



PO Box 14003
MILL CREEK, WA 98082

Celebrating
Our 32nd Year

Founded
In 1983

Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com

Volume 32, Issue 3

A News Letter For and About Our Members

March 2015

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

The Ameripolitan Music Awards Established in 2014, Austin, Texas

(Editor's Note: The following are excerpts from the Ameripolitan Music Awards website. To read more about this new organization go to: www.ameripolitan.com. My favorite take-away has been bolded below.)

The Ameripolitan Music Awards acknowledges those Ameripolitan Artists whose music honors tradition while demonstrating exceptional originality, creativity, and musicianship. Through their work, Ameripolitan Music will ultimately be defined. We then acknowledge the Ameripolitan DJs and venues that promote these artists and their music. Finally, we honor a living legend who has kept the tradition alive through their music and perseverance.

Ameripolitan Music is a new music Genre with prominent roots influence. It is broken into four related subcategories: Honky Tonk, Western Swing, Rockabilly and Outlaw. Artists and bands can fall into one or more of these categories. Musical and lyrical creativity is critical but to be considered Ameripolitan music, it must retain some of these traditional elements as well.

. . . Western Swing has a lighter yet still very danceable swing beat. Lyrically, it can also range widely but an emphasis on the sentimental and whimsical is not uncommon. Bob Wills', Hank Thompson's, and Cindy Walker's music are classic examples. The Cornell Hurd Band's, Asleep at the Wheel's, and Dawn Sears' music are contemporary examples.

Originally, all of this music was created as string band music to be played for a dancing and drinking crowd. **It is important to understand this music, by nature, is participatory. The band and the audience experience this music together, physically and emotionally. It might be said, to truly be Ameripolitan music, it must be music couples can dance to.**

. . . As writers, performers and fans of Ameripolitan music we are the living remnant of this tradition. Only by our continued diligent efforts and combined creative energies will this tradition continue to inspire people and keep the music we love from becoming just another "dead language."

(Winners of this year's awards in the Western Swing categories are listed on Page 5)



*You're invited to a party!
Join us in celebrating the birthday of the
King of Western Swing, Bob Wills!*

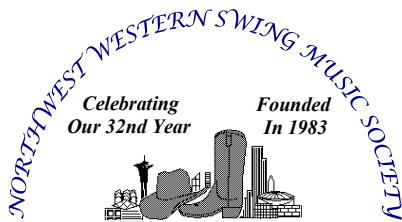
*at the Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, March 8th
at the Lynnwood Eagles, Lynnwood, Washington*

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 Butch Gibson and Pardners





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.

2015 Officers and Board Members

President: Jerry Seitz

1090 SW Harper Road, Port Orchard, WA 98367
Phone: 360-895-0632
Email: jerryseitz@msn.com

Vice-Pres: Dave Wheeler

3116-1/2 Tulalip, Everett, WA 98201
Phone: 425-238-7696
Email: dvwhlr862@gmail.com

Secretary: Alice Striegel

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

Treasurer: Sharon Capps

16625-41st Dr. NE, Unit A
Arlington, WA 98223
Phone: 425-218-6515
Email: ress8shk@comcast.net

Board Members: Lou Bischoff, Dave DuChane, Patty McConnell, Shelley McNaughton, Jeanne Yearian. **Alternate:** Sharon Smith

Annual Membership:

Full membership (*one couple at one address*):
\$25.00
Single membership: \$20.00

Business Address

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com
to read the newsletter in full color
or

Like us on FACEBOOK at
Northwest Western Swing Music Society

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

PHOTO CREDITS:

Showcase photos by Jeanne Yearian.

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

FEBRUARY 8, 2015



Alice Striegel
Secretary

Excused: Patty McConnell

Guests: Fred Yearian

Treasurer: Treasurer Sharon Capps presented the Financial Report.

Bills: Approved to pay.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee Report: Shelley McNaughton reported that final bank statements are still needed for the years 2012 and 2014.

IRS – 501(c)(7) Progress: Dave Wheeler reported that he was contacted by the IRS with a request for more information. He has gathered what is needed and will work on submitting the additional information in the coming week.

Budget Committee Report: This new committee, comprised of Board members who submit bills regularly, met earlier in the month. Dave Wheeler submitted a proposed budget for 2015. A motion was made, voted on and approved to accept the proposed budget for 2015.

Newsletter Report: Jeanne Yearian reported that 30 more members are receiving their newsletter electronically. There will be a column in the newsletter by the Membership Chair, Dave Wheeler, tracking the Society's progress towards going paperless.

