



PO Box 14003  
MILL CREEK, WA 98082

Celebrating  
Our 33rd Year

Founded  
In 1983

Visit us on the web at: [www.nwwsms.com](http://www.nwwsms.com)

Volume 33 Issue 3

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

March 2016

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

## **Western Swing Spring Workshops**

*Two Locations:*

***Dusty Strings Music School:***

***Saturday, April 2 and April 23, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM***

***Lake City Eagles:***

***Saturday, May 14th, 10 am to 4 pm***

**Taught by Paul Elliott, Pete Martin and Elena DeLisle-Perry**

***Free of charge, but donations gladly accepted***



Jerry Seitz

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.

Since Western Swing was officially declared the music of the State of Texas in 2011, this distinctly American mix of musical styles is being taught at the college level on several campuses in the Southwest. Curious as to why this musical genre is growing and it's Pacific Northwest connection?

Due to the interest shown in last year's workshops, the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society is continuing to offer a free introduction to America's western swing music this Spring! The April workshops will be held at the Dusty Strings Music School in Seattle. All ages, ability levels and instruments are welcome. Learn how to play, what to play and when to play!

These first two workshops in April will be leading up to a full-scale, 6-hour western swing band clinic which will be held at the Lake City Eagles from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, May 14th (*food available*). Several rooms are reserved at both locations in April and May, so we will have lots of opportunity to break down into smaller groups for more personalized instruction.

Western Swing is music made for dancing. So, adding to the music experience May 14th at the Lake City Eagles will be western swing dance instruction taught by MaryLee Lykes.

*Watch for additional information on Facebook and at the monthly Showcases. Bring a friend and join in the fun!*



***Join us in celebrating the birthday  
of the King of Western Swing, Bob Wills***



***Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, March 13th  
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 & Partners***



## 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.

### 2016 Officers and Board Members

**President:** Jeanne Yearian  
21221-174th Ave SE, Renton, WA 98058  
Phone: 425-432-7888 (h); 206-271-2295 (c)  
Email: [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com)

**Vice-Pres:** Dave Wheeler  
3116-1/2 Tulalip, Everett, WA 98201  
Phone: 425-238-7696  
Email: [dvwhlr862@gmail.com](mailto:dvwhlr862@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Alice Striegel  
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Phone: 360-659-9713  
Email: [alicecedars@msn.com](mailto:alicecedars@msn.com)

**Treasurer:** Sharon Capps  
16625-41st Dr. NE, Unit A  
Arlington, WA 98223  
Phone: 425-218-6515  
Email: [ress8shk@comcast.net](mailto:ress8shk@comcast.net)

**Board Members:** Lou Bischoff, Dave DuChane, Shelley McNaughton, Jerry Seitz, 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](http://www.nwwsms.com)  
to read the newsletter in full color  
and

Like us on FACEBOOK at  
Northwest Western Swing Music Society

Contact the editor,  
[jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com), to receive our  
newsletter electronically.

#### PHOTO CREDITS:

Showcase photos by Jeanne Yearian.

## MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

FEBRUARY 14, 2016



**Alice Striegel**  
Secretary

President, Jeanne Yearian, called the meeting to order at 10:40 am.

**Present by Verbal Role Call:** Lou Bischoff, Jerry Seitz, Sharon Smith, Alice Striegel, Dave Wheeler.

**Excused:** Sharon Capps, Dave DuChane, Shelley McNaughton.

**Treasurer:** No report in the absence of the Treasurer; however, Secretary Alice Striegel reported that the Society's liability insurance policy has been paid by check to the Leavitt Group Northwest for another year. Alice also updated the Board on the status of the Society's original bank account with US Bank.

**Bills:** Approved to pay.

#### Committee Reports:

**Newsletter/Website:** Jeanne Yearian reported that, due to the wide geographical area covered by our members, the Newsletter will try to include western swing-related events and articles from a greater area as well as DJ Top Tens from many locales. Motion made, voted on and approved to renew our website with Hostgator for another 3 years.

**Membership Committee Report:** Dave Wheeler reported that currently the NWWSMS has 204 paid up members with 30 new members in 2015. A 2016 membership roster is in the process of being compiled. To be included or excluded on this roster, members must submit information by April 30, 2016. It is planned to have the roster ready for distribution at the August festival. Motion made, voted on and approved to establish a March 30 deadline to submit information for future year's inclusion/exclusion.

**Sunshine:** Lou Bischoff updated "Sharing the Journey."

**Showcase:** Lou Bischoff reported that the host band in March will be **Butch Gibson and Pardners**. The NWWSMS monthly showcases are now appearing on Ron Bolin's Dance Calendar.

**Hall of Fame:** Jeanne Yearian reports that the contract between NWWSMS and the Auburn Eagles has been signed. A copy of the liability insurance renewal will be taken to the Eagles next week to meet the last condition of the contract. Motel information appeared in the February Newsletter. Fourteen completed nominations have been received. Members of

the 2016 Nominating Committee will be scheduling a meeting after March 15.

Steve Carter has generously offered to make/donate a commemorative quilt for the raffle. Other raffle prizes will be needed.

**Workshop Report:** Jerry Seitz reported that two workshops have been scheduled at Dusty Strings in April. Workshops will be staffed by Paul Elliott, Pete Martin and Elena DeLisle-Perry.

#### Unfinished Business:

**2016 Budgets:** Budgets were received from the Educational/Workshop Committee, the Newsletter/Website Committee and the Festival / HOF Committee. Motion made, voted on and approved to accept the budgets as submitted.

