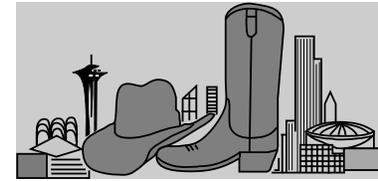




*Booklet by Beryl Shawley — With harassment by Ray*

WESTERN SWING MUSIC SOCIETY OF SEATTLE



**WESTERN SWING  
MUSIC SOCIETY OF  
SEATTLE**

**15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**PIONEERS OF WESTERN  
SWING FESTIVAL**

**2005 INDUCTEES**

## P.O.W.S. HONOR ROLL

- 1998** - Troy Burgin, Carolina Cotton, Roy Cowan, Cleo Gilstrap, Rocky Gregg, Ted Kiger, Bob Kley, Judy Klotzer, Judy Knight, Lee Knight, Eddie McAlvain, Gene Ochitwa, Jack Osborn, Stan Peters, Bernie Rogers, Boyd Rogers, Bob Rosenquist, Burr Sanders, Al 'Smokey' Stutzke, Wayne Thomas, Jimmy Wyble.
- 1999** - Lisa Barrett, Lafe Henry 'Curly' Booth, Albert E. Brumley Sr, Billy Champion, James Champion, Joe Champion, Ken Carter, Harry Lee Coffman, Bobby Dixon, Darrell Downing, Bob Dolle, Bill Gilbert, Chuck Hayes, Odis James, Perry Jones, Benny Kubiak, John Parker, Chuck Robins, Stan Schroeder, Dale Starcher, Elmer Whittle.
- 2000** – Hank Ballard, Jack Engel, Marty Engel, Evelyn Horner, Bud Isaacs, Geri Isaacs, Joe Knight, Don Lacey, Don Lewis, Irv Mayhew, Al (Misty) Moorman, Bob Onstott, Ken 'Shorty' Reeves, G. H. 'Rod' Rodriguez, Phil Schwendt, Joe Settlemires, Bob Smoot, Roy Stane, Harrell J. Tervooren, Wilber (Web) Tipton, Steve Vaughn, Johnny Wakely.
- 2001** - Tony Arana, Gary Bloxson, Bob Boatright, Gary Bryant, Dwight Cook, Sammy Daulong, Keith Holter, Dave Karr, LeRoy King, Billy McBay, Charlie McBay, Bobby McBay, Billy Mize, 'Barney Paul' Northcut, Johnny Patterson, Arthur 'Ray' Poe, Buddy Ray, Jay Riley, Ray Shawley, Dennis Slaght, Travis Smith, Dayna Wills, Buddy Wilson.
- 2002** - Gerry Adamus, Vic Ashmead, Wanda J. Blevins, Roy Lee Brown, Robert Burton, Dugg Collins, Bill Dessens, Don Gillespie, Mike Gross, Kelli Grant, Tommy Howser, Cliff Mitchell, Joe Mitchell, Tom Morrell, Charlie Mudford, Alton Simpson, Norm Stephens, Joe Warmack, Jimmy Webb.
- 2003** - Bill Adams, David Allen, Paul Anastasio, James 'Deacon' Anderson, Jimmy L. Burrell, Clarence Buell Cagle, John 'Dusty' Carroll, George Cecil, Carolyn Coker, Sandy Coker, Roy Ferguson, Jack Hutchinson, Bob Kelly, Harlan Kubos, Mel LaBoyne, David Menefee, Jim Nelson, Tommy Thomsen, Les Wamboldt, Lynn Ward, W.K. 'Pee Wee' Whitewing.
- 2004** – Vernon Carson, Buddy Ferguson, Jim Grabowske, Harold Hubbard, Evan Kemp, 'Lucky Lee' Leise, K.C. Don Maddox, Obie Noonkester, 'Speedy' Price, 'Shorty Joe' Quartuccio, D. 'Sandy' Sanderson, Ted Scanlon, Chuck Smith, Morey Sullivan, George Uptmor Jr, Curtice Williams, Jack Wohl, Jimmy Young.

### ***About the Seattle Western Swing Society . . . .***

*The Western Swing Society of Seattle was formed in November 1983 by Western Swing Music enthusiasts who were concerned that this form of music was in danger of "dying out," as the older performers were one by one passing on, and that there were no young players to take their place. Thus was born the Seattle Chapter of the Western Swing Society, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to Preserve, Promote and Perform Western Swing Music. Monies generated by the club strictly pay for operating expenses and donations to deserving charities. A scholarship program has been established and this year two promising young fiddle players were awarded tuition to a fiddle camp. Each member of the Society pays yearly dues of \$15.00 per person, \$20.00 per couple. A monthly newsletter is sent to members apprising them of the state of the society, upcoming local and national functions, etc.*

## **P.O.W.S. HONOR ROLL**

- 1991** - Les 'Carrot Top' Anderson, Texas Jim Lewis, Bob Wills, Bill Boyd, Marvin 'Smokey' Montgomery, Rocky Rauch, Jim Boyd, The Rowe Brothers Band, Marty Dahlgren, Burt Dudder, Frank Elder.
- 1992** - Billy Armstrong, Jesse Ashlock, Johnny Cuiello, Glynn Duncan, Bobby Koefer, Tiny Moore, The McKinney Sisters, Cotton Roberts, Vance Terry, Billy Jack Wills, Johnny Lee Wills, Bud Duncan, Loyd Jones, Truitt Cunningham, Don Berkshire.
- 1993** - Larry 'Pedro' DePaul, Smokey Rogers, Spade Cooley, Johnny Gimble, Floyd Tillman, Andrew 'Cactus' Soldi, Norman Phelps, Willie Phelps, Joe Avants, R. T. 'Windy' Wood, Jimmy Benjamin, Ivan Wood, Ronnie Hutchinson, Jimmy Thomason, Ray Robinson.
- 1994** - Ted Daffan, Moon Mullican, Tex Williams, Jimmy Wakely, Luke Wills, Herb Remington, Slim Dossey, Bob White (steel guitar), Leon Rausch, Paul Harper, Dick Barrett, Lonnie Bell, Buck Ritchey.
- 1995** - Hank Thompson, Leon 'Pappy' Selph, Shelly Lee Alley, Jr., Clyde Brewer, Cliff Bruner, Eldon Shamblin, Billy Briggs, Skeeter Elkin, Adolph Hofner, Emil 'Bash' Hofner, Harley Hess, Bus Boyk, Tommy Perkins, Sid Barnes, Red Gillean, Shelly Lee Alley, Hank Penny.
- 1996** - Gene Albright, Stogy Buckhorn, Bob Cobb, Jerry Emery, Pat Gerow, Dave 'Pappy' Hamel, Dick Heil, Gary Howe, Johnny Jansen, Buck Wayne Johnston, Rose Maddox, Sam Necochea, Bill Pray, Bobby Reeves, Jelly Sanders, Glen Tarver, Elmer Tippe, Tommy Turman, Cindy Walker, Dale Wilson, Bob Dunn, Glen 'Blub' Rhees.
- 1997** - John Barwis, Clarence Boyd, Bill Brooker, Tommy Duncan, Earl Finley, Bill Garner, Bobby Gilstrap, Ray Jensen, Curly Lewis, Kenny Lowrey, Bobby MacAvoy, Dick McComb, Charlie Moore, Joaquin Murphey, Bill Philley, Wade Ray, Jimmy Rivers, Jim Sanderson, Myron Sautter, Norm Shaffer, Bobby Wynne, Jack Wyse.

