



PO Box 14003  
MILL CREEK, WA 98082

Celebrating  
Our 36th Year

Founded  
In 1983

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

Volume 36 Issue 1

A News Letter For and About Our Members

January 2019

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

### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:

It's time to renew your membership for 2019! Become a member, renew or donate on-line or by mail.

Mail your check to the NWWSMS, PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082.

To use PayPal or your credit card go to our website (under Join/Renew/Donate) or click on this link:



Jeanne Yearian  
President

## You are Invited to the NWWSMS' January Grand Jam

Happy New Year to each of you! We're ready to kick off 2019 with lots of live music - you might say, a western swing free-for-all - everyone is invited to sign up and join in. This is an opportunity for musicians to possibly discover a future 'best friend' or 'pickin' buddy.' You might decide that 2019 is the year you're going to do it . . . and sign up for lessons with one of the outstanding instructors ready to take you to the next level on your journey through western swing, as a musician or vocalist. Better yet, catch a vision for a new band. This could be the time and place for any number of new beginnings, right here at the Western Swing Showcase, from 1 to 5 pm, on January 13th, at the Lynnwood Eagles.

In the Puget Sound area we are very fortunate to have a wide variety of jams and open stages where new and aspiring musicians can mingle and share the stage with more experienced players, learn the dynamics of playing in a group setting and develop their musical skills in a safe and supportive environment. Over the years, I have attended numerous jams and have also been part of host bands at jams, so I've seen it from both sides. One thing I quickly discovered. Each musical genre and group has its own way of conducting a jam session. It's a good idea for novice players - before jumping blindly into a potentially scary or embarrassing situation - to learn something of jam etiquette so you can get the most out of your experience and leave looking forward to the next time! More on jam etiquette (*reprinted from January 2017 & 2013*) can be found on page 11 & 14.

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## NorthWest Western Swing Music Society

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.

### 2019 Officers and Board Members

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**Board Members:** Tony Bachler, Paul Cooper,  
Dave Enslow, Butch Gibson, Lori Hanson,  
Dorothy Pallas

#### 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, JOIN  
the NWWSMS, RENEW your membership  
or DONATE.

Like us on FACEBOOK at  
[NorthWest Western Swing Music Society](http://NorthWest Western Swing Music Society)

Contact the editor,  
[jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com), to receive our  
newsletter in your in-box.

#### PHOTO CREDITS:

December Showcase photos by  
Jeanne Yearian.

### MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

DECEMBER 9, 2018

President Jeanne Yearian called the meeting to order at 10:45 am.

**Present by Verbal Role Call:** Sharon Capps, Dave DuChane, Dave Enslow, Butch Gibson, Shelley McNaughton, Sharon Smith

**Guests:** Tony Bachler

**President's Report:** Nominations for Showcase Band of the Year are being received, \$5.00 for 5 votes! This fundraiser will continue through the end of January. The winner will be announced at the February Showcase.

Nominations are open for Inductees into the 2018 Hall of Fame.

The 2019 festival will take place from Thursday, August 8 through Sunday, August 11. Music workshops will begin on Wednesday and carry through the weekend. Jeanne paid half of the amount due on the Field House in Enumclaw. Our \$600 deposit carried over from last year.

Budgets for the year need to be submitted by the January meeting of the Board for approval. The four budgets of concern are: Newsletter Expenses, Festival Expenses, Music Workshops, and Administrative Costs (stamps, ink, cd materials, etc.)

We are truly going to miss the two members of the Board who are stepping down this year: Dave DuChane (Oppelt) and Shelley McNaughton. But, we do look forward to their continued involvement and contributions.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon Smith reporting. Printing Control is adjusting their original invoice. As soon as we receive word it is ready, it will be paid.

**Committee Reports:**

**Sunshine:** Jeanne Yearian reported.

**Newsletter/Website/Facebook:** Highlights from the 2019 Hall of Fame have been uploaded to YouTube. A Facebook post announcing the opening of nominations for the 2019 Inductees into the Hall of Fame was placed on our page (NWWSMS) as well as on the Western Swing Music group. Links to last year's ceremony highlights were included.

**Showcase:** The December Showcase Band will be **JC McCormick and Cherokee**. Butch Gibson will host the jam. In January we will hold the third **Grand Jam**, inviting up to 3 local bands to perform for 45 minutes, then have jammers join them for the last 15 minutes. **Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners** will be with us in February.

**Scholarship/Workshop:** Jeanne Yearian reporting. Discussions have continued.

Jeanne Yearian contacted Dan Wilson regarding Tacoma's Fight Against Crime music program. They are not set up to do more than collect money and/or instruments for the program at this time.

There has been no further contact with Washington Middle School.

(Minutes from December 9, 2018 continued . . .)

Suze Spencer and Tim Dawdy have agreed to head up the 2019 workshops and put together a workshop outline, consisting of slow jams, band labs, individual lessons and instrument sectionals.

She would like to come up to the January Showcase if arrangements can be made. She is going to look into whether Tim Dawdy can come up with her.

#### **2019 Western Swing Festival:**

Jeanne Yearian went to the Enumclaw Expo Center to go over the 2019 contract. Prices are the same for the venue. There was a lively discussion regarding sponsorships and grant funding. Jeanne wrote a check to cover half of the cost of the venue. The last half will be due 30 days before the festival.

We do need a festival committee this year. Many of the issues/opportunities facing us this year take too much of the board's time to discuss at the monthly meeting. Sharon Smith, Sharon Capps, Tony Bachler and Jeanne Yearian volunteered. More are welcome!

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR HEADLINERS/PRESENTERS FOR INDUCTION CEREMONY/DAILY EMCEES**

Jeanne was excited to announce Morey and Dorrie Sullivan have confirmed they will be presenters at the 2019 festival!

**Recruiting for Sponsors:** Jeanne Yearian reported information has been gathered and suggestions noted. It's time to form a committee to go over the ideas.

**Annual Event Fundraiser:** Winter White Dance – or house party with special entertainment discussed – this will be tabled until next year.

**Food Service:** No update.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**UPDATE ON THE REQUEST** for a western swing jam to be set up closer to Olympia. Jeanne did not have the opportunity to visit Enumclaw Music. No update.

**NEW MEMBER INCENTIVE:** For non-members, a \$2.00 charge to Society events (not including the Annual Festival) was discussed. Events would remain free of charge for members. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed. We will have to discuss the proposed change with the Lynnwood Eagles, since we get the use of their facility free of charge.

**MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE:** Once the NWWSMS roster has been updated, postcards will be sent out.

**NWWSMS Logo:** Jeanne Yearian reported no update at this time.

The meeting's minutes were read and approved by the Board members present. Motion passed to adjourn at 12:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Yearian,  
Secretary



**President's  
Comer**



*Jeanne Yearian*

Someone once said with every ending comes a new beginning. With that thought in mind - starting off with a clean slate in 2019, I went onto the internet to find out just how the experts suggest starting a new year geared for success.

After looking over several lists, it was clear to me that my involvement in the NWWSMS benefits not only the Society but my attitude and well-being. Combing through the lists, there it was: the importance of volunteering along with making the effort to strengthen friendships and family ties; volunteering along with learning something new every day; volunteering along with taking a dance class. Volunteering - a key to health and success!

Now knowing the NWWSMS offers valuable benefits to its members through volunteering, I look forward to the challenges and opportunities 2019 will bring. And, each of you are invited to take part, with whatever talents, time, and ideas you have to offer! The Board will be publishing an outline of our volunteer opportunities for the coming year. But I'm sure it won't be complete so if you don't see your particular area of expertise on the list, let us know and we'll add you in!

What a relaxing holiday celebration we enjoyed at the December Showcase. Decorations in the Lynnwood Eagles added warmth to the festive spirit. Our thanks to the Eagles and their volunteers who make us feel so welcome.

The Host Band for December, **JC McCormick and the Cherokee Band** with guest musician **Wayne Franco**, kept the dancers on the floor with a great mix of western swing and a few classic country favorites. **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated door prizes. I believe nearly everyone who wanted to take part in the drawing walked away with something to make their holiday brighter. We can't forget Split-the-Pot, when Sharon Smith, December's winner, donated her money back to the Society! Thank you, Sharon.

Just a reminder, membership renewals

**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.

**The Go Outside and Playboys.** For booking information and more on Seattle's newest western swing band, visit their website at: [www.gooutsideandplayboys.com](http://www.gooutsideandplayboys.com).

**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.bardoorsslammers.com](http://www.bardoorsslammers.com).

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

**Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners.** Dance Hall Music by **The Sundowners**, the 4th Sunday of every month (beginning Jan. 27, 2019) 1:30-4:30pm at Swede Hall, Rochester, Wash. Visit their website for information on additional upcoming play dates: [www.thesundownersband.com](http://www.thesundownersband.com)

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

are due in January. We need your support to continue. \$20 or \$25 a year is such a small price to pay for the benefits received (see above). You can pay online or by mail (see the link below) .

We will also be taking nominations for the Showcase Band of the Year until January 31. \$5 buys you 5 votes! Vote as many times as you like for as many bands as you like. We will be announcing the winner at the February Showcase. The money from this fundraiser goes into the General Fund for festival expenses.

January is our Grand Jam . . . when our band leaders bring in folks they enjoy sharing the stage with. In February we will be welcoming back Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners. Lots of F-U-N ahead!

See you on the dance floor! JY

**What better way to kick  
off the New Year:  
Let's dance!  
On January 13  
join your western  
swing family**

**From 1 to 5 pm at the  
Lynnwood Eagles**

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

**Featuring**

**The Annual  
Grand Jam**

**Come for free dance lessons  
from 12 to 12:45, taught by  
MaryLee Lykes**

**- NOTICE-**

**Beginning February 10, 2019,  
there will be a \$2.00 admission  
to the dance for non-members  
of the NWWSMS.**

**Current members of the  
NWWSMS will be admitted free  
of charge.**

**Thank you for your support!**

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:** (To use PayPal or your credit card go to our website or click on this link:)

**Become a member, renew or donate on-line or by mail.**

**Mail your check to: NWWSMS, PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082.**





### Western Swing Forum

Keep those letters coming!

(Editor's Note: the following was received from Lou Bischoff)

January 7, 2019

Fred, Jeannie and all our friends in Western Swing,

So much sunshine came with your lovely card and those of others too. It meant a lot to be remembered during our dark days.

Much love and appreciation to you all and I mean all of you.

Lou and Ed, too

(Editor's Note: the following was received from a first-time guest, to our December Showcase, Heidi Ann Harris! This was posted on Facebook. Thank you, Heidi. We hope to see you again.)

Attended for the first time. Really enjoyed it. Grateful!

Heidi Ann Harris



**“WHEREAS, Born and bred in Texas, western swing is a musical melting pot that represents the diverse groups that have contributed to the growth and prosperity of our state and the distinctive way of life that has flourished here, and it is indeed a fitting symbol for the rich cultural heritage that is shared by all Texans; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate western swing as the official State Music of Texas.”**

June 17, 2011

### Cherishing the Memories



**Bobby Wynne**

Bobby Wynne was born in Lubbock, Texas, on November 13, 1937. As a small child, his number one desire was to play the violin; but, since he did not have that opportunity, the trumpet became his favorite instrument.

All of his young life his favorite music was the sound of the big bands, Tommy Dorsey and Bob Wills were his favorites.

As Bobby was growing up, the sounds and type of music continued to change but western swing music was what he wanted to play. In the mid-1950s, at age 16, he performed with the Hank Thompson band. Later he became a regular in the Merl Lindsay band.

In the early 1960s, Bobby played with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys for a short period. In 1964, Bobby had his own weekly television show in Clovis, New Mexico, where he recorded his very first record in 1963. Bobby Wynne was also playing western swing over in nearby Floydada, in the early sixties. In fact he started a band called Kings of Western Swing while working at the Ford house there and began playing weekends at the VFW in Plainview. Bobby sang & played trumpet well enough to travel with Hank Thompson.

While playing with the Hank Thompson band, he met his idol, steel guitarist Curley Chalker. In 1969, Bobby had his pedal steel made. For many years Bobby Wynne had his own band, playing big band and western swing music. When progressive music became the sound most demanded by night clubs, he gave up his band – but never his desire to play and promote his kind of music – western Swing.

Bobby was a member of the Khiva Shrine Temple in Amarillo, TX and served on its Board of Directors. In 1988, with the help of other Shrine members, Bobby organized the only chartered Shrine Western Swing Band in the United States. He led the band for over 10 years. Bobby also played with a local Amarillo band, Texas Pride, as he continued his lifelong dedication to Western Swing.

Among his many honors, Bobby was inducted into the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame in 1995. He was inducted into the Western Swing Society of Seattle (aka NWWSSM) in 1997. In 1998, Bobby went on to found the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest along with Bob Cobb, Harry L. Coffman, Bill Gilbert and Jerry Emery.

