

**Volume 35 Issue 9** 

#### A *News* Letter *For* and *About* Our Members

September 2018

Preserving the music that is too country for Jazz and too jazz for Country

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2018 WESTERN SWING FESTIVAL AND HALL OF FAME Celebrating 35 years, 1983 - 2018



Shelley McNauaghton Board Member

For our second Hall of Fame event at the Historic Field House, I think that that we made a lot of headway in our use of the space and time at this venue, successfully adding workshops to the program. We look forward to many more vears to come.

The beautiful, Historic Field House at the Expo Center in Enumclaw, Washington, is an amazing venue. This wonderful old building was built in the 1930's, with log walls and soaring ceilings.

As I said last year, the Field House feels like the quintessential Northwest Style Dance Hall. It's a beautiful facility and has served us well for the last two years.

#### THE VOLUNTEERS

First of all, we would like to thank Jeanne and Fred Yearian for everything that they have done this year, for their sponsorship of the festival and support of the Society.

We could not have pulled this off without each of the dedicated volunteers who put so much time and effort in to making the festival a success. This year we faced a difficult challenge. Over the last year, we lost some key members of our festival 'team'. The good news: many new volunteers some from unexpected places - stepped up to help fill their shoes! And, we got it done! (Continued on Page 5...)

#### **NWWSMS Annual Meeting Notice**

The NWWSMS Annual Meeting will be held on October 14 at the Lynnwood Eagles. Nominations for officers and board members to serve in 2019 will be accepted at this time. The meeting time and agenda will be posted in the October 2018 Newsletter.

Reminder: You must be a member in good standing (dues paid) to participate, nominate & vote.

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- **Western Swing Forum**
- 2018 NWWSMS Festival Highlights (continued from page 1)
- Western Swing Society of Sacramento 2018 Festival Information
- New Fort Smith, AR Western Swing Event Scheduled
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- Nominations Open for the Academy of Western Artists 13 2018 Awards
  - Farewell from DJ Graham Lees, UK
- Congratulations to the WSS of Sacramento 2018 Inductees
- Lincoln County 29th Cowboy Symposium, Ruidoso, NM
- Bob Wills fiddle festival & contest, Greenville, TX

#### In Every Issue

- 2 NWWSMS Mission Statement/Contact Information
  - **Current Officers & Board Members**
  - Meeting Minutes of the Board
- 3 ★ Upcoming Showcase Information
  - President's Corner
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#### NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FORMED IN NOVEMBER 1983 BY A GROUP OF MUSICIANS AND ENTHUSIASTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING, PROMOTING & PERFORMING WESTERN SWING MUSIC.

#### 2018 Officers and Board Members

#### President: Jeanne Yearian

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#### Acting Secretary: Jeanne Yearian

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#### Treasurer: Sharon Smith

PO Box 4216, Everett, WA 98204

Phone: 425-348-9880

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<u>Board Members</u>: Dave DuChane, Dave Enslow, Butch Gibson, Shelley McNaughton

#### **Annual Membership:**

Full membership (one couple at one address): \$25.00

Single membership: \$20.00

#### Business Address PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com to read the newsletter in full color, JOIN the NWWSMS, RENEW your membership or DONATE.

Like us on FACEBOOK at NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

Contact the editor, jeanneyearian@yahoo.com, to receive our newsletter in your in-box.

#### **PHOTO CREDITS:**

NWWSMS festival photos by Jeanne Yearian, John McClung, Lou Bischoff.

## MINUTES FROM THE BOARD AUGUST 5, 2018

President Jeanne Yearian called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm at Charlie's Café in Enumclaw.

**Present by Verbal Role Call:** Sharon Capps, Butch Gibson, Sharon Smith

**Excused:** Dave DuChane, Dave Enslow, Shelley McNaughton, Sharon Smith

**Guests:** Arizona Bob (with Sharon Capps), Kelly Gibson, Fred Yearian

President's Report:: Jeanne Yearian reported that today's meeting will be checking over preparations for the upcoming festival. She would like to thank Randy 'Tex' Hill and Ray Miller-Still for their help in publicizing the event. Ray is going to try and come by during the weekend to take some photos and follow up on the article in the Enumclaw Courier Herald . . . be sure to smile!!!

Jeanne and Fred will begin setting up for the event on Tuesday. The volunteer response has been very heartening. Our sincere thanks to everyone . . . Our new contact at the Expo Center is Marcia Suhoversnik.

**Treasurer's Report:** Due to the absence of Sharon Smith, the report is deferred until September.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Sunshine:** Jeanne Yearian reported for Lou Bischoff on Sharyn Lee and Sharon Smith.

**Newsletter/Website/Facebook:** Jeanne Yearian reported that the festival event posted on Facebook was 'boosted.' Facebook advertises for you to increase awareness of the upcoming event.

Showcase: As reported at the June meeting, the September showcase will feature Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop. The Old Strokers will host the jam.

**Scholarship/Workshop:** Jeanne Yearian reported she has not heard from Paul Anastasio regarding the Weiser workshops.

**2018 Western Swing Festival:** Jeanne Yearian reported the following:

**SCHEDULED ENTERTAINMENT:** Despite some late cancellations, the scheduled entertainment is complete. A festival program was distributed to the members.

**MANAGING THE DOOR:** Jeanne Yearian reporting. Discussion followed.

RAFFLE/SILENT AUCTION: Discussion.

**FOOD SERVICE:** Rainier Catering has agreed to offer meals as well as individual items and to vary the menu. Lunch on Friday and Saturday is from 11 -1. Dinner on Friday and Saturday is from 5 – 7 (or we might try from 4:30-6:30). They will serve Sunday lunch from 12-3. The bar will open on Thursday afternoon.

(Minutes from August 5, 2018 continued . . . )

Thursday night will feature a covered dish meal from our members, welcoming those coming in from out of state. Let's check the menu.