## **2005 P.O.W.S. INDUCTEES**

- DARRELL ANDERSON – WASHINGTON**  
**ROY AYRES – FLORIDA**  
**LOU BISCHOFF – WASHINGTON**  
**DON BURNHAM – CALIFORNIA**  
**GENE CARTER – OKLAHOMA**  
**PHIL CAVIN – WASHINGTON**  
**MARIAN HALL – CALIFORNIA**  
**EARL HILL – TEXAS**  
**LLOYD HOOPER – WASHINGTON**  
**CHARLIE HULL – CALIFORNIA**  
**DARRELL DEAN KLEIN – WASHINGTON**  
**LEE LOYD – CALIFORNIA**  
**JIM NEEL – WASHINGTON**  
**CANDY NOE – OKLAHOMA**  
**BILL O'CONNOR – WASHINGTON**  
**BERT RIVERA – TEXAS**  
**JIMMIE RIVERS, JR. – CALIFORNIA**  
**HAROLD R. (PETE) SCHOLZ – TEXAS**  
**CUBBIE SLAYTON – CALIFORNIA**  
**J. D. WALTERS – OKLAHOMA**  
**KENNY WILLIAMSON – TEXAS**

Kenny Williamson started his music career in 1937 at the age of nine. An uncle from East Texas was visiting and showed him a passage on the guitar that got him hooked. He fooled around with the guitar and mandolin for a couple of years.

At the age of 15, he was invited to play a house dance with other local musicians. Seeing the effect their unpolished music had on the people and realizing the guests had all but forgotten the

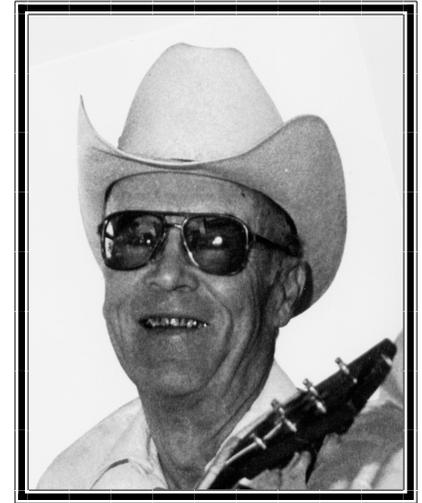
problems of the war at that time, made them all feel better (not to mention the few dollars they divided between them equally.)

At 18, a man from Crosbyton, (Charles Edwards) formed a band and wanted Kenny to play guitar for him. While this was taking place, different occasions gave Kenny the opportunity to observe the only organized band in the area, Hop Halsey and the Drugstore Cowboys from Lubbock.

Kenny was drafted into the Army for two years and was stationed at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. While there, he joined a band called the CCB's made up of GI's from the 70th Med Tank BTLN. After being discharged, Kenny returned to Ralls for about six months and then moved to Amarillo where he went to work for Roy Terry and the Pioneer Playboys. Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys were playing across the street and Kenny went over on intermission and watched Eldon Shamblin, discovering the style of playing solid rhythm. In 1955, he moved to Oklahoma City and played for Merle Lindsey and The Oklahoma Nightriders.

Over the years, Kenny has played for many bands including Weldon Allard, Dick Morton Orchestra, Jet Naples Combo, and others. While with Merle Lindsey and the Oklahoma Nightriders, he developed a relationship with Vic Ashmead, learning harmony style. Kenny played for the great Billy Foust band in 1957.

Now at 76 years young, Kenny continues to play on Friday nights at local Senior Citizen Clubs around Amarillo.



## **KENNY WILLIAMSON**



J. D. (James Dawson) Walters grew up on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in Pascagoula, Ms., and lived in that area for the first 30 years of his life. His mother Ollie Gray and younger sister Mary Ann both played piano.

J. D. began playing music at the ripe old age of six! His father William Edward "Doc" arranged for him to take steel guitar lessons on an inexpensive beginner six-string acoustic open hole he bought for the boy. It was difficult

learning at first because he had just started school and couldn't read or do basic math yet. It was difficult for him to reckon the numbering chart method they used on the steel guitar. But, by Christmas time, he discovered he had an "ear" for music and was able to pick out and play "*Silent Night*" and other Christmas songs. His playing took a sharp upturn and soon his father bought him a real six-string electric steel.

From the first time J. D. heard Western Swing, he knew that was what he wanted to play. He loved the sounds that Pee Wee Whitewing, Bob White and Curly Chalker were creating in their bands. Sometime later, it also included Buddy Emmons. In fact, when you hear J. D.'s steel, you can hear the blend of Emmons/Chalker styles in those "full, fat, big chords" he plays.

In November 1986, J. D. and his wife Linda moved from Nashville, along with their two children who were born there. They felt that it was time to get off the road and give those children the quality time they needed so they moved to Linda's hometown, Bellingham, Ma. There, they worked in a local band called The Wyoming Machinery Company which included two of the former Heartbeats. They played mostly Country but J. D. swung it Western every chance he got.

