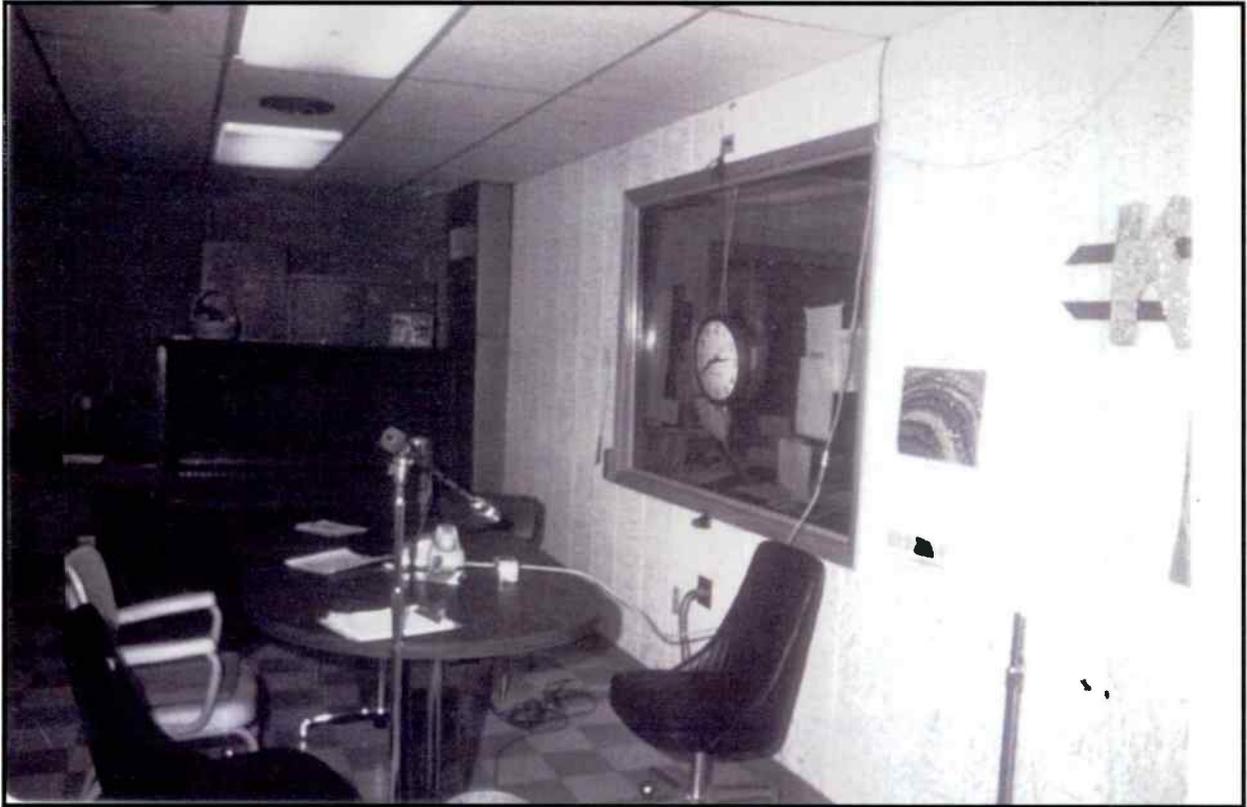


***View of the News Room looking North.
Courtest: Alan Rogers***



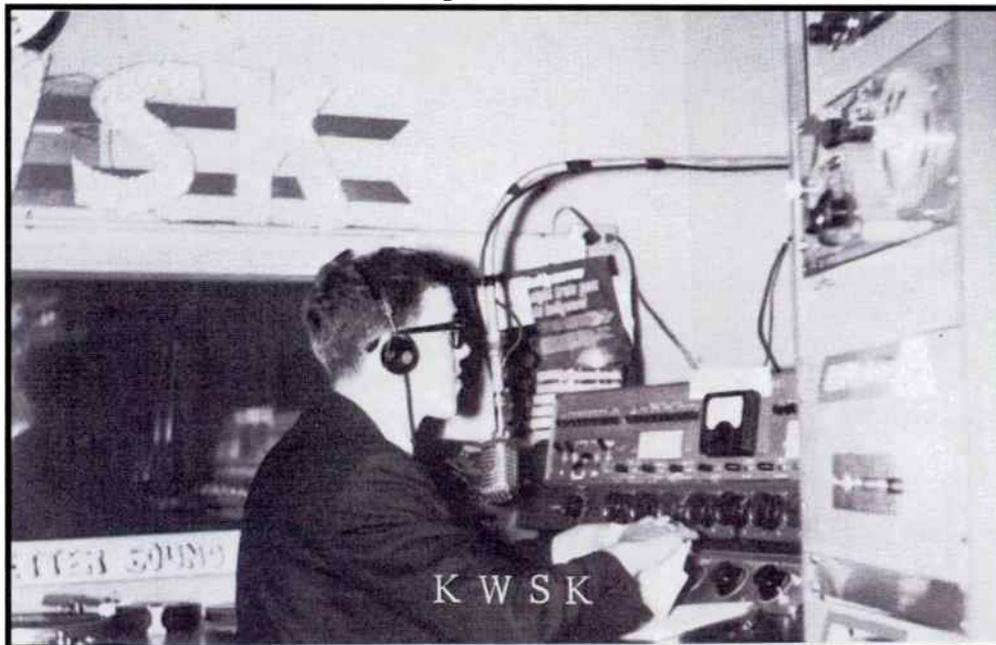
***1973 KWNS Home Show button
Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor***

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



View of the North Studio from the summer of 1971. At the right of the picture, one can see just the "K" of the KWNS wood banner hanging on the wall. The banner also came from KWSK, changing the SK to NS.

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



Lynn McBride at the board of KWSK. Above Lynn is the KWSK banner later moved to KWNS. Picture taken in 1963.

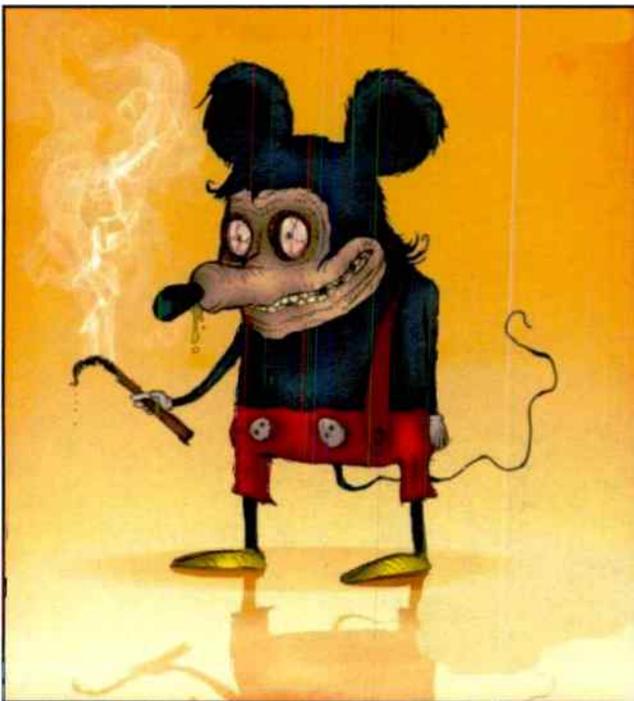
Courtesy: Pratt Beaver 1963 Yearbook

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



View of the control room from the North Studio. On the air is Alan "Scott" Rogers. To the left of the picture is the transmitting loop antenna for the "Marti" remote unit.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers



Always remember to use the "Jesus" stick before you start to work on the AM transmitter JONES!!!!

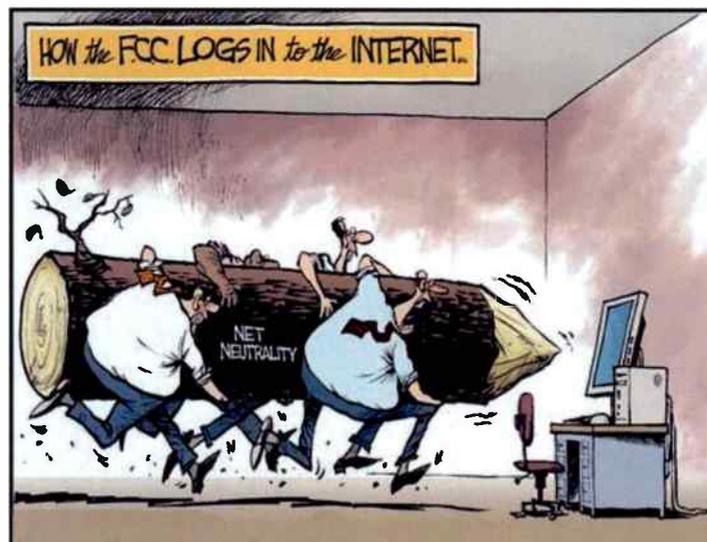
The "Jesus" stick was used to make sure the high voltage capacitors were fully discharged or anything connected with the high voltage section. Some of these voltage points were at more than 5,000 volts. So if you didn't use the stick, the next thing you knew, you might be looking at Jesus!

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Ron Jones on the air at his evening show. Looking to the north from the control room, you can see the meters of the FM transmitter though the window. Also one will notice that an RCA microphone and boom stand has replaced the original Shure mic.

Courtesy: Ron Jones



Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Picture of Bill Young's TV and Radio Service store in Belleville, Missouri.
Picture taken October, 1959.

Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

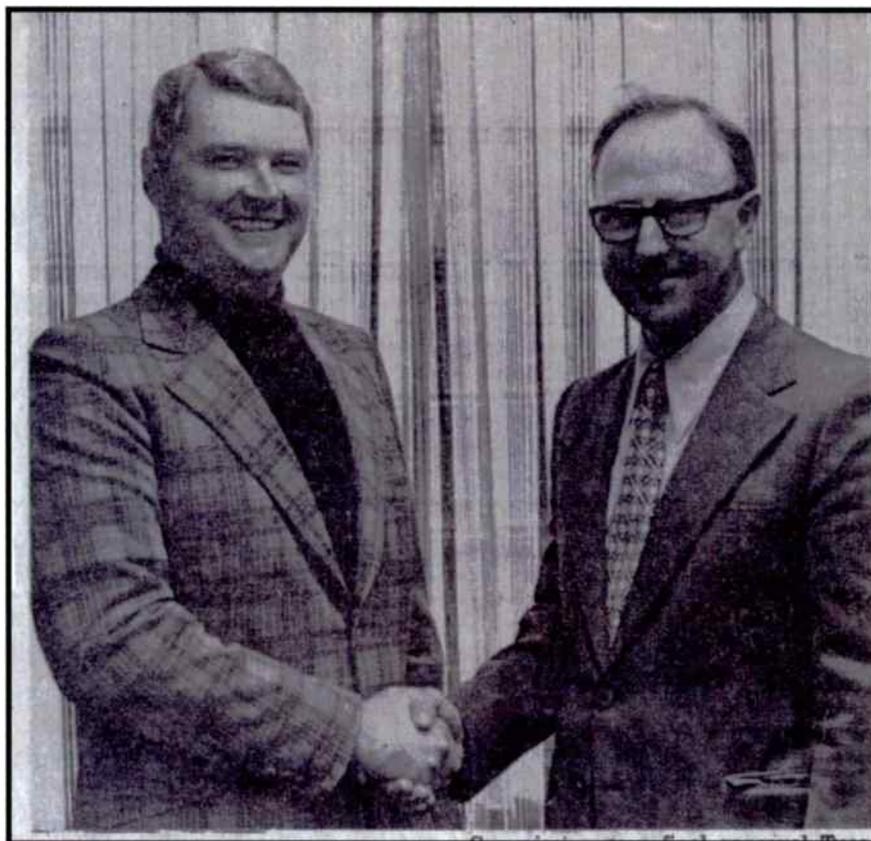


Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Ron Detwiler, summer 1971, standing in front of the legendary KOMA studios in Oklahoma City. On the air was Ron's radio school buddy Steve Rivers.

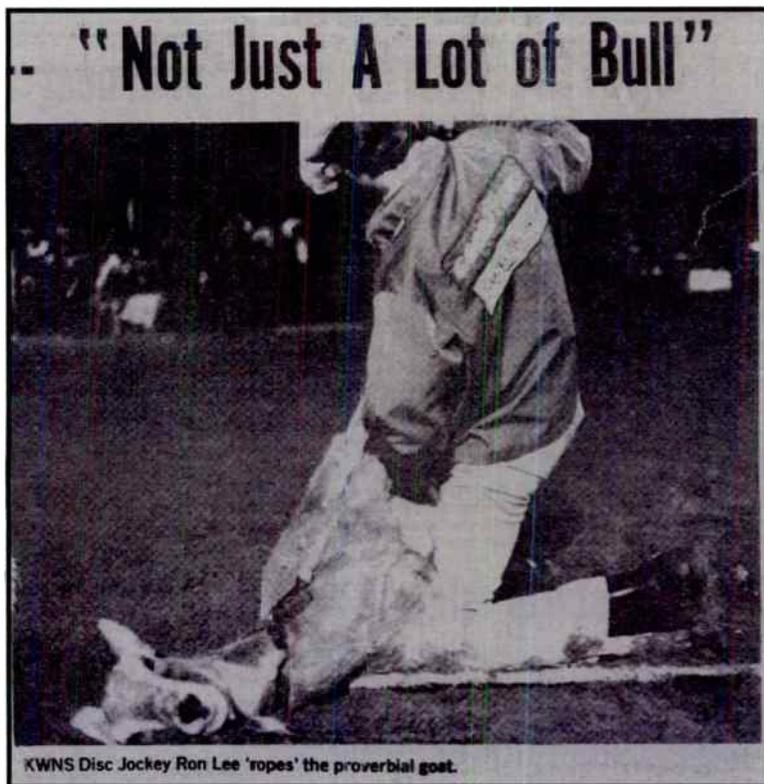
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



Don O'Malley and Bill Young shaking hands on the sale of KWNS AM-FM.

Courtesy: Pratt Tribune

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



Ron Jones roping a goat at a PCC rodeo event. Date is either the fall of 1974 or 1975.

Young TV and Appliance Center newspaper ad from 1959.

Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

**FOR SERVICE
ON YOUR
ADMIRAL!**

**FOR HIGHER TRADES
EASIER TERMS
BETTER SERVICE**

**SEE
YOUNG**

TV and APPLIANCE CENTER

4808 West Main Street
Phone ADams 3-3867

We Service All Makes TV

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1959

ANNOUNCE FEATURES

Record-TV Center Now Open in New Location



DON BYERLEY **BILL YOUNG**

Special activities marking the opening of Young TV - Record Center at the firm's new location at 7 North 47th Street will be scheduled soon, co-owners Bill Young and Don Byerley announced today.

The center, which features nationally advertised television and hi-fidelity sets, also deals in hi-fi, stereophonic, square dance and popular hit records.

The center also features an up-to-date maintenance shop.

Formerly situated at 4808 West Main Street, the business was started in October of 1955 by Young, a former engineer with several St. Louis radio and television stations. Byerley, a former advertising representative for the News-Democrat, joined the firm last August and took over operation of the record and hi-fidelity department.

Young is married to the former Barbara Blocher and has three children, Jimmy, 9, Mary Ann, 7, and Nancy, 1. Byerley is married to the former Audrey Lange and has two children, Pamela Gail, 6, and Crystal Kay, 1½.

The firm's new site provides more parking space for customers as well as a comfortable, well-lighted and air-conditioned building.

September 25, 1959 newspaper article announcing the opening of the Young Radio-Record Center and new location.

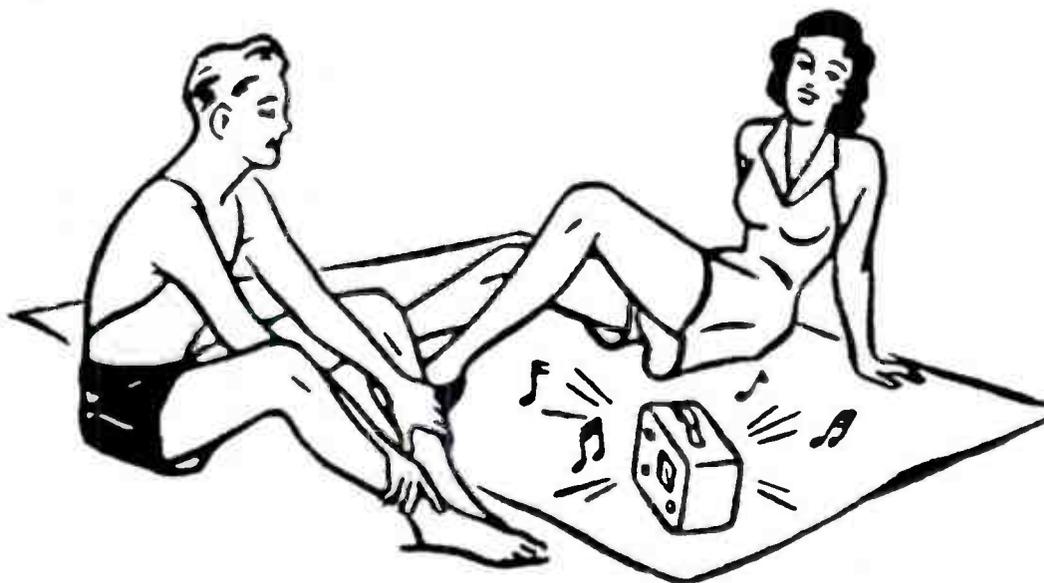
Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



KWNS company picnic at Lemon's Park, summer 1976. Standing in the picture L-R is Jonathan Hyde, Henry Bowe and Dee Davis. In front of Jonathan is Brian O'Malley. Seated at the table in the blue shirt is Alice Bowe. Other lady is unknown.

Courtesy: O'Malley Family



FCC FORM 758 A

The United States of America

NUMBER P1-10-19950

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

RADIO TELEPHONE OPERATOR LICENSE

FIRST CLASS
(General Radiotelephone Certificate)

This certifies that RONALD WAYNE DETWILER

SEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR	DATE OF BIRTH
M	6 FT. 5 IN.	180	Brown	Brown	MONTH April DAY 18 YEAR 1952

IS A LICENSED RADIO OPERATOR, AUTHORIZED, SUBJECT TO ANY SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT PLACED HEREON, TO OPERATE THE CLASSES OF LICENSED RADIO STATIONS FOR WHICH THIS CLASS OF LICENSE IS VALID UNDER THE ORDERS, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, ANY STATUTE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ANY TREATY TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS A PARTY.

THIS LICENSE IS GRANTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREOF AND OF ALL LEGISLATIVE ACTS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND TREATIES TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS SIGNATORY, AND ALL ORDERS, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WHICH ARE BINDING UPON RADIO OPERATORS, ARE MADE A PART HEREOF AS THOUGH SPECIFICALLY SET OUT IN FULL HEREIN.

NEITHER THIS LICENSE NOR THE RIGHTS CERTIFIED TO HEREIN SHALL BE ASSIGNED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED TO ANY OTHER PERSON.

PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dallas, Texas 10 August 13, 1971

DATE AND TIME OF EXPIRATION: August 13, 1976 AT THREE O'CLOCK A. M., EASTERN STANDARD TIME.

SPECIAL ENDORSEMENT:



Federal Communications Commission.

Ben F. Waple
(Secretary)

J. E. O'Keefe
(Issuing Office)

Ronald Wayne Detwiler
(Licensee)

NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED

Scan of Ron Detwiler's First Class Radio Telephone License.

Front View

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

WARNING

FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION, BE SURE THAT THE RADIO EQUIPMENT IS COVERED BY A CURRENTLY VALID RADIO STATION LICENSE. A LICENSED OPERATOR OF THE PROPER CLASS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER FUNCTIONING OF THE TRANSMITTER.

ALL LICENSED RADIO OPERATORS SHALL OBEY AND CARRY OUT THE LAWFUL ORDERS OF THE MASTER OR PERSON LAWFULLY IN CHARGE OF THE SHIP OR AIRCRAFT ON WHICH THEY ARE EMPLOYED.

PROHIBITIONS: UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OR USE OF MESSAGES.
 USE OF OBSCENE, INDECENT OR PROFANE LANGUAGE.
 FALSE OR DECEPTIVE SIGNALS OR COMMUNICATIONS.
 UNNECESSARY, UNIDENTIFIED OR SUPERFLUOUS COMMUNICATIONS.
 WILLFUL OR MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH COMMUNICATIONS.