Music Workshops: Recapping from June: The music teachers for the workshops are scheduled. Suze Spencer will be contacting each of them to discuss the tunes to be taught. Tim Dawdy, lap steel/dobro instructor is planning to set up a jam session in the RV park. He will be coming in Wednesday to set up. Jeanne received contact information for the Enumclaw Schools from the Event Center and will leave information for staff and students.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**UPDATE ON THE REQUEST** by one of the 2017 Scholarship Recipients (Sheila Ryan) for a western swing jam to be set up closer to Olympia. We have had additional requests from the Courier-Herald in Enumclaw and members in Coeur D'Alene.

THE STABLE: No update.

**NWWSMS Logo:** Jeanne Yearian reported that progress is being made.

**New Business**: No new business was reported.

Good of the Order: Jeanne Yearian is very pleased to announce that two of our local musicians, Jim Hollinger and Judy Hayes, members of the NWWSMS Hall of Fame, are being inducted into the Western Swing Society at Sacramento's Hall of Fame in October. We hope to see many of our members there with us to support these outstanding musicians as they receive this much-deserved recognition (see page of this newsletter for more information).

The meeting's minutes were read and approved by the Board members present. Motion passed to adjourn at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Yearian, Acting Secretary

#### Wanted: Board Members

#### Long-term commitments not required.

The following are open positions we are hoping to fill in November:

- ★ Secretary
- ★ Board Members (2) and
- ★ Alternates (2)

Current members of the Board must be nominated each November even if they wish to continue holding office. Contested positions will be put to a vote by the membership.

Questions? Please ask a current Board Member about the benefits (F-U-N) of volunteering with us!



#### We're back at the Lynnwood Eagles Join your western swing family

#### From 1 to 5 pm

Lynnwood Eagles, 19223 Hwy 99 (Three Blocks North of 196th Street)

at the September 9, 2018 Western Swing Showcase

Featuring

Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop

IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS

IN LOVING
HONOR
OF THE HEROES



#### President's Corner

Friends, just a warning (you know who you are): I won the gift of live music at the raffle . . . The



Board Band is mine for 2 hours! How will I use this prize?? Keep tuned for future developments.

This month we welcome **Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop** back to the Lynnwood stage, shortly after Paul's induction into the NWWSMS Hall of Fame. Congratulations again, Paul!

Once the host band finishes their sets (1pm to 3pm), the **Old Strokers**, our back up band for the jam, will warm up by playing a few songs and start the jam session shortly after 3:30.

Speaking of Hall of Fame Inductees, don't forget the NWWSMS' very own Judy Hayes, Randy 'Tex' Hill and Jim Hollinger are being inducted into the Sacramento Western Swing Society's Hall of Fame in October! If you would like to join us and share this special occasion in Sacramento, check out Pages 6 and 14 of this newsletter for more information.

Having had a few weeks to reflect back on this year's festival, one take-away stands out from all the rest: we need to find sponsors to make this venue viable. It became clear at the Festival on Saturday, when we ran out of tables for people. When the evening receipts were tallied we realized even with a great crowd throughout the day for all three days, we would not be able to clear enough money to cover our costs. And, the option of raising our prices puts the festival out of reach for too many western swing supporters in our community.

Acquiring sponsors is a common practice for most event planners - but is new to us. If someone reading this has experience and would like to help us go forward with this plan, please call or e-mail me or another member of the Board.

Speaking of the Board, elections are coming up and we could certainly use a few more members. Consider volunteering - no long-term commitments required. Give as much as you want. The minimum is a morning meeting one Sunday a month!

## Around the NorthWest Support Live, Local Music

For regular appearances at a particular venue to be included in the newsletter, contact the editor. Contact information for a member band is always welcome.

The Go Outside and Playboys. For booking information and more on Seattle's newest western swing band, visit their website at: www.gooutsideandplayboys.com.

**Southern Comfort.** For bookings or schedule updates call Shelley at (206) 235-0530. Check out The Southern Comfort Band's current activities on Facebook.

**Steel Country.** For bookings or schedule updates call Duane at (425) 870-7311 or Pat at (425) 745-3798.

**The Barn Door Slammers.** For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: www.barndoorslammers.com.

**The Oregon Valley Boys**. For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: <a href="https://www.oregonvalleyboys.com">www.oregonvalleyboys.com</a>.

**Mike Faast and Jangles**. For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: <a href="https://www.janglesband.com">www.janglesband.com</a>

**Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners.** Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.thesundownersband.com

**JC McCormick & the Cherokee Band**. For booking information or a schedule of upcoming play dates, call JC at: 253-268-2314

Do you sometimes wonder how other organizations host their award ceremonies? Bobby Newton, head of the Academy of Western Artists, sent the video below of their the last event. (Nominations are still open for the AWA 2019 event; see page 13.) It was filmed by Penny Gilley's production crew, now based out of Dallas.

Look forward to seeing you on the dance floor this Sunday! JY



**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:** (To use PayPal or your credit card go to our website or click on this link:) Become a member, renew or donate on-line or by mail.

Mail your check to: NWWSMS, PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082.





## Western Swing Forum

Keep those letters (and emails) coming!

(Editor's Note: Following are comments we received either by e-mail or in our mailbox after the festival. We sincerely appreciate your perspective on how we are doing! The first came in from Regina Mansfield who wrote to Suze Spencer, our workshop leader. Suze's response follows.)

Hello Suze,

I met you at the West. Swing Festival (uke player along with my friend Sherrie). I want to thank you again for your help. It has inspired us! Playing Yippy- Yi Your Troubles Away for you was a thrill beyond the stars, and an honor. I've got that moment in my heart.

Your workshops and jams were so helpful and fun. I hope we'll see you again next year.