When J. D. was transferred with his day job to Tulsa in 1986, it was a terrific break for him. He landed in the town that Bob and Johnnie Lee Wills built. Over the years, he became friends with and played with many well know bands who played Western Swing.

**J. D. WALTERS**

Darrell Anderson has been playing fiddle since he was eight years old. He also plays bass, guitar, and mandolin but considers himself a much better fiddle player because he has had more practice on the fiddle.

Darrell's great-grandfather was a well-known fiddle player in East Tennessee near the Virginia border. His grandfather played the five string banjo. His cousin Bud Johnson plays sax. Darrell's wife Violet used to play a little lap steel. They recorded a

couple of songs together. Darrell played in his church orchestra and the school orchestra. His first professional band was with The Traveling Troubadours.

Darrell first began to play with Wayne Parker and The Rainier Ramblers in the late 40's. He did so again as recently as 1993. The 60's were when they were most active. Wayne started taking Darrell with him playing music at scout meetings, church groups and various community and civic gatherings.

In 1959, Darrell appeared on the Fort Lewis Jamboree with Cole Shelton on Radio Station KAYO, which is now the Country Gold Network. He made 16 guest appearances on that show.

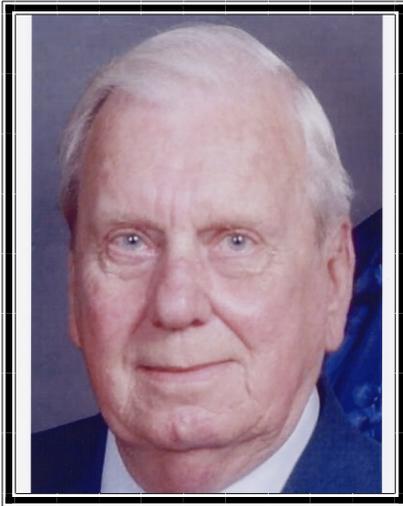
Over the years, Darrell has backed up many big name stars including Tex Williams in 1981, and Patsy Sledd recently.

Darrell is a big fan of "big band music." He collects big band remote broadcasts from the 30's and 40's from hotel and ballrooms all over the U.S. He has rare and uncommon bands as well as recordings of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, and many others. Some of them date back to the early 1900's. He belongs (and is one of the founders) of Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound.

Darrell has supported the Seattle Western Swing Society for many years. He has performed with many bands at our Pioneers of Western Swing Music Festivals starting with Parners in 1995. They also have played most years since 1997 and will perform again this year.



**DARRELL ANDERSON**



Roy Ayres was born December 10, 1929 in Columbus, Mississippi. He began learning to play steel guitar in 1937 at the age of eight using old Spanish guitars belonging to relatives. He got his first steel guitar (Dobro style) when he was 13. He began playing school house and court house country concerts and jamborees that year.

Roy bought his first electric steel guitar in 1943 from a pawn shop in Mobile, Alabama. He played night clubs in and around Mobile during WWII

(age was ignored by authorities as most musicians over age 18 were in the military) .

Roy's first job on radio was a daily radio show on WCBE in his home town in 1944. He was 15 years old and playing with the Mid South Ramblers. They played local night clubs and nearby school house concerts that year.

He was hired full time by Red Stanton in Meridian, Mississippi, in 1945. He purchased and began playing a National double neck steel guitar there. He joined Pee Wee King and the Golden West Cowboys in 1946 just before his 17th birthday. They appeared on the Grand Ole Opry from 1946 through 1948. Over an eight year period, Roy recorded with and played in all 48 states with Pee Wee King, including to a record crowd at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

Roy left the Golden West Cowboys in 1954 to care for his terminally ill father. After his father's death, he joined Boyd Bennett and his Rockets. He played steel guitar, lead guitar and trombone. They recorded several songs that made top of Rock-and-Roll charts, including *"Seventeen"* and *"My Boy, Flat Top."*

Roy left Boyd Bennett's band to enter college in 1956. He earned a B.S. and M.S. degrees in physics with minors in math, geology and psychology at University of Louisville, Kentucky. He selected acoustics as his field of specialty in physics because of its relationship to music and the steel guitar. This was just the beginning of Roy's long and fantastic career, including obtaining several patents while designing and developing guitars for Fender Musical Instruments.

## ROY AYRES

Cubbie Slayton was born in Casa Grande, Arizona. He was number two in a family of three kids. The family moved to California when he was just a baby.

Cubbie got his first guitar at the age of 15. He paid for it himself as he was working at a cotton gin, where his Dad was "ginner."

It took Cubbie two to three years to learn the seven major "open" chords as he had no teachers nor did he know anyone who knew anything about the guitar. He learned the chords from an Ernest Tubb song book.

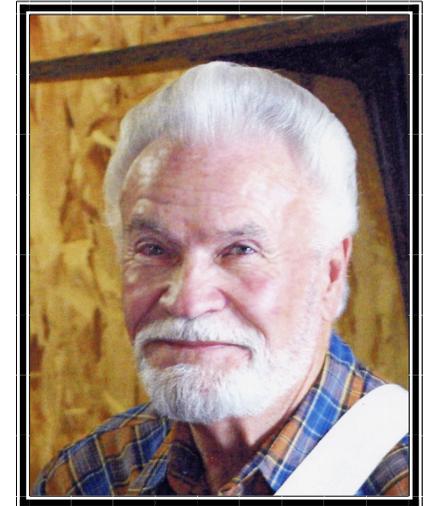
They were living in Huron, California, when Cubbie learned enough to play music with a friend of his. They were both about 17 years old when they started playing instrumentals in the local bar on an afternoon now and then.

Cubbie finally graduated to a five-piece band that played at the local dancehall. That's where he learned to play shottishs. Then he played with a band at the Derrick Inn between Avenal and Coalinga, Ca. After moving to Cambria, he started playing with Alex Uppinnie in his five-piece band. Alex played accordian and that's where Cubbie started to learn Swing music.

