



Volume 30, Issue 3

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

March 2013

Ellensburg's 2013 Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering Delivers . . . A Western Swing-Filled Week-End

By Jeanne Yearian

The Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering is an annual three-day event staged in Ellensburg, Washington, over President's Day weekend. From its beginning in February of 2005, it was modeled after the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, and has ranked as the #2 Cowboy Gathering in the nation. (*Editor's note: True West magazine rated the Ellensburg Cowboy Gathering as #1 this year.*)

The event always brings some of the best traditional cowboy musicians, poets, and artists together along with a gear show, fiddle contest, workshops, and dances that incorporate the entire Historic Downtown Ellensburg as well as the Rodeo Grounds. What I wasn't prepared for was seeing **The Saddle Cats** and **The Quebe Sisters Band** *both* as headliners this year!

If you aren't familiar with **The Saddle Cats**, let me introduce them by way of sharing what just a few of their reviewers have said. First, here is what Charles Townsend, author of *San Antonio Rose*, the definitive biography of Bob Wills, had to say after listening to their first cd: "*This CD, Herdin' Cats, is first-rate Western Swing. Bob Wills would have loved it -- just as I do. It is pure Western Swing. No compromises.*" Next, our favorite western swing music critic/promoter, Mike Gross, reviewed that same cd and said, "*This very talented San Francisco Bay area group has just released their first full CD and it is simply **awesome.***"

The group states that their collective purpose is "*to celebrate the swing tradition of Bob Wills, Milton Brown and Spade Cooley with abandon, finesse and exuberant spirits.*" And, I would say they have achieved their goal!

The leader of this four-piece ensemble is the group's fiddle player, Richard Chon. Richard relocated (Continued on page 5)



Pictured above: *The Saddle Cats*
Left to right: *Bing Nathan, Bobby Black,*
Richard Chon and Gordon Clegg
(Photography by Scott Wall)

NOTICE OF MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE:

Effective May 1, 2013, a full membership (*one couple at one address*) will be \$25; the single membership will be \$20. The category "Newsletter Only" will be eliminated. NWWSMS charter members will not be assessed the increased amount.



You're Invited to the Annual **Bob Wills' Birthday Party**



Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, March 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 *Patty McConnell and The Travelin' Four*



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.

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Alternate: Bill Gates

Annual Membership:

Note changes in membership fees effective May 1, 2013, on page 1

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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 FEBRUARY 5, 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

Absent: Dave Duchane

Guests: Fred Yearian, Ed Bischoff

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: One bill for the audit charges for our insurance coverage presented but not paid pending further investigation by Ramon Selby.

Old Business: A response has been received from the "Wounded Warrior Project," thanking the Northwest Western Swing Music Society for its donation. (Donations were sought at the December 2012 Showcase.) Copies of this letter will be distributed at the February Showcase.

New Business: At the February 5, 2013, Board of Directors meeting, it was determined that it will be necessary to increase the amount of the membership dues. Effective May 1, 2013, a full membership (a couple at one address) will be \$25; the single membership will be \$20. The category "Newsletter Only" will be eliminated. Charter members will not be assessed the increased amount.

Newsletter: Approximately 50 NWWWSMS members (either dues-paying or members of the NWWWSMS Hall of Fame) are receiving the monthly Newsletter via email; approximately 180 dues-paying members are still receiving the Newsletter via Postal Service. Of the 50 mentioned above, approximately 20 Hall of Fame members are receiving the Newsletter gratis. Posting of the monthly Newsletter on the Website will be delayed one month.

Membership Committee: Five new members were enrolled in the NWWWSMS during the January Showcase. Keep up the good work!

Publicity Committee: A Chairperson is needed for this committee, preferably someone who has experience in publicizing organizations, to get the word out about NWWWSMS. Anyone interested should speak to President Lloyd Hooper or Vice President Jerry Seitz. Jeanne Yearian will investigate the cost of having business cards printed for the Board members to hand out to potential members.

Showcases: The host band for February will be Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners; they will use the NWWWSMS equipment.

(Minutes continued . . .)

All host bands need to play Western Swing music for the Showcases as promoting Western Swing music is what we are all about! Jammers are requested to prepare the same. There will be a Valentine's Day cake at the February Showcase; Lou Bischoff will see to that. As in the past, Lloyd Hooper will monitor the sound level of the music.

For the Good of the Order: On the "Sunshine and Rain" page of the monthly Newsletter, motion made, seconded and approved to discontinue the "Birthdays" and "Anniversaries" columns. "With Best Wishes and Prayers" and "Condolences" columns will continue.

