The original documents are located in Box 34, folder “Country Music Month” of the William J. Baroody Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Country Music Month,
October 1974

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

From the farms and mines and ranches of America has come a uniquely American art form—the sound which has become known as country music. Once heard only in certain regions of this Nation, the country sound now can be heard from Manhattan’s skyscrapers to the beaches of Malibu. The growth of affection for country music in recent years is a heartening sign of the new interest that Americans take in things uniquely American.

A measure of that growth is that there are now more than one thousand radio stations in the United States that play country music exclusively and half of all the radio stations in America play country part of the time. Each day of the year, about twenty-five thousand hours of country music is beamed out into America. Truly, country music has come into its own.

It is a music which can be happy or sad, fast or slow, but it is always about life. The words of country music songs talk about life the way it is really lived. Country music is life with a melody.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, ask the people of this Nation to mark the month of October 1974, with suitable observances as Country Music Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

GERALD R. FORD

Digitized from Box 34 of the William J. Baroody Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library
Country Music Month,
October 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Country music—that uniquely American art form—holds a special place in our society. Its stories of struggle, of patience, of patriotism, of love won and lost—all set to music as distinctive and eloquently simple as any in the world—give pleasure and inspiration to millions of Americans.

Because country music plays such a significant role in American life, because its stars and its fans alike represent the very heart of America, it is particularly fitting that we as a Nation pay tribute to this very special kind of music. In doing so, we honor the hundreds of talented people who make that music, and the millions more who enjoy it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, designate October 1975 as Country Music Month, and encourage all Americans to commemorate this designation with suitable observances.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

[Signature]
Country Music Month, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Country music is a descriptive and entertaining chronicle of American life. The melodies and lyrics of a country song are drawn from the very heart of America and its people.

The music reflects the joys and sorrows of daily life and it reminds us that truth, compassion and moral character should guide our actions and shape our beliefs.

Country music is the spirit of America in song. It has grown in popularity among a wide range of people in all walks of life. It is a uniquely American art form which will flourish as long as the story of our Nation is the story of common people. It is fitting that we pay tribute to the music, to the hundreds of talented people who perform it and to the millions more who enjoy it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, designate October 1976 as Country Music Month, and encourage all Americans to commemorate this designation with suitable observances.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

[Signature]

Gerald R. Ford
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1976

MEMO FOR: ROLAND ELLIOTT
FROM: MARGUERITE MCAULIFFE
SUBJECT: Country Music Month -- National School Lunch Week Proclamations

Please arrange to have the attached letters robo-typed to the individuals on the enclosed list.

Thanks very much.
Dear

President Ford recently signed a Proclamation designating the month of October as Country Music Month, 1976. In his Proclamation the President states, "Country music . . . reflects the joys and sorrows of daily life and it reminds us that truth, compassion and moral character should guide our actions and shape our beliefs."

The President has asked that I send you the enclosed duplicate of his Country Music Month Proclamation as a small remembrance of this occasion. It comes to you with his very best wishes.

Sincerely,

William J. Baroody, Jr.
Assistant to the President

Enclosure
Margaret:
Could you please send
Country Music Proclamations
to the following 90
Mae Axton?

John Lentz
Dick Frank
Johnny Rodriguez
FOR COPIES OF PROCLAMATION

Mrs. Tex Ritter, 899 So. Curtiswood Lane, Nashville, Tn. 37204.

Roy Acuff, 3940 Moss Rose Dr., Nashville, Tn. 37211.

Eddy Arnold, Box 97, Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tn. 37204.


Tommy Overstreet, 804 opery Place, Nashville, Tn. 37201.

Evie Mucken, Wm. W. McKee Bldg., Nashville, Tn. 37201.

Jerry Reed, 824 Glen Leven Dr., Nashville, Tn. 37203.

Sam Lovullo (Producer od HEE HAW), He's from Cal...and likes Ford he told me once...He's here now taping HEE HAW, so send it to me for him.

Les Miller (Producer of MUSIC HALL AMERICA...From N.Y. or Cal. one...