Regina Mansfield

Regina,

Of course, I remember. You and Sherrie were so much fun to have in class. I loved the duets and the ukulele arrangements you two came up with and it was great fun to work out some new harmony ideas in our harmony We're so glad you found the sessions. workshops helpful and enjoyable. We very much appreciate your support of Western Swing Music as it means a great deal to all of us at Northwest Western Swing Music Society.

Thanks so much for your lovely comments, and I hope to see you next year as well!

> Most Sincerely, Suze Spencer

(Editor's Note: A letter was received from 2018 Inductee, Dr. Jean A. Boyd:)

Dear Jeanne and all my friends at the Northwest Western Swing Music Society,

I want to express my gratitude for the honor that you bestowed on me earlier this year by inducting me into your Western Swing Hall of Fame. I also want to apologize for not being there to receive my award in person. explained this to Jeanne on the phone, but I want to write it down so that she can share it with everybody.

Earlier this year I began experiencing memory loss issues. I went to a neurologist who did a series of tests and a brain scan and

the result came back that I am suffering from chemo-brain. Nearly 13 years ago I had chemotherapy for breast cancer. The chemotherapy followed a lumpectomy that went very well, but the doctors decided to go on with a round of chemotherapy followed by radiation. They told me that I would lose hair, eyebrows, evelashes, but nobody ever mentioned brain cells. Had I known that, I would have refused the treatment. Now I have a patch of dead brain cells for which there is no cure. This has changed my life and even forced me into retirement from Baylor University. I thank God for sparing my life and I thank you all for being my friends. I simply could not make the trip out there by myself and nobody could come with me. I should have let you know that I was not going to be able to be there; I think I was hoping that something would change, but it didn't.

Really, I am doing quite well. I was getting rather tired of teaching self-absorbed college students anyway. I have signed up to be a tutor for underprivileged kids in a poor school district in Waco. This is sponsored by the church we attend, and I am going to be able to help kids who don't have much of anything. It is very true that when one door slams shut, God opens another! I hope that one of these days I will get back out there just to attend a festival and because you live in one of the most beautiful places in the United States. Thanks for everything!

> Sincerely, Jean A. Boyd

(¡Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from September issue of the Western Swing Society of Sacramento's newsletter. Our thanks to Shelley Elkans for this update. Many of you know Dayna has had extensive surgery and treatments for cancer)

A quick update from Dayna Wills. I spoke to her and Gary for an hour today and she kept me in stitches the whole time! That girl has the best sense of humor on this earth! She also says that she could be the national spokesperson for "My Pillow" as she is really in love with it! That's our girl!

Shelley Elkan

(Continued on page 8 . . .)

### Sharing the **Journey**

#### With Well Wishes and Prayers

Charlotte Tomlinson Sharvn Lee Kevin Healy Joe Dwyer **Betty Hasting** Arlene Stuth Geno Burbank JC McCormick Greta Larson Fern Hooper Jody Meredith Edd Burnett Dayna Wills Ken Jones Robert LaClaire Shorty Joe Quartuccio

Paul Cooper Cindy Shaw Brown Judy Collender Herb Remington Wanda Ramos Love Lenora McCormick Chuck Robbins Jim Sanderson Lane Johnson Keith Holter Jim Wallace Kathie Wallace Red Gillean Cindy De Leon Web Tipton Vi & Jay Anderson

Gloria Schindler

Ed Hynes

**Betty Reeves** 

Connie McMahon

Edna Carter

#### **Condolences**

To Annie Linscott, family and friends on the loss of her son

> A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart And can sing it back to you When you have forgotten the words.

> > -Unknown-

Did we miss someone or do you know of someone who should be included in the next **Sharing the Journey report?** Please let us know.

Contact a member of the Board (see page 2) or the editor of the newsletter (see page 2).

(Continued from page 1, 2018 Festival Highlights . . . )

Sharon Smith and her wonderful granddaughter, Shelby, were there to help from the beginning, setting up the tables, designing decorations, and putting together and organizing the "Welcome Pot Luck" for our Out of Town visitors on Thursday night.

But Sharon's work didn't stop there. As Treasurer, Sharon and Vice President, Sharon Capps, were also at the front door every day, all day, greeting our visitors with big smiles, taking admissions, answering questions, and accepting donations for merchandise. Thank you ladies for making everyone feel so welcome!!!

Helping us demonstrate our famous Northwestern hospitality, Sharon Capps' fella, Dakota Bob, made himself available all



Sharon Capps with Sharon Smith, standing behind the counter

weekend to shuttle folks back and forth to the RV camp in our golf cart limo. Thanks so much Bob!!

Once again, Butch Gibson took time off from work to help.



Kelly Gibson verifies the winning ticket from Saturday night's split-the-pot winner

He was there bright and early on Tuesday to help unload and followed Fred and Jeanne with their equipment trailer heading home the next Monday evening. During the festival, he and his wife, Kelly, were there to do whatever needed to be done, from emceeing Saturday's show to hauling gear, setting up tables, setting up the Silent Auction, selling raffle tickets, the flyers and printing programs. You both are so appreciated.

We would also like to thank 2018 Inductee, John

McClung for volunteering to be a photographer for the festival. Thanks John. Welcome to the group!

Here's another superstar. For the entire festival, when he wasn't onstage, Dave Duchane was busy helping to set up, check sound and run the jam room downstairs. Thank you so much Dave!!

Once again, Steve Carter, took the time to design and sew a beautiful quilt, featuring photos of all of our inductees, to be raffled off in our fundraiser.

Lou Bischoff, our Society's historian, undertook the job of presenting the story of our society in a series of handmade collages displayed at the festival, as well as a mini library compiled in 8 Binders, of archived NWWSMS Newsletters from 1983 – 2018. We loved being able to look up and see our own faces, as well as the faces of our Western Swing heroes in the collages. Along with the binders was the photo journal of all the NWWSMS Inductees down through the years. This exhibit was so interesting. I hope that everyone had a chance to see it.

