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Volume 32 Issue 9

A News Letter For and About Our Members

September 2015

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

2015 Western Swing Festival & Hall of Fame

*- more than the fancy footwork seen on the dance floor -
- more than the award-winning music coming from the bandstand -
It was truly a NWWSMS 'family' reunion!*



Lou Bischoff



Please accept our apologies for not being able to include all of the memorable moments from the festival in this limited space. Let there be no doubt in anyone's mind as to how much we sincerely appreciate the efforts of everyone who contributed to the success of this event. **THANK YOU ALL.** Once again, our fantastic event photographer from Modesto, CA, Dennis Ford, has made all of the festival photos available to view or download online at: www.fordphotos.phanfare.com.



*Campground jammers:
Top (l to r): Judy Hayes,
Red Gillean, Chuck
Hayes, Cliff Brizendine.*

*Bottom (l to r): Pat
Rowe, Bill Enyeart,
Jimmy Webb*

Happy 25th HOF Anniversary! With 32 years now under our belt, we have proved that it could be done as Steve Vaughn promised in 1983, at that first meeting in the kitchen of Ronnie and Carole Hutchinson, with Dick and Dee Heil, Tony Arana and several others present. Many are now gone, but their memory still lives on! Steve's sister, Nadine Nipes, and her partner, Marty Hill, were present for the special awards . . . but, wait, I am getting ahead of myself. Let's start at the beginning of this memorable week-end.

As we opened on Thursday evening with a "Meet & Greet" jam, Chuck Hayes from Oklahoma graciously agreed to MC the evening. He is always so willing to do whatever needs to be done, arriving days before the festival with partner, Barbara Karr. Their "all-night" jams, held under adjoining awnings in the camping area behind the club, are legendary.

(Festival Highlights continued on page 5)



**Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, September 13
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 the Board Band & Friends



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

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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

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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:

Festival photos by Dennis Ford & Jeanne Yearian.

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

AUGUST 9, 2015



Alice Striegel
Secretary

President, Jerry Seitz, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Present by Verbal Role Call: Lou Bischoff, Sharon Capps, Dave DuChane, Patty McConnell, Shelley McNaughton, Alice Striegel, Dave Wheeler, Jeanne Yearian

Absent: Sharon Smith

Guests: Ed Bischoff, Bob Burns, Steve Carter, Barbara Seitz, Janis Wheeler, Fred Yearian

Treasurer: Sharon Capps presented the financial report.

Bills: Approved to pay.

Committee Reports:

Workshop Committee Report: Jerry Seitz reported that the Weiser workshops were an outstanding success.

Newsletter/Website Committee Report: Jeanne Yearian gave updates on both subjects. Information on the festival has been posted on Facebook as well as the website—including a brochure of festival events for people to download, print and share with friends.

Membership Committee Report: Dave Wheeler reported that there are now 194 paid-up members which includes 14 new members in 2014; 24 new members thus far in 2015. The membership roster is being updated.

Showcase: Lou Bischoff reported that for September the host band will be The Board Band and Friends. October's host band will be Butch Gibson & Pardners. November's host band will be Lloyd Hooper & the Cascade Ramblers. December's host band is yet to be determined.

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

Hall of Fame Committee: Jeanne Yearian updated the Board on the Hall of Fame activities.

(Minutes from August 9, 2015, continued . . .)

New Business: At the September Board meeting a Nominating Committee must be appointed. An Audit Committee must be appointed by the November meeting and a Budget Committee must be appointed by the December meeting.

Motion passed to adjourn at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Striegel, Secretary

NWWSMS Annual Meeting Notice

The NWWSMS Annual Meeting will be held on October 11 at the Lynnwood Eagles. Nominations for officers and board members to serve in 2016 will be accepted at this time.

The meeting time and agenda will be posted in the October 2015 Newsletter.

Reminder: You must be a member in good standing (dues paid) to participate, nominate & vote.

Join Us in October

at the Lynnwood Eagles

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

for the October 11, 2015 Western Swing Showcase

Featuring

Butch Gibson & Pardners

Prez Sez-

by Jerry Seitz



If you missed our Hall of Fame this year you missed a real "Doozy." Jeanne Yearian did a fantastic job pulling everything together. I think this was the very best one I have ever attended. A big thanks goes out to all the volunteers that stepped up to make it such a success.

Fred Yearian was right on top of the sound. He keeps adding more and more fancy equipment every year. Fred, I think you've got it now!

Combining the jam room with the main show was a brilliant idea. Thanks, Tony Arana, for all your efforts there. It went off smooth as silk.

