



Meet the NW Western Swing Music Society's President for 2013 Lloyd Hooper

Lloyd Hooper was born on October 6, 1931, on a small farm near Rockport, WA. He began his 77-year singing career at the tender age of three, first on the top of a piano entertaining at card parties. From there it was community gatherings and later in a one-room schoolhouse.

In high school, Lloyd sang at school functions and after winning many talent shows and performing on radio station KBRC was asked to tour with Doc Allen and the Bar X Buckaroos. But, being only fourteen, he was deemed too young. After a nationwide tour, Doc Allen invited Lloyd to appear at the Palomar Theater in Seattle, where he was hosting Smiley Burnett.

During college at WWCE in Bellingham, Lloyd was honored to meet Hank Williams, Sr., at the Holiday Ballroom. In 1950, Lloyd won an all-college talent show, singing Eddy Arnold's *Molly Darling*. Here Lloyd first heard POWS member Evan Kemp on the radio. In 1952, Lloyd's career was interrupted by the US Army and 16 months in Korea, where he occasionally appeared with Dick Contino, famed accordionist of the era.

In 1961, Lloyd, along with LeRoy "Sonny" Brigge and the late Bud White, formed the Cascade Ramblers band. They played at the Holiday Ballroom, the Seven Cedars, and other local clubs for the next 12 years. During this time, they had several "Battle of the Bands" with the Evergreen Drifters, which featured current POWS members, Jimmy Webb and the late Marty Dahlgren.

In 1974, Lloyd rebuilt the Cascade Ramblers, using such musicians as Brian Hoyle, Bob Burgess, Larry Dee, Wimpy Jenkins and Doren Hensley. They played at the Castle Tavern as the house band for the next eight years.

Lloyd was inducted into the NW Western Swing Music Society's Pioneers of Western Swing in 2005. This was followed by his induction into the western swing societies of Sacramento and the Southwest in 2007.

Lloyd's music has always been Traditional Country and Western Swing. He is very proud of his current band which includes Bob Martin, Thom Gustafson and Peter Brown. It's a common misconception that no one wants to see or hear musicians on stage after the age of 40. The Cascade Ramblers - all over the age of 40 - are booked for 30 weekends in clubs in 2013! Be sure to support your local artists and the venues who still book live bands. Check out the Cascade Ramblers' current play dates and locations under *Here and There* on page 4 of this newsletter.



Lloyd Hooper
NWWSMS President

NOTICE TO CURRENT MEMBERS: YOU ARE ASKED TO REVIEW THE ENCLOSED REVISED BY-LAWS OF THE NW WESTERN SWING MUSIC SOCIETY. A VOTE WILL BE TAKEN TO ACCEPT THESE REVISIONS AT THE JANUARY SHOWCASE.



***Celebrate the New Year with us at the
Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, January 13
at the Lynnwood Eagles, Lynnwood, Washington***



19223 Hwy 99 - Three Blocks North of 196th Street on Hwy 99

WOOD DANCE FLOOR - NICE SEATING - FAMILIES WELCOME - FOOD AVAILABLE

LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING: 1:00 - 5:00

Featuring Dave DuChane & the Western Wranglers



Northwest Western Swing Music Society

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

2013 Officers and Board Members

President: Lloyd Hooper
12076 Cohoe Drive, Burlington, WA 98233
Phone: (Home) 360-757-0486; (Cell) 360-202-6930
Email: lloydhooper@live.com

Vice-Pres: Jerry Seitz
1090 SW Harper Road, Port Orchard, WA 98367
Phone: 360-895-0632
Email: jerryseitz@msm.com

Secretary: Alice Striegel
2708 Mission Beach Hts, Tulalip, WA 98271
Phone: 360-659-9713
Email: alicecedars@msn.com

Treasurer: Ramon Selby
703 Callahan Dr. #102, Bremerton, WA 98310
Phone: 360-731-3946
Email: ramonselby@gmail.com

Board Members: Lou Bischoff, Dave DuChane, LeRoy King, Patty McConnell, Jeanne Yearian.
Alternate: Bill Gates

Annual Membership:

\$20.00 Single
\$20.00 Couples (one address)
Newsletter Only: \$20.00

Business Address

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Visit us on the web at: www.NWWSMS.org
to read the newsletter in full color!

