

Keystone Quarterly

Fall/Winter 2026



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AWARD WINNERS**



**BOB JACOBS
SINGING IN
HEAVEN**

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello, everyone! I am hoping that many of you were able to stay very healthy and that you were able to attend at least one or more of the many Southern Gospel music events that are taking place both near and far.

Well, here we are in our new 2026 *Fall & Winter* issue of The Keystone Quarterly! Time goes by so, so very quickly. It sure does make me think about what I may be overlooking in life and each and every moment. In this issue, we feature a historian article about another of our many Hall Of Fame inductees, this one was inducted into the PSGMA Hall Of Fame back in 2010.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who are members of the PSGMA; we appreciate your continued support; please tell others about the PSGMA as well. If you are reading this and you are not yet a member, take a look at the bottom of the back cover of this issue and sign up today!

We hope to see you very soon!

Dave Theis, Editor



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BOB JACOBS OBITUARY

It is with sadness and joy that we let you know that Robert Carl Jacobs, affectionately known as “Bob,” passed away last evening, just two months shy of his 88th birthday. Bob was born on November 4, 1938 in East Berlin, PA, and was the first of nine Jacobs children born to Carl and Jean Jacobs. He spent 59 years traveling with the Jacobs Brothers, preaching and singing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Only eternity will tell how many souls came to Christ through the ministry of Bob and the Jacobs Brothers. Bob also played an integral part in promoting Southern Gospel Music in central PA. For over six decades he helped bring some of the finest talent in Southern Gospel Music to the area as the Jacobs Brothers promoted concerts in several different towns, but primarily at their Kings Kids Camp in Dillsburg, PA. Bob’s unwavering faith and relentless work ethic were largely responsible for the longevity of the Jacobs Brothers and Kings Kids Camp ministries. Many who follow this page and countless others around the country can recall experiencing God in profound ways through church services, concerts, or summer camps that Bob helped coordinate. While his family and friends will mourn his passing, we couldn’t be more thankful to know that he was surely greeted by our Lord with, “Well done, thou good faithful servant!” Thank you, Bob! We will see you soon!





2026 SCHEDULE



New JOURNEY

New Journey has had an incredible 2026 so far with opportunities to join many congregations in worship and testimony. With the addition of contemporary worship services for churches and events, they are excited to announce they are heading to Nashville, Tennessee to record a brand-new worship album in November 2026. New Journey's mission is to reach as many people as possible in song and praise. With the desire to reach both young and older generations, they now offer two styles of services: 1) full contemporary worship for congregational involvement; 2) southern gospel and worship mixture with the classic southern gospel songs and hymns that we all love. If you are interested in having them at your church or event, please reach out to Shannon at (724)994-8087 or newjourney3@gmail.com.

MORE INFO :

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HISTORIAN'S ARTICLE

PSGMA HISTORIAN

BY GALEN BURKHOLDER



Editor's note: Our 2010 Hall of Fame recipient, John "Legs" Lawrenzi, who was ushered into glory on September 18th this year, has quite a story to tell from his lifetime. But make sure that you read through until the end of the interview to learn his personal testimony.

KQ: When and where were you born?

I was born on August 16, 1938 in Douglas Hollow, near Blythedale in Allegheny County, in the Pittsburgh area.

KQ: How large was your family growing up?

I grew up in Sutersville area. There was John "Legs", Gino, Dennis and Debbie. In 1964, I married Marie and we had two sons, John and Jeffrey.

KQ: So, did you Mama or someone else nickname you, "Legs"?

Actually, it wasn't a family member who gave me that nickname. When I went to school in Sutersville, the school was located on a hill. I was taller than my school buddy, and while we were standing up on the hill, he would look up at me and say, "You are nothing but legs". The name stuck throughout school and into adulthood.

KQ: Where did you go to school?

I went to elementary school in Blythedale. In the mid-20th century, sometimes our local grade schools were named Elizabeth-Blythedale-Sutersville. I went to Yough Elementary High School in Herminia. I began singing in high school.

KQ: Where did you work?

I worked at United States Steel Corporation – Irvin Works in Dravosburg, Allegheny County. Dravosburg is almost entirely surrounded by West Mifflin on its north, west, and south sides, with Monongahela River forming its eastern border.

KQ: When did you first start singing? Do you have any other musical talents?

I started singing in high school in 1954. I also play the accordion and the mouth organ.

KQ: Did you sing in any other groups beside Steel City and Steel City Quartet?

I started singing with the Tribunes in 1973. In 1980, we changed the name to Steel City Quartet and I became the manager. In 2012, the group was dissolved. In 2017, the group was revived and then ended operations in 2022, due to health and other personal commitments. In all those years, I had 63 people sing with the quartet.