The quality of all the bands was stellar. A big "Western Swing" thanks goes out to all of you who traveled so many miles to make our shindig such a success. All the bands were terrific.

Working the "gate" was very enjoyable. The use of two cash registers turned out to be well worth the investment, keeping the flow of patrons running very smooth.

The raffle was another great success thanks to Kelly Gibson. She did a fantastic job covering the floor and selling tickets. As if that wouldn't keep her busy enough, she went the extra mile and kept everything organized as well as everyone informed on what was happening, making suggestions to improve the process as she went along.

Another big Western Swing thank you to Alan Troupe for donating almost 40 CD's from his collection of Western Swing music to be sold at our sales table. We still have a few left so check them out on our store

table at the Lynnwood Eagles Show Case September 13th.

Our annual General Meeting is coming up in October and with it the nomination of officers and board members for 2016. A nominating committee will be appointed at the September meeting. If you would like to serve your Society in any one of the offices please contact Dave Wheeler. Elections will take place at our November meeting.

I will not be running for the office of President in 2016. I think two years is enough for anyone. I will, however, be looking forward to chairing our new "Workshop Committee." Maybe you have some ideas you'd like to share after reading my report on the Weiser workshops in the July/August newsletter. If you do, let's talk!

The "Board Band & Friends" will be playing the Showcase this month. I hope you will take some time to come out and enjoy the music.

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 submissions is the 15th of the month, but sooner is better. Send to or e-mail:

Jeanne Yearian, Editor
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Renton, WA 98058-9740
Phone: 425-432-7888

e-mail:
jeanneyearian@yahoo.com
www.nwwsms.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. 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. For additional information and play dates, call:

Patty: 253-249-8788

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 9:30.

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



Western Swing Resources for Guitar

By Alan Troupe



Alan Troupe

While attending the Western Swing workshops put on by the NWWSSMS an interest in learning more was expressed by some guitarists. I have put together several resources that might be of interest to guitarists not familiar with Western Swing techniques. Some of these might be beneficial to guitarists who know some swing chords and progressions. Others will be of benefit to guitarists well into the intermediate level.

Mel Bay publishes several books by the late Joe Carr who was a musician as well as an instructor at the music program at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas. His books pertaining to Western Swing are as follows:

*"Western Swing Guitar Styles," "Western Swing Lead Guitar Styles,"
"60 Hot Licks for Western Swing Guitar"*

These books might be available with CD or audio download or even book download. Check at melbay.com or amazon.com and buy from your favorite local store. I have not seen these books and I mention them based on Joe Carr's reputation. Another one I haven't seen is Fred Sololow's "Western Swing Guitar." Fred, like Joe, has published several guitar method books. I mention it based upon his reputation.

A DVD that I recommend is Ray Benson's "Learn to Play Western Swing Guitar." Ray, of course, is known as the leader of the Asleep at the Wheel band, which has been performing since 1970. In 1993 Asleep at the Wheel put out a CD labeled "Tribute to the Music of Bob Wills & the Texas Playboys," which was a big seller (*by Western Swing standards*) and I highly recommend the album for those starting a collection of Western Swing music. There is also a book available by the same title that shows how some of the music was played, chords and some of the leads. Highly recommended for the intermediate level player.

I'm not sure of the availability, but Eldon Shamblin, guitarist for Bob Wills for many years, put out a VCR tape of how he chorded some of the Bob Wills standards. Eldon's chording was amazing but his teaching lacked somewhat -- he would start a tune calling out his chords but after a couple of lines his calling out the chords kind of disappeared. The accompanying chord charts were hard to decipher. Still, worth watching if you can find it.

Another book that I recommend is "Rhythm Guitar the Ranger Doug Way with Suze Spencer Marshall." Ranger Doug of course is Doug Green of Riders in the Sky and Time Jumpers fame. This book is good for those just getting into Western Swing/swing music as some of the tunes use basic swing chords/progressions. The big drawback to this book is that there is no accompanying CD so one needs to find, preferably, the Riders in the Sky versions of the songs. There are some standard swing tunes included as well. Doug Green also has a DVD, "Ranger Doug Rides the Rhythm Range," which I also recommend. Doug is primarily a rhythm player so this DVD and the aforementioned book are rhythm oriented.

I also need to mention Suze Marshall Spencer, who collaborated with Doug on this book. She put out a CD titled "Tall Boots" that is one of my very favorite CDs. It has a Sons of the Pioneers emphasis (note the Spencer connection) but it features many Northwest musicians and has a great variety of tunes.

