



NWWSMS

NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

Preserving, Promoting & Performing America's
Western Swing Music Since 1983
www.nwwsmo.com

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Vol. 39, Issue 3

NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

July-September 2021

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

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**The NWWSMS
hosts the
Western Heritage Stage
at the King County Fair**

The 2021 King County Fair - a HUGE success for the Fair and a GRAND reunion for many of us in the NWWSMS family. Let's walk through the weekend together.



*Lynn Kopelke,
Cowboy Poet/Artist*

THURSDAY: After the morning jam, Enumclaw's famed cowboy poet/artist (note the hand-painted tie), Lynn Kopelke, took the stage and entertained us along with laying a foundation for aspiring cowboy poets during his first workshop of the weekend. Lynn accepted the job of lining up the western entertainment for the weekend.

Following Lynn, Mike Schweedler drew a crowd with his retro classic swing, including several young potential steel players of the future who were welcomed onto the stage to see just how it was done. I managed to capture one photo just before the little girl in the pink shoes burst into dance!



Milke Schweedler, Musician/Vocalist

Next up was a cowboy poet from Oregon, Jim Crotts. His story, his poetry, his presentation were captivating. Sadly he and his wife had to leave that evening - wish more of you could have met them.



Above left to right: Bob Mitchell, Judy Gardner, Sherry Stinson and David Auer

Mike Schweedler was back for another set and, once again, drew a crowd of folks who had never seen a steel guitar . . . or heard one played.

The After Breakfast Boys and Friends closed the stage! This was one of the first times out for their newly blended group. Judy Gardner with Sherry Stinson on vocals, harmonies and ukes with Don Gardner on swing guitar joined Bob Mitchell (accordion), David Auer (guitar, vocals), and Bob Aldrich on doghouse bass. To top it off, the sun broke through the clouds for the first time that day!

(Continued on Page 7. . .)



NWWSMS
NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

Business Address
PO Box 14003, MILL CREEK, WA 98082

A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FORMED IN NOVEMBER 1983 BY A GROUP OF MUSICIANS AND ENTHUSIASTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING, PROMOTING & PERFORMING WESTERN SWING MUSIC.

2020 Officers and Board Members

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Board Members: Tony Bachler, Dave Enslow, Butch Gibson, Toby Hanson, Ramon Selby, Judy Hayes (*alternate*), Sharon Smith (*alternate*)

Annual Membership:

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

Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com
to read the newsletter in full color, JOIN the NWWSMS, RENEW your membership or DONATE.

Like us on FACEBOOK at
[NorthWest Western Swing Music Society](https://www.facebook.com/NorthWestWesternSwingMusicSociety)

Contact the editor,
jeanneyearian@yahoo.com, to receive our
newsletter in your in-box.

PHOTO CREDITS:

King County Fair photos by
Jeanne Yearian.

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2021

In observance of the continuing State-wide shutdowns, the NWWSMS Board did not meet during the months of July through September 2021; however, e-mails were exchanged on two issues: the invitation to host a stage at the 2022 King County Fair and the break-in and loss of donated NWWSMS festival property at the Yearian's.

The Board Members were notified the NWWSMS has been invited to host a stage during the 2022 King County Fair. The Management is working on a budget and will let us know if there will be any funds available to help bring in entertainers. This year,

funding to help with the costs (offering small gifts of appreciation to the performers to cover gas and meals) was provided through sponsors. In addition, several of our entertainers donated their time and talent. We broke even without using any funds from the Society!

In August, the Yearian family home (thankfully, no one was home) was burgled. Among the property stolen, the thieves made off with over \$2,000 of decorations and equipment that had been lent or donated to the Society for use during the festival weekend. None of the Society's records were stored at that location.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Yearian, Secretary



1983-2021 Celebration

DUE TO CONTINUING HEALTH CONCERNS, THE NWWSMS AUGUST 2021 EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED.

