



**Larry Ryan**  
**Shreveport, Louisiana**

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**Jaime Cantrell:** This is Dr. Jaime Cantrell, a contributor with the Southern Foodways Alliance. It's August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and we're in Shreveport, Louisiana at The River, 98.7 KLKL—

[00:00:20]

**Larry Ryan:** 95.7.

[00:00:21]

**Jaime Cantrell:** 95.7. 95.7 KLKL-FM. I'm here with Larry Ryan, and I'm going to ask him to introduce himself and give his date of birth, please.

[00:00:31]

**Larry Ryan:** My name is Larry Ryan. I was born August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1938.

[00:00:38]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So tell me about your childhood growing up.

[00:00:40]

**Larry Ryan:** Well, I grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa. I was very young at that time [Laughter] if you didn't get that already. Okay. Grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa. I went to Iowa State Teachers College. I went to one year of college, joined the Air Force because I wasn't really appreciating college, was in the Air Force for about four years and got out and did all kinds of odd jobs.

Fortunately for me, I got into radio kind of like through the back door. When I was in college, they had a radio station there, and I said I wanted to do that, so I did two shows, and they kicked me off because I was too crazy. So I did two shows of that.

So when I was in the Air Force at the base I was at in Pagwa, Ontario, Canada—

[interruption]

[00:01:51]

**Larry Ryan:** Okay. I was in a radio station at a base called Pagwa, Ontario, Canada, in the Air Force. They had a little radio station there, and I used to hang around the radio station, talked to the guys and knew who they were. Finally, the program director left, and they said is there anybody here that knew how to be in radio or done anything in radio, and I said, “Well, yeah! I’ve done a lot of radio.” Two days, but what the hell. So I got the job.

When I got out of the service, I worked everything from janitor to baling hay to you name it, I did it, because at that time, jobs were pretty scarce. So I went to a broadcasting school in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and while I was there, having worked in radio with that [unclear] radio station, I already knew all of the stuff they were telling me anyhow, so they got me a job in television, which I hated because it was “hurry up and wait” on TV. Didn’t have videotape back then.

So somebody said, “There’s a radio station in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, that’s looking for an announcer. Anybody ever done radio?”

“Well, yeah, I’ve done radio before. I did a little [unclear] radio station in Canada, I worked for two days in radio, so, yeah, I’ve done it.”

So my first day in radio was a disaster. I had to learn the board and everything, but I finally got through it. At that point, then, it just progressed. I’ve worked several different radio stations, I did several different television shows, and I came down here.

[00:03:41]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So I want to ask you about Shreveport, but before we get there, let’s go back to these various radio stations where you were working. What was playing at the time? What was popular in terms of music?

[00:03:54]

**Larry Ryan:** I was at the beginning of really Top 40 radio, started in ’61, and, god, I had a chance to meet all kinds of rock and roll stars, from the Four Seasons to, god, even Freddy Cannon, who was a disaster. That’s really it. I’ve gone through several different formats, from country to rock and roll to soft stuff.

[00:04:29]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And so what year did you arrive in Shreveport?

[00:04:33]

**Larry Ryan:** 1964. August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1964.

[00:04:40]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And you came south because?

[00:04:43]

**Larry Ryan:** Thirty-five dollars more a month. That paid the rent.

[00:04:48]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Where'd you live in Shreveport?

[00:04:49]

**Larry Ryan:** South Shreveport, and it was interesting. It was \$65-a-month rent. So I brought this girl from Iowa with me, and we got here on a Saturday. We married the following Monday at a Justice of the Peace in Marshall, Texas, and we were together for forty-nine years and two days.

[00:05:18]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And her name?

[00:05:18]

**Larry Ryan:** Susie. She's gone.

[00:05:21]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I'm sorry.

[00:05:22]

**Larry Ryan:** That's all right. That's all right.

[00:05:24]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Susie. Okay. So you started here together.

[00:05:28]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes.

[00:05:28]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And what was the first radio station that you were at in Shreveport?

[00:05:32]

**Larry Ryan:** It was a station called KEEL, which was the big station at the time. I did nighttimes, and then the show really sold it. It's the first time it had been sold out, so they moved me to mornings, which would have been a better job, and that's really how it all started. I became the program director. We won all kinds of national awards and all kinds of stuff, so it was a pretty good radio station, one of the top radio stations in the country at the time.