We would like to especially thank Sharyn Lee and her sister for creating the beautiful centerpieces for our inductee tables. They were gorgeous!

Again this year, the lovely MaryLee Lykes was on hand with dance lessons. MaryLee and Sharon Capps were also our honored judges in the Western Swing couples dance contest!!

#### Congratulations to all of our winners!



(Continued on page 6, 2018 Festival Highlights . . . )



The Best Western and Texas Swing, This Side Of The Pecos River...

It's the Western Swing
Time Radio Show With Tex
Hill!

Tune in Wednesdays, High noon, Texas Time!

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Come Join The Fun At
The Western Swing Society's
36th Annual

WESTERN SWING
HALL of FAME
MUSIC FESTIVAL

Oct. 5, 6 & 7, 2018

Machinists' Hall, Rancho Cordova, California

THREE DAYS OF DANCING AND LISTENING FUN

A Dozen Great Western Swing Bands
Daily Jam Sessions
For Listening and Dancing

Hall of Fame Inductions on Sunday, October 7th

**On-Site Beverages and Food Available** 

Special Western Swing Room Rates at Nearby La Quinta

Below: Miss Devon in France with Billy Mata at the EquiBlues Music Festival.

(Continued from page 5, 2018 Festival Highlights . . . )

Speaking of volunteers, one of those wonderful, unexpected surprises took place just a few months ago, when the Yearians reconnected with Gary Moberly and Millie Bushnell, the couple who won the Bobby Flores Western Swing Cruise to Alaska at the festival a few years ago. Not only did Millie and Gary have a fantastic time on the cruise, these dancers were ready to get back involved with the NWWSMS. Every morning, from Tuesday through Monday, Gary was there when they opened the Field House. After he put on the coffee, he got to work - whatever was needed. In between, you could this couple boot-scootin' across the dance floor.



Millie Bushnell and Gary Moberly

We couldn't let the acknowledgements go by without thanking all of our Workshop Instructors. Suze Spencer and her Western Swing Coaches: featuring Dave Rietz, Jim Hollinger, Daron Brown, Judy Hayes, and Tim Dawdy. I sure hope that we have the opportunity to work with all of these fine folks again. What a treat!!

There are so many others to thank, including Nan and Al Troupe, Ramon Selby, Toby Hanson, Elaine Reitz, Doris Bruce, the list goes on . . . what a fantastic crew! Some, like Glen Cunningham and Paula Thomas, checked in with us between dances to see if they could be of help. Our members are the best.

We were so pleased our very own Ed and Lou Bischoff were able to attend again this year. Ed and Lou are long-time members or our NWWSMS and have always been ambassadors of Western Swing Music, good fun, and great friendships. Lou and Ed opened each day of our festival with a flag presentation. I said it last year, and I'll say it again; they are truly the epitome of

hospitality for our society and we love them so much.

#### **The Western Swing Music**

Our featured performer this year was the lovely "Miss Devon" Dawson, who joined in the Thursday night jam, then performed twice on Friday evening before flying to France on to join Billy Mata and Texas Tradition.



Devon is perhaps better known as the singing voice of "Jessie the Yodeling Cowgirl" from the movie, **Toy Story II**. Dressed in her Texas-Western Swing best, Miss Devon was the picture of the singing cowgirl, with a golden voice and great big hat. Her vocal range is amazing and her yodeling was out of this world. To top it all off, she was as good a rhythm guitar player as I've ever seen. he had no trouble leading the band. I was an instant fan, as was everyone who was lucky enough to hear her. Thanks for coming to the Northwest Devon! We hope that you will come this way again.

(Continued from page 6, 2018 Festival Highlights . . . )

We want to thank Morey Sullivan for coming to entertain us, not just with his Morey Sullivan and Friends band, but with his tribute to Hank Thompson, whom he had the pleasure to work with. When Hank retired, he asked Morey to take over the Brazos Valley Boys, which Morey did.

As a bonus, Morey & his lovely wife, Dorrie Sullivan, were our presenters for the Hall of Fame. John and Tracey Jones, our Presenters for the last two years, had other commitments. Morey and Dorrie stepped up - what



Presenters Morey & Dorrie Sullivan with Billy Champion, accepting for Billy Mata.

a gracious couple - they agreed to host the ceremony.

Tony Arana, who is invaluable to us for being always ready to pitch in and help where or when, once again brought his Jam Band up from Sacramento and treated us to their wonderful sound throughout the weekend. Tony was also helping to run the jam downstairs.

Also from California, Grace Clark, whom we met last year with Tony Arana's band, was back this year with her own band **Swingitude**. Their selection of Western Swing/Country Jazz material was terrific, and we really enjoyed this band so much! This was also a bit of a family band, as Grace's son, Scott, was also her drummer. Way to go! We hope you'll join us again.

Although, we didn't have as many bands as usual come from across the country, plenty of our local Western Swing bands were here to represent the Northwest.



The Board Band and Friends opened the festival, inviting former members of the Board to join us on stage as well as present and past Inductees.

**Butch Gibson and the Pardners**, kicked things off and the band brought us their own fun and feel good sound.

The Old Strokers band, who host our local showcase jam band each month, performed for the first time at the Festival. Good Job!

2018 Inductee, **Paul Cooper** and his band, "the **Pickin' Coop**" came ready to show off their stuff. What a hot set!!

Local Western Swing band **The Jangles**, led by Mike Faast, brought their polished sound to the festival again, showcasing Toby Hanson, their 2018 Inductee nominated by bandleader Mike. We love this group.

**The Southern Comfort Band** was back at the Hall of Fame in rare form. As a member of this band, I can say that we look forward to this performance all year.

**Steel Country**, a trio made of all HOF Honorees brought their 'A' game, as usual.

2018 Inductee, **JC McCormick and the Cherokee Band** had everyone up dancing. What a fun group!!

**Kristi Nebel and Cowgirl's Dream**, also featuring 2018 Inductee, Toby Hanson, came to entertain us - and they did. We just love this band!