KNOW YOUR CURRENT RADIO LAWS, TREATIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS. THEIR OBSERVANCE WILL SERVE BOTH YOUR INTEREST AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

SERVICE RECORD

This is to certify that the holder of this license has served as radio operator under my orders during the period named.

NAME	SHIP OR OTHER STATION		PERIOD	CHARACTER OF TECHNICAL SERVICE PERFORMED (SATISFACTORY OR UNSATISFACTORY)	CERTIFIED BY	
	CALL LETTERS	TYPE(S) OF EMISSION			SIGNATURE	TITLE (STATION LICENSEE, MASTER, MANAGER, OR AUTHORIZED AGENT.)
	KWNS	AM FM	From AUG. , 19 71 , to May , 1976 ,	Satisfactory	<i>Don O'Malley</i>	Station Licensee
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			
			From , 19 , to , 19 ,			

F.C.C.-WASHINGTON, D. C.

Scan of Ron Detwiler's First Class Radio Telephone License, signed by Don O'Malley as work being satisfactory.

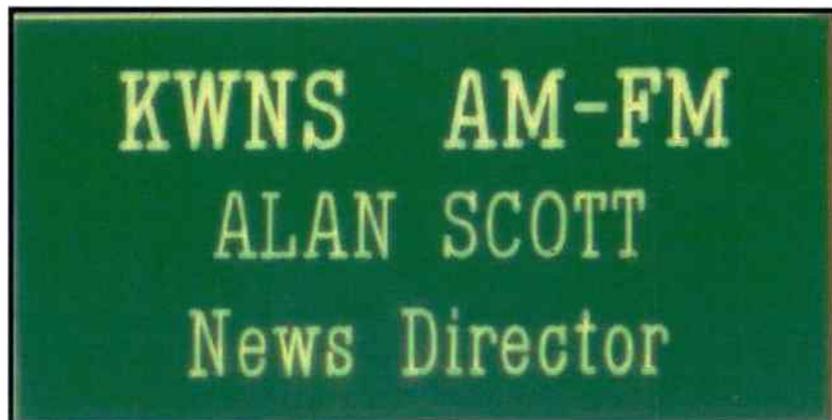
Back View
 Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



KWNS company picnic at Lemon's Park, summer 1976. At the left from front to back is Sam Kanipp, Sam's wife, Alice Bowe and behind Alice is Henry Bowe. At the right of the picture is Patty Detwiler, Ron Detwiler and an unknown.

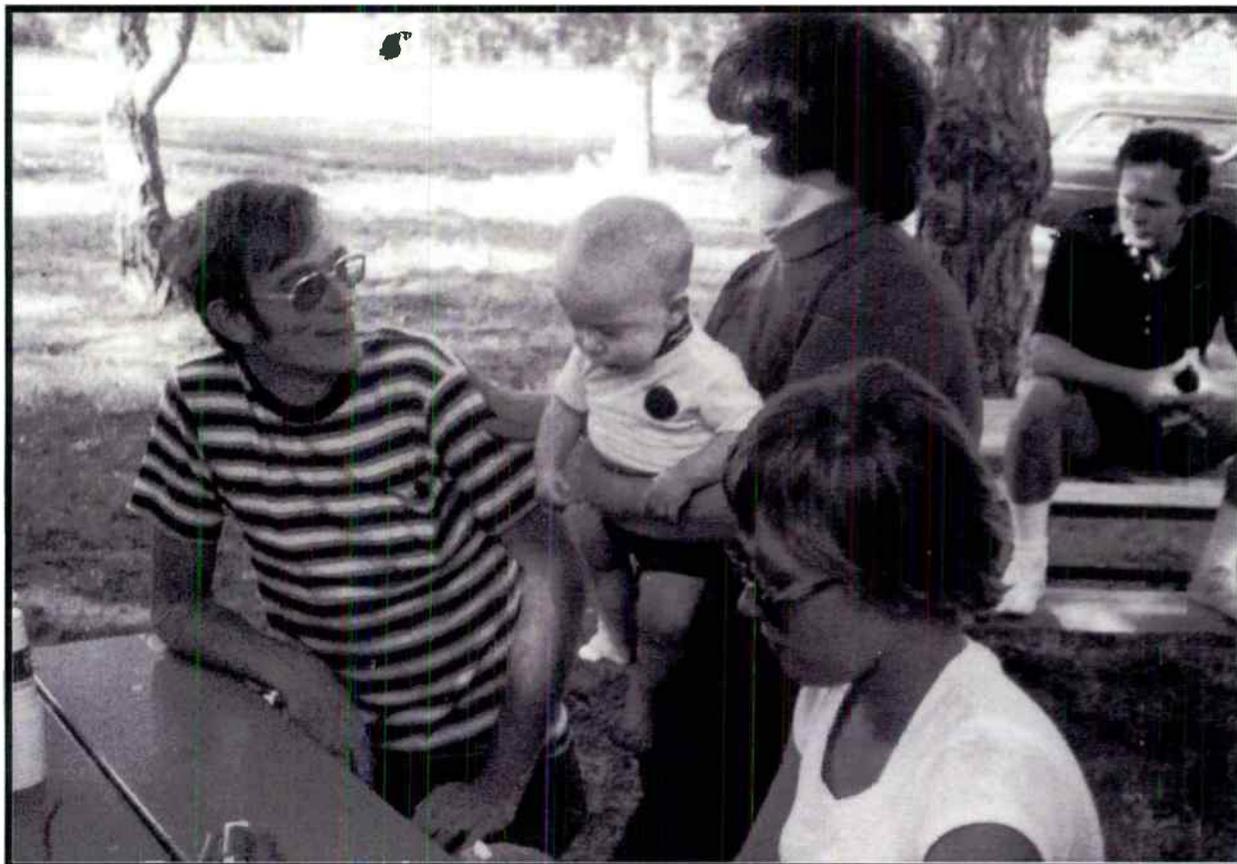
Courtesy: O'Malley Family



Alan Rogers' name tag from September 1974.

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



KWNS company picnic at Lemon's Park, summer 1976. From L-R is Ron Detwiler, Patty Detwiler holding 6-month old son Christopher Detwiler. In front is Dee Davis. Seated at the back table is unknown.

Courtesy: O'Malley Family



The Midnite Ramblers-1964

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



"Western Night" at the Pratt Trail Drive-in in August 1965. The band is actually setup on top of the concession stand. From L-R: Jack Fredrick, J. Larry "James" Simmons, Robin Harris on drums and Larry Waggoner. Both Simmons and Waggoner were employed at KWNS when this picture was taken. Holding down the fort back at the station was legendary KWNS night DJ, Andy Airiola.

Courtesy: Rosalie Cates



Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

As soon as Don and George took over ownership of KWNS, the official stationary changed also to Don's favorite Irish color.....green!!

Courtesy: Alan Rogers

Misc. Pictures, Memorabilia and Stuff



#2 record from the original KWNS library is Rick Nelson, "I'm in Love Again".

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWNS

Advertising Sales

Brochure

1970

Over the years there were a few advertising flyers, promotional flyers, coverage flyers, etc. produced for KWNS. According to Mary Ann Young, Bill was the most pleased with this one and its "door opener" design. The rates on this card became effective on January 1, 1970. Pictures courtesy of Mary Ann Young.

KWNS Sales Brochure 1970



Front view with the two flaps folded in.

KWNS is

- ★ Full Time
- ★ 5000 Watts
- ★ Mutual Broadcasting System Affiliate

Serving

- ★ 1/4 Million People
- ★ 37 Counties

The Heart of Kansas

- ★ Wheat, Sorghum
Milo, Barley
- Oil
- ★ Gas
- ★ Livestock
- ★ Irrigation

COMPUTED COVERAGE CONTOURS

0.5 MV/M
Regional
1290 kc

The Fresh Sound!!

7 DAYS A WEEK

- 32 Newcasts Daily
Local-Regional-National
- Complete Weather Coverage
Weather-Wire
- Sports Throughout The Year
- Special Events
- Programming For All Ages
- Good Music Too!

City of
P
R
A
T
T

Home of the
KANSAS
FORESTRY
FISH & GAME
COMMISSION

KWNS PRATT

The Miss Kansas Pageant

To reach the farmer, the rancher, the businessman, the housewife, the parent, the senior, the young lady, the child - TO REACH EVERYONE! PICK OUT YOUR PRODUCTION SCHEDULE BELOW, AND LET KWNS WORK FOR YOU!

Time	1 hr.	1/2 hr.	1/4 hr.	5 min.	1 min.	1/2 min.
1	45.00	30.00	24.75	17.25	7.00	4.75
11	41.75	26.75	22.75	15.00	6.00	4.50
26	37.50	22.50	20.50	13.00	5.50	4.00
52	33.75	20.50	18.50	12.00	4.75	4.00
104	30.00	18.75	16.50	10.75	4.50	3.50
156	28.00	16.75	14.50	9.75	4.00	3.00
260	25.25	15.00	12.50	8.50	3.50	2.75
312	24.25	13.50	10.00	7.00	3.00	2.50
365	22.50	11.25	8.25	6.25	2.75	2.25

KWNS 11770

Front view with the two flaps folded out.

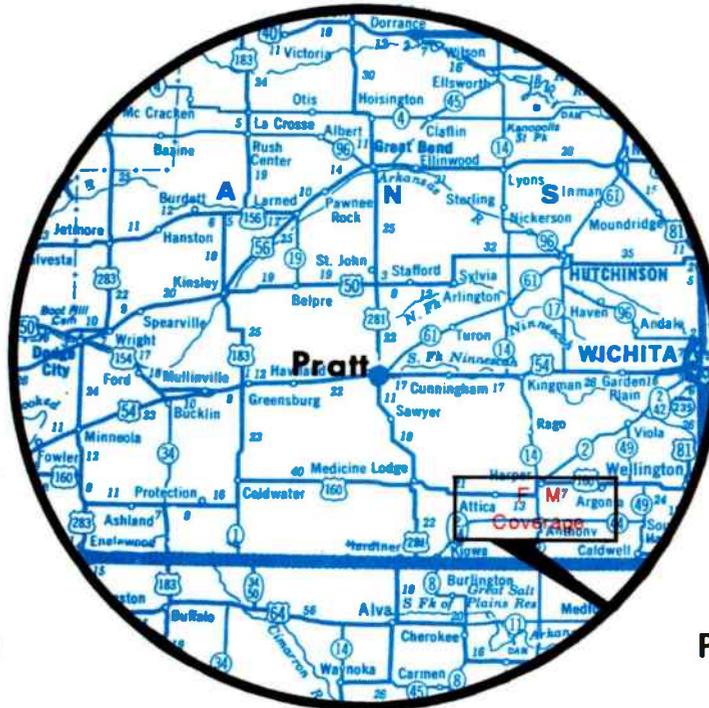
KWNS Sales Brochure 1970

..... and **KWNS-FM**

5000 Power Full Watts 29000 ERP

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With



93.1 m. c.



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with results

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(area code) 316

672-5581



P. O. Box 486

Pratt, Kansas 67124

*A Background Music Channel for Homes, Offices and
Businesses to Complete the Needs of this Great Area.*

Back view of the brochure.

RADIO

KWNS

Area Guide

April 1968 Edition

Courtesy: Kathleen Nestor

KWNS Area Guide April 1968 Edition

Boxholder—
Local
Rural

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 2
Hutchinson, Kansas 67502

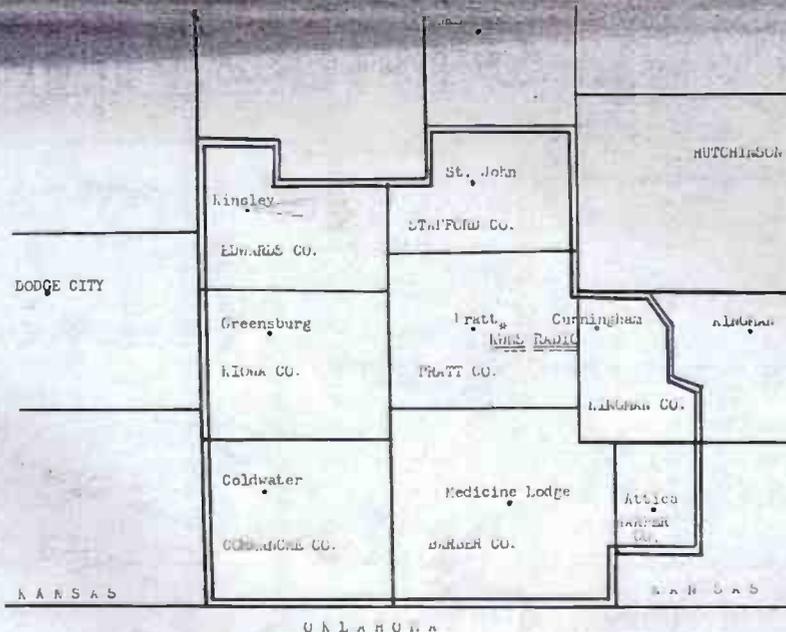
KWNS AREA GUIDE

KWNS Radio Area Guide

P.O. Box 486—Pratt, Kansas 67124

A Monthly Publication

8,393 Minimum Rural Circulation In 8 Kansas Counties



Buy From Your "KWNS AREA GUIDE" Merchants

Cover Page

KWNS Area Guide April 1968 Edition

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GREENSBURG'S Department Store



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Hundreds of Yards

New Spring and
Summer Patterns

10% OFF

Thru April 29th



Seamless NYLONS

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8 1/2 to 11

2 pair 83c



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Girls and Ladies

3 pair \$1.00



KWNS, 1290 on your AM dial and KWNS-FM, 93.1 on your FM dial, has a direct Weather Wire Service with the Weather Bureau and keeps the KWNS listening area fully informed of severe weather or the possibility of tornadoes.

Here are a few tornado safety rules: **IN OPEN COUNTRY**, move away from the tornado's path at a right angle. If there is no time to escape, lie flat in the nearest depression, such as a ditch or ravine. **IN CITIES OR TOWNS**, seek inside shelter, preferably in a tornado cellar, or a steel-framed or reinforced concrete construction. **STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS!**—**IN HOMES**, the corner of the basement toward the tornado offers the greatest safety. In a home with no basement, take cover under heavy furniture in the center part of the house. Keep some windows open, but stay away from them! **MOST IMPORTANT, KEEP LISTENING TO KWNS AND KWNS-FM** for the latest tornado advisory information. Do not call KWNS RADIO, as we will be busy keeping you informed. Call the Weather Bureau **ONLY** to report an actual sighting.

McDonald's Pratt

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Ladies
SPRING DRESSES
1/2 Price
Values to \$35—Junior, Misses, Half Sizes

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DACRON PILLOWS
\$2.27

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2 For **\$5** 2 For **\$7**
3-6X 7-14

Spring Suitings

\$1.44 yd.

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Ladies Pykette
SHORTS
\$3
Sizes 8 to 18
Sharpe Shape
Permanent Press
No Summer Colors

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KHAKI PANTS
\$2.77

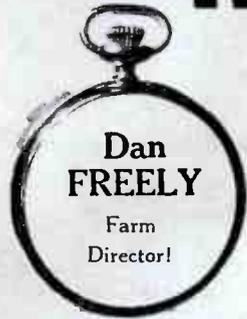
Ladies
SPRING COATS
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Values to \$28

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MEN'S CASUALS
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Broken Sizes—Values to \$8.00

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Ladies Sportswear, Dresses, Odds & Ends

KWNS Area Guide April 1968 Edition

THE MUTUAL **KWNS** RADIO News-Weather WATCH NEVER STOPS



**Dan
FREELY**
Farm
Director!



**Jim
MARTIN**
News
Centrall



**Catherine
NEWSOM**
Area
News!

Monday Thru Friday Programs

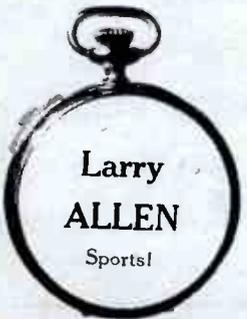
5:59 Sign On	12:28 Dow Jones Report
6:00 NEWS	12:30 NEWS
6:05 Clock Watcher Show	12:35 Radio Want Ads
6:15 FARM NEWS	12:40 Noon Show
6:20 Clock Watcher Show	12:55 WEATHER
6:30 NEWS	1:00 NEWS
6:35 Clock Watcher Show	1:05 Country Caravan
7:00 NEWS	1:15 Closing Grain Market
7:15 Livestock Mkts.	1:40 Country Caravan
7:20 Clock Watcher Show	2:00 NEWS
7:25 WEATHER	2:05 Radio Want Ads
7:30 Sports	2:10 Country Caravan
7:35 Family Devotions	2:25 Country Caravan
7:40 Clock Watchers Show	3:00 NEWS
8:00 NEWS	3:05 Rally and Groove Show
8:05 Radio Want Ads	3:30 NEWS
8:10 Clock Watcher Show	3:35 Wall Street Report
8:30 NEWS	3:40 Rally and Groove Show
8:35 Impact	4:00 NEWS
9:00 NEWS	4:05 Rally and Groove Show
9:05 Coffee Time.	4:30 Sports
Greensburg	4:35 Rally and Groove Show
9:30 NEWS	4:55 Bill Bailey Drive Time
9:35 Mid-Morning Show	5:00 NEWS
10:00 NEWS	5:05 Sports
10:05 Radio Want Ads	5:15 Radio Want Ads
10:10 Around the Town	5:20 Easy Listening
10:28 Dow Jones Report	5:30 NEWS
10:35 Opening Grain	5:45 LifeLine
10:46 Around the Town	6:00 Fulton Lewis
11:00 NEWS	6:15 Evening Show
11:05 Medicine Lodge	6:30 Sports
Market Basket	6:35 Evening Show
11:28 Dow Jones Report	7:00 NEWS
11:30 NEWS	7:05 Evening Show
11:35 Market Basket	7:15 Evening Show
AFTERNOON	8:00 NEWS
12:00 NEWS	8:05 Evening Show
12:15 Livestock Report	8:20 NEWS
12:20 Noon Show	8:25 Celebrity Party
	9:00 NEWS
	9:05 Evening Show
	10:00 NEWS
	10:05 Sign Off

Saturday Programs

5:59 Sign On	AFTERNOON
6:00 NEWS	12:00 NEWS
6:05 Clock Watcher Show	12:20 Marine Diary
6:15 Outdoor Sports for Kansas	12:30 NEWS
6:30 NEWS	12:35 Radio Want Ads
6:35 Clock Watcher Show	12:40 Noon Show
7:00 NEWS	12:55 WEATHER
7:15 Livestock Mkts.	1:00 NEWS
7:20 Clock Watcher Show	1:05 Afternoon Show
7:25 W/ATTEER	1:30 Sports
7:30 NEWS	1:35 Afternoon Show
7:35 Family Devotions	2:00 NEWS
7:40 Clock Watcher Show	2:05 Radio Want Ads
7:45 4-H News	2:10 Afternoon Show
8:00 NEWS	2:30 NEWS
8:05 Radio Want Ads	2:35 Afternoon Show
8:10 Clock Watcher Show	3:00 Silver Dollar Drawing
8:30 NEWS	3:05 Afternoon Show
8:35 Clock Watcher Show	3:30 NEWS
9:00 NEWS	3:35 Afternoon Show
9:05 Rally and Groove Show	4:00 NEWS
9:30 NEWS	4:05 Afternoon Show
9:35 Rally and Groove Show	4:30 Sports
10:00 NEWS	4:35 Afternoon Show
10:05 Radio Want Ads	5:00 NEWS
10:10 Rally and Groove Show	5:05 Sports
10:30 NEWS	5:15 Radio Want Ads
10:35 Rally and Groove Show	5:20 Afternoon Show
11:00 NEWS	5:35 Afternoon Show
11:05 Radio Want Ads	5:45 LifeLine
11:10 Rally and Groove Show	6:00 NEWS
11:30 NEWS	6:05 The Army Hour
11:35 Rally and Groove Show	6:30 Sports
12:00 NEWS	6:35 Evening Show
12:05 NEWS	7:00 NEWS
12:10 NEWS	7:05 Evening Show
12:15 NEWS	7:30 NEWS
12:20 NEWS	7:35 Evening Show
12:25 NEWS	8:00 NEWS
12:30 NEWS	8:05 Evening Show
12:35 NEWS	8:30 NEWS
12:40 NEWS	8:35 Evening Show
12:45 NEWS	9:00 NEWS
12:50 NEWS	9:05 Evening Show
12:55 NEWS	9:30 NEWS
1:00 NEWS	9:35 Evening Show
1:05 NEWS	10:00 NEWS
1:10 NEWS	10:05 Sign Off

Sunday Programs

6:00 Sign On	2:05 Afternoon Show
7:00 Winrod Hour	2:30 NEWS
7:15 Music for Sun.	2:35 Afternoon Show
7:30 NEWS	2:45 Sounds of the Big Bands
7:35 Sacred Heart Hour	3:00 NEWS
8:00 Laymens Hour	3:05 Afternoon Show
8:30 Herald of Truth	3:30 NEWS
8:55 Church of Christ Notes	3:35 Afternoon Show
9:00 Voice of Prophecy	3:45 Church Session
9:30 NEWS	4:00 NEWS
9:35 Music for Sun.	4:05 Afternoon Show
10:00 NEWS	4:30 Sports
10:15 Lutheran Church	4:35 Afternoon Show
10:45 Methodist Church	5:00 NEWS
11:45 Showers of Blessings	5:05 Afternoon Show
	5:30 NEWS
	5:35 NEWS Sign Off
	Programming Continues on KWNS FM 93.1
AFTERNOON	6:00 NEWS
12:00 NEWS	6:05 Music for Sun.
12:15 Sports	6:30 Sports
12:20 Sun. Noon Show	6:35 Music for Sun.
12:30 NEWS	7:00 NEWS
12:35 Lutheran Hour	7:05 Music for Sun.
1:00 Hour of Decision	7:30 NEWS
1:30 Sports	7:35 Music for Sun.
4:35 Afternoon Show	8:00 NEWS
2:00 NEWS	8:05 Sign Off



**Larry
ALLEN**
Sports!

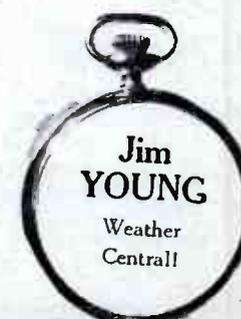
1290 KC.
(AM)

KWNS

93.1 M.C.
(FM)



GIVE A LISTEN!