Sam Lovullo (Producer od HEE HAW), He's from Cal...and likes Ford he told me once...He's here now taping HEE HAW, so send it to me for him.


The Osmond Family, 1505 N. Canyon Rd. Provo, Utah 84601...I do not know how they stand...They're good friends of mine and I help out on P.R. in the South for them.I do know that they're strong Mormons and have a lot of influence in that community.

Pat Boone 904 N. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, Cal. 90213 (Strong Ford)

Tony Orlando, 360 N. Rockingham, Brentwood, Cal. (Good friend...strong Ford Does a lot for Country Music...I sometimes do his P.R. when he is in this area)

Biff Collie, 407 Springdale, Brentwood, Tn 37027 (Was strong Carter until PLAYBOY interview...Is now leaning Ford, and talking to relatives...gobs of them in Texas & Cal. about it....Baptist Sunday School teacher, and a driving force in Country Music for 25 years...Nice looking...Smart)

Minnie Pearl Brentwood, Tenn (Mrs. Henry Cannon)37027...(Don't know...She told me recently she had been leaning DEMOCRATICALLY but at this point wasn't sure...and she IS A NAME in Country Music)
Mr. Davis (Or put it Mary Reeves Davis) P.O. Drawer 1, Madison, Tenn. 37115 (She is the widow of Jim Reeves...still a most powerful force in Country Music. He's a former Baptist minister...now work closely together in ranching and music...know people all over the world...VOICEROLY ANTI Carter)

Billy Grammer, Rte. 4 Old Hickory Blvd., Nashville, Tenn. 37211 (The one I told you was a Wallace Democrat...Member of the Opry...was with Wallace on-stage when he was shot. Is strong for Ford...said he'd stand on stage with Ford ANYTIME...and would tell anyone how dangerous Carter was)

Bob Jennings 625 Baxter Lane, Nashville, Tn. 37200 (Strong Ford...Works at it, and has been active in Country Music for over 20 years)

Jack Stapp, 8 Music Sq. W, Nashville, Tn 37202 (Chairman of Board of TREE...Leans to Ford...Powerful)

Buddy Killen Same address as above on Stapp... same comments)

The Wilburn-Brothers, Teddy & Doyle, 810 Evansdale, Nashville, Tn. 37200 (Was strong Wallace people...Leaned toward Carter at first...Even went to one rally...Has become unsure...A little scared of him...Turned down an invitation to another rally with personal visit...Excuse...Busy...COULD have managed)

Chet Atkins (Vice Pres. Of RCA in Nashville...and great guitarist) Lynwood Blvd, Nashville, Tenn 37215

Roy Horton Peer Southern, 1740 Bdry, Ny, Ny 10019...is strong for Ford...and great influence in Country Music....Hall Of Fame, etc...and good friend of mine)

Neal Robinson (Vice Pres... Braniff Airlines... Box 35001 Room A124 Dallas, Tex. 75235...Call me on this...Gotta be sure...but think I'm right)

Mayor (Ex-Mayor) Beverly Briley...Democrat for Republican Sen. & Pres. Has done a lot for Country Music...Beloved by all...1406 Winding Way Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37215

I have others...but I thought we should get these out IMMEDIATELY...and discuss the rest since there are only 50.....My hair-dresser does a lot of artists and public as well...and is strong Ford...Husband a football coach (Team currently tops in state) and they do a lot of Civic things and are STRONG in the GREEK community...so maybe it would be smart......CALL ME IMMEDIATELY...AND GET THESE OTHERS OUT TODAY IF POSSIBLE, SO THEY'LL GET THEM WHILE THOUSANDS ARE HERE FOR THIS CONVENTION....THE TALK WOULD BE GREAT PSYCHOLOGICALLY
Mr. Joe Johnson  
President  
Four Star Records  
49 Music Square West  
Nashville, Tennessee  37203

Mr. Dick McMeekin  
c/o Mrs. Mae Axton  
49 Music Square West  
Nashville, Tennessee  37203

Mr. Jerry Jeff Walker  
c/o Mrs. Mae Axton  
49 Music Square West  
Nashville, Tennessee  37203

