



**NWWSMS**

**NorthWest Western Swing Music Society**

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

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

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**Vol. 37, Issue 3**

**NorthWest Western Swing Music Society**

**March 2020**

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



Reprinted from the July 2010  
issue of Cowboys & Indians

**His name is  
synonymous  
with western  
swing.**

**by Carolyn Wills**

The sound of air brakes exhaling from a big black and white bus emblazoned with the words "Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys" announced my father's homecoming. It was the early '60s and my parents, older brother, two younger sisters, and I lived in a two-story red brick home in what was then a Tulsa, Oklahoma, suburb. Our house faced west in the direction of the towns and cities that knew Bob Wills so well. These were the touring years, and fans continued to crowd dance halls eager to see the man and his band, to hear the music, and to dance to favorites like "San Antonio Rose," "Faded Love," "Stay All Night," "Big Beaver," and "Take Me Back to Tulsa."

If somehow you're unfamiliar with Bob Wills or have yet to tap a toe to Western swing, it's safe to say you're within inches of someone who has. Today, living west of the Mississippi virtually assures a lifestyle influenced by him. More than a hundred years after his birth and now 35 since his death, Bob Wills and his music remain deep within the heart of America's West. From a family of fiddlers and cotton pickers, he became a Western legend, minstrel, preacher, and hero across four decades.

The oldest of four brothers and six sisters, he grew up in a small frame house "down between the rivers" of Hall County near Turkey, Texas. By today's standards, his family would be dirt-poor, but for the times, their standard of living was fairly typical. Rural America had yet to head for the city and agriculture was still the occupational standard. My grandfather, who I knew as "Daddy Papa" and the world knew as "Uncle John" Wills, was a champion fiddler and struggling cotton farmer who relied on his eldest son to play the fiddle for ranch dances and to pick cotton. The best the young Jim Rob "Bob" Wills took from those parched Texas cotton fields was a love for the blues and jazz sung and played by neighbors and migrant workers, and the best he got from his father were the teachings of a master fiddler and the sense of being central to the survival of others. No surprise that the charismatic firstborn would be gifted and burdened with talent, ambition, and a genius for creative evolution.

Bob Wills rose to stardom in the mid-1930s and enjoyed the ride well into the '60s. Committed to lightening the woes of people wearied by the Depression, he

*(Continued on Page 6 . . .)*



**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

**President/Secretary:** Jeanne Yearian  
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**Treasurer:** Lori Hanson  
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**Board Members:** Tony Bachler, Dave Enslow, Butch Gibson, Toby Hanson, Judy Hayes (*alternate*), Ramon Selby, 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](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](https://www.facebook.com/NorthWestWesternSwingMusicSociety)

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

### PHOTO CREDITS:

February Showcase photos by  
Jeanne & Fred Yearian.

## MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

President Jeanne Yearian called the meeting to order at 10:50am.

**Present by Verbal Role Call:** Tony Bachler, Sharon Capps, Dave Enslow, Lori Hanson, Toby Hanson, Ramon Selby, Sharon Smith.

**Excused:** Butch Gibson, Judy Hayes

**Guests:** N/A

**President's Report:** Jeanne Yearian reported that Judy Hayes will resume the position as an alternate member of the Board due to possible play date conflicts. Ramon Selby is back on the Board as a full member. The Board was pleased to welcome him. Sharon Smith will continue to serve as an alternate.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lori Hanson and Tony Bachler reported on the current bank balances in both accounts.

Tony Bachler, Lori Hanson, Shelley McNaughton and the Yearians met at the home of Sharon Smith to transfer the books and go over the treasurer's duties and responsibilities.

**Notes/Comments:** N/A

**Submission of Bills to Pay:** N/A

### **Committee Reports:**

**Sunshine:** Jeanne Yearian reported.

**Newsletter/Website/Facebook:**

**Additions/Changes to the Newsletter:**  
No update at this time.

**Additions/Changes to the Website:**  
The complete 2020 board listing has been updated.

**Membership / Liability Insurance** - The Society's liability policy has been paid.

**Showcase** - Bandleaders participating in today's Grand Jam are Paul Cooper, Ramon Selby and Butch Gibson. Many of our musicians are dealing with health problems and are not able to be here today.

March: Butch Gibson & Partners  
April: Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop

**Enumclaw 3rd Sunday Jam Update:** The January jam was an intimate group with one guitar, one accordion and TWO fiddles! It was a treat to have Bobby Daniels with us. We appreciate everyone who came out to join us. Many of our regulars were missing. We hope to see them once the weather becomes more predictable. The next jam is scheduled for February 16, depending upon the weather!

**2020 Western Swing Festival** - August 4 (set up) through August 10 (tear down). . We have received 4 complete nominations and are waiting for 8 more to come in. Ed Coppin with New York Catering has confirmed he is saving the dates for the festival. The contract with the Expo Center should be ready this month. Jeanne Yearian will review it, sign and put down the first half of the rental fee. We are on the Expo Center's calendar of events.

(earlier notes) **The Jangles** have confirmed they will be performing on Friday at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary HOF. Morey and Dorrie Sullivan are certain they can host the ceremony again! **Tex Hill & the Oregon Valley Boys** are doing a 'reunion tour' and trying to fit us on the schedule.

**Scholarship/Workshop:** Jeanne Yearian reporting. Suze Spencer is excited about this year's music camp. The camp will once again be held in conjunction with the annual Festival. Discussions are on-going.

**Winter White Fundraiser:** Lori Hanson reported. Flyers on the event are available and placed on the tables. Discussion followed.

**Unfinished Business:** No Update: Jeanne and Fred will be picking up Lou's western swing files in the coming months (2 filing cabinets and some boxes. The filing cabinets will be stored in the garage of the Yearian family home in Kent. Once this has happened, a time will be set to sort through the materials so archiving can begin.

**New Business:** No new business to report.

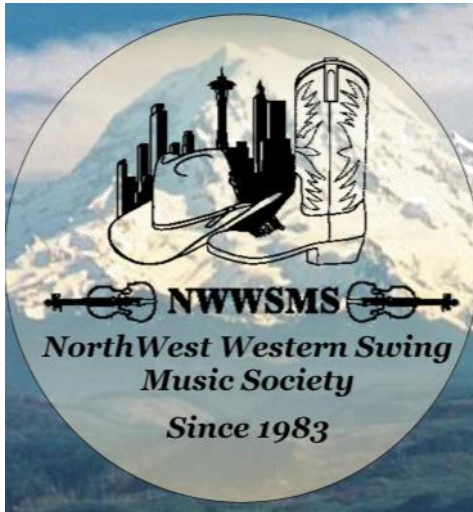
**For the Good of the Order:** No one reporting.