Motion passed to adjourn at 8:45 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.

**Don't miss the next Showcase!
Mark your calendars now . . .**

at the Lynnwood Eagles

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

**The April 14, 2013
Western Swing
Showcase
will feature**

**Big Ed
and Steel Country**

Prez Sez-

By Lloyd Hooper



What a great showcase we had this past month! Our special thanks to Sharon Lee and The Sundowners, who always do a terrific job. We look forward to their return. Not only do our host bands seem to be on their game, I'm very impressed with the people who make up our "jammers." Of course, we can see and hear their talent, but we can't overlook their dedication and their co-operation to make sure each person gets a chance to perform. A big "Thank You" to our jammers! Also, a splendid job by a first-timer, Marcia Kester. Marcia, we hope you will not be a stranger. And, a special welcome to those who joined our Society.

Without question, the highlight of our showcase was the return to the stage of Darrell Haddock. His voice is as strong and true as we remember it. There, my friends, is an example of courage and prayers! Next comes the guitar. Right, Darrell?

We're making progress on our August Hall of Fame event. All information will be in next month's newsletter. Remember all resumes must be in our committee's hands by APRIL 15th!

Looking forward to our March showcase, featuring **Patty and The Travelin' Four**.

Time to get Swingin',
Lloyd



Dear Lou,

Here are fifteen of the last issue of the *Western Swing Journal* that I published. They are yours to pass out as you see fit.

I am very honored to be selected to be in the Northwest Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame. Thank you.

Lou, if you ever need research matter, just let me know. I may have the information or photos in my research files.

My best regards,

Jesse Austin Morris

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*. March 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* are back! Dance to their 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.

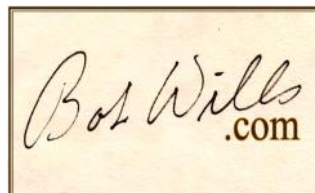
Wally Giffin, *Black River Falls Band*, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: www.blackriverfallsband.com

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



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Carnival
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Nov 2012

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Bob Wills Day
Saturday, April 27, 2013



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

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

Cherishing The Memories



Glynn Duncan

The Cowtown Society of Western Music wishes to express our deepest sympathy for the loss of Glynn Duncan, Texas Playboy on Thursday, February 21, 2013. Glynn was 92 years young and the younger brother of [the late] Tommy Duncan.

Like his brother, Tommy, he was an accomplished musician who played and sang with many, many bands over the years including the Texas Playboys. He passed away leaving his wife, Hazel, of more than 50 years and a host of family and friends. He resided in Hemet, California.

Glynn Duncan was inducted into the Western Swing Society of Sacramento in 1986 and into the NWWSMS' Pioneers of Western Swing in 1992.

On January 2, 2013, he was presented with the Legend of Western Swing Award from Cowtown Society of Western Music. He will be honored on May 4, 2013 at CSWM's 15th Annual Swing Fest for his exemplary lifetime accomplishments and his extraordinary contributions to Western Swing.

Cards and expressions of sympathy can be sent to:

Hazel Duncan
44782 Orpington Ave.
Hemet, CA. 92544-5539



Visit The "Western Swing Music Society of The Southwest's" Web Site:
www.WSMSS.com

Editor's Note: Tommy Duncan's 100th Birthday Celebration took place 01/15/2011. What follows are excerpts from the Whitney, Texas, newspaper, The Lakelander, which covered the event.

WHITNEY - Tommy Duncan fans packed The Forum in downtown Whitney Saturday night and proved that the trendsetting vocalist's brand of soulful western swing can still fill a dance floor.

The 100th birthday gala was scheduled to remember Duncan—the farm boy from Whitney who became known as "The Voice of Western Swing" as lead singer of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys—and recognize his contributions to western music. Duncan suffered a fatal heart attack in 1967. He would have turned 100 on January 11.

Award-winning western swing musicians—including Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition, Carolyn Martin, Dave Alexander and Floyd Domino—kept the crowd on their feet with performances of Tommy Duncan tunes. They had help from nine-year-old Colby Sheppard, who delighted the crowd with his performance of "Take Me Back To Tulsa" and other hits.

Radio personality Larry Scott and actor Guich Koock also spoke to the crowd and brought excitement to the celebration.