Website Report: A motion was made, voted on and approved to set up a page on the website to accept new memberships and renewals, using a PayPal account. A motion was made, seconded and approved for a Facebook page to be set up for the NWWSMS. Board members volunteered to help monitor the activity.

Scholarship Committee Report: A motion was made, voted on and approved As workshops develop and progress, a report will be given in the newsletter.

Showcase/Hall of Fame: Lou Bischoff reported that a contract has not been signed with the Auburn Eagles. A motion was made, voted on and approved to make the suggested changes to the Festival contract received and re-submit it to the Auburn Eagles for approval.

Membership Committee Report: Dave Wheeler reported that there are currently 164

(Minutes, continued . . .)

members in good standing.

"Sharing the Journey" was updated by Lou Bischoff.

New Business: Dave DuChane was appointed Chair of the new Equipment Committee. A motion was made, voted on and approved for him to spend up to \$200.00 to purchase a new mixer with at least 8 channels.

New line dancing signs will be printed and laminated, then displayed at the monthly showcases, reading: "Due to restricted floor space, *Please*, Couple Dancing only." It was agreed that line dancing will be permitted at the August Festival in the designated section of the Auburn Eagles' Ballroom.

Motion passed to adjourn at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Yearian for Alice Striegel, Secretary

LAST CALL

FOR NOMINATIONS

2015 NWWSMS HALL OF FAME

Send a **complete** profile of the nominee along with your cover letter, to:

NWWSMS, Nominations Chairman
c/o President Jerry Seitz
1090 SW Harper Road
Port Orchard, WA 98367

Deadline for receipt by the Society is
March 15, 2015. Those selected
will be notified by early May.

Celebrate Spring

at the Lynnwood Eagles

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

The April 12, 2015
Western Swing
Showcase
will feature

Patty McConnell
& the
Travelin' Four

Prez Sez-

Here we are, one-third of the way through 2015, and I am pleased to report the NWWSMS has finally regained its status as a non-profit with the IRS. Thank you, Dave Wheeler. Our organization now has the non-profit classification of 501c7. This does not mean you can write off a donation to the NWWSMS on your personal income tax; however, a business can write off donations to the NWWSMS as an advertising expense.

We have three of our own band leaders who have made it to the top five in the AWA Awards this year. Congratulations and the best of luck to Kristi Nebel, Sharyn Lee Packwood and Randy 'Tex' Hill and The Oregon Valley Boys. You make us mighty proud. Who said Western Swing was dead in the Great Pacific North West?

Our efforts at holding Western Swing workshops are coming along quite well. Our first three will be held free of charge at Dusty Strings in May. We will be holding three 'Introduction to Western Swing' workshops in May. To the right is the ad (*we added in all three workshop dates*) posted on the Dusty Strings website. Their newsletter goes out to over 5,000 music enthusiasts, many in the Puget Sound area. Save a date and stop by to see what is happening!

We are expanding our sales table at the Showcases to include CD's from Paul Anastasio's collection of Western Swing music to be offered for educational purposes for a suggested donation.

We will no longer be able to sell CDs for bands at our sales table; however, we would welcome donations of sealed CDs of your band for us to offer for donations made to help our programs. I am looking for other educational materials to offer there also. If you have something you think appropriate you would like to donate to help folks learn more about Western Swing, we would love to be able to offer it at our table. We will also take used Western Swing CD's to offer or trade for suggested donations.

Another reminder, if you have e-



Jerry Seitz

(Prez Sez, continued . . .)

mail, and have not signed up to receive your news letter electronically, please, please, PLEASE sign up to do so with Jeanne. Also, strongly consider helping out those who do not have e-mail by signing up with Alice to adopt a member or two in our "Adopt a Member" program. We will no longer be sending out "hard copies" of the news letter after the end of 2015.

See you at the Showcase in March. Be sure to step up and say, "Howdy!"

Jerry Seitz
President NWWSMS



Western Swing

Paul Anastasio

Saturday, May 2, 9, 30
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Free

Western swing is a wild and wonderful mélange of vintage jazz, swing, fiddle tunes, old-style country, blues, ragtime, Mexican polkas and more. Hot solos and jazzy arrangements were mandatory, and bands like Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys were top draws in Texas throughout the 1930s - '50s.

The Western Swing Society, the workshops' sponsor, wants to re-ignite the western swing fire, so come on down and be part of the conflagration!