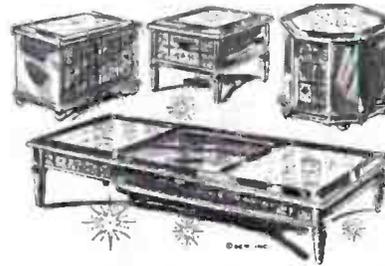
**Jim
YOUNG**
Weather
Centrall

KWNS Area Guide April 1968 Edition

DRIVE TO
NIEMANN'S
OF ATTICA
AND SAVE

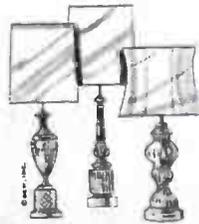
OPEN SUNDAY, 1-5

Our Gift Department is Complete with
 Ceramics — Cookie Jars — Figurines
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OCCASIONAL TABLES

Tremendous Selection of TABLES!
 All Styles — Wide Price Range!



Swag LAMPS — Table LAMPS
 Pole LAMPS — Dresser LAMPS
 Floor LAMPS
 Priced to Please!

New Shipment of
BEDSPREADS
 Just Arrived!
 Several Styles
 From Which to
 Choose!



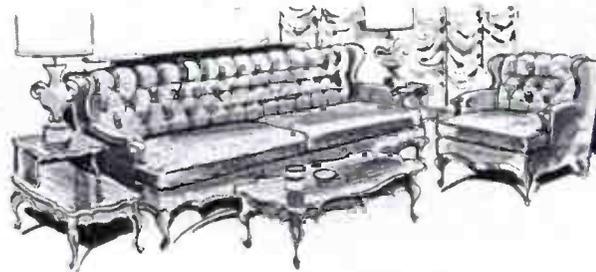
Beautiful Bedspreads

2-Pc. French Provincial

BIG SAVINGS!

\$329⁹⁵

The watchword in luxurious styling. Authentically designed sofa and matching armchair with elegant deeply tufted backs. Choice of many rich damask fabrics. Comfortable foam cushioning. Enhanced by generous amounts of fruitwood.



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Page 4

Enjoy Early American In Your Home



5-pc. dining room . . .
Colonial dining at its best. Authentic 42" round pedestal table topped in plastic and 4 chairs in the famous Duxbury design in warm Salem Maple finish.



Spindle Bunk Bed
Converts to 2 Twin Beds
\$99.95



Combine Early American Charm with SOLID FOAM COMFORT

Sit back and relax in foam cushioned comfort and delight in the authentic Colonial styling of your new sofa, chair and swivel rocker. Choose sunny maple finished tables to match the beautiful wood trim. It will make your home even more fashionable . . . comfortable . . . and livable.

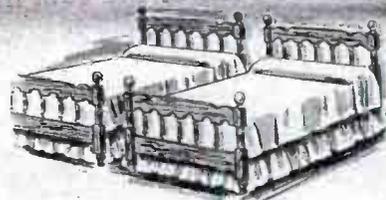
Popular pillow back sofa with Polyether foam cushions, button-tufted back and wood trimmed back and arms. **\$208⁸⁸**

Big comfortable lounge chair covered in heavy-duty fabric. Polyether foam cushion and maple finished wood trim. **\$98⁸⁸**

Large swivel rocker with smart print upholstery, box pleated skirt, mellow wood trim and comfortable foam cushions. **\$104⁸⁸**



Pair of Twin Beds
\$158.88



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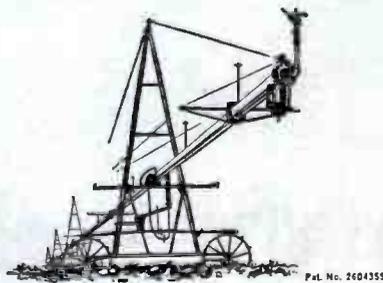
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**Farmers and ranchers who
like irrigation equipment
to last and last, buy
Valley Self-Propelled**

Here are 6 good reasons why-

- 1. Built for the long haul.**
Any point by point comparison shows why heavy duty Valleys last and last and last
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Give me all the facts about Self-Propelled

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A PRODUCT OF VALMONT INDUSTRIES, INC., VALLEY, NEBRASKA



Mid-Kansas Irrigation, Inc.

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Pratt Airport

Pratt, Kansas 67124

KWNS Area Guide April 1968 Edition

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Mohawk — Barwick — Coronet — Sequoyah



Reg. \$12.95 Heavy Plush Acrilan Shag	Now \$9.95
Reg. \$9.95 Acrilan Tweeds, Several Colors	Now \$6.95
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Would you believe

\$225

could buy so much?



Whether small, big, regular, or tall...



LA-Z-BOY
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fits them ALL

OVER 50 STYLES IN OUR
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OCCASIONAL CHAIRS

You're Sure to Find One That Will
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Choose From Several
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Page 7

STOCKMASTER
FARM - RANCH EQUIPMENT

Kingman Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Cunningham, Kansas 67035

SAVE 33 1/3% On

Oiler-Mineral Feeder Combination



THE STOCKMASTER 2 IN 1 UNIT!

■ **NO OIL PUMPS TO WEAR OUT**—Two overhead double-control valves keep four spring-covered applicators saturated with insecticide at all times, without waste. Valves are made of brass to eliminate rust.

■ **HEAVY DUTY APPLICATORS**—Positioned to allow animals to spread insecticide over their entire body. Unit will accommodate both large and small animals.

■ **REPAIR-SAVING FEATURES**—Photo at right with hood removed illustrates ball-bearing upon which the hood turns. Bearing is placed inside for protection, rubber washer keeps out dust and moisture. Square center shaft runs clear through to base.

Save Until the End of the Triple I Show

See These OILER-FEEDERS on
Display at Our Booth at the
Triple I Show in Pratt
April 25, 26, 27, 28



CREEP FEEDERS

Large twin size allows 4 to 5 animals to feed on each side at the same time. Half creep accommodates 6 animals at one time. Both are easy-to-fill, easy-to-move with tight weather-proof tops.

35 BUSHEL
CAPACITY



28 BUSHEL
CAPACITY



PressMaster PRESS WHEELS

PRESSMASTER double wheel units are designed to give you the best soil firming possible. The heavy cast iron construction provides just the right amount of weight for proper compaction and the semi-pneumatic V-shaped tires are self cleaning. They are scientifically shaped to tuck each seed to its most productive depth. Built for years of maintenance free service, the PRESSMASTER is equipped with easy - to - replace, oil - impregnated hardwood bearings.

GENTLEMEN:

Please send additional information on the items checked below.

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|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LOADING CHUTE | <input type="checkbox"/> TWIN CREEP FEEDER | <input type="checkbox"/> FENCE PANELS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALL STEEL FEED BUNK | <input type="checkbox"/> HALF CREEP FEEDER | <input type="checkbox"/> PANEL-CHUTE GATE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUNK WITH HAY FEEDER | <input type="checkbox"/> Weathervane MINERAL FEEDER | <input type="checkbox"/> Pressmaster PRESS WHEELS |

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ADDRESS _____

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We Carry the Full HONDA Line and Have
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*Swisher's have a full line
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Our Price ----- \$8.95



FISHING TACKLE - All Of Our Fishing Tackle at Discount Prices!

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Regular \$1.35

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Regular \$12.45

Our Price ----- \$6.99

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\$2.98

We Have the Largest Stock of

BOOTS In This Area

Justin — Tony Lama — Acme — Frye
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WESTERN CLOTHING

For the Entire Family

Lee Jeans, Denim and Perma-Press

Slim and Regular

M O C C A S I N S

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We Also Carry HEREFORD and BIG

HORN SADDLES Plus A Full Line

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Sporting Goods and Western Wear

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Pratt, Kansas

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FOR AS LOW AS
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NEW HANDSOME INTERIORS
Roomy, comfortable. Foam-padded seat with beige all-vinyl upholstery. Fully instrumented, padded dash. Complete safety equipment package.

PICK YOUR PICKUP FOR LOWEST PRICES...PLUS MORE COMBINATIONS THAN ANY OTHER MAKE!

Look what you get in even our lowest priced pickup: Top styling, attractive, comfortable interiors, new firm control and stability. Want a V-8? International builds just about the lowest priced V-8 pickup on the market today. Pick your power. All told there are six International engines to choose from, five transmissions, ten rear axle ratios, seven box sizes. You can even pick the suspension that best suits your job. We're ready to put your custom-built pickup on order any day you say.

"We're in the business to specialize in trucks"



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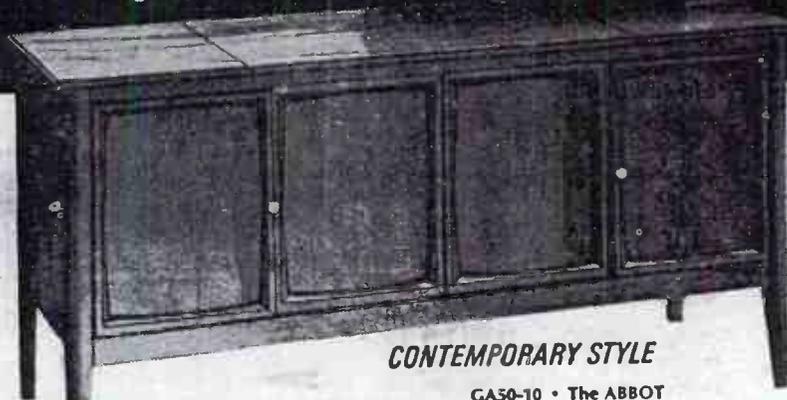
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your records can last
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Sound System**—
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plays all 4-speed records—intermixes
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**Quantities Limited!
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\$299.95

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DICKEY APPLIANCE CO.

Medicine Lodge, Ks.

Big wheels in big wheat

John Deere 3020 and 4020 Standard Tractors

John Deere "3020" and "4020" Standard Tractors skillfully blend power, speed, comfort and convenience into modern power units well qualified for large-acreage wheatland operations. With 70 and 94 h.p., respectively, these tractors move heavy loads in the higher, more productive work speeds. At the same time, they provide tireless hydraulic power to save your muscle on steering, braking, and equipment control. Both are available with gas or Diesel engines and with Syncro-Range or Power Shift Transmissions. Stop in soon and make a date to drive a John Deere "3020" or "4020" Tractor.



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CONTACT**

**HAAS Implement
Coldwater, Kansas**

Telephone 582-2141



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Delta 88

There's nothing ho-hum about Delta 88! Distinctive styling, exciting Rocket V-8 performance and luxurious interiors make Delta 88 one of the most popular youngmobils.

Delta 88 Town Sedan

See us for the brightest cars under the sun

STARK Chevrolet - Olds

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Coldwater, Kansas

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Mediterranean Magic by the roomful... **VALENCIA**
by MEMPHIS

your choice
of four pc.
groups... **\$199**



ALL 4
PIECES... **\$199**

Includes giant 9 drawer
triple dresser base, 2
framed plate glass mir-
rors and lattice back bed.

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Open Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. - - Free Delivery

Page 13

FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

Friday, April 26-Sale Time 11:00 a.m.

5 Miles North of Pratt, Kansas on U.S. Highway 281 at Hartwell Machinery Company in Iuka, Kansas. **TERMS: CASH—Sale Day!**

John Deere 4010 L.P.

M-M GVF—L.P.

John Deere 4010 Diesel

John Deere 720 Diesel

Moline 5 Star Diesel

Moline 5 Star L.P.

Case 900 Diesel

Ford 8N

John Deere 70 L.P.

John Deere G

Moline U—L.P.

I.H.C. W-9 L.P.

I.H.C. WD-6

I.H.C. 400 Farmall

John Deere 440 Crawler—Dozer

Case 930 L.P.—C.K.

Massey Super 90 Diesel

Case 930 Diesel C.K.

John Deere 730 Diesel

John Deere 4010 Diesel—Cab

John Deere 70 Diesel

Case 930 L.P.

Ford Power Major

I.H.C.—H Farmall

I.H.C.—M Farmall

Moline U—Gas

Massey 444 L.P.

John Deere AR

Cockshutt 570 Diesel

Moline G—L.P.

These are just a few of the many items to be auctioned, and all items are subject to prior sale or trade. This is an Open Consignment Sale, so sale date isn't too late. Bring it with you when you come to the sale. Turn your surplus Tractors and Machinery into "CASH"!

This will be the last auction until August 30, however, we will be open to Buy, Sell or Trade Six Days A Week. Come on in as a Buyer, Seller or Visitor.

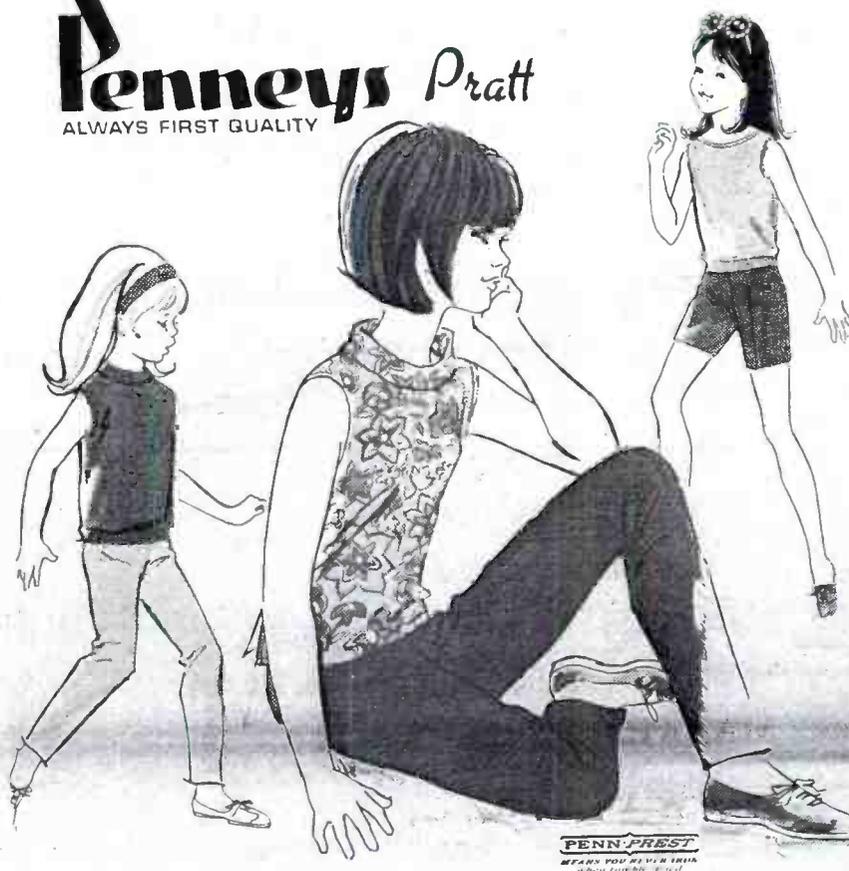
Hartwell Machinery Co.

Phone KI 6-3400

Iuka, Kansas

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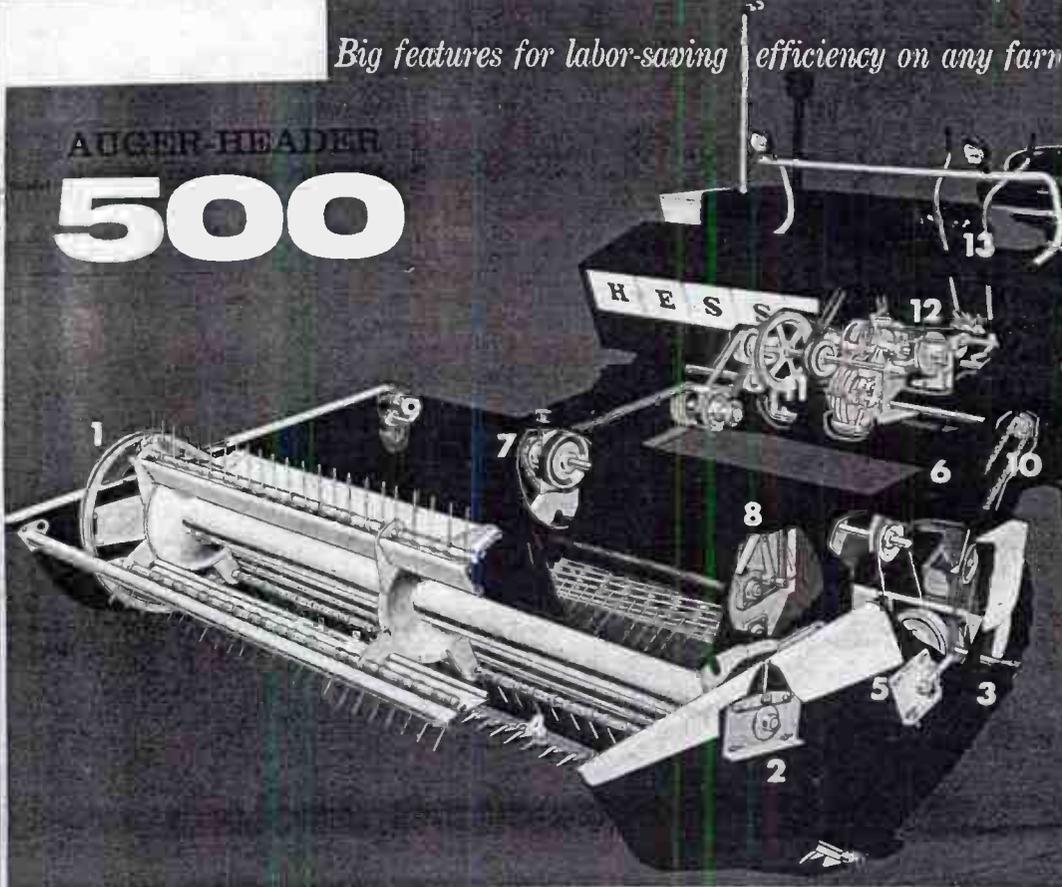
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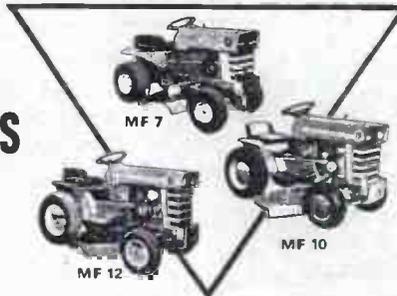
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clean inside and out, one local owner.
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Sedan, V-8, Automatic and Air Condi-
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4-Speed and Power Top. Still in War-
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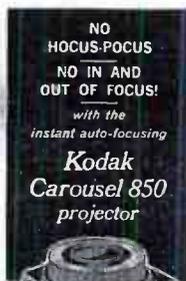


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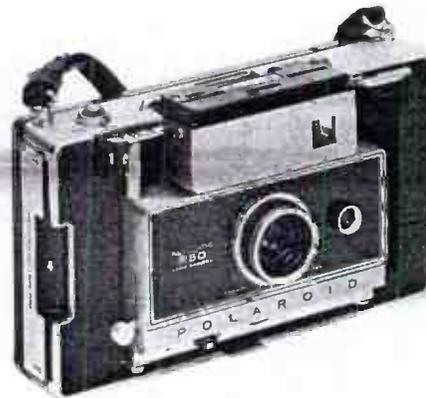
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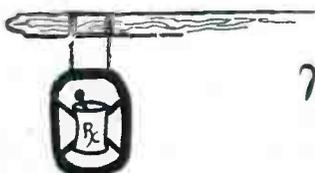
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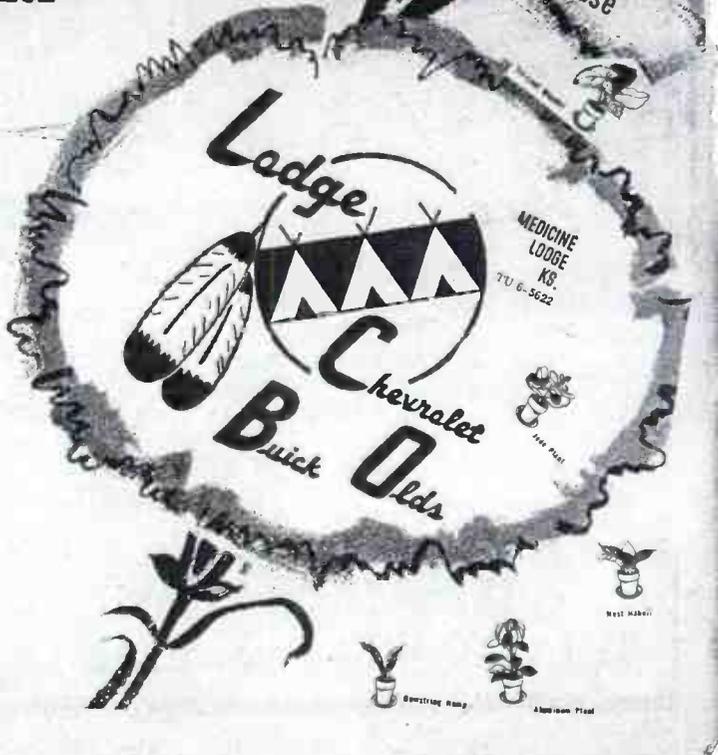
1965 BUICK ELECTRA

4-Door Sedan. Power steering and brakes. Air conditioning. Good rubber. Light green color. Low mileage, one-owner car.