We had a great display of the musical evolution of the Steel Guitar along with examples of Lap Steel/Dobro by Tim Dawdy, Duane Brown and Pat Rowe for our **Steel Guitar Grand Jam**.

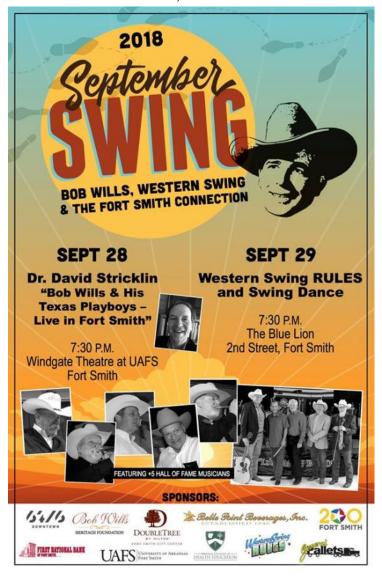


Pictured above, seated in the back row, left to right: Toby Hanson (2018 HOF),
Michael 'Daron' Brown (2018 HOF), Dave Rietz (2016 HOF),
Paul Cooper (2018 HOF)
Seated in the front row, left to right: Tony Arana (2001 HOF),
Chet Hasting (2013 HOF), JC McCormick (2018 HOF)
and Duane Brown (2018 HOF).

Throughout the weekend you could find opportunities to see and hear the Inductees perform. Each of our 2018 Inductees in attendance was invited to perform daily with the **Sideman Jamboree** and, of course, as part of the **Inductee Band** on Sunday evening. However, they were also sitting in with **Miss Devon** or **Morey Sullivan and Friends** - just about wherever they could squeeze in.

(Continued from page 4, Western Swing Forum . . . )

(Editor's Note: The following was received from Robert Huston, an energetic and dedicated promoter/musician of western swing music and 2017 Inductee into the NWWSMS.)



Hi Y'all.

I am extremely pleased to make you aware of a very unique and exciting event we've planned in Fort Smith to educate the area about Western Swing. It is the first Western Swing event of its kind to ever be held in Fort Smith. We're calling it, "September Swing- Bob Wills, Western Swing & the Fort Smith Connection." This event is in conjunction with the City's bicentennial and sponsored, in part, by the University of Arkansas- Fort Smith. Both events will highlight the connection between Western Swing and the City.

Beginning in 1935, after getting established at Cain's in Tulsa and at KVOO, Bob and his Playboys played to huge crowds at a hall in Fort Smith every other Friday night until 1940 when Bob left for California to make movies. His brother Johnny Lee took over the Fort Smith schedule for many years after that.

There are also other significant local connections which will all be highlighted on Friday September 28th. Dr. David Stricklin, Director of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in Little Rock, Bob Wills Heritage

Foundation Board Member and son of legendary Playboy pianist Al Stricklin, will present his lecture, "Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys-Live in Fort Smith." This event will be presented at the Windgate Theatre on the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith campus as part of their Season of Entertainment and the UAFS History Department's "American Democracy" series of lectures.

On Saturday night September 29th at the University's "Blue Lion" venue on the city's riverfront, Fort Smith's own five piece "Western Swing RULES Band" will host a dance in the Wills tradition. Joining them onstage will be FIVE Western Swing Hall of Fame musicians. Texas Playboys Steve Ham and Mike Bennett of Tulsa, steel guitarist Bobby Baker of Claremore, guitarist Paul Moore of Topeka, Kansas and Greg Gibbs on fiddle and vocals from Wichita Falls.

The interest and admiration of Western Swing from the community has been unprecedented. Because of this, and our generous sponsors, both events are FREE and open to the public.

My friends, I know you appreciate our efforts to heighten the awareness and promote Western Swing into Arkansas. We are extremely proud to do our part to expose people to the music we hold so dear. Any amount of publicity, sharing or posting would be most appreciated.

Robert Huston
Robert Huston Productions
<a href="http://roberthustonproductions.com/acebook.com/roberthustonproductions14">http://roberthustonproductions.com/acebook.com/roberthustonproductions14</a>
youtube.com/robert huston productions

# Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

## AMARILLO, TX - SUMMER SHOWCASE DANCE AND JAM

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawing
SEPTEMBER 13th, 14th and 15th, 2018
\$5.00 MEMBER—\$10.00 NON-MEMBER
\*\*\* Mention Western Music Swing Society for Special Rates \*\*\*
Early Reservations are Highly Recommended

#### Fifth Season Inn and Suites

\$55 per night plus tax (breakfast included)

6801 W Interstate 40 Amarillo, Texas 79106 Telephone: (806) 358-7881

#### All Dances and Jam Sessions held on-site at Fifth Season Inn

Oasis RV Resort - rates pending - 2715 Arnot Rd - (806) 356-8408 Ft Amarillo RV Park - rates pending - 10101 WAmarillo Blvd - (806) 331-1700 66 RV Ranch - rates pending - IH-40(W) exit #62A - (806) 359-0921

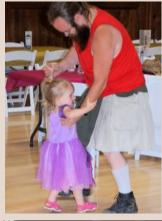
Wednesday, September 12th, 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm: Setup and Jams
Thursday, September 13th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands (no cover)
Friday, September 14th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions
Saturday, September 15th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

For Information Contact: Lynn Holland @ 806-664-2259

## Photo Highlights from the August Festival

Come by and let us overwhelm you with hospitality and the sounds of Western Swing music . . . made in America!











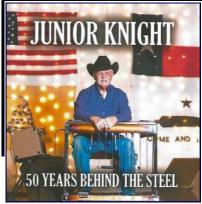








Hope to see everyone at the September Showcase. Save a smile for the camera!