The meeting's minutes were read and approved by the Board members present. Motion passed to adjourn at 12:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Yearian, Secretary







**President's Corner**



*Jeanne Yearian*

There's still time to get those nominations in for the 2020 Hall of Fame! But, hurry! The deadline is **March 15**. Email your letter of sponsorship, your nominee's bio, contact information and a clear photo to [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com).

**Kristi Nebel & Cowgirl's Dream** hosted the February Showcase - a real treat, whether you were listening or dancing. This year the March showcase was cancelled due to an outbreak of the flu! Our host band for March, **Butch Gibson & Pardners**, looks forward to entertaining us later this year as well as in August, at the annual festival, August 6th - 9th.

Before we know it we will be gathering at Enumclaw's historic Field House for our August festival! This is as close as we can come to the Cain's Ballroom or an historic Texas dance hall. Last year we hosted our first western swing music camp, led by Suze Spencer and Tim Dawdy.

Our vision is to make the NWWSMS festival one of the "Do Not Miss" events on everyone's calendar. The rustic, climate-controlled hall has one of the biggest, if not THE biggest, suspended, hardwood maple dance floors left in our area. Downstairs and outside are spaces we can use for workshops and jams. What a great opportunity for musicians from around the country to encourage and inspire each other.

This year we have a special opportunity for those attending the summer music workshops. Leading with Suze Spencer will be Joey and Sherry McKenzie (*see the video clip to the bottom left as well as additional information on page 12 of this newsletter*). If you are familiar with the musical beginnings and performances of the Quebe Sisters and, now, the Western Flyers, you recognize Joey and Sherry. Or, if you are familiar with the Bob Wills Fiddle Festival that takes place in Greenville, Texas, each November, you will recognize the McKenzies. Class size is limited. You must register to attend.

We celebrate the NWWSMS' 30th Hall of Fame and Western Music Festival this year. Let's fill the hall! Brochures and flyers on the festival and music camp will be out later this month.

**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! Jam on March 15, 2020, weather permitting! Jeanne Yearian & Toby Hanson hosting. Call 425-432-7888 for additional information.

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

**Steel Country**. For bookings or schedule updates call Duane at (425) 870-7311 or Pat at (425) 745-3798.

**The Barn Door Slammers**. For information on upcoming play dates, check their website at [www.barndoorslammers.com](http://www.barndoorslammers.com).

**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**. Visit their website for information on additional 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.

Congratulations to the **2019 Showcase Band of the Year**. We will be announcing the winner at the April Showcase. The winning band gets to display the trophy at various NWWSMS events and choose when they will play at the August Festival. Our thanks to everyone who took part.

Let's celebrate in April . . . Celebrate Spring, Easter, the end of flu season! Join Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop from 1 to 3. Then, from 3:30 to 5, the jam portion of the program begins. If you would like to join in for a few songs, be sure to sign up at the information table.

See you on the dance floor! JY

*We received sad news this weekend. A music legend in our area, Shotgun Red (Ray Hildreth) passed away at home, surrounded by his family. Many of our musicians were influenced by his life and music. Our sincere condolences to his family, friends and fans.*

**Let's Celebrate Easter & Spring with Live Music and a Dance!**

**On April 12 join your western swing family**

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

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

**Featuring**

**Paul Cooper & the Pickin' Coop**

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



The Quebe Sisters  
Drew Phelps ([bass](#)) Joey McKenzie (guitar)

**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.**



## Cherishing the Memories



**Biff Adam**

Biff's musical career began when he was in elementary school. He attended Milton Hershey School in Hershey, Pennsylvania. He had the honor of playing for President Eisenhower while attending Milton Hershey School. Biff graduated from

High School in 1954. After graduating, he enlisted in the Navy and achieved the rank of Second Class Petty Officer. He was stationed in Long Beach, California and on occasion, I had the opportunity to play in back-up bands for artists such as Bobby Bare and Roger Miller. In 1959, Biff completed his military duty. In 1960, he moved to Fresno, California and started his nightclub band career.

In 1962, Biff met and married a local girl, Bette McIntosh. They moved to the Los Angeles area in 1964 and Biff went to work in the house band at the Palomino Club, North Hollywood, California. The Palomino Club was recognized for several years as the Nightclub of the Year by the Academy of Country Music.

Biff also did a lot of recording studio playing and was exposed to several prominent people in the music business. He was a drum instructor during this time and played in a house band for Disneyland on Sundays.

In 1969, he left the nightclub scene and started his career with **Merle Haggard and the Strangers**. Biff had the honor of being the drummer on four of Merle's Gold Albums and one of Willie Nelson's. **The Strangers** also had the honor of winning and being nominated for several prestigious awards, one being nominated for nine years as the Touring Band of the Year by the Academy of Country Music. He played drums on approximately 50 of Merle's albums. Biff felt fortunate to be able to play drums on the album, "A Tribute To The Best Damn Fiddle Player In The World," a tribute to Bob Wills.

Biff considered it an honor to play with some of the legendary **Texas Playboys** such as Tiny Moore, Johnny Gimble, Eldon Shamblin, Johnny Lee Wills, Joe Holley, and Alex Brashear, and to be a part of Country Music History. Biff enjoyed his God-given talent of playing the drums until the end. He was inducted into several Hall of Fames, including the Western Swing Society of Sacramento in 2001 and the NWWSMS Hall of Fame in 2013. He will be missed greatly by us all.

*(Editor's Note: Thanks to Kevin Healy, Keith's bandmate, for the notification of Keith's death. Our sincere condolences to Keith's wife, Linda, family and large community of friends.)*



**Keith Holter**

June 26, 1931—February 21, 2020

Longtime, local musician and lifelong, Longview-Kelso resident, Keith Galen Holter passed away at home surrounded by loved ones on Friday February 21, 2020, at the age of 88.

Born June 26, 1931, to Walter Galen and Ida Vivian (Ferguson) Holter, in Longview, WA. Keith attended RA Long High School and was a member of the US Army Reserve. Keith retired from Weyerhaeuser in 1993. He was a longtime member of the IWA 536 and the Musician's Union.

Keith was most well-known for his guitar mastery. Many locals referred to him as "Mr. Guitar." Keith started his professional music career at age 14. He played at most of the Northwest Music venues, including the Glide Hall in Kelso, Plaquato Ball Room in Chehalis, Tiny Dumont's, Division Street Corral, Watkins Park and Wagon Wheel Park in the Portland area, as well as many night clubs and private clubs in the Northwest. Keith also taught guitar for many years. He began teaching in the 1950's at Korten's Music then opened his own store "Holter's Strum and Drum" in the early 1960's. Keith continued to teach until the late 1970's.

After retiring from Weyerhaeuser, Keith continued to play music, pursuing his favorite genre, "Western Swing" along with his son, drummer Dave Holter. Together Keith and Dave traveled the country playing Western Swing with the Longview Longhorns. Keith was inducted into the Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame chapters in Seattle, Sacramento, Oklahoma, Alaska and Canada. Keith continued to play his guitar until the day before his passing.

