

504 Broadway Avenue, Quantico, Virginia

WPWC Radio Station 1480 AM

Dumfries, Virginia Prince William County

Country, Gospel and Bluegrass



214 S. Main Street, Dumfries, Virginia

WPWC Radio Station

214 South Main Street Dumfries, Virginia 1973 - 2000

In 1973 Raymond "Cousin Ray" Woolfenden, Sr. made a down payment on a station located in Quantico, Virginia, WQVA 1530 AM, a 250 watt radio station. Cousin Ray served as the station manager until the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on June 1 approved the sale. The station was located at 504 Broadway Avenue, at the corner of Broadway and Potomac Streets. Before purchasing WQVA, Cousin Ray worked across the Eastern United States at different radio stations.

In 1946 Cousin Ray started a one hour Jamboree on WADC, Akron, Ohio, and later it became a four hour program. He also worked for or managed the following stations: South Hill, Virginia on WJWS; then WXRA, Woodbridge, Virginia where he established the first FM all-country radio station; Raeford, North Carolina, WSHB; St. Pauls, North Carolina, WBYB; Fayetteville, North Carolina, WQSM; Fuquay Varian, North Carolina, WAKS; Water Valley, Mississippi, WVLY; Quantico, Virginia, WQVA.

Cousin Ray wanted to change the call letters for the station to WPWC, which stands for "Wonderful Prince William County", "We're Picking With Country", We're Proud We're Country", We're People With Country". The FCC approved these call letters on August, 1974. As the station grew, the signal also needed to be increased. An application for reassignment to a 1,000-watt AM band from 1530 to 1480 was made to the FCC in 1976. Approval was received in 1986, ten years later. WPWC originally broadcast from sunrise to sunset. The new approval would allow them to broadcast around the clock. The morning show started at 5 a.m. and the station closed its broadcast day at 11 p.m.

Cousin Ray was the morning man on WPWC, booming on the air waves at 5:00 a.m. with "Waldo the Rooster", the "Ole Country Store", the National Anthem and the following sayings:

- Good Morning WPWC 1480 AM in Dumfries, Triangle, Quantico, Virginia starts another day of broadcasting service.
- Welcome once again to the Ole Country Store
- My it's a beautiful, beautiful day, you're still a-living so everything is a-okay.
- Thanks heaps for letting me visit in your home, workshop and automobile and I will do my best to see that it is a beautiful one.
- Life is beautiful, time is precious, snatch, seize and enjoy every moment of it.
- Wake up saying "Good morning Lord", we thank you for this beautiful day.
- Start your day with a song, even if things go wrong, it will make you look better, it will make you feel better. I have got a song just for you. The program is designed with you in mind and dedicated to you.
- Come on along, sing, whistle, hum, dance, let's have a good time, if you can't do that, then smile, and you will make everyone happy along lifes pathway today.
- Your life will be fuller and happier too.
- If you've got to be blue, be a bright, bright blue won't you.
- Don't worry about nothin, as nothin is going to turn out right nohow, and if you need a friend call on me. From my home to yours, may you ride an easy walking horse, sleep neath a rain tight roof, live high on the hog all the days of your life.
- Life is but a fleeting moment, wherever you are, whatever you are doing today, be yourself and enjoy. Thank the Lord for giving you this beautiful day.
- We are so proud to have you with us on the big W.

Some of the announcers who were on the air over

the years: Peter Ayres

Elegatto Barreiro "Country Rap"

Heidi Bass

Jonathan Binstock Robert Bishop Debra Booth

Richard Bridgeman (passed away Aug. 8, 1995)

James Cantwell
Bill Clark
Matt Collins
Robert Collins
Lee Connor
Del Davidson

Kevin Dunlop Christopher Dunn James Earl

Brian Evans Stephen Farrington Robert Lee Ferreel

Dawn Fisher Robert Foster Bill Gaddis

Danny Garland (passed away)

David Geary Amy Goods Kevin Harris Jon Hauff

Hawkeye (Daniel Haller)

Brian Higbee Robert Holbrook Bryant Houser Donald Howell Sandy K.

