



Volume 30, Issue 2

A News Letter For and About Our Members

February 2013

Meet the NW Western Swing Music Society's Vice-President for 2013 Jerry Seitz

It was the fall of 1947, when I returned from a day at school, that I found a violin sitting in its case in my dad's easy chair. It was the last thing I ever expected to see there. I was told that I was going to take violin lessons; and, my grandmother had procured this instrument for me to use.

It seems an outfit had hit town, much like in the "Music Man," that famous musical. They were offering group violin lessons at various facilities around Seattle and the "hook" was that the best players were going to play a concert in the **HOLLYWOOD BOWL**. Within six months they had folded their tents and left town, but they left me hooked on music. The teachers they had hired were local chaps and the one for our group, Mr. Katz, approached a few of the parents and offered private lesson for something like \$1.00 an hour. This time I was asked if I wanted to continue and, of course, I was excited at the prospect. The next year I was in the orchestra at Magnolia grade school.

I took lessons from Mr. Katz for the next two years. Then, in 1949, my family moved to Richland. There wasn't much of a music program in the grade school but the following year, when I started Jr. High, the music program was **outstanding**. Our music teacher was Miss Huckstep and she did more to advance my interest in music than anyone else. I was in the orchestra as second chair, second violin for a year and a half. Then, we moved back to Seattle. The school in Seattle didn't have a music program for 8th graders so my mother got me an audition with the Seattle Junior Symphony. I didn't make the grade for the Junior Symphony but I did get into the Jr. Junior Symphony. The conductor, Mr. Roderick, told my mother that my fingers were a bit too big to play the violin and I would be better off playing the viola. Obviously, he needed a viola player. He would be willing to give me private viola lessons. I stayed with the Jr. Junior Symphony for the remainder of that year and, by the 9th grade, I was the only viola in the Junior High School Orchestra, which gave me a chance to play in a small chamber group the director, Mr. Libby, had formed outside of school activities. That ended my formal musical training for the time being.

In high school I became interested in jazz, but "everyone knows you can't play jazz on a violin," so I

(Continued on page 5)



Jerry Seitz
NWWSMS Vice-President



Bring Your Sweetheart Dancing at the



**Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, February 10
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 Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners



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
1021 SE Everett Mall Way, Unit D
Everett, WA 98208
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:
\$15.00 Single
\$20.00 Couples (one address)
Newsletter Only: \$15.00

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 and Jeanne Yearian. Thank you to all of our contributors!

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD JANUARY 8, 2013



President, Lloyd Hooper, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: Ramon Selby, Alice Striegel, Lloyd Hooper, Jerry Seitz, Lou Bischoff, Leroy King, Jeanne Yearian, Bill Gates.

Excused: Patty McConnell, Dave Duchane

Guests: Fred Yearian, Ed Bischoff, Jimmy and Lue Neel

Treasurer: Ramon Selby provided copies of the financial report. Motion made, seconded and approved to accept as presented. He reviewed our balance sheet and the items listed thereon.

Bills: Motion made, seconded and approved to pay as submitted.

Old Business: Our finances need to have a more consistent source of income.

New Business: A committee consisting of Ramon Selby, Lou Bischoff and Lloyd Hooper will arrange a meeting with the Everett Eagles' Board of Directors to discuss our financial situation. There is a need to increase the number of pages of the monthly Newsletter so that more information on other music organizations can be listed. Paid advertising would help with our Newsletter costs.

Membership Committee: Jerry Seitz has been appointed as Chair of this Committee. As members pay their dues, a letter will accompany the receipt and membership card enlisting members' assistance in spreading the word about needing their active support in keeping Western Swing "alive and well." Officers, Board members and band members are encouraged to mingle with the attendees at the Showcases; we need more active participation in NWWSMS.

Scholarship: There is a continuing need to add funds to this program.

Showcases: Lou Bischoff will continue selecting the host bands for the monthly Showcases. Lloyd Hooper will be in charge of volume control for the Showcases. Cakes will be provided only for special occasions, not for all the Showcases.

(Minutes continued . . .)

Hall of Fame: The Nominating Committee to review applications will consist of Leroy King, Lou Bischoff and Alice Striegel.

Motion passed to adjourn at 8:30 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 as well as a few historical photos (*if available*) 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.

*You're invited to our Annual Tribute
to the King of Western Swing*

Bob Wills' Birthday Party

at the Lynnwood Eagles

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

*The March 10, 2013
Western Swing Showcase
will feature*

*Patty McConnell and
The Travelin' Four*

Prez Sez-

By Lloyd Hooper



Wow!

The first month of 2013 is history. With the Executive Board in place, we're excited for our future.

I congratulate Dave DuChane and the Western Wranglers for their January showcase performance. They are such a well rehearsed group, with terrific stage presence. Maybe next time we'll hear Jimmy Neel and Geno Burbank's vocal arrangement of "Faded Love"?