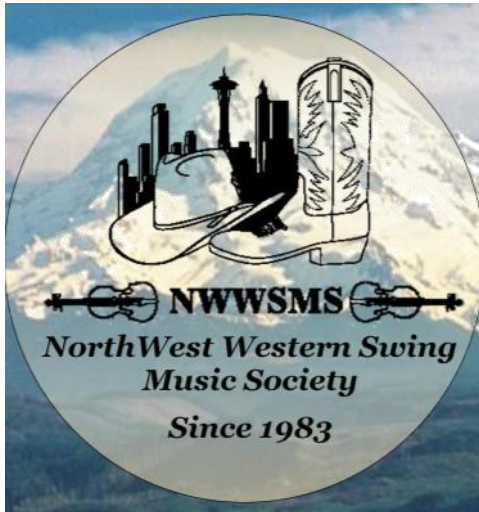
SAME LOCATION, NEW DATES: AUGUST 11-14, 2022

WATCH FOR INFORMATION ON THE AUGUST 2022 NW WESTERN SWING MUSIC CAMP, WESTERN SWING MUSIC FESTIVAL AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CELEBRATION COMING JANUARY 2022 ON FACEBOOK, IN THE E-NEWSLETTER AND ON THE WEBSITE AT [NWWSMS.COM](http://www.nwwsms.com).

Summer Music Camp

coming to the historic Field House (aka: Pete's Pool) at the Enumclaw Event Center!

Click on the photo to the left for more information on the facility or go to:
<http://www.enumclawexpoctr.com/>



We'll be back once the dust settles, but, until we understand the new 'normal' stay safe and let's take care of each other.

Remember: Find ways to support your favorite musicians.

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.

3rd Sunday Western Swing Jam, Enumclaw Music, 1515 Cole St, from 2 to 5! Due to State mandate, cancelled until further notice. Jeanne Yearian & Toby Hanson hosting.
Call 425-432-7888 for additional information.

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.

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

Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners. Dance Hall Music by **The Sundowners.** Visit their website for information on additional play dates: www.thesundownersband.com

JC McCormick & the Cherokee Band. For booking information or a schedule of upcoming play dates, call JC at: 253-268-2314.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

There should be a moral to these two articles . . . perhaps a parallel drawn between what will become of 'us' once the states of emergency and mandates have been lifted (and live music and dance return) and this news of the potential revitalization of the Longhorn Ballroom in Dallas. Could the NWWSMS be among those that not only survive the pandemic but come back revitalized and renewed? Perhaps we are just 'down' but not 'out.' What do you think?

In the June 2020 issue of this newsletter, we ran an article from the Dallas Morning News that read in part:



Jeanne Yearian

The Longhorn Ballroom, Dallas' ultimate Country-Western dive, is for sale

Legendary cow palace south of downtown is up for grabs.

By Steve Brown, 10:05 AM on Jun 2, 2020



Here's your chance to buy the ultimate Dallas honky-tonk. The historic Longhorn Ballroom - a storied music venue south of downtown that's hosted generations of performers - just hit the market . . .

(Pictured left: The 70-year-old entertainment venue on Riverfront Boulevard is being sold out of bankruptcy. (DMN files)

If you would like to read the rest of the June 2020 article, it can be found on our website, www.nwwsms.com, under Publications/Newsletters.

Contrast the headline above with the one from September 27, 2021:



Longhorn Ballroom. The legendary Dallas music club has hosted the likes of Willie Nelson, the Sex Pistols and Selena.

Kessler Theater owner to purchase Longhorn Ballroom, where Willie Nelson, Sex Pistols, Selena played

By Michael Granberry, Sep 27, 2021
mgranberry@dallasnews.com

Edwin Cabaniss (pictured left), owner of the Kessler Theater in Oak Cliff, is working to buy the

Dallas music club has hosted the likes of Willie Nelson, the Sex Pistols and Selena.

What follows is the rest of the story . . . and perhaps an investment opportunity for someone interested in preserving a piece of western swing's rich legacy.

Edwin Cabaniss, the owner of the Kessler Theater in Oak Cliff, revealed Monday in an exclusive interview with *The Dallas Morning News* that he's working to complete the purchase of the Longhorn Ballroom, a legendary music venue that in recent years has fallen into disrepair.

