



PRESS RELEASE

The Melody Boys Quartet (TMBQ), one of America's longest operating male quartets in gospel music, makes their official retirement announcement, effective New Year's Eve, 2012.

Says **Gerald Williams**, who began his position as bass singer for TMBQ in 1949 at the age of 16, "We know there is a time and a season for all things. This is the right time. 63 years is a good season."

TMBQ's heritage goes all the way back to the late 1930s when they performed three live radio programs daily as well as a healthy concert schedule. They were gospel music pioneers when they were the first gospel music group in Arkansas to move into the, then young, television market. They were among the groups that performed at the first National Quartet Convention in 1957. At the death of owner, manager and bass vocalist, Herschel Foshee in 1949, pianist and song writer, 'Smilin' Joe Roper reorganized the group as The Melody Boys Quartet and introduced a new, young bass singer to the nation. Gerald Williams, a Southern Gospel Music Hall of Famer and Grand Ole' Gospel Living Legend now enters his 63rd year as a professional vocalist.

Generation after generation of fans that love quartet music have labeled TMBQ's sound as a touch of the past and a taste of the future. Quality sound and ministry integrity, tastefully mixed with family entertainment, is TMBQ's trademark.

Beginning in March, TMBQ will embark on their 'Exit 63' Tour, which will run through the end of 2012. Mike Franklin, first tenor with TMBQ for over 19 years says, "We are still booking dates for this, our final year. If you've ever considered having The Melody Boys Quartet at your gospel singing or your church, **now** is the time to schedule."

To book TMBQ for their 'Exit 63' Tour, contact Gayla at 214-957-3669 or email booking@themelodyboysquartet.com or visit www.themelodyboysquartet.com.