As we get older, we, along with our friends, start to fall apart. So, here's some GOOD news.

We were excited to have a visit from Darrell Haddock. He has had a long, slow climb to recovery from his accident. His courage should inspire us all. Don't forget us, Darrell, because our prayers are not forgetting you.

We just received word that our friend, Darrell Anderson, has won his battle with leukemia. And I hear he's been back on the bandstand!! Darrell credits his faith and prayers, but I think he had a lot to do with his recovery. We're waiting, Darrell ~ we've missed you.

If you've not been to our showcases lately, come to our February showcase. Sharon Lee and the Sundowners will show you what you've been missing.

Time to get swingin'
Lloyd



To all of our Western Swing Family,

Darrell and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and thoughtfulness during this last year and a half. We are so pleased to announce that in January 2013, the doctors reported that Darrell is cancer-free! The leukemia is gone.

Days after he received the news, Darrell was back up on the bandstand at the Auburn Eagles to sing a few songs. The next week he took his fiddle with him. We're slowly readjusting to this new lease on life. We hope you'll join us in living each day to its fullest.

With sincere thanks to all,
Vi and Darrell Anderson



Sunshine and Rain



BIRTHDAYS

Feb 1 Laurie Haslund
Feb 2 Kenny Lowrey
Feb 2 Gary Sevilles
Feb 3 Neal Beechinor
Feb 5 Harry Warmack
Feb 7 Joyce Carter
Feb 7 Jim Neel
Feb 7 Speedy Price
Feb 8 Bobby Dixon
Feb 8 Chet Lacy
Feb 10 Sue MacAvoy
Feb 10 Shorty Joe Quartuccio
Feb 11 Pee Wee Whitewing
Feb 13 Michelle Ward
Feb 14 Lane Johnson
Feb 15 Alton Simpson
Feb 16 Sam Necochea
Feb 16 Gayle Vader
Feb 19 Billie Philly
Feb 19 Lou Rochelle
Feb 20 Ray Drake
Feb 23 Darrell Anderson
Feb 23 Nellie Jacobs
Feb 23 Bob Meeks
Feb 24 Laurie Ayres
Feb 24 Judy Beechinor
Feb 24 Ken Carter
Feb 25 Wanda Ramos-Love
Feb 27 Roy Lee Brown
Feb 27 Les Tucker
Feb 28 RB Snelson
Feb 28 Jeannie Wacker

WITH BEST WISHES and PRAYERS

Tippy (Iva) Brigge Patricia Stroud
Tommy Howser Cindy De Leon
Diane Meeks Rudy Alexander
Dick Sanderson Bob Woeck
Aloha McKenzie Audry Clayton
Betty Reeves Julie Martin (Mrs. Bob)
Harry Coffman Carmen Champion
Chuck Woods

CONDOLENCES

To Naomi Adams, family and friends on the loss of her husband, Bill.
To Bill Gates, family and friends on the loss of his brother-in-law.
To family and friends on the loss of Walt Knutson.
To Faye Woeck, family and friends on the loss of her sister.
To Bob Woeck, family and friends on the loss of his brother.

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 3 Don and Gerry Creason
Feb 4 Charlie and Jean McBay
Feb 5 Jack and Maxine Wohl
Feb 10 Ed and Lou Bischoff
Feb 14 Ken and Joyce Carter
Feb 27 Roy and Sally Rubin
Feb 28 Bill and Lola Scamahorn

*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



Bill Adams

Bill began to play the guitar by ear at the age of 14. His first job was playing at the local movie theater in Macon, Georgia, where they allowed local talent to put on a fifteen-minute show during the intermission between each movie. Soon after, the local radio station, WNEX, hired Bill to

play on their coast-to-coast mutual network program.

At the age of 18, when the Korean Conflict broke out, Bill joined the Air Force and continued his music, playing in the NCO as well as Officers clubs.

First stationed in Biloxi, MS, his next military assignment was in Wichita Falls, Texas. Here he met noted radio personality, Bill Mack, and joined his band, the Big Six Jamboree. While stationed in Texas, he also met and married his wife, Naomi.

Upon discharge, Bill and Naomi moved back to Georgia. He played for area events on the side while working a regular job for 27 years. When he retired from his day job, they returned to Nocona, Texas, and he got in touch with his friend, fiddle player Bobby Boatright. Bobby got him into a couple of things and Bill was soon in full swing again and enjoying every minute of it.

Over the years Bill worked in bands backing well-known performers, including Tex Ritter, "Smiley" Burnette, Hank Snow and Elvis Presley.

Bill has delighted thousands of people with his music and God-given talent and was installed into the Country Hall of Fame in Atlanta, Georgia in 1987. In 2003, he was inducted into the Western Swing Halls of Fame in Sacramento and the Northwest.

