

THE DOPE FROM HOPE

210920



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Richard Groves, KHMA President

The Klipsch Heritage Museum Association (KHMA) has been busy quietly building the infrastructure to fulfill our STEaM (Science, Technology, Engineering, arts and Math/ Music) missions. It is our goal to share the research, studies and knowledge that Paul W. Klipsch (PWK) spent an extraordinary lifetime developing with anyone wishing to learn and experience great sound.

In 2021, we have been blessed with several generous gifts of cash, equipment and volunteer time, which are all critical to our survival and growth.

Two families have recently provided funding to help develop the Feild House reception center:

- ◆ When Kirby Smith passed away, his family requested, in lieu of flowers, that donations be made to KHMA. Then his wife Stefanie and sons, Aidan and Weston, agreed to match those substantial donations, so we will memorialize Kirby Smith by naming the Feild House Gift Shop after him.
- ◆ Scott Yocum's wife, Paula, and daughters, Laura and Melissa, made a very generous cash donation in Scott's memory and, as such, we will honor his memory by having a Scott Yocum Listening Room equipped with beautiful rosewood Klipschorns.

Their donations allow the hard-working Facilities Committee to continue working toward the completion of the Feild House reconstruction.

Recent equipment acquisitions:

- ◆ McIntosh Labs has loaned KHMA an amplifier and preamplifier for use at the Feild House. We enjoyed using this equipment at the first Feild

House listening session during the Hope Watermelon Festival.

- ◆ Audio Classics in Binghamton (Vestal), NY has also donated and loaned period amplifiers and preamplifiers for a period listening room — see Curator's Corner for more details.
- ◆ Paducah Home Theater has graciously offered gear for the Feild House theater. Owner Cory Harrison has been extremely generous from our beginnings, becoming a lifetime member and donating many speakers and equipment throughout the years.
- ◆ A vast assortment of vinyl LPs from various decades were donated by both Chris Lis Johnson and Palm Beach Vinyl.

Of course, Klipsch Audio continues their long tradition of supporting KHMA. They are donating another beautiful pair of "Museum Edition" speakers, which we will offer for sale. They are also creating a design for the Feild House Theater Room.

We continue to search for gear to be used at the Feild House, Education Center and PWK Auditorium. Period equipment and furniture for the Period listening rooms is needed. Source gear is also needed throughout all our facilities. We also continue to pursue funding for building development and maintenance.

Despite the pandemic, KHMA has accomplished much this year:

- ◆ Our first published book is available for sale through Klipsch.com. This 75th Anniversary pictorial history was written by Matt Sommers and Jim Hunter. This first publishing has

been a successful and exciting learning adventure that lays the groundwork for much more to come.

- ◆ The Feild House redevelopment continues thanks to the hard work of our Facilities Committee. The first floor is nearly complete. Plumbing and electrical work continues and work on the second floor has begun.
- ◆ Thanks to the City of Hope and Mayor Don Still, new roofs have been completed on both the Education Center and PWK Auditorium.
- ◆ KHMA participated in the Hope Watermelon Festival. Board member Beckie Moore secured the stage area of the Coliseum. This great space with cool AC gives us an area to develop a unique and interesting presentation structure for the future. We look forward to the day we can comfortably enjoy KHMA events once again.

KHMA's growth is dependent upon the dedication and hard work of many volunteers. To that effect we are proud to announce that Elden Luquet is the first volunteer to receive the Scott Yocum award. See the Yocum Award Recipient story for more details.

Our desire is to employ an Executive Director to professionally manage the daily operations and provide leadership into the future. We are seeking funding to provide for that position.

All of this is dependent upon the work of many volunteers, generous donations and memberships. Please consider becoming a member and learning with us.



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OUR FIRST BOOK – THE HISTORY OF KLIPSCH IS NOW AVAILABLE!

We celebrated our first publication from our Museum imprint in August. **Klipsch | 75 Years, A Pictorial History** is now available. Written by Museum curator Jim Hunter and trustee Matt Sommers, this 200-page coffee table book fits perfectly in your record crate at 12"x12".

Explore the entire history of Klipsch people, places and products — from the dawn of hi-fi to today's multi-channel home theaters — through pictures and images. Digging deep into the museum archives, many images are never-before seen. Included are early PWK photographs, factory shots through the ages, vintage advertising and promotional images, and much more.

The book can be purchased now for \$75 at Klipsch.com with all profits going to the Museum. Later this year, a signed and numbered limited Museum Edition of the book will also be available for \$175. This special Museum Edition will be packaged with a poster (75 years of Klipsch advertising), vintage ephemera, and a Klipsch Joint window cling.



