

STGMA *"news you can use"* GOSPEL NOTES



STGMA founded 1999

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Tell 'em... Then tell 'em again!

This method of marketing has been used for many years in the professional arena. The idea is that a speaker or facilitator should tell the audience what they are going to tell them...tell them...and then tell them what they told them one more time before they leave. Some would argue that it's just too much information. However, studies have found that our minds are so cluttered with information that we tend to primarily remember those things that have been repeated. Think about how many Pepsi or Coke commercials you have seen in your lifetime. Doesn't every person on the planet already know about these two giants in the soft drink industry? What about Dr. Brown's? Likely you have seen these in any Cracker Barrel. Yet, even if someone drank one with their meal, most folks wouldn't recall the name 10 minutes after they leave. There is power in repetition especially when the message is vitally important.

I thought about this as I was reading God's Word and realized that in multiple places, God repeats the words He is speaking to us. If it was important enough to put in the text of the bible in the first place, it must really be important when he speaks it again...and again! For example, the words "Fear not" are mentioned 170 times throughout the scriptures. I was encouraging someone just this week to remember that the enemy is like a toothless lion making a lot of noise but cannot harm us! We have no reason to fear because we have Jesus in our heart and God on our side. One of my favorite stories is how a shepherd puts his flock in a low-walled area at night so they won't wander away in the dark and then he climbs to a higher place to watch them. When a lion approaches and roars, the sheep don't look toward the lion...they look to the shepherd! We must keep our eyes on the Lord and not focus on the problems of this earth that we cannot fix. That's God's job! Oh that we would realize since God is in control, we having nothing and no one to fear.

It's that very confidence in Him and not ourselves that allows us to present the gospel to folks through our songs. Each of us who have accepted the call on our life to serve the Lord with the musical gifts He has given us also accept an enormous

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From the ***President's Desk***

Greetings,

Blessings to you for taking time to read this newsletter. My prayer is that you'll find some words of encouragement in every STGMA newsletter. If by chance you find yourself blessed, we'd like to hear from you.

In my younger days I often read Texas Monthly Magazine and looked forward to it because it reminded of days gone by. Some of you will know what I mean. I grew up on a farm and this magazine always talked about horses, cattle, farms and other business ventures that made Texans (and others interested in the growth of our country) focus on what and how we were able to prosper when others struggled. In one particular magazine, I noticed a headline about a real Texas cowgirl. She was celebrating her 100th birthday and the reporter asked how she had managed to survive that long working so hard. Her answer was simple. She said, "I saddle my own horse." Well needless to say curiosity quickly made me want to continue reading her story.

"Well", she said, "to tell you the truth I learned from a very young age that if you want something done right the first time, you do it yourself. If you have ever had someone else saddle your horse for you, there is an anticipation when you start to mount your horse wondering what is about to happen as you place your foot into the stirrup and place all your confidence in someone else."

Sadly, I have looked at the belly of a horse upside down a few times before, so I could quickly relate. I begin to ask myself how this might relate to what we do as artists/ministers today. Ask yourself this question: How many times have I placed the most important calling in my life into the hands of others not knowing what was about to happen? The answer is likely very simple...too many times. If God had wanted someone else to do what you are doing in your ministry, He wouldn't have called you. No one can represent you better than you. No one has walked in your shoes but you. No one has felt the pain of disappointment in your life more than you. No one has tasted the fruit of your labor more than you. The folks that you minister to want to hear what God has brought you through. They don't want to hear you give my testimony. They want to hear you give your testimony. Trials you have overcome were by the grace of God. Valleys you have walked through and mountains you have climbed were by the grace of God. Are you starting to get what I am saying? God wants you to saddle your own horse. When you head out the next time remember with confidence: The Lord is with you. You don't have to worry about what's going to happen. Trust God. He is with you. Blessings to you and your ministry...