Should Cabaniss succeed, he would save the Longhorn from the threat of demolition and place near downtown Dallas a renovated, state-of-the-art concert venue with a seating capacity as high as 2,000 — not to mention the Longhorn's rich history.

(Continued on page 5)

**Western Swing Forum
Keep your letters and
e-mails coming!**



Bob Richards
YouTube: radiobob805

Bob (Wills) once rode a mule 50 miles to see Bessie in person. Look her up. Bessie Smith was a huge star beginning in 1923 with her hit, *Downhearted Blues*. Bob Wills recorded that twice, but it was not released. Note this is the first take on *Oh, Lady Be Good*. Take 2 was the released version.

The following is a session in 1938, Bob was ill that day in Dallas. The band kinda did their own thing. Listen how long the solos are.



I've owned the film, *Take Me Back to Oklahoma* (below), for over twenty years, but this part was always so dark and fuzzy. I was finally able to make it look good and remove the film noise in the audio.



Tex Ritter, Bob Wills, & Jimmie Davis, You Are My Sunshine 1940

Editor's Note: Dick Heil, NWSMS Co-Founder, retired and lives in Yuma with his wife, Dee. As we work on a history of the first 35 years of the NWSMS, Dick has shared some entertaining and thoughtful stories from his musical past. Here is Part 1 of his new column.

PLAY IT AGAIN!!

by Dick Heil



Dick Heil
Co-Founder of the NWSMS

Grandma Heil bought me a 17 bass accordion in 1939. I wasn't interested in music until 1940, when I heard, by mistake, 'Bob Wills Special', which was the flip side of 'New San Antonio Rose.' I just listened until 1942, when my folks decided to try some lessons for me. That did it; and, I listened on a small radio to every bit of live music I could find.

I realized that the rhythm section was vital for a song to please my ears. I listened faithfully to 'Cherokee Jack and the Rhythm Ridin' Wranglers' and learned many of their songs by ear. My music teachers were astonished when I played my lessons as they discovered I had memorized the songs as they demonstrated them the week before.

My first paid job was in Tacoma, WA, at a fund-raising luncheon for West Coast Airlines. Money and applause hooked me, I admit, but the musicians I have become friends with are priceless and I'll be sharing some fun, strange, warm and educational stories as long as Jeanne needs me to. She has become a person I look up to for her sincere hard work to keep our Society on its feet, even if its legs are a bit wobbly today.

The number of musicians who know how and want to play Western Swing has drastically decreased but all styles of music experience revivals and 'come backs.' I'm sure Western Swing in the Northwest will too.

Hey! Just wait until the youngsters find out how much fun it is to hold a pretty girl or a handsome boy for 3 to 5 minutes during a song as opposed to

jumping up and down like a kangaroo with its tail in flames!

As Bob Wills said, "AH HA!!!"
Intermission time, but I'll be back!



Editor's Note: Dick Heil, NWSMS Co-Founder, asked if we might place this offer in the newsletter. He said that at 86 years old, it is time to downsize and he has a collection of vinyl records he would like to pass along.

Dear music enthusiasts,

If you are interested in or would like more information on any or all of the vinyl collections listed below, please contact me (Dick Heil) between 10 am and 4 pm (PST) at 928-580-4195:

I focused on collecting anything danceable.

- ★ 78 RPMs from the 1920s on - a mix of jazz, swing and western swing
- ★ 45 RPMs primarily country and western swing
- ★ 33.3 RPMs mix of country, pop, jazz and swing.



(Continued from Page 3, *What a Difference a Year Makes . . .*)

The ballroom opened in 1950, as a showcase for Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys. Over the years, it hosted such country superstars as Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn and Merle Haggard, and such African American musical greats as Nat King Cole, Ray Charles and James Brown.

On a January night in 1978, the ballroom achieved international notoriety by hosting the avatars of British punk, the Sex Pistols, who broke up soon after their Dallas appearance.

