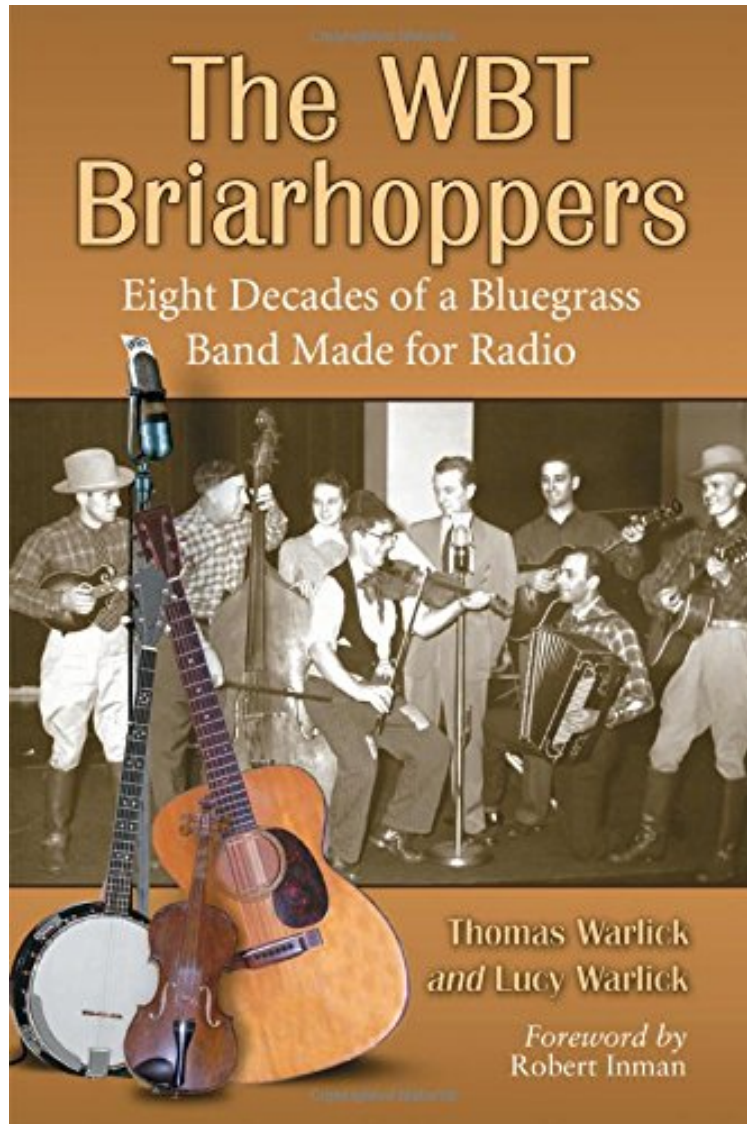


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# The WBT Briarhoppers: Eight Decades of a Bluegrass Band Made for Radio

*Tom Warlick, Lucy Warlick*  
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**Tom Warlick, Lucy Warlick : The WBT Briarhoppers: Eight Decades of a Bluegrass Band Made for Radio** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The WBT Briarhoppers: Eight Decades of a Bluegrass Band Made for Radio:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. History of WBT BriarhoppersBy J. R. EllisWonderful history of the WBT Briarhoppers that many North Carolinians remember on "the" radio station in Charlotte. Guess what? They are

still performing at music festivals and other venues. A first hand history of this talented, well known group. Well written documentary of historical, influential band. Glad Tom Warlick preserved the group's story. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. All that an historical music book should be...and a good read too!By Julia BolenFinally, a book about one of the most important country/bluegrass bands in the nation. The WBT Briarhoppers helped bridge the gap between old-time music and bluegrass music. A ton of serious research went into creating this book; it is apparent the authors are not only writers, but musicians. If you are interested in the roots of Americana music, this is a book you should purchase. This book should also appeal to non-music levels with its snap-shot look into the past and what life and the media was like in and around Charlotte through the 20th century.

In 1934, WBT radio announcer Charles Crutchfield formed a spur-of-the-moment musical group to satisfy a potential sponsor looking for a "hillbilly" radio program to showcase its products. Known as the WBT Briarhoppers, this group went on to become one of the longest lasting bluegrass/country ensembles in America, staying on the air until 1951 and then continuing to perform. Compiled from firsthand interviews, this work tells the story of the WBT Briarhoppers, analyzing the band's history and its connection to the growth of American radio and radio advertising. Using the Briarhoppers as a common thread, it examines changes in culture and the group's contribution to country and bluegrass music. The work also discusses legendary performers including the Tennessee Ramblers, The Johnson Family, and Bill and Charlie Monroe. A discography is included.

The WBT Briarhoppers have influenced lovers of old time mountain music for over 60 years. They are an institution. -- David Holt, Grammy Award-Winning Musician and Storyteller During eight decades running from the Golden Age of Radio to Folk Heritage honors at the North Carolina's governor's mansion, the WBT Briarhoppers was everybody's favorite radio band. Don't touch that dial...Hit's Briarhopper Time! --Dr. Tom Hanchett, Historian for the Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, North Carolina About the Author Environmental engineer Tom Warlick is a banjoist and founder of Bluegrass Thursday Nights and the Clover Barn Dance in Clover, South Carolina. Lucy Warlick is an artist, potter and poet who was a finalist in the James Hearst National Poetry Awards. They live in Clover.