I'm reluctant to give advice about learning since those wanting to learn more about playing Western Swing music are at different levels and capabilities but I do advocate getting a teacher, especially one who is familiar with Western Swing music and techniques. Also, some guitarists want to concentrate on lead and some on rhythm. These above-mentioned resources might be of help whether or not you choose to work with a teacher. The one last recommendation for rhythm guitar is "Swing & Big Band Guitar" by Charlton Johnson (CD included) for those who want to get serious about rhythm guitar playing. Western Swing is in fact swing jazz.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention internet resources and one that I find to be quite good is Leon Grizzard on YouTube. He has a series of videos on Western Swing Rhythm Guitar as well as other videos. He goes by "ljgaustin" on his channel. He has even written out the chords of Eldon Shamblin's version of San Antonio Rose in standard notation and tablature. He's worth checking out.

Happy pickin'.

Sharing the Journey

With Well Wishes and Prayers

Pat Gohr	Roy Lee Brown
Diane Meeks	Bobby Black
Shorty Joe	Carole Hutchinson
Marty James	Noreen King
Wanda Ramos Love	Topsy Brigge
Chuck Robbins	Vi & Darrell
Jim Sanderson	Anderson
Lane Johnson	Betty Reeves
Jack Naughton	Don Eardley
Keith Holter	Rod Rodriguez
Cindy De Leon	Chuck Woods
Carmen Champion	Pat Gore
Harold Selby	Lou Rochelle

Music for the Grieving Heart

When we are struggling with grief, music is a wonderful tool that can lift us up, take us out of our current mood and transport us to another time and place:

"Music speaks what cannot be expressed, soothes the mind and gives it rest, heals the heart and make it whole, flows from heaven to the soul."

-Unknown-

*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).*

(Continued from page 1)



2015 Inductee
Ray Harrison (Arizona)

The first jam band for the out-of-towners took the stage with Icon Red Gillean (California) on drums/vocals, Cliff Brizendine (California) on guitar/vocals, 2015 Inductee Bill Mitchell (Texas) on rhythm guitar/vocals, Bill Enyeart (California) on keyboard/vocals and 2013 Inductee John Jones (Texas) on bass/vocals.

Chuck opened the jam with the western swing standard *Rosetta*. The evening seemed to fly by as the musicians kept

the music flowing, providing the good-natured, light-hearted atmosphere - Western Swing's hallmark! Whether dancing, listening, renewing old acquaintances or making new friends, people were clearly enjoying themselves.



2012 Inductee
Edd Burnett (Oklahoma)



Auburn Eagle Aerie 2298's current President, Larry Lindsey, and Auxiliary President Kathy Underwood welcoming the NWWSMS

The band opening the festival this year was **Patty & the Travelin' Four**. Patty led off with Western Swing standards, *My Window Faces the South* and *Roly Poly*. Joining her on stage were Larry Broad on lead guitar/vocals, Marshall Wilson on steel guitar/vocals, Judy Hayes on bass and Jim Hollinger on drums. (Continued on page 6)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM FRIDAY, AUGUST 14TH



The 25th Annual Western Swing Festival and Hall of Fame opened with a welcome by MC (as well as the Society's VP) Dave Wheeler. Former NWWSMS President Butch Gibson asked everyone to join him in reciting our nation's "Pledge of Allegiance." Then, the crowd joined Butch in singing *The Star-Spangled Banner* as my husband, Ed, and I presented the American flag with a walk around the floor. Next, President Jerry Seitz asked the Aerie's current President, Larry Lindsey, and Auxiliary President Kathy Underwood to join him on the stage as the Society thanked the Club for once again hosting this event.

Before the music began Chuck Hayes came forward with an award of Special Recognition from the Western Swing Dancer's Network for Jeanne Yearian. It read, "For generously sharing her talent and expertise producing many music newsletters. Keeping our music family informed and connected via the Internet."

This recognition was not expected but by Jeanne's words that followed, it was very much appreciated. The plaque was displayed at her station for the remainder of the week-end for all to admire.



Chuck Hayes presenting Jeanne Yearian with the Special Recognition Award from the Western Swing Dancers Network.

Come Join The Fun At
The Western Swing Society's
 34th Annual
WESTERN SWING
 **HALL of FAME**
MUSIC FESTIVAL
 October 2-3-4, 2015
 Machinists' Hall, Rancho Cordova, California
THREE DAYS OF DANCING
AND LISTENING FUN
A Dozen Great Western Swing Bands
Morning and Night Jam Sessions
For Listening and Dancing
Hall of Fame Inductions on
Sunday, October 4th
On-Site Beverages and Hot Food
Special Western Swing Room Rates at
Nearby Locations
For information, call (Any Board Member)

(Continued from page 5) Just about now, Pete Maddix and Sally arrived from Colorado. Pete was present at festivals in the early years and professed that he'd always be here as he loved "our" music and friendship. We love to hear those comments. Thanks, Pete.

