



Volume 29, Issue 3

A News Letter For and About Our Members

Mar 2012

## Meet the NW Western Swing Music Society's Treasurer for 2012 Ramon Selby

I was born into a musical family in Casper, Wyoming in 1942. My father started playing for dances in 1932, when he was 12 years old. His mother and two brothers were musicians who traveled around the Sandhills of Nebraska by team and wagon with a pump organ and fiddle, playing dances that might last several days. My mother was a gymnast, dancer and singer. She took Hawaiian guitar lessons in the 30s from Jack Blakely, who had moved from Oklahoma to Casper to escape the Depression, but landed right in the middle of it. In 1950 he became my fiddle teacher. He was a multi-instrumentalist and had musical tastes ranging from old fiddle tunes and waltzes to popular swing music, jazz, Hawaiian, Western, Western Swing and Classical.

My parents were into all that (*except classical*) and after they were married played many dances and shows around Central Wyoming. There was always music in our home and I have recordings of family sessions from 1943 -1945, Mom playing piano and singing, Dad on guitar

and vocals, my aunt Bette on pump organ (*the same one that had traveled in the wagon*) and my Grandma harmonizing with my Dad on "Texas Plains," even though she suffered from Parkinson's. There were lots of jams the homes of friends as well. My sisters and I listened late into the night, even though we were supposed to be sleeping.

As we each started taking lessons from Jack, we got to take part in the jamming. In addition, Jack did the sound for bands that came to town, so we got to go see and hear fiddler Bob Simmons in a two-room schoolhouse on the Goose Egg Ranch. We saw Bob Wills' group at the Wagon Wheel Roller Rink in Mills, Wyoming about 1951 or '52.

In 1946 we started going to Southern California every year to see relatives and to see musicians we could not see in Wyoming. My parents got to be friends with The Sons of the Pioneers. We saw them at The Riverside Rancho in a two band dance and show with Tex Williams and Western Caravan that I will never forget. That was about 1952 or 1953. In 1952 the Pioneers played in Casper at the fair and rodeo and my family and I were invited back



**Ramon Selby**

behind the chutes to visit with all the Pioneers and watch the show from backstage. One day during the fair, fiddler Hugh Farr came over to our home and played with Dad and me. *(continued on page 6)*

**Showcase: Sunday, March 11 at Lynnwood Eagles**

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

*Wood Dance Floor – Nice Seating – Families Welcome – Food Available*

**Dancing: 1:00 – 5:00**

**Featuring "Eddie Fields and Cool River"**

*Celebrating the 107th birthday of the King of Western Swing, Bob Wills!*



## 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.

### 2012 Officers and Board Members

**President: Butch Gibson**

Address: 25146 238th Ave SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038

Phone: 253-632-8038

Email: butch\_kelly@comcast.net

**Vice-Pres: Vacant**

**Secretary: Alice Striegel**

2708 Mission Beach Hts, Tulalip, WA 98271

Phone: 360-659-9713

Email: alicecedars@msn.com

**Treasurer: Ramon Selby**

15508 Country Club Dr., A-18, Mill Creek, WA 98012

Phone: 360-731-3946

Email: ramonselby@gmail.com

**Board Members: Darrell Anderson, Vi Anderson, Lou Bischoff, Darrell Haddock, LeRoy King, Jerry Seitz.**

**Annual Membership:**

\$15.00 Single

\$20.00 Couple

Newsletter Only: \$10.00

**Business Address**

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Visit us on the web at: [www.NWWSMS.org](http://www.NWWSMS.org)

## Minutes from the Board

February 7, 2012



President Butch Gibson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

**Present:** Darrell Anderson, Vi Anderson, Lou Bischoff, Butch Gibson, LeRoy King, Jerry Seitz, Ramon Selby, Alice Striegel

**Guests:** Ed Bischoff, Fred Yearian, Jeanne Yearian

**Absent:** Darrell Haddock

**Treasurer:** Budget reports are not available at this time.

**Bills:** Accepted to pay.

**Old Business:** Bank account signature forms will be updated with US Bank via a letter to the bank signed by the newly authorized signatories. Treasurer, Ramon Selby, will take care of this with the bank.