The Paula and Scott Yocum Award is a particularly special honor in our organization. It is to recognize a member that has consistently gone above and beyond in their contribution to the KHMA team.



This award is presented on an ad-hoc basis when it is deemed a member has contributed to the KHMA in an extraordinary manner.

In our August Board of Directors meeting, one of our members was selected to receive the prestigious honor. It is our pleasure to announce that Elden R. Luquet Jr. is the recipient of the Paula and Scott Yocum Award for 2021.

Elden is the type of quiet, unassuming person who may be overlooked for such an honor without taking the time to look deeper. He has been a Klipsch fanatic for years. His contributions pre-date the KHMA by many years. Before the establishment of the Museum association, he was a Klipsch owner and served as a moderator on the Klipsch forums doling out sound advice to many (pun intended). This is a role he continues today. He has made countless trips over the years from his home in Picayune, MS to Hope to work on the Museum and help further our cause. He has been a con-

ELDEN R. LUQUET JR. YOCUM AWARD RECIPIENT



stant fixture on the Facilities team. Elden is always willing to jump in and do whatever is needed to help with our projects.

Some of Elden's many accomplishments over the years include:

- ◆ Moderator on the Klipsch Forum for more than a decade
- ◆ Etching and artwork on hundreds of items we sell to support the Museum
- ◆ Creation of signage for the Museum and Education Center
- ◆ Assisted the Facilities team in the renovation of the Education Center
- ◆ Assisted the Facilities team in the restoration of the storage trailer at the Museum



◆ Worked with Jim Hunter, Kevin Harmon and others on various restoration projects at the Museum, including water remediation in the basement

◆ Currently working with the

Facilities team to restore the Feild House to use as a Welcome Center in downtown Hope

◆ Helped with the coordination and execution of the Klipsch Pilgrimage for more than five years

During the years of his involvement with Klipsch and KHMA, Elden has contributed much more than what is listed above. There is the story about a conversation one evening between Jim Hunter, Elden, and his wife Christy. It was at a time when Jim was leaving Klipsch, and the future of the Museum and its contents were in question. At some point in the discussion Elden suggested "Why don't we just take over the Museum?" Christy suggested forming a non-profit organization to which they all agreed. This later became KHMA as we know it today and as they say, the rest is history!

Congratulations, Elden!



What do the Klipsch Museum of Audio History & the 2021 Watermelon Festival in Hope, AR have in common? They are All Juiced Up!



The theme for this year's Hope Watermelon Festival, All Juiced Up, played perfectly with the Museum's festival booth. Thanks to KHMA Board of Trustee member Beckie Moore, the Museum's booth literally took front stage in the Coliseum.

Museum curator Jim Hunter, KHMA Board president Richard Groves, KHMA Board member Tim Cooper, and Klipsch authorized dealer Cory Harrison planned and setup several displays on the Coliseum stage, showing Paul W. Klipsch's audio technology advances, the Klipsch: 75 Years publication, and film soundtrack media furthering the Museum's vision to foster interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. They also juiced up the Coliseum with the smooth sounds of Klipsch Heresy speakers.

Several other volunteers (Steve Shofner, Jack Daniels, Robert Green, Ron Rose, Donna Groves, and Denise Cooper) spent time talking with festival goers about Paul Klipsch, his many accomplishments, and about the Museum and its mission. Speaker

aficionados, interested festival goers, as well as current and former Klipsch employees visited the booth and shared their stories about Klipsch speakers and PWK.

When the volunteers moved the information table from the stage to the Coliseum floor, even more festival goers approached wanting information on PWK and the Museum. Several made donations to the Museum and volunteered to help further the Museum's mission to restore, preserve, maintain, and display Klipsch and Klipsch-related artifacts and to host educational activities and events.

Following a fun day at the Watermelon Festival, the volunteers ventured to the Feild House and were all juiced up by the accomplishments achieved by the Facilities Committee chaired by Craig Strause. Craig and Rita Strause, Elden and Christy Luquet, Karen Joy, Donna Rosenbaum, Jim Hunter, and other volunteers have spent many weekends over the past year transforming this lovely old home into the Museum's Feild House Welcome Center.



The Watermelon Festival volunteers were treated to the debut of Klipsch sound at the Feild House when Tim and Cory got the juice flowing to a pair of Klipsch Cornwalls that are powered by a McIntosh tube preamplifier and tube power amplifier, both supplied by McIntosh.

The past year's hardships made the 45th annual

Watermelon Festival an event to remember. Thank you to all the volunteers that continue to make the Klipsch Museum of Audio History bear fruit. Stay all juiced up until we can gather together again!



Journey of Hope Mural Project...

What a wonderful August 31 morning in downtown Hope! Folks gathered on 2nd Street for the dedication of the Journey of Hope Mural Project!