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***Billboard's Top 30
Countdown
1962 to 1979***



Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1962

- 01. Stranger On The Shore » Mr. Acker Bilk**
- 02. I Can't Stop Loving You » Ray Charles**
- 03. Mashed Potato Time » Dee Dee Sharp**
- 04. Roses Are Red » Bobby Vinton**
- 05. The Stripper » David Rose**
- 06. Johnny Angel » Shelley Fabares**
- 07. The Loco-Motion » Little Eva**
- 08. Let Me In » Sensations**
- 09. The Twist » Chubby Checker**
- 10. Soldier Boy » Shirelles**
- 11. Hey! Baby » Bruce Channel**
- 12. The Wanderer » Dion**
- 13. Duke Of Earl » Gene Chandler**
- 14. Palisades Park » Freddy Cannon**
- 15. Breaking Up Is Hard To Do » Neil Sedaka**
- 16. Wolverton Mountain » Claude King**
- 17. Slow Twistin' » Chubby Checker**
- 18. It Keeps Right On A-hurtin' » Johnny Tillotson**
- 19. The One Who Really Loves You » Mary Wells**
- 20. Good Luck Charm » Elvis Presley**
- 21. Midnight In Moscow » Kenny Ball**
- 22. Sheila » Tommy Roe**
- 23. Twistin' The Night Away » Sam Cooke**
- 24. Wah-Watusi » Orlons**
- 25. Peppermint Twist » Joey Dee & The Starlighters**
- 26. Break It To Me Gently » Brenda Lee**
- 27. Playboy » Marvelettes**
- 28. Ramblin' Rose » Nat King Cole**
- 29. Sealed With A Kiss » Brian Hyland**
- 30. She Cried » Jay & The Americans**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1963

- 01. Sugar Shack » Jimmy Gilmer & The Fireballs**
- 02. Surfin' U.S.A. » Beach Boys**
- 03. The End Of The World » Skeeter Davis**
- 04. Rhythm Of The Rain » Cascades**
- 05. He's So Fine » Chiffons**
- 06. Blue Velvet » Bobby Vinton**
- 07. Hey Paula » Paul & Paula**
- 08. Fingertips II » Little Stevie Wonder**
- 09. Washington Square » Village Stompers**
- 10. It's All Right » Impressions**
- 11. Can't Get Used To Losing You » Andy Williams**
- 12. My Boyfriend's Back » Angels**
- 13. Sukiyaki » Kyu Sakamoto**
- 14. She's A Fool » Lesley Gore**
- 15. So Much In Love » Tymes**
- 16. Puff (The Magic Dragon) » Peter, Paul & Mary**
- 17. Blowin' In The Wind » Peter, Paul & Mary**
- 18. I'm Leaving It Up To You » Dale & Grace**
- 19. Deep Purple » Nino Tempo & April Stevens**
- 20. Wipe Out » The Surfaris**
- 21. I Love You Because » Al Martino**
- 22. Wild Weekend » Rebels**
- 23. You're The Reason I'm Living » Bobby Darin**
- 24. Walk Like A Man » Four Seasons**
- 25. Mockingbird » Inez Foxx**
- 26. I Will Follow Him » Little Peggy March**
- 27. Pipeline » Chantays**
- 28. Surf City » Jan & Dean**
- 29. It's My Party » Lesley Gore**
- 30. Blame It On The Bossa Nova » Eydie Gorme**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1964

- 01. *I Want To Hold Your Hand* » Beatles**
- 02. *She Loves You* » Beatles**
- 03. *Hello, Dolly!* » Louis Armstrong**
- 04. *Oh, Pretty Woman* » Roy Orbison**
- 05. *I Get Around* » Beach Boys**
- 06. *Everybody Loves Somebody* » Dean Martin**
- 07. *My Guy* » Mary Wells**
- 08. *We'll Sing In The Sunshine* » Gale Garnett**
- 09. *Last Kiss* » J. Frank Wilson & The Cavaliers**
- 10. *Where Did Our Love Go* » Supremes**
- 11. *People* » Barbara Streissand**
- 12. *Java* » Al Hirt**
- 13. *A Hard Day's Night* » Beatles**
- 14. *Love Me Do* » Beatles**
- 15. *Do Wah Diddy Diddy* » Manfred Mann**
- 16. *Please Please Me* » Beatles**
- 17. *Dancing In The Street* » Martha & The Vandellas**
- 18. *Little Children* » Billy J. Kramer & The Dakotas**
- 19. *Love Me With All Your Heart* » Ray Charles Singers**
- 20. *Under The Boardwalk* » Drifters**
- 21. *Chapel Of Love* » Dixie Cups**
- 22. *Suspicion* » Terry Stafford**
- 23. *Glad All Over* » Dave Clark Five**
- 24. *Rag Doll* » Four Seasons**
- 25. *Dawn (Go Away)* » Four Seasons**
- 26. *Bread And Butter* » Newbeats**
- 27. *It Hurts To Be In Love* » Gene Pitney**
- 28. *Dead Man's Curve* » Jan & Dean**
- 29. *Come A Little Bit Closer* » Jay & The Americans**
- 30. *A World Without Love* » Peter & Gordon**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1965

- 01. Wooly Bully » Sam The Sham & The Pharaohs**
- 02. I Can't Help Myself (Sugar Pie Honey Bunch) » Four Tops**
- 03. (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction » Rolling Stones**
- 04. You Were On My Mind » We Five**
- 05. You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin' » Righteous Brothers**
- 06. Downtown » Petula Clark**
- 07. Help! » Beatles**
- 08. Can't You Hear My Heartbeat » Herman's Hermits**
- 09. Crying In The Chapel » Elvis Presley**
- 10. My Girl » Temptations**
- 11. Help Me, Rhonda » Beach Boys**
- 12. King Of The Road » Roger Miller**
- 13. The Birds And The Bees » Jewel Aikens**
- 14. Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me » Mel Carter**
- 15. Shotgun » Jr. Walker & The All Stars**
- 16. I Got You Babe » Sonny & Cher**
- 17. This Diamond Ring » Gary Lewis & The Playboys**
- 18. The "In" Crowd » Ramsey Lewis Trio**
- 19. Mrs. Brown You've Got A Lovely Daughter » Herman's Hermits**
- 20. Stop! In The Name Of Love » Supremes**
- 21. Unchained Melody » Righteous Brothers**
- 22. Silhouettes » Herman's Hermits**
- 23. I'll Never Find Another You » Seekers**
- 24. Cara, Mia » Jay & The Americans**
- 25. Mr. Tambourine Man » Byrds**
- 26. Cast Your Fate To The Wind » Sounds Orchestral**
- 27. Yes, I'm Ready » Barbara Mason**
- 28. What's New Pussycat? » Tom Jones**
- 29. Eve Of Destruction » Barry McGuire**
- 30. Hang On Sloopy » McCoys**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1966

- 01. *The Ballad Of The Green Berets* » Sgt. Barry Sadler**
- 02. *Cherish* » Association**
- 03. *(You're My) Soul And Inspiration* » Righteous Brothers**
- 04. *Reach Out I'll Be There* » Four Tops**
- 05. *96 Tears* » ? & The Mysterians**
- 06. *Last Train To Clarksville* » Monkees**
- 07. *Monday, Monday* » Mama's & The Papa's**
- 08. *You Can't Hurry Love* » Supremes**
- 09. *Poor Side Of Town* » Johnny Rivers**
- 10. *California Dreamin'* » Mama's & The Papa's**
- 11. *Summer In The City* » Lovin' Spoonful**
- 12. *Born Free* » Roger Williams**
- 13. *These Boots Are Made For Walkin'* » Nancy Sinatra**
- 14. *What Becomes Of The Brokenhearted* » Jimmy Ruffin**
- 15. *Strangers In The Night* » Frank Sinatra**
- 16. *We Can Work It Out* » Beatles**
- 17. *Good Lovin'* » Young Rascals**
- 18. *Winchester Cathedral* » New Vaudeville Band**
- 19. *Hanky Panky* » Tommy James & The Shondells**
- 20. *When A Man Loves A Woman* » Percy Sledge**
- 21. *Paint It Black* » Rolling Stones**
- 22. *My Love* » Petula Clark**
- 23. *Lightin' Strikes* » Lou Christie**
- 24. *Wild Thing* » Troggs**
- 25. *Kicks* » Paul Revere & The Raiders**
- 26. *Sunshine Superman* » Donovan**
- 27. *Sunny* » Bobby Hebb**
- 28. *Paperback Writer* » Beatles**
- 29. *See You In September* » Happenings**
- 30. *You Keep Me Hangin' On* » Supremes**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1967

- 01. To Sir With Love » Lulu**
- 02. The Letter » Box Tops**
- 03. Ode To Billie Joe » Bobbie Gentry**
- 04. Windy » Association**
- 05. I'm A Believer » Monkees**
- 06. Light My Fire » Doors**
- 07. Somethin' Stupid » Nancy Sinatra & Frank Sinatra**
- 08. Happy Together » Turtles**
- 09. Groovin' » Young Rascals**
- 10. Can't Take My Eyes Off You » Frankie Valli**
- 11. Little Bit O' Soul » Music Explosion**
- 12. I Think We're Alone Now » Tommy James & The Shondells**
- 13. Respect » Aretha Franklin**
- 14. I Was Made To Love Her » Stevie Wonder**
- 15. Come Back When You Grow Up » Bobby Vee & The Strangers**
- 16. Kind Of A Drag » Buckingham**
- 17. Sweet Soul Music » Arthur Conley**
- 18. Expressway To Your Heart » Soul Survivors**
- 19. Soul Man » Sam & Dave**
- 20. Never My Love » Association**
- 21. Apples, Peaches, Pumpkin Pie » Jay & The Techniques**
- 22. Come On Down To My Boat » Every Mothers' Son**
- 23. Incense And Peppermints » Strawberry Alarm Clock**
- 24. Ruby Tuesday » Rolling Stones**
- 25. It Must Be Him » Vicki Carr**
- 26. Love Is Here And Now You're Gone » Supremes**
- 27. For What It's Worth » Buffalo Springfield**
- 28. Gimme Little Sign » Brenton Wood**
- 29. The Happening » Supremes**
- 30. All You Need Is Love » Beatles**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1968

- 01. Hey Jude » Beatles**
- 02. Love Is Blue » Paul Mauriat**
- 03. Honey » Bobby Goldsboro**
- 04. (Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay » Otis Redding**
- 05. People Got To Be Free » Rascals**
- 06. Sunshine Of Your Love » Cream**
- 07. This Guy's In Love With You » Herb Alpert**
- 08. The Good, The Bad And The Ugly » Hugo Montenegro**
- 09. Mrs. Robinson » Simon & Garfunkel**
- 10. Tighten Up » Archie Bell & The Drells**
- 11. Harper Valley P.T.A. » Jeannie C. Riley**
- 12. Little Green Apples » O.C. Smith**
- 13. Mony, Mony » Tommy James & The Shondells**
- 14. Hello, I Love You » Doors**
- 15. Young Girl » Gary Puckett & The Union Gap**
- 16. Cry Like A Baby » Box Tops**
- 17. Stoned Soul Picnic » Fifth Dimension**
- 18. Grazing In The Grass » Hugh Masekela**
- 19. Midnight Confessions » Grass Roots**
- 20. Dance To The Music » Sly & The Family Stone**
- 21. The Horse » Cliff Nobles & Co.**
- 22. I Wish It Would Rain » Temptations**
- 23. La-La Means I Love You » Delfonics**
- 24. Turn Around, Look At Me » Vogues**
- 25. Judy In Disguise (With Glasses) » John Fred & His Playboy Band**
- 26. Spooky » Classics IV**
- 27. Love Child » Diana Ross & The Supremes**
- 28. Angel Of The Morning » Merrilee Rush**
- 29. The Ballad Of Bonnie And Clyde » Georgie Fame**
- 30. Those Were The Days » Mary Hopkin**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1969

- 01. Sugar, Sugar » Archies**
- 02. Aquarius / Let The Sunshine In » Fifth Dimension**
- 03. I Can't Get Next To You » Temptations**
- 04. Honky Tonk Women » Rolling Stones**
- 05. Everyday People » Sly & The Family Stone**
- 06. Dizzy » Tommy Roe**
- 07. Hot Fun In The Summertime » Sly & The Family Stone**
- 08. I'll Never Fall In Love Again » Tom Jones**
- 09. Build Me Up Buttercup » Foundations**
- 10. Crimson And Clover » Tommy James & The Shondells**
- 11. One » Three Dog Night**
- 12. Crystal Blue Persuasion » Tommy James & The Shondells**
- 13. Hair » Cowsills**
- 14. Too Busy Thinking About My Baby » Marvin Gaye**
- 15. Love Theme From Romeo And Juliet » Henry Mancini & His Orch.**
- 16. Get Together » Youngbloods**
- 17. Grazin' In The Grass » Friends Of Distinction**
- 18. Suspicious Minds » Elvis Presley**
- 19. Proud Mary » Creedence Clearwater Revival**
- 20. What Does It Take (To Win Your Love) » Jr. Walker & The All Stars**
- 21. It's Your Thing » Isley Brothers**
- 22. Sweet Caroline » Neil Diamond**
- 23. Jean » Oliver**
- 24. Bad Moon Rising » Creedence Clearwater Revival**
- 25. Get Back » Beatles**
- 26. In The Year 2525 » Zager & Evans**
- 27. Spinning Wheel » Blood, Sweat & Tears**
- 28. Baby, I Love You » Andy Kim**
- 29. Going In Circles » Friends Of Distinction**
- 30. Hurt So Bad » Lettermen**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1970

- 01. *Bridge Over Troubled Water* » Simon & Garfunkel**
- 02. *(They Long To Be) Close To You* » Carpenters**
- 03. *American Woman / No Sugar Tonight* » Guess Who**
- 04. *Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head* » B.J. Thomas**
- 05. *War* » Edwin Starr**
- 06. *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* » Diana Ross**
- 07. *I'll Be There* » Jackson 5**
- 08. *Get Ready* » Rare Earth**
- 09. *Let It Be* » Beatles**
- 10. *Band Of Gold* » Freda Payne**
- 11. *Mama Told Me (Not To Come)* » Three Dog Night**
- 12. *Everything Is Beautiful* » Ray Stevens**
- 13. *Make It With You* » Bread**
- 14. *Hitchin' A Ride* » Vanity Fair**
- 15. *ABC* » Jackson 5**
- 16. *The Love You Save / I Found That Girl* » Jackson 5**
- 17. *Cracklin' Rose* » Neil Diamond**
- 18. *Candida* » Dawn**
- 19. *Thank You/ Everybody Is A Star* » Sly & The Family Stone**
- 20. *Spill The Wine* » Eric Burdon & War**
- 21. *O-o-h Child / Dear Prudence* » Five Stairsteps & Cubie**
- 22. *Spirit In The Sky* » Norman Greenbaum**
- 23. *Lay Down* » Melanie & The Edwin Hawkins Singers**
- 24. *Ball Of Confusion* » Temptations**
- 25. *Love On A Two Way Street* » Moments**
- 26. *Which Way You Goin' Billy?* » Poppy Family**
- 27. *All Right Now* » Free**
- 28. *I Want You Back* » Jackson 5**
- 29. *Julie, Do Ya Love Me* » Bobby Sherman**
- 30. *Green-eyed Lady* » Sugarloaf**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1971

- 01. Joy To The World » Three Dog Night**
- 02. Maggie May / (Find A) Reason To Believe » Rod Stewart**
- 03. It's Too Late / I Feel The Earth Move » Carole King**
- 04. One Bad Apple » Osmonds**
- 05. How Can You Mend A Broken Heart » Bee Gees**
- 06. Indian Reservation » Raiders**
- 07. Go Away Little Girl » Donny Osmond**
- 08. Take Me Home, Country Roads » John Denver**
- 09. Just My Imagination (Running Away With Me) » Temptations**
- 10. Knock Three Times » Dawn**
- 11. Me And Bobby McGee » Janis Joplin**
- 12. Tired Of Being Alone » Al Green**
- 13. Want Ads » Honey Cone**
- 14. Smiling Faces Sometimes » Undisputed Truth**
- 15. Treat Her Like A Lady » Cornelius Brothers & Sister Rose**
- 16. You've Got A Friend » James Taylor**
- 17. Mr. Big Stuff » Jean Knight**
- 18. Brown Sugar » Rolling Stones**
- 19. Do You Know What I Mean » Lee Michaels**
- 20. The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down » Joan Baez**
- 21. What's Going On » Marvin Gaye**
- 22. Uncle Albert-Admiral Halsey » Paul & Linda McCartney**
- 23. Ain't No Sunshine » Bill Withers**
- 24. Signs » Five Man Electrical Band**
- 25. She's A Lady » Tom Jones**
- 26. Superstar » Murray Head & The Trinidad Singers**
- 27. I Found Someone Of My Own » Free Movement**
- 28. Amos Moses » Jerry Reed**
- 29. Temptation Eyes » Grass Roots**
- 30. Superstar » Carpenters**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1972