Workshops taught by fiddler Paul Anastasio, a veteran of top western swing band Asleep at the Wheel, and special guests.

All ages, ability levels and instruments are welcome. CDs, DVDs and sheet music for all tunes taught will be handed out.

Dusty Strings
3406 Fremont Ave. N., Seattle

...

206-634-1662

www.dustystrings.com

Around the NorthWest Support Live, Local Music

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

Steel Country at the Sedro Woolley Legion, 701 Murdock Street. For bookings or schedule updates call Duane at (425) 870-7311 or Pat at (425) 745-3798.

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

The Oregon Valley Boys. For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: www.oregonvalleyboys.com.

Mike Faast and the Jangles. For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: www.janglesband.com

Lloyd Hooper and the Cascade Ramblers. Check the calendar at the Sedro-Woolley Legion and/or call Lloyd for additional information on upcoming play dates at: (home) 360-757-0486. (cell) 360-202-6930

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

Patty and the Travelin' Four. Dance to their music on Wednesdays, from 6-9 pm, Auburn, Eagles. Everyone welcome. Food is available. March 6, 7:30 pm, Renton VFW, March 13, 7 pm, White Cntr. Eagles. March 21, 5-7 pm, Lynnwood Eagles Crab Feed. Pre-ticket sale only: \$30.00/person.

For additional information and play dates, call: Patty: 253-249-8788 or LeRoy: 253-845-8359

Ken Fullerton and Country Fever. Auburn Eagles, every Monday, 5-8 pm. Food available. First Fridays dinner/dance at the Black Diamond Eagles from 5:30 to 9:30.

Call 253-922-7888 or 253-380-2445
for more information.



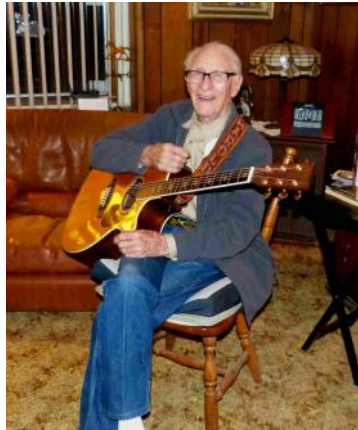
Visit The "Western Swing Music Society of The Southwest" on Facebook at: Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest



(Editor's Note: We were very pleased to receive this message from Ramon Selby just before this newsletter was ready to print. We wish Harold continued progress towards good health. Harold, hope you don't mind if we keep you on the prayer list just one more month for good measure!)

Jeanne,
Please do me a favor and print these pics and give them to Lou for me. My favorite is dad with his guitar. These were taken two weeks after his (Ramon's father, Harold's) ten day hospital stay. Had us worried, but he continues to improve. . . . Miss you all, r

(Pictured right: Harold Selby, 2012 Inductee into the NWWSMS Hall of Fame)



Western Swing Music Society

Vancouver, BC Canada

3565 CAMBRIDGE STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C.
V5K 1M3

Contact – John York

Editor's Note: Our thanks to John York and the Western Swing Music Society of Vancouver, BC, for the following:

FOUR THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT WESTERN SWING

1. Western Swing is dance music.

Its roots are in the small fiddle bands that played for country dances in the American Southwest. By the 1940's western swing bands often equaled the big bands in size, sophistication, and popularity, playing for audiences as large as 5 to 6,000 in the great dance halls and pavilions that could be found in every large city in the U.S. and Canada. Even on the slow tunes a western swing drummer would lean into the beat, providing a solid rhythm for the dancer.

2. Western swing isn't exactly country music.

Western swing instrumental styles have had a profound influence on the development of modern country music, but western swing itself has always had more of an urban outlook. Even when the bands play a country dance tune, it's filtered through a jazz sensibility. Improvisation is central to the music, the soloists building on the energy of the audience; and the music has to swing. They may have come from the country, but western swing musicians saw themselves as jazzmen, and rightly so.

3. Rock and Roll wasn't the first time.

There's a popular notion that Elvis and his peers were the first to synthesize black and white music styles. The early western swing musicians were equally inspired by black blues and jazz in the early 1930s, adapting what they heard into their own traditions. All of a sudden the fiddles were riffing like a big band reed section, and the newly amplified guitars and steel guitars sounding like horns. Bob Wills' favorite singer was blues artiste, Bessie Smith; his Texas Playboys always featured plenty of blues numbers and, later, western swing bands drew on boogie woogie, jump blues, rhythm and blues - even bebop.