Bill and Naomi celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary December 6, 2012. Bill Adams passed away on January 13, 2013. Naomi and the family will appreciate your supportive cards and phone calls. Write or phone to:

387 Wolf Bend Rd.
Royston, Ga. 30662
The phone # is 706-245-2299

If no one answers, leave a callback message.



Memorial Planned in Honor of J.C. Smith February 17 Everett Eagles 1-4 pm

On Sunday, February 17th, there will be a gathering of friends, honoring our beloved JC Smith, at the Everett Eagles, from 1 to 4 PM.

Sharon has planned this as a social and informal jam. You are invited to bring your instrument and join in. The NWSMS will provide a sound system for the event.



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. February 15-16 & 22-23 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, call Patty: 425-255-3178.

Ken Fullerton and Country Fever. Auburn Eagles, every Monday, 6-9 pm. Dinner is available! First Fridays dinner/dance at the Black Diamond Eagles from 5 to 8. Call 253-922-7888 or 253-380-2445 for more information.

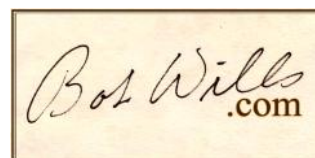
Wally Giffin, Black River Falls Band, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.blackriverfallsband.com

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



(Continued from page 1 . . . Jerry Seitz)

was just a listener. I messed about with bongos and a conga drum a bit after high school; then, I met my first wife whose family was very musical. She played the accordion; one of her brothers played the guitar; the other brother played the sax; her mother played the organ; and, her dad played the saw, the bones and the spoons. We jammed quite often when we got together and had a good time over the years. I took up the guitar in 1965, during the folk craze, and learned a few chords. I played strictly for my own amazement. I continued to mess around with the guitar as a closet guitar player until 1990.

In 1991, my present wife and I purchased the Pot Belly Deli in Port Orchard. There was a piano on the premises and the previous owner had live music on Saturday afternoon. We decided to keep up the tradition so we started booking musicians every week. They were mostly singer-songwriters. We would frequent establishments in the area hosting 'open mikes' to recruit musicians we thought our customers would enjoy. That's how we met Rob Folsom, a professional sound man and one of the founding fathers of Tacoma's Wintergrass festival. We went to the first Wintergrass in Tacoma in support of our friend Rob and that's when I found out that I was wrong, wrong, wrong about the fiddle. If Bluegrass is not a form of jazz I don't know what is. I WANTED TO PLAY. I found an ad in the "Victory Music Newsletter" that said "You too can play Old Time Fiddle. Patient teacher." I signed up with Stuart Williams and took lessons for about a year and a half, learning some old time fiddle tunes. I joined the Old Time Fiddlers in 1995 and started meeting others that I could jam with. That's where I met Ramon Selby. Ramon's playing really impressed me and inspired me to renew my lifelong interest in swing style music. The Old Time Fiddlers also gave me the opportunity to play at retirement and nursing homes and dances, where I honed my skills for playing on stage. I haven't stopped playing since!

I have attended the Old Time Fiddler Workshop in Kittitas every year since 2001, always taking the Western Swing Class - taught by Paul Elliott for five years and the other years by Paul Anastasio. Paul Anastasio and I have since become good friends and I'm afraid his influence has led me down the road of Western Swing never to return.

The first band I played in was **Abby and Friends**. From there I went to an ad-hoc group playing tunes from the 30's and 40's for a weekly dance at the Belfair Senior Center. The group was mostly old swing band musicians from "back in the day." They gave me no quarter and, as a result, I learned so much from them. That group evolved into **The**



Keystones, which reorganized several years later into **Past The Pull Date**. Over the last 10 years, most of the members have passed away and we now exist as **The New Texas Swingsters**. I also helped form a group playing Gypsy Jazz called **The Average Djoes**. We played together for about 2 years. At that time, I took some private instruction from Michael Gray, violinist for the gypsy jazz group, **Pearl Django**. I've also been playing for square dances and contra dances with **The Old Time Fiddlers District**

8 Dance Band since 2001.

In 2010, I ran into Lew and Sharyn Lee Packwood at an Old Time Fiddlers campout. After jamming with them a while, they invited me to join their Western Swing band, **The Sundowners**. They also introduced me to the Northwest Western Swing Music Society, which I joined on the spot in 2011. Since then, I have recorded one cd with the band, "*Swingin' On A Ridge*." Mike Gross, award-winning producer and host of the radio show and website, *Swingin' West*, reviewed the cd for the group (*editor's note: Mike's reviews are included as a monthly feature in this newsletter*). One cut that I happened to be featured in, *Sierra Swing*, written by Marvin Standaford, has made the charts of "Mike's Top 10 Picks" for the last six months. Amazed and delighted, we watched the song climb to the number 2 spot and hold that place for two months running!