## LAST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### FOR INDUCTEES INTO THE 2020 NWWSMS HALL OF FAME

*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:**

**NWWSMS, Nominations Chairman  
c/o Jeanne Yearian  
21221-174th Ave. SE  
Renton, WA 98058-9740**

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

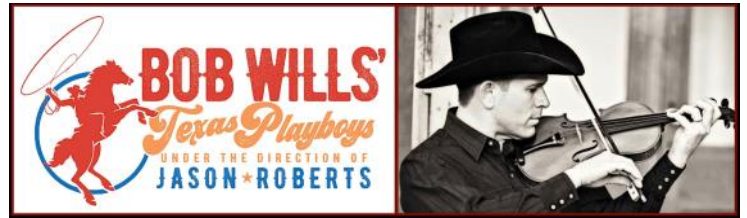
**The cut-off date is MARCH 15th.** We are limiting the number of inductees to a maximum of 14 per year. If your candidate does qualify but we receive your cover letter and bio after the first 14 have been received, you will be asked to resubmit your candidate the following year.

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



**Cain's Ballroom  
Sticks with  
Tradition through  
Renovations,  
Floor  
Replacement**

Thursday, February 2nd 2017  
Segments reprinted from Jerry  
Wofford with Tulsa World and Amy  
Jenson with KTUL News



TULSA, Okla. (KTUL) -- . . . For almost a century, the historic music venue has looked about the same, and that's the owners' plan, just with a few updates.

Cain's Ballroom was built in 1924 as a car repair shop. "In 1935, the original wood floor went in and that wood floor remained here until 2007 when we replaced it the first time, this now being the second time," said Chad Rodgers, co-owner and manager. . .

. . . Aside from the extra glister, music fans stepping onto the 'new' floor at Cain's Ballroom won't notice much of a difference. The maple and walnut accents have the same color and shape, and it even has that extra little give that helped make Cain's so unique, and that's just what Chad Rodgers wanted. "When we bought Cain's in 2002, we didn't want to change anything to lose the mystique," Rodgers said. "That's been our goal all along."

Like the old floor, a lighter maple wood covers most of the floor, with dark walnut circling the outside and forming a series of rectangles in the center, directly under the red neon star hanging from the ceiling. Though one addition is a thin strip of walnut in the center of the concentric rectangles, "a Rodgers addition to the floor," Rodgers said.

Over the years, thousands of people have played on the Cain's Ballroom stage while countless others have danced on the floor. Rodgers says his family wants to keep the building as original as possible, but wear and tear have required some updates, like the flooring. "It became a safety issue," said Rodgers. "Our customers are on the forefront of our mind and we want them to come and enjoy and come back."

In January, 2017, the second floor replacement began. The only thing that looks different is how clean it is, but the same design of the last 80-plus years remains. "It is still wood, it is still maple. Generally, overall you see in the floor the lighter color, walnut accents round the perimeter and in the middle," said Rodgers.

During the occasional updates, Rodgers has found lost memories of yesteryear, like bottles and 10-cent dance tickets that likely date back to the 1930s. "This time around we dug about three or four feet deep from the surrounding concrete, dug and took things out. Refilled and it was a long process," said Rodgers.

One feature unseen to the dancers and music lovers will be the new concrete slab under the floor, which Rodgers said will provide more support and hopefully extend the life of the floor. However, it still is lifted off the concrete and supported throughout, giving it that characteristic bounce and give that fans have come to love, Rodgers said.

People often talk about the springs under the floor at Cain's Ballroom, but Rodgers is sorry to say . . . "There were never springs under this floor, that was just an alleged myth," he said. Rodgers says the perceived bounce was from how the floor was built. "The piers were built far enough apart that the wood underneath flexed enough where it gave it the bounce, making it feel like it was on springs," said Rodgers. The bounce is still there with the new floor.

For anyone who danced on the original floor from the '30s, Rodgers is selling pens made from the original wood at Bob Wills' birthday celebration in March. "This is the music this place started with, Bob Wills and western swing," said Rodgers. "It is cool, it brings in a wide range of age demographics and it is a good time. It is good to hear that music back in this building."



*Pictured left: 2017 - the crew ripping up the 'well-used' floor at Cain's Ballroom, Tulsa, OK.*

*Pictured above - 2017 - Cain's new dance floor.*

*(Continued from page 1, Carolyn Wills talks of her father, Bob Wills)*

understood the effect of hard times and the formula for easing its hold. As people moved from the country to the city and dance halls replaced the ranch dance, Bob Wills made sure Western swing traveled, too, bringing with it the sound of a happier, roaring decade. He became the genre's favorite son, while his Texas Playboys surrounded him with a musical family of sheer enjoyment.

Onstage, he was the consummate performer. His unconventional "holler" and animated presence thrilled audiences up, down, and around Route 66 from Texas to the California coast, in dance halls, on the radio, and in western movies. His music lifted spirits that clearly needed lifting. It brought people to their feet and, more important for his time, proved for a humble picker from the cotton fields of Texas that sitting on top of the world was indeed possible.

Undoubtedly arising from his early experience of family, my father was acutely aware of the importance of others. His commitment to pleasing and elevating everyone — band members, family, audiences — inspired unwavering devotion and a kind of personal ownership from all who knew him. He admired great musicians and could spot and attract them instantly. His band, The Texas Playboys, was synonymous with the name Bob Wills, and thanks to my father's onstage commentary, band members were known individually almost as well as he was. He was a natural leader who encouraged self-expression within strict and oddly diversified codes of behavior and performance. And by the numbers of Texas Playboys who proudly served over the years and ultimately relished in the telling of "Bob stories," following his rules was, in the end, a rite of passage.

Well-known Texas Playboy piano pounder Al Stricklin recounted his travels with my father in *My Years with Bob Wills*, describing him as "The man who started it all; the man who could get 110 percent effort out of his musicians like a good football coach; the man who was feared and loved by his men; the man who could sell his product like nobody else, as testified to by the thousands of people who turned out to listen ... ." Al's son, Dr. David Stricklin, reminds me that much of my father's story revolves around "anti-rules," of ignoring boundaries — as illustrated by his swing-dance version of the "William Tell Overture" — and "of fracturing such musical niceties as observing time signatures."

He was his own kind of outlaw. "Bob broke meter and made it work, even though it drove the 'serious' musicians crazy," Stricklin says. "Daddy referred to how Bob took music out of the straitjacket. ... The thing was, if you were willing to accept the discipline of being in Bob's band, you had to adopt the work ethic that enabled them to survive the grueling schedule, the ways Bob drove them during performances, and the absolute requirement that people who paid to see them were going to get their money's worth. Within those rules and that work ethic, there was a lot of room for self-expression. Daddy always said that



*The Light Crust Doughboys  
(left to right) Herman Arnsperger, Bob Wills, Milton Brown  
and announcer, Eddie Dunn*

when Bob pointed his bow at you — and you never knew when that was going to happen — you couldn't just play exactly what you'd played the last time the band did the song. You had to think, Bob wants me to play all I know, and, if possible, play something I didn't know I knew. That was light-years from the attitudes of so many bandleaders in those days, even the ones we regard as highly inventive. It's one of Bob's great contributions and, I think, one of the keys to understanding his great humanity."