- 01. *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face* » *Roberta Flack***
- 02. *Alone Again (Naturally)* » *Gilbert O'Sullivan***
- 03. *American Pie* » *Don McLean***
- 04. *Without You* » *Nilsson***
- 05. *Candy Man* » *Sammy Davis Jr.***
- 06. *I Gotcha* » *Joe Tex***
- 07. *Lean On Me* » *Bill Withers***
- 08. *Baby Don't Get Hooked On Me* » *Mac Davis***
- 09. *Brand New Key* » *Melanie***
- 10. *Daddy Dont You Walk So Fast* » *Wayne Newton***
- 11. *Let's Stay Together* » *Al Green***
- 12. *Brandy (You're A Fine Girl)* » *Looking Glass***
- 13. *Oh Girl* » *Chi-Lites***
- 14. *Nice To Be With You* » *Gallery***
- 15. *My Ding-A-Ling* » *Chuck Berry***
- 16. *If Loving You Is Wrong* » *Luther Ingram***
- 17. *Heart Of Gold* » *Neil Young***
- 18. *Betcha By Golly, Wow* » *Stylistics***
- 19. *I'll Take You There* » *Staple Singers***
- 20. *Ben* » *Michael Jackson***
- 21. *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* » *Robert John***
- 22. *Outa-space* » *Billy Preston***
- 23. *Slippin' Into Darkness* » *War***
- 24. *Long Cool Woman (In A Black Dress)* » *Hollies***
- 25. *How Do You Do* » *Mouth & MacNeal***
- 26. *Song Sung Blue* » *Neil Diamond***
- 27. *A Horse With No Name* » *America***
- 28. *Popcorn* » *Hot Butter***
- 29. *Everybody Plays The Fool* » *Main Ingredient***
- 30. *Precious And Few* » *Climax***

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1973

- 01. Tie A Yellow Ribbon » Tony Orlando & Dawn**
- 02. Bad Bad Leroy Brown » Jim Croce**
- 03. Killing Me Softly With His Song » Roberta Flack**
- 04. Let's Get It On » Marvin Gaye**
- 05. My Love » Paul McCartney & Wings**
- 06. Why Me » Kris Kristofferson**
- 07. Crocodile Rock » Elton John**
- 08. Will It Go Round In Circles » Billy Preston**
- 09. You're So Vain » Carly Simon**
- 10. Touch Me In The Morning » Diana Ross**
- 11. The Night The Lights Went Out In Georgia » Vicki Lawrence**
- 12. Playground In My Mind » Clint Holmes**
- 13. Brother Louie » Stories**
- 14. Delta Dawn » Helen Reddy**
- 15. Me And Mrs. Jones » Billy Paul**
- 16. Frankenstein » Edgar Winter Group**
- 17. Drift Away » Dobie Gray**
- 18. Little Willy » Sweet**
- 19. You Are The Sunshine Of My Life » Stevie Wonder**
- 20. Half Breed » Cher**
- 21. That Lady » Isley Bros.**
- 22. Pillow Talk » Sylvia**
- 23. We're An American Band » Grand Funk Railroad**
- 24. Right Place, Wrong Time » Dr. John**
- 25. Wildflower » Skylark**
- 26. Superstition » Stevie Wonder**
- 27. Loves Me Like A Rock » Paul Simon**
- 28. The Morning After » Maureen McGovern**
- 29. Rocky Mountain High » John Denver**
- 30. Stuck In The Middle With You » Stealers Wheel**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1975

- 01. Love Will Keep Us Together » Captain & Tennille**
- 02. Rhinestone Cowboy » Glen Campbell**
- 03. Philadelphia Freedom » Elton John**
- 04. Before The Next Teardrop Falls » Freddy Fender**
- 05. My Eyes Adored You » Frankie Valli**
- 06. Shining Star » Earth, Wind & Fire**
- 07. Fame » David Bowie**
- 08. Laughter In The Rain » Neil Sedaka**
- 09. One Of These Nights » Eagles**
- 10. Thank God I'm A Country Boy » John Denver**
- 11. Jive Talkin' » Bee Gees**
- 12. Best Of My Love » Eagles**
- 13. Lovin' You » Minnie Riperton**
- 14. Kung Fu Fighting » Carl Douglas**
- 15. Black Water » Doobie Brothers**
- 16. Ballroom Blitz » Sweet**
- 17. Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong » B.J. Thomas**
- 18. He Don't Love You (Like I Love You) » Tony Orlando & Dawn**
- 19. At Seventeen » Janis Ian**
- 20. Pick Up The Pieces » Average White Band**
- 21. The Hustle » Van McCoy & The Soul City Symphony**
- 22. Lady Marmalade » Labelle**
- 23. Why Can't We Be Friends? » War**
- 24. Love Wont Let Me Wait » Major Harris**
- 25. Boogie On Reggae Woman » Stevie Wonder**
- 26. Wasted Days And Wasted Nights » Freddy Fender**
- 27. Fight The Power, Pt. 1 » Isley Brothers**
- 28. Angie Baby » Helen Reddy**
- 29. Jackie Blue » Ozark Mountain Daredevil**
- 30. Fire » Ohio Players**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1976

- 01. Silly Love Songs » Wings**
- 02. Don't Go Breaking My Heart » Elton John & Kiki Dee**
- 03. Diso Lady » Johnnie Taylor**
- 04. December, 1963 (Oh, What A Night) » Four Seasons**
- 05. Play That Funky Music » Wild Cherry**
- 06. Kiss And Say Goodbye » Manhattans**
- 07. Love Machine (Part 1) » The Miracles**
- 08. 50 Ways To Leave Your Lover » Paul Simon**
- 09. Love Is Alive » Gary Wright**
- 10. A Fifth Of Beethoven » Walter Murphy & The Big Apple Band**
- 11. Sara Smile » Daryl Hall & John Oates**
- 12. Afternoon Delight » Starland Vocal Band**
- 13. I Write The Songs » Barry Manilow**
- 14. Fly, Robin, Fly » Silver Convention**
- 15. Love Hangover » Diana Ross**
- 16. Get Closer » Seals & Crofts**
- 17. More, More, More » Andrea True Connection**
- 18. Bohemian Rhapsody » Queen**
- 19. Misty Blue » Dorothy Moore**
- 20. Boogie Fever » Sylvers**
- 21. I'd Really Love » England Dan & John Ford Coley**
- 22. You Sexy Thing » Hot Chocolate**
- 23. Love Hurts » Nazareth**
- 24. Get Up And Boogie » Silver Convention**
- 25. Take It To The Limit » Eagles**
- 26. Shake Your Booty » K.C. & The Sunshine Band**
- 27. Sweet Love » Commodores**
- 28. Right Back Where We Started From » Maxine Nightingale**
- 29. Theme From "S.W.A.T." » Rhythm Heritage**
- 30. Love Rollercoaster » Ohio Players**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1977

- 01. Tonight's The Night (Gonna Be Alright) » Rod Stewart**
- 02. I Just Want To Be Your Everything » Andy Gibb**
- 03. Best Of My Love » Emotions**
- 04. Love Theme From "A Star Is Born" » Barbra Streisand**
- 05. Angel In Your Arms » Hot**
- 06. I Like Dreamin' » Kenny Nolan**
- 07. Don't Leave Me This Way » Thelma Houston**
- 08. (Your Love Has Lifted Me) Higher And Higher » Rita Coolidge**
- 09. Undercover Angel » Alan O'Day**
- 10. Torn Between Two Lovers » Mary MacGregor**
- 11. I'm Your Boogie Man » K.C. & The Sunshine Band**
- 12. Dancing Queen » Abba**
- 13. You Make Me Feel Like Dancing » Leo Sayer**
- 14. Margaritaville » Jimmy Buffett**
- 15. Telephone Line » Electric Light Orchestra**
- 16. Whatcha Gonna Do? » Pablo Cruise**
- 17. Do You Wanna Make Love » Peter McCann**
- 18. Sir Duke » Stevie Wonder**
- 19. Hotel California » Eagles**
- 20. Got To Give It Up, Pt. 1 » Marvin Gaye**
- 21. Theme From "Rocky" (Gonna Fly Now) » Bill Conti**
- 22. Southern Nights » Glen Campbell**
- 23. Rich Girl » Daryl Hall & John Oates**
- 24. When I Need You » Leo Sayer**
- 25. Hot Line » Sylvers**
- 26. Car Wash » Rose Royce**
- 27. You Don't Have To Be A Star » Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr.**
- 28. Fly Like An Eagle » Steve Miller Band**
- 29. Don't Give Up On Us » David Soul**
- 30. On And On » Stephen Bishop**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1978

- 01. Shadow Dancing » Andy Gibb**
- 02. Night Fever » Bee Gees**
- 03. You Light Up My Life » Debby Boone**
- 04. Stayin' Alive » Bee Gees**
- 05. Kiss You All Over » Exile**
- 06. How Deep Is Your Love » Bee Gees**
- 07. Baby Come Back » Player**
- 08. (Love Is) Thicker Than Water » Andy Gibb**
- 09. Boogie Oogie Oogie » A Taste Of Honey**
- 10. Three Times A Lady » Commodores**
- 11. Grease » Frankie Valli**
- 12. I Go Crazy » Paul Davis**
- 13. You're The One » John Travolta & Olivia Newton-John**
- 14. Emotion » Samantha Sang**
- 15. Lay Down Sally » Eric Clapton**
- 16. Miss You » Rolling Stones**
- 17. Just The Way You Are » Billy Joel**
- 18. With A Little Luck » Wings**
- 19. If I Can't Have You » Yvonne Elliman**
- 20. Dance, Dance, Dance (Yowsah, Yowsah, Yowsah) » Chic**
- 21. Feels So Good » Chuck Mangione**
- 22. Hot Child In The City » Nick Gilder**
- 23. Love Is Like Oxygen » Sweet**
- 24. It's A Heartache » Bonnie Tyler**
- 25. We Are The Champions / We Will Rock You » Queen**
- 26. Baker Street » Gerry Rafferty**
- 27. Can't Smile Without You » Barry Manilow**
- 28. Too Much, Too Little » Johnny Mathis & Deniece Williams**
- 29. Dance With Me » Peter Brown**
- 30. Two Out Of Three Ain't Bad » Meat Loaf**

Billboard's Top 30 Countdown

Billboard Top 30 - 1979

- 01. *My Sharona* » *Knack***
- 02. *Bad Girls* » *Donna Summer***
- 03. *Le Freak* » *Chic***
- 04. *Da Ya Think I'm Sexy* » *Rod Stewart***
- 05. *Reunited* » *Peaches & Herb***
- 06. *I Will Survive* » *Gloria Gaynor***
- 07. *Hot Stuff* » *Donna Summer***
- 08. *Y.M.C.A.* » *Village People***
- 09. *Ring My Bell* » *Anita Ward***
- 10. *Sad Eyes* » *Robert John***
- 11. *Too Much Heaven* » *Bee Gees***
- 12. *MacArthur Park* » *Donna Summer***
- 13. *When You're In Love With A Beautiful Woman* » *Dr. Hook***
- 14. *Makin' It* » *David Naughton***
- 15. *Fire* » *Pointer Sisters***
- 16. *Tragedy* » *Bee Gees***
- 17. *A Little More Love* » *Olivia Newton-John***
- 18. *Heart Of Glass* » *Blondie***
- 19. *What A Fool Believes* » *Doobie Brothers***
- 20. *Good Times* » *Chic***
- 21. *You Don't Bring Me Flowers* » *Barbra Streisand & Neil Diamond***
- 22. *Knock On Wood* » *Amii Stewart***
- 23. *Stumblin' In* » *Suzi Quatro & Chris Norman***
- 24. *Lead Me On* » *Maxine Nightingale***
- 25. *Shake Your Body* » *Jacksons***
- 26. *Don't Cry Out Loud* » *Melissa Manchester***
- 27. *The Logical Song* » *Supertramp***
- 28. *My Life* » *Billy Joel***
- 29. *Just When I Needed You Most* » *Randy Vanwarmer***
- 30. *You Can't Change That* » *Raydio***

KWNS

Recipe Books

Your Favorite Recipes (1972) Page 427

Alice's Recipes (1976) Page 431

As far as the author can determine, only two recipe books were ever done at KWNS. The first was published in 1970, with a second edition in 1972. This recipe book was put together by Catherine Newsom, under Bill Young's ownership. The one from 1976 was put together by Alice Bowe, under the ownership of Don O'Malley and George Kieffer. My thanks to Mary Ann Young for the 1972 edition and Sue Bowe Newby for the book from 1976. Although it would have been nice to reproduce all the pages, it would have amounted to several hundred pages, so just a few pages of the recipes have been used in this book to save space.



Your Favorite Recipes (1972)

KWNS - KWNS-FM Radio

PRATT, KANSAS

Your

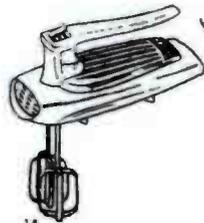
Favorite

Recipes

STAFFORD COUNTY FLOUR MILLS

HUDSON, KANSAS

Your Favorite Recipes (1972)



A BOOK OF

FAVORITE

Recipes

Compiled by

KWNS KWNS - FM RADIO - MARKET BASKET

Pratt, Kansas

1970

Second Edition - 1972



Your Favorite Recipes (1972)

Expression of Appreciation

Our thanks to everyone who sent in recipes for the "Hudson Cream Flour" contest, and to all who have so generously shared your favorite recipes with the Market Basket.

Your Favorite Recipes (1972)

McCANN

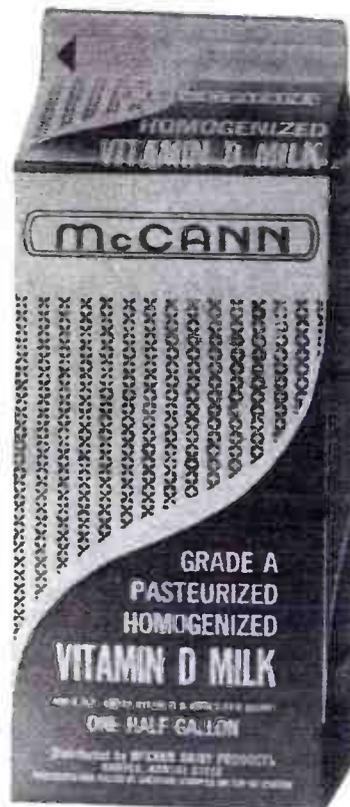
FINE DAIRY PRODUCTS

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Your Favorite Recipes (1972)

GINGERBREAD

Mrs. Cecil Smith

2 cups flour	1 egg
1 cup sugar	2 Tbsps. molasses
1 tsp. ginger	Pinch of salt
1 tsp. cinnamon	1 level tsp. soda
½ cup shortening	1 cup sour milk

Work flour, sugar, ginger, cinnamon and shortening all together like biscuit dough. Save ½ cup for topping. Add egg, molasses, salt, soda and sour milk. Beat all together. Bake in shallow pan in a 350 degree oven till golden brown or springs back. Good warm, plain, or with topping.

BISCUITS SUPREME

Mrs. Ray Banks

2 cups flour	½ tsp. salt
4 tsps. baking powder	½ tsp. cream of tartar
3 tsps. sugar	2/3 cup sweet milk
½ cup shortening	

Sift dry ingredients into bowl and cut in shortening until dough follows fork around the bowl. Pat dough until ½ inch thick. Cut and bake on ungreased sheet in 450 degree oven 10 to 12 minutes. The test for good biscuits is that they are good cold as well as hot. These deserve their name.

DOUGHNUTS

Mrs. Edyth Harrington

5 cups flour	¼ cup shortening
4 tsp. baking powder	1 cup sugar
1 tsp. soda	3 eggs
2 tsp. salt	1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. nutmeg	1 cup canned apple sauce
1 tsp. cinnamon	½ cup buttermilk
¼ tsp. mace	Confectioners sugar

Combine and sift dry ingredients. Beat shortening, sugar and eggs until thick and creamy. Beat in vanilla, apple sauce and buttermilk. Add flour mixture, 1 cup at a time, beating smooth after each addition. Chill batter about 1 hour. Turn out on lightly floured board and roll out 3/8 inch thick. Cut with a 2½ inch doughnut cutter. (Left over bits may be rolled once and cut, if more times they get tough.) Use a spatula to slide doughnuts into hot fat. 375 degrees 3 or 4 at a time. Fry about a minute each side or until golden brown. Drain paper towels. Roll in confectioners sugar. Makes 3½ dozen.

Your Favorite Recipes (1972)



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FOR INFORMATION, WRITE:

**FRIENDS BIBLE COLLEGE
HAVILAND, KANSAS 67059**

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Alice's Recipes (1976)

*Alice's
Recipes*



**KWNS RADIO
PRATT, KANSAS**

Alice's Recipes (1976)



MY THANKS AND APPRECIATION
TO ALL THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE
WHO SHARED THEIR RECIPES AND
TALENTS, AND TO MY MOTHER,
WHO ALWAYS MADE COOKING FUN.

Alice Bowe

Alice's Recipes (1976)

CHOCOLATE COOKIE SHEET CAKE

Teresa O'Malley

1 stick oleo (margarine)	1 tsp. cinnamon
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup oil	2 beaten eggs
1 cup water	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup buttermilk with $1\frac{1}{2}$
2 cups sugar	tsps. soda dissolved in
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa	1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups flour	

Bring margarine, oil and water to boil. Pour over dry ingredients and mix well. Add beaten eggs, buttermilk with soda and vanilla. Mix well and bake in jellyroll pan at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

Icing:

1 stick margarine (melted)	1 box powdered sugar
$\frac{1}{3}$ cup buttermilk	1 cup nuts
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup cocoa	1 tsp. vanilla

Mix all together and spread over cake.

BUNDT CAKE

Teresa O'Malley

1 package yellow cake mix
1 small package instant vanilla pudding
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup corn oil
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water
4 eggs
1 Tbsp. butter
1 tsp. vanilla
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
2 tsps. cinnamon

Mix in a large bowl the cake mix, pudding, oil, water, eggs, butter and vanilla. Beat at high speed 6 to 8 minutes. Grease pan well. Sprinkle $\frac{1}{4}$ cup pecans on bottom of pan. Mix filler of $\frac{1}{4}$ sugar, cinnamon and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup pecans. On top of pecan in pan spread $\frac{1}{3}$ of the batter--pour over half of the filler, then alternate batter and filler. Bake at 350 degrees 40-45 minutes. Put glaze on after it cools.

Alice's Recipes (1976)

EGGS IN A BASKET

Becky Hawks

Remove crusts from bread slices. Butter muffin tins--press bread gently into tin so that 4 points stand up. Carefully crack 1 egg and drop into bread. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake until bread is toasted and the egg is soft boiled.

BAR-B-QUED CHICKEN & FRUIT

Becky Hawks

1 3-pound chicken cut up	1 cup dark corn syrup
1 can cling peaches	2 cups Bar-b-que sauce
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup marachino cherries	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup melted butter
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup green peper chopped	Salt & pepper
6 or 7 large fresh mushrooms (sliced)	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup onion (chopped)

Place chicken pieces skin side up in large shallow baking dish (greased). Brush with melted butter--sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place in oven at 375 degrees. Saute green pepper, mushrooms and onion slightly. Remove chicken and cover with this mixture. Put back into oven. In a saucepan combine syrup with half of the bar-b-que sauce. Heat. Add peaches and pour over the chicken. Sprinkle with cherries and if desired chopped pecans. Return to oven and continue cooking about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours. Serve over rice.

JIFFY TUNA SKILLET

Mary Cochran

1 medium onion, sliced thin	1 cup frozen peas
1 Tbsp. margarine	1 6-oz. can tuna
1 can frozen cream of shrimp soup	
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk	

Saute onions--add other ingredients and heat until warm throughout. Serve over rice or chow mein noodles.

The husband who puts his foot down probably had it on the coffee table.

Alice's Recipes (1976)

CHOCOLATE PIE

Mom O'Malley
Kansas City, Mo.

Baked 9 inch pie shell	$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt
$1\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar	3 egg yolks
3 Heaping Tbsps. flour	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup canned milk plus
3 Heaping Tbsps. cocoa	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup regular milk

Cook sugar, flour, cocoa over low heat; add milk. Beat egg yolks by hand and put in 3 tablespoons mixture from pan into yolks and mix well. Add this egg mixture to the other ingredients. Mix well and pour into baked pie shell. Cool til thickened. Use egg whites for the meringue: 2 Tbsps. sugar to 1 egg white or 5 Tbsps. sugar to 3 egg whites.

The modern woman spends 75 percent of her time sitting down--the figures show.

HAWAIIAN LIME PIE

Alice Bowe

Chocolate crust--crush $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups chocolate cookies. Add 4 tablespoons melted butter. Press into pan and cool.

1 9-oz. can crushed pineapple	
$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt	1 package lime jello
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar	$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cream of tartar
2 eggs, separated	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup lemon juice	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup whipped cream

Combine undrained pineapple, salt, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar and beaten egg yolks intop of double boiler. Place over boiling water and stir frequently. Cook about 15 minutes or until slightly thickened. Remove from heat, add jello and stir until dissolved. Stir in lemon juice. Chill until partially set. Beat egg whites with cream of tartar until whites hold soft peaks. Gradually add $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar, beating until mixture is stiff and glossy. Fold egg whites and whipped cream into jello mix. Pour into shell and chill until firm.