Uriash Kniest Tom Kollins

Ted Layton (passed away Jan. 13, 1998)

Randy Lee Charles Leke Terry Linton

Darlene Lloyd "Little Darlin"

Rex Lucas Bruce McCoy Justine McCoy Steve Meadows Michele Meeks Tom Merrill

Domingo Juan Mieguel

Mike Mikluscah Bill Mountjoy Mike Neville Ocie Nunn Jr. Nolan Oxner

Andrew Pauley (passed away Oct. 23, 1986)

Gregory Pahaish Alex Papadopoulos Eric Patterson Sylas Perez Randy Riker

Leroy "Sandy" Sanderson (passed away Feb. 10, 1994)

James Salowe Red Shipley Charles Simmons Keith D. Smith Jordon Sypak Tony T. Steve Taylor

Joe Thompson (passed away Dec. 1, 1984)

Dennis Wayne Wendy Wegner

Harry Winfree (passed away Nov. 6, 1991)

Raynce "RC" Woolfenden

Raymond "Cousin Ray" Woolfenden (passed away

April 21, 2000)

James Wortman "James West"



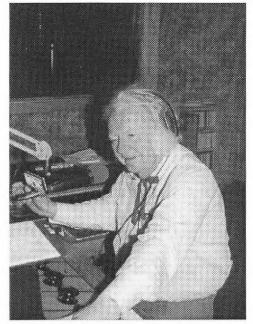
214 S. Main Street Mike Neville, Cousin Ray, RC Woolfenden

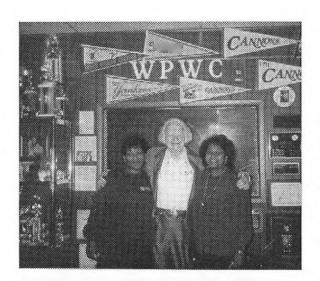
Visit a Radio Station

Have you ever seen the inside of a radio station? Ever wondered how a station operates? Well, now is an excellent time to find out. According to the program director for WPWC Radio Station of Dumfries, organized tours of the station are available Monday thru Friday at the WPWC broadcast plant. Groups of five or more are encouraged to make an appointment to see a local radio station in action. Tours include such trimmings as the station recording studios, offices, and satellite news delivery system. "A description of our operation by the tour guide as the tour travels through the station is provided on this guided tour," according to Mr. Woolfenden.

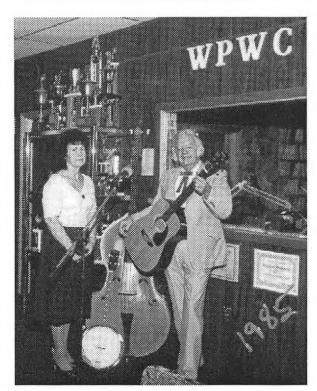
Any group wishing to set up an appointment for a tour should call (703) 221-1124, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. [Paper and year unknown.]

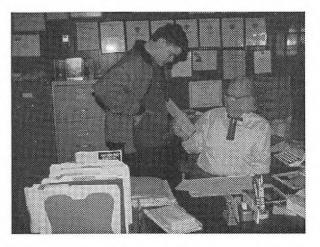


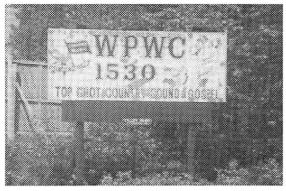












WPWC sign on Route | Highway between Woodbridge and Dumfries

WPWC carried:
Nascar Racing Station
Associated Press Audio News Network
Marine Corps News Daily
Down Home Country Gospel Sundays a.m.
Country Gospel Daily 1 pm until 2 pm
Blue Grass Hour Daily 3 pm until 4 pm

In the early days of WQVA, there was an Easter egg hunt at Prince William Forest Park, a fund raising benefit was held for the American Heart Fund and Santa parachuted into the Marumsco Plaza Shopping Center every Christmas. Sandy Sanderson and his daughter Cindy portrayed Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for many years at various shopping centers and parades.



Sandy Sanderson as Santa, beauty queen, Cindy Sanderson as Mrs. Claus



Santa parachuting into the shopping center.



Prize winners from the egg hunt in Prince William Forest Park

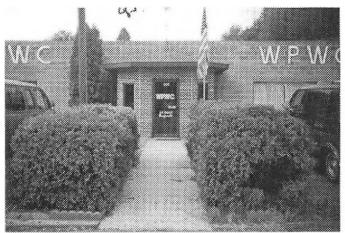






Taking handicapped children to the circus.