Floyd

(continued from page 1)

responsibility. As a Christian, a follower of Christ, we're called to share the "gospel" of Jesus Christ so that the beautiful message of His life, death and resurrection will change hearts and save souls through the power of the Holy Spirit. We must approach a stage or platform as holy ground we're standing on to impart seeds of knowledge to lost souls, hurting hearts and fearful minds. I believe we should not sing it if we don't believe it. We're in a battle for the Lord and we win but we have to be prepared! We all long for folks to come to know Jesus. How does that happen? They have to see something different in us...Jesus! We must immerse ourselves in the Word of God so we're ready in any season to lead folks to Christ with the sinner's prayer.

Time is running out for this evil world. I heard someone say Christians can be too heavenly minded to be any earthly good. I believe we're no earthly good UNTIL we are heavenly minded! It's time to focus solely on the Lord and do only what He has called us to do. We should not do what we think He wants us to do nor what He called someone else to do just because we want to do it too. If we're doing that, it's a waste of His time and ours. Keep in mind, God tells us to put everything aside take time to shore up our relationship with Him so we can go forth into the battle rested, tested and prepared. We are members of one of the best gospel music associations in the country! Call a fellow artist and ask them to pray for you. Call a fellow artist and pray for them. Text someone a word of encouragement. Be the hands and feet of Jesus and God will bless you in your ministry...a hundred fold!



Help me! My throat hurts!

Whether you sing or not, this CAN happen!

Here are 7 ways to quickly treat hoarseness:

- 1) Vocal and Body Rest—Nothing like good old fashion vocal rest to help restore the vocal cords. It's just as important for the body to rest. In ministry, we use more than our voice to spread the message of the music...we use our whole body. So get proper rest. You cannot give your best if you're worn out.
- 2) Drink Water - Our vocal cords need to be properly hydrated. How much? It's recommended singers take in a minimum eight glasses of room temperature water a day. I love cold water but consuming it before singing makes the body work harder to warm it up and actually hydrate the vocal cords.
- 3) Vitamin C - Vitamin C is available in powder form to add to water and in tablet form. It is great for boosting the immune system so your body can heal more easily...not necessarily quicker! Don't overuse!
- 4) Honey - Honey is extremely effective in dealing with dry throat or hoarseness. Its thick coating helps to soothe the throat, reduces inflammation and helps restore moisture to the vocal cords. You can add 1-2 tablespoons of honey in warm water or caffeine free tea; eat 1 teaspoon of raw, organic honey a few times daily; and/or create a drink of warm water with 1-2 tablespoons of honey and pinch of black or cayenne pepper (to taste).
- 5) Salt Water - Warm salt water helps remove mucus from the respiratory tract and reduces irritation in the throat. Simply add 1 teaspoon to salt in a glass of warm water and gargle with it 2-3 times a day. If you have high blood pressure, pick a different solution.
- 6) Lemon - Lemon also contains Vitamin C that helps combat any infection and boosts the immune system to stop the spread of infection. It reduces inflammation also. Try not to overdose on lemons though because it's citrus nature can dry you out if you use too much. Add 1 tablespoon of honey and lemon juice to warm water or caffeine free tea a few times a day or squeeze your own juice from a lemon and dilute it with 1/2 cup of warm water. Gargle this twice daily.
- 7) Garlic - I don't recommend this one before you step up to sing or visit with other people, but you can place a clove of garlic in your mouth for a few minutes and as it becomes moist and you swallow, it will help with hoarseness. You can also add a few drops of garlic to a small glass of warm water and just gargle it but again...the smell will still be a factor. You be the judge if this is worth it or not.



Source: Some of these pointers came from www.tamikahall.com

STGMA

South Texas Gospel Music Association

presents

An Evening of Gospel Music



**Saturday,
May 21st • 6-8 pm**

featuring...