4. Western Swing lives!

There are a number of organizations in North American dedicated to keeping this great music alive. Its membership includes musicians who have played western swing since the 1940's, as well as many younger fans and enthusiasts. One of the society's primary activities to hold western swing showcases, hoping to expose a wider audience to western swing and the musicians who play it.

Sharing the Journey

With Well Wishes and Prayers

Chuck Robins	Harold Selby
Froggie & Nonie	Fern Hooper
Worden	Lloyd Hooper
Biff Adam	Noreen King
Jim Sanderson	Marcie King
Louise Hamel	Bobby Wynne
Robert LaClair	Topsy Brigge
Lane Johnson	Vi & Darrell
Red Hildreth	Anderson
Dolores Kaestner	Betty Reeves
Jack Naughton	Bob & Faye Woeck
Keith Holter	Don Eardley
Cindy De Leon	Rod Rodriguez
Carmen Champion	Chuck Woods

Congratulations

Peter and Carole Proscurnik,
married February 11, 2015

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

-Unknown-

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

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



**THE COWTOWN SOCIETY OF
WESTERN MUSIC'S
17TH ANNUAL
SWING FEST
MAY 2, 2015**

Joyce Miller

Saturday, May 2nd, at 12:00 PM sharp, the 17th Annual Swing Fest starts off with live music from Pat Jacobs and the CSWM All Star Heroes of Western Swing Band. Bobby Wynne and the Kings of Western Swing will perform about midafternoon and Brady Bowen and Friends will play out the evening with some great western swing tunes from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM.

In between the live music the "Heroes of Western Swing and The Living Legends for 2015" will be inducted and receive their awards. We have chosen twenty-five very talented and deserving honorees this year. Their names are listed by category below.

INDUCTEES FOR 2015

LIVING HEROES

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Terry Thompson | Joe Delk |
| Gregg Gibbs | Chet Calcote |
| Jason Roberts | Jimmy Queen |
| Tony Ramsey | Starla Queen |
| Ronny Dale Shultz | Ray Austin |
| Tommy Alverson | Buster Redwine |
| David Young | |
| David Waters | |

POSTHUMOUS HERO

Jimmy Benjamin

DISC JOCKEY OF THE YEAR

Skeebo Norris

PROMOTER/PRODUCER

Steve Satterwhite

LIVING LEGENDS

- Lucy Dean Record
- Freddy Powers
- Red Steagall
- Larry Scott
- Walter Lyons

RISING STARS OF THE YEAR

- Kristyn Harris
- Jace Yarborough



2015 Ameripolitan Winners in the Western Swing Categories of:

Western Swing Female

Elana James

Western Swing Male

Bobby Flores

Western Swing Group

Hot Club of Cowtown

Our congratulations to the winners and all of those nominated!

(Joyce Miller, continued . . .)

The CSWM Host Motel is **The Best Western** (4410 Highway 180, East Mineral Wells, Texas), across the street from the Holiday Hills Country Club. Call: Best Western Motel at (940) 325-2270. Mention CSWM Swing Fest for the discounted rate of \$64.00/night.



Mark your calendars for May 1st and 2nd in Mineral Wells, Texas

Admission:

- Adults at the Door - \$15.00
- Adults (in advance) - \$12.00
- Children 12 & Under - \$ 5.00

Contact Joyce @ jmlbubbles032443@att.net or 817/558-7580.

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 19th Annual Will Rogers Western Awards will be held Saturday, March 28, 2015, in the Grand Ballroom at the Sheraton Hotel, Irving, Texas. In the Western world, the AWA is equal to the Academy Awards for independent artists and artisans.

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. We are honored that four groups from the Northwest Western Swing Music Society were nominated for consideration this year. From those, three have been chosen as Top 5 Finalists.

Mike Faast and Jangles competed in several categories this year. We know we will see their name among the Finalists in the future!

Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners received nominations in four categories. Sharyn Lee has gone on to be chosen as one of the Top 5 Finalists for Best Western Swing Female Artist.

Randy Hill and the Oregon Valley Boys, under the direction of Randy Hill, were nominated in several categories as well, then chosen to be among the Top Five Finalists for Best Western Swing Duo/Group of 2014!

Kristi Nebel of Kristi Nebel and Cowgirls Dream, also nominated in several categories, has been chosen as one of the Top 5 Finalists for Best Western Swing Female Artist.