Sometime later, while Cubbie was working with Bob Walker, they decided to go to Yakima, Washington. They picked apples and followed jam sessions at first. Then they heard a local radio station that featured Western Swing music played by local musicians.

In 1973, Cubbie met Dave Stogner in Oakhurst, California. They started playing music together at dancehalls, nightclubs, TV and radio shows. Cubbie also worked with Dave in his mobile home skirting and awning business. Cubbie's son Rick also worked a lot with he and Dave. Rick played drums and Dave commented that he had never worked with a better drummer.

Over the years, Cubbie worked with some of the greats. He played just about anything and with about anyone and any kind of music.



## CUBBIE SLAYTON



Pete Scholz was born and raised in Houston, Texas. He grew up on a dairy farm where he and his brothers listened to the radio and played records. They bought Bob Wills records as well as other Country artists' records as soon as they came out.

They always had a guitar at home, and Pete learned the guitar, later the bass, and also learned to sing all of the songs he heard.

Pete played the clarinet during high school in the regular band and the marching band. But, his favorite music continued to be Western Swing. Early on, Pete took guitar lessons from Herb Remington, and later played with Herbie and his band, starting his professional music career about 1960.

Since then, Pete has been an active musician in the Houston and Southeast Texas area and is in much demand as a bass player and vocalist. It is widely known that Pete knows the words to more than a thousand songs, and it is very hard to stump him on requests.

Pete has worked with some of the finest bands in the country, and has played for many varied audiences, which have included such distinguished luminaries as Texas Governors, Texas and U.S. Senators, and President Bush.

Having played for many years with the legendary Pappy Selph, after Pappy's death, Pete continued the band under the name "Pete and the Boys," a six-piece Western Swing band.

Also, for many years he has been a member of the Texas Trio, including himself along with Bill and Mark Dessens, playing mostly small private parties with trio singing of Western, Country and Western Swing music.

Besides being an excellent vocalist and musician, Pete is also considered the best amplifier and electronics repair man in Houston. He lives in Cypress, just outside of Houston, with his wife Shelly of many years. They have three children, four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

**HAROLD R. (PETE) SCHOLZ**

Born in Renton, Wa., and raised at Pine Lake, Wa., Lou began playing piano at the age of nine. Classical music wasn't her thing so she changed teachers and began learning big band music at the age of 12. She learned every song available at that time and joined a small group of musicians who performed at school functions. They formed a teen-age club and found themselves playing at various club get-togethers.

After Lou married and had a family, the most she did was to play the radio for a few years. She went into the nursing profession in the 60's and found herself joining a group of friends from work who would club hop. That is where she met Bill Garner, Dick Heil, Rusty Draper, and many others who were entertaining locally. They got her hooked on Western Swing. In the 70's, Bobby MacAvoy, Bill Garner and Bill Brooker entertained in the lounge where Lou was employed. They had the Swing beat and it didn't take long for that to impact her life. They soon became Lou's mentors.

When the Western Swing Society was formed in 1983, Lou was working weekends and unable to attend their functions. But, she kept in touch through friendship and newsletters. After her first visit to a showcase in Kirkland, she knew the Western Swing Society organization was where she found a place in music.

At Lou's first POWS in 1993, she was asked to be a hostess. There she met Truitt Cunningham, Dean McKinney Moore, Bobby Koefer and Smokey Rogers (the "Idols") she had heard so much about. The following year, Lou was elected Secretary of Seattle WSMS. She held that office or that of board member until she was elected president in 2001 (the office she continues to hold today).

Lou has been honored with many awards over the years including the Steve Vaughn Founder's Award in 1998, and being inducted into the Kansas WSMS Hall of Fame earlier this year. She and her husband Ed have traveled many thousands of miles to support the Western Swing style of music.



**LOU BISCHOFF**



Don Burnham was born June 3, 1947 in San Francisco, California, and was raised on the San Francisco Peninsula. He attended the University of California at Berkeley. His roommate in the dorm owned a Harmony Sovereign flattop guitar and also had the first Doc Watson record. Don received his first guitar lessons, and soon met and befriended many of the musicians active in the vibrant music scenes in Berkeley and San Francisco in the 1960's. Ultimately his musical pursuits

took precedence over his college studies.

Don was drafted into the Army in 1968. He played an Army-issue Fender Telecaster in the dance combo at ASCOM Depot, Korea, where he met and became pals with a jazz guitar playing lieutenant from Norfolk, Virginia, named Ben Lubin. Ben gave Don the phone number and address of his longtime pal, clarinetist/saxophonist Jim Rothermel, who would prove to be one of Don's most valuable friends and musical colleagues.

After a short stint working at NBC in New York City and living in Greenwich Village, Don returned to California in 1973 to pursue his music interests. He formed his first band and played many venues.

In 1991, Don was invited to direct an all-star Western Swing show for the San Francisco Jazz Festival. For this special evening, Don combined the Lost Weekend Band and the New Century Jazz Band, creating a full-blown Western Swing band. The '91 Cowboy Jazz show at Bimbo's proved to be one of San Francisco Jazz's most successful presentations.

Don has produced three albums of Western Swing music with Lost Weekend and had a DVD scheduled for release earlier this year.

Don also had a second career as a seasonal park ranger working for the National Park Service and California State Parks; he from time to time appears as "Ranger Don" singing at campfires, classrooms and special events in California's State and National Parks.

**DON BURNHAM**

Born June 14, 1947, the son of guitar player Jim Rivers, he is a self taught drummer, learning to play while he listened to his dad practice with his band. His first appearance was on stage at the 32 Club Annual BBQ where his dad heard him play for the first time. That Christmas, he got his first drum set.

After graduating from high school, Jimmie enlisted into the Air force. In 1967, he found himself on the flight line at Ton Sa Nuc Airbase in Saigon, Viet Nam. During the day, he repaired and did maintenance on planes while at night and on weekends he was booked all over – from Lon Bin Prison to service bars, and in jungles from Saigon to the Cambodian border. Managing to live through a barracks blow up, truck caravans being ambushed, being shot at and shot down while returning from gigs, he received the Meritorious Service Medal.