## Sharing the Journey

### With Well Wishes and Prayers

Darrell Haddock	Edna Carter
Lou Bischoff	Larry Broad
Eleanor Ford	Gloria Schindler
Charlotte Tomlinson	Connie McMahon
Sharyn Lee	Ed Hynes
Kevin Healy	Betty Reeves
Joe Dwyer	Paul Cooper
Betty Hasting	Judy Collender
Arlene Stuth	Wanda Ramos Love
Geno Burbank	Chuck Robbins
Greta Larson	Jim Sanderson
Fern Hooper	Lane Johnson
Jody Meredith	Keith Holter
Edd Burnett	Jim Wallace
Ken Jones	Kathie Wallace
Robert LaClaire	Red Gillean
Shorty Joe	Cindy De Leon
Quartuccio	Web Tipton
JC McCormick	Vi & Jay Anderson

### Condolences

To Lori Durrett, family, friends and fans on the loss of her uncle, Bobby Wynne.

To Alene Gohr, family and friends on the loss of her husband, Shirley.

To Joanne Edwards, family and friends on the loss of her companion, Don Wagonen

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).



*Dave Enslow performing at the NWWSMS 2018 Western Swing Festival (photo by John McClung)*

## MEET THE BOARD: DAVE ENSLOW, PART 2

### LIFE BEFORE AND AFTER UW . . .

During World War II, when Dave was four, he and his family moved to Kirkland. His father was a hard-working man who built the family's house, worked at the shipyard and raised a vegetable garden. Dave's mom was a treasure and made their house a home. He has one older sister and a younger brother. Dave grew up loving cowboy music. Dave

especially loved the Sons of the Pioneers . . . and still does, but also enjoys artists like Marty Robbins and Bob Wills or any Western Swing groups.

When Dave was ten he was struck with a mild form of polio which slowed him down for some time. By High School, Dave was strong enough to participate in sports and played football throughout high school. Dave was recruited and chosen to go to University of Washington. During that time, the Huskies (*Dave being a member of the team*) won two Rose Bowls in 60 & 61 - see *Dave Enslow, Part 1*, in the December 2018 NWWSMS newsletter for all the details. Dave extended his time at the University of Washington (UW) as a graduate assistant football coach and head wrestling coach for two years.

After UW, Dave continued teaching and coaching at East High School in Bremerton for four years and then Mercer Island High School for ten years. During this time Dave had become involved in real estate and was doing well until the failure of the Boeing SST.

In 1974 Dave met his future wife, Maryanne, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. They were married the same year and immediately started raising their family: David, John, Mary & Bob. Dave eventually took a job teaching and coaching at O'Dea High School. Then, while Dave was painting Holy Rosary Church in Edmonds, he fell off a ladder and sustained a severe head injury. It took some time to recover. During this time, Dave started playing his autoharp. Over a 20-year period Dave has played country music and sung at many various venues. When his wife, Maryanne, retired she became more and more involved with country music also.



*Maryanne Enslow performing at the NWWSMS ' November 2018 Western Swing Showcase*

*Editor's Note: "If you want to keep your **brain** engaged throughout the aging process, listening to or playing **music** is a great tool. It provides a total **brain** workout." Research has shown that listening to **music** can reduce anxiety, blood pressure, and pain as well as improve sleep quality, mood, mental alertness, and memory." John Hopkins Medicine*

## BEHIND EVERY GREAT VISION THERE IS A VISIONARY. MEET RAY REED.

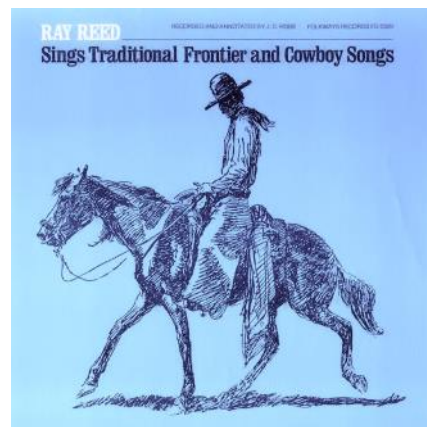
*(Editor's Note: Our thanks to Texas Playboy, Bobby Koefer, for alerting us to this article published by the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium. Be sure to watch the video at the end of this story to watch Bobby on stage performing at the first Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium!)*

In 1990, the first Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium was held in Glencoe, New Mexico, at the Glencoe Rural Events Center. This "festival to preserve and promote the cowboy way of life" was a vision that musician Ray Reed had been formulating in his mind for some time. Ray, a guitar picker, composer, bandleader, poet, promoter, singer and storyteller extraordinaire, was above all else a cowboy.

Ray was proud of the fact that his family moved west to New Mexico in the early 1900s. Traveling in a covered wagon, the Reed family settled outside of Clovis, New Mexico, and cowboyin' became a way of life for Ray. He had musical talent both as a singer and a guitar player. Hitching a ride in a boxcar in the 1930s he headed to California where he became part of the music scene in Los Angeles. He also met western swing legend Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys band. He became friends with many of the Playboy band members. When the drug scene took its toll on several of Ray's California musician friends, he headed back to New Mexico.

*"I've been an entertainer dang near all my life. I do all the old cowboy songs from years back. I was raised a cowboy and that's what I've been."*

Ray Reed



*Folkway notes: On this 1977 Folkways release, New Mexico cowboy Ray Reed (1917-1998) sings songs about the old West; many of them he learned from his father, and he composed some as well.*

*He had spent some years in California, and his polished style reflects the influence of the 1930s Los Angeles music scene, where he was friendly with some of the Texas Playboys—the group backing legendary Texas Swing singer Bob Wills.*



*(Continued on page 6 . . .)*

(Continued from page 5, Ray Reed, Visionary . . .)

But it soon seemed to Ray that his beloved culture was disappearing. A man of vision, he wanted a week-long festival highlighting his cowboy culture in the best light possible. Such a festival, he felt, would encourage others and promote and preserve that culture.

In 1989 Ray performed at the Inaugural National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration in Lubbock, Texas. The response he saw there was inspiring. It convinced him that good, fresh entertainment was what people were searching for. But he wanted more out of his festival than what he observed at the Lubbock event. Originally he envisioned Lincoln County, New Mexico, home of outlaw Billy the Kid, cattleman John Chisum and the Lincoln County War, as the setting for his cowboy symposium. Lincoln County was geographically situated in the south central mountains of New Mexico and embraced three distinct cultures responsible for the settlement of the west—Native American, Hispanic and the American Cowboy. He would bring these three distinct cultures together by showcasing the American Cowboy, who would share the stage with Mariachi entertainers and Mescalero Apache tribal members performing their original songs and dances.