I am proud to have been elected to the office of Vice President of the NWWSMS and to have the opportunity to play the music I love with some excellent musicians. I am having the time of my life!





OVER THE MOUNTAINS AND THROUGH THE SNOW WITH ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

By Shelley Elkan

(Editor's note: Shelley Elkan, a California native, has always been a huge fan of *Asleep At The Wheel* and, in 2008, 2009, and 2010; she and her husband, Ronnie, had the thrill of joining their friend's band, *Cousin Cricket*, to open for them when *Asleep At The Wheel* played in Nevada City and Grass Valley. Meeting and swapping stories with band members, Elizabeth McQueen, Jason Roberts, and Eddie Rivers established the relationship that led to the following story. Shelley's husband, Ronnie, is on the Board of the Western Swing Society of Sacramento. Both of these fine musicians have been inducted into the Hall of Fames for Sacramento and the Northwest. In addition, Ronnie and Shelley were inducted into the Hall of Honor at the Lincoln Western Music Roundup in 2007.)

In late November, Ronnie got a call from Jason Roberts, the fiddle player with 9x Grammy winning band, *Asleep at the Wheel*. Jason wanted to know if Ronnie would consider substituting for him on December 22nd in the South Shore room at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, for their 7:30 to 9:00 pm show. At first Ronnie said, "No, I couldn't possibly do that," but Jason said for him to think about it and he would touch back in a couple of days.



Ronnie Elkan & Jason Roberts

By December 5th the ball was rolling. Ronnie received downloads of 5 recent shows in MP3 format, 48 songs in all. He locked himself in his office with a set of headphones for 5 to 7 hours a day over the next 13 days and got all 48 songs in great shape.

On Friday, December 21st, Ronnie and I jumped in our Subaru Forrester and headed up to Tahoe in what was purported to be one of the worst winter storm weekends of the year. We sailed through all of the chain controls without ever having to chain up - but the rest of the band was not as fortunate.

Saturday, the big day arrived, with whiteout conditions on the pass and heavy snow falling at the hotel. Around noon, Ronnie got a text from the tour manager, "PJ" Herrington, stating that they had broken 2 sets of chains on the bus and the last set was wound around the axle. They were stuck on Echo Summit (pictured left) for five hours. They were finally able to get a snow plow to hook up and tow them - with their trailer full of equipment - down the grade into the Tahoe basin, where a large tow truck brought them the rest of the way into



Harrah's. Personally, I cannot imagine a snow plow, followed by a motor coach, towing a trailer of equipment coming down off that hill. The snow plow driver must have had nerves of steel!

At 3:30 pm the bus arrived at Harrah's. The road crew madly brought in equipment and set it up in record time and the musicians made a beeline to their rooms for a quick shower and a bite before Showtime. For Ronnie that meant . . . no sound check and no rehearsal.

The band was told to assemble around 6:30 pm. Elizabeth McQueen and her drummer husband, Dave Sanger, joined Ronnie in the Green Room and asked if he had been sent all of the Christmas music they would be playing that night . . . What?!?!?! They quickly scratched up a Christmas set list with keys and on stage they went!

The band members are such pros, you would have never known that they had been stuck all day in snowy chaos. Ray captured the audience with his normal superb showmanship and started the show off



Ray Benson and Ronnie Elkan

with about 8 great Christmas songs. As the show continued, they got around to about 5 to 7 of the songs Ronnie had studied. I think when Ray heard Ronnie kick off San Antonio Rose, it gave him the confidence to have Ronnie play Faded Love as the next song. I cannot tell you how proud I was when the audience gave Ronnie and Ray a standing ovation at the end of that beautiful arrangement! The band put on a rousing show and had the audience up and cheering for more at the end. Ronnie commented that he was deeply inspired, looking out and seeing the excitement and joy on all of the faces of those *Asleep at the Wheel* fans who so faithfully keep an enduring love of Western Swing music!

Ronnie and I both feel this was one of those "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunities and we are so thrilled that Jason called to ask if Ronnie would substitute for him so he could spend Christmas with his wife and young family. Ray, the band and staff could not have been nicer or more generous with their support on stage. We are blessed to have brushed shoulders with these legends who work so diligently to keep Western Swing music alive and well!





Billy Bowles

**Reporting On NIX '66
from the Legendary
STAMPEDE Dancehall
in Big Spring, Texas**

(Editor's note: The following article is reprinted from the January issue of the Western Swing Guild newsletter. Billy Bowles is an independent DJ out of Lubbock, Texas.)