Photos taken in 1983



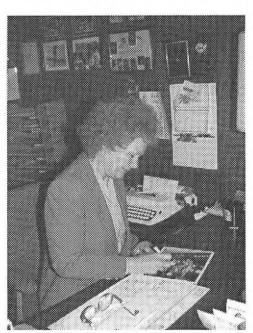
The station moved in September, 1979 to 214 S. Main Street, Dumfries, Virginia. At the time of the move, WPWC was still at 1530 AM. 1480 started at 500 watts and later went to 1kw.



Trophies from parades, Waldo the Rooster, Cannons baseballs, handmade items from listeners.

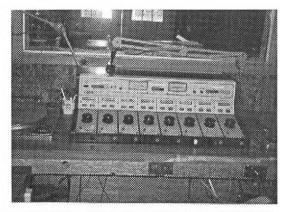


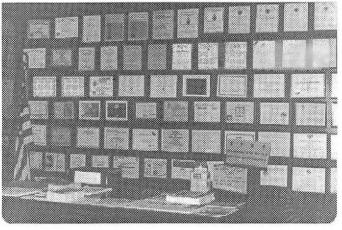
Standing: Sandy Sanderson, unknown, Tom Merrill, RC Woolfenden, Matt Collins, Mike Mikluscah, unknown, Kevin Harris. Sitting: Doris Woolfenden and Cousin Ray Woolfenden



Doris Woolfenden at her desk.

Some of the many awards presented to WPWC.







Heavy Country Band and Cousin Ray

WPWC also sponsored local bands in other country music contests such as the Dodge Wrangler Contest, which Southern Winds won first place in 1985. The Santmeyer Family was a finalist in the East Coast Country Music Champions.





The True Value/Jimmy Dean Sausage Country Showdown Contest - Local contests were held for individual country singers, duos and bands to perform at the local level, for a chance to go on to the state contest. Once winning at the state level, then on to the regional competition in Wheeling West Virginia and if winning there, on to the national finals in Nashville, Tennessee. Heavy Country was one of the bands to go on to the national finals in Tennessee.



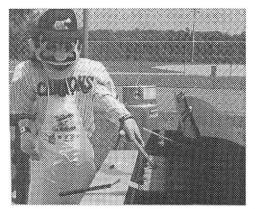
Witchita Falls Band. Kings Dominion 1982

WPWC had a motor home and float in numerous Christmas parades, including Manassas, Dumfries, Quantico, Fredericksburg, and Dale City. On the floats or in cars, would be Tiny Miss WPWC, Little Miss WPWC and other beauty contestants. WPWC participated in the Manassas Fun Day 1981 with a country music show, candy kitchen, moon walk, panda and other characters. Plus some of the July 4th parades in Dale City and Washington, D.C. Cousin Ray also served as master of ceremonies for the annual National Independence Day Festival in Washington, D.C. many times.



Little Miss WPWC

WPWC motor home in Quantico Parade 1983



WPWC Day at the Cannon's stadium.



Cousin Ray throwing out the game ball.

Broadcasts of Prince William Cannon games [even back when they were the Pirates], high school football and basketball games.



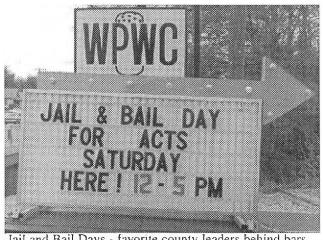
As for remotes, there were the county fairs, mainly Prince William, but sometimes Fredericksburg; Dumfries Discount Furniture; nearly every shopping center in eastern Prince William, and Weems-Botts Day. Cousin Ray represented WPWC every year at the State Fair in Richmond, Virginia on a day set aside for the press.

WPWC only missed broadcasting live at the Prince William County Fair one year. The WPWC motor home was a fixture on the fair grounds for 26 years. Cousin Ray also booked groups at the fair grounds such as The Lewis Family, Laurie and Bill Sky of the Sky Family. Cousin Ray also held an annual WPWC Radio Gospel Show on Thursday night in the barn on the fair grounds. A quote by Cousin Ray from The Community Voice 1999, "I know we will bring a blessing to you in song."

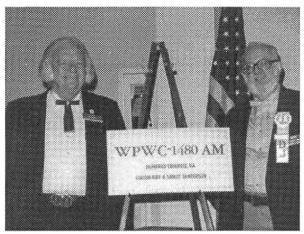




Lined up for a parade in old 1530 van.



Jail and Bail Days - favorite county leaders behind bars.