Copies of NWWSMS Articles of Incorporation and of the 24-06 RCW's concerning corporations will be copied for the Board members.

**New Business:** None

**Hall of Fame:** Butch Gibson has contacted the hotels in the Auburn area and has been informed that their rates will be the same as last year (names and locations of these hotels are on page 8 of this newsletter).

Butch Gibson will be meeting with the Manager of the Auburn Eagles for signature-signing of our contract with them for the Hall of Fame dates.

Hall of Fame Chairperson Lou Bischoff has thirteen bands confirmed for participation.

Darrell Haddock will be the MC for the inductees.

Jeanne Yearian will assist Lou Bischoff with computer work for the Hall of Fame.

**For The Good Of The Order:** Bobby Davis' brother and sister have passed away. Pat McCann passed away.

Motion passed to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Striegel, Secretary

# NOMINATIONS for Inductees into the 2012 NW WSMS Hall of Fame

*Now Being Accepted!*

– Those nominated to be inducted into the 2012 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:

NW WSMS, Nominations Chairman  
PO Box 14003  
Mill Creek, WA 98082

– Deadline for receipt by the Society is April 15, 2012. Those selected will be notified by early May. A picture suitable for framing will be requested at that time.

– This year's Hall of Fame will be held again at the Eagles Club in Auburn, WA, August 9-12, 2012.

*Celebrate Spring  
at the April 8, 2012 Showcase  
at the Lynnwood Eagles*

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

featuring

*Patty McConnell  
and the Travelin' Four*

**PHOTO CREDITS** February Showcase photos by Lou Bischoff and Jeanne Yearian.  
Thanks to Ramon Selby for sharing photos from the family album!

## Prez Sez-

By Butch Gibson



Good March to you all.

I hope you enjoyed the February showcase, I thought Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners did a superb job. I especially enjoyed the fact that they concentrated on performing Western Swing Music.

We all like country music and along with the Blues and Jazz it's a vital part of Western Swing. So by all means mix it in, I am just thankful for all of you that remember this is a Western Swing Club.

This is a busy month what with Daylight savings time 3-11-12, Monthly Showcase 3-11-12, St. Patrick's Day 3-17-12, And, of course, the most important date of all BOB WILLS' birthday 3-6-12. This is Bob Wills' 107th birthday. Bob was born near Kosse, Texas, in 1905. Keep him in your heart - keep him in your soul - keep him in your swing.

'Till next month,  
Keep swingin'  
Butch



# Sunshine and Rain

## BIRTHDAYS

Mar 2 Tommy Howser  
Mar 3 Ray Poe  
Mar 4 Huck Fields  
Mar 5 Buddy Wilson  
Mar 7 Odis James  
Mar 7 Terry Carnes  
Mar 7 Judy Sevilles  
Mar 7 Lois O'Connor  
Mar 8 Dean Simmons  
Mar 9 Larry Broad  
Mar 11 Benny Cobb  
Mar 11 Don Creason  
Mar 12 Vesta Neue  
Mar 12 Ralph Clark  
Mar 14 Ray Jensen  
Mar 15 Bill Goins  
Mar 17 Mike Gross  
Mar 18 Billy Armstrong  
Mar 18 Bill Adams  
Mar 19 Debbie Dreyer  
Mar 21 Joe Meissner  
Mar 23 Jennie Quartuccio  
Mar 23 Billy Gilbert  
Mar 23 Kay Alexander  
Mar 23 Terisa Vannoy Draper  
Mar 24 Don Sallidin  
Mar 26 Bud Issacs  
Mar 27 Stan Rudd

## WITH BEST WISHES

### And PRAYERS

Lenora McCormick  
Walt Knutson  
Bob Woeck  
Chuck Robins  
Audry Clayton  
Ray and Beryl Shawley  
Julie Martin (Mrs. Bob)  
Dave Holter  
Ethel Rankin  
Cathy Anson (Lou's daughter)  
Cal Smith (Fronted w/E.T.)

## CONDOLENCES

To family and friends on the loss  
of Pat McCann.