Cabaniss is not yet the owner of the Longhorn: He has a contract to buy the building, and the sale is pending. He has the early support of the mayor of Dallas and Preservation Dallas, which had feared that, like so many buildings in the city, the ballroom would fall prey to demolition.



HISTORIC MUSIC VENUE

Cabaniss, 52, who saved the Kessler and The Heights Theater in Houston from a similar fate, said losing the Longhorn Ballroom is the last thing he would want to see happen. “The Longhorn has always been a Dallas landmark. And a Texas landmark. The Longhorn is widely considered Texas’ most historic music venue,” he said. “And when you look at the history of how it came about, and what’s happened there, it’s also been a cutting-edge place, celebrated for going into new territory.”

Cabaniss sees it as “a fantastic opportunity that’s on brand with Kessler Presents and what we’ve done for the past decade. We also see it as a historic preservation project. It’s a real, authentic opportunity.”

Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson agreed, saying in a statement to *The News*, “Edwin has done a great job with the Kessler Theater, and I am excited to see his plans to restore the historic Longhorn Ballroom — a hidden gem of Dallas. The venue is a living monument to our city’s rich music history, and it is clear that it still has tremendous untapped potential.”

David Preziosi, the executive director of Preservation Dallas, responded by saying in a statement to *The News* that the ballroom is “one of Texas’ most iconic and unique music venues. Sadly, it is not protected from demolition for new development, making it one of Dallas’ most endangered historic places.”

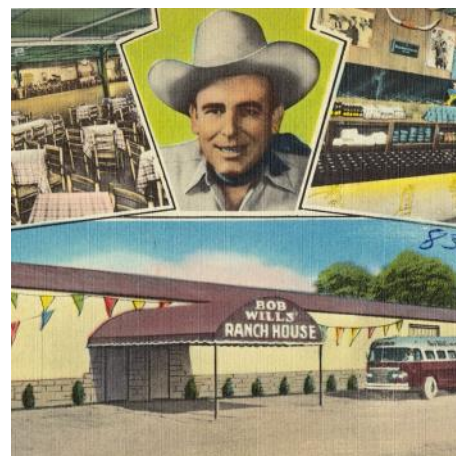
“However, it may have found its champion with Edwin and his team. They have a successful track record of restoring and operating multiple historic venues across Texas. It will be a complicated project to return the Longhorn to its former glory, and together with Cabaniss and the full support of the city, as well as the preservation and cultural communities, this icon will surely come back to life.”

If you’re a student of Texas music history, Cabaniss said, “you know the relevance of the Longhorn Ballroom.” And part of that relevance, he contends, has to do “with the untold story of how important that building has been to the African American community.”

FROM RUBY TO VAUGHAN

Dallas millionaire O.L. Nelms opened the building more than 70 years ago as a showcase for his close friend, Bob Wills. Nelms later transferred operational duties to none other than Jack Ruby, who became infamous in 1963 for murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, the suspected assassin of President John F. Kennedy, in the basement of the Dallas police station. It was Ruby, Cabaniss said, who in the early 1950s chose to turn Sunday and Monday nights at the Longhorn into a showplace for major Black artists of the day, which he continued to do until he left the Longhorn to explore new opportunities. Ruby’s ambitions eventually included the Carousel Club, a downtown strip joint, which he owned at the time of the assassination. “Jack Ruby operated the Longhorn for a couple of years in the 1950s,” Cabaniss said. “This was a full decade before the civil rights movement. So, you had country and western nights on Friday and Saturday, and soul and blues nights on Sunday and Monday.

“Fast-forward to the mid- to late 1960s, and the guy that broke down both barriers was crossover artist Charley Pride. As it turns out, the guys that had the most sellouts in the history of the Longhorn were Al Green and Charley Pride.



(Continued on page 11)

And a hearty Congratulations from the NWWSSMS to all of this year's Inductees !
Play one for us . . .
We look forward to celebrating with you in person in the years to come!



Ronnie Elkan
WSS Newsletter Editor

Hey Folks

I'll get started by reporting that we had a great day at the WSS (September Showcase) . . . The dance floor was packed and we had a great crowd all the way to the end.

