

THE DOPE FROM HOPE

191223



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Richard Groves, KHMA President

2019 has been a momentous year of growth and change for the Klipsch Heritage Museum Association (KHMA). We have achieved our ambitious facility dreams, thanks to the work of many volunteers, the City of Hope and some very generous donors.

On December 2nd, KHMA took possession of the Feild House. This historic home is ideally located in Hope, AR. Thanks to Cathy Feild for offering us this opportunity and to Andy Barnett for his most generous donation to our Building Fund. They made this dream possible. The Feild House will serve as a reception center and listening room venue.

We also hosted our first public event at the Paul W. Klipsch (PWK) Auditorium on December 2nd, an Old Fashioned Community Christmas Carol Sing-a-long.

Yes, December 2nd was a busy day. We can now devote time, effort and resources to develop the four buildings into a world class institution.

- The Museum building will show how PWK developed a legendary speaker at the dawn of Hi Fi.
- The Education Center will focus on research, education and communications.
- The Feild House will serve to welcome the world and demonstrate the works of PWK.
- The PWK Auditorium will provide public sound demonstrations and entertainment.

We also want to sincerely thank our members and volunteers that have made 2019 so special. We have seen tremendous growth and expansion this past year. Our many volunteers have worked exceedingly hard and I applaud our trustees, executive committee members, committee chairs and members. Throughout 2019, everyone has remained focused and steadfast on obtaining the results needed to become a world class Museum.

With growth comes an exciting future and some struggle to adjust to change. The changes have made KHMA stronger and prepared to reach out to the world. All of this hard work,

sweat and tears have built a foundation for KHMA to grow and expand the education and public outreach programs for us to share the works of Paul W. Klipsch around the world.

In 2020, we hope to begin using the Museum, Education Center, Auditorium and Feild House for events and development of those programs. This is all achieved by your support and membership. Have a wondrous Holiday Season and we'll see you in 2020.



In the previous Dope from Hope we announced that KHMA had secured the Paul W. Klipsch Municipal Auditorium with an exclusive lease. Our first event occurred there on December 2nd when KHMA, in conjunction with Garrett Memorial Baptist Church, presented a town-wide Christmas sing-along.

Roy Delgado was instrumental in getting the sound system upgraded to LaScalas, supported by a KTP-1802 subwoofer. Richard Groves manned our merchandise table (we couldn't get him to sing!). Several locals expressed interest in joining and/or contributing their recollections of PWK. It is our expectation that local members will provide much-needed boots on the ground here.

As noted in the program, this event capped off a string of local events that day. Roughly 150 were in attendance. The production was very professional, with full Christmas decorations, video support, and lighting. We would like to thank, in particular, Jack Daniels of Garrett Memorial Baptist Church for his outstanding production and musical contributions.

We expect this to become an annual event, and we anticipate many other local and KHMA member events will ensue. At least three are now under evaluation.



FEILD HOUSE

by Jim Hunter

The KHMA has been, until recently, based in Oakhaven, a northern suburb of Hope, AR. The original factory building and the PWK Education Center are both ex-military buildings outside of the city limits. While this amounts to only a few miles, it has the effect of limiting local awareness, participation and funding opportunities.

KHMA recently reviewed several potential buildings in Hope, and decided to buy this historic home near downtown to house our official Visitor's Center. In the world of "real museums" the visitor's center is where the majority of the visitor's time is spent. Its location is adjacent to the National Park Services' Bill Clinton Birthplace. This will bring significant exposure to Hope's real star, PWK. The Clinton Center and Hope's historic downtown business area are soon to be connected with a walkway that will pass directly by our new location. It is also "two blocks and across the RR tracks" from the Paul W. Klipsch Municipal Auditorium.

The house is three stories high and over 4,300 square feet. It was built in 1921 by Wanda (West) Feild and her husband, Talbot Feild, Sr. Her father, Captain West, originally a steamboat captain, founded the major lumber store in the area and was the first president of the 1st National Bank of Hope. His original home, built in the 1870's, was moved from this site so that his daughter could build her home on this bigger lot.

Years later, Talbot Field Jr. married Carlene Burner and they moved into the house after some remodeling. Since then, it has

been known as the Feild House. This play on words (or spelling) fits for KHMA. Besides providing the optimum location for our Visitor Center, we have several more uses in mind:

- Period listening rooms – listen to Klipsch speakers by decade compared to the competition at the time
- Meeting/convention space
- Additional education space
- Exhibit space for KHMA's artifacts currently in storage
- Video presentations
- Space for local history exhibits

The purchase has been a long endeavor. As far back as 2017, overtures were made to secure an outright donation of the home. That was a pretty bold request, but further negotiations were pursued this year, and resulted in a reduced price. The owner and seller, Cathy Feild Hicks, is a longtime personal friend of mine. She is the daughter of Carlene Bruner Feild and Talbot Feild, Jr. While we were preparing to buy the property and take on a mortgage, KHMA member Mr. Andy Barnett stepped up to donate the down payment and closing costs!