To family and friends on the loss  
of Pat Goodbla.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Mar 17 Darrell and Lois Haddock  
Mar 21 Tommy and Vivian  
Howser

*Did we miss someone or  
do you know of someone who should be included in the next newsletter?*

*Please let us know.*

*Contact a member of the Board (see page 2) or  
the editor of the newsletter (see page 9).*



*(This note of thanks was received from Lou Bischoff and her daughter, Cathy Anson.)*

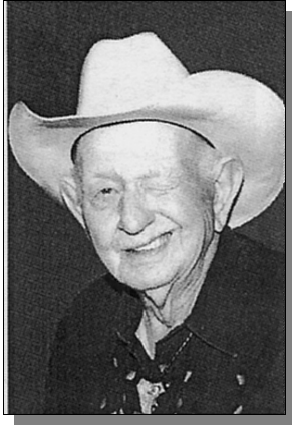
A heartfelt "thank you" to all for the precious cards, calls, and remembrances I received on my 82nd birthday. It means so much and is so thoughtful of you.

Also, my daughter, Cathy Anson, and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the prayers and cards we received during Cathy's illness. We do appreciate them and hope that the new/advanced treatment will help her lung and adrenal gland cancer.

We love and thank you,  
Lou and Cathy



## In Passing . . .

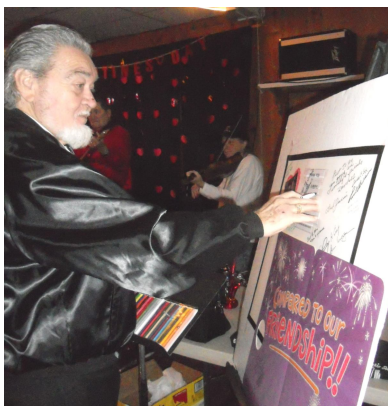


**Marion "Red" Richardson  
1925-2011**

(reprinted from the December, 2011, Western Swing Society Music News, Sacramento, CA)

Born on December 24, 1925, in Bishop, Kansas, Marion "Red" Richardson left us peacefully in his sleep on November 13, 2011.

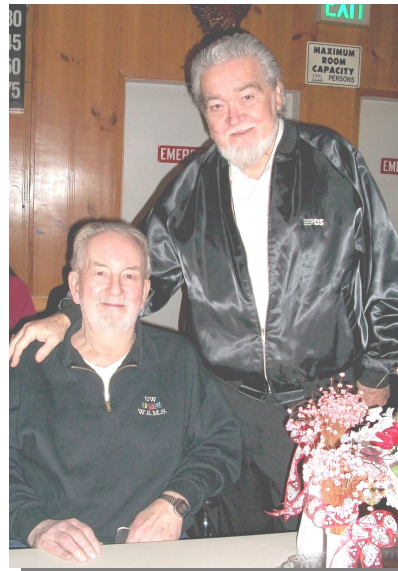
Wherever there was a need, that's where you would find Red Richardson. Whether it was sweeping the floor, spreading dance wax, or building a trailer, Red was the man for the job. He loved to dance, sing and write poetry. He performed at many of the local jam sessions, but especially loved Western Swing. He could be seen waving his hat to cool off hot musicians or dancers. He epitomized the volunteer spirit. Go in peace, Dear Friend.



## Until we meet again—



*Beryl Shawley, past president  
of the NWWSSMS*



*Ray Shawley (seated), past newsletter  
editor and board member of  
of the NWWSSMS  
with Darrell Haddock (above and to  
the left, leaving a note of thanks)*

How does someone find the right words to express appreciation for a couple who have done so much for this organization? We only hope they can read our hearts as well as our words.

## 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.

**Patty McConnell** and the *Travelin' Four*. Wednesdays in March from 6–9, Auburn, Eagles. Friday, March 23, Port Orchard Eagles, 8-12  
Patty 360-886-1998 / LeRoy 253-845-8359.

