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**OFF-CAMERA NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED
FOR THE 44th ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS**

NASHVILLE, TN (February 11, 2009) – The Academy of Country Music is announcing nominations for the following categories, which, due to time constraints, will not be televised during the 44th ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS:

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – NATIONAL

Blair Garner	After MidNite with Blair Garner
Crook & Chase	Crook and Chase Countdown
Danny Wright	Danny Wright All Night
Lon Helton	Country Countdown USA

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – MAJOR MARKET

KEYY-FM	(Minneapolis, MN)	Donna Valentine, Muss and Fish
KSCS-FM	(Dallas, TX)	Dorsey Gang
KSON-FM	(San Diego, CA)	Cliff & Company: Cliff, Morgan, Tanner and Tori
KYGO-FM	(Denver, CO)	Kelly Ford & Mudflap McGrew with Ed Greene
WIL -FM	(St. Louis, MO)	The Cornbread Show featuring Cornbread, Pat James, Producer Annie, Captain Douglas & Father Harry Shroeder
Mac		

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – LARGE MARKET

WFMS-FM	(Indianapolis, IN)	JD Cannon
WFMS-FM	(Indianapolis, IN)	Jim Denny, Deborah Honeycutt & Kevin Freeman
WMIL-FM	(Milwaukee, WI)	Karen, Scott & Radar - The Moo Crew
WTQR-FM	(Greensboro, NC)	Jeff Roper & Angie Ward
WUBE-FM	(Cincinnati, OH)	Chris Carr & Amanda Orlando

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – MEDIUM MARKET

WBBS-FM	(Syracuse, NY)	Tom and Becky - B104.7 Morning Show
WBCT-FM	(Grand Rapids, MI)	The Electric Barnyard with Broadway (and Crawl)
KFDI-FM	(Wichita, KS)	Brian Pierce & Kellie Michaels

WIVK-FM	(Knoxville, TN)	Gunner
WIVK-FM	(Knoxville, TN)	Andy Ritchie, Alison West, Jimmy Holt

(more)

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – SMALL MARKET

KUAD-FM	(Ft. Collins, CO)	Brian Gary and Todd Harding (The Good Morning Guys)
WCTY-FM	(Norwich, CT)	Jimmy Lane and Shelly Martinez
WFYR-FM	(Peoria, IL)	Rick Stephenson & Lisa Franks
WOKQ-FM	(Dover, NH)	Mark & Danielle
WYCT-FM	(Pensacola, FL)	Brent Lane and Dana Cervantes

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – MAJOR MARKET

KMPS-FM	(Seattle, WA)	Today's Country
KYGO-FM	(Denver, CO)	Denver's #1 For New Country
WKLB-FM	(Boston, MA)	Country 102.5
WQYK-FM	(Tampa, FL)	Tampa Bay's Country Station
WSOC-FM	(Charlotte, NC)	Charlotte's # 1 Country

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – LARGE MARKET

WFMS-FM	(Indianapolis, IN)	The Country Station
WMIL-FM	(Milwaukee, WI)	Continuous Country Favorites of Yesterday and Today
WQDR-FM	(Raleigh, NC)	Today's Best Country
WSIX-FM	(Nashville, TN)	The Big 98 WSIX
WUBE-FM	(Cincinnati, OH)	Cincinnati's Country!

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – MEDIUM MARKET

KFDI-FM	(Wichita, KS)	Today's KFDI
KUZZ AM/FM	(Bakersfield, CA)	Bakersfield's Best Country
WGNA-FM	(Albany, NY)	Country 107.7
WIVK-FM	(Knoxville, TN)	Today's Best Music and the All-Time Country Legends
WYRK-FM	(Buffalo, NY)	Today's Country & Your All Time Favorites

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – SMALL MARKET

WFYR-FM	(Peoria, IL)	River Country
WKXC-FM	(Augusta, GA)	Number One for New Country and More Variety
WXCL-FM	(Peoria, IL)	Number One For New Country
WXXQ-FM	(Rockford, IL)	Rockford's Country
WYCT-FM	(Pensacola, FL)	Cat Country

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Buddy Cannon
 Dann Huff
 Frank Rogers
 Nathan Chapman
 Tony Brown

(more)

AUDIO ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Chuck Ainlay
Greg Droman
John Kelton
Mills Logan
Steve Marcantonio

TOP BASS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Dave Hungate
Glenn Worf
Jimmie Lee Sloas
Larry Paxton
Mike Brignardello

TOP PERCUSSIONIST/DRUMMER OF THE YEAR

Chad Cromwell
Eddie Bayers
Greg Morrow
Lonnie Wilson
Paul Leim

TOP FIDDLE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Aubrey Haynie
Joe Spivey
Jonathan Yudkin
Larry Franklin
Rob Hajacos

TOP GUITARIST OF THE YEAR

Brett Mason
Bryan Sutton
J.T. Corenflos
Kenny Greenberg
Tom Bukovac

TOP PIANO/KEYBOARDS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Gordon Mote
John Hobbs
John Jarvis
Steve Nathan
Tony Harrell

TOP SPECIALTY INSTRUMENT(S) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Eric Darken
Ilya Toshinsky
Jelly Roll Johnson
Randy Kohrs
Rob Ickes

(more)

TOP STEEL GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Bruce Bouton
Dan Dugmore
Mike Johnson
Russ Pahl
Steve Hinson

VENUE OF THE YEAR

DTE Energy Music Theatre – Clarkston, MI
Meadowbrook US Cellular Pavilion – Gilford, NH
The Ryman Auditorium – Nashville, TN
Time Warner Cable Music Pavilion at Walnut Creek – Raleigh, NC
Verizon Wireless Virginia Beach Amphitheatre – Virginia Beach, VA

NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR

Buck Owens' Crystal Palace – Bakersfield, CA
Coyote Joe's – Charlotte, NC
Joe's Bar – Chicago, IL
The Grizzly Rose – Denver, CO
Wild Bill's – Duluth, GA

CASINO OF THE YEAR

Casino Rama – Orillia, Ontario
Chumash Casino – Santa Ynez, CA
Mystic Lake – Minneapolis, MN
The Peppermill Resorts at Wendover – West Wendover, NV
Turning Stone Casino – Verona, NY

DON ROMEO TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

David Snowden – Triangle Talent
Fran Romeo – Romeo Entertainment
Gary Osier – Gary Osier Presents
Suzanne Wilson – Wilson Events
Todd Boltin – Variety Attractions

PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Ben Farrell – Varnell Enterprises
Darin Lashinsky – Outback Concerts
Gary Weinberger – Red Mountain Entertainment
Louis Messina – The Messina Group
Steve Moore – AEGLive

About the Academy of Country Music Awards

The 44th ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS is dedicated to honoring and showcasing the biggest names and emerging talent in the country music industry. The show is produced for television by dick clark productions and will be broadcast LIVE from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas Sunday, April 5, 2009 at 8:00 PM live ET/delayed PT on the

CBS Television Network. Orly Adelson and R.A. Clark are executive producers, Barry Adelman is producer and Bob Bardo is executive in charge of production.

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