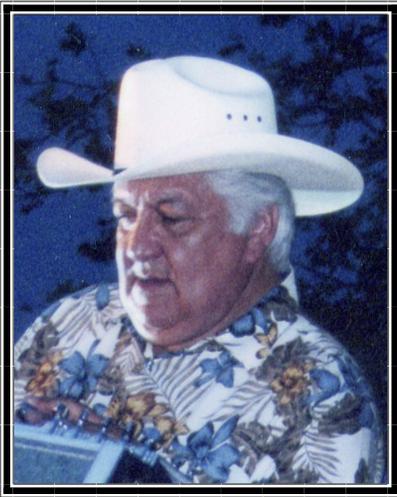
When Jimmie returned home, he played in a Country Western band with Gill Magert, and Vern and Jim Baughman. They played the Fresno Fair circuit along with Tom T. Hall and Eddie Fucono. In 1970, Jimmie decided to switch to Jazz so he went on the road with the Hall Wallus Jazz Quartet. Two years later, while back East, he decided it was not the life for a married man and he returned home.

In 1990, he was invited to the Western Swing Society monthly meeting and became a member. He started donating his time to set up the instruments and the tables for the dances. When Speed Young became ill, Jimmie was asked to take his place with the house band Second Shift. When Loyd Jones' drummer quit, Loyd asked Jimmie to play the Sacramento Jazz Festival with him and he has been Loyd's drummer ever since. He realized then, how close Jazz was to Western Swing and he has been performing Western Swing all time.

Jimmie's dedication to Western Swing music and the Sacramento Western Swing Society has been overwhelming. His behind the scenes work has been very valuable. He and his wife Jeannie are staunch partners in it all.



**JIMMIE RIVERS, JR.**



Bert Rivera was born in Austin, Texas, on July 1, 1936. He started his musical career at the age of fifteen playing local clubs in and around Austin. In 1958, Bert joined the Bill Prather Orchestra where he was a vocalist and bass player.

Bert joined Hank Thompson in 1961 as a featured steel guitarist with the Brazos Valley Boys. He played, recorded and toured worldwide with this group for ten years.

In 1971, Bert returned to Austin and joined the Wink

Tyler Band. In 1971, he formed his own group called the Nightriders, which soon became one of Austin's top bands for some ten years.

From 1984 until 1994 Bert free-lanced as a steel guitarist and worked with many well known groups in Central Texas, including Don Walser's Pure Texas Band. In 1995, Bert joined the Chad Hudson Band and remained with this group until August, 1997. At this time, he formed his own group, The Ramblers. The Ramblers is a four-piece group playing traditional Country, Western Swing, Big Band and Jazz. This group continues to play and make appearances in and around the Central Texas Area.

In 1998, The Texas Steel Guitar Association inducted Bert into the Texas Steel Guitar Hall of Fame, where he is presently a board member. On May 19, 2001, Bert was inducted into the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame.

Bert's recording credits include all of Hank Thompson's recordings between 1961 and 1971, along with local artist's Don Walser, Bubba Cox, The Kyle Sisters, Jack of Hearts, Bennie McArthur, Jess Demaine, and many others. Bert has recently released his first solo album, a steel guitar instrumental project featuring an eclectic compilation of musical styles.

Bert married his wife Shirley in 1957. They have two daughters and five grandchildren. They built their "Dream Home" on a small ranch in Burnet, Texas, in 1993

## **BERT RIVERA**

Gene Carter was born in Wagoner, Oklahoma. His parents moved to Muskogee when he was about three years old. While he was growing up, their home was always filled with musicians. Most of them left their instruments there so they could practice. Gene's older brother had a Swing band which at times, rivaled the Bob Wills band. Both bands used many of the same musicians since many of the regular band members were being called into the service during WWII.



After serving in the Navy during the Korean War, he went to the West Coast and started playing drums in Bell Gardens, California, with all the favorite Country singers such as Wynn Stewart, Freddie Hart, Rose Lee Maphis, and many more.

In 1959, he moved his family back to Muskogee, Ok. He played with numerous bands in that area. One gig he really enjoyed was playing behind Leon Rausch and the Texas Playboys. He also backed the great singer and song writer Carl Ballew for several years.

He played on many recording sessions, and appeared on John Chick's TV show on Channel 8 in Muskogee. He also was on a weekly radio show on KTLQ in Tahlequah for several years. He made several trips to Nashville, where he and his wife were guests on the Grand Ole Opry, and the Ralph Emory show.

Gene and his band played at the American Legion Post in Muskogee for about 11 years. He enjoys the distinction of being the premier Western Swing drummer in the Tulsa/Muskogee area.

Gene is a member of the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest, plays in their band and was selected to the 2004 Hall of Fame there.

Gene has been playing and promoting Western Swing music for many, many years. Throughout his career, he has been involved with a great number of the "high profile" people in the Western Swing music entertainment business.

## **GENE CARTER**



Phillip Cavin was born into a musical family on March 3, 1945 in Tacoma, Washington. His father played the guitar, dobro and banjo. His Uncle played the fiddle and banjo. Phil acquired his first guitar at the age of 13 by his dad from a pawnshop. In 1958, he was in the hospital for a period of 18 months after being in a very serious accident. While he was recovering, his father told him to take the phonograph and record albums up to the attic and stay until he learned to

play. He did so and learned rhythm guitar very well. Later on he was taught bass by Bill Wiley.

Phil played in his first band at age 16 with Arne Hadachek and the Cowboys which later became the Country Gentlemen. His first professional gig was with Grover Jackson and Tom Collins at The Prairie Tavern. Then he went on the road with Tom and Freddie Hart, playing the Spokane Coliseum and the Portland Coliseum with Ferlin Husky, Sharon Haley, Mary Taylor and Beth More. Phil traveled with Chubby Howard to Missoula and Butte for the Montana fairs, then on to Salem, Oregon, with Faron Young and Ira Allen.

In the 60's, Phil played the Seattle DJ's club. He also traveled to Lake Tahoe and played the Cal Neva and Crystal Ball clubs. In the late 60's, he played with Ira Allen, Peppy Carter and Ray Wood at the Circle Tavern on old Hy 99 by Boeing Field and at Taylor's Viewpoint in Portland. Phil was with Ira Allen and The Renegades for five years. He also played with Hank Thompson for a year at the Riverside Inn in Tukwila, then on to Portland, Oregon, with Hank. The list of entertainers goes on and on.