**Butch Gibson**, *Partners*, Jam Session, every 3rd Sunday, Buckley Eagles, 3:00.

**Wally Giffin**, *Black River Falls Band*, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates.

[www.blackriverfallsband.com](http://www.blackriverfallsband.com)

**Nick Dumas**, *Northern Departure*, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates and appearances:

[www.northerndeparture.com](http://www.northerndeparture.com)

**Rick Jorgensen**, *The Dakota Territory Show*, live webcast playing 78s from 1925-1965, on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays, from noon to 6 pm at:

[www.therightcountry.com](http://www.therightcountry.com)

**Dwight Adair**, Listen every Monday for Western Swing interviews—both current and past at:

[www.bobwills.com/BobWills/radio](http://www.bobwills.com/BobWills/radio)

## Receive the NW Western Swing Music Society's Newsletter Electronically

Now you can choose to receive the monthly newsletter electronically. To sign up, e-mail the editor at:

[jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com)

In the subject line simply type:

**e-newsletter request**

For verification, type your name as the message and hit **SEND!** The newsletter will be emailed as a PDF attachment to you at the same time it is mailed out. Once you have signed up for this option you will no longer receive a paper copy in the mail. However, you are able to print out your electronically received newsletter should you chose.

(Editor's Note: We want to express our congratulations to this fine group of musicians and songwriters. Gary and Vicki Campbell, Ronnie Elkins and Olen Dillingham were inducted into NW Western Swing Music Society's Hall of Fame in 2009.)

If you plan to travel south in April or are near Grass Valley, CA, be sure to add this event to your calendar: A Tribute to Bob Wills, presented by the Stardust Cowboys—see poster or website—[www.stardustcowboys.com](http://www.stardustcowboys.com)—for details.)

## STARDUST COWBOYS TAKE HOME THE TROPHY

Written by Meg Smith, Reporter for Georgetown Gazette

The Academy of Western Artists held their 16th Annual Will Rogers Cowboy Awards Show last Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Casa Manana Theater in Ft. Worth, Texas, and a locally known and loved band, the Stardust Cowboys, came home winners.

The AWA Art and Artisans Awardees are selected by the body of their work, not just a particular piece; their standing within their peer community by promoting their art and working with others to improve their art; and the quality of their work, with the long range goal of promoting the contemporary western movement.

The Stardust Cowboys, based out of Foresthill, Placer Co., won in the AWA Western Music Album category for their 2009 CD, "Ridin' Back to You." Entertaining audiences in Northern California for well over 25 years with their particular brand of originals and adaptations of traditional Western Swing, the band features four Western Swing Hall of Fame Honorees in its talented line-up of musicians.

Featuring guitar-picker, singer and songwriter, Gary Campbell; his beautiful wife, singer and songwriter, Vicki Campbell; Olen Dillingham and Ronnie Elkan, both on fiddle, mandolin and vocals; Paul Sutherland on pedal steel; drummer Ryan Goodpastor; Duncan Elledge on standup bass and Joe Lev on electric bass, the band gives thanks to the AWA for recognizing them, the DJs for playing their music, the fans for buying their CDs and booking them, and to the listeners requesting their music.

For information on the Stardust Cowboys, including their latest 14-tune release, "How the Cowboys Swung the West," like them on Facebook or find their links at [www.stardustcowboys.com](http://www.stardustcowboys.com).

Congratulations to this Nor-Cal band!

### OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS

**Canadian Western Swing Music Society.** Contact John York, 3565 Cambridge St., Vancouver, BC, Canada V5K 1M3. Phone 604-299-2301.

**Sacramento Western Swing Society.** PO Box 985, Sacramento, CA 95691. Music 1st Sunday of each month from 1-6 pm at the Machinist Hall, 2749 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova, CA. Phone 916-974-1236.

**Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest.** PO Box 22185, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. Contact Chuck Hayes at 918-683-3511 or Harry Coffman at 405-495-3166. Quarterly showcases featured. [www.wsmss.com](http://www.wsmss.com)

**Fresno Western Swing Society.** Contact Joe Sausage at 559-222-5095.

**Lincoln Western Music Roundup.** 661-6th Street, #24, Lincoln, CA 95648. Music 4th Saturday of each month, 12 noon to 5:00 pm at Stewart Hall, 6005 Camp Far West Road, Sheridan, CA. Ph: Georgia Fuentes, 916-645-8521.

**Greater Arizona Country/Western Swing Association and Hall of Fame Inc.** PO Box 953, Dewey, AZ 86326. Phone: Jim Gamble at 928-458-0714.

**Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame.** PO Box 1943, Manchaca, TX 78652. Al Dressen, president. Ph: (512) 295-2770.