Howdy Do Friends,

It officially and professionally began on November 11, 1946, at Yells Inn in Big Spring Texas. On that night, 66 years ago, a Texas musical legacy began: **Hoyle Nix and The West Texas Cowboys**. One has to wonder if Hoyle and his brother, Ben, could have imagined the popularity and following they would enjoy for the next 39 years. Soon they were in demand and getting bookings in Colorado City, Stanton, Midland, Snyder, Sweetwater, Abilene, Lubbock, San Angelo, and Brownfield, to name a few.

In 1949, Hoyle wrote and they recorded *Big Ball's in Cowtown* on Star Talent Records in Dallas, Texas. That song became a huge hit and an enduring standard recorded many, many times by entertainers such as Bob Wills, George Strait, Asleep At The Wheel, Don Waltzer, and the Hot Club of Cowtown. In 1954, Hoyle and his brother, Ben, built the now legendary Stampede dancehall, just outside Big Spring on the Snyder Highway. Just a few years ago, *Texas Monthly* magazine named it one of the "Top Ten Must See and Visit Texas Dance Halls."

Hoyle's first son, Larry, joined the band in 1957 on bass guitar and Hoyle's second son, Jody, joined the band at the tender age of eight in 1960 playing drums. Larry on bass guitar and Jody on drums is where both boys remained until Hoyle passed away in 1985. Just a few weeks prior to Hoyle's death, he received a standing ovation for his contributions to western swing music in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the 51st anniversary celebration of the Bob Wills Texas Playboys. The event was attended by thousands, myself included. I also attended his funeral in Big Spring, Texas.

In a recent phone interview I did with Jody Nix, he talked about how when he joined the West Texas Cowboys the schedule was Tuesday night in Brownfield, Wednesday night in San Angelo, Thursday night in Sweetwater, Friday Night in Abilene and every Saturday night at The Stampede in Big



Spring. At every show there was always a big crowd. As Jody said, they had a following like no other in West Texas. Over the years that changed some. When I first started going to Hoyle Nix's dances, it was on Tuesday night in Levelland and Thursday night in Lubbock. Later on it changed to Tuesday and Thursday nights in Lubbock at two different clubs. I was going to see them regularly, twice a week, and would often go to Big Spring on Saturday, making it three.

Many musicians have held titles of both Texas Playboy and West Texas Cowboy. Hoyle's hero was Bob Wills. Bob became very close friends with the Nix family. In the 50's and 60's both bands would tour together and hold what they called a 'Battle of the Bands.' Bob's last public appearance was in September 1973 at The Stampede. He was in a wheel chair and could not do much but Jody said you could not have put another body in that building. It would have exploded. People just wanted to see and be near the King of Western Swing. In December that same year, Bob recorded his last and one of his most historic albums ever produced. He brought back former members of the Texas Playboys to join him "For the Last Time." Bob wanted Hoyle Nix and that boy of his, Jody, to be on that album. Jody was 21 years old at the time. He sang three songs on the album. Bob went into a coma after day one of the recording but the band carried on and finished for him. Hoyle did the famous Bob Wills' Hollers.

It was Hoyle's wish for Jody to take over **The Texas Cowboys** upon his passing. Jody has done just that. The band became **Jody Nix and The Texas Cowboys**. Jody has carried on the music and Nix legacy in a manner that would make his daddy, his uncle and Bob Wills very proud indeed. As the song says, *He's Carrying On The Show*. Jody has won many awards, ALL very much deserved and, like his daddy and uncle before him, has a very large and devoted following and fan base.

(Continued on page 8)



Hoyle Nix and Bob Wills



(Continued from page 7) Sixteen years ago, when it was coming up on fifty years of music in the Nix Family, Jody decided it was time to do something to pay tribute to his daddy and uncle. He decided that every year on the second Saturday in November he would pay tribute. For the first several years he put together former members of The West Texas Cowboys to perform with him. And I am here to tell you they performed like they had never missed a night. It was amazing. But age and sickness caught up with them. Several passed away or simply could no longer play. So a few years back, Jody decided to bring in his good friend Bobby Flores and Bobby's wonderful **Yellow Rose Band**. Right from the first event sixteen years ago, people from throughout the USA have poured into Big Spring to honor and pay tribute to the Nix family. Every year it is standing room only; filling the local hotels and restaurants is also very good for the Big Spring economy.



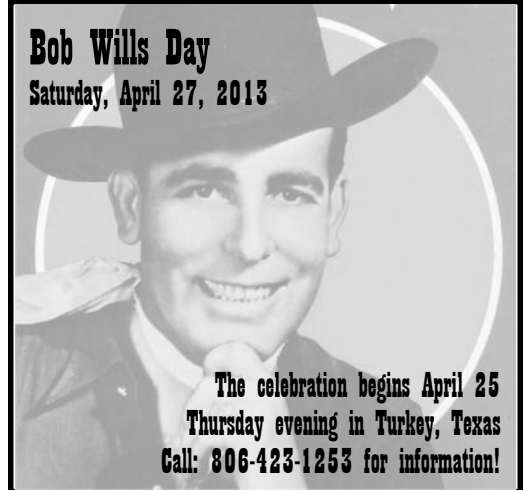
Jody's boys did a great job for **Nix '66**, and he was very happy that his brother, Larry, came out and sang with them. Bobby Flores and his band did a great job as well. There were people from

Colorado, Indiana, New Mexico, and all over Texas. They came from Midland, Stanton, Snyder, San Angelo, Lubbock, everywhere. It was a great night of memories and traditions. They will continue! I hope you will make plans to attend next year for Sixty-Seven Years of Nix Family Music. To learn more log on to www.jodynix.com.