Thanks to the following for offering comments pertaining to public art: John Hollis, President of the Hope Downtown Network Board; Mayor Don Still; Sharon Caldwell, Tourism Commission Chair; Debra Fithen, Grants Manager with Department of AR Heritage; and Joel Boyd, Muralist. Jerome Underwood provided sound for the ceremony. Thank you, Jerome! Kindalynn Williams with Little Teapot Bakery and Kim Hollis of the Hope Downtown Net-

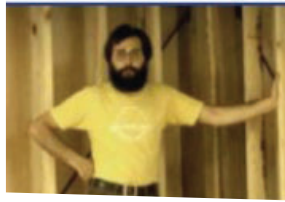


work Board provided cake, cupcakes and punch for the reception that followed the dedication ceremony. Hope Downtown Network appreciated the great turnout that included the Bright* family and Jim Hunter with Klipsch Heritage Museum! Special thanks to the Wilson family for allowing the three-frame mural to be placed on the side

of one of their buildings. Hope Downtown Network received a \$5,000 grant from the Department of AR Heritage Public Art Grant Program and the Hope Tourism Commission provided the \$5,000 match. This day was filled with excitement as we celebrated yet another key component of downtown business revitalization...Public Art!

*The Bright family (multiple generations) is legendary in the Hope area for several world record melons — most notably a 268.8-pound Carolina Cross watermelon.

CURATOR'S Jim Hunter, Curator CORNER



Donations and Acquisitions

The big news in this “corner” is the acquisition of PWK’s dress military uniform. I received a tip from a local antiques dealer that it was in an antique shop in Jefferson, Texas. The next day I found it with tags indicating “Klipsch”. While there was no intent to walk out of the store without it, I couldn’t help but ask for a discount.

Ten percent off \$150 was icing on the cake.

While I am no military historian, a tag in the coat reads “Paul W. Klipsch, 720 W. Ave. D”. This address is confirmed by correspondence to be correct for at least 7/1/1946. And it appears to be in Belle Klipsch’s handwriting. Another confirming characteristic was the length of the pants. At 45” overall, it is longer than what I wear (Paul was an inch or two taller than me).



As a last step in confirmation, I sent photos to Anthony Lind at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas in Little Rock. His response:

It appears to be an authentic Officer's wool winter uniform jacket with pink trousers consistent with WWII uniforms of that time. The tag also seems to authenticate that.

The rank insignia, which is one gold bar, represents the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. The two lapel pins represent the ordinance branch of the US Army.

The medals are a Good Conduct Medal with a bar of three knots indicating that he had received a total of four Good Conduct Medals. The American Campaign Medal which describes which theatre of war he served, and finally the World War II Victory Medal.

Aside from better photography, all we need now is the appropriate

mannequin. This is a solicitation!

Another major donation was made by Steve Rowell of Audio Classics. Steve is a long-time McIntosh dealer with his own extensive museum of McIntosh products, including one-of-a-kind prototypes. Very impressive! His latest donation includes a McIntosh C24 Stereo Preamplifier, a McIntosh MC2100 stereo amplifier, and an Audio Classics classic 9B stereo amplifier. The latter is an exclusive, made-to-order product supplied by McIntosh.

Because the packaging for these products is near bullet proof, photos are delayed until display or demo locations are determined. (I was able to get “documentation pics” of the serial numbers).

Finally, Cory Harrison has come through with ANOTHER donation a Parasound HINT 6 integrated stereo amplifier.



Archives

KHMA archival photographs were searched for use in the 75th Anniversary book. It is clear that we possess enough photographs to support several more editions.

Housekeeping

With the recent re-roofing of the Education Center, a significant project can now be addressed. Several hundred Library magazines with slight to moderate water damage were moved to the airport hangar to dry out. In the heat of the moment, keeping issues in order was not the priority. These are now in the process of being reassembled into new yearly boxes and returned to the shelves.



KHMA Facilities Team Feild House Renovation Update

Home Theater Room



The second phase of work at the Feild House is well underway. This phase is focused on the pantry, kitchen, back entry and downstairs bedroom. We started on this phase at our March work weekend and we're happy to report some very good progress.

In the past few months, we finished the painting and installation of a new wall and door in the pantry. Jim also arranged a grounded outlet in this room for the electronic equipment that will be placed there. Finishing touches will include adding trim and painting the new wall.

The back entry area and back door painting is complete. We have also removed a closet from the back hallway and widened doors for better handicap access to this area of the building.