Alice's Recipes (1976)

Sooner or later a man reaches the "B" stage--baldness, bifocals, bridgework and bulge.

BEST PEANUT BRITTLE (Freezes well) Alice Bowe

2 cups white sugar	2 Tbsps. oleo
1 cup white syrup	2 cups raw peanuts
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup water	2 tsps. baking soda
1 tsp. vanilla	

Bring sugar, syrup, water and vanilla to boil and cook to hard crack stage. Stir in oleo and raw peanuts. Reduce heat and cook slowly until golden brown. Remove from heat and add baking soda. Stir well and pour out on cookie sheet.

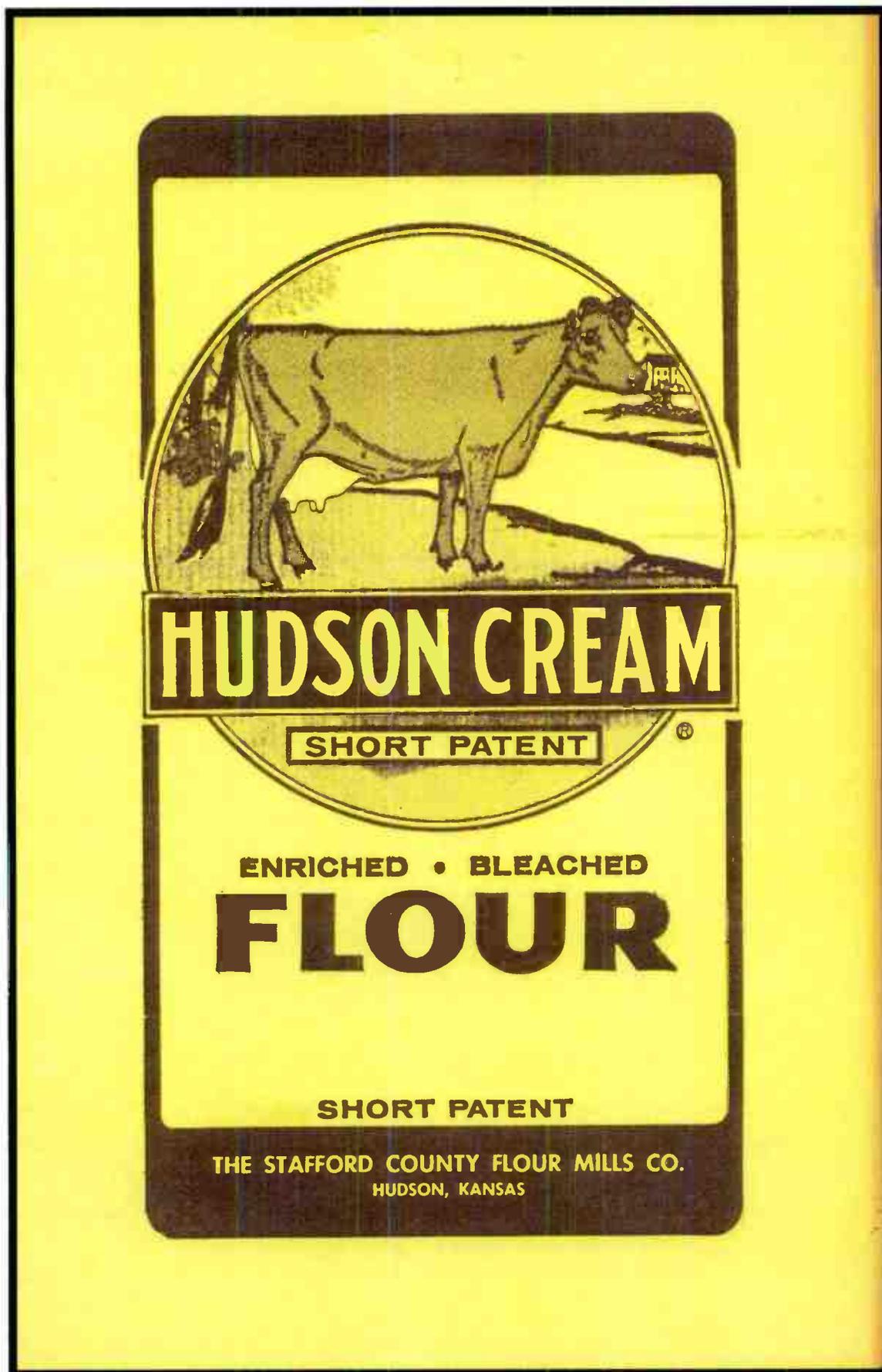
CINNAMON LOLLIPOPS Susan Bowe

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup sugar	8 drops oil of cinnamon
$3\frac{1}{2}$ Tbsps. Light corn syrup	$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. red cake coloring
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup hot water (from tap)	

Combine sugar, cornsyrup and water. Place over medium heat and stir until sugar is dissolved. Cook to hard crack stage without stirring. Wipe crystals from sides of pan frequently with a fork wrapped in damp cloth or place lid on pan and let steam dissolve the crystals. Remove from heat; add flavoring and coloring. Stir only enough to mix. Drop from teaspoon on well buttered flat surface. Insert skewers. Makes 6-8 lollipops.

Habits are like a soft bed on a cold day: easy to fall into, but hard to get out of.

Alice's Recipes (1976)



KWNS

Billing

Statements

Here are some examples of some of the billing statements that were sent out to customers. The Hazel's Flower Shop is typical of the stationary used under the ownership of Bill Young, as the others are of the O'Malley-Kieffer years. The Hazel's Flower Shop billing is courtesy of Mary Ann Young and the others courtesy of KMMM radio.

KWNS Billing Statements



STATEMENT
KWNS KWNS-FM
 1290 KC 93.1 MC
 Post Office Box 486
 Pratt, Kansas 67124

Hazel's Blossom Shop
 Box 313
 Pratt, Kansas 67124

THANK YOU!

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	CHARGE	PAYMENT	CURRENT BALANCE
1973	4/30	Family Devotions	35 00		584 00
	5/31	Family Devotions	35 00		619 00
	6/30	Family Devotions	35 00		654 00
	7/31	Family Devotions	35 00		689 00
	8/31	Family Devotions	35 00		724 00
	9/30	Family Devotions	35 00		759 00
	10/27	Credit 42570		109 00	654 00
	10/31	Family Devotions	35 00		689 00

PLEASE PAY LAST AMOUNT IN THIS COLUMN ▲

KWNS Billing Statements

KWNS RADIO

BOX 486
PRATT, KANSAS 67124



START

END

Client: **THE FIRST STATE BANK OF
MULLINVILLE**

Special Instructions:

SPONSORSHIP OF 12:25 MKTS. M W F

35

Live () Cart () Lv/Bd () Lv-Tg () Lv-In () Afdt () SBC ()

TIME	LENGTH	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Su	RATE	AMOUNT
12:25 pm	30 SECS	1	1	1	1	1			\$8.00	\$24.00

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12

Weekly Total \$24.00

Total This Order _____

Bob James
For Client

Agency Commission _____

Larry Childs
For Station

Total Amount Due _____

KWNS Billing Statements

KWNS RADIO

BOX 486
PRATT, KANSAS 67124

P

START
6-12-78

Client: *Forsyth Furniture*

END
~~T.T.W~~

6/30/8 Medicine Lodge KS

Special Instructions:

Run 24-30 second spots from 6-12-78 to 6-30-78. In July go to 24-30 second spots - ROS sched writings thru August #144 per

Live () Cart () Lv/Bd () Lv-Tg () Lv-In () Afdt () SBC ()

TIME	LENGTH	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Su	RATE	AMOUNT
<i>ROS</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>			<i>3.75</i>	<i>90.00</i>

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12
Smart Field
For Client
Ura Mke
For Station

Weekly Total
Total This Order *90.00*
Agency Commission
Total Amount Due

KWNS Billing Statements

KWNS RADIO

BOX 486
PRATT, KANSAS 67124

START
7/1/77

Client: SPEARS MENS WEAR

END
12-31-79
TFN

Special Instructions:

SPONSORSHIP OF BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

*new sched
3/10/78*

100

TIME	LENGTH	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Su	RATE	AMOUNT
10:05 7:20am	30 sec		1				1		3.95 5.25	10.50
10:05am	30 sec			1				1	3.95	7.90
1:10pm	30 sec	1				1			3.95	7.90

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12

Weekly Total 26.30
Total This Order
Agency Commission
Total Amount Due

DEAN
For Client
BRIAN
For Station

KWNS

Copy

For

Commercials

(All copy courtesy of KMMM radio unless otherwise noted.)

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: COUNTRY GRILL

Cart.#

New:

Length: 20 sec.

Copy: SPORTS

Additional:

Start Date: 11/1 8/77

Coop To:

End Date: tfn

Announcer: Mark

THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. WITH IT COME SPECIAL THOUGHTS OF ENTERTAINING AND GET-TOGETHERS. MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF THIS YEAR..LET THE COUNTRY GRILL HELP. THEIR DOORS STAND OPEN, INVITING YOU TO PARTAKE OF THEIR WARM HOSPITALITY AND DELICIOUS FARE FROM THEIR FINE AND VARIED MENU. THERE'S JUST NO BETTER PLACE TO ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS..THE COUNTRY GRILL 1600 E. FIRST IN PRATT.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: INDEPENDENT LUMBER CO.

Cart.#

New:

Length: 20 sec.

Copy: SPORTS

Additional:

Start Date: 11/18/77

Coop To: CARRIER

End Date: tfn

Announcer: Mark

DOES STATIC ELECTRICITY GIVE YOU SHOCKS WHEN YOU TOUCH THINGS IN YOUR HOME? STATIC ELECTRICITY IS CAUSED BY DRYNESS. DRYNESS THAT DOES OTHER DAMAGE...LIKE MAKING PAINT PEEL, OR CAUSING FURNITURE AND FLOORS TO WARP OR MAKING HOUSEHOLD PLANTS WITHER AND DIE...STOP ALL THIS WITH A CARRIER HUMIDIFIER AND WATCH HOW MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE LIFE WILL BE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. STOP BY THE INDEPENDENT LUMBER CO. TODAY, LET THEM GIVE YOU ALL THE DETAILS. THEY'RE ^{your} ~~THE~~ TRUE VALUE HARDWARE DEALER.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 – BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz–5000 W Day / 500 W Night

THIS INFORMATION REPLACES THE G-W SPORTING GOODS AD ON THE SPORTCASTERS...

MID-WEST ATHLETICS, 118 EAST 3rd IN PRATT.....

FOR ALL OF YOUR SPORTING GOOD NEEDS, STOP BY MID-WEST ATHLETICS, 118 EAST 3rd IN PRATT.....

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



VARIETY
IS THE SPICE OF LISTENING

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: SCOTT & HODGES

Cart.#

New:

Length: 20 sec.

Copy: SPORTS

Additional:

Start Date: 11/18/77

Coop To:

End Date: tfn

Announcer:

ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, YOU NEED STRONG INSURANCE PROTECTION PLUS CONSTANT, EXPERT ATTENTION TO YOUR INSURANCE AFFAIRS... AND YOU GET THAT KIND OF INSURANCE FROM SCOTT & HODGES. GENUINE AGENCY INTEREST THAT KEEPS YOUR INSURANCE UP-TO-DATE AND READY FOR TROUBLE. CALL IN SCOTT & HODGES FOR YOUR INSURANCE, THEY'RE YOUR INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENT IN PRATT.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: SPEARS MEN'S WEAR

Cart.#

New:

Length: 30 SECONDS

Copy:

Additional:

Start Date: 3-13-78

Coop To:

End Date: 3-25-78

Announcer: ROD

AT SPEARS MEN'S WEAR, CURLEE IS THAT FINE BRAND NAME THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN SYNONOMOUS WITH QUALITY MEN'S TAILORING AND CONTEMPORARY FASHION. MEN EVERYWHERE KEEP COMING BACK FOR MORE AND MORE CURLEE CLOTHES BECAUSE THEY KNOW A GOOD THING WHEN THEY SEE IT. AND SO YOU WILL, TOO, WHEN YOU SEE THE NEW COLLECTION OF CURLEE CLOTHES....SUITS, SPORT COATS AND COORDINATES IN THE FINEST FABRICS, THE SMARTEST SILHOUETTES....READY NOW AT SPEARS MEN'S WEAR, 207 SOUTH MAIN IN PRATT.....

WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR STYLISH AND QUALITY MEN'S WEAR, WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND THAT YOU SHOP AT SPEARS MEN'S WEAR, 207 SOUTH MAIN IN PRATT. AT SPEARS, YOU WILL FIND THE LATEST EASTER AND SPRING CLOTHES FOR MEN. AT SPEARS MEN'S WEAR IN PRATT, THEY HAVE JUST RECEIVED SPRING SLACKS, SHORT SLEEVE DRESS SHIRTS, SPRING NECK WEAR AND THE LATEST FASHIONS IN MEN'S SHOES. FOR QUALITY, NAME BRAND MENS CLOTHING BE SURE TO SHOP AT SPEARS MEN'S WEAR, 207 SOUTH MAIN IN PRATT.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 -- BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: STAFFORD CO-OP

Cart.#

New:

Length: 30 SECONDS

Copy:

Additional:

Start Date: 2-24-78

Coop To:

End Date: 3-31-78

Announcer: BILL

THE FOLKS AT THE STAFFORD CO-OP WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO STOP BY
AND TALK WITH THEM ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING FARMING REQUIREMENTS. THE
STAFFORD CO-OP HAS ALL THE FACILITIES FOR THE TOP DRESSING OF YOUR
WHEAT AND OTHER CROPS. THE STAFFORD CO-OP ALSO HAS A COMPLETE LINE
OF LIQUID AND DRY FERTILIZER, LIVESTOCK FEEDS, CO-OP PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS. YES THE DOUBLE CIRCLE CO-OP'S ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
HAVE BEEN HELPING PEOPLE FOR ALONG TIME, AND THE STAFFORD CO-OP
WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO HELP YOU THIS YEAR....

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: STAFFORD SEED CORPORATION

Cart.#

New:

Length: 60 SECONDS

Copy:

Additional:

Start Date: 2-15-78

Coop To:

End Date: 2-22-78

Announcer: *Bill*

cut this spot 2/13/78

SKIP ALLEN, JOHN GIFFIN & KEITH ALLEN WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO FARMERS, LANDOWNERS AND THE INTERESTED PARTIES TO ATTEND A SOUP SUPPER, THAT WILL BE SPONSORED BY THE STAFFORD SEED CORPORATION FEBRUARY 22nd. THE SOUP SUPPER WILL BE HELD AT THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, LOCATED ON EAST BROADWAY IN STAFFORD. TIME OF THE SOUP SUPPER WILL BE 6:00 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 22nd. TOPIC OF THE SOUP SUPPER WILL BE THE BENEFITS OF INNOCULATION OF ALFALFA SEEDS AND SOYBEAN SEEDS. ITS NO SECRET THAT WHEAT IS OVER-PRODUCED AND UNDER PRICED. THE CATTLE MARKET SEEMS TO BE IMPROVING AND NOW YOU CAN MAKE MORE DOLLARS PER ACRE WITH SPRING SEEDDED FORAGE CROPS LIKE BARLEYS, OATS AND HYBRED SEDAN. FIND OUT ALL THE FACTS AT THE SOUP SUPPER, FEBRUARY 22nd, STARTING AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE INTERMDEIATE SCHOOL IN STAFFORD. THIS SOUP SUPPER IS SPONSORED BY THE STAFFORD SEED CORPORATION.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

KWNS Copy For Commercials

KWNS RADIO

PRATT, KANSAS 67124 - BOX 486
PHONE 316/672-5581

1290 KHz-5000 W Day / 500 W Night

Client: WOOLWINES

Cart.#

New:

Length: 15 sec.

Copy:

Additional:

Start Date: 2/9/78

Coop To:

End Date: 2/19/78

Announcer: Live

WOOLWINES, 203 S. MINNESOTA IN PRATT HAS A COMPLETE SELECTION
OF TIRE CHAINS AND SNOW TREADS WHEN WINTER DRIVING CONDITIONS
BECOME HAZARDOUS...SO BE SAFE NOT SORRY...SEE WOOLWINES
TODAY...THEY'RE THE PROFESSIONAL PARTS PEOPLE.

Good Neighbor for Western Kansas

Misc. Fun Stuff

***Rockin' Ronnies Ten Commandments
To Being a Chief Engineer***

Page 455

Are You An Aging Radio DJ?

Page 457

Ten Commandments of Electricity

I. BEWARE OF THE LIGHTNING THAT LURKETH IN AN UNDISCHARGED CAPACITOR, LEST IT CAUSE THEE TO BE BOUNCED UPON THY BUTTOCKS IN A MOST UNGENTLEMANLY MANNER.

II. CAUSE THOU THE SWITCH THAT SUPPLIETH LARGE QUANTITIES OF JUICE TO BE OPENED AND THUSLY TAGGED, SO THY DAYS MAY BE LONG IN THIS EARTHLY VALE OF TEARS.

III. PROVE TO THYSELF THAT ALL CIRCUITS THAT RADIATE AND UPON WHICH THOU WORKETH ARE GROUNDED, LEST THEY RAISE THEE UP TO HIGH FREQUENCY POTENTIAL AND CAUSE THEE TO RADIATE ALSO.

IV. TAKE CARE THAT THOU USETH THE PROPER METHOD WHEN THOU TAKETH THE MEASURE OF HIGH-VOLTAGE SO THAT THOU DOTH NOT INCINERATE BOTH THYSELF AND THY METER; FOR VERILY, THOUGH THOU HAS NO ACCOUNT NUMBER AND BE EASILY REPLACED, THE METER DOTH HAVE ONE AND, AS A CONSEQUENCE, BRINGTH MUCH WOE UNTO THE "SUPPLY DEPARTMENT".

V. TARRIEST THOU NOT AMONGST THOSE WHO DO DEAL IN INTENTIONAL SHOCKS, FOR THEY ARE SURELY UNBELIEVERS AND ARE NOT LONG FOR THIS WORLD.

VI. TAKE CARE THAT THOU TAMPEREST NOT WITH INTERLOCKS AND DEVICES, FOR THIS WILL INCUR THE WARTH OF THY SENIORS AND BRINGETH THE FURY OF THE SAFETY OFFICER DOWN UPON THY HEAD AND SHOULDERS.

VII. WORKEST THOU NOT UPON ENERGISED EQUIPMENT, FOR, IF THOU DOST, THY BUDDIES WILL SURELY BE BUYING BEERS FOR THY WIDOW AND CONSOLING HER IN OTHER WAYS NOT GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE TO THEE.

Ten Commandments of Electricity

VIII. VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, NEVER SERVICE HIGH-VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT ALONE, FOR ELECTRIC COOKING IS A SLOTHFUL PROCESS AND THOU MIGHTEST SIZZLE IN THINE OWN FAT FOR HOURS ON END BEFORE THY “MAKER” SEETH FIT TO END THY MISERY AND DRAG THEE INTO “HIS” FOLD.

IX. TRIFLE NOT WITH RADIOACTIVE TUBES AND SUBSTANCES LEST THOU COMMENCETH TO GLOW IN THE DARK LIKE UNTO A LIGHTNING BUG, AND THY WIFE BE FRUSTRATED NIGHTLY AND HAVE NO OTHER USE FOR THEE EXCEPT THY WAGE.

X. COMMIT THOU TO MEMORY THE WORKS OF THE PROPHETS, WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOKS OF INSTRUCTION, WHICH GIVETH THE STRAIGHT DOPE AND WHICH CONSOLETH THEE, AND THOU CANNOT MAKE MISTAKES.



JONESSSS!!!!!!!

Are You An Aging DJ?

- 1. You were first hired by a GM who actually worked in radio before becoming GM.***
- 2. Sales guys wore Old Spice to cover the smell of liquor.***
- 3. You were playing Elvis' #1 hits when he was alive.***
- 4. Engineers could actually fix things without sending them back to the manufacturer.***
- 5. You worked for only ONE station, and you could name the guy who owned it.***
- 6. You remember when normal people listened to AM radio, and only "hippies" listened to FM.***
- 7. Radio stations used to have enough on-air talent to field a softball team every summer.***
- 8. You're at least 10 years older than the last two GMs who fired you.***
- 9. You used to smoke in a radio station and nobody cared.***
- 10. Engineers always had the worst body odor, not because they worked too hard, but because they just didn't shower that often.***
- 11. You know people who actually listened to baseball games on the radio.***
- 12. You never thought twice about drinking from the same bottle with another DJ.***
- 13. Sixty percent of your wardrobe has a station logo on it.***
- 14. Dinner? Let's see what the last shift left for me in the refrigerator.***
- 15. You played practical jokes on the air without fear of lawsuits.***

Are You An Aging DJ?