Jody has a wonderful radio show on KBYG in Big Spring TX Called *Sunday Night Country*. You can listen live from 7 - 9:PM (CST) at www.kbygradio.com. There are also podcasts of his recent programs archived there to listen to 24/7. I am a Fan of *Sunday Night Country* and, if you listen, you will be as well.

If you would like to hear the interview I conducted with Jody on the recent **NIX '66** celebration, listen to my November 3rd radio broadcast posted on the Western Swing Guild Website www.westernswingguild.com. My November 10th program features an interview with Bobby Flores on the event.

Bob Wills Day
Saturday, April 27, 2013



The celebration begins April 25
Thursday evening in Turkey, Texas
Call: 806-423-1253 for information!

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. Quarterly showcases featured. 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.

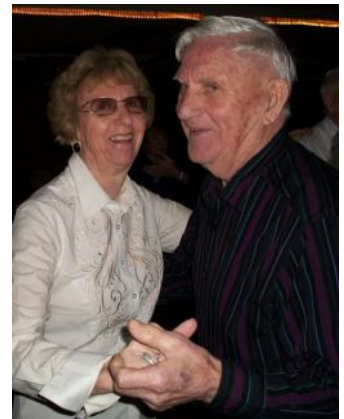
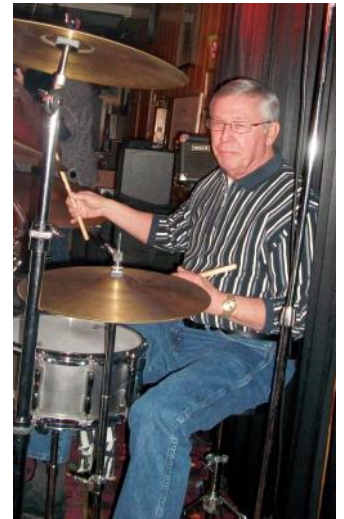
Greater Arizona Country/Western Swing Association and Hall of Fame Inc. PO Box 953, Dewey, AZ 86326.
Phone: Jim Gamble at 928-458-0714.

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. On-line search: [Facebook](#), [Cowtown Society of Western Music](#)

Highlights from the January Showcase

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





Mike Gross

Album Reviews:

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

Album: Be Right Back
 Artist: Chris O'Connell
 Label: Song



Former Asleep at the Wheel vocalist Chris O'Connell has now recorded her own 13 tune CD. This album was co-produced by Chris, former Asleep at the Wheel fiddle player Danny Levin and Don Margraf, who also plays acoustic and electric guitar on the album.

In addition to Danny and Don there are many musicians on this album which include many of western swing's finest. Danny, Paul Anastasio and Dennis Ludiker play fiddle on the album while the steel guitars are those of Bobby Black and Cindy Cashdollar. Cindy is also heard on Dobro. Among the many musicians, Junior Brown and Bill Kirchen are two of the electric guitarists. Another former member of Asleep at the Wheel, Tony Garnier, is one of the electric and acoustic bass players on the album.

The album opens with the blues sound of *A Little Mo' Love* and then Chris brings back Dave Barbour and Peggy Lee's *Everything is Movin' Too Fast*. Also included are Johnny Paycheck's *My Baby Don't Love Me Anymore* and another blues item, *Sufferin' With the Blues*. A true gem with huge hit potential is Chris' version of the traditional American melody, *Shenandoah*. There are also many other pop standards such as Rodgers and Hart's

Everything I've Got Belongs to You, from Broadway, Van Heusen and Sigman's *I Could Have Told You So* and Irving Berlin's *It'll Come to You*. Other pop music sounds are *(Marie's the Name) His Latest Flame* from Elvis and *When Love Was New*. The three remaining items are very interesting and enjoyable. Another Asleep at the Wheel alumnus, Leroy Preston, co-wrote *City Water*, Bill Kirchen wrote the swinging *One*

More Day and Bill's great recording of Blackie Farrell's *Skid Row in My Mind* is now reprised by Chris.