**Cowtown Society of Western Music.** 575-808-4111. [www.cowtown-swm.org](http://www.cowtown-swm.org)

(Ramon Selby, continued from page 1)

It was a real thrill to show him what I had learned just listening to his records. One of my prized possessions is a snapshot of Hugh and me with my fiddle in our front yard. (Pictured to the left.)



From 1953 or '54 through 1960 our family had a five piece band that played many church dinners, fraternal organization meetings and PTA meetings sometimes two or three a week. The nights we did not play out we rehearsed and recorded. One Sunday a month Jack Blakely held a recital with all his students - guitar, fiddle, accordion, steel guitar, bass, 20 to 30 students all together. It was great practice playing with others, particularly for those who were not in bands and did not otherwise get to perform for audiences.

About 1955 I started playing with other bands, too, all over Central Wyoming - VFWs, Elks, Moose, Eagles, old-time rural schoolhouse dances, etc. with any group that needed a fiddle. By 1958 I had joined the American Federation of Musicians and was playing Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights plus Saturday nights on local television right after the Lawrence Welk Show. I made about fifty bucks a week - not bad for a high school kid in the fifties.

Gigs slowed down a lot after graduation. Guitar was hot; fiddle was not; and, besides, I wasn't afraid of girls anymore. Then college, marriage, kids and work made it more difficult to be in a full time band, so there were only the bar gigs. The fights and drunks

and smoking took all the fun out of it, so I more or less gave it up about 1964.

There were still the family jams. Hugh Farr moved to Casper and wound up living with my parents about 1966. I returned from college in California in 1968 and jammed quite a bit with Hugh and my folks, did some playing out with them and my sisters, but did not play much until 1993 when I started playing with the Washington Old Time Fiddlers and did a workshop with Paul Anastasio.

Since then, I have helped form and played with several groups: **Swing Easy**, **Moonglow**, and **Farr and Away**. I've also participated in lots of fiddle shows, nursing home and senior gigs, solo and group spots at Northwest Folklife and other festivals, farmer's markets, etc. and do some recording in Canada and Nevada.

These days the highlights of my month are Brad Hull and Doug Bright's swing jams, Phil and Vivian Williams' fiddle jams, swing and Gypsy jams with Peter Tilton and Loren Postma at the Gypsy Cafe on Wednesday nights. But most of all, I enjoy the 2nd Sunday Showcases and jams at the Lynnwood Eagles, the National Oldtime Fiddlers Contest and Festival in Weiser, Idaho, in June and, of course, our own Hall of Fame celebration in August!

I am truly at home with NWSMS!

Ramon



*The Selby Family appearing with Hugh Farr  
April, 1970, Casper, Wyoming.*

*Pictured from left to right: Roxie Selby Taylor, Ramon Selby,  
Mavis Selby, Hugh Farr, Rita Selby Bale, Harold Selby*



*Pictured above: Ramon at the 2006  
National Old Time Fiddlers Contest,  
Weiser, Idaho, where he was awarded  
the prize for Fanciest Fiddler.  
Harold Selby is providing rhythm.*

# Album Reviews:

By **Mike Gross**  
[www.swinginwest.com](http://www.swinginwest.com)

KSEY – FM  
 Seymour, TX

**Album:** In the Heart of Texas  
**Artist:** George Hamilton IV

Pop/country music legend George Hamilton IV has journeyed to Texas and again into the recording studio to record a new CD of 13 tunes of Texas oriented music, the sounds of Western Swing and Texas dance hall music. He sounds as good as, if not better, than when he was topping the charts in the 1950s and 1960's.

Behind George are so many first call musicians including steel guitarist Jim Loessberg, who is also the album drummer, Jake Hooker who plays bass and Reggie Rueffer who plays fiddle. Charlie Walton and the legendary Leon Rhodes are the lead guitarists, former Asleep at the Wheel member, Tim Alexander is the pianist and Randy Lindley plays rhythm guitar. Justin Trevino, Amber Digby, Diane McCall and Mona McCall are heard on harmony vocals.