**People's Choice Award:** At today's Showcase, the NWWSMS Traveling Trophy will be presented to the Country Fever Band. This group received the most 'votes' as the favorite host band of 2015. Voting raised \$342.00, paying for the trophy, with the balance going into the NWWSMS Educational Fund.

**New Business:** There was no new business to report.

**Good of the Order:** Louise Hamel donated a box of audio CDs to the Society. Edd Burnett asked for several copies of the Steel Guitar Grand Jam. His intention is to offer them for donations at the next two events hosted by the Western Swing Society of the Southwest. All monies collected will be donated to the NWWSMS' Educational/Scholarship Committee in memory of Chuck Hayes.

The meeting's minutes were read and approved by the board members present. Motion passed to adjourn at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Striegel, Secretary

## Celebrate Spring!

Join us as we welcome back  
many of our friends who  
winter in the Southwest!

Dance at the Lynnwood  
Eagles

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

April 10th

with

Paul Cooper &  
Pickin' Coop

**Prez Sez-**

Our thanks to **Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners** for hosting the Society's Annual Sweetheart Dance which fell on Valentine's Day this year! Despite the long drive early Sunday morning for many of the band members, once they took the bandstand the smiles on their faces convinced us that we were all here to enjoy the music and the good company—and we did!

Just a quick reminder that nominations for the 2016 Hall of Fame are still open and have to be received by March 15th. (See page 6 of the newsletter for more details.) The Nominating Committee is trying to keep the number of inductees to between 12 and 14 each year. The nominees are reviewed in date order, first received, first considered. However, qualified nominations received after the first 12-14 qualified candidates can be held until the following year. To reactivate the person's file for the next year we will need a letter asking for reconsideration.

Jerry Seitz and the Education Committee have put together a fantastic series of workshops this Spring. Paul Elliot, Pete Martin and Elena DeLisle-Perry will be introducing young and old alike to the basics of playing western swing music and then taking it one step beyond, learning to play with others in a band. In May, the workshop jam band will be put to the ultimate test: does the music get those dancers out on the floor? Most of the important details are on page 1 of the newsletter. Plan to attend and bring a friend!

Dave Wheeler, has taken on the task of compiling a roster of the current NWSMS members for use by members. He hopes to have this project completed by the festival in August. Read more on the specifics on page 4 of the newsletter.

We are so pleased to have **Butch Gibson and Pardners** playing for the



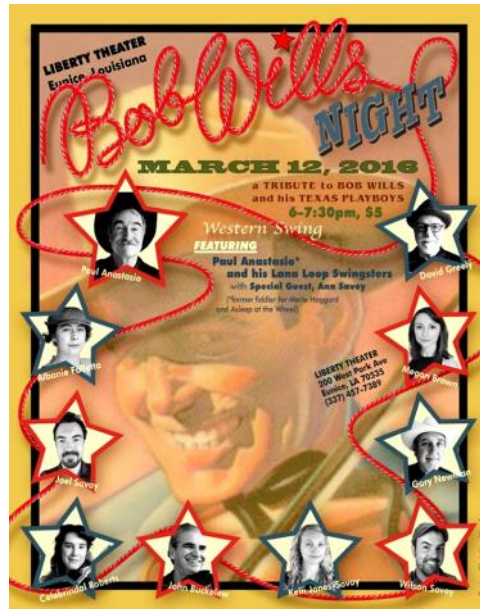
Jeanne Yearian

Bob Wills Birthday Bash at the March Showcase. Be sure to stop by and take a turn or two around the dance floor!

I look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday, JY



Paul Anastasio posted the information below. We wish him great success . . . and fun!



Many years ago a fiddler named Bob Wills formed a band. He called it the Texas Playboys, and it soon became the most popular band in the Southwest. The Texas Playboys called their music western swing—a glorious mélange of old jazz and pop tunes, fiddle tunes, cowboy songs, waltzes, Mexican polkas and swing numbers.

Paul Anastasio (Church Point), former fiddler with Merle Haggard and Asleep at the Wheel, assembled a truly all-star cast to showcase the music of Bob Wills on Saturday, March 12 at Eunice's Liberty Theater.

Joining Paul is a killer fiddle section, featuring David Greely, John Buckelew, Joel Savoy and future star Celebrindal Roberts.

We'll have Ann Savoy, Kelli Jones-Savoy, Megan Brown and Gary Newman, as well as fiddlers David and John on vocals.

And watch your blood pressure... the heartbeat of the band is carried by Wilson Savoy on piano, Gary on bass and Albanie Falletta, the pride of New Orleans, on guitar and vocals. Talk about world class!

Western swing music is truly timeless. Don't miss Bob Wills Night—a heartfelt salute to the hot dance music that took the world by storm back in the 1930s and '40s and has continued to swing mightily ever since.

**Around the NorthWest Support Live, Local Music**

For regular appearances at a particular venue to be included in the newsletter, contact the editor. Contact information for a member band is always welcome.

**Southern Comfort.** For bookings or schedule updates call Shelley at (206) 235-0530. Check out The Southern Comfort Band's current activities on Facebook!

**Steel Country.** 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](http://www.barndoorslammers.com).

**The Oregon Valley Boys.** For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: [www.oregonvalleyboys.com](http://www.oregonvalleyboys.com).

**Mike Faast and the Jangles.** For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at: [www.janglesband.com](http://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](http://www.thesundownersband.com)

**Ken Fullerton and Country Fever.** Auburn Eagles, every Monday, 6-9 pm. Food available. First Fridays dinner/dance at the Black Diamond Eagles from 5:30 to 9:00.

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

**The NWSMS Newsletter has gone digital**

If you know someone who has been receiving a paper copy of this newsletter, please remind them to send us their current e-mail address to continue receiving the newsletter electronically.