- 16. You answer your home phone with the station call letters.***
- 17. You knew how to change the ribbon on the teletype machine, but you hated to do it because "...that's the news guy's job."***
- 18. You still have nightmares of a song running out and not being able to find the control room door.***
- 19. You've ever told a listener, "Yeah. I'll get that right on for you."***
- 20. You have at least 19 pictures of you with famous people whom you haven't seen since, and wouldn't know you today if you bit 'em on the ass.***
- 21. You've run a phone contest and nobody called, so you made up a name and gave the tickets to your cousin.***
- 22. You know the difference between good reel-to-reel tape and cheap reel-to-reel tape.***
- 23. You only did "make-goods" if the client complained. Otherwise, who cares?***
- 24. You still refer to CDs as "records."***
- 25. You have several old aircheck cassettes in a cardboard box in your closet that you wouldn't dream of letting anyone hear anymore, but you'll never throw them out or tape over them. Never!***
- 27. You remember how upset people used to get about Richard Nixon.***
- 28. You wish you could have been on "Name That Tune" because you would have won a million bucks.***
- 29. You have a couple of old transistor radios around the house with corroded batteries inside them.***
- 30. You've been married at least three times, or never married at all.***

KWSK-KWNS

Radio Station

Reunion Pictures

August 18th, 2012

Pratt, Kansas

Reunion Committee Members:

Ron Detwiler

Lisa Coss, KMMM

Dick Anderson, KMMM

Sandy Dyche, KMMM

Pictures courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Rocking M Radio – KMMM
30129 E. Hwy 54
P.O. Box 486
Pratt, KS 67124

July 23, 2012

Dear Mr. Detwiler,

I hope this letter finds you well. As you know our upcoming birthday celebration is only a few weeks away and we all look forward to having you celebrate the day with us. It is a great pleasure to have you attend our 50th birthday, as it's a very special day for all of us. We have a few things planned out for the day to celebrate with past and previous employees as well owners mixed in with community members, loyal listeners, as well as current advertisers.

As you have spoken with Ron Detwiler he has done quite an amazing job at putting together the history of both KWNS and KWSK, as well as trying to contact everyone that was involved in either station. This is a once in a lifetime event for all of us, maybe the only time all of us will have the distinct pleasure to know the individuals that started all of this. Those that went through what I like to call the 'good 'ol days of radio', when you had live voices on the air and in the studio. I still have a live morning show from 6 a.m – 10 a.m. with Carl Raida and live programming content with my sports director Dick Anderson doing all the play by play and sports shows that air throughout the year.

As I mentioned earlier I hope this letter finds you well and we look forward to having you on Saturday August 18th the home of the Mighty 1290 KMMM here in Pratt, KS. Attached you will find some information about Pratt as well as hotel accommodations available and a tentative general itinerary of the days events.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an e-mail!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lisa E. Coss'.

Lisa E. Coss
Rocking M. Radio – KMMM
General Manager
Phone: 620-672-5581
Cell: 620-450-8567
E-mail: lcoss@rockingmradio.com
www.superhits1290.com
www.rockingmradio.com

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Rocking M Radio – KMMM
30129 E. Hwy 54
P.O. Box 486
Pratt, KS 67124

July 23, 2012

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR SATURDAY AUGUST 18TH

- 9:00 A.M. – Meet at the campus of Pratt Community College to begin the Pratt Tour vehicles can be parked on the west side of the campus as we'll all get on the PCC Bus to travel around Pratt
- 9:30 A.M. – KMMM Radio tour
- 10:00 A.M. – KDWP & Lake Drive Tour
- 10:30 A.M. – Pratt High School and Blythe Fitness Center Drive Tour
- 11:00 A.M. - Drive up by First National Bank for a 30 minute break to visit our downtown businesses
- 11:30 A.M. – Head to the Pratt County Historical Museum
- 12:30 P.M. – BTI – Airport – B-59 Memorial Drive Tour
- 1:00 P.M. - Return to PCC as the Pratt Tour will conclude as lunch will be on your own
- 3:00 P.M. - 5 P.M. - Watermelon feed at Centennial Park
- 6:00 P.M. - *Dinner is tentatively scheduled this is yet TBD*

FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS THAT WOULD PREFER TO GO TO THE RADIO STATION AND BE ON THE AIR FOR THAT TIME FRAME UP UNTIL THE WATERMELON FEED ARE WELCOME TO DO SO. PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL AT [LCOSS@ROCKINGMRADIO.COM](mailto:lcoss@rockingmradio.com) IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO DO SO.

Lisa E. Coss
Rocking M. Radio – KMMM
General Manager
Phone: 620-672-5581
Cell: 620-450-8567
E-mail: lcoss@rockingmradio.com
www.superhits1290.com
www.rockingmradio.com

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



- A. Barbara Young-KWNS***
- B. Mary Ann Young-KWNS***
- C. Morgan Derek Godfrey***
- D. Roger Bailey-KWSK***
- E. Jed Tibbetts-KWNS***
- F. Lou Constantino-KWNS***
- G. Don O'Malley-KWNS***
- H. Roger Harvey-KWNS***
- I. Bill Huffman-KWNS***
- J. Terry O'Malley-KWNS***
- K. Harry Mansfield-KWSK***
- L. Margaret Godfrey-KWSK***
- M. Tim Hawks-KWNS***
- N. Deb Bowman***
- O. Jim Bowman-KWNS***
- P. Ron Detwiler-KWNS***
- Q. Lynn McBride-KWSK***

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



***Charles Kay Hutchinson and Harry Mansfield
at entrance door of KMMM.***



***Lynn McBride, Harry Mansfield and Charles Kay
Hutchinson in the KMMM control room.***

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



***Don O'Malley, Tim Hawks, Roger Harvey and Pat O'Malley
talking over the good ol' days at KWNS.***



***Back row: Roger Harvey, Tim Hawks, Jed Tibbetts, Ron
Detwiler and Terry O'Malley. Front row: Don O'Malley***

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012

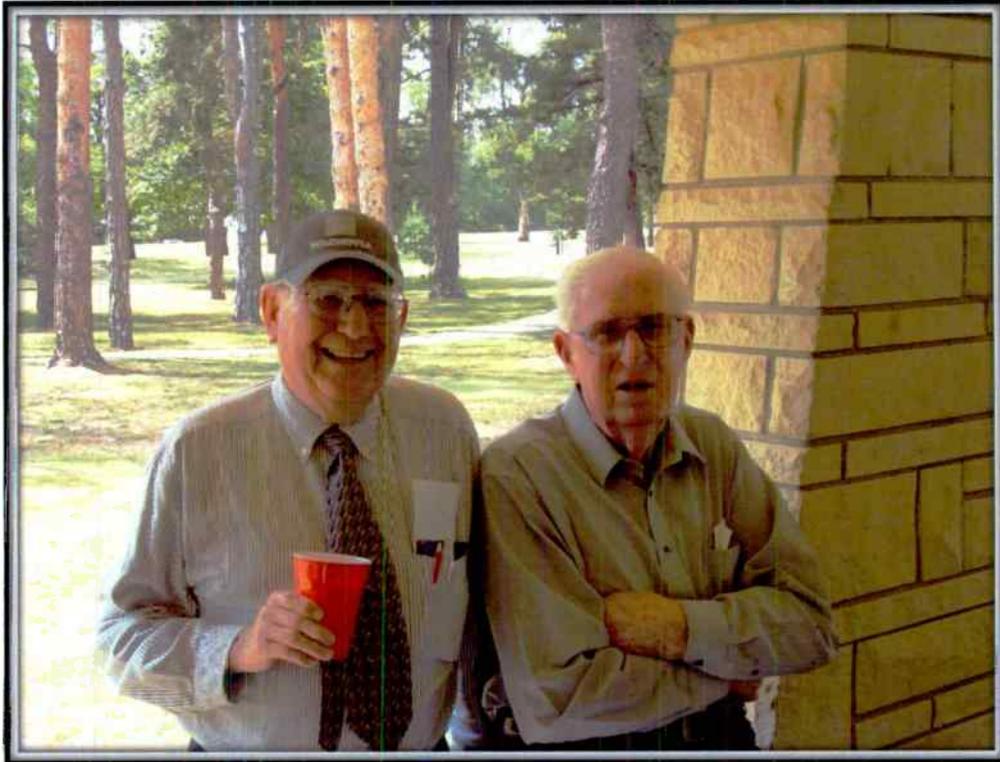


Watermelon feed at Lemon's Park, Pratt, Kansas.



Roger and Karen Harvey. Sitting is Patty Detwiler. In the background is Lynn McBride.

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012

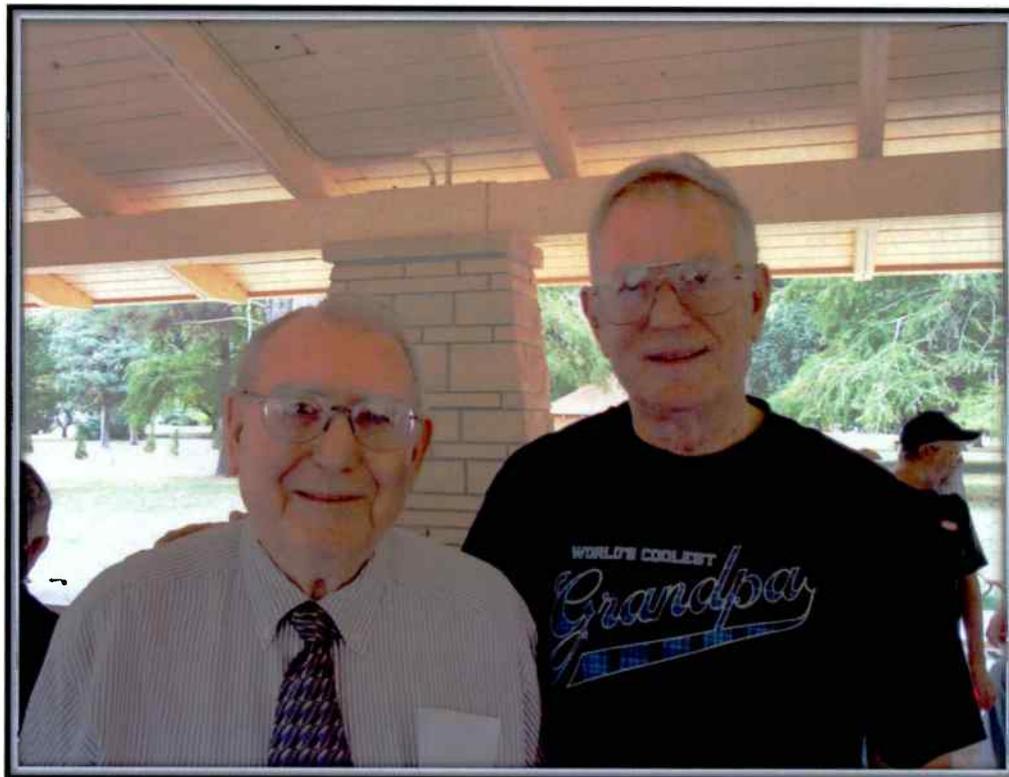


Bill Huffman and Don Detwiler



Dick Anderson, Lisa Coss with Lou Constantino telling a good radio story.

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Bill Huffman and Ron Detwiler



KWNS Employees: Ron Heape, Tim Hawks, Bill Huffman, Ron Detwiler, Lou Constantino and Roger Harvey.

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Sandy and Newton Dyche, Lisa Coss, Carl Raida with back to camera and Charles Kay Hutchinson.



Saturday night at the Uptown Cafe is Harry Mansfield and his girlfriend Jeanine Graf, also Jim and Deb Bowman.

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Tim Hawks and Ron Heape catching up.



Cindy and Lou Constantino, Lisa Coss and Jed Tibbetts.

KWSK-KWNS Reunion 8-18-2012



Standing in front of the KWSK door to the upstairs studios are KWSK employees: Charles Kay Hutchinson, Harry Mansfield, Margaret Godfrey, Roger Bailey and Lynn McBride.



Posing in front of the KWSK door are: Charles Kay Hutchinson and Morgan Derek Godfrey, grandson of KWSK founder, Clem Morgan.

***STOP
THE
Presses!!!
Late Arrival***

***The J. Larry "James" Simmons
Family***

***All Items courtesy of Jodi Brack-Simmons unless
otherwise noted***

J. Larry "James" Simmons

One of the KWNS personalities I had a hard time locating was James Larry Simmons, better known as Jay Larry James. When I was talking to people about Pratt and the station at that time, the names of Jay Larry, Larry Waggoner, Lou Constantino and Andy Airiola would always come up somewhere in the conversation. Of course heard on the air, they were also very visible dynamic people in the community and local events. Although he was not one of the founding DJ's, he was almost there from start of KWNS. Jay Larry at the time was a local Pratt resident, his father a Conductor for the Rock Island Railroad here in Pratt, working with my Dad Don Detwiler. Even before he went to work at the radio station, Jay Larry was certainly no stranger to the Pratt community, being the band leader of a local western swing band called the "Midnite Ramblers". Back then in Pratt, it was not usual to have dances all the time somewhere in Pratt, something rarely seen now a-days.

Even on the Facebook page, "You know you are from Pratt, if..", when asking about the station and people, Jay's name was sure to pop-up. On that subject, one of his close friends, Jack D. Fredrick wrote, "Now Larry Simmons, his real name, his radio name was "Jay-Larry". He was at KWNS almost from the start. He was a DJ that did all country music, at the same time with Larry Waggoner. Jay-Larry and Larry Waggoner moved to Wichita, Jay-Larry to KFDI and Waggoner to KEYN. Sometime later he moved to KHUT and become manager of that new station in Hutchinson and was there some 25 years. Not long after, we lost him to cancer. What a GREAT DJ". In another Facebook posting, he wrote, "Jay-Larry or whatever you would like to call him, he was a great DJ in Pratt. Larry and I started (playing) country when we were about 16 years old and played all the country, opening for different groups, up until the time he passed away. He was my closest friend forever and you are right about him having a street named after him (James). My wife had twin boys, one was named Jack and the other was named Jay, for when he was called Jay Larry". Jack's friend Chas Reyeknee had posted earlier, "Larry Simmons was at KHUT in Hutchinson for many, many years as Larry James. Has a street named after him, "James".

Two others Pratt locals that were in the band over the years with Jay Larry were sisters Vicki and Kris Critzer. Kris, the younger of the two posted, "Jay Larry, Larry Waggoner were great musicians and singers. They sang with my sister Vickie Critzer Fisher, Teresa Sillin Reed and Shelia Jacks Pridemore (aka "The Tri-tones") all the state of Kansas, performing at county fairs and other events. They were Kansas' version of "Peter Paul and Mary" and "The Kingston Trio". According to Vicki, after Jay Larry moved to Hutchinson, Larry Waggoner's close friend Kenny Wetzal, joined the group for a while.

I finally located Jay Larry's widow, Jodi in October 2014, still living in Hutchinson, Kansas. So to Jodi and Jay Larry's daughter Sarina, I am grateful for the information and pictures on him and his family. From Sarina, is the following information on her father Jay Larry.

James Larry Simmons was born on November 5, 1938 in Russellville, Kentucky to Edward Adrian & Elizabeth Stuart Simmons. Larry was the firstborn, and was soon big brother to Janet and Allen. Many years later, after Larry was married and had a child of his own, his

parents adopted a little girl they named Jeana.

Larry's family moved to Pratt when he was very young. After High School, Larry worked in various jobs including Gadeke's Bakery and the local newspaper before he began working at the local radio station KWNS. This proved to be a job he loved so he went to Texas to school and got his license in 1964 and came back to the station in Pratt.

Larry was already married by this time to Nelda Jane Hansen. They were married in Montrose, Kansas on June 22, 1958. They had their first child, a daughter they named Sarina Jolene, born January 15, 1962.

In 1966, Larry got a job at KFDI in Wichita and moved his family there. He remained there for a couple of years, had another child, a son, James Stuart on May 28, 1968 and then moved his family to Hutchinson where he worked at KWBW. On August 6, 1971, his third child, a daughter, Melissa Janelle was born. Not long after that, he and Nelda separated and subsequently divorced.

When that station added a new FM country station KHUT, it was a natural move for Larry to become their morning DJ. His morning show on KHUT was called "The Jay Larry Go Round". He loved country music and at any given time, anyone passing by his booth would see him tapping his fingers on the console in time with the music and tapping his cowboy boot clad feet. One morning when his daughter Sarina had gone to work with him, she giggled when she saw him really getting into it. He told her, "You don't have to be crazy to do this job, but it helps!" Jay Larry's listeners loved him and he loved them. To him, this wasn't a job, it was his life. He was "Jay Larry" wherever he went and always took the time to talk to his audience if they saw him out and about.

For several years, KHUT sponsored a bus to Nashville for Fanfair, in which Jay Larry was the host. The bus trip was just another way he was able to spend more time with his listeners. His daughter Sarina recalls the summer she went on that trip with her dad. "The interaction he had with the people was fun to watch. My dad was quite the card and loved making the long bus ride fun. " She went on to say, " I will never forget walking around at Fanfair and hearing the singers that were there calling out hello to my dad by name...by NAME! Quite impressive to a young girl". But to Jay Larry, it was just another day doing what he loved.

Jay Larry loved representing the station at the State Fair. Being accessible to his audience was important to him and being at the fair made this possible. People from all over the state would stop by their booth just to say hello to him.

Jay Larry was nominated several times for CMA DJ of the year for small market. While he never won the award, he was honored and humbled to just be nominated.

He met Jodi Brack in the latter part of 1989 and they were married on Feb 17th, 1991. Jay Larry was also grandpa to two precious children of Melissa's. Correy James, who shared his grandpa's birthday, born November 5, 1992 and Courtney Janelle, born on October 9, 1993. Jay Larry worked at KHUT until 1995 when he decided to take another path. Jay Larry eventually began working at the Hutchinson Prison and had worked his way up to Master Sergeant. While he loved this job as well, his love of music and being on air was in his heart and soul, so

he began working part time at a local radio station KX 106. Sadly, Jay Larry had to leave both of these positions when his battle against cancer took its toll. He passed away surrounded by his wife Jodi, his sister Janet , his brother Allen and his three children, Sarina, Stuart and Melissa, on October 10, 2002".

When my wife Patty and I sat down to talk to Jodi about Jay Larry and radio in the good ol' days, etc., what seemed like only ten minutes turned out to be three hours later. It was such great fun to hear Jodi talk about Jay Larry, someone very-very dear and special to her, that it was difficult to say good-bye to and head back to Pratt. It was also great fun for me to set back and talk about a by-gone era. Jodi had the following to say about him in an e-mail dated October 26, 2014.

"Jay Larry James had a voice that was made for radio. So deep, so clear, so perfect. I met Jay Larry in the early part of 1990 after listening to him on the radio for a long time. I use to listen to him run a "Stump the DJ" portion of his show. I couldn't believe one person could know so much about country music. I don't remember anyone ever stumping him. We went to several country music events throughout our courtship and at one of those events he told me "come on with me. I want you to meet a very special person". That person turned out to be Kim Sette(famous for the "Does It Work" program that aired on Wednesday nights at 10 p.m.) of KWCH channel 12 TV. She saw him and jumped up and shouted – "Jay Larry!!" and gave him a big hug. After the introductions, she turned to me and began telling me how Jay Larry had been her mentor and that she had a big part of her career to thank him for. Of course Jay told her that if she hadn't had the talent already in her, he wouldn't have anything to mentor. She was always a big part of his life right up until the end. Kim is also now gone and I know they are somewhere talking about the good ole days. Jay also told me about when he had decided he wanted to become a DJ. There was a school in Texas, but it cost \$1000 and he didn't have it. He went to his father and asked him for it. Dad helped out. Jay became a DJ and one of his happiest days was the day he was able to give his dad back that \$1000 with his heart felt "Thanks Dad". I was only blessed to be with Jay Larry for the last 12 years of his life, but they were happy ones. I will always remember the Garth Brooks song "Last Dance". That was our last dance together. Signed, his wife. Jodi Brack-Simmons (James)".