The star of the show was Glynn Duncan, Tommy's 89-year-old brother who made the trip from California with his wife, Hazel, and son, Larry, to attend the gala. Welcomed onstage by Billy Mata to speak to the crowd, Duncan declined and said, "I want to give people something they can dance to." Duncan, who was also a Texas Playboy, proved to be a natural at the mic and sang classic western swing tunes to the excited fans.



Glynn Duncan, former Texas Playboy and younger brother of Tommy Duncan, kept the crowd begging for more when he made his way to the microphone Saturday night. Duncan traveled back to his hometown of Whitney all the way from California to take part in the celebration honoring his brother's memory.

Sharing the Journey

WITH BEST WISHES and PRAYERS

Keith Holter	Cindy De Leon
Bob Cobb	Rudy Alexander
Topsy (Iva) Brigge	Bob Woeck
Tommy Howser	Audry Clayton
Diane Meeks	Julie Martin
Dick Sanderson	(Mrs. Bob)
Betty Reeves	Carmen
Harry Coffman	Champion

CONDOLENCES

To Hazel Duncan, family and friends on the loss of her husband, Glynn.
To Harold Christenson, family and friends on the loss of his wife, Elva.

An Invitation to members of our Western Swing Family

There will be a memorial open house for Elva Christenson from 2 - 5 pm, on Saturday, April 6. It will be held at the Northshore Senior Center's Wellness Center at:

10201 East Riverside Drive
Bothell

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

Contact a member of the Board (see page 2) or the editor of the newsletter (see page 3).

(Continued from page 1 . . . The Saddle Cats)

from the East Coast to California as a journalist. On the East Coast, Richard had worked in public radio as a classical music critic and still does some public radio work from time to time. Once he had relocated to the Central Valley of California, he soon realized the substantial contribution of California to country music.



Richard Chon

The Central Valley is a colony of Texas and Oklahoma. It's where all of the folks who had headed West during the dust bowl/depression era settled. There, at first, they ended up picking fruit or picking cotton in the fields. Richard's first exposure was in Bakersfield.

Although classically trained on the violin and then later a classical music critic, Richard was always interested in improvisation and jazz. That seemed to be the epitome of freedom, especially to the classically trained musician.

When he moved out to California, he found ready-made jazz for fiddle players . . . called Western Swing. It was really easy to make connections with the music. There is a wonderful vitality. Western Swing didn't make much sense to him in Buffalo, New York, but made total sense in California.

The Saddle Cats focus on the post-war string band music of Bob Wills that was preserved in the Tiffany Transcriptions (mid to late 1940s) – which was some of the best string band music ever recorded.

When introducing the band, Richard always makes it clear to the audience that the reason for **The Saddle Cats** is to showcase Bobby Black. Bobby Black, a “living legend” among steel guitar players, grew up in the beginning and saw the

end of the swing era. Bobby played in many of the battle dances against Bob Wills. After it all ended, Bobby and his brother, Larry, decided to go into country music. It was permissible to play swing tunes in a Honky Tonk once in a while. Then, Asleep At The Wheel came along and folks wondered if a revival was on its way. Bobby admits it hasn't come back to the original popularity and status it once held, but there has been a western swing revival of sorts.

Gordon Clegg, playing rhythm guitar and adding vocal harmonizing in the group, is also known as the clogging cowboy. But, he is quick to admit he doesn't play the guitar and dance at the same time. He took tap in college and, in the early 80s, segued into Appalachian clogging, later joining a professional dance troupe. Besides



Gordon Clegg

adding rhythmic energy and a comic touch to **The Saddle Cats**, Gordon also plays in a Cajun band.

Bass player, Bing Nathan, has played all kinds of music . . . including the community orchestra when he has the time. He enjoys soulful music. Besides **The Saddle Cats**, Bing plays in an old New Orleans style rhythm and blues band (Fats Domino type music).



Bing Nathan

Looking at the calendar of upcoming events on their website, www.saddlecats.com, I noticed they were playing at several cowboy gatherings and western heritage events this year. I asked Richard whether this seemed to be a trend for western swing and here was his response:

“As a matter of fact, Western Swing is alive and well in other parts of the country, particularly in Texas. We performed at a big Western Swing festival a few years back in Ruidoso, New Mexico, and there were quite a few bands from out that way. I can safely aver that Western Swing is not restricted to the Cowboy circuit and doesn't really rely on those audiences for its survival.”

“That's not to say that there aren't quite a few bands on the Cowboy circuit that play Western Swing --- ourselves, the Quebes and Hot Club [of Cowtown] being chief among them. But outside of that, Western Swing is very much alive in the Southwest (Texas and Oklahoma), where it has never fallen out of fashion.”