Closing occurred on December 2nd with Mr. Barnett in attendance and Richard Groves signing his name over and over and over.....

Any 98-year-old building will have its challenges, but it provides a structurally sound platform for our future needs.



Richard Groves, Andy Barnett & Jim Hunter





Photos by Elden Luquet from Chief Bonehead's Deep Dive October 2019 Education Class

“...my mind kept going back to the idea of donating to the building fund...”

by Andy Barnett , KHMA Member & building fund donor

I have loved music, literally since I was three or four years old. Sitting on the floor in front of my parent's Grundig console, listening to the likes of Hank Locklin, Patsy Cline, Elvis, Hank Williams, Glenn Miller, etc. the sound was mesmerizing to my young ears. That love for music has never waned but has only grown in the subsequent six decades. As a teen, I began to pay more attention to the quality of music rather than just how loud it could get, though I didn't have the money to upgrade my entry level Realistic system to get anything better.

I bought some stereo gear while in the Air Force (doesn't everyone?) and had music playing pretty much all the time. After getting out of the service and moving back to Memphis, TN, I went to a party one evening with some friends and, upon entering the house, was amazed at the sound coming from . . . somewhere, but I couldn't see where, as it was kind of dark. I finally asked where the speakers were, and the owner of the house lifted up some dark fabric in the corner to reveal a Klipschorn. He kept them covered with a dark, thin fabric to protect them. Not only did they sound awesome, they were HUGE!! I remember the owner mentioning their cost, but I don't recall the amount now. I DO remember, very well though, that it was a LOT, and I thought, "Well, I'll never have any of those!"

Fast forward a few decades and I began to pay attention to Klipsch products again. I read the history of the Klipschorn and the rest of the Heritage line. I learned about the amazing gentleman that founded the company, and designed and built these awesome speakers, Paul W. Klipsch. It was still a while before I bought my first Klipsch products - 1983 Cornwalls. That was only a few years ago and this opened up a whole new world for me. I have since obtained a pair of LaScala, Klipschorns, and RF-7III/RC-64III. Most recently, just a week ago, I bought a pair of Heresy IV. I have not set up all my Klipsch acquisitions yet, due to a lack of space, but I'm working on that as I am planning a dedicated audio/home theater room addition.

After joining a couple of Klipsch related Facebook groups, I saw that a pair of Museum Edition Klipschorns were sold to benefit the KHMA. Later, a pair of Museum Edition LaScala's were sold and mention was made of future opportunities to

purchase a set of another Museum Edition of something in the Heritage line. The idea of being able to buy some nice speakers with the proceeds benefiting KHMA appealed to me, and I decided to purchase the next pair available. I earmarked an amount of money I thought I'd be willing to spend toward that, should the opportunity arise.

A few months back, I took advantage of the class held in Hope where Chief Bonehead, Roy Delgado schooled us on some of the advances made in the last few years. We were able to audition some of the new Heritage line as well as a pair of Jubilees. My love for Klipsch products only deepened. While in Hope, we were treated to a visit to the Paul W. Klipsch Municipal Auditorium above the City Hall building and told of some future uses for it. We then visited the home KHMA was considering to purchase for listening tours and to display Klipsch memorabilia. There was talk of donation opportunities to help make this space usable and accessible to the public. These included name inscriptions on the walkway bricks leading up to the building or plaques on the wall, and another that really caught my attention — sponsoring a listening room on the ground floor. After we left, I felt a powerful urge to donate and sponsor a demo room. As a Christian, I prayed about it and felt God moving my heart to do something. I wasn't sure exactly what, but His urge was undeniable.

I had to leave the class early and head home to Lebanon, TN due to a previous commitment with my church on Sunday. Before leaving, I spoke with Christy Luquet for a few moments. She thanked me for coming and began to talk about the KHMA, the potential purchase of the house and the need for donations. I stopped her and told her that I had already felt moved to do something but was not sure what yet. I told her I was going to be praying about it and I would talk to her in a few days. Over those few days, my mind and heart settled on the fact that, if possible, I would like to be able to sponsor what would be the main room, the front entry into the house, and to do so in memory of my precious wife, Beth, who passed away in October 2018 after a 30-month battle with Glioblastoma brain cancer. I spoke with Christy a few days later and we exchanged some thoughts and ideas. She told me of the need for the down payment so the purchase of the house could move



forward and that, over the next several weeks, meetings and discussions would be taking place about how to make it all happen. She shared with me the amount that was needed for the down payment. We ended the call with an agreement to talk again in a day or so. I had not been off the phone long when my thoughts went to my "Museum Edition" money, which, not coincidentally (I don't believe in them), was almost the same amount as the down payment. Almost as quickly, I knew I was to donate that amount to the KHMA directly, to cover the down payment and help move forward with the purchase of the house. There was a small, additional amount for closing costs, which was incidental to the down payment amount, and not a deterrent at all. So, what I had felt I was to do earlier on my visit to the house was now affirmed and confirmed in my heart. I started to call Christy back but decided to wait until the next day, "just in case." The next day, I was more certain than ever and called Christy and informed her that, when she spoke with the powers that be, she could let them know that I would make the necessary contribution to cover the down payment and closing costs.