When Jodi had about finished talking to me about Jay Larry, I remember her telling me, with some emotion in her eyes and face, about their last dance together to the tune of Garth Brooks, "Last Dance". I told Jodi that our song is Jimmy Clanton's song, "Venus in Blue Jeans". So I would like to end Jay Larry's story with a poem written by his daughter Sarina in memory of her Dad, because there is not one person reading this that has not suffered some loss in their life, someone very dear to them.

Today marks the 12 year anniversary of my father's passing.

Not a day goes by that I don't miss him, but today is always the hardest.

When I am having a bad day, it is hard not being able to pick up the phone and talk to him to hear him say everything will be alright, but today is always the hardest.

*Father's Day is hard because I can't call him to wish him a Happy Day,
but today is always the hardest.*

*My birthday is hard because he doesn't call me and in his deep radio voice say, Happy
Birthday Sissy (my nickname), but today is always the hardest.*

*Yes, no matter how many years has passed, because I sat and watched you slip away,
today is always the hardest.*

I love you so much, Sarina



Jay Larry's alter-ego, "Slippery Snake". The idea was born in the early 1970s when he had lost all his teeth. One morning Jay Larry was smiling in the mirror at himself with that toothless "ol' man" grin and the idea for "Slippery Snake" was conceived! According to Jodi, he played the part for birthday parties, adults, kids, anything as long as it made people happy.

COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

JO WALKER, Executive Director

P.O. Box 22299
Seven Music Circle North
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

(615) 244-2840
Cable: CMANAS
Telex: 78 6528

July 20, 1982

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MIKE MILOM, Asst. Counsel
Barksdale, Whaley, Gilbert, Frank,
& Milom

Mr. Jay Larry James
KHUT
W. 17th Street and Harding
Hutchinson, Kansas 67501

Dear Jay:

Congratulations! You have been chosen as a finalist in the Small market category for the CMA DISC JOCKEY OF THE YEAR AWARD.

For the final phase of voting, we will need to have an air check tape of approximately fifteen minutes in length. This should be done by telescoping an hour's show, removing all music and commercial time, leaving only your portion of the show. Also, please complete the enclosed biographical information sheet and return it to us, along with your air check and a photograph of yourself. In addition, we would appreciate it if you would send us the name and address of your local newspaper(s) so that we may send them information relative to the Awards. We will need to have this material in our office no later than August 9, 1982. Please send it to the attention of Rob Parrish.

The final voting is done by a panel of anonymous judges, selected from the broadcasting industry. The winners in each of the categories will be given the award as a special ceremony during the DJ Convention, scheduled to be held the week of October 11 through October 16, 1982.

We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your tape, bio, and photo as soon as possible. Best of luck and thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

(Mrs.) Jo Walker-Meador

JWM/ab
enclosure

Letter from the Country Music Association informing Jay Larry, he had been chosen as a finalist for the "CMA Disc Jockey of the year award". One of the names worth noting on the side of the letter is that of J. William Denny, President of Cedarwood Publishing Company, one of the members of the "Pier San" group that protested Bill Huffman on the 1290 frequency back in 1959.

RAY GRIFF ENTERPRISES

P.O. BOX 23245 • NASHVILLE, TN 37202 • (615) 242-1816

September 15, 1982

Mr. Jay Larry James
KHUT
Box 1036
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Dear Jay Larry:

Congratulations on your nomination for 1982 Country Music Disc Jockey of the Year.

Kind regards,


Ray Griff

RG/nc

Letter from legendary Nashville music publisher and country music artist Ray Griff. Over the years, Ray was on the Billboard music charts 54 times and was inducted into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame in 1989.



Nashville This Week



SHARON ALLEN

CMA Broadcast Personality Finalists

Finalists for the CMA Broadcast Personality of the Year have been chosen. The nominees were selected by CMA members in the Audio/Video Communications and Broadcast Personality categories. Now, an anonymous panel of judges, all of whom are broadcasting leaders, will review airchecks from each finalist and select a winner in each market category.

And the nominees are

Major Market — Charlie Chase, "This Week In Country Music," WSMV-TV/Nashville; Deano Day, KLAC/Los Angeles; Ralph Emery, "Nashville Now," the Nashville Network; Joe Ladd, KIKK-AM & FM/Houston; Nancy Turner, WMAQ/Chicago.

Medium Market — Jerry Adams, KFDD-AM & FM/Wichita; Stan Davis, WWVA/Wheeling; Lee Shannon, KWKH/Shreveport; Al Snyder, WTKC/Lexington; Claude Tomlinson, WIVK/Knoxville.

Small Market — Kent Order, WKYQ/Paducah, KY; Ryan Deary, WTCM/Traverse City, MI; J. Larry James, KHLT/Hutchinson, KS; Curtis King, WKKN/Rockford, IL; Dan Williams, KEED/Eugene, OR.

The winners will be announced on the CMA Awards Show to be telecast live October 8, 1984 on CBS at 9:30pm (EDT).

Success Stories

Food drives at Kenny Rogers concerts are proving successful. At ten concerts between June 14 and July 1, 294,700 lbs. of food were collected. The effort will accompany 58 more concerts through the end of the year.

If there's a Rogers concert scheduled in your city, the following information may be helpful to you.

The food drives are coordinated by a local relief agency in each city. Rogers appeals to concert attendees (through radio and television PSA's and local newspaper ads) to bring a donation of canned meat or fish. The food is collected at the venue by volunteers from the local agency and distributed to relief organizations to feed the hungry in the community where it was gathered.

In August, Dodge Trucks will begin sponsoring all of Rogers's concert tours. As a community service, participating Dodge dealerships will serve as drop-off points for these donations for several weeks prior to showdate.

Marlboro Country

Ronnie Milsap, Merte Haggard, and Ricky Skaggs headlined Marlboro's Country Music Spring Tour, with Eddie Rabbitt stepping in for Haggard in two cities, and T.G. Sheppard and Louise Mandrell joining Milsap and Haggard in Houston.



Ronnie Milsap:
Marlboro man

According to Marlboro Brand Programs Manager Jim Beatty, "The terrific fan reaction to this spring's tour convinces us that Marlboro Country Music will continue to be a viable promotion for Marlboro in months to come."

In an intimate yet humorous setting Waylon Jennings bares his soul for this month's Cinemax "Album Flash." In addition to his appearance in five videos of songs from his current album "Never Could Toe The Mark," he discusses his performing career and his personal life with his "psychiatrist," played by Robert Duvall. Johnny Cash and Jessi Colter also make cameo appearances in the half-hour program.



Waylon Jennings: Pictured (l-r) are video writer/director David Hogan, Robert Duvall, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, and John Ware of Sea Brite Productions.

House Plans

Construction has begun on Eddie Rabbitt's new home and should be completed by early 1985. There will be several unique features in his new home, including a fully-equipped gymnasium and an observatory. In case you were wondering about the gymnasium, it was obviously included in the plans because of the new physical fitness program Eddie began earlier this summer under the direction of a West Coast trainer, Tom Kossack... Tammy Wynette's new svelte figure is one that she is working to keep. Between concert dates, she is busy fixing up an exercise room in her Nashville home. In addition to the bicycle she's had for years, Tammy has added a rowing machine and a treadmill to her mini-spa... Jeanne Kendall and her husband Mack have converted their two-car garage into a closet to accommodate Jeanne's extensive wardrobe of hats, boots, shoes, and dresses, as well as some exercise equipment.

Just thought you'd like to know!

R&R Music And Industry News
July 27, 1984 Page 54
Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

Broadcast Weekly and Yearbook Articles

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler



McKay

1976, and earlier was VP-marketing for CBS Television Stations division.

John McKay, VP-general manager of CBS-owned KMOX-TV St. Louis, named VP-general manager of Times Mirror Broadcasting's KDFW-TV Dallas. He succeeds John J. McCrory, who was named president of Times Mirror Broadcasting earlier this year. McKay has held position with KMOX-TV since

Ernest Sprance, operations manager, WVOX(AM) New York, named VP-director of operations for WVOX and co-owned WRTN(FM) New York.

Jennifer Lear, responsible for operations and community relations, WZZD(AM) Philadelphia, named station manager.

Dennis Grayson, former production manager, WOLO-TV Columbia, S.C., joins WPDE-TV Florence, S.C., as operations manager. Station is scheduled to go on air Oct. 1.

Jay Larry James, program director, KHUT(FM) Hutchinson, Kan., named station manager.

Tony Bonvini, operations manager, WINW(AM)-WOOS-FM Canton, Ohio, named operations man-

Broadcast Weekly July 28, 1980 Page 115

KHUT(FM)—Co-owned with KWBW(AM). March 15, 1972: 102.9 mhz; 28.5 kw. Ant 155 ft. Format: Beautiful music. ■ Richard Cornish, prog dir; Gary McIntyre, coml mgr; Larry James, prog dir & mus dir. ■ Rates: \$4.50; 4.50; 4.50; 4.50.

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook 1980-1981

KHUT(FM)—Co-owned with KWBW(AM). March 15, 1972: 102.9 mhz; 28.5 kw. Ant 496 ft. Format: C&W. ■ Fred L. Conger, pres; Larry James, prog dir, gen & prom mgr; Steve Bridgewater, coml mgr; Al Thiessen, mus dir; Dan Deming, news dir; Randall Mettlin, chief engr. ■ Rates: \$11; 8; 9; 6.

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook 1982

Broadcast Weekly and Yearbook Articles

Courtesy: Ron Detwiler

KWBW May 28, 1935: 1450 kc; 1 kw-D, 250 w-N. 17th & Harding Sts. (67501). MOhawk 2-4486. Nation's Center Bcstg Co. (acq 11-16-56).

Net: NBC. Rep: Walton. Spec progs: C&W 6 hrs wkly.

Fred L. Conger, pres & gen mgr; John M. Townley, coml mgr; Larry James, prog dir & prom mgr; Gary Holland, chief engr; Dan Deming, news dir.

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook 1970

KWBW-FM March 15, 1972: 102.9 mhz; 28.5 kw Ant 155 ft. Box 1036 (67501) 662-4486. Nation's Center Bcstg Co.

Rep: Walton, Format: C&W.

Richard Cornish, coml mgr & prom mgr; Larry James, prog dir & mus dir.

Broadcast Weekly Yearbook 1973

KHUT(FM)—Co-owned with KWBW(AM). March 15, 1972: 102.9 mhz; 28.5 kw. Ant 496 ft. Format: C&W. ■ Cheryl Dinwiddie, gen & gen sls mgr; Larry James, prog dir, prom mgr; Bob Watson, mus dir. ■ Rates: \$14; 12; 13; 12.

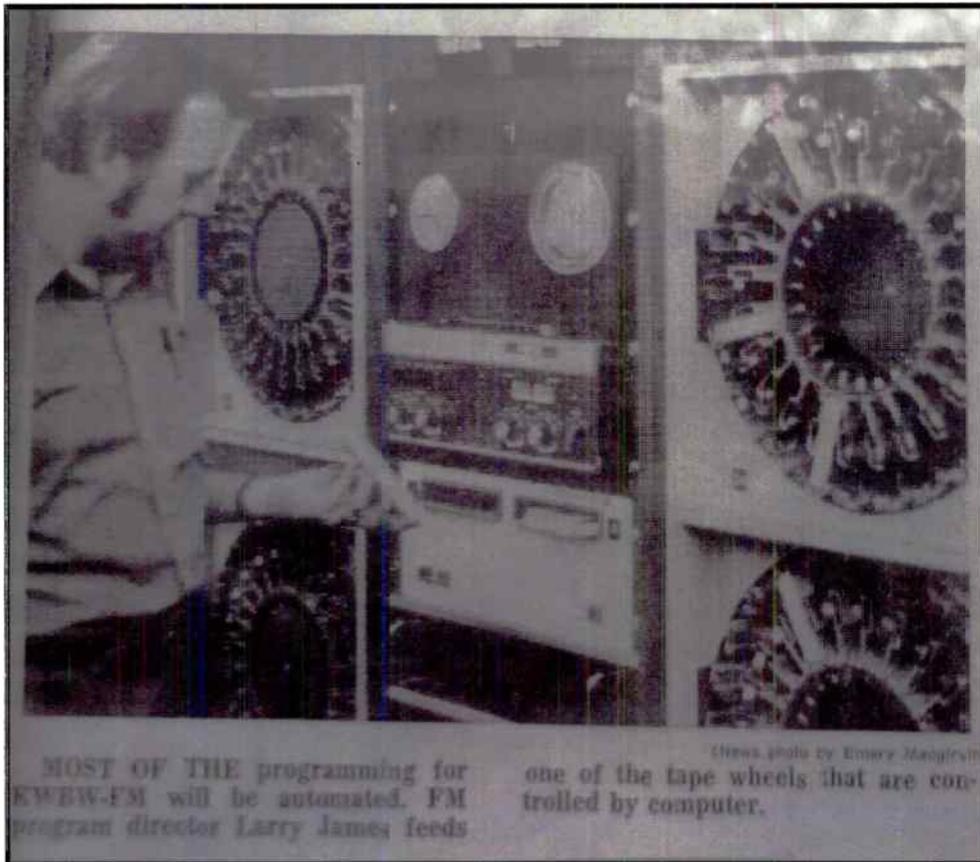
Broadcast Weekly Yearbook 1988



Carry Nation look-alike contest sponsored by the "Updowntowners of Hutchinson". According to Jodi, J. Larry won hands down!! Date unknown

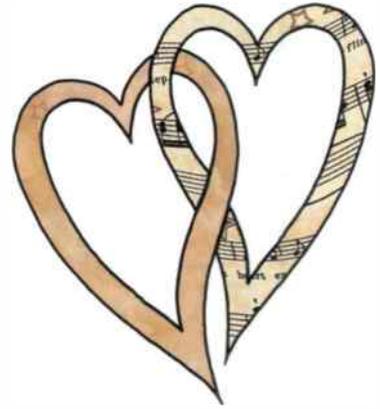
J. Larry James on the air at KHUT-FM, circa late 1990s



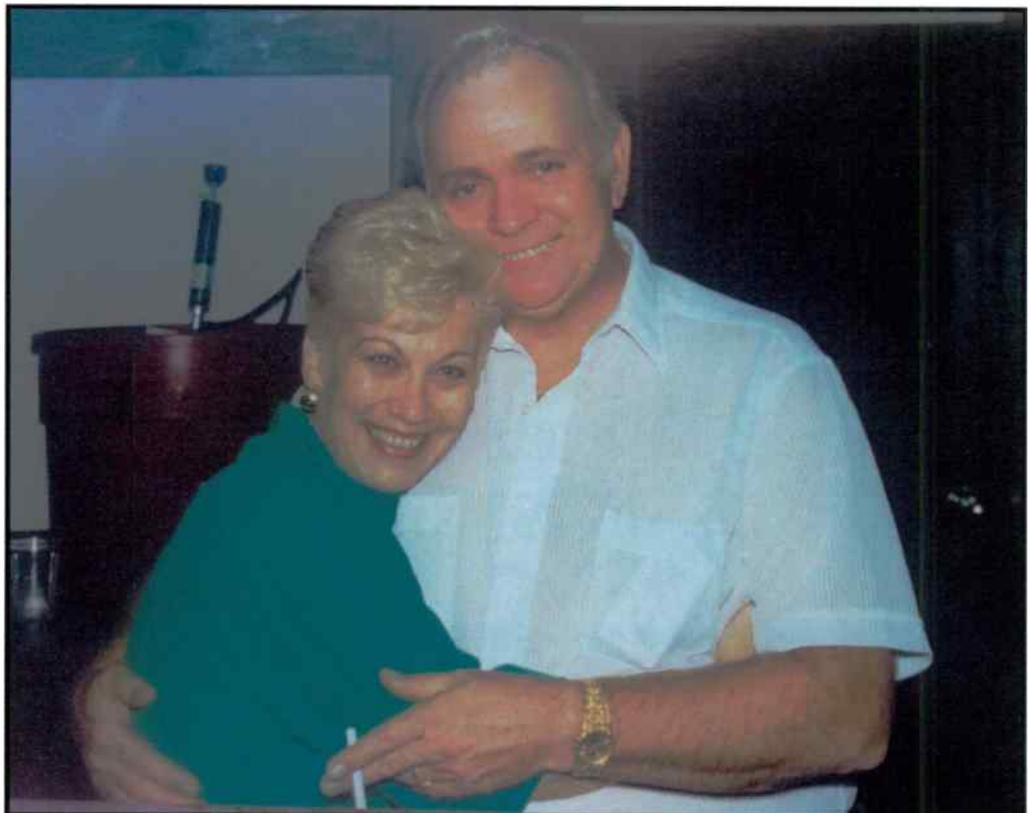


J. Larry feeding the monster at KWBW-FM, March 5, 1972





Jodi proudly holding Jay Larry James' CMA Certificate from 1981.



Jodi and Jay's wedding picture, February 17, 1991

Dear "J."

I ran into your wife this week at the Taste of Home show and she told me about your rough time. I just want you to know I'm thinking about you - and I know a lot of others are, too.

You gave me my first job in this crazy business and for that I'll always be grateful. And I can truthfully say some of my best memories are of working with you and the "gang" at KHUT. You put a lot of trust in a 17-year-old-barely-out-of-high-school kid. Thank you for that - and for making it fun!!
Hang in there and know I'm wishing you the best -
Finally, Kim

Letter to Jay Larry from Kim Sette, dated April 15, 2002, when he was battling cancer. "Dear "J": I ran into your wife this week at the Taste of Home show and she told me about your rough time. I just want you to know I'm thinking about you and i know a lot of others are, too. You gave me my first job in this crazy business and for that I'll always be grateful. And I can truthfully say some of my best memories are of working with you and the "gang" at KHUT. You put a lot of trust in a 17 year-old barely out of high school kid. Thank you for that-and for making it fun!! Hang in there and know I'm wishing you the best. Kim".





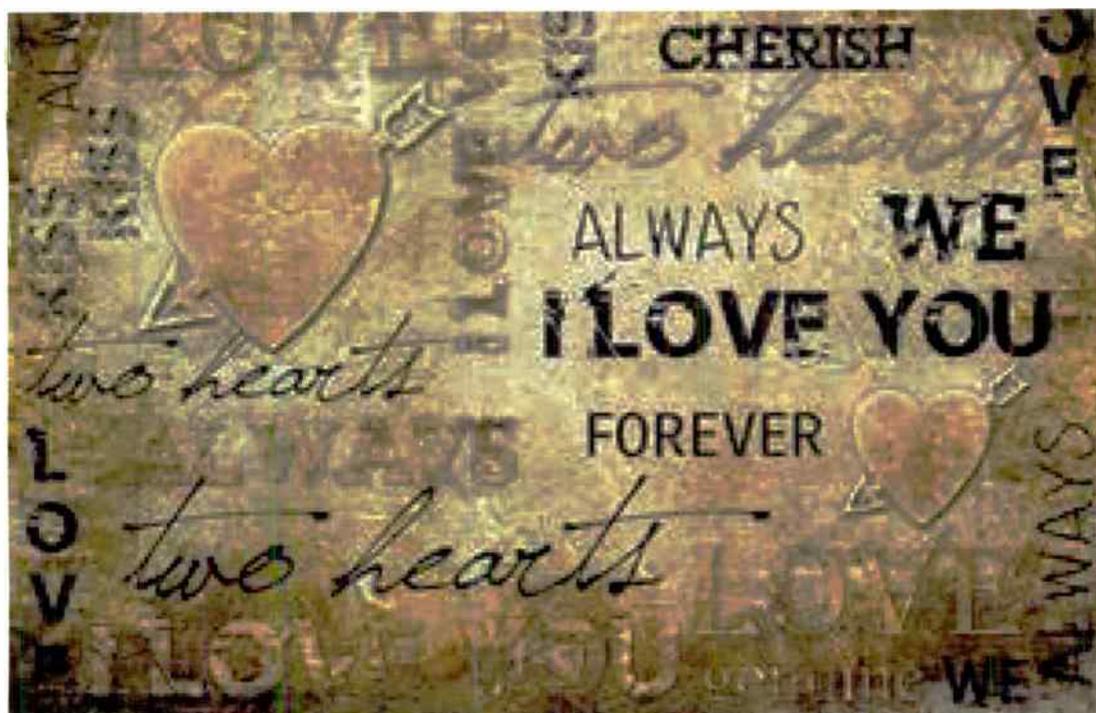
Jay Larry and his daughter Sarina on the air at KFRM, circa late 1990s



The Jay Larry James Family Gallery



***Jay Larry's Family 2009
Sarina-Melissa-James Stuart***



KWNS

“The Mighty 1290”

Radio Story