My father's talent for presentation, for skirting the edge of what fans could embrace and yet dream to emulate, began with his arrival on the musical scene at the start of the '30s. It was in Fort Worth, Texas, that he formed the Wills Fiddle Band; Milton Brown soon joined as vocalist and the group became the original Light Crust Doughboys. In sweaters and dress slacks, the band looked more like college boys than young men fresh from the farm.

In 1933, when Bob Wills left Fort Worth to broadcast on a radio station in Waco, the band became known as The Playboys. My father was 28; the band was young and they continued to dress like college students. From Waco, they headed for Oklahoma and their destiny to broadcast on KVOO. From 1934 through 1938, Bob Wills appeared in a tailored double-breasted suit and polished custom-made boots, and the Texas Playboys dressed in business suits, white shirts, and neckties. They were on their way to becoming the largest and most famous Western band in the history of America, and their increasingly familiar image announced the dawning of "Western chic."

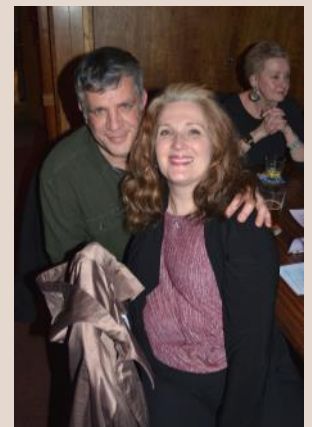
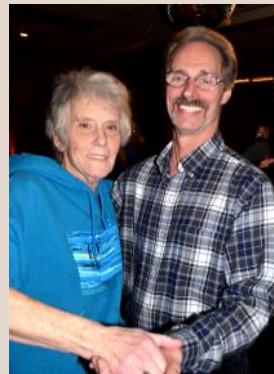
*(Continued on Page 9...)*



# *Photo Highlights*

## *from the 2020 February Showcase*

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



*Hope to see everyone in April!*  
*Save a smile for the camera!*



**Albums:**  
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

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

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)

### Mike's Top 10 for March 2020

**Songs:**

1. Little Bit of Texas - Carlos Washington's Steel Horse Swing
2. Wild Texas Rose - Jimmy Burson
3. There's Not a Cow in Texas - Rod Moag
4. Don't You Dare - Curio Cowboys
5. In the Middle of the Song - Western Swing Authority with Carolyn Martin
6. Wanderin' Star - Kristyn Harris
7. Rainbow Song - Jimmy Burson
8. San Antonio Rose - Jan Schiferi
9. Stardust Ballroom - Nancy Elliott
10. Manhattan - Judy James

**Albums:**

1. Little Bit of Texas - Carlos Washington's Steel Horse Swing
2. Room in Your Heart - Curio Cowboys
3. Lone Star Dust - Jimmy Burson
4. Sactown Playboys - Sactown Playboys
5. Swing Set - Lee Lee Robert (Musikode)
6. Timeless Treasures for a Living Legend - Tommy Thomsen
7. Ridin' Ropin' & Rounders - Rusted Spurs West
8. Big Deal - The Western Swing Authority
9. Shadows of What Used To Be - Emily George
10. Swing Time Baby - Steel Horse Swing

*Editor's Note: Our Congratulations to Tommy for being recognized once again for his contributions to the Western Swing genre! Here is an instant replay from January 2019.*

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*.

## 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.



(Continued from Page 6, Carolyn Wills . . . )

In 1939, my father and Mr. O.W. Mayo started the annual Bob Wills Stampede (Rodeo) in Tulsa and it was then that the Texas Playboys began to dress Western: cowboy dress shirts and Western pants, bolo or standard ties or Western scarves, vests or Western-cut sports coats, and cowboy boots with pants tucked in or out. Nowhere were there sequins, appliques, floppy lapels, or loud colors. As the bandleader, Bob Wills became known for his trademark cowboy hat, boots, and Roi-Tan cigar. He usually wore a light-colored Stetson with a medium crease and slightly folded edges. A hat pushed too far back or pulled down to hide a man's eyes was not acceptable.

"Those rodeos were what is called a happening today," says Al Stricklin, who recalled one parade where people started waving and shouting, not at the Oklahoma governor but at Bob Wills. "[Wills] had on a well-tailored Western suit and was riding Punkin, that great stallion, saddled with that beautiful silver-lined saddle that Tulsa restaurateur George the Hamburger King had given him. It was a beautiful sight."

A rare change to my father's dress code occurred during the making of a western movie in which the Hollywood director insisted he wear a 10-gallon white hat and tuxedo to conduct the band in a dance scene. Everyone on the set who knew him immediately recognized the anger and discomfort captured in that cut.

By 1942, my mother, Betty Lou Anderson, had fallen in love with and married Bob Wills. She was young and petite with curly black hair, big brown eyes, and an attitude of total possibility. At 37, he had matured into a dark-eyed heart-melting celebrity with a list of failed marriages. The connection between the two would carry them through ever-changing times, 32 years of marriage, and four children. Early on, I saw my parents' relationship as a working partnership as much as a great romance. From the outside, it may have appeared he was king, but from the inside I knew she was also queen. My mother excelled at business, and, as it turned out, she brought her own element of style to the Bob Wills image.

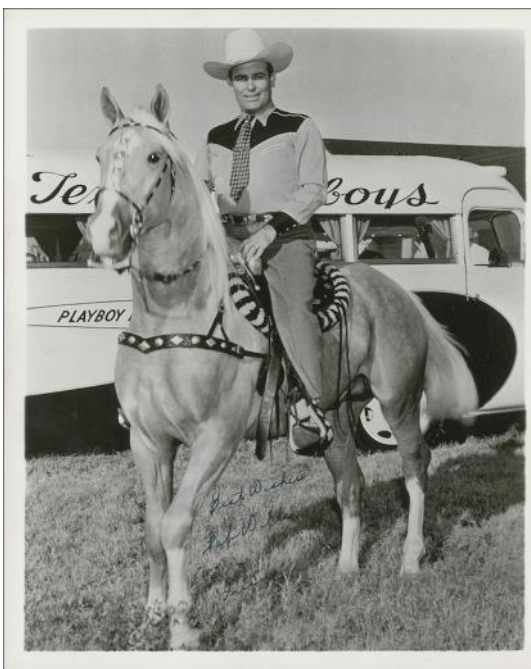
When we lived in Las Vegas in the late '50s, I remember helping her shop for dresses for a young singer hired for the Golden Nugget shows, and through the years I often heard her discussing with my father what the band would wear. I especially remember the period when she actually made his Western shirts. It was a time when pearl snaps were a must and to secure them to a shirt meant standing in the kitchen at the ironing board and pounding them over and over with a meat mallet.