From your Western Swing family here in the Northwest,

***Congratulations to all of the 2014
Nominees and Finalists!***

*One of the benefits of being part of a 'family' is that it makes
your achievements a group experience we can share!*

**THE 19TH ANNUAL
Will Rogers Awards**

Saturday, March 28th, 2015

Grand Ballroom • Sheraton Hotel
4410 West John Carpenter Frwy • Irving, TX 75063
Phone 972-929-8400 for Hotel Reservations

**19th Annual Will Rogers AWA Awards
Schedule of Events**

Friday, March 27, 2015

- 6PM-12AM Billy Bowles 2nd Annual Swingin' Country & AWA Pre-Awards Jam Session, in the Sheraton Club, FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, March 28, 2015

- 12-6PM AWA Tradeshow and Artist's Exhibition, Open to all AWA Awards Attendees and families
- 6-9PM The Academy of Western Artists' 19th Annual Will Rogers Awards Ceremony and Dinner, Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Hotel, Reservations required, see pricing inside this brochure.

* To exhibit or lease booth space, please contact The AWA @ either 1-580-221-8793 or, working_cowboy@hotmail.com.

SPARE SOUND EQUIPMENT TAKING UP SPACE?

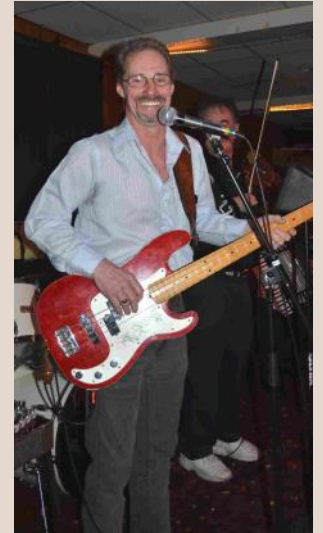
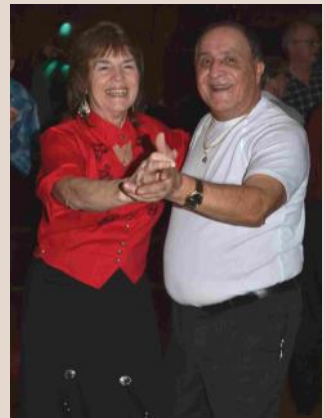
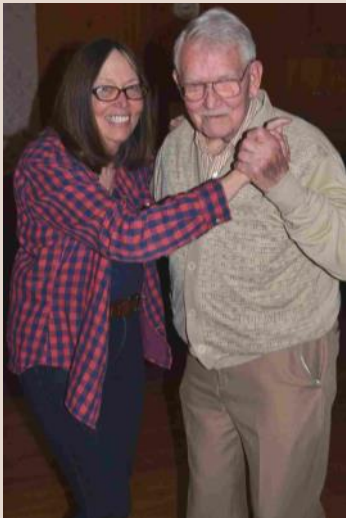
THE NWWSMS NEEDS DONATIONS OF SERVICEABLE SOUND EQUIPMENT TO BE USED AT THE MONTHLY SHOWCASES.

CONTACT DAVE DUCHANE OR DAVE WHEELER FOR DETAILS.



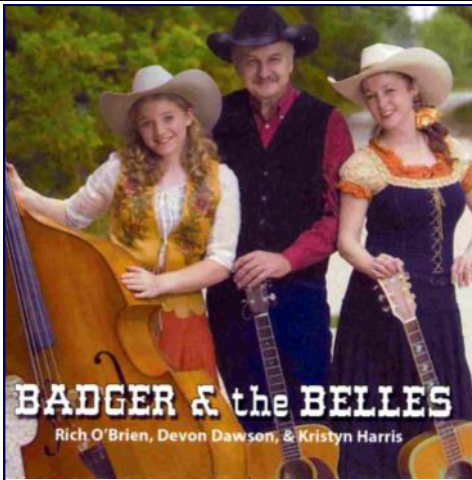
Highlights from the February Showcase

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



**Hope to see everyone at the March Showcase!
Save a smile for the camera!**

(Remember, you can view this page in color on our website at: www.nwwsms.com)



Album: Badger & the Belles
Artists: Rich O'Brien, Devon Dawson & Kristyn Harris

Album Reviews

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



Mike Gross

also bring back Easy Adams' *Bandera Waltz*, a Jerry Byrd steel guitar memory that had some wonderful vocal by the late western legend, Rex Allen. Also remade by the trio are two pop music standards, *Maggie* and *Under a Blanket of Blue*. The CD also includes the beautiful *West of Santa Rosa* a tune written by Devon and Les Buffham and was recorded by Devon and her group, The Texas Trailhands, in 2010. Rich also includes his beautiful guitar

solo on *Lonely Rose of Mexico* a tune that the Sons of the Pioneers did over 70 years ago. The album closes with the inspirational *How Long Has it Been*.