Contact the editor,
jeanneyearian@yahoo.com, to receive our
"early-bird edition" electronically.

PHOTO CREDITS: Showcase by Lou Bischoff. Thank you to all of our contributors!

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

DECEMBER 5, 2012



President Butch Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Lou Bischoff, Bill Gates, Butch Gibson, Lloyd Hooper, LeRoy King, Jerry Seitz, Ramon Selby, Alice Striegel.

Excused: Darrell Anderson, Vi Anderson, Darrell Haddock.

Guests: Ed Bischoff, Patty McConnell, Jeanne Yearian, Fred Yearian.

Treasurer: Ramon Selby provided copies of the financial report. Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept as presented.

Bills: Motion made, seconded and approved to reimburse Jeanne Yearian for costs in producing two monthly Newsletters.

Old Business: Updating of the revised Bylaws was presented by Jerry Seitz on behalf of the Bylaws Committee. There was discussion regarding the committees as outlined in the Bylaws. Motion made, seconded and approved to accept the changes. The entire Bylaws document will be published in the January 2013 Newsletter. The 2013 Hall of Fame contract with the Auburn Eagles will be printed by Marvin Little and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

New Business: Motion made, seconded and approved to donate to the "Wounded Warriors Project" in keeping with the NWWSMS status as a non-profit agency. Further donations will be solicited from those attending the December 2012 Showcase.

Showcases: There is a great need for more help to set up and take down the instruments from the stage, especially the drum sets. Butch Gibson will run the jams at the January and February Showcases in the absence of Patty McConnell who has been performing this function so well. Dave DuChane and The Western Wranglers will host the January 2013 Showcase. Sharyn Lee and The Sundowners will host the February Showcase. Patty McConnell and The Travelin' Four will host the March Showcase.

For The Good Of The Order: Jeanne Yearian as Newsletter Editor is such a professional and her efforts are so appreciated!

Matthew McCravey, the recipient of our Scholarship, has written an outstanding commentary in the December Newsletter, and we hope to see more of his talents along

(Minutes continued . . .)

those lines in the future.

Many thanks to Butch Gibson for leading the NWWSMS organization through the 2012 calendar year. Butch, please accept the gratitude of the membership and, especially, of the Board.

Motion passed to adjourn at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Striegel, Secretary

NOMINATIONS FOR INDUCTEES INTO THE 2013 NW WSMS HALL OF FAME

NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

– Those nominated to be inducted into the 2013 NW WSMS Hall of Fame must have had at least 25 years of Performing, Promoting or Preserving Western Swing Music, but do not have to be members of this or any other Western Swing Society.

– Those making nominations must be current members of the NW WSMS or have been previously inducted into the NW WSMS POWS/ Hall of Fame.

– Include a complete profile of the nominee along with your cover letter, to:

NWWSMS, Nominations Chairman
PO Box 14003
Mill Creek, WA 98082

– Deadline for receipt by the Society is April 15, 2013. Those selected will be notified by early May. A picture suitable for framing will be requested at that time.

– Next year's Hall of Fame will be held again at the Eagles Club in Auburn, WA, August 8-11, 2013.

Get a Head Start on Celebrating Valentine's Day

at the Lynnwood Eagles

19223 Hwy 99

(Three Blocks North of 196th Street)