E-mail [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com) with the request to be added to the list of e-mail recipients. The newsletter is also available on the website at:

[www.nwsms.com/newsletters.htm](http://www.nwsms.com/newsletters.htm)





**Dave Wheeler**  
Vice President

## NWWSMS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Hello, Western Swing Fans. Here is an update on a couple of things, some new news, and some old news.

### FIRST THE NEW

We have an updated membership list that we use internally for a variety of things, such as newsletter printing/email list and tracking members of the Hall of Fame and Pioneers of Western Swing. It is such a comprehensive list that we thought it would be a good idea to publish it to the membership. Naturally, we would pare out some information that the general public does not need, but we also want to add in some information for all to use. For example, if a band leader has a gig on a Friday night and the rhythm guitar player cannot make it, a look at the roster could provide helpful information such as the names and contact information of three guitar players within 50 miles of the upcoming gig. A few calls could fill the empty slot.

So, if you would, shoot me an email or phone call and tell me if you want to be listed as someone that is available to play along with the other pertinent details, I'll get the roster updated with this information. My contact information is at the bottom of the message. We want to have the roster ready to hand out at the Hall of Fame in Auburn, WA, in August, so please let me know as soon as you can.

### NEXT, THE OLD NEWS: DUES AND NEWSLETTERS

As you remember we went to a single dues date with the firm date of January of this year. So, if you have not renewed for 2016 please send your check in now. We have many that have not renewed in several years, so it is time to get back into the loop. In this newsletter is an application to fill out and send in. There are several new blocks on the right side of the application, for example performer, instrument, band leader etc. and also a new box to check to option out of being listed on the published roster. We wanted to give you this chance as some people don't like their personal information disseminated to the public.

So, thanks again for letting me ramble, and we'll see you at the next showcase or in Auburn for the annual Hall of Fame.

Dave Wheeler  
Membership Chair  
3116 ½ Tulalip Ave  
Everett, WA 98201  
425 238-7696  
dvwhlr862@gmail.com

## Sharing the Journey

### With Well Wishes and Prayers

Betty Hasting	Cindy De Leon
Sandy Macham	Harold Selby
Jeannie Poe	Roy Lee Brown
Kris Burnett	Terry Poe
Ken Jones	Tony Graziano
Robert LaClaire	Web Tipton
Harlan Kubos	Jerry Dezotell
Lavena Hill	Bobby Black
Lloyd Hooper	Ron Hutchinson
Carl Christofferson	Tippy Brigge
Wanda Ramos Love	Vi & Darrell Anderson
Chuck Robbins	Betty Reeves
Lane Johnson	Rod Rodriguez
Jack Naughton	Chuck Woods
Keith Holter	Pat Gore
Howard Edwards	Jim Gough
Gail Gough	

### Condolences

To Gerry Creason, family and many friends on the loss of her husband, Don.

To Judy Cornwell, family and many friends on the loss of her husband, Butch.

*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-



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

*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  
or the editor of the newsletter  
(see page 2).



## 32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SIDEMAN JAMBOREE MUSIC FESTIVAL & FILMING OF DOCUMENTARY IN BOWIE, AZ

The Sideman Jamboree, a music festival that began in 1984, had its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual festival on February 5, 6, and 7, 2016, in Bowie, Arizona, at the Alaskan RV Park, located at 1293 E Music Road, Bowie, AZ 85643, off exit 366 of I-10.

Each February for the past 32 years, hundreds of musicians from all over the country have driven their RVs to "Music Road" outside of Bowie, Arizona. Each night the performances are from 6pm until 8pm. Many of the past musicians at the festival had illustrious careers as sidemen and sidewomen to some of the biggest names in western swing music and country music. They called their musical jam "Sideman Jamboree" because it was their turn to perform center stage.

"The reason we call the music festival *Sideman Jamboree* is because there are no leaders and everyone is equal and welcome to perform center stage. Musicians come from all over the United States and take turns playing," said 90-year-old Sideman Jamboree founder and matriarch Judy Hall.

The festival takes place on a stage in a barn at the Alaskan RV Park. All three nights, there will be a potluck dinner at 5pm and everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. The featured performances begin at 6pm each night, but on Saturday and Sunday there will be an open jam session for the public from 3pm – 5pm. The event is free, and all ages are welcome.

A documentary film is being made about Sideman Jamboree and has been filmed during the event. Eric Troyer, singer and keyboardist for the iconic classic-rock band of ELO and ELO Pt 2 former members, The Orchestra (who was also background vocalist on John Lennon's "Woman," Billy Joel's "Uptown Girl," and Bonnie Tyler's "Total Eclipse of the Heart," and others), is one of the producers of the documentary.

"Our documentary film is about the musical genre of western swing, its origins and influences, both past and present, as told through the eyes of the Sideman Jamboree music festival, where the sparks still fly, the old meet the new, and the love and devotion still shine on," explained Troyer.

Current and past performers at Sideman Jamboree include:

Judy Hall, whose music career started at the age of 14. She has toured with Jimmy Ray Dean, Sara Vaughan, Ernest Tubb, Merle Haggard, Waylon Jennings, George Strait, Jimmy Buffet, Hank Thompson and Tennessee Ernie Ford, among others. Today Judy can still be found singing and dancing during Sideman Jamboree.

**Bud Isaacs**, the inventor of a line of pedal steel guitars who teamed with fellow country music performer Shot Jackson to form the Sho-Bud Company. Bud performed with Eddie Hill, Little Jimmy Dickens, Chet Atkins, Homer Haynes, Jethro Burns (Homer and Jethro), and Dale Potter. Isaacs formed an act called the Golden West Singers with his wife Geri Mapes, a yodeller, singer and bass player. He was inducted into the Steel Guitar Hall Of Fame in 1984.