Mr. Richard Harris, Jr.  
5615 Knollwood Road  
Bethesda, Maryland  20016

Mr. Thomas A. Davis  
1776 F Street  
Suite 108  
Washington, D.C.  20006

Mr. Walter Robinson  
Executive Vice President - Law  
National Life and Accident Insurance Company  
National Life Center  
Nashville, Tennessee  37250
October 13, 1976

Dear

President Ford recently signed a Proclamation designating the month of October as Country Music Month, 1976. In his Proclamation the President states, "Country music . . . reflects the joys and sorrows of daily life and it reminds us that truth, compassion and moral character should guide our actions and shape our beliefs."

The President has asked that I send you the enclosed duplicate of his Country Music Month Proclamation as a small remembrance of this occasion. It comes to you with his very best wishes.

Sincerely,

William J. Baroody, Jr.
Assistant to the President

Enclosure
use in '75 for country
Mama Ashleworth
November 21, 1974

Ms. Marguerite McAuliffe

c/o White House

Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Ms. McAuliffe:

As you so graciously proposed in a telephone conversation with me, I've enclosed the names of individuals who would appreciate receiving a copy of President Ford's proclamation of "October Is Country Music Month."

Thank you very much. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Ray Pradines
Public Relations Director

COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
CMA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS - 1974-75

OFFICERS

Jerry Bradley
RCA Records
806 17th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-9880

Irving Vaughn
WSM, Inc.
P.O. Box 100
Nashville, Tennessee 37202
(615) 763-2264

Joe Talbot
Precision Record Pressing, Inc.
1512 Hawkins Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-7954

Porter Wagoner
Porter Wagoner Enterprises
813 10th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 327-0444

Stanley Adams
ASCAP
One Lincoln Place
New York, New York 10023
(212) 595 3050

Frank Jones
Capitol Records
806 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-1842

Chic Doherty
MCA Records
803 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-8944

Bill Lowery
Lowery Group
P.O. Box 9687
Atlanta, Georgia 30319
(404) 233-6703

Jimmy Bowen
MGM Records
7165 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90046
(213) 874-0180

Dan McKinnon
McKinnon Enterprises
P.O. Box 9830
San Diego, California 92109
(714) 286-1240

A. Torlo
Victor Music Publishing Corporation
4-26-18 Jingumae, Shibuya
Tokyo, Japan

Janet Gavin
THE GAVIN REPORT
1 Embarcadero Center, #2113
San Francisco, California 94111
(415) 392-7750 (8111)

Paul Tannen
Screen Gems-Columbia Music
1207 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37212
(615) 385-3355

Mary Reeves Davis
Jim Reeves Enterprises
P.O. Drawer 1
Madison, Tennessee 37215
(615) 868-1150

Tammy Wynette
4121 Franklin Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
(615) 244-5265

Frank Mull
AVCO Records
1511 Sigler Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 255-0411
CMA Officers & Directors - 1974-75
Page 2

DIRECTORS

Bill Denny
Cedarwood Publishing Company
815 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 255-6535

Joe Allison
4005 Franklin Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
(615) 303-6039

Bill Anderson
1905 Division Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 327-1700

Bob Austin
RECORD WORLD
1700 Broadway
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-5020

Ron Bledsoe
CBS Records
804 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 259-4321

Johnny Bond
1001 North Lincoln Street
Burbank, California 91506

Gary Buck
Broadland Music Ltd.
1 Volleybrook Drive
Don Mills, Ontario, Canada
(416) 440-6432

Hutch Carlock
Music City Record Distributors
25 Lincoln Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37210
(615) 255-7315

Bob Cook
RCA Records
101 Duncan Hill Road
Don Mills, Ontario, Canada
(416) 363-3443

Billy Davis
McCann Erickson, Inc.
485 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-6000

Charlie Douglas
P. O. Box K
Picayune, Mississippi 39466
(504) 529-4444

Jim Foglesong
Dot Records
1225 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37212
(615) 385-3732

Roy Horton
Peer-Southern Organization
1740 Broadway
New York, New York 10019
(212) 265-8310