Western swing music took center stage in his vision and would be accomplished by bringing in Johnny Gimble and reviving the Bob Wills' Texas Playboys. And to top off this festival honoring the American Cowboy was something near and dear to the cowboy's stomach, the chuckwagon.

Ray's dream came to fruition with the financial contributions and backing of current Ruidoso Downs racetrack owner, R. D. Hubbard and Hondo Oil and Gas owner, R. O. Anderson. That, plus the assistance of countless volunteers including R. O.'s cattleman, Sid Goodloe, the first Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium was held at the Glencoe Rural Events Center in 1990.

Since that early beginning, the Symposium has been featured on the Food Channel and outgrew its original site. It was moved to the site of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino.

Ray Reed passed away in the winter of 1998. He was doing what he loved to do best, promoting the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium on the road in his familiar "winny-bago" (Winnebago).

Tickets go on sale in June for the 2019 Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium!

**Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium**  
MUSIC CHUCKWAGONS WESTERN EXPO EQUINE DEMONSTRATIONS  
NM TRUE FAMILY FUN HISTORY

30TH ANNUAL OCTOBER 10-13, 2019

Each year at the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium there is ALWAYS stellar entertainment, ALWAYS a chuckwagon cook-off, ALWAYS great family fun, and ALWAYS a great exhibition of western wares with over 100 vendors and their unique products for you to buy. Plus mounted shooting competition and equestrian demonstrations.



Click on the image above to enjoy Bobby Koefer and the Texas Playboys performing at the first Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium.

## OKLAHOMA'S OLD TIME FIDDLERS, INC. 2019 CONVENTION

FEBRUARY 21-23, THE SEQUOYAH LODGE,  
HULBERT, OK (918) 772-2545



A post from Bob Fjeldsted, current President of the Oklahoma Old Time Fiddlers, Inc.:

Hope the Holidays were good to You. Looking forward to seeing everyone at Fiddle Convention February 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. See You there.

Pictured right: Retiring President, Kent Harrison, welcoming the new President, Bob Fjeldsted, in 2017.

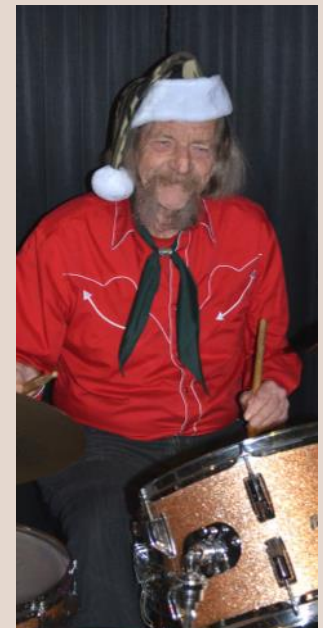
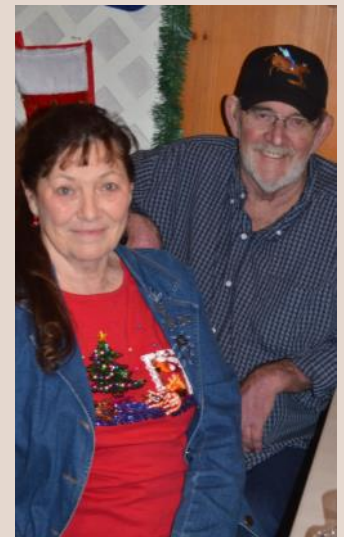


# WESTERN SWING TIME!

JOIN TEX HILL WEDNESDAYS AT  
NOON CENTRAL KYACFM.ORG

# Photo Highlights from the December 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 January Showcase.  
Save a smile for the camera!*



**Album:**  
Timeless  
Treasures for  
a Living Legend

**Artist:** Tommy  
Thomsen

# Album Reviews

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



Mike Gross

Tommy is the lead vocalist with Albert Tally playing steel guitar, Brady Bowen - fiddle and vocal harmony; and, the fiddle, electric mandolin, vocals and steel guitar of Jason Roberts. Larry Reed plays sax, Tony Ramsey - drums and John Jones plays stand-up bass and does vocal harmonies. Wayne Glasson plays piano, Tom Jones standard guitar and clarinet and vocal harmonies by Gil Prather.

This CD can be obtained for \$20.00 from Tommy Thomsen, 20570 Pueblo Rd, Sonoma, CA 95476.

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

This new CD is a wonderful combination of 15 songs where Tommy pays tribute to Western Swing legend Leon Rausch.

The music opens from the Bob Wills songbook with the old pop standard brought back by Wills, *Yearning* and then from Pee Wee King, *Gad About*. Also from Bob Wills are Lee Ross' *Heart to Heart Talk*, O.W. Mayo's *Blues for Dixie*, Cindy Walker's *Goin' Away Party*, *End of the Line* and the standard *Sittin' on Top of the World*. Then from the Wills library there is *Hang Your Head in Shame*, *I Laugh When I Think How I Cried Over You* and Cindy Walker's *Baby That Sure Would Go Good*. Also brought back are the Wills compositions and hits, *My Confession*, *Goodby Liza Jane*, *Sooner or Later* and *Goodnight Little Sweetheart Goodnight*.

The album closes with the instrumental from the Wills book and the Andy Razaf pen, *Silver Lake Blues*.

## Mike's Top 10 for January 2019

**Songs:**

1. Swing Time Baby - Steel Horse Swing
2. King of the Blues - Western Caravan
3. One Fiddle, Two Fiddles - Bret Raper
4. In the Middle of the Song - Western Swing Authority with Carolyn Martin
5. Texas When It Swings - Terry Brown (THB)
6. Swing Me Back to Texas - 3 Trails West
7. South of the Border - Syd Masters (Vision)
8. Cowboy Boogaloo Blues - Dawn Anita (Free Country)
9. Enjoy the Ride - Lee Lee Robert (Musikode)
10. Back in the Swing of Things - Cowboy Joe (Chimney Rock)

**Albums:**

1. Swing Time Baby - Steel Horse Swing
2. Honky Tonk - Western Caravan
3. Time Changes Everything - Leon Rausch
4. Somewhere Near Austin - Bret Raper
5. Sactown Playboys - Sactown Playboys
6. Big Deal - The Western Swing Authority
7. Swing Set - Lee Lee Robert (Musikode)
8. Taryn Noelle Swings - Taryn Noelle (Airflyte)
9. Off the Beaten Trail - Hot Texas Swing Band
10. Timeless Treasures for a Living Legend - Tommy Thomsen

## 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](http://www.nwwsms.com)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**





*Shelley McNaughton*  
Board Member

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DECEMBER 2018 SHOWCASE WITH JC McCORMICK & THE CHEROKEE BAND

Our December showcase was masterfully led by one of our favorite Northwest groups, JC McCormick and The Cherokee Band. This great group of musicians have been entertaining folks in the southern Puget Sound area for many years.