Cousin Ray and Sandy Sanderson at Fan Fair in Nashville, TN



WPWC broadcasting live from Burger King Dumfries/Triangle





Donna Cramer as Mrs. Claus and Cousin Ray as Santa



WPWC broadcasting live at Quantico National Cemetery on Memorial Day



Toys for Tots - United States Marine Corps



Remote at G.C. Murphy Store for the United Way

WPWC sponsored many country music shows in the area. In July 1984 Del Reeves and the Goodtime Charlies; The Stoneman Family; Joe Sacra and the Country Raiders and the Bull Run Cloggers were at Davis Ford Park for the park's grand opening.

WPWC and American Legion Post #28 sponsored a Grand Ole Opry Show featuring Bill Carlisle, James Monroe & The Midnight Ramblers and Jimmy Deloizer & The Sensations.

Other artists at various shows: Little Jimmie Dickens, The Lewis Family, Jim and Jesse, Wilma Lee Cooper, Mac Wiseman, The Osborne Brothers, and many more.

Cousin Ray, Bill Gaddis, Sandy Sanderson, Joe Thompson, Raynee Woolfenden, Kevin Harris, unknown

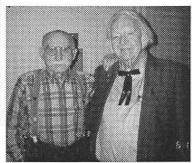




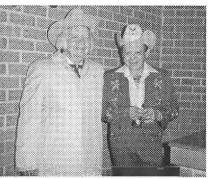
Eight little, nine little ... ton founding DJ's of the first Country Mose Dist Joshty Association (1953) gathered at the DJ Hell of Fame Awards reception recently at the Dpryland Hotel, Pictured wast to dast are Ton Perryman. Sill Lowery, Enrokey Smith, Cheristy Walker, Ton Dat Respon, Len Etha, Cheristy Lomb (Country Editor for Cashbus in 150). Countries they Walfenden, Flambler' Lou Dohnver, and Chuck Chellman, Mail of Fame Board Charman.



Roy Acuff 1981



Grandpa Jones

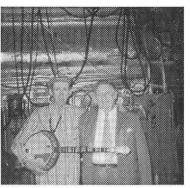


Little Jimmy Dickens 1988 Woodbridge Senior HS Police Association Benefit



Minnie Pearl 1975 DJ Convention

Country Music Stars with Cousin Ray in Nashville



Stringbean back stage of the Grand Ole Opry



Boxcar Willie 1986



Dottie West 1981



Billy Walker 1982



Grant Turner WSM



Tom T. Hall 1981



Reba 1984



Cousin Ray, Hoss Williams, Jim & Jessie 1994



Bill Anderson visiting WPWC in 1993 and signing autographs



Visitors to WPWC: Bill Anderson, Kitty Wells, Johnny Wright, Stella Parton, Bill Phillips, Tiny Tim, Warner Mac, Mark Moseley of the Redskins, Roy Rogers, Prince William County officials, plus many more.



Kitty Wells and Johnny Wright visiting WPWC in 1987.



Senator Cologan and Cousin Ray



Cousin Ray, Maureen Caddigan, Mark Moseley, Bert Hatcher

Christmas Cards



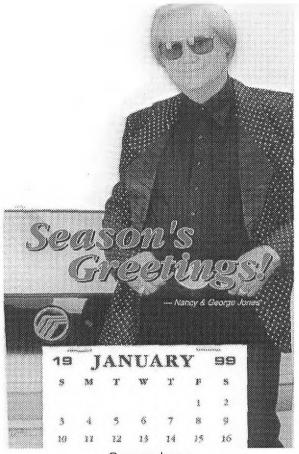
Lynn Anderson



Loretta Lynn



The "Storyteller" Tom Y. Half and the "King of bibegrass" Jimesy Martin drught "in "Dige" Me and Jenus gur our own thing gods". As per tions P. Hall a sequent, come have appear with Jimesy 2nd Yean Y. Saturalay June 17th. Butegna. Buterque Venison. Rubbir, Squarel and Countreed