In later years, he joined Bill Garner, Ray Wood and Western Swing fella's who played locally. Phil has been a SWSMS member for several years, taking part in showcases when available.

Phil's failing health the past few months have limited his performing; however, he was able to still sing and keep his interest in Western Swing music.

**PHIL CAVIN**

Bill O'Connor was born in North Carolina in 1928. When he was ten years old, he found a fiddle in his grandma's old trunk, put twine on it for strings and made a bridge. He made a bow out of a green stick and put string on it for hair.

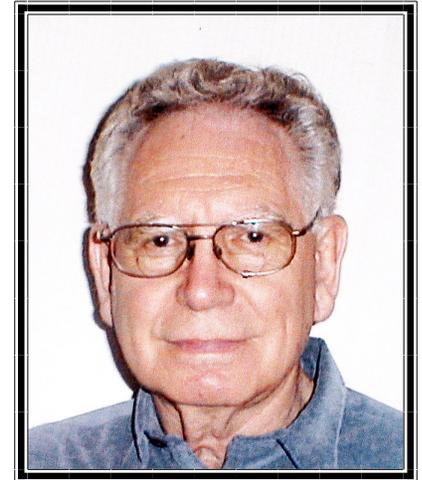
Bill came to Darrington, Washington, in 1948 and played Bluegrass with his old pal Fred McFalls. He hadn't heard anything but Bluegrass prior to then. He met up with pickers like Val Crawford, a Bob Wills fan, and he introduced Bill to Lloyd Hooper.

Bill played in the early 50's at Kenney's barn in Snohomish, Washington, with Marty Dahlgren, Hal Hubbard, Betty Lou Steel, and George Horn. Great bands were booking there such as Billy Gray and Billy Jack Wills.

From 1956 to 1961, Bill played fiddle with Loretta Lynn and her brother Jay Lee Webb in the Bellingham area. He has a lot of good memories of getting her first records to DJ's and of many good jams with Canadian friends. They always had a packed house.

Over the years, Bill has played several times with Gary Bennett, opened for Lynn Anderson at the 1974 World's Fair in Spokane, Washington, opened shows for Johnny Russell, Barbara Fairchild, The Statler Brothers, Jeannie C Riley, and many others. He also backed stars like Joni Harms, Lila McCann, Freddie Hart, LaWanda Linsley, Joe and Rose Lee Maphes, Jimmy Newman, Hank Thompson, Tex Williams, as well as a group he loves, Mended Heard. In addition, Bill did some TV, radio, and recording, mostly on the West Coast. Bill currently play's bass in a Western Swing band called Longhorn, plays fiddle in a Southern Gospel group, plays pedal steel Country during odd jobs, and plays five-string banjo in Bluegrass bands, if no one catches him. Bill say's "I sing only when I have to."

Bill and his wife, Lois, make their home in Castle Rock, Washington. Lois is always by Bill's side to encourage him to play all he wants.



**BILL O'CONNOR**



Candy Noe was born Murray Candace Noe in Westerville, Ohio. She was raised in Columbus, Ohio, with her five brothers and two sisters. Candy's home was always full of music.

Although she grew up during the birth of Rock-and-Roll, she appreciated all types of music. She would spend hours singing along with records by vocalists like Kay Starr, Patti Page, and Brenda Lee. Her father began encouraging her to sing when

she was around six years old and it wasn't long before she was singing all around Columbus.

At thirteen, she got her first real singing job as a regular on the Marion Jamboree in Marion, Ohio. That job ended two years later when her father transferred to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Some of the men her father worked with in Tulsa were musicians and they introduced her to some of the local entertainers. One of those entertainers was Billy Parker.

Billy invited Candy to try out for a local TV show he was hosting called the Long Horn Wingding. She soon became a regular on the show. She was a regular on most of Billy Parker's television shows through the sixties and seventies.

In 1965, Candy was introduced to Roy Ferguson. She began singing with Roy's band. The two hit it off and were married in 1966. Together they have two sons and one daughter. When they met, Roy had been working with the Johnnie Lee Wills Band. Candy became a regular member of the band and Johnnie would joke that because of women's lib, he had to put a female in the band.

Candy Noe has always been grateful for the opportunity to sing with so many wonderful people, whether it is opening for Carl Perkins, George Strait, or Ronnie Milsap, or playing with friends like Curley Lewis, Glenn "Blub" Rhees, Rudy Martin, and others. She continues to perform around Oklahoma with her husband Roy Ferguson in a Johnnie Lee Wills tribute band.

## CANDY NOE

Marian Hall was born in Los Angeles and still lives in Southern California. She started playing at the age of eight years old on a six-string lap steel.

At the age of 12, she and her sister Joanie had their own act, the Saddle Sweethearts. They did shows on Pioneer television back when the make up was orange and the director was also the janitor.

After the Saddle Sweethearts broke up, she took a job with an all girl group in Alaska. By the time she got back from Alaska, she was a full fledged steel player capable of playing with the "big boys."

Marian was part of the West Coast musicians who brought sound and style of the musical movement of Country, Jazz and Swing in the 50's and 60's.

Perched on a stool behind her Bigsby Steel, she added her smooth and smoking style to the House Band for Tex Ritter's Ranch Party television show as well as those by Spade Cooley and Tex Williams.

From 1954 to 1958, Marian was a member of the House Band for Town Hall Party with Merle Travis and Joe Maphis. She backed up stars of the day like Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, the Collins Kids, Ray Price, Carl Perkins, Jim Reeves and many others. Marion played for Tex Williams for about three years, and worked on his television show.

Some of the artists she recorded with were Gene Autrey, Rosemary Clooney, Johnny Bond, the Collins Kids, Rose and Joe Maphis, Tex Ritter and many, many others.



## MARIAN HALL



At an early age, Earl Hill was introduced to music and singing by his parents. His mother played piano so it was a natural.

Earl started taking piano lessons in the second grade. By the fifth grade, he started learning the trombone and by the seventh grade, he was in the high school band. When he reached the ninth grade, he was playing first chair trombone.