“What's particularly fascinating is that each band brings its own individual vision of what Western Swing sounds like to the table. Today there are an enormous number of very different-sounding bands that all claim to play Western Swing. That's the beauty of it. There's a common repertoire and definitely some stylistic touchstones, but no two Western Swing bands sound alike. The bands from Texas have a very loud, masculine Ray Price-influenced sound. Asleep at the Wheel is more blues and boogie-oriented. Hot Club's sound is very much the product of three strongly stylized individual players and is, therefore, unique.”

“**The Saddle Cats** draw from a lot of influences, including Tin Pan Alley and mainstream swing, though we love playing straight country and honky tonk as well. I would describe our music as having a chamber texture, very intimate and conversational. It's a combination of very unique factors, including Bobby Black's beautiful tone and conception blending with the timbres of the voice and fiddle and a really tight, propulsive, danceable rhythm section.”

“Even bands that have players in common can sound totally different from one another. The conception comes from the top, but it depends also on whether the individual players are playing together and serving the essential style of the music.”

If you haven't yet, take a listen to their first cd, *Herdin' Cats!*. Rumor has it that another cd is in the works and should be released soon . . . and I, for one, can't wait! JY

Me Again

*The life and times of
B.F. "Froggy" Worden*

Pay Back Time

Yesterday, I had an email from my editor, Jeanne Yearian. In it she asked if I would mind meeting a young man just turned thirteen (13). She included a web address that featured the young man playing with a real "Western Swing Band" for the first time. Young people this age can be one of two things...real good or real bad. This young man is real good! He played two songs on the You Tube Video, *Panhandle Rag and Draggin The Bow*. His name is Matthew McCravey, recipient of the NW Western Swing Music Society Scholarship for 2012. I don't know the amount but I just have the feeling it will be put to good use. I am not sure why he wanted to meet me and correspond via email. If he thinks I might teach him something, then it is the greatest compliment anyone can pay me.

This is the story of another one of those students, Bill McDavid. Bill is dead now but not a day passes I don't think of him and remember the sessions we had. He called one day, the first of October, 1994. He asked if I could teach him to play the guitar. He also wanted to know if I would loan him one of my guitars. I told him "Yes," I would show him some chords; and "No," that he would never learn unless he had his own instrument and I knew just the one he needed. (*I haunt Pawn Shops looking for musical instruments [guitars] and cameras.*) I had spotted a little 1966 Model Gibson L-1 priced at \$600.00. We went to the Pawn Shop and here I have to stop and add some personal history: Bill and I had both been in the automobile business and knew a little bit about bargaining. It took most of the day but we walked out of the shop with the guitar in a cheap cardboard case for \$300.00, tax, title and license! The clerk was sure glad to see us go. Next day we took the guitar to a luthier who did Gibson warranty work and had the bridge repaired and new strings for \$65.00. I think Bill was beginning to think guitar pickin' was expensive.

Then the lessons started. It took at least two days before Bill could play a G chord; the C and D were even harder for him to grasp and, two weeks later, the chords were still flat. He just



B.F. "Froggy" Worden

couldn't bend his fingers enough to make the chords. I had other fish to fry and gave him some chord sheets to study. I thought things were going well until the phone rang about midnight. It was Bill. He wanted to know if I could come to his house and tune his guitar. I had to think for a minute but then told him, "Just hold it up to the phone. I will tune it that way!" I talked him through the tuning and went back to sleep.

About a month later, Bill arrived with his guitar and said he had written a song. It was called, *The Drummer*. I thought it needed something and added a minor chord in the verse. I typed it up, sealed it in an envelope addressed to Bill and told him to never open it unless he thought someone had stolen his lyrics. (*Poor boy's copyright.*)

Next thing I know he is partners with Freddy Powers and wanted to know if I knew who he was. *Know who he was? Did I? Mr. Chord Master comes to mind.* He said Freddy was teaching him some more chords and I thought, "Power to you, Fred!!" Then Freddy recorded Bill's song, *The Drummer*, with Johnny Gimble on fiddle.

Bill and Willie Nelson are friends and, while visiting 'The Great One' on Maui, Bill asked Willie what he thought of the song. Well, Willie recorded it with his Family Band *plus* Johnny Gimble and used it as the title cut for a new CD. How about them apples?

A lady from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram newspaper wrote a nice long article about Bill and his career. It was a great article and the best part? He gave me credit for starting his career as a guitar player and song writer.