While a great era in American history passed with my father's death on May 13, 1975, those who knew him — and many

who knew those who knew him — were not prepared to see his legacy die. His memory is honored in numerous halls of fame, museums, and tributes, including the Country Music Hall of Fame, the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. At the 2007 Grammy celebration, my niece and I were privileged to accept the Lifetime Achievement Award bestowed on my father by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for his contributions to American music. Ray Benson's stage production of A Ride with Bob is entertaining audiences across the country. And the annual Bob Wills Day in Turkey, Texas, is approaching its 40th year.

"Bob was a stylish Western rogue," says Benson, Asleep at the Wheel frontman. "As outrageous as his onstage dancing, hollering, and strutting were, he led the band in a presentation that was downright orchestral ... and always electrifying."

To hear the music called Western swing is to feel a connection to America's West. To know the man who was its instrument is to admire one of America's great agents of change. Not only did his music bring America to its feet, but his view of and pride in being Western evoked a now-classic style. His talent for synthesizing sound — whether in the vein of blues, jazz, ragtime, Hispanic, country, gospel, or big band — into the music known as Western swing translated to his equally contagious and innate sense for designing the image known as Bob Wills. Whether it applied to the band or signage or the bus; whether it was expressed by his performance or attire, or for that matter, his horse and tack, if it had to do with Bob Wills, it had to do with class.



Bob Wills riding Punkin



Showcase Band  
for February  
Kristi Nebel &  
Cowgirl's  
Dream

Top to Bottom: Kristi Nebel,  
Steve Nebel, Mike Friel, Toby  
Hanson



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2020  
FEBRUARY SHOWCASE



It's been over a year since **Cowgirl's Dream** has entertained us on the Lynnwood stage. So, we were very pleased they could make it up from the South Sound this month. **Kristi Nebel and Cowgirl's Dream** were spot on with their February Showcase selections. Our dancers showed their approval as well, filling the dance floor with smiling faces.

**Cowgirl's Dream** performed a lively, danceable mixture of western swing standards along with several original pieces. Between their sets, Lori Hanson reminded people to buy tickets for the Winter White Dance, the first NWWSMS fundraiser in some time. The food, catered by the Lynnwood Eagles, was outstanding and the music . . . well, Butch Gibson & Pardners is always a treat. There is still plenty of time to donate if you missed the scheduled event!

During the Winter White fundraiser held on February 22, we auctioned off the Dancer's Quilt, donated (designed and created) by NWWSMS Vice President, Sharon Capps. Lonnie McBride was the lucky winner. To our surprise, Lonnie graciously donated the quilt back to the Society to be raffled off again! If you would like a chance to win, we will be selling tickets one last time at the next Showcase. It will be raffled off around 4:30, right after the Split-the-Pot drawing. Tickets are still only \$5.00.

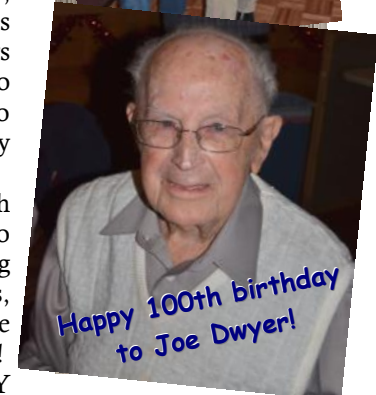
By 3:30, the jam was ready to begin. Much to our delight, the **Old Stokers** band took the stage! Due to a combination of illness and commitments, we have not had them with us in some time and they have been MISSED. What talent! Our sincere thanks to Neal Jeans (guitar/vocals), Steve Carter (guitar/vocals), Randy Miskulin (drums/vocals), Phil Mitchell (bass/vocals) and Shelley McNaughton (vocals/harmony).

After the band warmed up with a few songs, they began inviting jammers to join them on the stage. Dave Davis (guitar/vocals), Bill Metz (vocals), Jack Duncan (guitar/vocals), Dave Enslow (vocals), LeRoy King (vocals), Gil Barbee (drums), Dan Lyons (drums/vocals), Gary Moberly (vocals) and Butch Gibson completed the afternoon's entertainment.

A big, Western Swing Welcome to the two couples who joined the Northwest Western Swing Music Society during the February Showcase. Are you still trying to decide? Please consider it. Our membership dues provide a large part of our income, making it possible for us to continue our publication each month and put on our Western Swing Music Camp and Festival/Hall of Fame Celebration each year. All of us are volunteers and your membership lets us know that you value the Society, its goals and the effort we put into it.

Once again, special thanks to the folks at the Lynnwood Eagles, especially our attentive server and the talented cook, for making us feel so welcome, taking such good care of our food and drink orders during the Showcases. Remember, they are all volunteers as well so be sure to give them something extra for their service! Thanks to Fred Yearian (*my much better half*) for providing the sound and Randy Miskulin, once again, for providing his drums.

You can probably tell by now, we could not do this every month without the help of many volunteers. Thanks to everyone who participates by selling raffle tickets, by welcoming those coming through the door, by donating door prizes, issuing door prize tickets, and all the wonderful musicians who donate their time for the society. See you at the next Showcase . . .until then, stay well!



Happy 100th birthday  
to Joe Dwyer!





**Wyn on . . .**

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



**March 2020 Playlist for "Wyn on Tuesday"**

1. *Ever Since My Baby Went Away*, Jody Nix
2. *Texas and You*, Kristyn Harris
3. *The Whole World's Asleep*, Hot Texas Swing Band
4. *Someone to Watch Over Me*, Hot Club of Cowtown
5. *Deep Water*, Al Dressen
6. *Make Room for the Blues*, Bobby Flores
7. *Heeler Blues*, Chuck Cusimano
8. *Press Along to the Big Corral*, Riders in the Sky
9. *Waltz Across Texas*, Barbara Nelson
10. *Faded Love*, Bob Wills

**Artists are welcome to send CDs to:**  
**Wyn Machon**  
**5 Lowther St., Oamaru 9400.**  
**New Zealand.**  
[wynmachon39@gmail.com](mailto:wynmachon39@gmail.com)



Skeebo Norris

**March 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 to produce "Dance Music."....plus, we air old radio versions of Gunsmoke on Sundays at 6am and 6pm, along with Luke Clayton's Outdoors Show at 7am-8am on Sunday morn and archived editions of Glory Road, the old Quartet Gospel Music, with the late great Larry Scott as host at 9am-10am also on Sundays ...We'd LOVE to have you join us.... If you like us, please share with your friends who enjoy this music as well at [www.sansabarradio.com](http://www.sansabarradio.com) .....we are the Academy of Western Artists, STATION OF THE YEAR FOR 2018.....streaming 24/7.