[00:06:04]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I've talked to a lot of people in Shreveport, and they said that you were *the* voice of Shreveport with KEEL through the seventies and eighties.

[00:06:14]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes.

[00:06:16]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So tell me about the first time you encountered Southern Maid Donuts.

[00:06:23]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, my god.

[00:06:24]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Did you eat a donut before you worked on the air with them?

[00:06:25]

**Larry Ryan:** No, no. I got here on a Saturday, I met with some people on a Saturday. They said, "You go on the air Sunday." I did from 12:00 until 6:00. They gave me six pieces of copy to read for Southern Maid Donuts. I had never had Southern Maid Donuts before, so to be honest with you, I lied my ass off. I said it was the most wonderful thing you'd ever had. I mean, I overdid it.

So on a Monday morning after the Sunday show, I get a call from the management. They said, "Come in here. I want to talk to you."

I said, “Oh, god, I’ve screwed up already.”

So I got in, and they said, “I don’t know what you did for Southern Maid Donuts, but they want you as the spokesman.”

So at that point, that’s when I started doing Southern Maid Donuts. And by the way, I found out about Southern Maid Donuts that afternoon, because I went and bought some to see how good they were. I was right. They’re good.

[00:07:26]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So do you remember any of the copy?

[00:07:29]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, no, certainly not. That’s, what, sixty years ago.

[00:07:34]

**Jaime Cantrell:** But it was advertising?

[00:07:35]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, sure, sure.

[00:07:37]

**Jaime Cantrell:** “Come down and buy—.”

[00:07:37]



**Larry Ryan:** Sell, sell, sell. That's what I do.

[00:07:39]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Right, right. Okay. So when did the "Piping Hot at 4:00 p.m." make its way to the radio?

[00:07:48]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, I don't know. They were doing that with other people that were doing Sunday shows, but they said, "From now on, I want him to do our Sunday shows, Piping Hot at Four O'clock." And it just caught on. Bruce Jones, as a matter of fact, who was the owner at the time, called and said, "I don't want anybody else doing those spots except him." So I did Sunday shows for a long time.

[00:08:14]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Did y'all eventually meet?

[00:08:15]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yes. Delightful man, he and Johnny Jones, and his dog. What was the dog's name? Mary?

[00:08:23]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Miss Mary.

[00:08:24]

**Larry Ryan:** Miss Mary. That was it.

[00:08:26]

**Jaime Cantrell:** [Laughter] What do you know about the dog?

[00:08:27]

**Larry Ryan:** Not much, not much. I met the dog a couple of times. It was quite nice, I guess. [Laughter]

[00:08:33]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah, and, of course, the dog is on the donut box

[00:08:35]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, absolutely, absolutely.

[00:08:38]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So tell me about KEEL. Tell me about the history of KEEL and how that relates to *Louisiana Hayride*.

[00:08:43]

**Larry Ryan:** Actually, KEEL does not relate to *Louisiana Hayride*.

[00:08:47]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Okay.

[00:08:49]

**Larry Ryan:** The funny part about that is, KEEL and KWKH were competitors, and if we found out that they were thinking about doing something, I would go ahead and do it before they ever got it on the air.

[00:09:06]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Give me an example.

[00:09:07]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, they had a promotion one time, one of their stations called—I forget what it was. They had a promotion and put it in a newspaper, big full-page ad, “The Great Grunch is Coming.” So I got hold of a jingle company in Dallas, Texas, and had a jungle made. “Gary Hamilton, the Great Grunch.” It was a jungle. So that completely nullified their ad, because we already had the Great Grunch on the air.

But believe it or not, later on, because I knew a lot of the country artists, I’d met them in the past, they inducted me into the Louisiana Hayride Hall of Fame.

[00:09:51]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I had no idea. That’s such a great honor.

[00:09:53]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes, it really is.

[00:09:55]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Congratulations.

[00:09:55]

**Larry Ryan:** It was quite nice, yes.

[00:09:58]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So for folks who don't know anything about the *Louisiana Hayride* or the Shreveport Municipal Auditorium, what would you share?