I like to consider myself an "Old Timer" so will close with this quote from a book called *Savvy Sayin's*:

*"An old timer is a man who's had a lot of interesting experiences
---- some of them true."*

Froggy Worden
Fort Worth, Texas



Bill McDavid & Freddy Powers



Freddy Powers and Bill McDavid answering the question, "Which one is Hammerhead?" in the studio, filming their Award-winning cable TV show, "Rogers and Hammerhead." 1997 - Foto by Froggy -

AWA AWARDS.ORG



Editor's Note: This additional information is from Bobby Newton, President of the AWA:

"These statues (pictured left) are exclusively made for the AWA Awards and all the work is custom, one of a kind by skilled artisans. They are available at no other location in the world and are not for sale to the public. As for the statue, it is a stylized (one of a kind) statue of Will Rogers from the Ziegfeld Follies pose. They are custom-made, pure white marble resin statues on an imported Italian marble base, with an antique bronze raised letter plaque."

The 17th Annual AWA (Academy of Western Artists) Awards ceremony was held on February 2, 2013, at the American Airlines Conference and Training Center in Dallas, Texas. In the Western world, the AWA is equal to the Academy Awards for independent artists and artisans.

The AWA is a very small group of dedicated members and supporters who work to bring more visibility to the contemporary western artists who are working to make their art better and to also bring in more new artisans who stretch the boundaries to new levels. The AWA is a non profit group.

The Academy of Western Artists "Will Rogers Cowboy Awards" came about in 1996, when western publisher, Bobby Newton, decided there needed to be some kind of recognition for the performers and artisans who were taking the contemporary cowboy and western movement to new and exciting heights.

The first awards were held in the ballroom of the Holiday Inn North in Fort Worth, Texas with a capacity crowd on hand. It has progressed, since then, to be considered one of the highest recognitions for western artists in the world.

There have been almost 500 winners in the many categories recognized by the AWA. Each year, some categories are added and some are deleted to meet the ever changing scene of the western contemporary arts.

Has the AWA had an impact on the state of western arts? Definitely Yes. The AWA, along with many other groups have moved western arts to much higher levels, which can be seen in the price of current makers' products, and more getting involved. It is a growth industry and will continue to do so for future generations.

The Academy is open to all people and groups wishing to join them in preserving and moving western arts to higher levels. The Cowboy is the most positive universal image



Alex Dormont giving his acceptance speech

projected to the world and is an almost universal sign of goodwill wherever it is seen. The AWA wants to ensure that image never dies but endures to an even higher level.

Through promoting media, festivals and other organizations interested in the western

movement, artists can now make a living through their art and gain more expertise, growing in those arts by learning from those who precede them.



Jessica Munn

How Award Recipients Are Selected

All of the nominees come from individuals, groups, anybody who feels that the recognition is deserved. All of the nominees are then passed on to blind juries of their peers who make the final selections through various methods.

**THE AWA'S
WESTERN SWING
AWARDS FOR 2012**

Western Swing Male-Alex Dormont

Western Swing Female-Naomi Emmerson

**Western Swing Duo/Group-
Great Recession Orchestra**

**Western Swing Album-Brady Bowen
"Tribute to Tom Morrell, Bob Boatright,
Leon Chambers"**

**Western Swing Song-Erik Swanson
"Big Texas"**

Instrumentalist-Jessica Munn





Dave DuChane

Directing Traffic

Tips for Jammers

It's easy to get lost on stage but, if you do, it's comforting to know that there's usually someone there directing traffic. This is especially helpful in situations where verbal instructions are not practical - for example, when stage volume may have crept above the level where you can hear unamplified voices.

At the last jam session, I watched as Paul Anastasio did his best to keep the jam band moving through the correct chord changes.

During a song, if Paul holds up his first finger, he's telling the musicians to go to the 1 (or root) chord. If he holds up all fingers, he's directing them to the 5 chord. So, we must all develop the ability to follow this direction regardless of the key we are playing in.



chart to the right).