- David Bradley - *Sioux City Sue*
- Alvin Crow - *All Nite Long*
- Brady Bowen - *You're Memory #1*
- Buddie Hrabal - *It's All Your Fault*
- Darrell McCall - *Texas Honky Tonk*
- Jeff Woolsey - *Big Blue Diamond*
- Splinter Middleton - *Dreams Come True*
- Kristyn Harris - *America, the Beautiful*
- Bobby Flores - *Shoes of a Fool*
- Sandy Ellwanger - *Walkin' In My Shoes*

Artists may send mp3 submissions to [production@sansabarradio.com](mailto:production@sansabarradio.com) and personal messages to [skeebo@sansabarradio.com](mailto:skeebo@sansabarradio.com)  
 We are on Facebook as well... Pickin' On The Oldies.  
 To listen go to our website [www.sansabarradio.com](http://www.sansabarradio.com)

**Save the Date: April 8th & 9th**  
**Make reservations: Host Hotel**  
**Raddisson Fossil Creek North**  
**2540 Meacham Blvd, Fort Worth, TX**  
**(817) 625-9911 Request AWA Discount**  
**Pre Award Jams will be Wednesday night & Thursday morning. After Awards Show Party!! @ The Raddisson Hotel. Make your reservations now!!**

## Introducing the Guest Instructors for the 2020 NWWSMS Western Swing Music Camp August 6th - 9th

(Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from the McKenzies' website:  
[www.fiddlesaregood.com](http://www.fiddlesaregood.com))

Since meeting at the National Old-Time Fiddlers Contest in Weiser, Idaho as young teenagers, Joey and Sherry's influence on the fiddle world is very evident. Both have won multiple state, national and world fiddle championships and as teachers, several of their students have gone on to win major national fiddle championships of their own. In addition, the McKenzies are very proud of their students who have advanced into successful music careers, as well as the many others who have become life-long music lovers who play strictly for the fun of it!

### Joey McKenzie



#### Accolades

*Joey McKenzie is a natural musical wonder. He is such a gifted musician, arranger and musical visionary. I truly admire him. One of the things we both share in common is rhythm. I always keep an eye out for rhythm specialists. When I first heard Joey play I proclaimed him the best, rock solid. He takes care of business at the microphone in a mighty way.*

**Marty Stuart ~ Grand Ole Opry star and host of "The Marty Stuart Show" on RFD-TV.**

*Joey McKenzie: Master of the guitar! As you watch him play, you know he has been blessed with power and perfect control over the instrument. In my opinion, he is the greatest guitar player this side of Heaven. He is an Icon, and my hero.*

**Leon Rhodes ~ Legendary Nashville session guitarist and member of Ernest Tubb's Texas Troubadours.**

*The first time I heard Joey McKenzie, his playing impressed me. His sound, chord progressions and ability to keep such good time - even when playing alone, was amazing. That guitarist is Joey McKenzie. His L-12 is the best sounding I've ever heard. You've got to hear him to believe it!*

**Bob Bain ~ Guitarist for 22 years on "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson" and L.A. session icon.**

Joey's first musical experience began at age of 11, tuning the instruments his father had around their house - a guitar, mandolin, tenor guitar, and a tenor banjo. Around the age of 12, he started learning a few chords and licks on each of the instruments and has been playing them ever since. When he was 17, he became interested in playing the fiddle after becoming friends with Texas fiddle legend Benny Thomasson. "I went to fiddle contests just playing rhythm guitar, but I wasn't really inspired to play the fiddle. When I got the opportunity to back Benny up in a few contests and hear the way he played, all I could think about was trying to learn to play the fiddle!" It wasn't long before Joey began competing and has since won well over 100 fiddle contests and awards on other stringed instruments. Some of these include three-time World Champion Fiddler, World Series of Fiddling Champion and five-time Texas State Guitar Champion. As a touring musician, Joey has performed in 45 U.S. states as well as Canada, Europe, Russia and South America. Joey's performance highlights include The Grand Ole Opry, The Kennedy Center, NYC's Lincoln Center, Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, NPR's "A Prairie Home Companion" and RFD TV's "The Marty Stuart Show". In addition, Joey has shared the stage with

musical greats Merle Haggard, Ricky Skaggs, Ray Price, Asleep at the Wheel, Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, Connie Smith, and even a ukulele-slinging billionaire by the name of Warren Buffett! He has always been fascinated with the great behind the scenes rhythm guitar work of players such as Eldon Shamblin, Homer Haynes, Eddie Lang, Karl Farr, Freddie Green and Oscar Moore. In addition to touring with [The Western Flyers](#), Joey enjoys restoring, repairing and collecting vintage stringed instruments and says he is still trying to get them in tune!

### Sherry McKenzie

When eleven years old, Sherry experienced fiddle music for the first time. "I saw a fiddle player on TV," she recalls, "and thought it looked really, really fun. My parents got me an instrument, and I started playing in the sixth grade orchestra in my hometown of Idaho Falls, Idaho and I just fell in love with the music. The sound of it made me feel good." Sherry has essentially learned to play Texas-style completely by ear. "My parents would get me a record, like Benny Thomasson or Kenny Baker, and I would try to put those licks in the old-time songs I was playing. I entered the state fiddle contest just for fun (I placed next to last!) but that year I fell in love with the Texas-style versions of the tunes I heard. I met Mike Parsons and Roberta Pearce at the contest and began taking lessons from them, learning this exciting style of fiddling, and the next year I got first place in the Junior Junior Division." After this first win, Sherry headed of to the national contest in Weiser, a few miles down the road. "I remember sitting in the gym at Weiser watching the open division and hearing the great Texas-style players for the very first time. Herman Johnson made a big impression on me--the way he stood, the way he played, even how he walked out on stage to compete, and I just thought he was so amazing." That year Sherry met Herman along with Benny Thomasson and Dick Barrett. These three fiddlers would deeply influence her playing over the next few years. "I had never met a Texas-style fiddler in person," she recalls.



"I just had this Benny Thomasson record. I remember playing outside on the sidewalk at Weiser-- I'm squeakin' around on this fiddle, and I heard fiddling over my shoulder and looked over and it was Benny Thomasson. I had been playing Clarinet Polka, and he was playing the harmony. I got really nervous and I thought, 'this is that man that I have the record of!' And he was just so nice. I met Dick Barrett that same year - my dad approached him and asked if he would have some time to watch me play and talk with me, which he did. Dick took me aside and showed me a different way to hold my bow, and I asked him some questions. He showed me Black & White Rag, and helped me all afternoon to get the bowing right. I greatly admired these three fiddlers and wanted to play just like they played." After these encounters, Sherry recalls, "I would spend hundreds of hours with a record, slowing it down and listening over and over. And I spent hours watching great fiddle players, trying to figure out how they bowed certain songs." Sherry has completed Suzuki Violin Unit 1 at Texas Christian University and has incorporated the pedagogical ideas of the method into her teaching. "I believe there are more similarities than differences with the Suzuki method and a systematic approach to learning traditional fiddling." Sherry enjoys working with Suzuki students in an Enrichment role to supplement their existing studies and with intermediate level students of all ages. She is a sought after instructor at workshops and institutes across the country.