JC's big warm vocals and extensive song list, along with the great instrumental backing from the band are a pleasure to experience. This group really knows how to keep us up and dancing, snapping our fingers, and mostly.... keep us feeling oh-so entertained.

The Cherokee Band is: JC McCormick – Bass and Lead Vocalist, Chet Hastings – Lead Guitar, Jeanne Yearian – Electric Fiddle, Wayne Franco – Steel Guitar, and Danny "Tex" Slough – Drums.

The Cherokee Band opened the December showcase with a wonderful instrumental piece of Americana "The Wildwood Flower." From there on out, we were treated to song after song of great music. The dance floor filled up and stayed full for the entire Cherokee Band Set!

JC, as the lead singer of this band, showed his musical versatility in the many different styles he presented. Of course, we could see some of his favorite musical influences from his selection of several Hank Thompsons favorites, "6-Pack to Go," "She's Just a Whole Lot Like You" "Green Light" & "Tomorrow Night (You'll Have Another Sweetheart)," as well as from few of Ray Prices greatest tunes, "Invitation to the Blues," and "The Other Woman," and "A Way to Survive."

Whether performing one of the great selections mentioned above, or bringing us something completely different, such as Ned Miller's "From a Jack to a King" and Al Martino's Blue Spanish Eyes, or a traditional piece for the season in "White Christmas," JC puts a little of his own style into every song he sings. He's a big, friendly bear of a guy, and we just love to hear him. With the expert musicianship backing him up, every song is unique, fun, and entertaining.

Now let's talk about those terrific instrumental pieces.

Scattered in between the great vocal number were some beautiful gem Instrumentals. Chet Hasting's fine guitar picking took the lead on one gorgeous Western Swing ¾ standard, "The Waltz you Save for Me," and Jeanne Yearian dazzled us with another, taking the fiddle lead on "The Westphalia Waltz." (Here's an Interesting Note: The Westphalia waltz, started as a traditional Polish Folk song titled "Pytala Sie Pani" and was metamorphosed in the 1940's with the help of Cotton Collins and the Waco based Swing band, The Lonestar Playboys, who renamed it after a small town about 30 miles from Waco Texas. They turned it into a staple of Texas swing fiddle waltz tunes. It is also listed as one of Missouri's 100 essential fiddle tunes. Also, if you listen to the lead in TG Shepard's Last Cheaters Waltz, the Lead break in that song is the Westphalia Waltz. Pretty Cool, Huh?)

Wayne Franco was there to shine as he led the group on two of our favorite Pedal Steel Pieces, Bob Wills and the Texas Playboy's "The Panhandle Rag" and Leon McAuliffe's "Steel Guitar Rag." (Did you know that Merle Travis wrote words to this one?)

Of course, holding this group together and keeping impeccable time and beat, regardless of style or genre, was Danny "Tex" Slough.

The time passed so quickly and before we knew it, JC was closing The Cherokee band set with Merle Travis' "Nine Pound Hammer." As always, with this band, we were left wanting more. Thank you again, JC McCormick and The Cherokee Band, for a wonderful showcase!!

While the Cherokee Band was clearing the stage, we drew for door prizes galore, (Thanks to everyone who donated door prizes for our holiday giveaway!) and made a few announcements.

(Continued on page 10. . .)

## NOMINATIONS

FOR INDUCTEES INTO THE

### 2019 NWSMS HALL OF FAME

NOW BEING ACCEPTED !

*Reminder: if you are either a former inductee or a member in good standing (dues paid to date), you can submit one candidate per year for consideration by the Nominations Committee.*

#### HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE DESIGNATIONS:

**PIONEERS OF WESTERN SWING:** Those musicians who have played and/or promoted western swing music for at least 20 years of their performance careers prior to the death of Bob Wills in 1975.

**HONOREES OF WESTERN SWING:** This category includes musicians and promoters.

**MUSICIANS:** Those who have played western swing music for at least 20 years of their performance careers.

**PROMOTERS:** Those who have helped preserve western swing music for extended periods of time by promoting events through volunteer activities, organizing events, publishing, broadcasting or developing social media.

**THE CATEGORY OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION:** This designation, established in 2014, recognizes those who, through their actions, although not meeting "Inductee" requirements, greatly encouraged and continue to inspire those preserving, performing and promoting Western Swing music. Nominees in this category are submitted by current Hall of Fame Inductees.

**E-mail (preferred) or mail your cover letter and nominee's musical biography to:**

**NWSMS, Nominations Chairman**

**c/o Jeanne Yearian**

**21221-174th Ave. SE**

**Renton, WA 98058-9740**

**E-mail: [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com)**

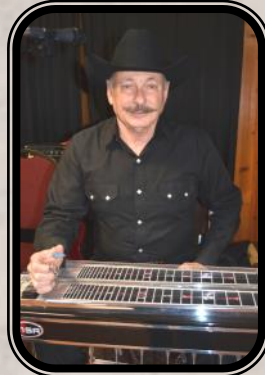
**The cut-off date is MARCH 15th.** We are limiting the number of inductees to a maximum of 14 per year. If your candidate does qualify but we receive your cover letter and bio after the first 14 have been received, you will be asked to resubmit your candidate the following year.

Those selected will be notified by early May. A picture suitable for publication will be requested at that time.

*Showcase Band for December  
JC McCormick & The Cherokee Band  
with guest musician, Wayne Franco*



*Pictured above,  
left to right:  
JC McCormick  
Danny "Tex" Slough  
Wayne Franco*



*Pictured above,  
left to right:  
Jeanne Yearian  
Chet Hasting*

*(Continued from page 9, December Showcase . . . )*

**As a reminder, please remember, Memberships all expire on 12/31 every year now**, so if you haven't renewed your membership and paid your dues this year, please do. If you haven't joined the Northwest Western Swing Music Society yet, please consider it. Our membership dues income is a large part of what makes it possible for us to continue our publication each month and put on our Hall of Fame ceremony each year. And...The more the merrier!! Come join us!!