Well we are getting close to our annual Hall Of Fame weekend. This year it will fall on October 1, 2 and 3. On Sunday there will be lots of performances along with the awards ceremony. Please check out the program of events (on Page 7 of this newsletter) . Something for everyone!

October 2021

2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



John Erwin



Zack Sapaner



Larry Sardahl Sr



Joni Harris



Jimmy Spear



Brian McCormick



John Steele



Sonny Rice



Charlie Joe Wallace



Whit Smith



Joe Ybarra



Eddie Rivers



Ramon Solby



Don deMar

CONGRATULATIONS

Come Join The Fun At
The Western Swing Society's
40th Annual
WESTERN SWING
HALL of FAME
MUSIC FESTIVAL

Oct. 1, 2 & 3, 2021

Machinists' Hall, Rancho Cordova, California

\$10 each day, or \$25 for 3-day pass

THREE DAYS OF DANCING
AND LISTENING FUN

Great Western Swing Bands

Daily Jam Sessions

Hall of Fame Inductions on
Sunday, October 3rd

On-Site Beverages and Food Available

"I'm Going"

(Continued from Page 1, NWSMS at the King County Fair . . .)

FRIDAY: After the jam, Enumclaw's famed cowboy poet/artist, Lynn Kopelke, took the stage and entertained us along with giving some insights in how to present your poem to an audience. He shared how, from time to time, he is inspired by his paintings and demonstrated poems that followed his art. Great workshop!



Front: Tony Bachler with his brother, Marlin

Now, strange as it may seem, even though Tony Bachler is on the NWSMS Board of Directors and has been part of the Society since the beginning, I never have seen him perform his original songs. He and his brother, Marlin, took the stage and there was no doubt he'd been there before. What a strong, professional performance they gave! Accompanying them on stage was Judy Hayes on bass and Mike Friel on drums. They would be back for a second set later that afternoon . . . drawing people passing by to our stage.

Toby Hanson and his Smilin' Scandinavians were next. Once again, even though Toby is on our Board, I had never seen him perform with the Smilin' Scandinavians with Toby being the front man and only lead instrument (his clarinet player was on a family vacation). Friends, I have never seen Toby so animated! My first thoughts were it was because of the lockdown - you know, all that pent-up musical joy inside. But he later explained he only lets go when he is the front man! I believe everyone who was there had to have left with AT LEAST a bit of Toby's joy and passion for the polka!

Entertainment on our stage ended as the gates to the rodeo arena opened . . .



Lynn Kopelke with his art set to poetry



The Jam Band, led by Butch Gibson, was honored to host surprise guests

SATURDAY: What a FANTASTIC jam! Many unexpected musicians from our early days stopped by to join in and stayed to listen!

The Tall Tale Competition scheduled at High Noon will have to wait until next year due to the cowboys battling fires. We carried on with the Restrung Geezers (aka Ramon Selby and Alan Troupe). Now, I have heard Alan and Ramon perform before but they were outstanding on Saturday. Their harmonies and choice of material kept our attention throughout. What a treat!

Next up was JC McCormick and Cherokee. We were so pleased to see steel player, Ray Hadachek, back with them (after a brief retirement). JC, Chet Hasting and Ray have played together for decades. Joanna Eyres joined

them on drums. Before the intro for Hank Thompson's Way to Survive had finished, the lumpy, grassy patch in front of the stage began filling with dancers. And, despite the condition of our 'dance floor', the dancers persisted.

While Soul Posse set up, Lynn Kopelke brought up a cowboy poet from Carbonado, WA, Mark Wright. It was his first time on stage and I believe I can speak for many of us when I say that his poems were very sincere, very moving. He said he wrote at night when he was long haul trucking.

The mood was set as Soul Posse took the stage . . . dancers were ready and waiting despite the rough terrain! This band from Port Orchard picked up where Cherokee left off. Great to see a familiar face, Wayne Franco, playing steel for this group. Mike Byrd is on keyboard, Bill Wolfe on lead guitar, Art Pedersen on bass guitar, Jesse on guitar and lead vocals, and Gary on drums/vocals.