**Hearts of Grace
The Bethels
Fay Gassner**



**Oak Ridge Baptist Church
10915 Vance Jackson Road - San Antonio, TX 78230**

Free Admission - Love Offering

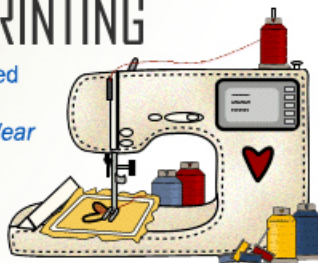


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STGMA

South Texas Gospel Music Association



17th ANNUAL CONVENTION — and General Meeting —

La Vernia Christian Teaching Center
10688 US 87
La Vernia TX 78121

Saturday, April 30, 2016

**SINGING
BEGINS AT 1:00 PM
EVERYONE WELCOME**

GLIMPSE FROM LAST YEAR...



www.stgma.org

2016 Convention Information

It's almost time for our 17th Annual STGMA Convention & General Meeting!

God has blessed us with the privilege of being at La Vernia Christian Teaching Center on Saturday, April 30th. Come ready for an amazing time with God... In both heart-felt worship and Christ-centered fellowship! Let's celebrate God's goodness. It's time to recharge and refuel! You should have received our Convention Registration Form via email or regular mail. If you're planning to attend, the **registration form must be returned by April 1, 2016!** You can also contact Christine at webmaster@stgma.org if you have any questions about the form or downloading it. There will be some big announcements at the Artist Seminars that you don't want to miss...so get there early...bring your Smartphone!

This year will be a little bit different so here's the information you need to know:

Schedule:

- 9 am – Set up and sound check for all "live" instruments with sound engineer
(no set up allowed on stage after 10 am)
- 10 am – "Heart of Ministry" Artist Seminars
 - *Top 10 "Must-Know" Best Practices for Your Ministry*
 - *What "Cool Tools" does STGMA offer my Ministry?*
- 11 am – General Meeting

The STGMA Board and Officers wish to show our appreciation to you our Members (Active and Associate), by subsidizing the cost of an elegant banquet-style meal. Those participating in the meal served to your table will dine on scrumptious chicken Florentine, linguini, garden salad, rolls, coffee, tea and Mississippi mud cake for dessert. Your cost for this elegant repast is only \$10.00 per person. You must, however, complete the registration form emailed/mailed to you or download one from our website and return it by April 1, 2016. We look forward to fellowshiping with you and giving you an opportunity to be pampered...compliments of STGMA.

Singing starts at approximately 1:00 pm

NOTE: There will be **NO** Member product tables at this convention. Members with CD's are encouraged to have some on hand but should handle purchase of those products individually. No products may be sold in the sanctuary or offered from the platform.



SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

by: Patt Kimmel

It was a bit cold in November as I pulled up to the church where Clifton Jansky and another gentleman [Billy Miller] were ministering. Yes, I said ministering - not singin'.

After Brother Jansky shared his testimony and life after accepting Jesus as his Savior and Lord, he started to preach earnestly from his heart. There were only about 15 people in attendance.



He challenged everyone: "Are you here only for the entertainment, to bless yourself with gospel music and have a night out or did you think of asking someone else to attend so that they may be blessed also, maybe even receive Jesus as their Savior from the message from the gospel music and after the invitation was given?"

What a wonderful opportunity to share Jesus through inviting someone to the STGMA concerts.

Support our local groups and bring someone ~~ Someone you want God to bless!!

You'll be blessed...

Let us hear from you...email your **brief** "Ministry Moment" to Christine.

Hi, friends!

The Board and Officers have been busy preparing for Convention so I have not made many updates to the website but... We need more email addresses! If you received this newsletter via email...that means we have your email address. However, I know there are some group members and many of those who attend our events that have not given us their email address. With all the rules and regulations put in place to prevent "spam" in our inbox, we must receive permission to send email from our STGMA account.

It's easy to sign up! Go to www.stgma.org and click on the button at the bottom of the page that says "Sign Up Now". By entering their name and email address, they grant us permission to send them emails and keep them informed on all that is going up with STGMA and our Members. We only send out what's important!

We also need more "likes" on our Facebook page. Kindly post on your page how much you love STGMA and invite folks to go like our page as well! We'll be announcing some more tools we can all use to get involved...but it starts with us...the Members and Associates. Let's do this...

Blessings... **Christine Scott**

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We are on the web...
www.stgma.org