KQ: How often did you sing and how far did you travel? How many recordings did you do?

We did more than 4,000 concerts and did 23 recordings. We sang in the eastern portion of the United States.

KQ: Please pick top three achievements during your career with Steel City:

We appeared on stage with The Drifters, Marty Robbins and Wayne Newton. By far, the most successful recording we did was The Fabulous Fifties—Christian Doo-Wop. This CD was sold worldwide. Songs from that CD became our most requested songs.

HISTORIAN'S ARTICLE

PSGMA HISTORIAN

(CONT'D.)

KQ: What do you think your Fabulous Fifties Gospel CD is selling for today?

I have no idea.

- **KQ: I found a used copy in "good condition" on eBay. Seller is asking \$63.00.**

KQ: In 2010 you were inducted into the Pennsylvania Southern Gospel Music Hall of Fame. Why did this award mean so much to you?

All my life I have always enjoyed singing. In grade school, I stuttered. When I would sing, I didn't stutter. I am proud of what I have overcome.

KQ: In closing, do you have a personal testimony?

"I want to thank the Lord for taking somebody like me, an old town drunk, forgiving me and using me for His glory. On March 8, 1972, He took me from 'Disgrace to His Marvelous Grace'. Thank You, Jesus."



Steel City Quartet—2017



Steel City Quartet—2022



Fabulous Fifties Gospel



"Legs" with his dog—March 30, 2025

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CONTINUING ON THE NARROW ROAD

BY DOUGLAS KOCH



Previously, we've spent time about the profound importance of our relationships – with friends, and especially with God, both in active fellowship and in precious moments of quiet communion. We've recognized the value of setting aside dedicated time to connect with our Creator. But, here's the truth: our faith isn't meant to be confined to those quiet moments, or even to a specific hour on a Sunday. Our faith is a living, breathing force that should permeate every aspect of our lives, transforming our thoughts, actions, and interactions from morning until night.

How can we move beyond those dedicated quiet times and truly integrate our faith into the fabric of our daily existence? How do we allow the spiritual nourishment we receive to impact our work, our relationships, our choices, and our very outlook on the world? Why is this integration so crucial? Because our lives are a testament to what we believe. If our faith is real, it should be visible. It's not about putting on a show, but about living authentically from a transformed heart.

The Bible is clear on this. Colossians 3:17 says, "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." This verse doesn't say, "whatever you do at church" or "whatever you do during your quiet time." It says "whatever you do" – whether you're at work, at home, in the grocery store, or stuck in traffic. Every action, every word, every decision can be offered in His name.

So, how do we do this? Let's consider a few practical ways:

Mindfulness and Intentionality:

It starts with awareness. Instead of rushing through our day on autopilot, we can intentionally invite God into each moment. Before a challenging meeting, offer a silent prayer for wisdom. Before engaging in a difficult conversation, ask for patience and discernment. As you go about your chores, reflect on the gift of your home or your abilities. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 encourages us to "pray without ceasing." This doesn't mean always being on our knees, but cultivating an ongoing conversation with God, a continuous awareness of His presence. It's an attitude of heart.

CONTINUING ON THE NARROW ROAD

(CONT'D.)

Living Out Biblical Principles:

Our faith provides a moral compass and a framework for how we treat others. Integrating faith means actively applying these principles. In our work: Are we working with integrity, diligence, and excellence, as unto the Lord? Colossians 3:23 reminds us, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." In our relationships: Are we showing love, patience, forgiveness, and kindness, even when it's difficult? Ephesians 4:32 says, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." In our speech: Are our words uplifting, truthful, and gracious, or do they tear down? Ephesians 4:29 states, "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Seeking God's Perspective in Decisions:

Every day we face decisions, big and small. Integrating faith means habitually pausing to ask, "What would God have me do here? What aligns with His will and His character?" This isn't about legalism, but about seeking wisdom from the ultimate source. Proverbs 3:5-6 advises us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

Being a Light in the World:

Our integrated faith makes us visible reflections of Christ. It's not about being preachy, but about living a life that naturally draws others to the source of our hope and joy. Our actions often speak louder than our words. Matthew 5:16 tells us, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father, who is in heaven."

So, in conclusion, integrating faith into daily life isn't an added burden; it's the natural outflow of a heart that has experienced God's grace. It transforms the mundane into the meaningful, the ordinary into opportunities for worship. It allows our entire existence to become an act of devotion.

As we leave our times of quiet reflection, let us carry the presence of God with us into every interaction, every task, and every moment. Let us strive to live out our faith, not just in dedicated times, but in every breath we take; so that our lives themselves become a beautiful testimony to the God we serve. Until next time, try to integrate your faith more intentionally into a specific area of your daily life (work, family, leisure).