Toby Hanson and his Smilin' Scandinavians



Al Troupe & Ramon Selby aka The Restrung Geezers



JC McCormick with Cherokee



Soul Posse's front line, Bill, Jesse & Art

(Continued on Page 11. . .)

Free
Cruise
T-Shirt

Bobby Flores & The Yellow Rose Band

4U Inside - \$891
2N Outside - \$1071
4D Balcony - \$1440

All rates based on
Double Occupancy

Western Swing Cruise To Alaska



Quantum of the Seas

7 Days - Sailing August 15, 2022 From Seattle, WA

**Call For Additional Pricing
Bob: (432) 638-3707**

\$700 deposit per cabin at time of booking. Final payment due May 10, 2022. Pricing based on double occupancy. Taxes and fees are additional, based on current cost. Airfare not included.

The band will play 3 private parties for our group. Booking through any source other than the agency listed will exclude you from these parties. Fees include band fee, security fees and taxes. Travel agency reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee of up to \$100 per cabin. Fuel surcharges of up to \$10 per day per person may be charges by Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

P
O
R
T
S



Sitka



Juneau



Skagway



Victoria, B.C.

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

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



San Angelo Cowboy Gathering 2021

September 10-11

**by Terri Holland, Producer,
San Angelo, TX**

(The following excerpts and photos were taken from the San Angelo Cowboy Gathering's Facebook page! They have done an amazing job of capturing the event through photos and videos. Check it out! Congratulations, Terri, on another outstanding event.)

Well another great festival comes to an end, but only for now because Monday (09/13) I will start on 2022. It's always a little bitter sweet as we end this weekend. It's so nice to see folks that maybe you only get to visit with once or twice a year, to see the smiles & laughter, the sound of the boots shuffling across that big floor, the terrific music coming from



some of the best bands in the business, and so much more!!!

This year I think everyone enjoyed just being together and doing what we all love and have in common more than ever!! It was worth it all to me. I have so

many to thank who worked tirelessly throughout. . . . House of Faith staff and volunteers, you folks just flat out work your tails off and do it with a smile. I know many were working from 9:30am to midnight and you never complained! I love each and every one of you to the moon and back! I'm so happy we can raise some awareness & money for your programs. . . .



Ricky Boen with his father, Darrell

And then there was the music!

Wow oh wow, the bands were spot on and kept the dance floor full for 2 solid days from noon to 11:30 each night. You guys & gals that performed out did yourselves and we all appreciate it. Nothing but complements all around. I pride this

festival on providing only the best bands and music bar none.

Ricky Boen & Darrell Boen, for coming and bringing our Cowboy Church at The Gathering to around 200 attendees on Saturday morning, with 5 people being Saved!!! That was worth the weekend right there. Message and Gospel music was amazing and well received. I can promise everyone that this festival will always include God in it, if not, we close it down. Period.

Tracy Pitcox & Jody Nix, I don't even have enough words to tell you how much I appreciate your time & talent in helping with Emcee duties over the weekend. Tracy, you had to work your Heart of Texas records booth plus Emcee on Friday, and I so thank you for your professionalism and support. You are still my hero in this business, no one does it better in my book! Jody, bless you my friend as you had to play on Friday for a packed house, then turn around and help me Emcee on Saturday and then close us out that night! You guys are the BEST.



*Above: Jody Nix and Tracy Pitcox
San Angelo Cowboy Gathering 2021*

Sponsors and ALL Attendees- if you didn't buy a sponsorship or purchase a ticket then there would be no need to have a festival or a dance or a show!!! YOU are the real heroes because YOU make it happen. Thank you to all 1100 ticket holders.

Skeebo Norris, we ALL missed you this year and none more than ME! You left a big hole that took 4 of us to fill my friend. I now know how much I depend on you each year. We all pray that you will be better really soon so you can get on with your life and be back with us next year! We all did the best we could to fill your shoes but none of us want the job permanently LOL.