This CD can be obtained on line from www.cdbaby.com

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

Mike's Top 10 for February 2013

Songs:

1. Can't Get Enough of Texas - River Road Boys (Buzzard Roost)
2. Swing On - Carolyn Martin (Java Jive)
3. Time Changes Everything - Christina Mae
4. Texas Dance Hall - Hot Texas Swing Band
5. New Star Over Texas - The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
6. **Sierra Swing - Sharyn Lee & the Sundowners**
7. Funny It's Not Funny - Shoot Low Sheriff
8. Shenandoah - Christ O'Connell (Song)
9. Sunset Trail - Roger Smithy
10. I'm Just a Plain Old Country Boy - Billy Mata & Texas Tradition

Albums:

1. Can't Get Enough of Texas - River Road Boys
2. Tennessee Local - Carolyn Martin
3. The Time Jumpers - The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
4. Thursday Night Live at Broken Spoke - Tony Harrison
5. By Request - Billy Mata & Texas Tradition
6. Hot Texas Swing Band - Hot Texas Swing Band
7. Wanted in Texas - Shoot Low Sheriff
8. This is Tommy Duncan - Volume Two - Billy Mata & Texas Tradition
9. House of Wills - Will Taylor & Strings Attached
10. Brady Bowen - Vol. 9 - Tribute - Brady Bowen & Swing Country (West Texas Country)



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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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Performing Member Supporting Member

Instruments _____

Vocalist Band Leader

His Birthday _____ Her Birthday _____ Couple's Anniversary _____



Lou Bischoff

January 13 SHOWCASE

By Lou Bischoff

The January showcase featured Dave DuChane and the Western Wranglers. What an incredible way to start the New Year! The Wranglers waited to hit their first chord and begin the music until the tough, hard-fought football game ended between the Seattle Seahawks and the Atlanta Falcons. Although the Seahawks lost their slim lead in the last seconds of the game, the fans watching the game at the Lynnwood Eagles proudly cheered their team as though they had won! You bet we can be proud and the Seahawks' spirited fans testified to that.

Lloyd Hooper, the new President of the NWWSMS, introduced Dave and the Western Wranglers and they were off to a rousing start. *Take These Chains from My Heart* was sung by Dave on bass and vocals. Geno Burbank played lead guitar as Jim Neel, laid a solid foundation with his chording, on rhythm guitar. Shelley McNaughton, dressed so elegantly, looked lovely as she sang, *If You Loved Me Half As Much As I Loved You*. Shelley's vocals and

harmonies always add a spark to the music. Some of the fellas were so taken by her voice and words they stopped dancing for a second to take a good look.

Heart to Heart Talk was done next with Dave and Shelley being assisted on harmony by lead player, Geno Burbank. Van Akkar on drums, Ramon Selby on fiddle and our travelin' steel player, Wayne Franco, completed the band. Once again, Wayne gave us a day of fantastic steelin' and Ramon's smooth fiddling added such a nice touch to all the tunes. *Pride* was sung by Shelley as Dave stirred the dance floor again with *Heartaches by the Number*. The dancers go crazy over this tune. *Tennessee Waltz* crowded the floor again. Today, it seemed as though everyone just wanted to dance and, then, dance some more. We love to see that kind of enthusiasm and Shelley is one vocalist who can get them started. Shelley's *Jambalaya* is a favorite. She does it so well. Dave slowed things down with *Don't Be Angry*. The dancers love to cuddle on that one. To finish the set, Dave talked about the pride of country and our flag and the patriotism of those present. Then, in perfect, three-part harmony, Shelley, Dave and Geno sang the *Star-Spangled Banner* without accompaniment. Some tears followed as it was very touching.

Lloyd took a moment to announce the upcoming events in which our scholarship recipient, Matthew McCravey, will be performing and encouraged people to take part in supporting these events. Hope to see some of you at the Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering in Ellensburg, WA, where Matthew will open the Saturday evening show. The concert is scheduled for February 16, at 7 pm, at the Music Hall on the Central Washington University campus. Check the Spirit of the West website for additional details at <http://ellensburgcowboygathering.com/>.

Split-the-Pot was again handled by our loyal members, Carl and Vesta Neue, who never refuse to help. Jan King took care of door prize tickets and we appreciate her cheerful efforts also. Loren Brown is always eager to assist when asked. His welcoming smile and strong arms are often needed. We were so pleased to see Darrell Haddock and his wife come in and join us today! He is definitely on the Sunshine list this month.

Lloyd introduced Butch Gibson and, once again, thanked him for stepping up and taking the NWWSMS Presidency in 2012 and doing such a

great job. Butch stated he is willing to help in 2013 as well; so we will see more of him in the future!