A bass player who knows the chord progression can also lead a band through the correct changes by choosing bass

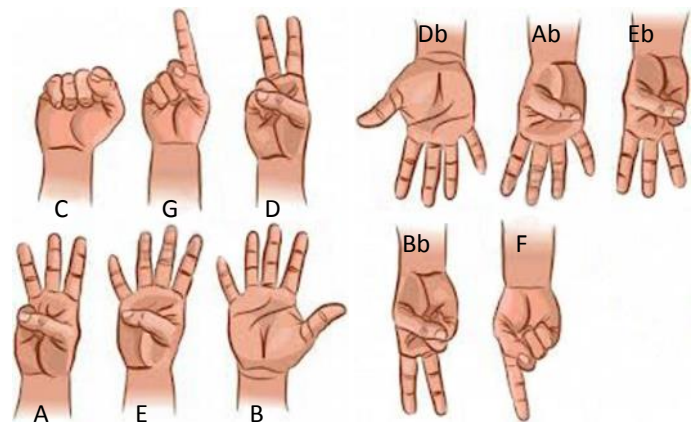


notes that lead the band to the next chord. In truth all instruments have the ability to lead when there is confusion. It's important that we listen closely and watch for anyone who can throw out directions using hand signs.

We're hopefully not up there to show off our licks. We're there to play TOGETHER and HAVE FUN.

Didn't catch the key of the next song?

Someone could give you the information using their hands. Here is what they would be saying. They would be noting the number of sharps or flats in the song. (*The position of the hand would be either straight up for sharps or the key of C- no sharps or flats - OR pointing down towards the ground to indicate the number of flats.*)



*Remember the primary goal of the jam:
Coming together to have fun playing, singing,
listening and dancing to Western Swing music!*

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.

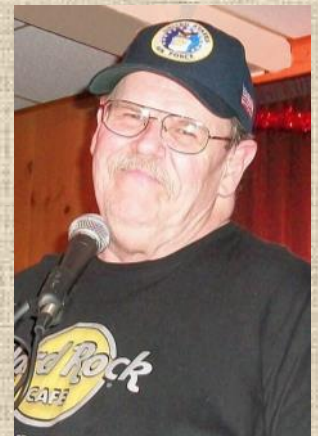
Greater Arizona Country/Western Swing Association and Hall of Fame Inc. PO Box 953, Dewey, AZ 86326.
Phone: Jim Gamble at 928-458-0714.

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

Cowtown Society of Western Music. Contact Joe Baker, CSWM Membership Director, at 940-452-6300.
On-line search: [Facebook](#), [Cowtown Society of Western Music](#)

Highlights from the February 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**

www.swinginwest.com

KSEY – FM
Seymour, TX

Wills library. They also reprise from Bob Wills *Faded Love*, Fred Rose's

Deep Water and Herb Remington's *Boot Heel Drag* on which Carco plays lap steel. Carco also plays lap steel and Doug plays pedal steel on *I Can't Help it* from the Hank Williams book and Santo and Johnny's old pop favorite *Sleep Walk*. They also bring back with two pedal steels, Tom Brumley's *Apple Jack*, Leon McAuliffe's *Panhandle Rag* and Bobby Garrett's

Album: Carco Clave with Doug Jernigan
Artist: Carco Clave and Doug Jernigan

Rose City Chimes. There is one steel, Carco's lap steel, playing marvelously on Durwood Haddock's *There She Goes* from the late Carl Smith and the 1950's and the pop favorite *Apache*. The album closes with Carco playing pedal steel on Howard Arlen's *Over the Rainbow* from Hollywood. This wonderful CD can be obtained from Carco Clave for \$15. You can e-mail him at carcoclave@comcast.net

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

This very enjoyable brand new CD of 12 tunes is the second duet album by these two legends of the steel guitar that both have played in the bands of some giants of western swing, western and country music.

Carco Clave is heard playing both pedal and lap steel, lead guitar and rhythm guitar. Doug Jernigan is heard playing his steel guitar along with Carco on 9 of the 12 tunes. Carco's lovely and talented wife, Renae Truex plays fiddle, Chuck Mead plays sock guitar and Martin Lynds is the album drummer.

The album opens with Carco and Doug bringing back Billy Bowman's *B.Bowman Hop* from the Bob



Mike's Top 10 for March 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. New Star Over Texas - The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
5. Texas Dance Hall - Hot Texas Swing Band
6. Funny It's Not Funny - Shoot Low Sheriff
7. Shenandoah - Christ O'Connell (Song)
8. **Sierra Swing - Sharyn Lee & the Sundowners**
9. Sunset Trail - Roger Smithey
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. The Time Jumpers - The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
3. Tennessee Local - Carolyn Martin
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. Songs From Beautiful Texas - Al Dressen's Super Swing Revue (Range Cube)
8. Wanted in Texas - Shoot Low Sheriff
9. This is Tommy Duncan - Volume Two - Billy Mata & Texas Tradition
10. Brady Bowen - Vol. 9 - Tribute - Brady Bowen & Swing Country (West Texas Country)



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Lou Bischoff

February 10 SHOWCASE

By Lou Bischoff

What a glorious Valentine's Day showcase! The hall was so appropriately decorated by the decorating committee for the Lynnwood Eagles! What a great atmosphere for Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners to host a down-to-earth, old-fashioned Valentine's Day party.