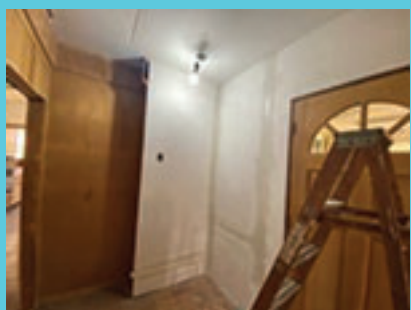
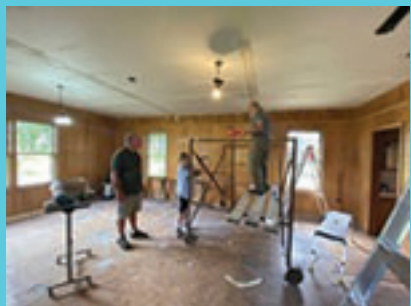
Back Entry & Pantry



The decision has been made that the downstairs bedroom will be our home theater room. We removed stored items, ceiling tiles, and a large closet, repaired the pocket door to the bathroom, installed a new entry door and installed and finished the sheet rock on the ceilings. Overall, we've made great progress in this room!

Our next steps will be installing new trim and crown molding, painting the walls and ceiling, and installing carpeting. There is much to keep us busy over the next few months.

In August, we cleaned up debris from the roof repair at the Education Center. We also fixed a water leak at the Museum to stave off high water bills.



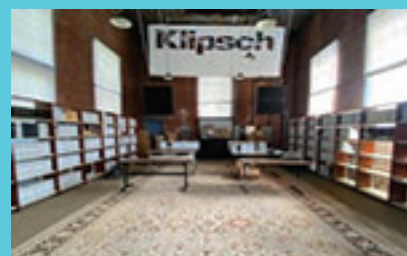
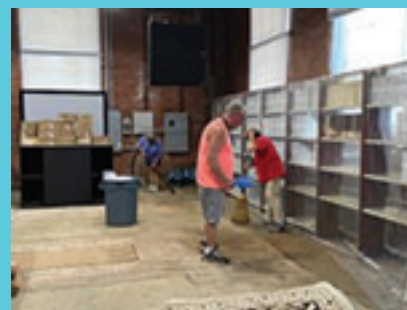
Water Leak



As always, we want to say thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who have helped along the way and to those who will help us out in the future.

These are photos of the work in progress.

Education Center





THE DOPE FROM HOPE – GENESIS

The Dope from Hope concept appears to have gestated for seven years. Volume 1, Number 1 was published August 16, 1960. About seven years earlier, a letter to a salesman at Klipsch & Associates' NYC office (Klipsch Eastern) suggests the concept. The salesman, Gene Altman, was also a technical writer and proposed to PWK that he would like to write a magazine article.

Paul responded:

27 March 1953
Mr. Eugene Altman
Klipsch Eastern, Inc.,
400 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.
Dear Mr. Altman:

"This letter of yours dated 24 March was very interesting and I am in agreement with your plan. I suggest however, that instead of relying on me as the great source of wisdom that you go ahead and write as you would from your own mind. Of course it is realized that you are selling my product and that you may have to make it appear that you are leaning very heavily on "Dope from Hope" but I believe that if you write largely on your own responsibility it will have more force than if it bore my name as co-author, for example."

I will [need] somebody else's help, advice and criticism on "The Dope from Hope" which is the proposed name of the publication here. I fully realize that some unsavory character is bound to point out that he infers that I am "The Dope".

Paul goes on to offer his technical advice and support. Then he continues:

"Incidentally, we are thinking about a little publication of our own which we hope to print locally here in mimeograph form and try to hold the thing to one page. This would be brought out "occasionally" or more or less when the spirit moves somebody to write down some closely packed words of wisdom...

I think it would be very well to solicit ideas from wherever we can get them. It was my idea to distribute some 500 of these—say four or five of these to some 100 dealers—or something like that. At the present time we have only about 60 dealers...

I will [need] somebody else's help, advice and criticism on "The Dope from Hope" which is the proposed name of the publication here. I fully realize that some unsavory character is bound to point out that he infers that I am "The Dope".

No further mention of the concept has been found. It took about seven years for the realizations of the benefits of horn efficiency and corner-loading to evolve into the Klipschorn. I guess The Dope from Hope just followed suite.

By Jim Hunter, Curator

PS: Instead of indicating when the newsletter was issued by a "Volume # / Issue #" format, we use a military date format (as PWK did extensively), which is YYMMDD.

For example: 211115 indicates a date of Nov. 15, 2021

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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.



We believe in the importance of science in education, the spirit of discovery, and good ol' American ingenuity. As a non-profit organization, the Klipsch Museum of Audio History is dedicated to preserving and sharing the technological discoveries, artifacts, and principles of Paul W. Klipsch.



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 by appointment only. Contact us for a campus tour!

Contact:

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