This month, Butch Gibson generously offered to help host the jam session. With a few of our favorite players to fill in as the rest of the jam band, we were off and running.

The starting Jam Lineup for December was: Butch Gibson – Bass / Vocals, Steve Carter – Lead Guitar / Vocals, Jeanne Yearian – Fiddle / Vocals, Jim Hollinger – Drums

Butch kicked things right off with a few of our Christmas Favorites to escort in the holiday mood. Silver Bells, Santa Clause is Coming to Town, and Pretty Paper all helped to put us completely in the Christmas spirit. Thanks Butch!

Jeanne Yearian shared her beautiful voice with us and sang the Jimmie Hodges classic "Someday (You'll Want Me to Want You)" and I got to sing a little harmony with her too!

I got to sing one of my favorite Swing standards, Isham Jones "The Wabash Blues," and followed that up with a Northwest Fav by Danny O'Keefe, "Good Time Charlie's Got the Blues," with Southern Comfort's singer/lead picker, Gene Burbank singing a little Harmony. Thanks Bubba!

Gary Moberly was up next to croon Merle Haggards "Silver Wings." Gary followed up with Jim Reeve's "Four Walls, while Steve and I got to sing a little harmony. Thanks for making the trip north Gary!... and for bringing Millie!

Next up, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Board Member, Dave Enslow, came up to sing "My Adobe Hacienda" and the Western Swing staple "San Antonio Rose." Great Job Dave!!

Gil Barbee was up to Give Jim Hollinger a break on the drums and went right to work when Judy LaBlanc came up to sing "You Ain't Woman Enough to Take My Man." Judy swept us back into the Holiday spirit with the playful "I saw

Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" As always Judy, what a treat!!

We took a little break and drew for our Split the Pot raffle. Congratulations to Sharon Smith! Sharon not only won the \$43.00 pot, but she donated it back to the society!! Thank you, Sharon!

The jam got rolling again and Butch sent our dancers back out on the floor with a great Les Paul & Mary Ford ballad, "I'm a Fool to Care."

Next up, I got to sing one of my favorite Western Swing numbers "Home in San Antone."

Steve Carter sang for us the beautiful Rodney Crowell ballad "Till I Gain Control Again," I do love to sing harmony with my fella.

The whimsical Smiley Burnett song "Lazy Day" was next for me, followed by Steve's 12 bar blues Guitar Instrumental "Honky Tonk" to close out the Jam.

What a fun showcase and Jam. The December showcase was so nice to be able to set aside the Holiday hustle and bustle for just a few hours, and just relax, listen to some great music, chat with friends and acquaintances, (new and old) dance a little, and laugh a little too.

As always, we'd like to Thank the folks at the Lynnwood Eagle for making us feel so welcome and for taking such good care of us when we're there. We couldn't do this without you.

We would also like to thank our very own Mary Lee Lykes for providing dance lessons before the showcases. We love you.

We would also like to Thank Fred Yearian for running sound and providing the PA. Sounds better every time!

Also, we could not do this every month without the help of our volunteers. Thanks to everyone who participates in selling raffle tickets, manning the door, donating door prizes, issuing door prize tickets, and all the wonderful musicians who donate their time for the society.

As a side note.... Since this will be my last article for a while, I would like to personally thank everyone who has taken the time to read my little ramblings for the last few years. It has been an honor to be able to share my Showcase / Jam session / Hall of Fame experiences with you. Thank you for your kind and encouraging words. They have meant so much to me.

Thank you!!  
Shelley McNaughton



The NWWSMS Announces

**The Fourth Annual People's Choice Award**

Cast your votes for your favorite monthly Showcase Band of 2018!

*As someone once said,  
"Vote Early, Vote Often!!"*

Let's have some fun and raise money for the NWWSMS! You are invited to participate in the Fourth Annual NWWSMS' People's Choice Awards! We, the people, will be voting to choose our favorite performing band for the 2018 monthly Showcases! (Of course, these results will be playfully skewed and reflect only the willingness of a group's fan base to contribute. Our sincere thanks to all of these talented musicians who so willingly entertain us without compensation.)

The winning band will receive the traveling trophy plus its choice of day/time for local bands to perform at the 2019 NWWSMS Western Swing Festival! You can vote as many times as you like!

If you prefer general guidelines, you might consider the band's quality and choice of western swing music as well as their stage presence. Ask yourself if the music made you want to dance. Was the band entertaining? Fun?

The price of a ballot (\$5.00) allows you to vote 5 times. You can vote for one band five times or five different bands! Fill out your ballot (s) and deposit them into the ballot box at the December and January showcases. Or, send your ballots in, along with your check, to the Society's PO Box no later than January 30, 2019. The People's Choice for 2018 will be announced at the February 2019 Showcase!

All monies collected during this fundraiser will be added to the NWWSMS General Fund.

(Continued from page 1, Jam Etiquette . . .)

At our western swing jams, novice musicians are mixed with experienced players on stage and perform songs together. The 'jam band leader' will ensure there is an experienced drummer, bass player, rhythm guitar and at least one lead instrument on stage during their set. The leader of the jam band will run the stage and 'direct traffic' (see page 6 of this newsletter for more on directing traffic).

Here are some jam etiquette guidelines I compiled from various sources. Some pertain to the way the NWWSMS conducts jam sessions but most would be valuable no matter whose jam you are joining.

**Before You Go**

- Learning a bit about Western Swing music with a few basic licks helps a great deal.
- Bring your own instrument, tuner, amp, cords, etc. You may be able to plug into someone's amp, but that might not be the case. Drums are usually provided.
- Leave the big amp home—Moderate stage volumes are expected. (More on stage volume to follow)
- Keep it simple—Don't bring a complex rig/pedal board that takes a long time to set up.

**At the Jam**

- **Sign the List** - When you arrive, find the sign-up list and get your name on it. The Host will call players for each set. You will not be called up to play unless you sign up.
- **Talk to the Host** - It's a great idea to have a word with whoever is hosting the jam to let him/her know your level of experience and if you would like to play with anyone in particular.
- **Tune up before you get on stage** -Tuning on stage will only irritate the other players who are waiting their turn.

