

Except for the fickle finger of fate, Ted Tatman might have been born and raised in or nearer Louisville a few years earlier than he was, and he would have been able to listen to and love "one of America's great radio stations" during his formative years.

Except for the fickle finger fate, young Ted...now known as John Quincy...might have awakened mornings listening to the unique voice and humor of, not only Louisville's greatest...but America's greatest morning radio personality.... The Duke of Louisville.... Bill Bailey on Radio WKLO.

Young Teddy would have skipped school to be exposed the genius of "The Chucker, Chuck Browning..." who could express the most feeling with the fewest words of any air personality to ever make love to listeners through the airwaves.

No doubt, Ted would have hung on to every word and phrase from other magnificent air personalities who made Radio WKLO great: Lee Gray, Carl Truman Wiglesworth, Charlie Knox (Ric Shaw), Wild Willy, Jim Fletcher, Jack Sorbi, Jack Gallo, Jon "Fantini" Grey, Dale Reeves, Bill Clark, Jim Schneider, John Rode, and Al Risen.

To prepare for news radio that was yet to come, young Theodore would have been exposed to the radio journalistic expertise of Allen Bryan, Bones Henry, John Sharp, Reed Yadon, Ken Knight, Jack Thurston, J. Paul Roberts, and Tom Maxedon.

If he was a good contest player he might have won a seat on the 1965 Beatle bus to Chicago, hosted by Englishman Ken Douglas who teamed with then young, and later "legendary" Johnny Randolph on the Radio WKLO evening show. On the bus, he would have joined "Little Danny Masden" and young Kevin Metheny as they foresaw and dreamed of their future in radio.

It's difficult to even imagine how the life of John Quincy might have turned out had he been able to experience the valuable influence of Radio WKLO instead of being forced to listen to "that other station", which some psychiatric experts might classify as extreme child abuse and, today, would more than likely be forbidden as inhuman torture for captured Taliban terrorists.

We live in a world of "woulda, coulda, shoulda's", and nothing can really change what has already been inflicted on young Ted. But, perhaps in a very small way, those of us who were honored to be a part of the Radio WKLO team of the '60's and '70's, can share just a bit of that inestimable honor and joy by adopting John Quincy into our radio family as the first Honorary RADIO WKLO air personality.

On behalf of the WKLO greats mentioned above, along with others who were heard on WKLO and those behind the scenes that made it possible along with our beloved leaders, General Managers Ernie Gudridge and Bernie Thompson, and owner, the Honorable Charles Sawyer. Welcome John. Welcome to the Radio WKLO family. And thank you for keeping alive the memory of WKLO and WAKY, two great radio stations.... each made even greater by the competition of the other. —Terrell Metheny

It was a time and a place in Louisville radio history. It was the battle between WAKY and WKLO. During this time dozens of Dee Jays made the airwaves something special. There have been 15 air personalities from that era who have moved on to positions in the top 10 markets in the United States. This is a record for a city the size of Louisville.

There is one person who never worked in Louisville radio, has never lived in Louisville and in fact hasn't lived in Kentucky since 1981. Growing up in Lexington he became a true fan of the Louisville radio scene and through his tireless efforts is keeping WAKY and WKLO alive via the Internet.

There can be only one honorary WAKY Dee Jay and I along with my colleagues proclaim that to be John Quincy. —Johnny Randolph

Louisville, Kentucky August 5, 2006