The February 10, 2013
Western Swing Showcase
will feature

Sharyn Lee and
The Sundowners

Prez Sez-



By Lloyd Hooper

- Why did I take this job? After all, I just turned 81 (God and I invented dirt!!), I have a band that's booked for at least 30 weekends in 2013, and I've just been installed as an officer in the Sedro-Woolley American Legion.
- Why did I take this job? Because of the terrific members we have on our executive board, especially LeRoy King and Lou Bischoff, whose experience and dedication will make sure that things are done the right way.
- Why did I take this job? Because of our special friends who have passed on. Because of our memories of Marty Dahlgren, Dave Holter, Ray Shawley, Tom Rose, Stan Remick, Pat Goodbla, Lynn Ward, Gary Howe, and on this Christmas morning our dear friend J. C. Smith. And on and on. We cherish those memories.
- Why did I take this job? Because of the person who's reading this right now. I know this person loves Western Swing Music. Maybe it's someone who comes to just listen, maybe it's a performer who's "up next" on the bandstand, enjoying what he's hearing ~ or ~ maybe it's that long time Hall of Famer who will come to our showcases and show us what we've been missing.
- Why did I take this job? Because of that faithful dancer who shows up each month at our showcase, that person who dances every dance ~ never sits one out, who exhausts us just watching them!
- Why did I take this job? Because I love this music, that's why!!

Sunshine and Rain



BIRTHDAYS

Jan 2 Judy Collender
 Jan 2 Dave Oppelt
 Jan 2 Fred Yearian
 Jan 4 Gene Albright
 Jan 4 Gene Carter
 Jan 4 Butch Gibson
 Jan 5 Dee Heil
 Jan 6 Al DeLeon
 Jan 8 Jetta Riley
 Jan 10 Rod Rodriguez
 Jan 11 Lana Proskurnik
 Jan 11 Tony Zammataro
 Jan 12 Ray Price
 Jan 13 Leigha Howe
 Jan 14 Jack Wohl
 Jan 14 Roy Lee Ferguson
 Jan 15 Sharon Capps
 Jan 16 Virginia Dolle
 Jan 17 Tony Grasso
 Jan 17 Jim Hoffman
 Jan 19 Mike Faast
 Jan 19 LeRoy King
 Jan 20 Billy Briggs
 Jan 21 Norma Gilbert
 Jan 21 Elmer Tippe
 Jan 22 Pat Lowrey
 Jan 23 Ted Scanlon
 Jan 24 Dave Enslow
 Jan 24 Roy Rubin
 Jan 25 Eddie McAlvain
 Jan 25 Lou Bischoff

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 25 Lorraine Bowen
 Jan 26 Linda Hoffman
 Jan 26 Hubert Brown
 Jan 27 Johnny Jansen
 Jan 28 Sara Jane Masai
 Jan 29 Carmen Champion
 Jan 29 Tom Nelson

WITH BEST WISHES and PRAYERS

Diane Meeks	Rudy Alexander
Dick Sanderson	Darrell & Vi Anderson
Aloha Savage	Bob Woeck
Betty Reeves	Audry Clayton
Harry Coffman	Julie Martin (Mrs. Bob)
Chuck Woods	Carmen Champion
Darrell Haddock	

CONDOLENCES

To Roy Lee Brown, family and friends on the loss of his wife, Ellen.

To family and friends on the loss of Bryant Flowers.

To Ivan Wood, family and friends on the loss of his wife, Jinny.

To Sharon Smith, family and friends on the loss of her husband, JC.

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 2 Lew and Sharyn Packwood
 Jan. 22 Kenny and Pat Lowrey
 Jan 28 Les and Peggy Tucker
 Jan 31 Jody and Maida Meridith

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

Contact a member of the Board (see page 2) or the editor of the newsletter (see page 4).

Cherishing The Memories



J. C. Smith

Our dear friend and a well-known Northwest musician, J. C. Smith died on December 25, 2012.

J.C. learned to play his \$5.00 Stella guitar as his mother played the pump organ and as the family sang. Being self-taught, music by

ear became his expertise.

As he became well-known in the music scene, he traveled from Sammamish to Oregon, to Illinois, and back again to the Washington area. In Oregon, he played in a logging camp where all of the musicians were from Oklahoma. Bluegrass and Bob Wills music was the regular fare.

His first local paying job was at the Fall City Tavern, then on to the Snoqualmie area where he performed in a few local spots. Sultan followed and his band, Waterback, became well-known in the 1960s.

Joining the Renegades with Johnny Jansen, he became a Western Swing admirer. His Black Velvet band was featured at the Jet Deck in Everett for some time.