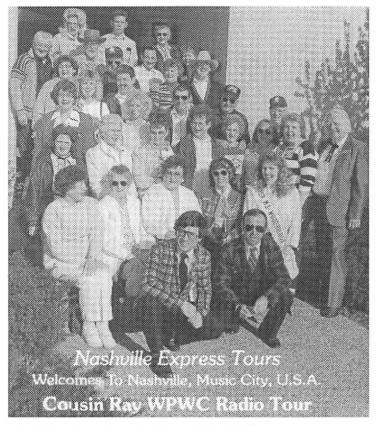
George Jones



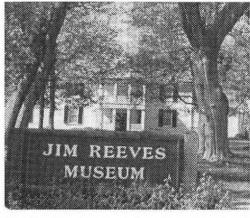
Statler Brothers

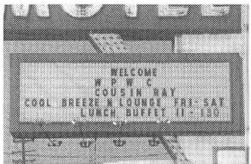
Tom T. Hall and Jimmy Martin 34th Annual Bill Monroe Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival

Nashville, TN Bus Tours



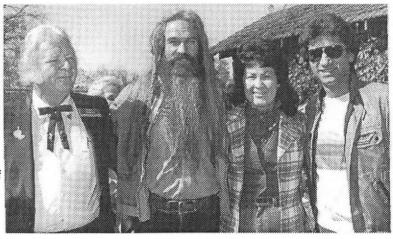








Bill Monroe on the Grand Ole Opry November 1971



At the home of Bill Golden of The Oak Ridge Boys

Bus Trips to Nashville, Tennessee to visit the Grand Ole Opry, Opryland, Loretta Lynn's ranch Hurriance Mills, the Old Ryman Auditorium, Jim Reeves Museum, Ernest Tubb Record Shop, Marty Robbins Gift Shop and the homes of Tom T. Hall, Carl Smith, Kitty Wells, Tammy Wynette, Johnny Cash, Conway Twitty, Ronnie Milsap, Webb Pierce, etc. Leon Ashley and Margie Slingeton had a restaurant in Nashville and invited the entire bus tour to come for dinner. The bus often stopped at Dollywood for a visit on the way home. Bus trips were also taken to Wheeling West Virginia Jamboree and to visit the Doc and Chickie Williams Record Shop. During Fan Fair in June, WPWC set up remote interviews from Nashville so that the listeners in Prince William could hear the stars.

Annaburg Nursing Home



Cousin Ray in a wheelchair with a broken foot. 1999

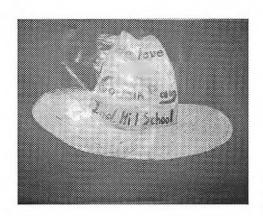


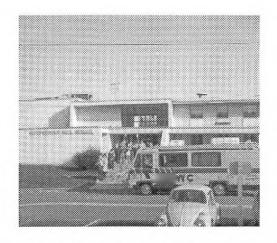


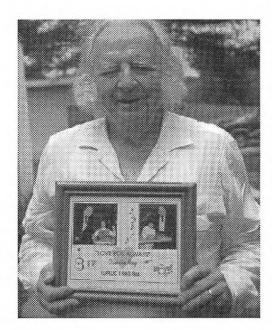
Visiting with the residents.



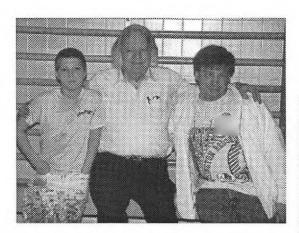
1986

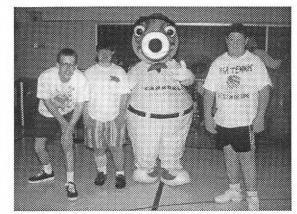








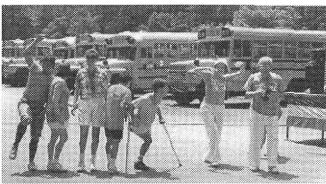




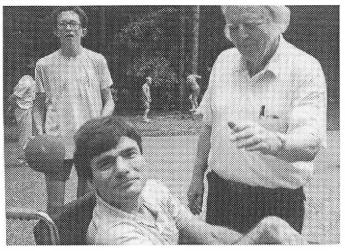


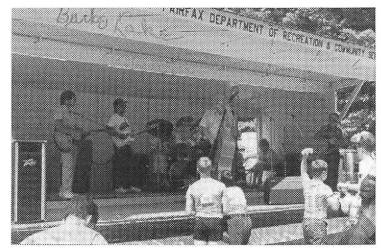
The Civitan Annual Picnic at Burke Lake Park, Fairfax, VA





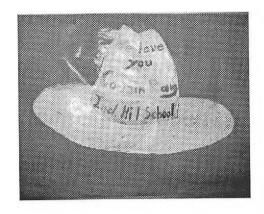
July Time for fun at Burke Lake. The children come on buses to hear the music, dance, play games and have a great time.