Kristi Nebel and Cowgirl's Dream came up from the



Tacoma area to take part in the festival. Kristi was on bass and vocals. Steve Nebel was on guitar/vocals. Toby Hanson added accordion/vocals/keyboard and Mike Friel completed the group adding drums/vocals.

Kristi opened with her award-winning arrangement of the song, *Swinging in Tucson*, which was written by friend Joe Wiele. **Cowgirl's Dream's** version of this

song has been on the western swing music charts many months in a row.

The **Sacramento Western Swing Society** was up next with past President Bill Enyeart on vocals and rhythm guitar as he opened with *All My Exes Live In Texas*. He was joined by Red Gillean on drums/vocals, John Jones on bass/vocals, Chuck Hayes on steel/vocals, Cliff Brizendine on lead guitar/vocals, Billy Champion on banjo/vocals and Christina Brizendine on vocals.

The Sacramento group comes early the week of the festival to camp and enjoy many days in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Formed in 1981, the founders inspired us in the Northwest to form a sister society in 1983. We have supported each other throughout the past 32 years and like to think both Societies have benefited from it. Their annual festival and hall of fame is held in Sacramento, CA, Friday through Sunday on the first weekend in October. Let's continue the tradition – hope to see you there! (For more details, please visit the Society's Facebook page: *Sacramento Western Swing Society*.)



Next up was **Butch Gibson & Pardners**. Butch played bass and was the lead vocalist with Wally Giffin on steel, Canada's Peter Proskurnik on tenor sax/vocals, Jim Hollinger on drums and Cliff Brizendine on lead guitar. The band opened with a Western Swing favorite, *Ida Red*, that made anyone feeling a bit sleepy after lunch jump to attention. Fine job, **Pardners!!** It was nice to have Wally on steel once again. He is so active



Butch Gibson & Pardners

with his own band, it's rarely we are blessed to have him participate at the festival.

Sharyn Lee & the Sundowners followed **Pardners**. They opened with another western swing standard, *Keeper of My Heart*. Sharyn Lee was on rhythm guitar/vocals and hubby Lew was on lead guitar.

Local living legend Jimmy Webb was on steel guitar, filling in for Pat Edwards. Dave Wheeler was on bass/vocals, Jerry Seitz was on fiddle/vocals and Bruce Tuttle was on drums. Jerry most fittingly sang a Tommy Duncan hit, *My Life's Been a Pleasure*, (written by Jesse Ashlock) as a special surprise for his wife, Barbara, in appreciation for all her support and love through the years. How sweet is that?



Up next, representing the Western Swing Society of the Southwest (*WSMSS*), was past President **Chuck Hayes & Special Edition**.

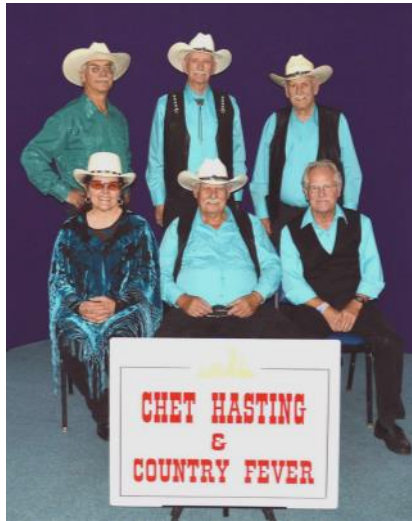


Red Gillean joined the band on drums/vocals and Jimmy Webb took over on steel guitar while Chuck led the band. Bill Mitchell was on rhythm guitar/vocals, John Jones on bass/vocals, Cliff Brizendine (2015 Inductee into the *WSMSS*) on lead guitar/vocals, and Christina Brizendine on vocals.