Looking special in their black and red attire, we enjoyed the vocals and rhythm of Sharyn Lee, herself, as she opened with *I Love You Because*, followed by *Deep Water*. It was such an exciting beginning to a wonderful day of western swing music.

Fiddle man, Jerry Seitz, sang his charted song, *Sierra Swing*. We are so proud of him, as his arrangement of *Sierra Swing* has made the Top 10 chart of Western Swing dee jay Mike Gross for the last eight months, holding the #2 spot for November and December of 2012! Backed by the Sundowners, Jerry has the dee jays buzzing.

Following Jerry was Sharyn Lee with *Keeper of My Heart*. What a sweet song that is for Valentine's Day. Bass player, Dave Wheeler, dedicated the song, *Old Flames*, especially to the memory of J.C. Smith. The dedication was so very touching. Talented lead player, Lew Packwood, sat and played that guitar like no other. He chose not to do vocals that day as his voice was still recovering from not feeling up to par.



What a joy to see our rhythm player and vocalist, Darrell Haddock, walk in with lovely wife, Lois. And, Rus Davis was out once again after he beat off a very tenacious "bug." They were both looking so well.

Sharyn Lee soothed us with *My Adobe Hacienda*, then stirred things up with *Move It On Over*. The band quickly made that change. Jerry touched us with *Old Fashioned Love* and *All of Me*, with the help of Pat Edwards, their steel man. Dave and Sharyn Lee sang *Kansas City*, always a good one to move the dancers, followed by Jerry on *Panhandle Rag*.

Our dear lady Lynette Woerne comes from Seattle monthly to hear our western swing. She loves the music. Dave came through with *Ain't Love A Lot Like That*. Sweet wife, Janis, sat and smiled with admiration. *Blue Kentucky Waltz* was sung by Sharyn Lee as the dancers filled the floor.

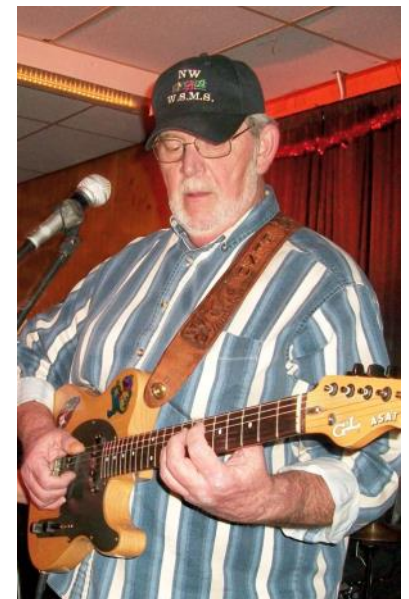
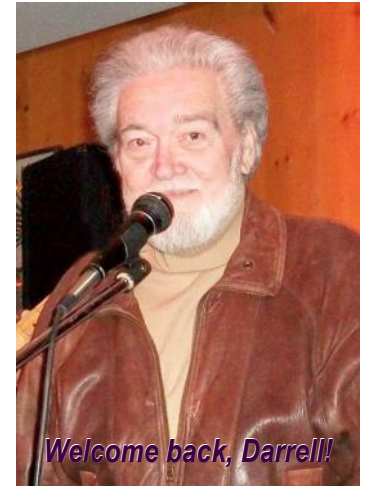
We had a huge crowd for this showcase and they love to dance. That's what western swing music is all about. There were several dancers new to our showcase as well. Perhaps we'll see them in March again for our Bob Wills' Birthday Bash with **Patty and the Travelin' Four**. TR, otherwise known as Tom Manhart, kept a good, solid beat on those drums, as sweet Yvonne looked on with a wide grin. We must give these spouses and significant others great praise for their patience and understanding while their guys and gals do what they love best. Once again seen dancing was Jerry Seitz with wife, Barbara.

Their two daughters joined them on the dance floor. Thanks to all of you!

Jam time began with our bass player/vocalist, Dave DuChane, leading off with *Heart to Heart Talk*. How sweet he is. Rus Davis and Paul Anastasio led the way on fiddles - very well done, I might add. Geno Burbank on lead guitar and vocal, sang *The Rock*, assisted by Dave DuChane and Shelley McNaughton - wonderful harmony. Jim Neel set the rhythm as Gil Barbee helped on the drums.