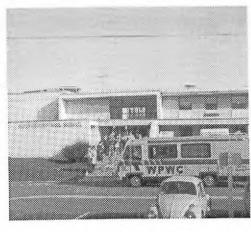


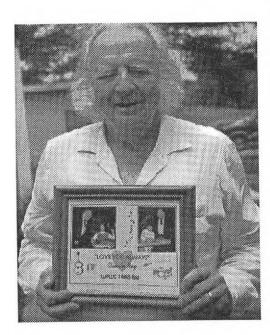


Always very hot, but in spite of the heat, all have a great time.

Independent Hill School

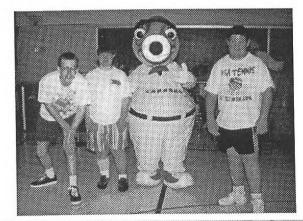


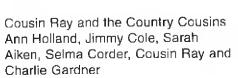




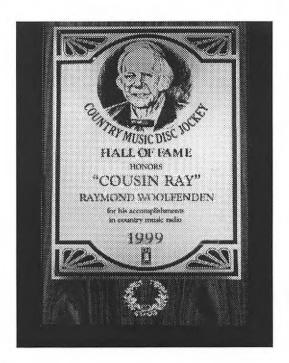




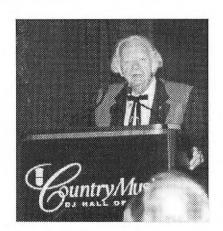








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Country Music Disc Jockey Hall of Fame

On June 24, 1999, Cousin Ray was inducted into the Country Music Disc Jockey Hall of Fame in Nashville, TN along with Rosalie Allen, Ted Cramer, Joe Rumore, Gwyneth "Dandalion" Seese, and "Pappy" Dave Stone. Eddy Arnold received the Career Achievement Award.

Cousin Ray was nominated six times in the Country Music Associations Broadcast Personality of the Year in the small market category. Cousin Ray won this honor in 1964 and was nominated in 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986 and 1989.



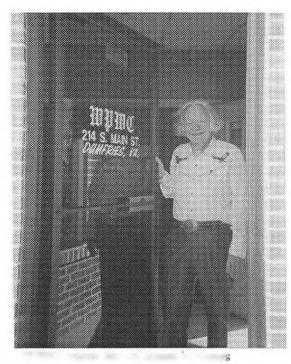
Ray Woolfenden Jr., Cousin Ray and Eddy Arnold

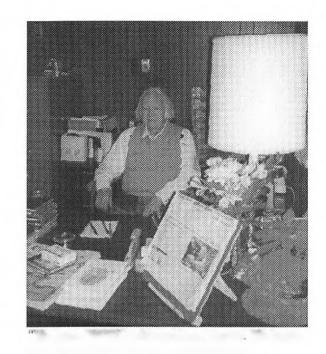
"I'm so proud to have been honored by the Country Music DJ Hall of Fame and being 'King for A Day'. But remember, we must always be ourselves and enjoy. Never try to be what you're not. Stay upbeat with love in your heart and a smile on your face and singing along life's way."

With love and may God bless you, Cousin Ray Country Plus Magazine, July 1999



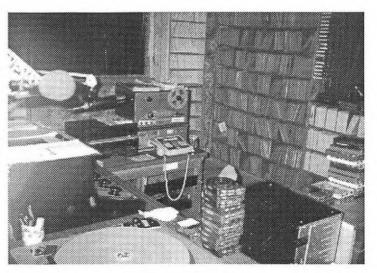
Loretta Lynn's bus driver and songwriter, Cody, picked Cousin Ray and family up at the airport and transportated them to the hotel.