J.C. conducted jam sessions in several clubs, as well as joining Gerry Andal, Jim Neel and Johnny Jansen to entertain in rest homes and senior centers. He was a talented bass and dobro player, great band leader and chose to please the public wherever he entertained.

A great supporter of the NWWSMS over the years, he held various executive offices in the Society and was inducted into the NWWSMS Hall of Fame in 2011. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Sharon, and countless friends.

There will be a social gathering and jam session in J.C.'s honor at the Everett Eagles on Sunday, February 3, 2013, from 1 pm to 4 pm. The NWWSMS will provide a sound system for the event.



E. Bryant Flowers, 90, died Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012, in Amarillo.

Mr. Flowers was born Jan. 19, 1922, in Perryton. He was a veteran of the Army, serving at the end of World War II in the Pacific Theater. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1967. He was a member of Miami American Legion No. 106, Pampa Elks Lodge and Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest. Mr. Flowers was an avid collector and published the book "The Flowers Collection Avon Guide."

He was preceded in death by a brother, James Flowers; a grandson, Scott Flowers; and a nephew, Eldon Flowers.

The family suggests memorials be to Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest, P.O. Box 644, Shattuck, OK 73858; The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, IL 60614; or The Miami American Legion No. 106, P.O. Box 272, Miami, TX 79059.

It's Your Newsletter

Contributions of your news items, letters, pictures and advertisements to the **Western Swing Music Society News** are needed and encouraged. (Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of materials.)

Deadline for consideration is the 15th of the month, but sooner is better. Send to or e-mail:

Jeanne Yearian, Editor
21221 174th Ave SE
Renton, WA 98058-9740

Phone: 425-432-7888

Email: jeanneyearian@yahoo.com

Here and There

For upcoming appearances to be included in the newsletter, contact the editor. Play dates / times / locations must be received by the first of the month.

Dan Leal and the Hometown Band, at the Historic Everett Theatre, 2911 Colby. Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.hometownhootenanny.com

Lloyd Hooper and the Cascade Ramblers. January 18-19 & 25-26 at the Sedro-Woolley Legion from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm.

Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners.

Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.thesundownersband.com

Patty and the Travelin' Four. Will be on vacation until the first Wednesday in March. However, there will still be live music on Wednesdays, from 6-9 pm, Auburn, Eagles. Everyone welcome. Food available. For additional information, please call Patty: 425-255-3178.

Ken Fullerton and Country Fever. Auburn Eagles, every Monday, 6-9 pm. Dinner is available! Call 253-922-7888 or 253-380-2445 for information on additional play dates.

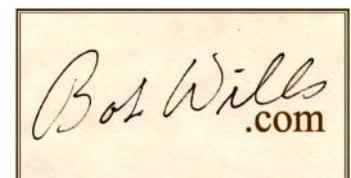
Wally Giffin, Black River Falls Band, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.blackriverfallsband.com

Nick Dumas, Northern Departure, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates and appearances: www.northerndeparture.com

Rick Jorgensen, The Dakota Territory Show, live webcast playing 78s from 1925-1965, on the 3rd Saturday of the month, from noon to 6 pm at: www.therightcountry.com

Dwight Adair, Listen every Monday for the newest Western Swing broadcast - or browse the archives of both current and past broadcasts at:

www.bobwills.com/BobWills/radio



By-Laws of the Northwest Western Swing Music Society

Article I

Section 1. The name of the Organization shall be NORTHWEST WESTERN SWING MUSIC SOCIETY.

Section 2. It shall be a NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, and no part of the net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any individual member. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all net earnings shall be donated to a welfare project or projects designated by the membership.

Section 3. Members may be compensated for services rendered to the organization, with approval of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

ARTICLE II OBJECT AND PURPOSE

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to encourage and foster the promotion and preservation of WESTERN SWING MUSIC, TO BROADEN THE KNOWLEDGE OF ITS MEMBERS TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO SUSTAINING A UNIQUE FORM OF MUSIC.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Active membership shall be granted to any person having submitted an application and annual dues.

Section 2. Charter Members are persons that have joined this organization during the First six months of its existence, and whose dues will remain the same throughout their membership.