I also want to say what I saw in that building this weekend is what America needs to see! Good people of all colors, religions, financial backgrounds, and ages were able to coexist and have fun doing it! We honored God & America and each other, and that my friends is the best life ever!



Terri Holland standing with Gregg Gibbs and his band. Standing next to Gregg is a very familiar face, President of the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest, John Jones.

Thank you all!!! Terri Holland



John Jones
President, WSMSS

WSMSS Update From John Jones, the President of the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

Article excerpts below taken
from their official publication
Swing Beat, June 2021

Incredible as it seems, we now have four WSMSS showcases in the books for 2021! Tracey and I were unable to attend the 16th annual showcase in Cape Girardeau, MO this year (May 20-22), but from all reports, every-thing went off without a hitch. Bob and Virginia Dolle, continue to pour their hearts and souls into this event each year, and it shows. We know of several members who visited Cape Girardeau for the first time, and we certainly hope this trend continues.

We held our 3rd annual showcase in Springfield, MO (June 17-19) at the historic Shrine Mosque. Built in the 1920's, this building is quite unique and has a very rich history. It also has a large basement, which was excellent for seating and dancing. We are seriously considering this same venue for 2022, so for those of you who could not attend this year, hopefully you can add it to your travel plans for 2022.

Once again, our Hall of Fame showcase and induction ceremony in Lawton, OK (July 8-10) was a great success. The venue (Comanche County Fair-grounds Coliseum) continues to be nearly perfect for our needs. There was plenty of seating, a large dance area, two jams rooms, a large staging area for music equipment, vending with a nice selection of food and drink, plenty of parking and onsite RV hookups, plenty of nearby hotels, restaurants, casinos, and visitor attractions. What more could we ask!

The Hall of Fame ceremony itself was opened and highlighted once again, by the Buffalo Soldiers Lawton-Fort Sill Chapter of the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry, with the presentation of the flags. WSMSS vice president, John Steele, then gave an excellent performance of our National anthem! It really does my heart good to see that there are still plenty of patriotic citizens in this great country.



Opening the Hall of Fame Ceremony
The Buffalo Soldiers Lawton-Fort Sill Chapter of the 9th & 10 Horse
Cavalry, with the presentation of the flags

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

2021 - HULBERT, OK - WINTER SHOWCASE

DANCE AND JAM

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawing

November 4th - November 6th, 2021

THU: MEMBERS FREE - \$5.00 NON-MEMBER

FRI & SAT: \$5.00 MEMBER - \$10.00 NON-MEMBER

*** Mention Western Music Swing Society for Special Rates ***

Early Reservations are Highly Recommended

Sequoyah State Park and Lodge

Sequoyah Lodge Reservations (rooms & cabins)

RV sites also available:

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For Information Contact: Hack Starbuck @ 580-571-5081



WSMSS 2021 Hall of Fame Inductees



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(Continued from Page 7, King County Fair)

Next up were the AdVentures, a Ventures tribute band led by JC McCormick, Nokie Edward's nephew. Their set was scheduled to end at 6 PM, but, when the fans in the bleachers threatened to riot if the music stopped, we quickly decided to let them run a bit over. JC McCormick played bass, Bill Wolf played lead guitar (took our breath away), Art Pedersen played rhythm guitar and the amazing Jimmy Ortega played drums.



Spirits were still high when we left. Not sure about everyone else but we managed to get home by 9. Rounding up a great reunion tomorrow!

SUNDAY: After another OUTSTANDING jam - and, yes, there was dancing in the Auction Barn next to us - Denny Perrigoue, usually a drummer for the NWWSMS, led us in a gospel singing. Denny has held these often around the Everett/Snohomish area. He not only has a heart for the Lord, but he also has a passion for promoting talented musicians interested in country gospel music.

The final day seemed to fly by. The sounds of the 4H auction signaled the fair was coming to a close. Lynn Kopelke would be back on stage twice, once to introduce Mark Wright from Carbonado, WA again. I do hope we see Mark entertaining at future events.