The album opens with George doing a duet with the great Darrell McCall on the John D. Loudermilk composition and a former hit for George, *Abilene*. Other hits of George that are reprised are Bill Anderson's *To You and Yours*, Roy Drusky and Vic McAlpin's *Before This Day Ends* and another penned by Loudermilk, *Fort Worth, Dallas or Houston*. There is also *Oh So Many Years*, Mickey Newberry's *Poison Red Berries*, Michael Martin

Mike's Top 10 for March 2012

<p style="text-align: center;">Top 10 Songs:</p> <p>High Country- Billy Mata &amp; Texas Tradition                  Man in the Moon- Chuck Cusimano (Cusimusco)                  Easier to Know- The Stardust Cowboys                  How the Cowboys Swung the West- The Stardust Cowboys                  The Bronze Buckaroo- Red Hot Rhythm Rustlers (Musikode)                  There's a Gold Star in Her Window- Jean Prescott                  Everything is Bigger in Texas- Garry Ash                  It's a Good Day- Leon Rausch &amp; Asleep at the Wheel (Bismeaux)                  Look What Thoughts Will Do- Bobby Flores (Yellow Rose)Texas                  Swing/Sun Bonnet Sue/Sweet Jenny Lee- Ricky Boen                  &amp; Texas Mud (Westex)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Top 10 Albums:</p> <p>This is Tommy Duncan- Volume Two- Billy Mata &amp; Texas Tradition                  Bright Lights &amp; Country Music- Jody Nix (Hillside)                  The Western Swing Authority- The Western Swing Authority                  How the Cowboys Swung the West- The Stardust Cowboys                  I Wrote This- Chuck Cusimano (Cusimusco)                  It's a Good Day- Leon Rausch &amp; Asleep at the Wheel                  3 Trails West- 3 Trails West                  I Dreamed Count Basie Was a Cowboy- Don Burnham                  Straight From the Fridge- Stretch Dawson &amp; the Mending Hearts (UK Import)                  Breakin' Out- Red Hot Rhythm Rustlers (Musikode)</p>
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Murphey's *West Texas Highway* and, a true gem, Justin Trevino joining George on Ernest Tubbs' *There's a Little Bit of Everything in Texas*.

In 1964 George reprised Tell Fell's composition and hit of a decade earlier, *Truck Driving Man*. He now swings that one back again. Tony Booth joins George for a duet on Johnny Gimble and Bob Wills' *Somewhere South of San Antone* which Tagg Lambert sang on the 1967 Wills recording. The

three remaining album cuts are *More Out of Life*, Bill Mack's *Clinging to a Saving Hand* and the closing tune, Meredith Wilson's *May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You*.

The cost of this CD is \$13.95. You can order on line from [www.heartoftexascountry.com](http://www.heartoftexascountry.com) or by mail from HOT Records, 1701 South Bridge Street, Brady, Texas 76825. The phone number is (325) 597-1895.



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

— ( Yearly Dues ) —

Individual, \$15.00       Couple, \$20.00  
 Newsletter Only, \$10.00

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 \_\_\_\_\_

### Highlights from February's Showcase

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



*Save the dates and plan to attend!*  
 The Northwest Western Swing Music Society's  
 22nd Annual

## Western Swing Music Festival & "Hall of Fame"

August 9-12, 2012

At the Auburn Eagles Club - 702 'M' Street SE, Auburn, WA  
 With Its Beautiful, Big Dance Floor - Four Days of Great Music

### Special Note:

*Make your motel reservations as soon as possible!  
 The motels listed are expecting an unusually high volume of  
 business in August.*

*The motels below are available but you must call them directly!*

## Motels: Hall of Fame 2012

*-To receive special rates listed below mention Western Swing -*

### Best Western Peppertree

401 - 8th St SW, Auburn, WA  
 Phone: 253-887-7600

King Bed . . . . \$ 99.99  
 Double Queen . \$109.95

Amenities: Complimentary hot breakfast with waffles and egg souffle; indoor pool, spa, and fitness center; microwave and refrigerator; next to Longhorn BBQ Restaurant and Lounge; close to Super Mall Outlet Stores.

### Guest House Inn (formerly Val-U Inn Motel)

9 - 14th Ave NW, Auburn, WA  
 Phone: 253-735-9600

Singles . . . . . \$ 69.00  
 Doubles, Kings . \$ 79.00

Amenities: Complimentary breakfast with coffee, tea, muffins, juice, fresh fruit, cereal, sausages, biscuits with gravy; all rooms with cable TV, coffee maker, hair dryer, ironing board, microwave and refrigerator.