Section 3. Advisory membership may be granted by the executive board to any person deemed necessary for outside consultation regarding legal advice or special projects.

Section 4. Membership dues shall cover a term of one year and may be renewed each year. Unless dues are paid within forty five (45) days of renewal date the member's name will be dropped from the active membership roll.

Section 5. Any member who has forfeited membership within the current fiscal year may be reinstated by payment of ALL INDEBTEDNESS to the organization.

Section 6. The amount of annual dues shall be established by the BOARD OF TRUSTEES and may be revised by the BOARD OF TRUSTEES at any time.

ARTICLE IV TRUSTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. These shall be the PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER and FIVE TRUSTEES.

Section 2. These Officers and Trustees shall be elected by the GENERAL MEMBERSHIP at the *ELECTION MEETING* to be held in November of each year with installation to be in January.

Section 3. The term of office of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be one (1) year. The term of office of the Board of Trustees shall be one (1) year.

Section 4. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS:

1. **President:** The President shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation, and subject to the control of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, The President shall supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the corporation. The President shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the members of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES. The President may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the corporation authorize by the Board of Trustees, papers, except in cases where signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, or by these By-Laws to some other officer or agent of the corporation, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and in general, the President shall perform all duties incidental to the office of the President and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the membership or by the Board of Trustees. The President shall ensure that a qualified attorney is available to the corporation for consultation in all legal matters. This attorney shall be an ADVISORY MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

2. **Vice-President:** The Vice-President shall act for the President in his/her absence and perform such other acts as the President may direct.

3. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the organization and serve as secretary of the Executive Board and keep minutes of its meetings. The Secretary shall give to the members whatever notices may be required by these By- laws, orders of the President, or the Executive Board, and carry on any other correspondence at the direction of the Executive Board.

4. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the organization, and as such shall receive all monies and disburse funds only upon sanction of the Executive Board or the Membership. The Treasurer shall submit a monthly report at each meeting and make a full, written audited report at the annual meeting of all receipts and disbursements during the preceding year. The Treasurer shall submit the books for auditing. The audit report may be made no later than 30 days following the Annual Meeting. The audit committee shall be responsible for corporate records and Corporate filing as required by **State Law**.

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

The President has the power to create and staff any of the following committees at his discretion:

Membership, Newsletter/Bulletin, Publicity/Public Relations, Refreshment, Programs/Special Projects, Hospitality/Activities, By-Laws, Budget/Audit.

Membership committee duties:

- Soliciting new members.
- Keeping records of all active or advisory members.
- Sending out renewal notices.
- Furnishing the board any information regarding members that may be required.

Newsletter/Bulletin committee duties:

- Edit and publish a monthly news letter to be issued to the members to advance the interest of the organization.
- The newsletter shall contain the notices of regular meetings of the organization.
- The committee shall be responsible for ADVERTISING in the newsletter.

Publicity/Public Relations committee duties:

- Maintain relations with the local press and other news media.
- Seek to promote the interest of the organization through the above channels.
- Submit news items and pictures of club activities.
- Foster and promote a Public Relations Program for local organizations.

Refreshments committee duties:

- Arrange for various refreshments and pot luck dinners at club functions.

Program/Special Project committee duties:

- Plan and arrange programs for club functions in cooperation with other committees to further the objectives of the organization.

Hospitality/Activities committee duties:

- Plan and execute means of making new members and guests WELCOME.

By-Laws committee duties:

- Consider any and all suggestions for amendment of the By-Laws, and submit for adoption such amendments as it deems advisable. Submit a revision.

Budget and Audit committee duties:

- Prepare an estimated budget of the operating expense for the ensuing year, the budget to be voted upon at the budget meeting. Examine and approve the budget of the treasurer, and make a written report to the President monthly. After the audit has been completed and accepted, the committee shall file necessary federal tax returns.