**Sons of the Pioneers**, one of America's earliest Western singing groups. Roy Rogers was one of the founding members, many of whom have participated in Sideman Jamboree over the years, including last year's performer, Mark Abbott.

**Glynn Duncan**, brother of Tommy Duncan and a former Bob Wills' Texas Playboy.

**Randy Elmore**, former Bob Wills' Texas Playboy, and champion left-handed fiddle player from Texas.

**Billy Easton**, world-renowned pedal steel player, and Chairman of the Southwestern Steel Guitar Association.

**Ray Harrison**, a local-Arizona musician who was just inducted into the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society.

*(Editor's note: Funds are still needed to finish the documentary. Up to this point, the project has been self-funded. Interested supporters can find contact information below.)*



*Click above to watch the trailer for the upcoming documentary.*

*(Musicians on the bandstand, left to right, include Jason Roberts, Kelly Rowden, Billy Easton, Turk Birdno, Judy Hall and Ray Harrison. Yes, that is Ray singing [San Antonio Rose](#), at the end of the trailer.)*

### Contact:

Kea Kee Buckley, Producer of Sideman Jamboree Documentary  
[christine.buckley.09@gmail.com](mailto:christine.buckley.09@gmail.com)  
[310.502.5591](tel:310.502.5591)



**NOMINATIONS**  
**FOR INDUCTEES INTO THE**  
**2016 NWWSMS HALL OF FAME**

***Now Being Accepted!***

— Those nominated for consideration as Inductees into the 2016 NWWSMS Hall of Fame must have had at least 20 years of Performing, or less if 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 NWWSMS or have been previously inducted into the NWWSMS POWS/Hall of Fame.

— Mail or e-mail a complete profile of the nominee along with your cover letter, to:

NWWSMS, Nominations Chairman  
 c/o Jeanne Yearian  
 21221-174th Ave. SE  
 Renton, WA 98058-9740  
 E-mail: [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com)

— Deadline for receipt by the Society is **March 15, 2016**. Those selected will be notified by early May. A picture suitable for publication will be requested at that time.



**1983-2016 Celebrating 33 Years!**  
*The Northwest Western Swing Music Society's*

**26th Annual**  
**Western Swing Music**  
**Festival &**  
**"Hall of Fame"**  
**August 12 -14, 2016**

At the Auburn Eagles Club - 702 'M' Street SE, Auburn, WA  
 With Its Beautiful, Big Dance Floor - Three Days of Great Music  
 (Please note: Minors are not allowed in the club for this event)

**MOTELS SPONSORING THE 2016 NWWSMS**  
**WESTERN SWING FESTIVAL/HALL OF FAME**

*To receive special prices listed below*  
*Call the front desk and ask for the 'Western Swing Rates'*

**Comfort Inn** Located at 1 - 16th St NE, Auburn, WA  
 Western Swing flat rate . . . \$ 105.00 for rooms  
**Phone: 253-333-8888**

Amenities: Free wireless high-speed Internet access, Free local calls, Indoor pool, Indoor hot tub. Complimentary hot breakfast with eggs, meat, waffles, yogurt, fresh fruit, cereal and more, including your choice of hot waffle flavors.

**Guest House Inn** Located at 9 - 14th St NW, Auburn, WA  
 Western Swing flat rate . . . \$ 89.00 for rooms (if booked before 7/01/15)  
**Phone: 253-735-9600**

Amenities: Free wireless high-speed Internet access, Complimentary breakfast with coffee, tea, muffins, juice, fresh fruit, cereal, sausages, biscuits with gravy. All rooms with cable TV, coffee maker, hair dryer, ironing board, microwave and refrigerator.

**Travelodge Suites** Located at 9 - 16th St NW, Auburn, WA  
 Western Swing flat rate . . . \$ 65.00 for rooms  
**Phone: 253-833-7171**

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

***Special Note:***

*Make your motel reservations as soon as possible!*  
*The motels listed are available but you must call them directly and ask for the WESTERN SWING RATES.*

With your ticket purchase  
**WIN A GFI STEEL GUITAR!**



Drawing on Sunday, March 13, about 3:30pm

**32nd ANNUAL**  
**TEXAS STEEL GUITAR JAMBOREE**  
**MARCH 10-13, 2016**

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

**CURTIS POTTER ■ TONY BOOTH ■ MIKE SILER**  
**PLAYERS**

PAUL FRANKLIN ■ RONNIE MILLER ■ JAY DEE MANESS ■ BUCK REID  
 MIKE JOHNSON ■ BILLY ROBINSON ■ MARCELS PARIJS (HOLLAND)  
 PADDY LONG (NEW ZEALAND) ■ TOMMY DODD ■ MIKE SWEENEY  
 EDDIE DUNLAP ■ CHUCK LETTES ■ RUSS HICKS ■ RUSTY DANMEYER  
 HERB STEINER ■ MIKE SIGLER ■ DOUG JERNIGAN ■ BERT RIVERA  
 BILL FERGUSON ■ SID HUDSON ■ ROGER EDGINGTON  
 CARCO CLAVE ■ AUSTIN STEWART

PLAYERS WILL BE ADDED AND LIST IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**70** **JAYDEE MANESS SEMINAR** **70**  
 THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016 • 9AM-4PM  
 REGISTRATION INFORMATION • [WWW.JAYDEEMANESS.COM](http://WWW.JAYDEEMANESS.COM)  
 REGISTER ONLINE OR BY MAIL • DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 29th • 818-893-5870  
 10125 GLORIA AVE., NORTH HILLS, CA 91343