Some fun was brought into the second set when Dave recited the actual words to the song, *Are You Lonesome Tonight?* – very humorous. Dave sang *Crazy Arms*, such a great dance number, followed by Shelley's rendition of *Blue Kentucky Girl*. Then Shelley belted out *My Window Faces the South*. The band is so well-rehearsed that everything performed is polished and marked with their standard of excellence. *From a Jack to a King*, by Dave, was followed by Ramon and his fiddle doing *Deep Water*. *All of Me* was done by the band with vocals. Dave, even sounding a bit like Willie, sang Willie Nelson's *Blue Eyes Cryin' in the Rain*. Shelley joined Dave for *Midnight Special*. Then, Geno got the twisters out on the floor. Fun to see that dance again. It changed the tone a bit, but the dancers enjoyed it. *Last Cheater's Waltz*, sung by Shelley, was a crowd pleaser and, of course, *Cherokee Maiden* is always a favorite. Thanks to the entire band for a great showcase!

After the showcase, as the stage was being reset for the jam session, a brief meeting of the NWWSMS members present took place. Members in good



(Continued on page 12)

*(JANUARY SHOWCASE,
continued from page 11)*

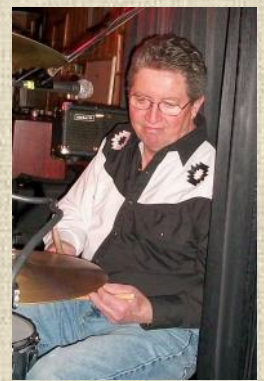
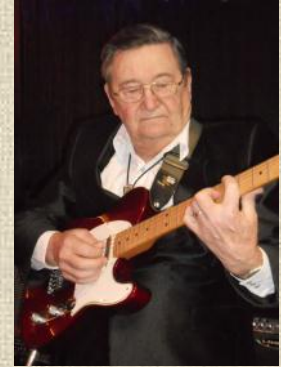
standing voted to accept or reject the proposed revision of the Society's Bylaws that was mailed out for review in the January newsletter. *(Editor's note: For those who may be unclear as to what their purpose is, the Bylaws are considered a legal document, the written rules that control the internal affairs of an organization. Bylaws generally define things like the group's official name, purpose, requirements for membership, officers' titles and responsibilities, how offices are to be assigned, how meetings should be conducted, and how often meetings will be held. Bylaws also govern the way the group must function as well as the roles and responsibilities of its officers.)* Lloyd requested a show of hands for the vote. The revised Bylaws were approved unanimously by the members. Now that the revised Bylaws have been adopted, the Society can proceed legally to use them as guidelines. Thanks to all who helped in this decision.

Jam time began with Larry Turner on the drums, Bill Scaly on keyboard, Jeanne Yearian, Paul Anastasio and Jerry Seitz on fiddles and Steve Carter on lead guitar. Butch took over on bass and vocals, as well as running the jam for the day.

Butch opened with *Have You Ever Been Lonely*. Sparkles were seen in the eyes of some of our available ladies. Jerry Seitz sang *I'm Satisfied with You*, also handling the fiddle breaks. Nice job! A request for *Maiden's Prayer* brought out the best in our fiddle trio. We love those fiddles! I especially enjoyed Bill Scaly on keyboard. He reminded me of my long-ago keyboard performances. Lloyd had a request to sing his song, *I'll Be Here*. Everyone loves it. Steve Carter went crazy on *Honky Tonk*. He certainly knows how to get the best out of that guitar. Freda Ewing was on drums now and



Dave DuChane and the Western Wranglers Showcase Band for January



Pictured above (left to right):

Top row: Ramon Selby, Dave DuChane, Jim Neel

Bottom row: Shelley Lee McNaughton, Wayne Franco, Geno Burbank, Van Akkar

that gave her a real workout. LeRoy King stepped up to sing *Four in the Morning*, one of our favorites. Then, with Ramon on fiddle, LeRoy and Ramon sang *Faded Love* as Dave DuChane joined in on the harmony. *Oklahoma Hills* got the crowd pumped up again, followed by LeRoy and Paul on *Among My Souvenirs*.

Eddie Fields took over on drums and Dave Enslow sang the lovely song, *Always*. Geno filled in on lead guitar as needed throughout the jam. Lloyd finished with *A Way to Survive*, a favorite of Lynn Ward's that always reminds us of how much we miss him.

Lloyd invited people in the crowd to join our Society and enjoy the benefits each month, which includes the monthly newsletter. We had the pleasure of welcoming Freda Ewing and Bill Scaly into our western swing family today! Please make them feel welcome.

Thank you, Dave, and your incredible band for such a great afternoon. Thanks, Butch, for handling the jam – well-done in Patty's absence. Thank you to the wait staff and cooks who take such good care of us here at the Lynnwood Eagles each month. You are wonderful.

Once again, remember our friends in need of prayer.

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness - all of your cards, consoling words and numerous acts of kindness – during my daughter, Cathy's, illness and after her death. They have meant so much and I appreciate your friendship as well.

Take care and God bless,
Lou