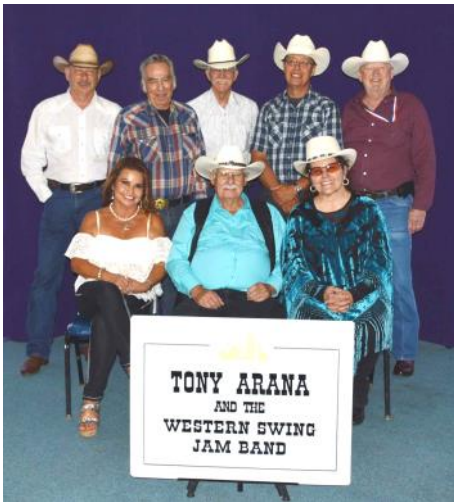
(Wait, just a minute! Did we see Christina and Chuck dancing to the music??? I believe we did – and Event Photographer, Dennis Ford, captured the moment as proof!)

Chet Hasting & Country Fever took the stage, with Chet on lead guitar. Ken Fullerton, on guitar/vocals, opened the set with a real favorite, *Old Fashioned Love*. Bob Gaede was on rhythm guitar/vocals, Jeanne Yearian on fiddle/vocals, Dave Vines on bass/vocals and Jim Hollinger on drums. A real feature for me was Chet playing *My Happiness*. The band closed their set with Chet playing a Chet Atkins' tune, *Trambone*.



Closing the opening day of the festival was

Tony Arana & the Western Swing Jam Band. Those invited to the stage, included Tony Arana on drums, Wayne Franco on steel guitar, 2015 Inductee Ray Harrison on bass/vocals, 2015 Inductee Terry Crouson on guitar/vocals, Jeanne Yearian and Robert Waterhouse (from the Oregon Valley Boys) on twin fiddles/vocals, Brenda Jacobs on vocals and Chet Hasting on lead guitar. By the energy and enthusiasm in their



music and stage presence, you would never have guessed that most of these musicians had been playing on the jam stage as well as on the main stage throughout the day!

Many reunions have taken place today as musicians traveled to the festival to help us celebrate. Founders Dick Heil, Ronnie Hutchinson and Tony Arana gathered and were so pleased to see not only each other but Tony James, Annie Linscott, Keith

Holter and others. These folks go back a long way to their pro-music days playing in local bands. Tony James now lives in Alaska, Dick resides in Yuma and Tony Arana in Reno; however, their love of the old days was renewed over and over again as they hugged and reminisced with one another after such a long absence. Some had not played together for over 40+ years. I, myself, remember Annie Linscott performing with **Annie & the Orphans** many years ago. What a memorable time to celebrate over 32 years of western swing and acknowledge these folks once again.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH

Saturday afternoon the festival began with MC Lloyd Hooper giving a warm welcome to everyone. Lloyd's daughter, Cindy DeLeon, opened Day 2 of the festival with *God Bless America*. Now it was time for Saturday's awards presentations.



The Founders Presentations (Pictured left to right) Dee and Dick Heil, Tony Arana and Ronnie Hutchinson

When I decided I wanted to recognize the three Founders who said they would be attending the festival - Dick Heil, Tony Arana and Ronnie Hutchinson - I never dreamed it would be so emotional. Honoring these men with their wives was a glorious time for all. And I know it was special not only to me but all of those who know the early history of our Society. They made it happen and we carry on each month with what they started back in 1983. Each of the three Founders received a framed certificate of appreciation along with a copy of the newsletter published the month of the first festival and Hall of Fame, held in July 1991, as well as the program from that event.

Next, Chuck Hayes came forward to honor Cliff Brizendine.



Cliff was a 2015 Inductee into the Western Swing Society of the Southwest this past July; however, could not make it to Oklahoma to accept the honor. Not to worry . . . Chuck brought it to Cliff and made a very moving presentation. Our congratulations, Cliff – we know just how exceptional you are (Cliff was inducted into the NWWSMS Hall of Fame in 2013), so generously sharing your talent with us.

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7) As if to celebrate the honor just received by one of their own, **Bill Enyeart and the Sacramento Western Swing Society** took the stage. Joining Bill was Cliff Brizendine on lead guitar/vocals, Red Gillean on drums/vocals,



Dave DuChane on bass/vocals, Chuck Hayes on steel guitar/vocals, Paul Anastasio on fiddle, Billy Champion on banjo/vocals, Christina Brizendine on vocals, and Dick Heil on keyboard/vocals. What a fantastic group of musicians to kick off the second day of the festival!

Not to be outdone by Sacramento, **Keith Holter &**

Longhorn II stepped up to play. Chuck Hayes helped lead the band. Keith Holter – known by many as the Northwest's 'Eldon Shamblin' – was on guitar with 2015 Inductee Jim Wallace on lead guitar, John Jones on bass, Jimmy Webb (filling in for Dean Rankin) on steel guitar, the twin fiddles of Kevin Healy and Paul



Anastasio and 2015 Inductee Dennis Wall on drums. **Longhorn II** opened with *C Jam Blues* and we knew we were in for a treat. And they did not disappoint us!