Junior has just recorded a brand new CD of 14 instrumentals with the steel guitar in the spotlight. He can also be heard playing Dobro and both acoustic and lead guitar. He is also joined by Chip Bricker who plays piano, keyboard and bass guitar.

The album's first two cuts are gems from the library of Junior's former boss, Ray Price. They are April's Fool and Willie Nelson's Night Life. Junior also remembers another former boss of his, Wynn Stewart, with two album cuts from Wynn's book, Another Day Another Dollar and It's Such a Pretty World. His N' Hers is from both the pen and hit parade of Tony Douglas and Thank You for Touching My Life is also brought back from country

Then there are two Gary Stewart country memories, Empty Glass and the late Wayne Carson's Drinkin' Thing. Another memory brought back is radio personality Bill Mack's composition and recording Blue. Also given Junior's treatment are classics such as Patsy Montana's Cowboy Sweetheart, Bob Wills and Herb Remington's Boot Heel Drag, and Milk Cow Blues from the Kokomo

Album: Album Reviews Junior Knight. 50

Years Behind the Steel

**By Mike Gross** www.swinginwest.com Seymour, TX Artist: Junior Knight

**KSEY - FM** 

Arnold pen. A true gem is the Armed Services mailing address on Medley which pays tribute to the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. The album closes with Gospel Medley which is a compilation of I'll Fly Away, How Great Thou Art and Amazing Grace.

This CD can be obtained by mailing a check or money order to JUNIOR KNIGHT. PO BOX 471. Eustace, TX 75124 or PayPal juniorknight. The cost, \$18 includes S&H (in US.) Please provide

PayPal 'Notes' and which CD. There is a free autographed 8x10 pic if you want

one. Just give a name or special instructions.

Mike Gross. KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX

# Mike Gross

#### Mike's Top 10 for September 2018

- 1. Swing Time Baby Steel Horse Swing
- 2. King of the Blues Western Caravan
- 3. One Fiddle, Two Fiddles Bret Raper
- 4. Swing Me Back to Texas 3 Trails West
- 5. Crawfish and Cowboys Johnny Angel & Helldorado
- 6. Headed to the Barn Hot Texas Swing Band
- 7. A Two-Seated Saddle and a One-Gaited Horse -Abby Payne
- 8. Love Is Just a Two-Step Away Jean Stafford Australian)
- Texas When It Swings Terry Brown (THB)
- 10. Sweet Wyoming Home Many Strings & Co.

#### Albums:

1. Swing Time Baby - Steel Horse Swing

KTNK-AM, Lompoc, CA & www.swinginwest.com

- 2. Time Changes Everything Leon Rausch
- 3. Honky Tonk Western Caravan
- 4. Somewhere Near Austin Bret Raper
- Off the Beaten Trail Hot Texas Swing
- Taryn Noelle Swings Taryn Noelle (Airflyte)
- Big Hat, No Cattle Big Hat, No Cattle
- 8. I Hear You Talkin' Lake Travis Fiddlers
- 9. Kid Sister The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
- 10. Paul Schlesinger & His Knights of Western Swing - Paul Schlesinger & His Knights of Western Swing

#### **NWWSMS** Application for Membership

Date Rec'd:	Rec'd by:
NAME:ADDRESS:	
CITY:  STATE / ZIP:  PHONE:	PERFORMER □ VOCALIST □ BAND LEADER □  BAND: □
E-MAIL: I have enclosed an additi	nal \$ donation to the NWWSMS workshop/scholarship fund
PO Box 14003 MILL CREEK WA 98082  OCT TO SWING MILL CREEK WA 98082	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  Use the E-mail provided above to send newsletters and other NWWSMS news  Please have someone send me a paper newsletter  (Note: the NWWSMS does not mail out paper newsletters)  I'd be happy to print and mail extra newsletters to those without e-mail access  Please DO NOT include me in the Membership Roster.
Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com	THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



A belated report from the June, 2018 Rus **Davis Memorial Western Swing Workshops in** Weiser, Idaho.

Paul Anastasio

Point, Louisiana, and headed for Weiser. The plan was to the good work! dodge some of the south's summer heat, humidity and mosquitos, and maybe make a few bucks teaching along the way. After stops at the Truth or Consequences hot springs, a visit with Johnny Gimble's daughter Cyndy in Taos and a few days with fiddle repair ace Lisa Barrett in Montana, Claudia and I finally pulled into Weiser.

Armed with recordings and my trusty printer, I jumped into the first of the five days of workshops. As always, the focus was on the western swing music of Bob Wills, Milton Brown, Cliff Bruner and their cohorts. I was able to corral the great New Orleans guitarist and vocalist Albanie Falletta to assist me during the workshops.

We tackled a good assortment of tunes. Here are some of them: South, written by Kansas City bandleader Bennie Moton, and the tune Bob Wills reportedly played to begin all of his shows. Chinatown, a song that my good friend, the late fiddler Joe Holley, loved to sing in Bob's band. Avalon, an old Al Jolson favorite. Blue Bonnet Lane, the great Cindy Walker tune made famous by Bob. And, of course, many more.

I arranged most of these tunes for three fiddles in harmony, which of course led to discussions about the different ways in which harmonies can be stacked in western swing, old-time fiddle and big band music. We also discussed different ways to hold the bow and how to improvise over the basic chords to the tunes. Those who expressed an interest were sent pdf files of 500 hot licks that fit over a G chord. (I figure that'll keep



'em busy for a week or two...)

I also passed out (no, I didn't really pass out!) my everpopular handout, "20 Fiddle Mistakes to Avoid," and I assured the students that I had, in fact, made all of these mistakes myself at one time or another. After over fifty years of gigging, I've not only made lots of mistakes, but also amassed lots of road stories to keep everybody entertained.