[00:10:05]

**Larry Ryan:** Okay. We'll start with the auditorium. The sound is fantastic, just absolutely fantastic. It's a very large auditorium. Most of the seats, the good seats, were on the floor. They had regular mezzanine seats and then they had the balcony, which was good, but the sound was—I don't know who did it, but it was wonderful.

[00:10:33]

**Jaime Cantrell:** With the design.

[00:10:34]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah, yeah. And we had so many people in that building, whether it's—god, I'm trying to think who all would be there. Just about everybody has performed in the *Hayride* at one time, including Elvis and the *Hayride* people.

[00:10:53]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So you mentioned the competitor radio station. What was it called?

[00:11:00]

**Larry Ryan:** Well, they've changed call letters in this time and I've almost forgotten, but it was KWKH. God, I can't even remember the names of the stations.

[00:11:13]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And they were primarily affiliated with the *Hayride*.

[00:11:16]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes, yes.

[00:11:17]

**Jaime Cantrell:** KWKH. So, Elvis, Johnny Cash.

[00:11:24]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yeah.

[00:11:24]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I actually heard an audio recording of Johnny Cash promoting Southern Maid Donuts, but when I spoke with Mike, I asked him about a local rumor with Elvis doing the jingle, and he said that his mother had actually been there—

[00:11:40]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes.

[00:11:40]

**Jaime Cantrell:** —at the auditorium that night, and that Elvis was not well known at the time, he hadn't grown into the star that he would later become, and that there's no audio recording of Elvis doing the spot.

[00:11:55]

**Larry Ryan:** You know, I don't know if there is or not. I talked to several people from KWKH about that, Frank Page, several of the people that were on the *Hayride* with them—Frank was the announcer, who has long since passed—and asked them if they had any recordings of Elvis, and they didn't think so, which I found rather strange because they recorded a lot of the *Hayride* at that time.

[00:12:22]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So the *Hayride* lasted from roughly—

[00:12:28]

**Larry Ryan:** I don't know, because I wasn't here at the beginning.

[00:12:30]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Because you didn't come until the sixties. Okay, okay. Did you see anybody perform?

[00:12:36]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, not at the *Hayride*, because the *Hayride* was over by the time I got here in '64. Several of the people that were on the *Hayride* I knew. One good example is we were talking one day on the radio about our favorite cowboys, and I said my favorite cowboy was Faron Young, who sang at the *Hayride*.

And my partner said, "Faron Young? Why do you like him?"

And I said, "Because he jumped off a 60-foot cliff, knocked two guys off their horse, and beat 'em up, still with his hat on."

And about three minutes later, I get a phone call from Faron Young, who was living here at the time with his mother, and he cussed me out pretty good, and then we kind of laughed about it a little bit. We became friends at that point. But he said, "Favorite cowboy? Hell, no."

[00:13:34]

**Jaime Cantrell:** [Laughter] That's so funny. I remember when I interviewed Mike Jones, he mentioned Faron Young had played as well.

[00:13:39]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah.

[00:13:38]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So you moved to Shreveport, you got married [Laughter] on a Monday, you did your first copy for Southern Maid on a Sunday, you got here on a Saturday. What happened in the years since?

[00:13:57]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, gosh. We got married. I'll tell you a little story about that. Monday, when I got down there, we came down here with a Shell credit card and a jar full of pennies, nickels, and dimes, and so we found a place that we could live later on, but when we went across to Marshall, Texas, to get married, we found a Justice of the Peace and we got married, did the blood tests and all that kind of stuff. I wrote him a check, and he kind of looked at me kind of funny, and he said, "This wouldn't be a hot check, would it?"

And I said, "Yes, it would, but I will pay you as soon as I get my first paycheck."

And he said, "Okay." Then he showed me some other hot checks that were on a wall that people had written to him in the past.

But I went over and paid him, I think right after I got married, drove over to Marshall and paid him.



[00:14:58]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Well, what's a hot check when you're in love? [Laughter]

[00:15:03]

**Larry Ryan:** Never thought of it that way. [laughter]

[00:15:08]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So I hear that you were a founding member of one of the Mardi Gras krewes in Shreveport.