This album can be obtained from Devon Dawson, 6520 Victoria Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76180. The cost is \$18.pp.

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

These three very talented artists have just released this brand new CD gem of 12 tunes. All three are heard on lead and harmony vocals with Rich being the lead guitarist and fiddle player. Devon plays rhythm guitar and Kristyn, acoustic bass. All tunes are classics and standards with the exception of *Don't Forget the Fiddle*, written by the trio.

The album opens with Al Dexter's *Rosalita*, a hit that he had with his Troopers in the 1940s. Other Western Swing classics that are reprised are Pee Wee King and Redd Stewart's *Slowpoke*, *Santa Fe is a Long, Long Way from Broadway* from the great Leon McAuliffe and his band and two from the great Bob Wills band, Wills vocalist, Rusty McDonald's *I Didn't Realize* and Fred Rose's *Rose of Old Pawnee*. They

Mike's Top 10 for March

Songs:

1. **Swingin' in Tucson - Kristi Nebel (Icebird)**
2. Lonesome Town - Coby Carter
3. Don Edwards for President - Red Hot Rhythm Rustlers (Musikode)
4. Let's All Go to El Paso - Curio Cowboys
5. It's a Sin to Tell a Lie - Mikki Daniel & Dave Alexander (Musikode)
6. That's My Home - Jason Roberts
7. Dark Town Strutter's Ball - Jason Roberts
8. I Loved You Before I Met You - LeeLee Robert (Musikode)
9. You Can't Miss Me - Saddle Serenade
10. One of Us Is Lying - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)

Albums:

1. That's My Home - Jason Roberts
2. Tulsa Playboys and Friends - Tulsa Playboys
3. Legends - Coby Carter
4. A Platter of Brownies - Carolyn Martin (Java Jive)
5. Sunburst Sage - Curio Cowboys (Ruido)
6. Cowgirl Swing - Mikki Daniel (Musikode)
7. Badger & the Belles - Rich O'Brien, Devon Dawson & Kristyn Harris
8. Steel Highway - John Lang
9. All Dolled Up - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)
10. Trails Less Traveled - 3 Trails West

Application for Membership

Name: _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Address: _____ Individual, \$20.00 _____ Couple, \$25.00 _____

City: _____ Performing Member _____ Supporting Member _____

State/Zip: _____ Instrument(s) _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail _____ Vocalist _____ Band Leader _____

PO BOX 14003 MILL CREEK, WA 98082

Newsletter Delivery - Email preferred:

Please have someone send me a paper Newsletter _____

I'll be happy to print and mail _____ Newsletter(s) _____
 (How many?)

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the workshop/scholarship fund

Thank you for your support



Lou Bischoff

Highlights from the February Showcase By Lou Bischoff



Sharyn Lee and The Sundowners came prepared to treat us to a wonderful Western Swing Showcase. February is the month the Sundowners share their western swing favorites with us each year. Lovely in her red dress (yes, Sharyn Lee is our permanent Valentine's Day Sweetheart), she, Lew and her loyal group played two hours of great, uplifting music to keep us tapping our toes and on the dance floor. Dave Wheeler was on bass and vocals. Jerry Seitz was on fiddle and vocals and Pat Edwards was on steel. Lew Packwood doubled on rhythm and lead guitar as well helping out on vocals. We called Robert Van den Akker (*Van*) to fill in on drums as The Sundowners' regular drummer was stranded at home due to local, heavy flooding in the area. What a relief we all felt when Van walked through the door with a smile on his face, even though he had played gigs both Friday and Saturday nights. We can't thank him enough!

Sharyn Lee and her rhythm guitar were good listening - dancing too, as she sang *Old Flames*, with Dave Wheeler assisting on harmony. She went on to *Kansas City* and *Waltz Across Texas*. My goodness, the dance floor was flooded with some fantastic waltzers today! Dave sang *Roly Poly* and *Corrine Corrina*. I love the way he sings those songs! Sharyn Lee followed with *Blue Eyes Cryin' in the Rain*.