I was pleasantly surprised by the number of students in the workshops. For the first day, I printed 15 copies of the handouts and needed 20. The second day, I printed 20 and needed 25. From then on it was a game of playing catch-up.

All in all, I was guite pleased with the way the workshops went. As always, I teach them as a labor of love for our late friend Rus Davis. Of course, the support of the Western Swing Claudia and I left in early June from our home in Church Society of the Northwest is always much appreciated. Keep up



On a sad note, we lost Johnny Gimble's guitarist brother Gene Gimble this past winter. Gene was 92, and in his last months he was mostly free of pain and in good spirits. Just a few months before he died, we had a big four-hour jam session near his home in Lindale, Texas.

This past summer in Weiser, with the help of Jimmy Matheson, Gene's old friend and the "Mayor of Stickerville," we put together a big musical send-off. Many of his friends played some of Gene's favorite tunes, told stories and related some of his really bad jokes. Gene's flutist daughter Linda spoke and thanked all of the Stickerville people for making her dad's last 25 years so very happy.

Musically Yours, -Paul



Follow the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest at www.wsmss.com

or on Facebook at: **Western Swing Music Society** of the Southwest

(Continued from page 7, 2018 Festival Highlights . . . )

After three days of music and workshops, we prepared the hall to celebrate the induction of this year's nominees into the Hall of Fame. Our inductees were escorted to the stage by the lovely Lori Hanson as Morey Sullivan read each biography. (For personal reasons, Sharyn Lee, an escort for many years was unable to attend the festival and was definitely missed. We are holding her in our prayers and hoping to see her and her band, The Sundowners, next year.)

To all of the musicians, thank you so much for playing and promoting this Western Swing Music that we love! Together we are keeping this music alive in the Northwest!!

#### Note....

Since summer wildfires and the smoke that comes with them seem to be a new normal in our part of the world,

again this year, at the time of our festival, most of the Pacific Northwest was hidden by a layer of smoke for the better part of the festival. Specifically, Mt. Rainier was once again, socked in.

However, this year again, on Saturday, it finally rained and cleared away all that smoke. Not only did it rain, it poured!!! We had so much water come down so fast, that the basement of the Field house flooded for a short while. We were all hustling



to make sure to get the jam room PA system and all of the instruments moved up off of the floor. The good news is that we all worked together and nothing got wet! The point to this little tale is that once again, for a brief period of time, after the clouds parted the next day, our guests could see our sentinel of the Northwest, the beautiful Mt. Rainier. As a longtime NW resident, I think that seeing that mountain is almost worth the price of admission all by itself.

Last year I wrote about a favorite Festival moment. This year, it was difficult to pick just one moment because there were so many.

Maybe for me it was watching all of our wonderful dancers while I was up singing with the band. There is almost

nothing as gratifying as having a full dance floor when you are part of the band making the music. Sometimes I get lost watching the dancers and can forget where I am in the song *(oops......)*. I love it when that happens. Maybe you feel it when you're on the dance floor . . . the power of music and dance.

We hope to see you at the September Showcase back at the Lynnwood Eagles on Sunday. It should be a good one!

#### 2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

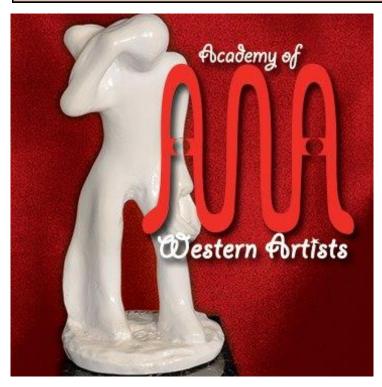
#### Sitting, back row, left to right

Edd Burnett for Mickey Stoddard, Paul Cooper, Terry Crouson for Michael Lee Crouson, Toby Hanson, JC McCormick, Duane Brown, John McClung

#### Sitting, front row, left to right

Denny Perrigoue, Lou Bischoff for Dr. Jean A. Boyd and Louise Rowe, Billy Champion for Billy Mata, Michael Daron Brown, Dewayne Bowman





The Academy of Western Artists is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Will Rogers Awards. The 23rd Annual AWA Awards will be held March 14, 2019, in the Brown Lupton Ballroom in Fort Worth, TX, on the campus of Texas Christian University, 2901 Stadium Drive, Ft. Worth, TX 76129. The event is open to the public.

You need not be a member to nominate someone. What we need is an email with the name of the artist and music, which should have been released in the last year. If it is an artist or craftsman, we need a resume and contact information.

Please send all information to the following: working\_cowboy@hotmail.com. Use the same email for any questions as well.

Check the nominations listed on the website at: <a href="http://awaawards.org/?p=899">http://awaawards.org/?p=899</a>. If you do not see your favorites listed, send them to working\_cowboy@hotmail.com (NOTE? only songs, albums, and artists can be submitted each year)

If you see a mistake, let us know. We simply post what is sent to us as we do not have the time or manpower to check out every submission. If you have any questions, go to the email address for more information.

Nobody with the AWA is a performer who has something to gain as in other award shows. There is no cost or membership involved in submitting. This award show is for the performers and artists; if you want it to succeed, support it.

#### Tickets:

\$75 per person or \$750 per table (seats 8 per table)

Dinner: 6 PM Award Show: 7:00 PM

The AWA is a non profit 501c3 organization. For information on sponsorships and program advertising, please contact working cowboy@hotmail.com.



#### **United Kingdom**

The Western Hour
Twang~Grass
The Country Connection
can heard streaming on the Home Page
of my website

http://www.grahamlees.co.uk/

#### A Change in Direction

from Graham

Dear Friends and Listeners,

At present my fitness and mobility is a problem for me. I think that my time on the radio is at an end...I can't sit at the desk for long as this causes problems with my lower back and mobility when I stand after sitting on an upright/hardback chair.