Jimmy Jay
United Talent
1907 Division Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-9412

Sam Lovullo
Yongestreet Productions
357 North Canon Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210
(213) 273-8290

Bill Lucas
Grey Advertising
777 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) PL1-3500

Mike Maitland
MCA Records
100 Universal City Plaza
Universal City, California 91608
(213) 985-8321

Frank Mancini
RCA Records
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10014
(212) 586-3000
Bob Neal
William Morris Agency
2325 Crestmoor
Nashville, Tennessee 37215
(615) 385-0310

Wade Pepper
1195 Mt. Paran Road, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30327

Frances Preston
BMI
710 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 259-3625

Charley Pride (Artist)
P. O. Box 30507
Dallas, Texas 75230

Jack Roberts
Jack Roberts Agency
17522 Bothell Way, N.E.
Bothell, Washington 98011
(206) 485-6511

Bill Robinson
WIRE Radio
P. O. Box 88456
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208
(317) 925-9201

Don Romeo
Don Romeo Agency, Inc.
666 Farnam Bldg.
Omaha, Nebraska 68102
(402) 346-5373

Wesley H. Rose
Acuff-Rose Publications, Inc.
2510 Franklin Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
(615) 297-8591

Charles Scully
SESAC, Inc.
10 Columbus Circle
New York, New York 10022
(212) 566-3450

Bud Wendell
Opryland, USA
P. O. Box 2138
Nashville, Tennessee 37214
(615) 889-6600

Hugh West
One-Stop Record House
P. O. Box 7928
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
(404) 875-9777

Bill Williams
BILLBOARD
1719 West End
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 329-3925

Dick Frank
Third National Bank Bldg.
Seventh Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-0020

Mike Hlom
Third National Bank Bldg.
Seventh Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-0020

Mrs. Jo Walker
Country Music Association, Inc.
1511 Sigler Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2840
Jerry Bailey
THE TENNESSEAN
1100 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Bill Hance
THE NASHVILLE BANNER
1100 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Norman Anderson
Columbia Records
804 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Bill Hudson
Bill Hudson & Associates
205 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Ray Pradines
Country Music Association, Inc.
1611 Sigler Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Juanita Jones
CASHBOX Magazine
1611 Sigler Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

John Sturdivant
RECORD WORLD Magazine
806 16th Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Ludwayne Satterfield
Music City News
1314 Pine Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Mrs. Dorothy Ritter
899 South Curtiswood Lane
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
MEMORANDUM FOR: MARGARET McAULIFFE
FROM: JAN BARBIERI

I understand from Bob Linder that you have copies of the Country Music Month proclamation and could take care of getting out a couple of presentation copies to the Mid-Atlantic Country Music Association.

The individuals are:
Margaret Dowhen, Director of National Promotion
Frank Gosman, Chairman of the Board

They should both be sent to:
Mid-Atlantic States Country Music Association
11350 Baltimore Boulevard
Greenbelt, Maryland 20705
County Music North 1974

October 16, 1974. Sue met Mr. Ray
Ordonez, Director of Public Relations for
the Country Music Association. He will
make a list of 15 individuals.
Tel. 615/244-8144.
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 11, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Marguerite McAuliffe

The President has signed a Proclamation entitled:

"Country Music Month, October 1974"

Robert D. Linder

Robert D. Linder
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

COUNTRY MUSIC MONTH, OCTOBER 1974

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

From the farms and mines and ranches of America has come a uniquely American art form -- the sound which has become known as country music. Once heard only in certain regions of this Nation, the country sound now can be heard from Manhattan's skyscrapers to the beaches of Malibu. The growth of affection for country music in recent years is a heartening sign of the new interest that Americans take in things uniquely American.

A measure of that growth is that there are now more than one thousand radio stations in the United States that play country music exclusively and half of all the radio stations in America play country part of the time. Each day of the year, about twenty-five thousand hours of country music is beamed out into America. Truly, country music has come into its own.

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, ask the people of this Nation to mark the month of October 1974, with suitable observances as Country Music Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

GERALD R. FORD

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