**On the Stage**

- **Be efficient** - Set up time should be kept to a minimum. When your set is finished, get off stage as quickly as possible. Other jammers are waiting their turn.
- **Never place your drink on top of an amp, especially if it's not yours.**
- **Watch the jam band leader as well as the singer for direction** – Either the singer or the jam band leader makes sure that everyone on stage has a chance to solo. If you don't want to solo, let them know.
- **If you are the Singer** -Try to call out songs that fall into the core western swing repertoire - songs that your fellow jammers will be comfortable with and that don't require a lot of description. Beware the 'jam-busters' that no one has a clue how to play – unless the jam is being dedicated to obscure tunes.
- **Listen** - Fit your instrument into the song and listen to what other players are doing. Trade fills with others. Only solo when asked.
- **Don't step on people** - In other words, don't play over the vocals or over someone else's solo. If you are playing rhythm/comping, keep it tasteful. The time to solo is during your own solo break.

(Continued on page 14. . .)

**2018 Peoples Choice Awards**  
**Western Swing Showcase Band of the Year**  
*(The bands are listed in order of their first 2018 appearance)*

Number of Votes	Band
	<i>Sharyn Lee &amp; the Sundowners</i>
	<i>Butch Gibson &amp; Pardners</i>
	<i>Kristi Nebel &amp; Cowgirl's Dream</i>
	<i>Southern Comfort</i>
	<i>The Board Band</i>
	<i>Steel Country</i>
	<i>Paul Cooper &amp; the Pickin' Coop</i>
	<i>JC McCormick's Cherokee Band</i>

**Total \$ Amount donated:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**\$5.00 Minimum**

\$5.00 = 5 VOTES  
 BALLOT  
 \$5.00 = 5 VOTES

## 2019 Wintergrass Intensives Classes & Instructors

### Classic Western Guitar Intensive

John Fullerton of Sons Of The Pioneers,  
with Suze Spencer

Afternoon - Thursday, February 21, 2019 Cost: \$65



#### HALF-DAY SESSION ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

John Fullerton is a native of Branson, Missouri. He is the seventh generation in his family to work in the horse and cattle business. As a child he was deeply influenced by listening to his grandparents' gospel quartet who performed together for over 60 years. It was his grandmother who first took him to see Sons Of The Pioneers perform when he was seven years

of age. Right then and there, John decided to make this music his life career. He began by learning all the vocal and instrumental parts to every record he could find and he has never stopped learning.

(Continued on page 13. . .)

## Wyn on . . .

. . . Oamaru Country on the New Zealand  
Country Music Radio Network  
. . . [www.nzcmr.com](http://www.nzcmr.com)



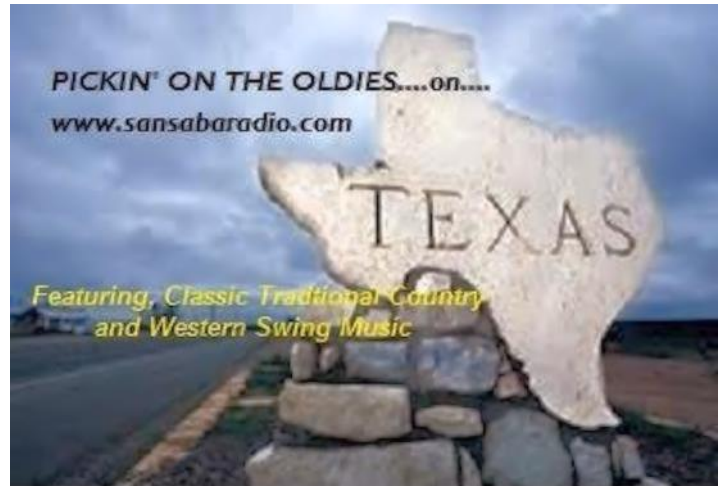
### January 2019 Playlist for "Wyn on Tuesday"

1. *Roly Poly*, The Western Swing Authority
2. *Let's Ride into the Sunset Together*, Lost Weekend
3. *Eyes of Texas*, Western Swing Four
4. *Everyday Away from You, Sweetheart*, The Swing Billies
5. *Honeysuckle Rose*, Bob Wills & His Texas Playboys
6. *Baby Buggy Boogie*, Chuck Cusimano
7. *The Christmas Yodel*, Riders in the Sky
8. *Swingtime in the Rockies*, Open Range & the Swing Stampede
9. *Bang, Bang, Bang*, Hot Texas Swing Band
10. *Moonshine in the North Carolina Hills*, The Swing Billies

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

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

[wynmachon39@gmail.com](mailto:wynmachon39@gmail.com)



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



We here at Pickin' On The Oldies want to thank all of our very loyal and "new" listeners to our internet station. One thing we strive for is "Traditional

Country and Western Swing," featuring the classic great artists and all of the upcoming new independent artists who are continuing "Dance Music." Gotta have fiddles, steel guitars, good lyrics and be danceable. Check us out. If you like us, please share with your friends who enjoy this music as well at [www.sansabaradio.com](http://www.sansabaradio.com) 24/7- plus we've added old radio versions of Gunsmoke on Sat. morn at 7am ... and Sundays at 6am and 6pm.

Bobby Boatright - *The Eyes of Texas*

Cowboy Joe Babcock - *Swing on Down to Swing Town*

Beats Walkin' - *Lady Be Good*

Susie Blue - *I Hear Ya Talkin'*

Big Sandy & Fly-Rite Boys - *Murphy's Law*

Dottie Jack - *Sentimental Ol' You*

Coby Carter - *Fiddlin' Around*

Geena Roberts-Hamilton - *Pretty Tears*

Bobby Flores & the Yellow Rose Band -  
*Double Life*

Kelly Spinks & Miles of Texas - *Mr. Record Man*

Artists may send mp3 submissions to  
[production@sansabaradio.com](mailto:production@sansabaradio.com)  
and personal messages to [skeebo@sansabaradio.com](mailto:skeebo@sansabaradio.com)

We are on Facebook as well... Pickin' On The Oldies.  
To listen go to our website [www.sansabaradio.com](http://www.sansabaradio.com)

(Continued from Page 12, John Fullerton & Suze Spencer . . .)

### Classic Western Guitar Intensive

Self taught, John has been playing guitar since age 11, and focused on Classic Western style for the past 16 years. He is equally accomplished on mandolin and bass. John has performed professionally since 1994, plays rhythm guitar and sings baritone with the Sons Of The Pioneers

This rhythm guitar class will address the principals that make up the driving force behind complex harmony singing in the Classic Western style of the Sons Of The Pioneers.