When Earl was 13, he started to learn to play rhythm guitar. He bugged everyone he

knew to show him how to play and keep rhythm. Earl's mother formed a band when he was 15 with a friend who played fiddle. They started playing Western Swing music and after one year were playing a weekly radio show in Uvalde, Texas. The band broke up after the younger guys graduated from high school.

In 1948, the Rhythm Ramblers was formed with one of Earl's high school chums. Earl was the front man and booking agent. The band was booked every weekend for a year in advance. When the Korean War broke out, the band was disbanded because they were all drafted into the Army. During his stint in the Army, Earl again was front man in a band named Three Texans and a Yank. They played three radio shows each week on the Armed Forces Radio Network, plus a live stage show at the Armed Forces Rec-Hall in Frankfurt, Germany.

After being discharged in late 1953, Earl and the Rhythm Ramblers got together again. They only played three gigs due to not being able to draw a crowd because music was changing. In 1988 in Turkey, Texas, the Texas Travelers were formed during a jam session. Earl was one of the original five members. They were the featured band at the Legends of Western Swing Shows in Canton, Texas, for three years.

In 1998, Earl left the band to form a smaller band under various names, like the Earl Hill Band, and Earl Hill and Friends.

Though not presently running his own band, Earl continues to play bass and be a front man.

## **EARL HILL**

Jim Neel was born in Altus, Oklahoma, on Feb 7, 1932. He was the youngest of seven children. All his family played music including his mom and dad. His lived in the country about ten miles from Altus.

Jim started playing music at a very young age. He started with mandolin, then tenor guitar, and harmonica. At the age of ten, he got his first six-string guitar and started playing dances with his family. At the age of 14, he played rhythm guitar with another family on a

15-minute radio program. He was impressed by the lead guitar player named Walter Lyons, who later was a Texas Playboy with Bob Wills. This was when Jim became interested in playing lead guitar.

After graduation, he enlisted in the Air Force and went to Japan during the Korean War. He formed a Western band and played in Air Force clubs, bars and hotels. Jim didn't have a lead guitar player, so he played it himself. He also played lap steel for a while.

After Japan, he was transferred to Los Angeles. There he was exposed to Western Swing musicians Spade Cooly, Cliffie Stone, and the Town Hall Party. He would play along with the weekly TV shows. In 1955, his older brother came to California and they started playing dances in South San Gabriel. Jim's brother played the fiddle.

Jim re-enlisted in the Air Force and was sent to Paine Field in Everett, Wa. He met a lot of the local musicians and decided to live in this area. After his discharge in 1961 he moved to Everett, where he met Wimpy Jenkins, Frank Hurley, Chuck Smith, Chris Pate, and a host of others. Shortly, Jim and Harold Hubbard, along with Ed Kaestner, formed the Westernaires band and played locally for about five years.

For the last ten years, he has been part of Johnny Johnson's band, and is also a member of the 39ers band playing both Pop and Western Swing music. Jim also belongs to the Old Time Fiddlers Assn, Old Time Country Music Assn, and SWSMS. He teaches Swing chord progression for the Old Time Fiddlers.



## **JIM NEEL**



Lee Loyd was raised in a home with lots of music and singing. Lee's mother played piano and organ in church. His father was a square dance caller and the dances were held in their home.

Lee's music career started as a teenager around Houghson, California, when he helped form a band with his older brother Uel on guitar, a friend Bud Lane on harmonica, and Lee who played bass sounds on a little brown jug. The group became quite popular and while

playing at the Winchester Café in Houghson, Louis "Arkie" Stark, a local band leader, heard them and asked Uel and Lee to join his band. Arkie Stark had a bass fiddle and asked Lee to learn to play it. This became the instrument that Lee would play from that time until now.

Lee worked in Arkie's band from 1937 through 1938 playing over radio station KTRB in Modesto and for dances around the valley. During the next two years, he worked in B. J. Bonner's Big Dance Band and with Uncle Si's Valley Pals. It was about this time that Lee started teaching his younger brother, Jack Loyd to play the bass.

In 1941, Lee joined the Army and while stationed in Hawaii, played at the Air Force Officer's Club. He went on to take part in several major battles in the Pacific Islands. He was wounded on New Georgia Island in 1943. While recuperating in New Zealand, he played with the Kiwi Dance Band. After being discharged from the Army, Lee started touring in 1945 with Blake Tabor's Blue Denim Boys.

Lee joined Bud Hobbs' band in 1948 in Sacramento. Some of the fine musicians he work with at this time were Loyd Jones, Bobby Reeves, Harold Clampet, Jessie Ashlock, and J. L. Jenkins.

In 1950, Lee joined Alex Brashears and the Wills Point Playboys. Vance Terry, Glenn Tarver, Truitt Cunningham, Hoot McCann, Gene Albright, Jimmy Miller and Charlie Moore were in that band.

Since retiring from the business world, Lee has been playing with old time fiddler groups and Jazz bands around the Modesto area.

**LEE LOYD**

Lloyd Hooper was born on October 6, 1931 on a small farm near Rockport, Wa. He began his 70-year singing career at the tender age of three, first on the top of a piano entertaining at card parties. From there it was community gatherings and later in a one-room schoolhouse.

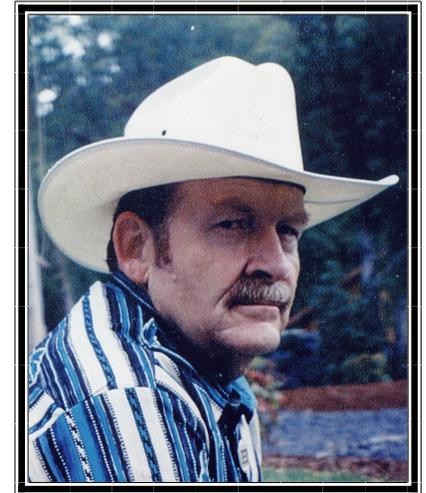
In high school, Lloyd sang at school functions and after winning many talent shows and performing on radio station KBRC, was asked to tour with Doc Allen and the Bar X Buckaroos. But being only fourteen, he was deemed too young. After a nationwide tour, Doc Allen invited Lloyd to appear at the Palomar Theater in Seattle, where he was hosting Smiley Burnett.