The Restrung Geezers performed songs and music that were so well-suited for the setting. Their acoustic instruments and tight harmonies (similar to the Sons of the Pioneers) were a great way to start the afternoon.

From South Puget Sound, Sharyn Lee and her band, the Sundowners, set up on stage to give us a hearty dose of western swing. Sharyn Lee was on rhythm guitar/vocals, Pat Edwards on steel guitar/vocals, Jerry Seitz on fiddle/vocals, Dave Wheeler on bass/vocals and Jim Hollinger on drums. We hadn't seen most of these musicians and friends in over 2 years.



Closing our stage was Toby Hanson and his Smilin' Scandinavians, guaranteeing to put a little polka bounce in our step as we made our way to the parking lots. Looking forward to the next time, my friends.

(Continued from Page 5, What a Difference a Year Makes...)



'IT'S A SHELL'

The News reported in June 2020 that the property was "being sold out of bankruptcy after the previous owners defaulted on loans on the property." "It's a Chapter 7 liquidation sale," Dallas real estate broker Candace Rubin, who was hired by the federal bankruptcy court to sell the property, told *The News*. Rubin called it "a killer piece of property."

Cabaniss says his opportunity to purchase the property surfaced only in the last few months. He was intrigued, saying he feared the Longhorn "could be torn down and become just another mixed-use property for apartments. But it could also become a hub for the creative community." Should the Longhorn be demolished, "there is no question," he said, "that it would be gone forever." . . .

. . . "There is also a second building that will be mixed-use commercial," said Cabaniss, who prefers to call it "a creative center for entrepreneurs," given its possibilities as an office and retail space. "That's another 20,000 square feet. Another great opportunity will allow us to do outside music there, in a unique place, surrounded by the Trinity River levee. So, it's a unique opportunity to have three things going on."

The ballroom last functioned as a musical venue in 2019. The problem, however, is the property's condition. "We've had people that have squatted in there, who have stolen all the copper. The HVAC system is no longer valid. It's a shell that is in not-great shape. But having reclaimed and restored other historic properties, I would say that the Longhorn is in better shape than how we found the Kessler. Yes, it is going to be a restoration project, but we feel with the history that it has, it's worth the effort." . . .

. . . At the moment, Cabaniss has "an option to purchase. It's another way of saying we have the property under contract. And we are working with the city to talk about our very specific needs, to make this a viable project." Specifically, he said he needs help in four areas: "Drainage, curbs, sidewalk, lighting."

So, if all goes well, when does he hope to reopen? "No later than a year from today. The Longhorn was around a long time before I was. And, if we do it right, it'll be around a long time after I'm gone."



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Thu, Nov 11, 2021	Fri, Nov 12, 2021	Sat, Nov 13, 2021
3pm Justin Trevino 5:30pm Jeff Woolsey and his Dancehall Kings 8:30pm Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys Purchase Tickets Online: BirthplaceOfWesternSwing.com	10am Stockyards Tour 11am Herd Cattle Drive 12pm Kristyn Harris at Longhorn Saloon 4pm Lisa Layne Band 6pm Landon Dodd 8:30pm Jake Hooker and his Outsiders	1:30pm Playgirls & LCD Tributes 2pm Shoot Low Sheriff with Milton Brown Tribute 4pm Private Film Screening 5:30pm Billy Mata and his Texas Tradition 8:30pm Bob Wills' Texas Playboys under the direction of Jason Roberts

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This grand old dancehall has the unique distinction of having the Light Crust Doughboys, the Musical Brownies and the famed Texas Playboys all perform on its hallowed stage in the 1930s and 1940s. In addition to having nine bands perform at National Hall over Thursday, Friday and Saturday, there will also be a fun-filled Friday morning motor coach excursion to the Historic Stockyards District for a VIP Welcome, Herd Cattle Drive and Western Swing Dance at the Longhorn Saloon. Reserved seating is limited, so purchase your tickets today.

2nd Weekend of November



COWTOWN

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Preview the movie by clicking on the fiddle above and entering the password, **Cowtown**, when prompted. Be sure to use a capital C!