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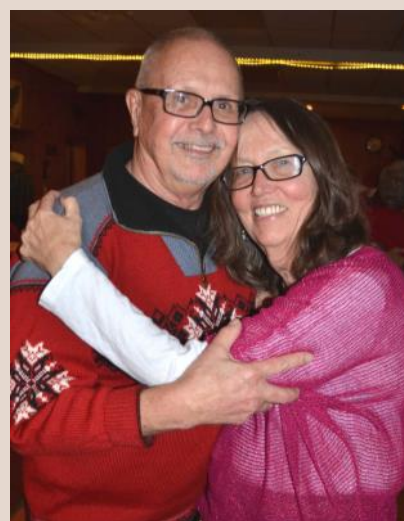
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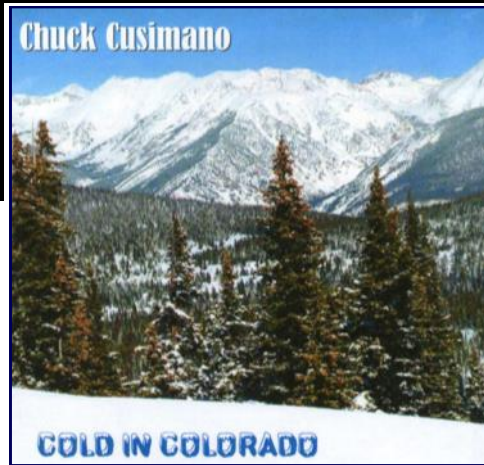
# *Photo Highlights from the February Showcase*

*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!*





Chuck Cusimano

COLD IN COLORADO

**Album:** Cold in Colorado  
**Artist:** Chuck Cusimano  
**Label:** Cusimusco

Singer/Songwriter Chuck Cusimano has just released this new 15 cut CD, all from his pen. The material is a mixture of Western Swing, Texas dance hall sounds and traditional country music. The closing cut is the sacred narration *Far Side of the Hill*. In addition to writing all the tunes, Chuck produced the album and is heard on lead vocal and lead and rhythm guitar. Gary Carpenter is the steel guitarist and Hank Singer plays fiddle. Mark Abbott plays bass, Dixie Hankins-drums and Eddie Morgan-piano. Joetta Morgan does background vocals.

The album opens in the Texas dance hall style with *Heaven's on the Other Side of Town*. Other tunes in this style are *She's Guilty of Lovin a Fool*, *Stronger than My Wine* and *I Won't Need it Anymore*. Traditional country music is represented

# Album Reviews

By **Mike Gross** KSEY - FM  
[www.swinginwest.com](http://www.swinginwest.com) Seymour, TX



Mike Gross

with *I Surrender*, *Blink of an Eye*, *I Said Nothing*, *Difference* and *I'm a Bachelor*. The wonderful sound of Western Swing is heard on *Cold in Colorado*, *Are You Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone*, *Saving Grace* and *Worth the Chance*. There is also an exciting Christmas tune, *Swingin' Christmas*.

Mail order CDs can be ordered by going to: [www.chuckcusimano.com](http://www.chuckcusimano.com) or [www.i2irecords.com](http://www.i2irecords.com) It is post-paid for \$20.00 in the U.S.A (overseas orders are an extra \$5.00

each.)

For Downloads, please use [www.i2irecords.com](http://www.i2irecords.com) The cost is \$1.00 per song. You can also send a check to: Cusimusco, 1608 Ross Lane, Springtown, TX 76082 or from Chuck's web site, [www.chuckcusimano.com](http://www.chuckcusimano.com)

Mike Gross, KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX & KTNK-AM, Lompoc, CA & [www.swinginwest.com](http://www.swinginwest.com)

## Mike's Top 10 for March 2016

### Songs:

1. Love Is a Lingering Thing - Solitaire Miles
2. Smoky Clubs and Dizzy People - Cowboy Joe (Chimney Rock)
3. Okie Dokie - Cherokee Maidens
4. Back In My Texas Home - Hot Texas Swing Band
5. Everything's Gotta Swing in Texas - Cowboy Joe
6. Navajo Trail - AATW, Willie Nelson & the Quebe Sisters (Bismeaux)
7. Swingtime Lullabye - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)
8. All the Love in San Antone - Lisa Layne
9. Meaning to Miss You - Christina Mae
10. It's a Sin to Tell a Lie - Mikki Daniel & Dave Alexander (Musikode)

### Albums:

1. Susie Blue & the Lonesome Fellas - Solitaire Miles
2. Something to Bragg About - Leddy Bragg
3. I Ain't Dead Yet - Hot Texas Swing Band
4. Still the King - Asleep At The Wheel (Bismeaux)
5. Now Playing - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)
6. Down the Trail - Kristyn Harris
7. Cowgirl Swing - Mikki Daniel (Musikode)
8. That's My Home - Jason Roberts
9. Legends - Coby Carter
10. Badger & the Belles - Rich O'Brien, Devon Dawson & Kristyn Harris

# NWWSMS Application for Membership

Date Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_ Rec'd by: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NEW MEMBER  RENEWAL

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL, \$20.00  COUPLE, \$25.00

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ DANCER  SUPPORTER

STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PERFORMER  VOCALIST  BAND LEADER

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BAND: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUMENT(S): \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed an additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to the NWWSMS workshop/scholarship fund

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Use the E-mail provided above to send newsletters and other NWWSMS news
- Please have someone send me a paper newsletter  
(Note: the NWWSMS does not mail out paper newsletters)
- I'd be happy to print and mail \_\_\_\_\_ extra newsletters to those without e-mail access
- Please DO NOT include me in the Membership Roster.