During college at WWCE in Bellingham, Lloyd was honored to meet Hank Williams, Sr., at the Holiday Ballroom. In 1950, Lloyd won an all-college talent show, singing Eddy Arnold's "*Molly Darling*." Here Lloyd first heard POWs member Evan Kemp on the radio. In 1952, Lloyd's career was interrupted by the US Army and 16 months in Korea where he occasionally appeared with Dick Contino, famed accordionist of the era.

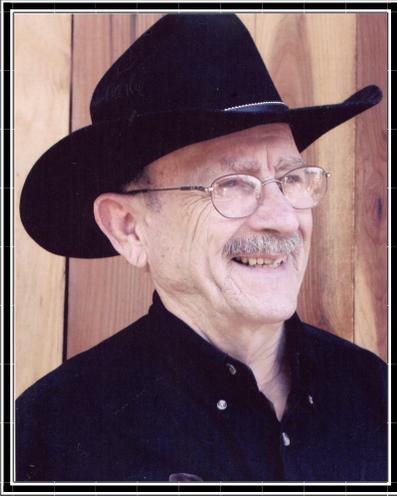
In 1961, Lloyd, along with LeRoy "Sonny" Brigge and the late Bud White, formed the first Cascade Ramblers band. They played at the Holiday Ballroom, the Seven Cedars, and other local clubs for the next 12 years. During this time, they had several "Battle of the Bands" with the Evergreen Drifters, which featured current POWS members Marty Dahlgren and Jimmy Webb.

In 1974, Lloyd rebuilt the Cascade Ramblers using such musicians as Brian Hoyle, Bob Burgess, Larry Dee, Wimpy Jenkins, and Doren Hensley. They played at the Castle Tavern as the house band for the next eight years.

Lloyd's music has always been Country and Western Swing. He is very proud of his current band which includes Bob Martin, Geeb Johnston, and John Stendal. His wife of 49 years, Fern, has always supported his career in Western Swing Music.



**LLOYD HOOPER**



Born in Northern Missouri at the start of the Big Depression, Charlie Hull's earliest recollection of music is the Jimmie Rodgers' Cowboy and Hillbilly songs his dad's friends played, sang, and yodeled. His folks moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where the economy was better, and their musical tastes broadened to include any kind of music with a dance beat. The radio and phonograph were on constantly, the music ranging from Grand Old Opry and the WHO Barn

Dance to the popular dance bands of the era. Charlie built a crystal radio set and would lay awake half the night listening to the live music airing across the East and Midwest.

Charlie always knew he would play music someday, but didn't get around to it until his junior year in high school, after his family had moved to Sacramento during WWII. Initially playing clarinet in school bands, he heard a Western Swing band at the Old Red Barn in Sacramento, fell in love with the music and got his first paying gig playing at The Barn with Whitely Simpson and the Western Swingsters. He joined the musician's union in 1945, bought a tenor sax and began a lifetime avocation as a dance musician.

In 1965, Charlie was approached by Loyd Jones about forming a band that could reach a wider audience by playing not only the Bob Wills favorites but also the variety of music that dance clubs like for their formal affairs. In their tuxedos and cowboy boots, Loyd, Bill Pray, Billy Roberts, and Charlie worked many gigs around the Northern California area. Charlie stayed with the band until his state job required a move to Susanville in 1975.

Upon returning to Sacramento in 1977, Charlie started his own swing dance combo, Easy Sounds. He continued to freelance and in 1978 played with Bill Borchers' band and became part of the Sacramento Jazz scene.

Charlie says he can't imagine what life would have been like without music and the many friendships developed over the years.

**CHARLIE HULL**

Darrell Klein was born on June 4, 1932 in Gilmore City, Iowa, into an extremely musical family. In the 1940's, Darrell played lead guitar in the Klein Brothers Band. This band included his brothers Bob, Bill, Art, and Charlie.

After a few years of playing in what he now calls "dives" in Iowa, Darrell was asked by his younger brother Charlie to learn to play steel. Darrell began playing some lap steel in the late 1940's, but did not feel that it worked very well so he went back to playing twin lead guitars with his brother Charlie.

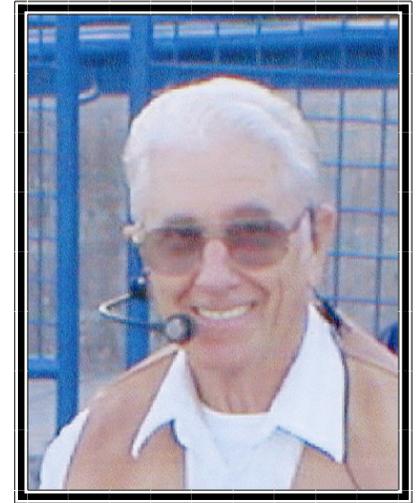
As an increasingly devoted steel guitar player, Darrell now began studying the styles of Jerry Byrd and Buddy Emmons. Jerry Byrd in particular was an early hero.

After the Klein Brothers broke up, Darrell purchased a single neck Fender instrument with four pedals and went on to play with Tommy Kaziah and the West Coast Ramblers in the early 1960's, and later with the Mavericks. Darrell was playing six nights a week and performed with Freddie Hart, Rose Maddox, Johnny and Joanie Mosby, and Hank Thompson. He particularly enjoyed playing on the Iowa Barn Dance Frolic where he met Charlie Adams.

Eventually, Darrell started playing a double neck Sho-Bud pedal steel guitar and moved to Oregon where he worked as a guard in the Oregon State Penitentiary. He continued to perform, playing four nights a week in McMinnville, Oregon.

In 1968, he recorded some songs for Starday records in Nashville as a singer, including "*I Wonder*" and "*Nine Times Out of Ten*." The DJs like the latter because it was so short, clocking in at 1:49.

About ten years ago, Darrell began playing on the Gospel Opry and Gospel Jubilee shows in Eastern Washington. He and Carol, his wife of 25 years, tour Arizona at least once a year, playing Gospel music on Indian Reservations. For the last two years, he has also been with the Sharecroppers, playing dances at rodeos, Grange halls, and festivals.



**DARRELL DEAN KLEIN**