Joyce Miller

May 1 & 2, 2020  
 The Cowtown Society of  
 Western Music's  
**22nd Annual  
 SwingFest**



**CSWM 2020  
 SWINGFEST  
 HEROES OF  
 WESTERN SWING**

LIVING LEGENDS

- LARRY NIX
- SONNY RICE
- BILL HEARNE
- JOE SETTLEMIRE
- ROGER EDGINGTON

HEROES OF WESTERN SWING (LIVING)

- JOHN STEELE
- HOWARD KALISH
- HARLAN KUBOS
- DEVON DAWSON
- WILL TAYLOR
- JOE DEGELIA
- GREG HARDY
- BILL ATWOOD
- BUBBA COX
- LYNN FRAZIER
- ALFIE JOHNS
- DIXIE HANKINS
- MATLOCK RICE

POSTHUMOUS HEROES

- DICKY OVERBEY

DISC JOCKEY OF THE YEAR

- H.D. AINSWORTH

BAND OF THE YEAR

- WSMSS BAND UNDER THE  
 DIRECTION OF JOHN JONES

FANS OF THE YEAR

- PAUL GONZALES & KRISTY HALL

PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

- TERRI HOLLAND

RISING STAR

- RIDGE ROBERTS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- AL DRESSEN

The Cowtown Society of Western Music Swing Fest is coming up soon! We have a great lineup of music planned! Here are the specifics:

**22nd Annual**

**CSWM Western Swing Fest and Awards Show**

Saturday - May 2, 2020

Holiday Hills Country Club. 4108 Hwy 180 E. Mineral Wells. Texas  
 Noon to 10:00PM

Co-hosts Greg Gibbs and Kelly Scott

**Entertainment Schedule:**

Noon to 12:45 PM - Devon Dawson & The Outlaw, Jessie Robertson

12:45 PM - 1:30 PM - Jimmy Burson and Texas in the Swing

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM - 1st Awards Ceremony

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM - Louise Rowe and The Texan Playboys

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM - 2nd Awards Ceremony

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM - WSMSS All Star Band under the direction of John Jones

5:00 PM - 5:45 PM - 3rd Awards Ceremony

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM - CSWM Heroes Band under the direction of Brady Bowen

*Times are approximate only. Can vary.*

Food and beverages are available for purchase both Friday and Saturday.

**\$20.00 ADMISSION FOR ADULTS**

**\$5.00 ADMISSION FOR CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER**

Saturday, show your CSWM membership card or medal and get \$5.00 off.

Be an early bird and come to our jam session on Friday, May 1st, and listen and dance to some of the best Western swing musicians on the planet from 3 PM 'til 10:00 PM for only \$5.00 Admission. Kids are free on Friday.

Need Accommodations? Call our host motel, Best Western in Mineral Wells 940/325-2270 and ask for the Swing Fest discount.

Hope to See Ya There!

*For more info, contact:*

Joyce Miller

817/558-7580

[jmlbubbles032443@att.net](mailto:jmlbubbles032443@att.net)

*Check us out on Facebook too.*



# Bob Wills Day 2020 Highlights April 23, 24 & 25

Make your plans now to be in Turkey, Texas for this annual must see event!

## BOB WILLS DAY EVENTS

- Parade
- Fiddle Contest
- BBQ
- Concerts
- Dances
- Concessions
- Vendor Booths
- Bob Wills Day Gear
- [The Slab](#)

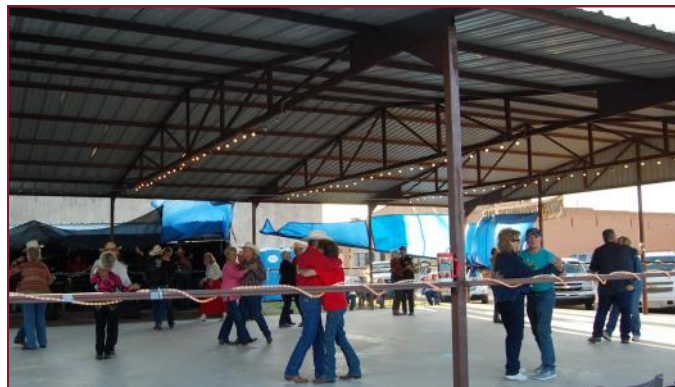
### THE SLAB

FREE LIVE BAND & DANCING

**Location:** SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET, TURKEY, TEXAS

**Hours:** BOB WILLS CELEBRATION WEEKEND, LAST WEEKEND IN APRIL

**Cost:** Free



### TOMMY THOMSEN AND THE CHURCH OF WESTERN SWING

*ALWAYS SWINGING THE LAST  
WEEK OF APRIL  
IN TURKEY, TEXAS*

Church Bulletin:

Howdy Church Friends!! Improvements at the church continue. Don't you love the new patio?? And did you notice the extra room on the dance floor? We look forward to making more improvements as funding permits. The church would like to send a sincere thank you to the folks that came the week before the event and helped get everything ready. . . including building the patio cover!

Thank you to the C.O.W.S Band that continues to give their

time and amazing talents so generously. We couldn't do this without your dedication to the church and this music.

Finally, we'd like to thank the folks that come to the church for fun, fellowship and to dance and listen to some of the finest western swing musicians around.

Don't forget that The Church of Western Swing is now a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of the music we love.

Enjoy the pictures and videos and look for more news to come.







Bob Richards  
radiobob805

**Bob Wills 1968, Running Bear, w/Johnny Preston vocal + video**

This video is only five minutes long. You'll see Johnny Preston singing on the Dick Clark TV Show in 1959...but the Music is Bob Wills in Stereo from 1968. How did I do that? Sometimes you get lucky, work your butt off for hours to perfect a five minute video.

Running Bear was a fun song, yet it's a tragedy. You can never tell what will be a hit. I like this the first time I heard, and I played it on the radio as a new record. (The Indian Sounds on the Johnny Preston version are being done by George Jones and The Big Bopper, J.P. Richardson.)

Then I added Time Changes Everything, which Johnny Preston also did.

Comments appreciated!