After an absence of several years, we were very excited to add to the program some of our Canadian Western Swing musicians, calling themselves **The Men in Black with Friends**. Coming down from the Vancouver, Canada, area, Mike Higgins on drums, Peter Proscurnik on tenor sax/vocals and Lorrain Foster/vocals filled out their band with Paul Anastasio on fiddle, Dick Heil on keyboard/vocals, Chet Hasting on lead guitar, Steve Ketchum on rhythm guitar/vocals, and 2015 Inductee Ray Harrison on bass/vocals. (Just a note: Peter and



Dick hadn't played together in over 30 years . . . it was a very special on-stage reunion for them.) Thanks to all of you who came to the State of Washington to be with us.

Lloyd Hooper & the Cascade Ramblers opened with Lloyd singing *Houston* followed by Steve Ketchum singing *All of Me*. Close



Steve Carter stood close by, harmonies enhanced by well thought-out arrangements added to the crowd's dancing pleasure.

Randy Hill & the Oregon Valley Boys were up next with band leader and 2014 Inductee Randy "Tex" Hill on drums/vocals, Robert "Pecos" Waterhouse on fiddle/vocals, Paul "Hank" Saunders on acoustic guitar/vocals, Loren "Spankee" Depping on steel guitar/vocals, Matt "Speedy" Sutherland on bass/vocals and

harmonies filled the hall for the next hour . . . song after song so well-rehearsed! Lloyd was on bass/vocals, Steve Ketchum on guitar/vocals, Thom Gustafson on steel guitar/vocals and Pete Brown on drums.

Southern Comfort opened with *Route 66*. Shelley McNaughton was on vocals. Robert Van Den Akker was on drums/vocals, Geno Burbank on lead guitar/vocals, Dave DuChane on bass/vocals, ready to assist. Again tight



Paz "Smokey" Reingans on lead guitar/vocals. This was their second year at the festival, traveling up from the Salem, Oregon area. What a great blend of traditional western swing and original material they bring to us!

Closing the second day of the festival once again was the power-packed **Tony Arana &**

the Western Swing Jam Band.

Those invited to the stage included Tony Arana on drums, Dick Heil on keyboard, 2015 Inductee Terry Crouson on guitar/vocals, Dave DuChane on bass, Steve Carter and Paul Saunders on guitar, Robert Waterhouse on fiddle/vocals, Loren Depping on steel guitar/vocals, and Shelley McNaughton on vocals.

(Continued on page 11)

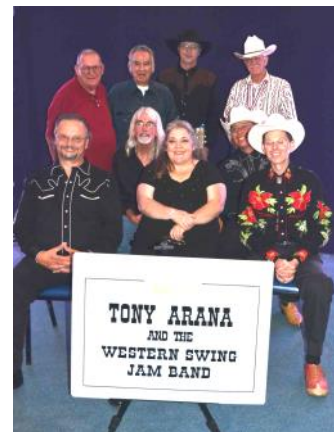
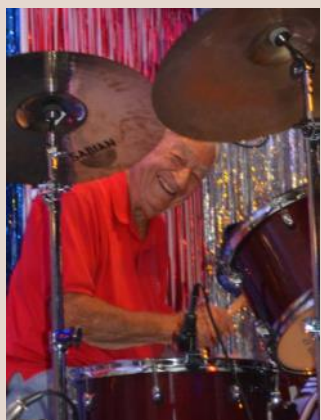


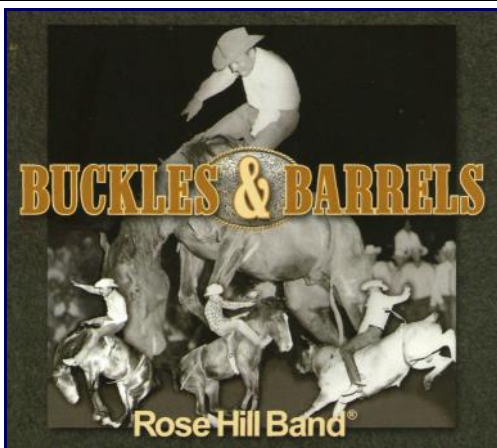
Photo Highlights from the 2015 NWWSMS Western Swing Festival

*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 September Showcase!
Save a smile for the camera!**

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



Album:
Buckles &
Barrels
Artists:
Rose Hill Band

Album Reviews

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



Mike Gross

Cowgirl, Barrel Man, Old Duke, Little Cowboy and a sacred oriented Will I Meet Him. From Western Music the golden era of Western movies is remembered with Silver Screen Cowboys and there is We are Cowboys, The Last Trail and Rodeo Life.