I started as a music journalist in 1993 and a radio presenter in 2001. This has all been on a voluntary basis and not as a paid occupation. My time working in these professions has been some of the best times of my life and I've met and interviewed many big named artists during those years as well as attending many shows and festivals both here in Britain and the USA.

My greatest thrills were to be voted DJ of The Year in 2016 by The Cowtown Society of Western Music, Texas and to be inducted into the NWWSMS Hall of Fame in 2017. Something I would not of imagined in my wildest dreams. Thank you all!!!

It is with regret that I've made this decision, but I now feel this is the right time to let go!!! It was my greatest pleasure to promote and draw fans here in the UK to western music through my radio shows by playing the many CDs regularly sent to me by western artists in the US and Canada.

(President's Note: Graham, you will always be a part of our western swing family, though your contributions take different shapes and forms. Please know that if you are inspired to write from time to time, you'll always have a voice and a place in our newsletter!

Hoping there are better days ahead for you and Marlene. JY)



Join the conversation on Facebook: Sacramento Western Swing Society



## WSS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The following persons have been designated for induction into the Western Swing Hall of Fame on October 7, 2018, in recognition of their contributions to the preservation of Western Swing Music.

Arron Smith John McClung
Beau Melgreen Judy Klotzer-Hayes
Buck Ford Paula C. Dula
Geoff Miller Randy "Tex" Hill
J.D. Barham Steve French
Jim Hollinger Tom Phelps



. . Oamaru Country on the New Zealand Country Music Radio Network . . www.nzcmr.com



#### September 2018 Playlist for "Wyn on Tuesday"

- 1. Bang Bang, Hot Texas Swing Band
- 2. Detour, Spade Cooley & His Orchestra
- 3. I Love You So Much It Hurts, Pap and the Sidemen
- 4. Cause I'm In Love, Carolina Cotton with Bob Wills
- 5. Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Hot Texas Swing Band
- 6. Down In Old Mexico Again, Chuck Cusimano
- 7. A Maiden's Prayer, Lost Weekend
- 8. Beautiful Texas, Al Dressen
- 9. Down Yonder, Johnny Gimble
- 10. End of the Line, Jason Roberts

Artists are welcome to send cds to: Wyn Machon 5 Lowther St. Oamaru 9400. New Zealand.

wynmachon39@gmail.com





#### September Playlist for "Skeebo's Line Shack Review"

We here at Pickin' On The Oldies want to thank all of our very loyal and "new" listeners to our internet station. One

thing we strive for is "Traditional Country and Western Swing," featuring the classic great artists and all of the upcoming new independent artists who are continuing "Dance Music." Gotta have fiddles, steel guitars, good lyrics and be danceable. Check us out. If you like us, please share with your friends who enjoy this music as well at <a href="https://www.sansabaradio.com">www.sansabaradio.com</a> 24/7- plus we've added old radio versions of Gunsmoke on Sat. morn at 7am ... and Sundays at 6am and 6pm.

Bobby Flores - Big Shoes
Jimmy Burson - You're From Texas
Bret Raper - Milk Cow Blues
Beats Walkin' - Old Fashioned Love
Chuck Cusimano - Stronger Than My Wine
Gary Ash - Ridin' This Barstool
Darrell McCall - Sally Bryson
Coby Carter - Back in the Swing of Things
Tony Harrison - Don't Be Ashamed of Your Age
Cathy Whitten - Crazy

Artists may send mp3 submissions to production@sansabaradio.com and personal messages to <a href="mailto:skeebo@sansabario.com">skeebo@sansabario.com</a>.

We are on Facebook as well... Pickin' On The Oldies. To listen go to our website <a href="https://www.sansabaradio.com">www.sansabaradio.com</a>

Held at the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack, 26225 US HWY 70, Ruidoso, New Mexico For information go to: <a href="https://www.cowboysymposium.org/">https://www.cowboysymposium.org/</a>





## BOB WILLS FIDDLE FESTIVAL AND CONTEST 2018 SCHEDULE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

#### FREE Bob Wills/Audie Murphy Heritage Exhibit

Texan Theater Lobby, 2712 Lee Street · Noon - 10:00pm

#### **FREE Bob Wills Fiddle Contest Preliminaries**

Texan Theater, 2712 Lee Street · 7:00pm - 10:00pm

#### TICKETED Big Ball in G-Town featuring The Jason Roberts Band

Emerald Ballroom, 2316 Johnson Street · 6:00pm – 8:30pm Cocktails 6:00pm Dinner 6:30pm Bob Wills Heritage Show 7:00pm

#### FREE Country & Western Dance featuring The Jason Roberts Band

Emerald Ballroom, 2316 Johnson Street · 9:00pm - 11:00pm

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

#### FREE Bob Wills Fiddle Contest

Texan Theater, 2712 Lee Street · 9:00am - 5:00pm

#### FREE Veteran's Day Parade

Lee Street in Downtown Greenville · 10:00am - 10:30am

#### FREE Bob Wills/Audie Murphy Heritage Exhibit

Texan Theater Lobby, 2712 Lee Street · Noon - 7:00pm

#### FREE Outdoor Stage Lee Street between Oak and Wesley Streets

Bob Wills' Texas Playboys with Jason Roberts, Noon – 1:20pm Hot Club of Cowtown, 1:40pm – 3:00pm Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys, 3:20pm – 4:40pm Presentation of Bob Wills Fiddle Contest Awards, 4:40pm – 5:00pm

#### TICKETED - Larry Gatlin & The Gatlin Brothers (tickets on sale Sept 3)

with special guests Bob Wills' Texas Playboys with Jason Roberts and Mandy Barnett Greenville Municipal Auditorium, 2821 Washington, Doors open at 6:30, Show starts at 7:30

Visit BOBWILLSFIDDLEFEST.COM for details.

Follow us: @DTGREENVILLETX Facebook: BOBWILLSFIDDLEFEST