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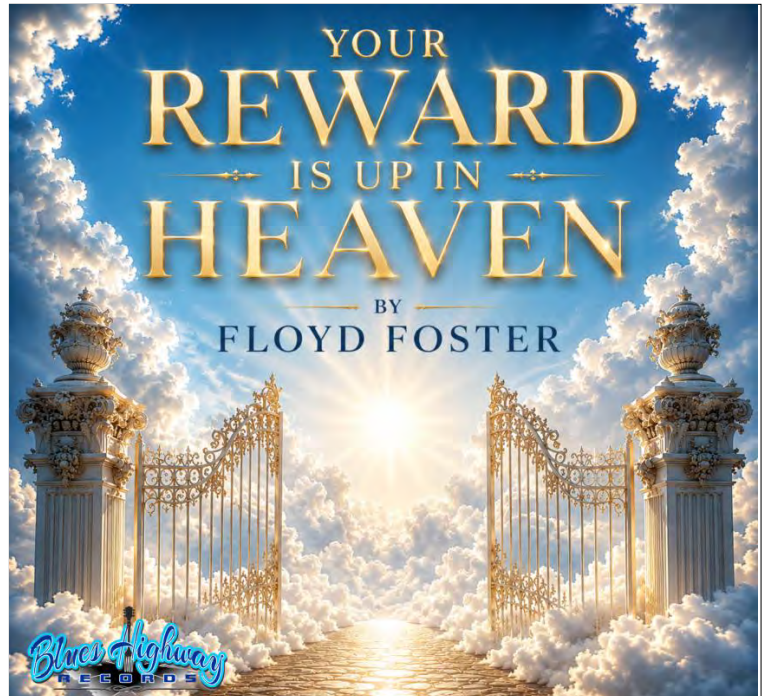
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We are looking forward to sharing the Word through music in 2026 and into next year. Our Schedule is on the **Bandsintown website**



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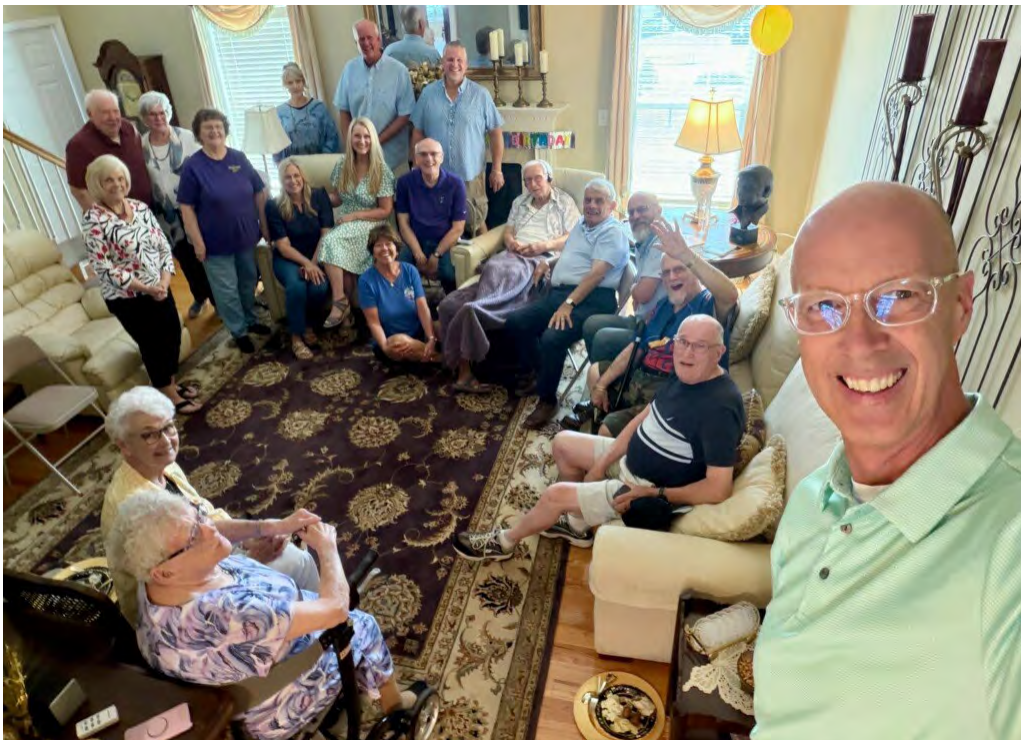
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Duane Nicholson at 90 with his Birthday Cake



Duane Nicholson at 90 with his friends



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