### Travelodge Suites

9 - 16th St NW, Auburn, WA  
 Phone: 253-833-7171

Single Queen . . \$ 65.00  
 Double Queen . \$ 75.00  
 Suite\* . . . . . \$ 85.00

*\*Includes refrigerator, microwave*

Amenities: Complimentary breakfast with coffee, tea, danish, muffins, toast, juice, fresh fruit, Belgian waffles, oatmeal and cereal; coffeemakers; hair dryers, cable TV.



## FEBRUARY 12 SHOWCASE

By Lou Bischoff

The February showcase was ignited with laughter, love and great swing music by the **Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners** band. Dressed in red, white and black, they looked as though they were headed for the Las Vegas strip. What a fine group of musicians, led by our "Valentine Sweetheart for the Day," Sharyn Lee, on vocals and rhythm guitar. Sharyn's hubby, Lew, added lead guitar and featured vocals. Harvey Nelson joined Lew on lead guitar. T.R. Manhart played drums and Pat Edwards swung out on that super steel, smiling like he had just won a million dollars. That smile would get the attention of any girl. Jerry Seitz was on fiddle and vocals, making his family very proud. They sat intently, watching Jerry play ever so smoothly. His vocals were attention-getting also. His version of *Pan Handle Rag* stopped the crowd to listen. Dave Wheeler not only played a fine bass, but his vocals were very stirring as with *Corrine Corrina*, which he dedicated to my hubby, Ed, and me. He has a strong voice with lots of character. His wife, Janis, surprised him with a quick entrance into the club, although she tried to sneak in so as not to distract him. It was so nice to see her once again.

Sharyn Lee was at her best as the Society's President, Butch Gibson, crowned her Sweetheart of the Day, with loud audience applause. She threw in a big band favorite, *All of Me*, and, of course, her signature song, *Bill Bailey*. As JC Smith would say, "That's her very best song." JC was later invited on stage to do *Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain*. He has made remarkable progress recovering from recent health issues. Wife, Sharon, loves to see him well enough to sing with the band. Dave Wheeler belted out *Across the Alley from the Alamo*, which always reminds us of Bill Brooker, who also sang it so well.

When Sharyn Lee sang her swing rendition of *Kansas City*, the whole place rocked. As she sang *All of Me*, which I mentioned earlier, most men on the floor beckoned to her with outstretched arms. Fun stuff!!!

Darrell Haddock was in charge of the jam session this month. Beautiful Shelly McNaughton, of the **Southern Comfort** band, was excellent on her *Still Waters*. What a lovely listening voice she has with personality plus. Jenó Burbank and Jim Neel played twin leads – this needs no comment – they are the best. Rus Davis lent his fiddle to the group, adding a fine flavor to the musical mix while Eddie Fields demonstrated his talent on the drums. LeRoy King sang *Four in the Morning*, his bass keeping a smooth, steady beat as waltzers jammed the dance floor. Judy Collender was quick on the keyboard as Leroy Brigge showed his versatility on the steel guitar. We all marveled at his talent. Leroy's wife, Topy, was seen smiling. We're so pleased to know her health issues have improved. They are a loving couple.

Special guests included Al Spurlock, who sang, *Don't Be Angry*. He is a long-time supporter of our western swing society. Good to see him again. Bass man, Dan Davis, gave us a strong voice on *Good Hearted Woman*. John and Christine Hall surprised us with their presence and John delighted us by playing his fine harmonica. Nice job, John.

Dave Enslow sang *Don't Worry 'Bout*



Front to back: Sharyn Lee (Sweetheart of the Day), Lew Packwood and Pat Edwards

*Me*. Mary Ann followed with *Jolene*. Nicer people you will never meet. I first saw Dave play in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena in 1960 – with the Huskies.



They played again and again in the 60's – The UW was a team to be reckoned with in those years and Dave was among that group of athletes.

Gil Barbee took over on drums as Dave DuChane exhibited his talent on the bass. Watch Dave sometime. No wonder he was on tour for 25 years, including Las Vegas.