Country Road 4655, Rhome, TX 76078. It will also be available for download on itunes and Amazon.

Mike Gross, KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX & KTNK-AM, Lompoc, CA

This CD can be obtained for \$15. + \$3. S&H from Rose Hill Band, 262

August 14, 2015

This new CD by this very enjoyable Texas group is Western Music with a strong emphasis of Western Swing on many of the 11 tunes. All these cuts were written by the album producers Linda Ortberg and J. Ray Threatt. Linda and her husband Scott are heard on all vocals with the exception of *Bull Rider* on which Scott is joined for vocals by Mathew Walton the very talented album steel and lead guitarist and banjo player. Linda also plays guitar and percussion, Scott plays bass and Rodeo Kate Howell-Chapman plays the awesome fiddle.

Other Western Swing oriented tunes are *Rodeo is Coming to Town*, *Little*

Mike's Top 10 for September 2015

Songs:

1. Navajo Trail - AATW, Willie Nelson & the Quebe Sisters (Bismeaux)
2. Meaning to Miss You - Christina Mae
3. Back In My Texas Home - Hot Texas Swing Band
4. Swingtime Lullabye - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)
5. Slow Boat to China - Western Swing Authority (Canadian Import)
6. Lonesome Town - Coby Carter
7. It's a Sin to Tell a Lie - Mikki Daniel & Dave Alexander (Musikode)
8. Texas and You - Kristyn Harris
9. Love Is a Lingering Thing - Solitaire Miles
10. The Hard Way - Hot Texas Swing Band

Albums:

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

NWWSMS Application for Membership

Date Rec'd: _____

Rec'd by: _____

NAME: _____

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

ADDRESS: _____

INDIVIDUAL, \$20.00

COUPLE, \$25.00

DANCER

SUPPORTER

CITY: _____

PERFORMER

VOCALIST

BAND LEADER

STATE / ZIP: _____

BAND: _____

PHONE: _____

INSTRUMENT(S): _____

E-MAIL: _____

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

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

E-mail preferred (if you have given us an e-mail address above, this will be used)

Please have someone send me a paper newsletter

(Note: the NWWSMS will not mail out paper newsletters after 12/31/15)

I'd be happy to print and mail _____ extra newsletters to those without e-mail access (how many)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



(Continued from page 8)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUNDAY, AUGUST 16TH

Sunday morning attendees entered the ballroom which was now beautifully decorated, in honor of those to be inducted later that day. MC LeRoy King welcomed everyone and then introduced my granddaughter, Kalee Jane Faast Smyth, who traveled here from Nashville to sing the National Anthem while my hubby, Ed, and I once again presented the flag. Her proud mother, Connie, and dad, Mike, as well as best friends Gregg and Brenda Knapp were there to support her. Some of you might remember Kalee opening the festival in the past. Thanks, Kalee, for your special effort to be present on this very special occasion – not only the 25th Anniversary of the Festival but also the induction of your father into the NWWSSMS Hall of Fame.



Now it's time for Chuck Hayes to present the **Steel Guitar Grand Jam**. Three steel guitars – each with unique differences - had been placed across the stage. Chuck invited



steel players Jimmy Webb and Pat Rowe to join him. Also coming to the stage to complete the band were Cliff Brizendine on lead guitar, Red Gillean on drums, Bill Mitchell on rhythm guitar, John Jones on

Christina Brizendine on vocals. It truly was riveting as Chuck recounted the history of the steel guitar—complete with musical examples! Watch for opportunities to view it online as well as on dvd this Fall.

The stage quickly cleared and was reset for the main event, the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Before the Inductees were honored, there were two more special recognition awards to present. I was proud to invite Kalee to stage to receive an award for her part in our 2015 Hall of Fame.

I must admit I was speechless as I was given an award for my longtime service to the NWWSSMS. As a promoter I must say it has been my greatest pleasure to support the musicians and spread the story of western swing music whenever and wherever I could. Over the years this meant traveling to festivals in Oklahoma, Texas, Canada and, of course, over 20 years of continual support to our Sacramento society. What an honor to be a part of all those great organizations over the years. My hubby and I were fortunate to be charter members of the WSMSS as well as



the Oregon Western Swing Association. We are very proud to say we 'belong' to them all. Sadly, the Oregon Association no longer exists; but, we have fond memories of them all and make an effort to stay in touch.