[00:15:13]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes, yes. Interesting story. I did a radio show in Chicago for three years, and when I came back, some friends of mine said, "Man, you need to join the Krewe of Gemini. Most fun I've ever had was the Mardi Gras Parade."

And I thought, "Well, great! Let me join up!"

And he said, "We'll put you on the waiting list."

Well, I told my wife, who, if you ever did a history on somebody, you ought to do something on her. She said, "I don't want to wait. Let's start our own krewe."

So we called six of our friends, and they came over. We had a meeting. Susie put an ad in the paper saying we were going to have another meeting, and about thirty people showed up. Then we had another meeting, and 100 people showed up. So that's kind of how the Krewe of Centaur was started.

[00:16:05]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Why do you say that her life history is something that should be recorded?

[00:16:07]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, she's—gosh, she started the Krewe of Centaur, we had an advertising agency, we owned a radio station. She's just—so many things. She was so involved in this community. The flag for Bossier City with the Red River, that was her design.

[00:16:31]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Wow!

[00:16:31]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah.

[00:16:32]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Wow! So the impact the two of you have made in Shreveport over decades.

[00:16:39]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah.

[00:16:40]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And you're still in radio.

[00:16:41]

**Larry Ryan:** I have to have something to do. I have to have a reason to get up in the morning, take a shower and brush my teeth, go to work. Now I can play golf. I live on a golf course, so I can play golf. I can do whatever I want. I can take a nap. But I've got to have a reason to get up in the morning and keep going. I'm eighty-three! So that gives me something to do.

[00:17:05]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So what do you think about music today?

[00:17:10]

**Larry Ryan:** It sucks.

[00:17:13]

**Jaime Cantrell:** [Laughter] I grew up listening to records that my mother played, so the Eagles, Steely Dan—

[00:17:20]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah!

[00:17:21]

**Jaime Cantrell:** —so if anything, I have her to thank for my taste in music.

[00:17:25]

**Larry Ryan:** Sure.

[00:17:25]

**Jaime Cantrell:** What's what she was listening to when I was a kid, and I didn't have any choice, you know, because she was the adult. So that's my sense of what good music is.

[00:17:37]

**Larry Ryan:** Well, twenty years from now, will some of these songs, new songs, be remembered as a golden oldie? No, no, never happen.

[00:17:48]

**Jaime Cantrell:** What do you think the best golden oldies are?

[00:17:50]

**Larry Ryan:** Sixties were great, but I think the seventies are the very best, best musicians, best minds, great, great lyrics.

[00:18:02]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I saw a documentary a couple of months ago about the Bee Gees, and I didn't realize how much songwriting they were doing for other artists.

[00:18:13]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yes, yes. They were absolutely—I would put them in the top ten of all time, seriously.

[00:18:21]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Who else would be in your top ten?

[00:18:23]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, gosh. The Eagles. Don Henley lives right up—well, you know that. He lives right up the road here, or did. I don't know if he still does or not. I love Chicago, Blood Sweat & Tears. KC and the Sunshine Band, even, some great stuff, yeah.

[00:18:47]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I grew up going to Jazz Fest in New Orleans, so I've seen so many just mega performers.

[00:18:53]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yeah, yeah.

[00:18:55]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So let's go back to Southern Maid. You said that you remember after doing the copy on your first day, you remember going to buy your first box of donuts.

[00:19:08]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes.

[00:19:09]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Where did you go? Was it Greenwood?

[00:19:11]

**Larry Ryan:** Greenwood Road. That was the only one. Well, there was one in Bossier, too, at the time, but I lived in Shreveport and not too far from that, so that's where I went. And they were good. They were good.

[00:19:24]

**Jaime Cantrell:** What did the interior of the store look like?

[00:19:26]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, gosh. Basically everything else was where they made the donuts, it was kind of like a little hallway and a place where you could buy your donuts, plus there was a large montage of pictures up there, Elvis, the dog, Faron Young, a lot of the people from the *Hayride*. Even my picture got up there, so I thought that was great. It was quite an honor

[00:19:54]

**Jaime Cantrell:** A lot of those pictures are now in the Hearne Avenue location.

[00:19:57]

**Larry Ryan:** Are they really?

[00:19:58]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah, yeah. I've seen them in Mike's office hanging, glossy black-and-whites. So tell me about the mynah birds.