And his voice makes it so easy to listen as he sings . . . to top it off, he is a super guy! How can one person be all that??? I don't understand it myself, but he is! Another new guest was Frank Howell, who sang *Forever and Ever* – beautiful!

(continued on page 10)

### 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:

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**FEBRUARY 12 SHOWCASE***(continued from page 9)*

Darrell Haddock demonstrated some fancy licks on his rhythm guitar as he sang *Muddy Water* and *The Other Woman*, harmonizing with Jenó Burbank on lead and Dave DuChane and Shelly McNaughton on vocals. By this time, Van Akker had replaced Gil on drums. Van is the regular drummer with Shelly's **Southern Comfort** band. Try and get out to see this group sometime. They play good stuff.

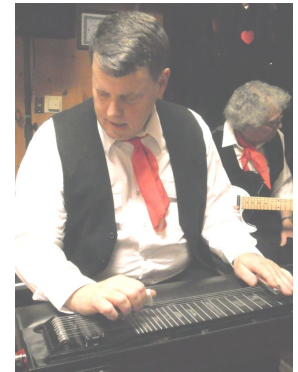
Many thanks go out to Darrell Haddock who took over the jam after Judy Collender started the jam list. Many, many door prizes were gifted by Sharyn Lee, so thoughtful – and appropriate for Valentine's Day. Door prize tickets were handled by the ever ready Vi Anderson.

Vi and a host of helpers, cut and served the beautiful cake, especially made for Beryl and Ray Shawley. This was the Shawleys' last showcase before their move to West Virginia to be closer to family. Their Western Swing friends were invited to sign a card on display during the showcase. At the end of the evening, the large card (along with an extra sheet provided for the overflow) was presented to the Shawleys, filled with the signatures and sentiments expressed from those present. Beryl and Ray, thanks again for all you have done for our western swing society over the years.

A full house helped make the musicians feel welcome and we do appreciate all they do to keep Western Swing music from being forgotten in the Northwest, by playing the tunes where people can hear this uniquely American musical style. Did you know these musicians share their talents and play the music for us with no pay or paid expenses? They do it for all of us with pride.

Split-the-Pot tickets were sold by our loyal supporters, Carl and Vesta Neue. Can't thank you both enough. You are always ready to step up. Alice Striegel, the Society's Secretary, was very busy with

## *Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners* *February's Showcase Band*



*Pictured top, left to right: Dave Wheeler, Harvey Nelson, Lew Packwood, Jerry Seitz  
Pictured bottom, left to right: T.R. Manhart, Sharyn Lee, Pat Edwards*

adding and updating memberships, sales and all. We appreciate her so much. We always appreciate those who take part in the Split-the-Pot and also those who contribute to the donations jar. Your continued support provides the financing to keep the Northwest Western Swing Music Society operational.

Glancing around the room, we saw Connie McNeelson back on her feet after some down time. Harley Cruzan is still in a boot, nursing that foot problem. Lovely Lynne Woerne was back again to visit and catch up! Had a nice chat with her. She is a sweetheart. Wow!! Also seen out and about was Earl Williamson after his hospital

stay.

To finish out the February showcase, Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners took the stage for their last set. Steel guitar player, Pat Edwards, blew us away again with his rendition of *Steel Guitar Rag*. Sharyn signed off with *Sugar Moon*. What a show! We can't thank them enough for making the trek up to Lynnwood from the southern part of the state.

Triple thanks and appreciation to Loren Brown, LeRoy King, Ed Bischoff and Dave Wheeler for setting up and tearing down the stage. By the way, Loren Brown needs a big hug for what he does for our society. He handles the lighting, prepares the hall for us and, in general, does it all. We love Loren!

We must thank our cook, servers, and others who make our day complete. They are all volunteers. They appreciate any tokens of thanks they receive.

Remember to include in your prayers all those who have issues.

God's blessings to you all with love . . . and thanks,

Lou



*An Important Reminder: Read this carefully, please.*

**DO NOT BLOCK** the kitchen door or pathway from the kitchen.

**DO NOT REMOVE** garbage cans or change tables.

The cooks and servers volunteer for this event. All they ask in return is that we keep their way accessible and as safe as possible so we can continue to enjoy their tasty food service.

*They appreciate our consideration  
and I thank you also.*