- ★ Development of right-hand rhythm technique
- ★ The plectrum device
- ★ Tone production, Pulse, Timing, Pacing
- ★ Essential rhythm patterns
- ★ Stylistic matching
- ★ Development of left-hand technique
- ★ Movable closed chord voicing
- ★ Navigating the fingerboard
- ★ Damping
- ★ Sliding in/out of chords using leading tones
- ★ Skill-building techniques and exercises
- ★ Tone Production concepts
- ★ Scales (major, relative minor)
- ★ Corresponding harmonized scales in three and four note chords
- ★ Blending stacked instrumentation

Articulating it all together to create a steady, smooth, driving force is the goal.

Handouts will be provided in chord frame form with essential left hand fingering patterns to facilitate the chord voicing. Rhythm patterns will be demonstrated with historical recordings and up close demonstration. Chord progression charts will be provided for several selections of Classic Western music. Some singing may be used as part of the learning process, but not a prerequisite for the class.

Participants should arrive at this class with an open mind, prepared to focus on right hand technique, explore movable chord forms up and down the fingerboard of their guitar and to thoroughly enjoy becoming mesmerized by the beauty of this historic music. They should have working knowledge of major scales as well as harmonized scales and be comfortable using a rather thick flatpick. (Flatpicks will be available)

Upon completion of this class, participants may expect to come away with new and improved rhythm skills, an expanded chord vocabulary with a great appreciation of the role of a strong rhythm guitar player in a vocal group. They will gain an understanding of the historical significance of Classic Western music and the instrumentalists that have maintained the style for over 85 years.

This class is intended for individuals who are of intermediate to advanced skill levels.

Suze Spencer was born into one of America's most renowned Western Music families - The International Cowboys and the legendary Sons Of The Pioneers. Raised in the fold of working ranch hands, musicians, artists and entrepreneurs, Suze's grandparents and extended family were her vibrant mentors. Suze began learning guitar at age three from her grandfather and Karl Farr who was the original guitarist with Sons Of The Pioneers. She has continued to learn from many members of the group throughout her lifetime. In late 2005 she released her highly acclaimed album "Tall Boots, Rare Gems of America's Western Music Pioneers. In 2006 she along with 'Ranger' Doug Green of Riders In The Sky, published a guitar instructional book through Centerstream Publishing; "Rhythm Guitar, The Ranger Doug Way". She teaches master classes in the Classic Western style and Western Swing style at university level and at music camps all across the USA.



Suze Spencer

Register on the [Wintergrass ticket site](#).



[www.westernswingsociety.net](http://www.westernswingsociety.net)

Join the conversation on Facebook:  
Sacramento Western Swing Society

Click on the images above and to the right to be directed to the organization's website.



Follow the  
Western Swing Music Society  
of the Southwest  
at [www.wsmss.com](http://www.wsmss.com)

or on Facebook at:  
[Western Swing Music Society  
of the Southwest](#)



(... Continued from Page 11, jam etiquette)

- **Keep it tasteful** - When soloing, show off your chops, but play within your means. If you are a novice/intermediate player stay within your comfort zone. Look to the singer or jam band leader for cues to continue or pass the solo on.
- **Don't Play Loudly** - Most of us have some degree of hearing loss, so, for example, if the drummer/bass player sets the volume too high, everyone turns up their amps so they can hear themselves and the vicious cycle of rising stage volume begins. It doesn't take much to drown out the vocalist. Also, the lead players should turn down their instrument volume after their lead ride or solo.

#### After Your Set

- **Thank the Band** - Remember to thank the musicians who just shared the stage with you.
- **Thank the Venue** - Remember to thank the venue for holding the jam and supporting live music (*buying something to eat or drink is also much appreciated*).
- **Mutual Respect** - Most of the etiquette at jam sessions comes down to having a certain amount of respect for the abilities, but more importantly, for the feelings of the other people involved in the session.

Ready to give it a try? After playing 10-20 jam sessions you will have learned more about music, about communication, stagecraft and about yourself than you could have learned by playing solo or practicing for a whole year at home! So come on out and let's kick off the New Year with music! JY



Dave Duchane

## Directing Traffic

### Tips for Jammers

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

At one of our jam sessions, I watched as Paul Anastasio did his best to keep the jam band moving through the correct chord changes.

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



The number system can go into more depth than this. For instance, if there's confusion about what key we're going to play in, Paul could hold up 1 finger. In this instance, Paul is telling us that the song is in the key of G (*the key of G has 1 sharp - the key of D has 2 sharps etc.. See chart to the right*).

A bass player who knows the chord progression can also lead a band through the correct changes by choosing bass notes that lead the band to the next chord. In truth all instruments have the ability to lead when there is confusion. It's important that we listen closely

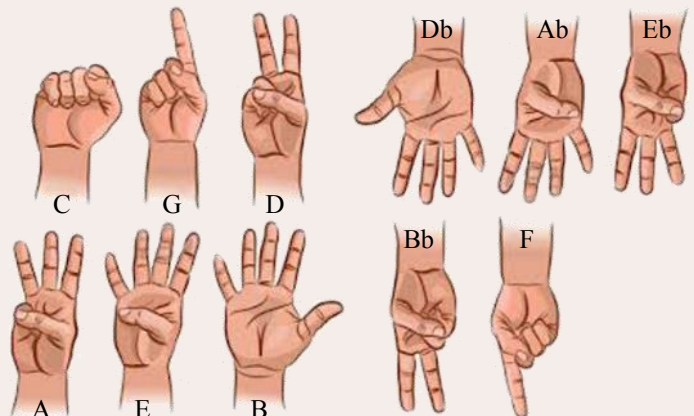


and watch for anyone who can throw out directions using hand signs.

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

### Didn't catch the key of the next song?

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



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

(Editor's note: The preceding article was reprinted from the March 2013 NWWSMS newsletter)



**HURRY and buy!**

*This is a BYOB event.  
Beer & Set Ups are for purchase  
at the KC Hall.*

*NO COOLERS allowed.*

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**San Angelo  
Cowboy Ball**

**with JAKE HOOKER &  
JODY NIX**

**April 19, 2019**

**Knights of Columbus  
Hall  
San Angelo, TX**

**VIP Tables are for 10  
guests, \$300 (includes  
Meet & Greet,  
Complimentary Wine/  
Snacks)**

**General Admission \$30  
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**Call 325-763-9923  
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Featuring  
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6PM - MIDNIGHT**  
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COLUMBUS HALL  
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Complimentary Wine & Snacks

Fundraiser for San Angelo Cowboy Gathering  
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To Purchase Tickets go to [www.sanangelocowboygathering.com](http://www.sanangelocowboygathering.com)