Steve Carter always struts his stuff on his hot lead guitar. Shelley sang *I Fall to Pieces*, followed by the *Last Cheater's Waltz*. Dave DuChane gave us a thrill with his *San Antonio Rose*. Bob Wills' fans love that one among others. Dave called up and introduced Darrell Haddock as one of his band members - and I had the pleasure of escorting him to the bandstand. After the serious illness Darrell suffered several months ago, he still seemed a bit weak. However, once on the stage, he put us under his spell as he belted out *The Other Woman* and *Muddy Waters*. His vocals certainly showed no ill effects and came out strong and clear. Lovely Lois shed a tear or two in amazement. Thanks, Darrell, for making our day. Next was vocalist Bill Bissonnette from the Old Time Country Music Association, giving us *Truck Driving Man*. Great job, Bill! Then Shelley McNaughton sang *Jambalaya*, as no one else can.

We heard a whisper that Laura had a birthday and Joe (the dancer) has just turned 93! My, he looks so young! Some of us need a truckload of his vitamins. Lloyd Hooper took over the mic now to announce Ed and Lou's 17th anniversary. Then he sang *Look At Us* so sweetly. Thank you, Lloyd. He followed with *Bubbles in My Beer*, just for my hubby, Ed. A request was made for Lloyd to sing his new release, *I'll Be Here*. This was written as well as



(Continued on page 12)

(FEBRUARY SHOWCASE,
continued from page 11)

recorded by Lloyd. Nice job, guy!

Dave DuChane came in with *Take These Chains from My Heart*. Love that song, too. LeRoy King sang *Remember Me* as Freda Ewing took over on drums. She's always looks so lovely in her elegant blouses. Bill Sealy was great on his keyboard. By the way, he and Freda are new members. I understand that Margaret Anderson has also joined us. Welcome to all the new members of our western swing family.

Fiddlers Ramon Selby, Rus Davis, and Paul Anastasio provided such tasteful accompaniment for all our jammers and we are so proud to include them in these showcases. Surprise guest, Marcia Kester, with her rhythm guitar, sang *Crazy Arms* and *Me and Bobby McGee* with lots of enthusiasm. LeRoy King sang *Shelly's Winter Love*. Such a fine job. He topped that off with *Faded Love*, accompanied by the 'Fiddlers 3,' who added their special touch. Dave and Shelley couldn't sit and listen to LeRoy sing alone, so they jumped up to join him in harmony. Steve Carter played lead guitar. We enjoy his antics on stage, always eliciting a laugh or two from those of us on the dance floor. What a great musical ending to a fabulous day!

The beautiful cake was cut and served by our own Shelley McNaughton, assisted by Fern Hooper. Betty Miller, Carla Gates, Gayle Vader and Alice Striegel served to all our guests who enjoyed desert after the fine food and beverages were served by the Lynnwood Eagles' staff. We do appreciate them.

We thank our loyal volunteers. Among other duties they cheerfully accept every month, Carl and Vesta Neue decorated the tables for the occasion at their own expense. Alice Striegel donated the special Valentine's Day door prizes. Sharyn Lee Packwood donated the lovely centerpiece (given as the grand prize) and two cuddly stuffed animals. In addition, Sharyn Lee donated 200 blank greeting cards to the Society. These will be signed and sent out with words of encouragement to those who are encountering some 'rough patches in the road' of life.

Many thanks to Lloyd Hooper for running the jam today in place of Patty, who is vacationing in the south. We loved to see those new faces on the dance floor and hope to see them again, very soon!

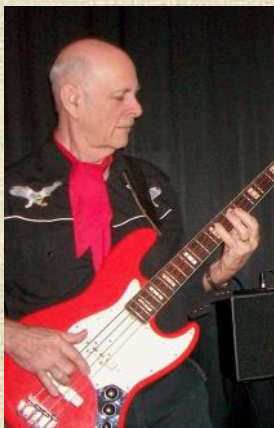
Please remember our ill members in prayer and be sure to let those close to you know that you appreciate their love.

All our ladies present were "Sweethearts" for the day! Thank you very much, Sharyn Lee and your Sundowners, for a super Western Swing Showcase.

The very best to you all.

In love,
Lou

Sharyn Lee and The Sundowners Showcase Band for February



Pictured above (left to right):

Top row: Dave Wheeler, Sharyn Lee, Jerry Seitz

Bottom row: Lew Packwood, T.R. Manhart, Pat Edwards