It was 'sing along' time and Jerry's *Sioux City Sue* got the crowd joining in as he requested. Yes, we do have fun! With Jerry on vocal and fiddle and Dave harmonizing, they did a great job on *Old Fashioned Love*. When Jerry sings *Sierra Swing*, we remember when he and his version of that song were recognized by western swing DJs nationwide. *Across the Alley from the Alamo* was sung by Dave before the band played *Blue Spanish Eyes* - loved their arrangement on that one. It was time now for Jerry to take us back to Tulsa! Wow!! That tune took me back to my Tulsa trip to Caines Ballroom. I will never forget how John T. Wills stirred the crowd with that one, among others.

It was delightful seeing unexpected guests today. Kinny Alvers, Alan Troupe (*be sure to bring that guitar next time, Alan*), and Ann Christenson (*from Annie and the Orphans*) with her husband, Chuck. Hope to see you all on a regular basis!

Adding to the Valentine's Day fun, as folks came through the door today they were presented with a sweet treat, compliments of Carl and Vesta Neue. The Neues are so generous at Valentines and offer us such great cheer. Carl and Vesta, you are so loved by all!

Sharyn Lee was back, singing *I'm Going to Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter*. What a cute song. All those chocolates and sweet candies shared by Carl & Vesta Neue were helping the dancers get a second wind as Dave kicked off *Deep Water* with Jerry on fiddle. Those two work so well together, both on the bandstand and on the NWWSMS board. Thanks, fellas!



Our NWWSMS' Valentine's Day Sweetheart, Sharyn Lee, receiving her box of chocolates from Lou Bischoff

When Jerry sang *All of Me* and *I'm Satisfied With You*, his lovely wife, Barbara, beamed so proudly. To close their set, Sharyn Lee sang *Bill Bailey*. She belted that out just like a pro! What a beautiful lady who does so much for our western swing society. As you see, I presented her with a big box of chocolates, sugar-free, of course!

By the end of the second hour, those of us who couldn't resist snacking on those Valentine's Day sweets were ready for some more substantial nourishment. Coming to our aid were Eagle volunteers, Joanne, Mary, Karen and their great cook, serving as our wait staff for the afternoon. They take such good care of us.

Speaking of being loved by all, we can't begin to express our appreciation for Dave DuChane. He has generously shared his sound system, coming early and staying late to get everything ready for the Showcase bands and loading it all back up afterwards. Assisted by my hubby, Ed, and Steve Carter, they get it done. Thanks so very much for your efficiency, fellas. (*Some of you may have noticed that the Society is looking for new sound equipment to replace our well-worn and outdated electronics. Contact Dave if you think you can help!*)

Our jam coordinator, Patty McConnell, set up the first jam band with Dave DuChane on bass and vocals along with the twin steels of Kinny Alvers and Pat Rowe (*an instant hit with our western swing fans*). Paul Anastasio was on fiddle, Geno Burbank on lead guitar and Gil Barbee took over on drums. With this bundle of talent on stage, we could have closed our eyes and easily imagined we were at a Western Swing convention in Texas!

(Continued on page 10. . .)



Kinny Alvers and Pat Rowe

(Continued from page 9, Highlights from the February Showcase)



As Dave kicked off the set swinging *Take These Chains from My Heart* and *San Antonio Rose*, we knew we would be hearing some of the best Western Swing music in the Northwest. Adding to all that talent, Darrell Haddock was invited up to sing his signature songs, *The Other Woman* and *I Washed My Hands in Muddy Water*, then finishing with *Drinkin' Champagne*. Where else can you go locally to hear live music like

that?

Next, joining Patty on stage was Jeanne Hoff, Patty's sister who is visiting from California. Together they sang the Everly Brothers' hit, *Bye, Bye Love*. Thanks, girls. You gave us a real treat.

Our good friends from the Seattle Eagles, Aerie #1, Jerry Muhasky and Katie Numair were called to the bandstand next. Jerry sang a spirited version of *Oklahoma Hills* and then treated us to *Cattle Call*, complete with the cowboy yodel! Katie joined him on the stage and together, with Jerry singing harmony, they sang *Make the World Go Away* . . . just beautiful.

For the second jam hour, Patty took over on drums singing, *If She's Moving in I'm Moving Out*. Butch Gibson, now on stage, played bass as he crooned *Blackboard of My Heart*. Wife, Kelley, beamed from the audience. Larry Broad, playing lead guitar, sang *Deed I Do*, a 1920s jazz standard composed by Fred Rose and Walter Hirsch. Paul Anastasio was on fiddle and Sandy Macham joined the group on accordion (*love the way Sandy plays that accordion*). With Pat Rowe still sitting in on steel, they sounded so good!