**Waitz Across Texas**

**An Ernest Tubb Tribute**  
benefits the San Angelo VFW Post (125 S. Browning)  
July 11, 2020  
Doors open 11:00 am • Dance noon-midnight  
Food • raffles • silent auction

**BYOB**  
Beer & Set ups for sale

Dance to Jeff Woolsey, Justin Trevino & Myra Rolen, and Jody Nix  
Tickets are \$45 per person  
Reserved tables of 6 & 8 - \$250 & \$350  
Call Terri Holland at 325-763-9923 or Janet Sheppard 325-655-6550 to purchase

**Terri Holland**  
Productions & Consulting

**Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest**  
A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

**WICHITA FALLS, TX - SPRING SHOWCASE**  
**DANCE AND JAM**

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawings  
**MARCH 26 - 28, 2020**

THU: MEMBERS FREE - \$5.00 NON-MEMBER  
FRI & SAT: \$5.00 MEMBER—\$10.00 NON-MEMBER

**Elks Lodge**  
4205 Seymour Highway 277 Business  
Wichita Falls, Texas

Limited RV Parking (dry) Available at Elks Lodge \$10.00 per night  
\*\*\* Mention Western Music Swing Society for Special Rates \*\*\*  
Early Reservations are Highly Recommended  
Especially for Ground Floor and Wheel Chair Accessible Rooms

1. Super 8 Hotel - 1307 Kenley Ave. - 940-322-8880  
(King \$50.00, Double \$55.00 + tax - Continental Breakfast)

3.) Wichita Falls RV Park - 2944 Seymour Highway - 940-723-1532  
(Back-in \$34.00 / Pull Through \$45)

Wednesday, March 25th, 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm: Setup and Early Bird Dinner  
Thursday, March 26th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands  
Friday, March 27th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions  
Saturday, March 28th 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions  
For Information Contact: Grady Smith @ 940-631-4953

**San Angelo Cowboy Ball & Gathering 2020**  
by Terri Holland



We are just a few months into the new year, but we are off to the races in 2020. Let me share a little information about all the events coming to San Angelo, Texas this year. For more information you can check our website at [www.sanangelocowboygathering.com](http://www.sanangelocowboygathering.com)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> *San Angelo Cowboy Ball* will take place on April 17, 2020, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in San Angelo, with doors opening for VIP's at 7:00pm, and for general admission ticket holders at 7:30pm. A portion of our proceeds from the event will benefit the *Children's Advocacy Center of Greater West Texas*. Our featured entertainers will be Jake Hooker & The Outsiders, and Jody Nix & The Texas Cowboys. The bands will alternate sets each hour, and come back together at night's end. The dance will go from 8:00PM until midnight. VIP tables are \$300 each and seat 10, General Admission is \$30 per person. This event has sold out in previous years, so be sure and get your tickets early. Call 325-763-9923 to purchase. (VIP Tables are almost sold out).

(Continued on Page 17 . . .)



**MUSIC WITH  
PROMINENT ROOTS  
INFLUENCE  
HONKY TONK  
WESTERN SWING  
ROCKABILLY**

*Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from [www.SavingCountryMusic.com](http://www.SavingCountryMusic.com), February 24, 2020.*

## **Winners and Recap of the 2020 Ameripolitan Awards**

The 2020 Ameripolitan Awards were celebrated this weekend in Memphis, TN, with numerous showcases and performances happening all across the city, from the famous clubs on Beale Street, to Dale Watson's newly-opened historic music venue, Hernando's Hideaway, to the stately Guesthouse at Graceland where the awards show proper was held Monday night, February 24th. See all the winners below.

Meant to recognize American music with a strong roots influence that often gets lost in the realm of popular music, as Nick 13 of Tiger Army said when presenting an award during the show, *"The music that the mainstream has forgotten, that's the music we remember."*

Earlier in the week, Tanya Tucker helped provide one of the coolest moments of the event as she showed up to Hernando's unexpectedly Thursday night to sing a couple of songs at the pre-party. Other events helped lead up to the awards, including Junior Brown performing Friday night, a fashion show and musical showcase at the Circuit Playhouse in midtown Memphis Saturday night with Farmer & Adele, Johnny Falstaff, and Charley Crockett all performing, the "Godfathers" of Ameripolitan—The Reverend Horton Heat,

Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys, and Wayne "The Train" Hancock—all performing Sunday night at Hernando's, and a tribute to the Bakersfield Sound during the day on Monday.

It all led to Monday night when the respective artists in the Rockabilly, Western Swing, and Honky Tonk categories showed up dressed to the 9's, and an awards show broke out. Announced by Dallas Wayne and hosted by Big Sandy and Doris Mayday, it saw performances by Big Cedar Fever, Whitney Rose, Two Tons of Steel, Tami Savoy, Summer Dean, James "Slim" Hand opened the show (like he's done all 7 years) performing "Baby, Baby Don't Tell Me That," along with other performances.

As Western Swing Male winner Dave Stuckey said, the Ameripolitan Awards are like artists that are from an island of misfit toys that don't fit in Americana. Honky Tonk Male winner Charley Crockett told the story while accepting his award about hearing a street performer in New Orleans, Louisiana playing "My Bucket's Got a Hole In It" by Hank Williams, and knowing that's what he wanted to do with the rest of his life.

This was the first year there was not an "Outlaw" category. Instead, those acts were considered in the Honky Tonk category. Special awards included drummer J.M. Van Eaton who was one of the original Sun Studios players who performed on tracks from Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and others. He was awarded the Founder of the Sound award, while Duane Eddy was honored with The Master Award.

*(Editor's Note: For the complete listing of award winners, please visit their website at: [www.SavingCountryMusic.com](http://www.SavingCountryMusic.com).)*

### **Western Swing Male**

Ranger Doug  
Kyle Eldridge  
Keenan Wade (Farmer & Adele)  
**Dave Stuckey – WINNER**

### **Western Swing Female**

**Georgia Parker – WINNER**  
Cheryl Deserée  
Wendy Newcomer  
Katie Shore

### **Western Swing Group**

**The Farmer and Adele – WINNER**  
The Urban Pioneers  
Bill and the Belles  
50 Shades of Hay

### **Venue**

American Legion Post 82 – Nashville  
Southgate House Revival – Newport, KY  
**Luckenbach, TX – WINNER**  
Skinny Dennis – Brooklyn, NY  
Dee's Country Cocktail Lounge – Nashville  
Duke's Indy – Indianapolis, IN

### **Musician**

Joel Patterson  
Rose Sinclair  
**Sean Mencher – WINNER**  
Amy Griffin  
Bobby Trimble  
Becky Hinson  
Mike Bernal

### **Festival**

**Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion – WINNER**  
High Rockabilly- Spain  
Western Swingout Weekender - Tehachapi, California  
SYMCO Weekender – Symco, Wisconsin

### **DJ**

Kevin Martinez  
Celia Villagran  
Don Sticksel  
Marivi Yubero García  
Jimi Palacios  
**Eddie White – WINNER**





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