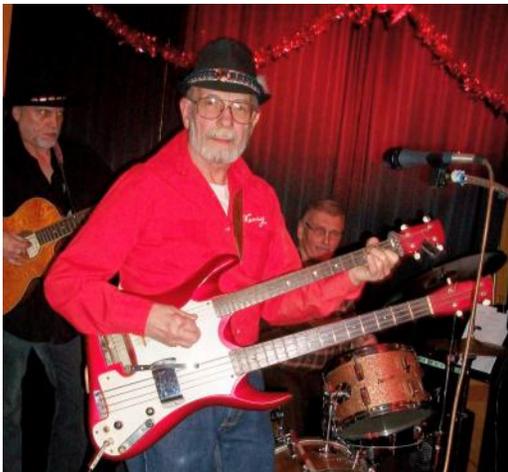
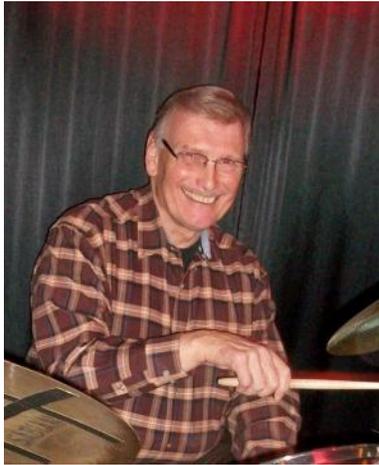
All Committees will make out a check requisition in duplicate and attach all receipts and submit these to the treasurer. Any monies must be given to the treasurer with a cash receipt (in duplicate) form. The Treasurer will return one copy of each form to the individual committee.

ARTICLE VI BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the general membership of the corporation present at a regular or special meeting thereof.

Highlights from the December Showcase.

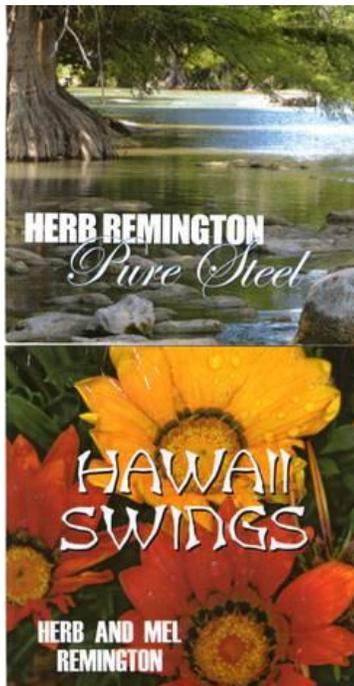
Come by and let us overwhelm you with hospitality and the sounds of Western Swing music . . . made in America!



Album Reviews:

By **Mike Gross**
www.swinginwest.com

KSEY - FM
 Seymour, TX



Album: Pure Steel
 Album: Hawaii Swings
 Artist: Herb Remington

Steel Guitar and Western Swing Hall of Fame Legend, Herb Remington, has just released two separate CDs of two of his long out of print LPs. *Pure Steel* is his 1973 Stoneway LP *Pure Remington Steel*. *Hawaii Swings* is his 1987 Ozan Music LP with the same title.

Both albums are comprised of 12 very enjoyable tunes with Herb and his steel in the spotlight. He is backed on the 1973 album by Loran Mitchell playing piano, Pete Scholz, bass, Dave Weinstein- drums, Danny Ross-guitar and the twin fiddles of two legendary musicians, Western Swing legends, Bob White and Clyde Brewer. The 1987 album has Herb playing both MCI pedal and Rickenbacher lap steels, rhythm guitar and ukulele. Herb's wife Mel Remington plays keyboard and bass and does vocals.

The 1973 album opens with Bert Kaempfert's pop standard *Spanish Eyes*. Other pop favorites included are the Al Hirt hit *Java*, Santo and Johnny's *Sleep Walk* and the theme from Dr. Zhivago, *Somewhere My Love*. From the big band of Glenn Miller Herb does *Elmer's Tune* and from the blues world is borrowed *Sugar Blues*. That album also

includes three of Herb's own compositions, *The Pookie* and the Western Swing standards *Remington Ride* from the Hank Penny band and *Boot Heel Drag* from the Bob Wills band. The remaining tunes in that album are the western swing classics *Under the Double Eagle* and *Roadside Rag* and the early Ray Price hit and music standard *Release Me*.