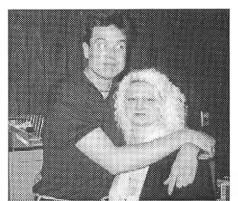








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Jordan and Darlene



David Geary

Theme song for Tom Merrill "Welcome To My World"

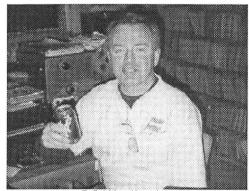
Theme song for Darlene "Orange Blossom Special"



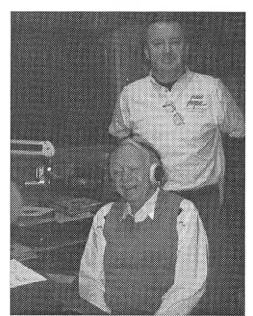
Tony T. (now works for WKCW)



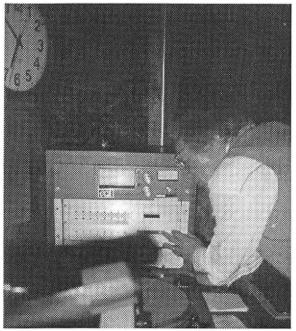
Hawkeye



RC Woolfenden Theme song: *Buckin The Five* by The Wagonmasters

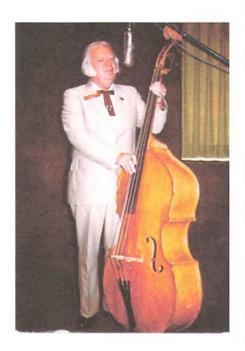


Cousin Ray and RC one last time Ray's Theme song: Ole Country Store by Reno & Smiley



Cousin Ray signing off at 6:53 p.m. on January 14, 2000

In loving memory of Cousin Ray Sept. 5, 1916 - April 21, 2000



The Ole Country Store Is Closed by Raynee Woolfenden

The lights are dim, the mike lies silent. the bass fiddle is still. propped in a corner with love, the cracker barrel is empty, lonely it is for no one sits on it now, no more do we hear the sounds of music, no more do the fiddles and steel guitars play, Waldo the rooster is silent, his crowing no more we hear. the cart machines and turntables are resting now, for their master is gone, to come back nevermore, we long to hear them, just one more time, but now there is only the sound of tears gently falling to the ground, out we walk from the dark and lonely studio, to the front door of the building we go, searching for that old station van, you know which one I mean, but his old chariot is no longer there, for Cousin Ray has left the building, gone home to be with our Lord



Thanks to all the listeners, fans, family, friends and DJs who shared their photos with Cousin Ray.

March 22, 1985

Dear Ray:

Thank you for your letter of February 23, inviting me to join you for your show to be held on June 11.

While I appreciate your thinking of me, unfortunately it will not be possible for me to join you as I have a number of conflicting commitments at that time.

Hope all is well with you, and I send along my very best wishes.

Most sincerely,

Gene Autry

Mr. Raymond Woolfenden, Sr.

WPWC Radio

P.O. Box 189

Dumfries, Virginia 22026



Dumfries 221-124

Santa

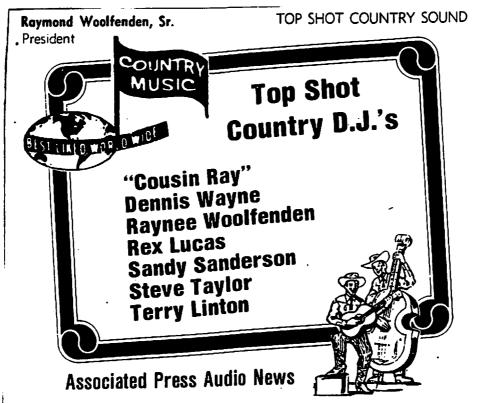
arrives by parachute Saturday Nov 24th-10:30 a.m. Marumsco Shopping Center

WPWC RADIO

Brings Santa and Mrs. Santa to the Marumsco Shopping Center to be with all boys and girls at Santa's House from 11 a.m. til 3 p.m.

SPONSORED BY:

Sears Mail Order
Marumsco Theatre
Hairworks, Inc.
Carpeteria
Waxie Maxie
Giant Food Stores
Gilbert Jewelry
G.C. Murphys
Peebles Dept. Store
Peoples Service Drug Store
Kinney Shoes



. Down Home Country Gospel Sunday Mornings • Country Gospel 1-2 P.M. Marine Corps News Daily at 12:15 P.M. and 5:15 P.M.

HAPPY BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC

214 South Main St., Dumfries, Va. 22026

₩PWC-We're Proud We're Country

*WPWC-Wonderful Prince William County

*WPWC-Win People With Country

From Woolfenden's Picking with Country





CONNIE SMITH







MCA RECORDS

Loretta Lynn





MANAGEMENT: Carter & Associates, Inc. 537 Sixth Ave. Huntington, WV 25701 (304) 523-2310 JOHNNY PAYCHECK

Johnny Paycheck Fan Club P.O. Bax 2474 Huntington, WV 25825-2474 JoWP.W.