Visit us on the web at: [www.nwwsms.com](http://www.nwwsms.com)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.





## Highlights from the February 14th Showcase

By Lou Bischoff



occasion, as always. Our permanent Valentine's Day Sweetheart, Sharyn Lee, helped to keep the beat swinging on her rhythm guitar and vocals while hubby Lew added his lead licks. Completing the band was Jerry Seitz on fiddle/vocals, Dave Wheeler on bass/vocals, Pat Edwards on steel/vocals, and Bruce Tuttle on drums. The band opened with Sharyn Lee singing *Sugar Moon* followed by Jerry Seitz singing a waltz favorite, *May I Have This Dance*. Sharyn Lee was up next, singing *Abilene* followed by the *Kentucky Waltz* and *Bonapartes Retreat*. She has such a gentle, sweet voice. As she sang *You Belong to Me*, I noticed her eyes turning directly to Lew. How sweet she is.

Jerry was up next with *All of Me*, fiddle included I'm sure. Wife Barbara beamed from the information table. As Sharyn Lee sang *My Shoes Keep Walking Back to You*, some of us glanced at the shoes we were wearing and noticed they were not nearly as pretty as hers. Our own Dave Wheeler sang *Old Flames*. Some remembered that as being one of JC Smith's favorite tunes. Steel player Pat Edwards sang *I've Got a Hole in My Pocket*. It's so touching to see the wives' expressions when their fellas sing one of their favorites – and this was no exception. Eyes exchanged looks of deep affection as Sharyn Lee sang *Have I Told You Lately that I Love You*.

Jerry sang *Dinah*, followed by Sharyn Lee singing the *Tennessee Waltz*. Dave Wheeler stepped up to sing *Old Fashioned Love* with wife Janice caught beaming on that one. Then Jerry, Dave and Sharyn Lee took off on *Take Me Back to Tulsa*. It couldn't have sounded better. The playful energy of that

tune brought everyone onto the dance floor, including two of our folks on walkers, long-time member Robert La Claire and Eagles' volunteer, sweet Mae. For years Mae has greeted everyone at the door and kept

track of the crowd on Showcase Sunday. By the time the song ended, I think everyone was smiling, inside and out!

*Pride* was done so well by Sharyn Lee and proud she was of her dedicated band members. Jerry sang his signature song, *Sierra Swing*. Dave Wheeler sang *Across the Alley from the Alamo*. Thanks, fellas. Fine job. Sharyn Lee sang *Home in San Antone* and *Four Walls*, closing their set with *Bill Bailey*.

I must say I am so proud of this group. Ed and I wish **The Sundowners** performed closer to home so we could visit their shows



more often. Thanks so much to all of **The Sundowners**, who travel so far when invited to host a showcase. I love you all and am ever so proud every time you cheer us with your many talents.

It was break time and the host band made way for the jammers to follow. I took that opportunity to make some special Valentine presentations. First, Carl and Vesta Neue were recognized as the Society's permanent Valentine couple. Cee and Elliot Johnson were our Valentine Couple of the Year. As the Society's permanent Valentine Sweetheart, Sharyn Lee received a box of chocolates. For her dedication, Gayle Vader received recognition along with a box of chocolates as a Valentine sweetheart. Gayle comes from Tacoma by bus, cab and any other way she can get to our Showcases every month. And, after all that, she arrives ready to help.



Elliot & Cee Johnson receiving chocolates



Lou presenting chocolates to Vesta & Carl Neue



Gayle Vader

## Showcase Band for February: Sharyn Lee & the Sundowners



Pictured from left to right: Sharyn Lee, Lew Packwood, Pat Edwards, Jerry Seitz, Bruce Tuttle, Dave Wheeler

(Continued from page 9)

Now it was time to announce the winner of the Society's first People's Choice Award, given to the 2015 Showcase band that received the most votes to earn that title and trophy. The traveling trophy, designed by Jerry Seitz, is beautiful. This year the winning band is **Country Fever!** The trophy was presented to Chet Hasting and Ken Fullerton, co-founders of the band. Jeanne Yearian, also a member of **Country Fever**, stood by happily taking photos of the special presentation. Loud applause erupted when the winning band was announced. They travel from around the Tacoma area to entertain at our showcases. We value their efforts and participation. Thanks to everyone who took part in this friendly competition. All the money received (\$1.00 for 1 vote- \$342.00 was collected.) after the purchase of the trophy has gone into the Education fund for the Society to help promote and teach western swing music. Congratulations and thanks to the **Country Fever** band and fans for their contributions to promoting western swing music.

Jam time now! The first jam band to entertain us included some real treats - Wayne Franco, our steel man from Silverdale, and Jim Neal on guitar. Eddie Fields shared sticks with Denny Perrigou and LeRoy King completed the rhythm section on bass. Jeanne Yearian picked up her fiddle, Sandy Macham strapped on his accordion and they were ready to play! To get the musicians warmed up, LeRoy kicked off the set with *Faded Love*, *Lucille*, and *Remember Me*. Then he began calling up the vocalists waiting patiently to perform. It was so good to see Darrell Haddock back up on stage after being gone too long, singing *I Washed My Hands in Muddy Water* and *The Other Woman!* With a little bit of encouragement, Wayne Franco's lady, Brenda Jacobs, came up and sang *Walking After Midnight* and *Satin Sheets* for us, despite being unfamiliar with the musicians on stage. Robert Fitzsimmons brought

his harmonica to the stage. As he sang *Waltz Across Texas* he motioned lovingly to his wife, Jeannie, listening ever so closely. Then he added his personal thoughts as he sang a Johnny Cash classic, *Sunday Morning Coming Down*. We love seeing the new talent on stage.