The 1987 album is all Hawaiian including three vocals with Mel in both the vocal and songwriting spotlight. They are *Muumuus are Great for Mamas*, *You Don't Have to be Hawaiian* and *Home Sweet Hawaii*. There is also *Hula Blues*, *Beautiful Kahana*, *Kaulana O Hilo Hanakahi*, *I'll Remember You*, *Royal Hawaiian Hotel* and Lee Stuart's *The Only Island in the Sea*. The remaining tunes are Lionel Newman's *Theme from Adventures in Paradise*, Loni McIntyre's pop standard, *The One Rose* and from the Don Ho songbook, *Tiny Bubbles*.

Each Album can be ordered from Herb Remington, 2102 Jean St., Houston, Texas 77023 for \$12 plus \$3 for S&H.

Mike Gross, KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX and www.swinginwest.com



PO Box 14003 MILL CREEK, WA 98082

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

— *Yearly Dues* —

Individual, \$20.00 Couple, \$20.00
(one address)
 Newsletter Only, \$20.00

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State / Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail Address _____

Performing Member Supporting Member

Instruments _____

Vocalist Band Leader

Send newsletter to my : e-mail mail -box

His Birthday _____ Her Birthday _____ Couple's Anniversary _____



Lou Bischoff

December 9 SHOWCASE

By Lou Bischoff

Butch Gibson and his "Pardners" opened the December showcase with Butch singing *Marshmallow World*, dedicated to his wife, Kelly. Butch was on bass. He was joined by Larry Broad on lead guitar, Jimmy Hollinger on drums and both Ramon Selby and Jeanne Yearian on fiddles.

Tables were decorated with candy canes donated by Vesta and Carl Neue. They are always contributing something to enhance our showcases. They also take care of split-the-pot duties.

Ramon is doing more vocals as we heard him sing *Shame, Shame on You*, adding his fiddler's touch to his songs along with the fiddle sounds of Jeanne Yearian, our Western Swing Sweetheart. Ramon's lovely Tomi joined us and enjoyed the vocals of her hubby, too. *Winter Wonderland* was done so well by Butch and Larry. It made me feel as though Christmas was on the way. Jeanne sang *Because of You*, beautifully done with help by Ramon's fiddle. Butch sang *Jingle Bell Rock*, which quickly filled the shoes with enthusiasm. Dance they did and Butch kept them on the floor by singing *Choo Choo Cha Boogie*, as only he can do. Larry sang *Miss Molly*, a lively Bob Wills tune.



Yearning and *Rose of Old Pawnee* were beautifully done by Butch and Ramon. It was very touching as they seemed to put their hearts into it - as though they really meant it. Ramon's very personal version of *Life's Been a Pleasure* stirred emotions as well.

Jan King kept up with the crowd as they entered to make sure everyone was offered a free ticket for a door prize. The winners had many prizes to choose from - all of them donated by our loyal members, Lew and Sharyn Lee Packwood. In case you were wondering, very nice Christmas tree decorations were wrapped in those surprise packages. You have our sincere thanks, Lew and Sharyn Lee.

At the December board meeting we discussed which charity we would like to help sponsor for Christmas. It was decided to contribute to the Wounded Warriors Project. Alice Striegel shared informational literature which held personal accounts of how the lives of those wounded on the battlefield and their families were helped by our gifts and donations. She wanted to make sure everyone understood the sole purpose of this charity, whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors by working to "foster the

most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded service members in our nation's history." We asked for donations with the understanding that the NWWSMS pledged to match the amount given. That we did. We received a generous amount from our dedicated members and guests and, on behalf of our veterans and the Wounded Warrior Project, we can't thank you enough.

It was so special to see so many faces from the past coming today to help celebrate the true meaning of the Holiday. Lynette Woerne visited again and enjoyed a dance or two, as did Judy LeBlanc and Nehemiah. Also surprising us were Dianne Meeks and Joe Kissell. Dianne is up and about now, after health issues that are not all solved yet.