ROGER MILLER

MORESS NANAS GOLDEN PEAY ENTERTAINMENT

1209 16th Avenue South Nashville, TN 37212 615/329 9945

12424 Wilshire Blvd Sune 840 Los Angeles, CA 90025 213/820 9897



THE STATLER BROTHERS

P.O. Box 2703, Staunton, VA 24401

MARSHALL GRANT, AGENT (601) 368-7124 March 31, 1999

Cousin Ray Woolfenden **WPWC** 214 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 189 Dumfries. VA 22026

Dear Cousin Ray:

Just a quick note to make sure you have received our newest venture, "High Lonesome Love" by Nancy Moore on Prime Cuts of Bluegrass. Volume 38. First airplay report has it looking great!

When we first met Nancy down in Florida we were so impressed with her voice we wrote an entire CD full of songs especially for her and then we were so impressed with the way she sang them we pulled in some of Nashville's finest pickers to play on the session: Ronnie McCoury, Mike Bub, Rob Ickes, Bobby All, Tom T. Hall, Charlie McCoy. Scot Vestal. Robert Bowlin, then Terry Eldredge and Denise All on harmony. Tell the truth they sounded so good we even fed them! (Mike Bub twice!!)

The full CD "Local Flowers" is due for release on Pinecastle at the end of May. We hope you like it as much as we do and will help put it in gear with "High Lonesome Love"

Please do keep us posted!

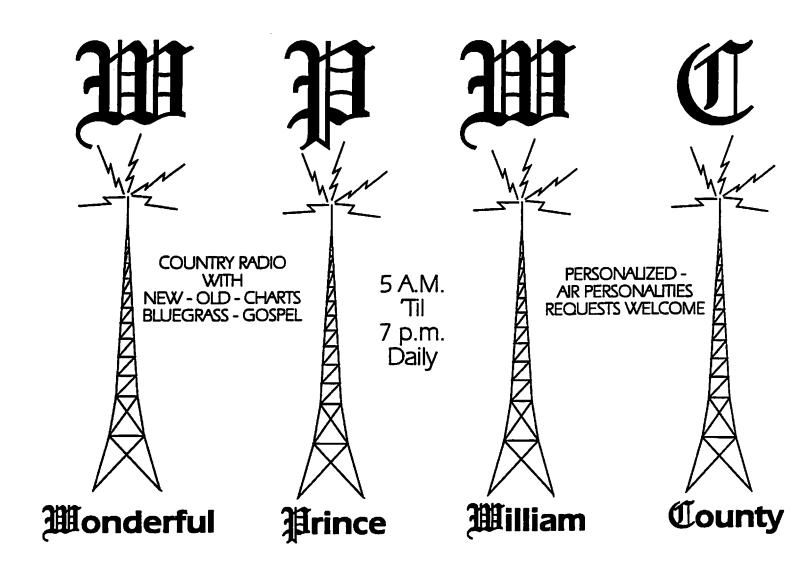
Our best.

Dixie and Tom T.

P.C.V

P.S. Becky at Prime Cuts just told me that they would be happy to mail to stations who would like a copy. Their number is 1-800-638-2286.

Ray. I bet you enjoy this CD let us know!



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Deatharn & Ewing

June 30, 1989

Cousin Ray Woolfenden WPWC-AM Box 189-214 Main Dumfries, VA 22026

Dear Ray,

Congratulations! You've been chosen as a finalist in the Small Market category for CMA's 1989 BROADCAST PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR AWARD.

For the final phase of voting we'll need to have a sample aircheck, approximately fifteen minutes in length. This should be done by telescoping an hour's show, editing all music and commercial time, leaving only your portion of the show. Attached you'll find a list of specific criteria on which your aircheck will be judged.

Please complete the enclosed biographical information sheet and return it to us, along with your aircheck 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'll need to have this material in our office no later than **Tuesday**, **August** 1, 1989. Please send it to my attention.

The final voting is done by a panel of anonymous judges, who are peers within the broadcast industry. The winners will be announced during the Monday, October 9 Awards Show, with the Awards being presented at the CMA membership meeting, October 10.

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.

Best Regards,

Janet S. Bozeman Membership Director