There was a brief pause in the music as Dave Wheeler took over on bass, Chet Hasting on lead guitar and Ken Fullerton added rhythm guitar as the jam continued. Always welcome, Dave Enslow and his wife, Maryanne, added vocals to the group. Dave swung out on *Little Red Wagon* and *Anytime*. Maryanne treated us to *Abilene* and *He'll Have to Go*. Chet Hasting added his arrangement of Chet Atkin's tune, *Trambone*. Great job! Wishing everyone a special Valentine's Day, Jeanne Yearian sang *Because of You* (she has just the voice for that song) and Ken Fullerton sang *Eleven Roses* - what a touching tune. Closing the jam and the February showcase, Wayne Franco and Chet Hasting sent us off with rousing *Steel Guitar*

*Rag*. Our sincere thanks to the band and all the performers who so willingly take part in our monthly showcases. We do appreciate you all.

Thanks to all of our volunteers who give their precious time to make our showcases so special and to the members of the Eagles Club who make us feel so welcome!

Prayers and love go out to all our ailing folks and those who need support in many ways. On a personal note, Ed and I would like to thank everyone for the kind gestures shown to us as we made our way through recent health issues. Our love and wishes for the very best in the year ahead to each one of you.

Lou and Ed too







*Hello,  
from deep in the  
Heart of Texas!*

*by Paula Jungmann*



Graham Lees

**United Kingdom**  
The Western Hour  
Twang~Grass  
The Country Connection  
can heard streaming on the Home Page  
of my website  
<http://www.grahamlees.co.uk/>

## Western Swing News from the UK



The Hotclub of Cowtown is touring the UK this Spring. From March 31 to April 17 they will be playing at 16 venues including the Isle of Man (situated in the North Sea, between the UK and Ireland)

### Top 10 Western Swing & Traditional Country for March 2016

#### Top Ten Albums

1. *Brady's Tribute to Tom Morrell, Bob Boatright, Leon Chambers*, Brady Bowen and Swing Country
2. *Big Coral Roundup*, Barbara Nelson
3. *The Music I Love*, Jody Nix
4. *Before It's Too Late*, Billy Puckett & Tommy Dodd
5. *Good Vintage*, Swing Commanders
6. *Thursday Nite Live*, Tony Harrison
7. *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, Frank Jennings
8. *Something to Bragg About*, Leddy Bragg
9. *I'm in a Good Mood . . . To be Bad!*, Lisa Layne
10. *Legends*, Coby Carter

#### Top Ten Songs

1. *Tuxedo Junction*, Swing Commanders
2. *Old Fashioned Love*, Tony Harrison
3. *It's a Wonderful World*, Barbara Nelson
4. *The Kind of Love I Can't Forget*, Billy Puckett & Tommy Dodd
5. *How Can I Face Tomorrow*, Tracey K. Houston
6. *The Marionette*, Myra Rolen/Darrell McCall
7. *True Love Ways*, Coby Carter
8. *Kind of Love I Can't Forget*, Chuck Cusimano
9. *Texas in the Swing*, Jimmy Burson
10. *Old Cape Cod*, Paul Moore

Every once in a while you come upon a special someone who shows talent and promise. For less than a year we've been witnessing the musical growth of 11-year-old Wyatt Aleman. Wyatt is the son of JR and Cindy Aleman of Harwood, Texas. He is home schooled through Light House Christian Academy out of Lewisville, Texas. His parents have taught young Wyatt to love music and dance.

The first we saw of Wyatt he was dancing with Cindy, his mother, at different venues around the Texas dance hall circuit. Quite a little dancer he is at that, confidently leading his partner around the dance floor.

On Dec.13, 2014, long-time western swing enthusiasts, Glenn and Shirley Curtiss gave the boy his first fiddle while attending a dance at the Western Club in Navasota, Texas.

In March of 2015, at age 10, he began teaching himself by ear by watching YouTube videos. He played *Faded Love* over and over until he learned the tune. He began lessons with Richard Helsley on June 15, 2015, and by October he was in Ruiodoso's Lincoln County Sympoisum fiddle line, taking his turn at the fiddle breakdown. I wouldn't begin to say "and that's the story" concerning this little man. He brings a new tune to the stage every time he plays with **Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition**. It's an understatement to say he's a crowd pleaser, dressing from hat to boots like his teacher and band leader and taking his turn when called upon.

It's a joy to see someone so young love performing and having the opportunity to be on stage with professionals who'll teach him fine music along with performance skills.



Wyatt Aleman with mentor, Richard Helsley, fiddler for Billy Mata's Texas Tradition

(Continued on page 12 . . .)

(Continued from Page 11 . . . )

Wyatt has been nominated for the 4th annual Bill Fenn Musical Scholarship that is given each August to young musicians who show promise. Although he didn't make the final five he was also nominated for young artist for an Academy of Western Artists Award. Quite an honor for such a new artist!



Click above to watch Wyatt Aleman playing with Billy Mata & the Texas Tradition at the Western Club in Navasota, Texas.

Wyatt takes lessons with professional musician and school district orchestra instructor Richard Helsley of New Braunfels, TX. Richard is the long time fiddle player who has been with Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition for over 20 years. He was nominated for the Ameripolitan 2016 Musician of the Year, a member of the 2010 Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame band and the Ameripolitan 2016 Western Swing Group of the Year as a part of Billy Mata's band the Texas Tradition. When asked about Wyatt, Richard said, "I have taught many students over the past 25 years. Wyatt is one of the rare students who shows up for every lesson with an open mind and willingness to work through the challenges and goes home to practice the things he was taught. It is truly a pleasure to teach this young man. He is without a doubt going to become a major artist in the future."