Joining us for the jam were bass player Judy Hayes and Vern Ruthruff, who plays lead guitar and sings those Ray Price songs so perfectly. Special guests from Hood River, Oregon, were the McCravey family, Matthew along with his parents, Denise and Mike. So nice to see them again as Matthew showed us how *Draggin' the Bow* is done. What a fine young man! At 13 he's a real gem - so much talent. Playing twin fiddle and jamming with his instructor, Paul Anastasio, showcased the quality and depth of his instruction and ability. It's so gracious of Paul to share his expertise and musical perspective with students like Matthew. Matthew seems to absorb all of it and is so proud to be a part of Paul's fiddling career. And, it is obvious that Paul is very pleased with Matthew's progress.



(Above) Society Secretary Alice Striegel explaining the work of the NWWSMS chosen charity for 2012, the Wounded Warrior Project



(Continued on page 10)

(DECEMBER SHOWCASE, continued from page 9)

and she is the right person for the job! Judy Hayes was first up on bass, Paul Anastasio and Matthew McCravey on fiddles, Vern Ruthruff on lead guitar and Larry Turner on drums (he had such a good time last month he thought he'd try us again). Larry Broad and Jim Neel shared playing rhythm and lead guitar. Patty belted out *Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree* with Judy and Vern helping out. Judy LeBlanc sang the ever-loving tune *I Overlooked an Orchid*. My oh my, she does that so well. Sweet Pam Cole was

back again to favor us with *Wild Side of Life*. Stan Terrell followed, playing rhythm guitar and singing *The Cowboy Rides Away* and *The Fireman*. Jerry Seitz sang *White Christmas* and mentioned that he first sang that song when he was seven years old. You still have it, Jerry! Eddie Mauck now took over on drums. He and Jim Hollinger have similar drum methods so we can see they must have shared some similar experiences on that instrument. Jerry once again sang and fiddled his original arrangement of *Sierra Swing*, which, by the way, has climbed to the #2 spot on Mike Gross' song chart and had been in the Top 10 for several months! Congratulations, Jerry, for a song well done.

Time now for the cake cutting - Lou took charge of the knife and helpers were Ann Morgan, Gayle Vadar, Patty McConnell, Jeanne Yearian and Judy LeBlanc.

Patty McConnell was again in charge of the jam - it's a challenging responsibility

New member Margie Shatzke sang *I Can't Stop Loving You* as the couples cuddled a little closer. Gil Barbee changed sticks with Eddie Mauck and LeRoy King took over on bass, singing *Miles and Miles of Texas*, a Bob Wills favorite.

Four in the Morning was next as LeRoy calmed things down a bit. Maryanne Enslow sang *Abilene* in her smooth, gentle voice and hubby, Dave, came on with *Blue Christmas*. Great job! A homemade, double-necked guitar/bass was played by Kenny Helfenstein, who enjoyed lots of stage time during the jam and sang *Welcome to My World*, among other tunes.

We had the great pleasure of hearing Ramon Selby sing *Faded Love* with special twin fiddle accompaniment by

Paul Anastasio and Matthew McCravey. **WOW!** It doesn't get any better than that. If you left early, you missed an amazing part of our program.

Patty ended up on drums to finish out the day, with Kenny giving us his very best on that double-necked guitar. Thanks, Kenny. Do come join us again - and consider this an open invitation to all of the musicians who took part in our program today.

We thank all those who participated today and those who support all of our efforts to keep our Western Swing Society active in the northwest. Continue to support the preservation of this American musical style through attending the venues where bands who play this music are performing.

Thanks to all those who support our members with health issues. We do appreciate you. Thanks to the McCraveys for stopping by with Paul before starting the long trek back to Oregon. Thanks to the Lynnwood Eagles for taking such good care of us. Thanks to the Pardners Band and our President, Butch Gibson, for hosting the December showcase.

Stay well and God bless,
Lou

Butch Gibson and Pardners Showcase Band for December



Pictured above: (left to right) Jeanne Yearian, Ramon Selby, Butch Gibson, Jim Hollinger and Larry Broad

