



VIRGINIA COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

January 2024



Hello Members,

Happy New Year to all!!

I hope everyone had a memorable Holiday with family and friends.

As we begin a new year I must first thank each of you for your continued support. It is our mission to promote Country Music and the board and I are always open to new ideas or bands that you feel would share in this goal. You are also welcome to join our board meetings on the second Monday of each month at the Golden Coral in Chesapeake. The meetings begin at 5pm. The restaurant requires that we purchase (at least) a beverage.

I am thankful to the Board of Officers for their undying support to this organization. We would like to thank John Koonce for his service on the board for the past several years. You have added good ideas and supported the events throughout the years. We look forward to your continuing supporting the organization. During our meeting on Monday, Jan 8th we will be installing Fran Dean to the Board of Officers.

Thank you to those that helped set up, serve and cleaned up the Christmas Party held on Sunday, December 10th. The variety of food was great!! The entertainment for the day was Route 17 and they were awesome!!!

In January, we are looking forward to Otto Shelor and the Country Ravens at the Newport News Moose and the Roadhouse Band at the Portsmouth Moose.

I feel that I must take a moment and reflect on a local celebrity ... Joe Hoppel recently past away. Our thoughts and prayers go to his family and many friends he met throughout his life. He participated in some of our events as well as the Phelps Brothers festival in South Norfolk. Additional information is added to this newsletter.

This organization cannot function without the member's support. We appreciate your participation with the Cakewalks, 50/50 and tips for the band. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Stay safe and well.....Fred Waterfield

Important Phone Numbers:

Fred Waterfield	757-377-9753	Elizabeth Shomaker	757-838-7262
Ken Poole	757-812-0729	Dale Williams	252-312-5063

Upcoming Jamboree's 2:30 to 5:00 pm (Doors open at 1:30)

Jan. 7 th	Otto Shelor and the Country Ravens	Newport News Moose
Jan. 21 st	The Roadhouse Band	Portsmouth Moose
Feb. 4 th	Desert Dust	Newport News Moose
Feb. 18 th	TimeLine	Portsmouth Moose
March 3 rd	Last Call	Newport News Moose
March 17 th	The Dallas Band	Portsmouth Moose

Directions to Newport News Moose Lodge

I-664N -From Monitor/Merrimac (M/M) – Proceed 9.4 miles and take **EXIT 3, Aberdeen Rd.** -Keep to the left at the fork in the ramp. Turn **Left on to Aberdeen Rd.** and go approximately 1 mile and turn right onto **60th Street**. The Moose Lodge is about a half a block on the left. (Approximately 11 minutes from the M/M)

64W – Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (HRBT) - Merge onto **I-664 S via EXIT 264** toward Downtown/Newport News/Suffolk. Then 2.53 miles and take the **Aberdeen Rd exit, EXIT 3** and keep to the right at the fork on the ramp. Go approximately 1 mile and turn right onto **60th Street**. The Moose Lodge is about a half a block on the left. (Approx. 17 minutes from the HRBT)

Directions of the Portsmouth Moose Lodge from Newport News

I-664 – From Monitor/Merrimac – Merge onto I-664S and take Exit 15B. Take Exit 297 and turn left onto US-13N/US-460E, Turn left onto George Washington Hwy N. Moose lodge is on the left. (Approx 1 mile)

Prayers and Concerns

Keep in your prayers: Jerry Hayes, Audrey Shelor, Ann Haslip, Dottie Moots, Faye Pate, Ivy Stoliker, Nancy Crofts, Libby Pierce, Estell Westall, Emily Hall, Faye and Kenny Porter, Lewis Greer, Betty Allison, Ann Ellis, Elaine Lukers, Eunice Taylor, Dave Bailey, Mary Cardwell, John Koonce, Lelia Bryant, Horace Adams, Dale Wonch, Dee Shannon, Buck and Nancy Rodgers, Sherry Boyd, Mary Beth Hicks, Charlie Bryant, Chuck and Beverly Kronenburg, Dale Williams, Wayne Hooker, Iris Morgan, Wayne Allison, Jerry Yost and BJ Norwood.



*To the family and friends of Buck Hargrave who recently lost a family member (correction)
To the family and friends of Liz Mapes at the recent loss of her daughter
To the family and friends of Tommy Alley who recently lost two family members
To the family and friends of Brenda Ellingsworth who recently lost a brother
To the family and friends of Joe Hoppel*

Please contact Liz for those that need to be added to the list of concerns. (757-689-8769)

VCMA WEBSITE

Visit www.VCMA-hamptonroads.com

BAND SCHEDULES

Driver General Store - Please contact Otto Shelor or Randy Evans for further information.

Betty Sue's Roadhouse - Saturday's 3 – 5 pm

******Donations for the band are appreciated ******

Bethlehem Ruritan Community Center

140 Manning Road in Suffolk 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm.

Contact: George Fowler 757-539-2214 (Home) 757-617-5955 (Cell)

******Donations at the door are given to the band.******

Jan. 19th Country Ravens



Joseph Michael Hoppel Sr.

July 17, 1934 - December 26, 2023

Joseph Michael Hoppel, Sr. "Joe" has passed away on Dec. 26, 2023 at the age of 89.

Joe was born on July 17, 1934 to Martin & Helen Hoppel. He has 3 surviving siblings, brothers Dick & Tom & sister Coleen. He grew up in Nicktown Pa & after graduation from Spangler High School went off to Radio City Broadcasting School in New York.

After graduation he got a job in Portsmouth Va working for WLOW & eventually got hired at a Brand New Country Music Station WCMS that he worked on his morning show for over 48 years. His show became one of the most popular in the area and His many awards include Country Music Association Music Director of the Year, and an award from the CMA for 40 consecutive years in Country music broadcasting. Joe won the CMA Pioneer Award in 1994, was nominated for National Country Music DJ of the year many times and was proudly inducted into the Country Music D J Hall of Fame in 2002.

Over his career he met legendary artists such as Elvis, Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, Glen Campbell, Garth Brooks, Reba McEntyre, Alabama and too many more to list. He was known for collecting photographs of himself with Country artists putting him in a headlock which was captured in a book that he wrote in 2010.

Joe also raised money for many local organizations such as Union Mission, Joy Fund, Cancer research, American Heart Assoc., Arthritis Foundation, CHKD & was a TV Host of the Labor Day MDA telethon. He created "Tell Someone They're Doing A Good Job" week, which is celebrated on the last full week before Christmas.

He was predeceased by his wife Sue and son Don. He leaves behind Michael (Carole), Terri (Mike), Debbi (Tony) and Judi (Tim) as well as 9 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

He loved his family, friends, faithful listeners and colleagues and he will be so dearly missed by all of us. His sign off from his show everyday was "Have Yourself a nice day won't you, You got a nice day for it". No truer words can be said.

Copied from Virginian Pilot

VIRGINIA COUNTRY MUSIC ASSN.

P. O. Box 62106
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

Virginia Country Music Association

Officers and Board of Directors

2023

Officers

President	Fred Waterfield
Vice President	Elizabeth Shomaker
Secretary	Dale Williams
Treasurer	Rusty Barath
Past President	Ken Poole
Sgt @ Arms	Len Shelor

Directors

Tommy Allie	Sherry Boyd
Lou Miller	George Fowler
John Koonce	Jimmy McFarland
Pat Penello	Connie Shelor
Carolyn Bullock	

Thank you for your continued support.

See you soon.