Click above to watch Wyatt Aleman playing with Billy Mata & the Texas Tradition at the at Quihi Gun Club and Dancehall

There are many things that western swing enthusiasts do to help keep this music alive through societies, awards programs, scholarships programs and music camps and gifts such as the Curtiss' did for Wyatt. With parents and mentors who encourage and support students such as Wyatt our music has a chance to survive and flourish. Many thanks to all who love this music!

'Till next time



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## March Playlist for "Skeebo's Line Shack Review"

- Jason Roberts - *How It Lies*
- Teea Goans - *Pick Me Up On Your Way Down*
- Jeff Woolsey - *Second Time Around*
- Carolyn Martin - *Sweet Georgia Brown*
- Western Swing Authority- *All Dolled Up*
- River Road Boys - *Can't Get Enough of Texas*
- Billy Mata - *Roll 'em Floyd*
- Myra Rolen - *Cheatin' Overtime*
- Chuck Cusimano - *Neon Sun*
- Asleep At the Wheel/Amos Lee - *I Hear Ya Talkin'*

## Wyn on . . .

- . . . Oamaru Heritage Radio, 88.3 FM
  - . . . [www.nzcmr107.3fm](http://www.nzcmr107.3fm), Fielding
  - . . . The Peaks Radio 88.4 fm, North Canterbury
- (more to come!)



## March 2016 Playlist for "Wyn on Tuesday"

1. *All Dolled Up* - The Western Swing Authority
2. *Right or Wrong*, Marianne Stephens
3. *Swing with the Music*, Adolph Hofner
4. *The Blue Light Motel*, Dave Stamey
5. *Blue Lights and Country Music*, Jody Nix
6. *The Bronze Buckaroo*, The Red Hot Rhythm Rustlers
7. *Let Me Sell You a Dream*, Dave Stamey
8. *She's Guilty of Lovin' a Fool*, Chuck Cusimano
9. *Excuse Me, I Gotta Go*, Tommy Duncan
10. *Smoky Clubs and Dizzy People*, Cowboy Joe Babcock

**Artists are welcome to send cds to:**

**Wyn Machon**  
**5 Lowther St.**  
**Oamaru 9400.**  
**New Zealand.**

[whitestone.music@inbox.com](mailto:whitestone.music@inbox.com)





**HONOREES FOR THE COWTOWN SOCIETY OF WESTERN MUSIC'S 18TH ANNUAL SWINGFEST MAY 7, 2016**

Cowtown Society of Western Music is proud to announce our 18th Annual CSWM Swing Fest, a tribute to "Heroes of Western Swing," will be held Saturday, May 7, 2016 from Noon until 10:00 PM at the beautiful Holiday Hills Country Club in Mineral Wells, Texas. Admission will be \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased for \$12.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under by e-mailing Joyce Miller, Secretary, at [jmlbubbles032443@att.net](mailto:jmlbubbles032443@att.net) or calling her or Gary Beaver, President, at 817/558-7580. Or you can simply mail a check for the amount of tickets you want to purchase to Joyce at 3709 East Highway 67, Cleburne, TX 76031. So order early and save.

Our very special "host and emcee" will be Texas Playboy, Leon Rausch.

**LIVING HEROES**

- John Jones
- David Holcomb
- Lee Barlow
- Jody Nix
- Al Mulladou
- RJ Vandygriff
- Alex Dormont
- Tony Harrison
- Jim Pack
- Lee Smith
- JW Sollis
- Lonnie Spiker
- Rick McRae
- Randy "Tex" Hill

**POSTHUMOUS HEROES**

- Jimmy (Jim) Wayne Jones

**LIVING LEGENDS**

- Buddy Ferguson
- Wayne Gray
- Billy McBay
- Billy Briggs

**DISC JOCKEY OF THE YEAR**

- Graham Lees

**VENUE OF THE YEAR**

- San Angelo Cowboy Gathering,
- Terri Holland

**RISING STARS OF THE YEAR**

- Mikki Daniel
- Leddy Bragg

**BAND OF THE YEAR**

- Shoot Low Sheriff

**PRESIDENT'S CHOICE**

- Valerie Ryals

**SWING FEST UPDATES!**

*Congratulations to all of our Honorees for 2015!*

**2016 SwingFest Schedule of Events**

Noon to 12:45 PM	SHOOT LOW SHERIFF
12:45 PM to 2:00 PM	First Awards Ceremony for Heroes of Western Swing
2:00 PM to 2:45 PM	LOUISE ROWE AND THE TEXAN PLAYBOYS
2:45 PM to 4:00 PM	Second Awards Ceremony for Heroes of Western Swing
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	PAT JACOBS AND THE CSWM ALL STAR HEROES BAND
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM	Third Awards Ceremony for Heroes of Western Swing
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM	BRADY BOWEN AND SPECIAL GUESTS
* SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY RENOWNED FIDDLE PLAYER AND TEACHER, VALERIE RYALS*	



*The Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame started in 1988 and was first based in Austin, then moved to its current home in San Marcos, Texas.*

*The Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame weekend takes place each year in San Marcos, Texas, on the third weekend of May.*

*Check us out on Facebook:*

<http://www.facebook.com/texaswesternswinghalloffame>

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The [Hawaiian Steel Guitar Camp](#) will again be held in the days immediately preceding the festival. The camp provides an opportunity for participants to learn all about and how to play the Hawaiian Steel Guitar (no experience required!) then enjoy the 3-day festival of Hawaiian Steel Guitar music.



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