Bartender Linda Horvath took a break and treated us to two Hank Williams Sr. standards, *Your Cheatin' Heart* and *I Can't Help It (if I'm Still in Love with You)*. Nicely done, Linda! Patty was joined by sister, Jeanne, singing *Waltz Across Texas* and Charley Pride's first hit, *The Snakes Crawl at Night*. Good job! Butch stepped up to the mic now to sing *Crazy Arms*. He is one of the best. All of these vocalists amaze me. Patty closed the jam with *Invitation to the Blues*.

What talent filled the stage today. It doesn't get any better than that. I must congratulate all of our musicians. They are the best – not only talented, but loyal, giving time and energy to show the world that they truly wish to perform, promote and preserve America's Western Swing music. We are so proud many of our members have been recognized by Western Swing authorities across the country.

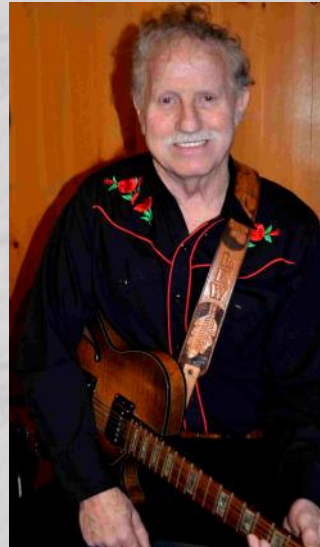
The Sundowners with Sharyn Lee, Lew, Pat, Jerry and Dave treated us once again with smiles and love, traveling several hours to play at our monthly Showcase. How can we ever repay them? Surely, we are able to appreciate them all! Our best wishes go out to their new drummer, who was flooded in and unable to join us. See you all next trip!

Jeanne Yearian has taken over on photos, doing a great job of snapping those special moments for my collection and also the newsletter. And her husband, Fred, is always ready to assist when needed. Thanks to the club for sharing their Eagle home with us. We do appreciate you all.

Prayers are needed for those who are suffering whether physically or mentally. Please help.

Love you all,
Lou

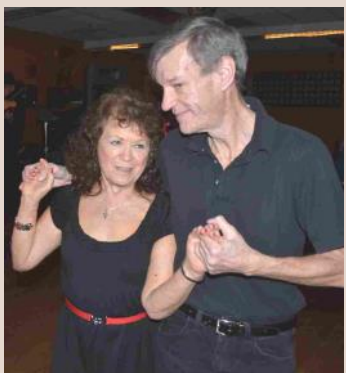
February's Host Band Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners



Pictured above, left to right::
Sharyn Lee, Lew Packwood,
Jerry Seitz, Pat Edwards,
Dave Wheeler,
Robert Van den Akker

Extra Highlights from the February Showcase

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



***Hope to see everyone at the March Showcase!
Save a smile for the camera!***

(Remember, you can view this page in color on our website at: www.nwwsms.com)

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 rlandreth638@gmail.com
Sign up Deadline: March 25, 2015



Each year the TSGA produces the **TEXAS STEEL GUITAR JAMBOREE**. This 4-day show features performances by many of the top steel guitarists from Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee... all over the United States!

This year's show will be held March 12-15, 2015 at the Sheraton DFW Airport, Irving, TX, 972-929-8400. Also, the Sheraton has a shuttle to and from the airport. They are looking forward to seeing us soon.

Unfortunately, there are no rooms available at the Sheraton. The overflow hotel for the 31st annual TSGA Jamboree is the Holiday Inn Express. It is within walking distance of the Sheraton.

Make your reservations at www.hiexpressdfw.com and use the code **STC**. Their direct number is 972-929-4499.

There is a shuttle available between the Sheraton and the Holiday Inn.

Questions? Call us at the TSGA at 817-558-3481 Or visit the website at: www.texassteelguitar.org

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Mike Sigler	Steve Palousek		
Tommy Dodd	Mike Sweeney	Russ Hicks	
Robbie Springfield	Zane King		
remember, schedules change and so may our list of confirmed players			

Special guests:
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 Curtis Potter
 Mike Siler

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 Our overflow hotel is the Holiday Inn Express, Irving, TX, 972-929-4499

Justice Steel Guitar and Case Giveaway SD10 with 3 and 4 Sunday, March 15, 2015 about 3pm
 entry available with the purchase of a ticket

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT 817-558-3481 OR VISIT WWW.TEXASSTEELGUITAR.ORG