[00:20:09]

**Larry Ryan:** The mynah birds. Oh, golly, you're going way back. I really don't remember much about that, I really don't. I remember them, but I don't remember much about them.

[00:20:22]

**Jaime Cantrell:** It seems like most of the stories that I hear about the early, early years are people who were kids at the time going in, getting donuts, and remembering the talking birds.

[00:20:31]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yes.

[00:20:33]

**Jaime Cantrell:** And when I spoke with Mike, he mentioned what an animal lover his father was.

[00:20:37]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yeah.

[00:20:38]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Sometimes there would be monkeys or—

[00:20:42]

**Larry Ryan:** Something.

[00:20:42]

**Jaime Cantrell:** —always some kind of community atmosphere for the kids.

[00:20:47]

**Larry Ryan:** Yeah. He was good with kids, I know that. Matter of fact, I was there one day when—who? I can't even remember. I believe it was Bruce that gave some kids free donuts, but they came in to buy a donut. He gave them a box of donuts. He was good with kids.



[00:21:09]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Well, I'm so interested in the multigenerational aspect of the business. You have family member after family member taking the leadership and the helm, but then you also have family member after family member generations of customers who've been going—

[00:21:35]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, forever, forever.

[00:21:34]

**Jaime Cantrell:** —taking their grandkids now, you know, and so there's such a sense of time passing, but in really intimate ways, you know, because everybody knows everybody and everybody remembers things.

[00:21:54]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yeah, yeah. I just came back from a class reunion in Marshalltown, Iowa. There's a place there called Maid-Rite. They just serve sandwiches, nothing but a sandwich, no French fries. They may have potato chips. Mustard, pickle, onion, and ground beef. And it's so unique the way they make it, that the state tried to close it down one time, but everybody protested so much, that they kept it going. It's listed as one of the top sandwiches in the state of Iowa and even in the country.

Every kid—when I went back to the reunion, every one of those people went to the Maid-Rite from another town, came back to Marshalltown, ate that Maid-Rite. Same

thing happens here. The first thing they say is, “Ah, gotta get a donut, gotta get a Southern Maid Donut.” That happens a lot.

[00:22:54]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I hear that a lot of people will freeze them or warm them up the next day.

[00:22:59]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, yeah, warm them up. I’ve never had frozen, no. They don’t last that long.

[00:23:05]

**Jaime Cantrell:** [Laughter] But you’ll warm them up.

[00:23:07]

**Larry Ryan:** Absolutely.

[00:23:08]

**Jaime Cantrell:** [Laughter] So do you remember any other stories about either Bruce or even Frank Page or folks who had their hands in the business?

[00:23:23]

**Larry Ryan:** Okay, I'll start with Frank Page. When I was a kid, I would listen on my little radio. I had to move to the back porch, even in the winter, so I could listen to a radio show in KWAY in Little Rock, Arkansas, called—it was Stan's Record Shops, which used to be here, not anymore. I thought, "My god, this is great." His name was Gabe Mt. Brown [phonetic]. Well, I found out later his name was Frank Page. So I thought that Stan's Record Shop was the center of the music industry because it was selling records from there. When I got down here, it was a little store on the corner that had a basement underneath that was just—it was loaded with records, but it was not much bigger than this room. So I talked to Frank Page and I explained to him that I used to listen to him, and he was really one of the reasons I got into radio, because he was so believable, that that's what I wanted to do. And he was good. He was great. Matter of fact, we became great friends when KEEL moved into the same building as KWKH with the same ownership. They combined ownerships at the time.

[00:24:44]

**Jaime Cantrell:** What did you admire most about him?

[00:24:46]

**Larry Ryan:** Just a fine, fine man. Great voice, great talker. He would take the time to talk to anybody. He was just a super guy.

[00:25:00]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So when I asked you to consider doing this interview, I said that I thought your voice would be a great one to add to the collection, literally and metaphorically. So when you say that Frank had a great voice, what makes a great voice for radio?