Then, I received a real treasure – a gift from all my western swing heroes, worldwide. I must admit I had no clue that a quilt was being made especially for me by Barbara Seitz, the wife of our President, Jerry. The workmanship and design was created in such a personal way as to include all my personal music heroes! Each autographed square couldn't mean more to me. Only later I learned that as our members traveled to various festivals and events this past year, they carried



with them blank squares and a special pen to collect autographs whenever possible . . . my *sincere* thanks to Jerry Seitz, Sharyn Lee, Rhonda Craig, John Jones, Chuck Hayes and the Elkins for gathering these treasured pieces from as far away as Yorkshire, England! Each autograph spells love and I am proud to call you all my friends. You have no idea what you mean to me. To all my heroes, believe me when I say your love and music has always kept me going, especially through the storms of life. God bless you all. With enormous gratitude and appreciation may you enjoy life to the fullest.

Now it was time for the main event – the reason we had all gathered together today - to honor the promoters and musicians who, over the years, determined to preserve, promote and perform Western Swing Music. It was time for the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Vice President Dave Wheeler stepped up to the podium, President Jerry Seitz took his place next to the awards, Judy Hayes sat down at the keyboard, Dennis Ford was ready with his camera and Treasurer Sharon Capps stood by to hand the new Inductees their Star of Fame and assist them off the stage. The ceremony began.

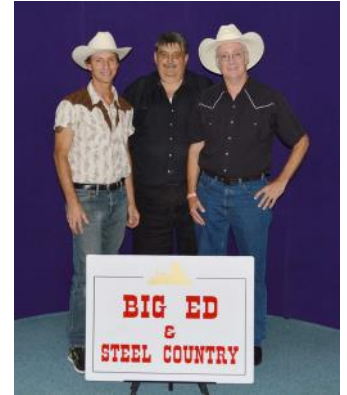
(Continued on page 12)

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Once the ceremony ended and the group photo had been taken, **The Jangles** took the stage. Mike was on rhythm guitar/vocals with Pat Rowe on steel guitar. Laurie Haslund added vocals/ukulele and husband Lance doghouse bass/vocals. Paul Anastasio was on fiddle with Toby Hanson on keyboard/vocals/accordion. Adding a second fiddle as well as lead guitar was Roger Ferguson and Mark Drake completed the band on drums. Mike opened the set with a well-loved western swing standard, *My Window Faces the South* and that was just the beginning of a fantastic set – whether you preferred to dance or just sit and listen to the premier Western Swing Band of the Northwest.



Steel Country had Pat Rowe on steel guitar, Danny Lyons on drums and Duane Trueblood on bass. A barstool was left vacant center stage – where ‘Big Ed’ Kastner would have been sitting if he had not developed car trouble coming over the mountains yesterday. I think everyone would agree that these three gentlemen can really put out the music!



Another giant surprise loomed in the air for me as the 2015 festival neared its end. **JC’s Cherokee Band** was the surprise band, ending the musical journey I began 25 years ago.

With JC came his lovely wife, Lenora and their daughter, Amber, to hear the band that included JC’s son-in-law on drums, Jimmy “Six-Gun” Ortega, long-time favorite steel man Ray Hadacheck, Chris Meadors on lead guitar and JC on bass/vocals. The last of the dancers were thrilled and called for more as we enjoyed the last of the excellent music for our 25th Festival week-end.

Our sincere thanks to all who took part in any way in making the 2015 Festival and Hall of Fame so successful! It couldn’t have happened without your support!

My love and best to you all,

Lou



The **Inductee Band** filled the floor with dancers as bassman Ray Harrison kicked off their set with western swing favorite, *Time Changes Everything*. The band included Sharyn Lee/vocals, Pat Rowe on steel guitar, Terry Crouson on guitar/vocals, Mike Faast on rhythm guitar/vocals, Dennis Wall on drums, Jim Wallace on lead guitar and Bill Mitchell on rhythm. There was no doubt in our minds as to why these musicians had been inducted

into the Hall of Fame. It was not only their musicianship but their ability to connect and read their audience that made us proud to include them in our family.



2015 Hall of Fame Inductees or their Representatives

Back Row, Left to Right: Bill Mitchell, Mike Faast, Terry Crouson, Dennis Wall, James Wallace, Ray Harrison

Front Row, Left to Right: Billy Champion for Virgil Watts, Chuck Hayes for Kent Harrison, Sharyn Lee, Lou Bischoff for Gene ‘Pappy’ Merritts, Edd Burnett for Bob Baker, Jeanne Yearian for Rhonda Craig