The most recent update to all this is, a couple of weeks ago, I was privileged to have been asked to come to Hope to witness the closing on the property and to see the first public program to be held in the Paul W. Klipsch Memorial Auditorium.

I spent a great couple of days there hanging out with KHMA Curator, Jim Hunter and President, Richard Groves. I'm looking forward to heading back soon, hopefully for the Pilgrimage on March 20-21, 2020.

Finally, I encourage anyone who appreciates all things Klipsch to do two things. First, become a member of the KHMA. Your membership dues will help us continue to preserve the rich history of the Klipsch name and the man himself. Second, make a donation to the KHMA building fund to help finance the ongoing costs of paying for the building, restoring it, and making necessary ongoing repairs to ensure that the legacy of Paul W. Klipsch, his company and products will be celebrated for generations to come.



CORNWALL DRAWING!



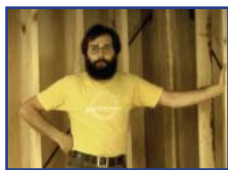
As a part of our 2019 membership drive, KHMA offered a pair of Cornwall III B-stock speakers in a drawing to ALL members as of December 15th, 2019. These were graciously donated by Founding member, Cory Harrison. The number of tickets assigned to each member was based on levels of membership. The higher the level of membership, the more chances to win. This resulted in over 300 entries!

On Monday, December 16th, the drawing was held at the Hope-Hempstead County Chamber of Commerce offices. Hope Mayor, Steve Montgomery, was given the honor of drawing the winning ticket from a rare Heresy 8 prototype cabinet. Vice Mayor Don Still and Councilman Mark Ross also attended. Ticket #642162, assigned to Eric Adams, was our winner. Congratulations, Eric, and thanks, Cory!!



CURATOR'S CORNER

Jim Hunter, Curator



Donations & Acquisitions:

On December 7th, Mr. Gary Gillum donated a unique prototype of a speaker that never made it to production. It is the missing link between the KG2 and the KG4. Had it gone into production, it would've been named the KG3. If you don't recognize Gary's name, he designed the KG2 and KG4, as well as the original Forte. He also hired yours truly.



Archives:

Belle Klipsch's 1956 draft biography of PWK has now been released on the website. If you missed it, better check it out! (klipschmuseum.org)

Housekeeping:

Artifact inventory is virtually complete. The basement was the "last frontier" and has been finished, with the exception of a few aluminum horn casting tools. We are just over 1,000 items. Anybody want to help me get those massive blocks of aluminum down for labeling?



TREASURER'S CORNER

Stacey Atchison, Treasurer



Considering the recent major donation to help the Museum purchase the Feild House, a question arose about restricted vs. unrestricted donations. What does this mean? What does KHMA do with my donation? Let's review some terminology and what this means to you as a donor.

Restricted donations:

Donors to a nonprofit organization may designate or "restrict" the use of their donations to a particular purpose or project. This means the money MUST be used for the restricted purpose as outlined by the donor.

Unrestricted donations:

Donations to the nonprofit that may be used for any purpose.

FAQ'S:

- 1. What if the nonprofit can't use it all for the restricted purpose?**
The nonprofit can go back to the donor to ask about removing/changing the restriction – or – pay back the money to the donor.
- 2. How are restricted funds managed?**
The nonprofit must record restricted funds in a separate fund on the financial statements.
- 3. What are unrestricted donations used for?**
Unrestricted funds usually go toward the operating expenses of the organization or to a particular project that the nonprofit picks.

WHO WE ARE

Paul W. Klipsch (PWK) was an American audio pioneer, a true eccentric and a proud member of the *Engineering and Science Hall of Fame*. He gave rise to technologies that would forever impact generations of music lovers. He left an amazing legacy for you to discover.



Klipsch Museum of Audio History is owned and operated by the Klipsch Heritage Museum Association (KHMA), whose mission is to restore, preserve, maintain and display Klipsch and Klipsch-related artifacts and archival materials for historic purposes, as well as to conduct pertinent historical research and to host educational activities and events.

Visited us?

Please post a review to Trip Advisor for others to see. Help spread the word!



PLAN YOUR VISIT

We would love to have you tour our collection and hear our stories. They're good ones.

Admission: Admission to the Museum is free to all. However, donations are always welcome. Let your conscience be your guide after your tour!

Hours: Open 10AM-2PM Wednesday through Friday. Also open by appointment - email us! Closed July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, & New Year's Day

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