[00:25:15]

**Larry Ryan:** Clarity, clarity, being able to emote enough so that people understand you, what you're trying to do. Before I ever got into radio, I was in TV, and when I was in TV, I used to listen to a radio show in the morning in Little Rock, Arkansas, because that was my first job, was at KATV in Little Rock, Arkansas, and I listened to this guy in the morning. His name was—oh, god, I don't think I—I know I'd remember it. He would start telling a story about he had gone to a store and he was trying to buy something or other, and blah, blah, blah, and all of a sudden, it turned into a commercial. And I thought that was great. Then he'd do it again. I'd say, "God, he tricked me again. He's talking about this commercial, but he led into it or got out of it. That's really the kind of thing that I want to do." And that's really how I kind of patterned myself after that guy.

[00:26:23]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Making it personal.

[00:26:24]

**Larry Ryan:** Yes, yes, yes.

[00:26:26]

**Jaime Cantrell:** So other than Southern Maid, what other products or businesses do you remember in the early years, in the sixties?

[00:26:34]

**Larry Ryan:** Okay. Lee Martin.

[00:26:35]

**Jaime Cantrell:** The clothing store?

[00:26:38]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, absolutely. We sold the hell out of Nehru jackets, which I hated.

[Laughter] Palais Royale. Just a bunch of people. Bobby L. Green Plumbing and Heating.

Oh, just a bunch of really good, good advertisers.

[00:27:02]

**Jaime Cantrell:** What was Palais Royale?

[00:27:03]

**Larry Ryan:** Palais Royale was a clothing store, department store.

[00:27:06]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Downtown?

[00:27:07]

**Larry Ryan:** No, it was out there in Shreve City.

[00:27:09]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Oh, goodness! Okay.

[00:27:12]

**Larry Ryan:** It was a nice—and then there was Rubenstein’s, which I don’t think I ever did any commercials for, but it was a nice store. I’m just trying to think. There were several stores like that that we did a lot of commercials for.

[00:27:27]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah, I’ve heard of Lee Martin. A couple of times it’s come up. When I was in Dallas yesterday, I was speaking with the Hargroves, and they mentioned a radio promotion event that they used to do called *Dollars for Donuts*, where I guess it would be a community event.

[00:27:49]

**Larry Ryan:** I think that was before my time.

[00:27:51]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah. They had a lot of photographs of folks just *crowded* into these stores. So when's the last time you had a Southern Maid Donuts?

[00:28:03]

**Larry Ryan:** Just before I left for Iowa for the class reunion. That was about what, three weeks ago now.

[00:28:13]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Can you believe no one's offered me a donut this entire— [Laughter]

[00:28:15]

**Larry Ryan:** Are you serious?

[00:28:16]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Not a soul. [Laughter] I got a t-shirt, though, which I'm very proud of.

[Laughter]

[00:28:21]

**Larry Ryan:** But they never offered you a donut?

[00:28:23]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I think I have more trust earning I need to do before they can give me one. [Laughter] But the Hargroves gave me a t-shirt, because, you know, their logo is different than the logo here.

[00:28:38]

**Larry Ryan:** Is it? Oh, yeah, with the dog and everything, yeah.

[00:28:40]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah. So the Southern Maids in Dallas have a sort of antebellum maid logo, a woman in an antebellum dress. So it's a little different, but it's still green and white.

[00:28:57]

**Larry Ryan:** Oh, it is?

[00:28:57]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Yeah, still green and white. Well, is there anything else you wanted to share that maybe we didn't touch on, or something else about Southern Maid or the people who were involved that you want to share?

[00:29:12]

**Larry Ryan:** Actually, I can't really think of anything at the moment.



[00:29:20]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I think some of these stories that came to mind, you know, as you're talking about something else are the best ways that memories sort of surface.

[00:29:31]

**Larry Ryan:** I'll probably think of fifty things after we're done. [laughter]

[00:29:33]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Well, I hope you reach out to me. I'll come back and we'll do a follow-up interview.

[00:29:38]

**Larry Ryan:** Could very well do that.

[00:29:39]

**Jaime Cantrell:** Thank you so much for speaking with me.

[00:29:40]

**Larry Ryan:** Thank you. This has been a pleasure. I hope you get something out of this.

[00:29:44]

**Jaime Cantrell:** I will. Thank you.

[End of interview]