



PO Box 14003  
MILL CREEK, WA 98082

Celebrating  
Our 30th Year

Founded  
In 1983

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

Volume 30, Issue 9

A News Letter For and About Our Members

September 2013

## Festival Highlights

*from the 23rd Annual Western Swing Festival and Hall of Fame*

by Lou Bischoff

Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society began on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, as visitors began arriving early to capture their favorite camp spot at the Auburn Eagles in Auburn, Washington. Arriving were musicians, members and supporters from Oklahoma, Texas, California, Canada, Kansas and Nevada. What enthusiasm was shown when we began our Thursday evening jam. Our very popular and energetic Patty McConnell took the reins, welcoming our guests to the Festival and encouraging everyone to have a super week-end.



**Lou Bischoff**  
Event Chairperson

### Highlights from Friday, August 9



Friday, the show was opened by emcee LeRoy King, who introduced my son-in-law, Steve McDonald, from Friday Harbor in the San Juans. He proudly sang *The Star-Spangled Banner* as my hubby, Ed, and I presented the flag. What a beautiful, strong voice. Thank you, Steve.

**Tommy Thomsen** from Sonora, California, hosted the first band with 2013 Inductee Biff Adam on drums, Judy Hayes on bass, 2013 Inductee Jim Baughman on lead guitar, Paul Anastasio on fiddle and my all-star steel man, Chuck Hayes. Tommy sang *Corrine, Corrina, Troublin' Mind*, and *San Antonio Rose* with great pride. His *Route 66* filled the floor in just a moment, followed by *I Always Get Lucky with You*. Lovely Kate Leland beamed as her eyes twinkled. They have something special. Tommy played guitar, then sat down at his keyboard and danced around on those ivories, then continued on the guitar. *Brain Cloudy Blues* and *Going Away Party* were done so well!

**Chuck Hayes and The Longhorn Band** opened with Chuck singing *Keeper of My Heart* and *Sugar Moon*. Dean Rankin took over on steel with Red Gillean (*our faithful California gent*) on drums. 2013 Inductee Glenn "Buddy" Collins played bass (*very well, I might add*), Paul Anastasio was on fiddle, Keith Holter and 2013 Inductee Cliff Brizendine took turns on lead and rhythm guitar. A welcome, unexpected surprise all the way from Sylvan Grove, Kansas, was 2012 Inductee Larry Nelson on that hot sax! Larry's lovely wife, LaDonna, looked on with a wide smile. Red sang *Don't You Ever Get Tired*

*(Continued on page 6)*



**Western Swing Showcase: Sunday, September 8**  
**at the Lynnwood Eagles, Lynnwood, Washington**



**19223 HWY 99 - THREE BLOCKS NORTH OF 196TH STREET ON HWY 99**

**WOOD DANCE FLOOR - NICE SEATING - FAMILIES WELCOME - FOOD AVAILABLE**

**LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING: 1:00 - 5:00**

**Featuring Kristi Nebel and the Cowgirl's Dream**



## Northwest Western Swing Music Society

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

### 2013 Officers and Board Members

**President:** Lloyd Hooper

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**Board Members:** Lou Bischoff, Dave DuChane, LeRoy King, Patty McConnell, Jeanne Yearian.

**Alternate:** Bill Gates

**Annual Membership:**

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

**Business Address**

PO Box 14003, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Visit us on the web at: [www.nwwsms.com](http://www.nwwsms.com)  
to read the newsletter in full color!

Contact the editor,  
[jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com), to receive our  
"early-bird edition" electronically.

**PHOTO CREDITS:**

A special thanks to Event Photographer, Dennis Ford. See page 5 for his website information.

## MINUTES FROM THE BOARD

AUGUST 6, 2013



President, Lloyd Hooper, called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

**Present:** Ramon Selby, Alice Striegel, Lloyd Hooper, Jerry Seitz, Lou Bischoff, LeRoy King, Dave Duchane, Jeanne Yearian, Patty McConnell, Bill Gates

**Guests:** Fred Yearian, Ed Bischoff, Jimmy and Lue Neel.

**Treasurer:** Ramon Selby provided the financial report, which was approved as presented.

**Bills:** Approved to pay as presented. Checks issued for bills previously approved at the July Board Meeting

**Showcases:** Host bands for Showcases at the Lynnwood Eagles: September, Kristi Nebel and the Cowgirls' Dream; October, Lloyd Hooper and the Cascade Ramblers; November, Southern Comfort; December is yet to be determined.

**Old Business:** Costs for advertising in the monthly NWWSMS Newsletter were determined by the Board to be as follows: 1/4 page: members \$20 and non-members \$25; 1/2 page: members \$30 and non-members \$40; full page: members \$60 and non-members \$75.

**Hall of Fame:** It is important that Officers and Board members make attendees welcome all during the Hall of Fame venue. Greet those attending throughout the day; be sure to ask if anyone needs assistance in any way. People need to feel very welcomed by the NWWSMS members.

Children will be directed to the appropriate seating areas; a flier will be handed to the adults with the children showing the location of that area. It is very important that the rules regarding this be adhered to; this information is per the Washington State Liquor Board and could affect the Auburn Eagles' liquor license if not followed.

The NWWSMS Admissions Desk will open at 10:00 am each day. There needs to be a paper trail for the money coming in, regardless of what the source is; i.e., daily admission, hats, T shirts, etc. A written receipt will be completed. Treasurer Ramon Selby will provide a written document to be followed by those maintaining the Admissions Desk and the Concessions Desk. Wrist bands will be issued as each admission is paid; these wrist bands are numbered and that number will be written on the receipt. These bands will be required for all those in the hall after 10 am on all days.

Breakfast will be available for purchase at the Auburn Eagles on Saturday and Sunday, between 8:00 and 10:00 am.

Jim Sanderson has volunteered to transport out-of-town guests to and from SeaTac Airport.

Jeanne and Fred Yearian have donated four

bales of straw that will sport signs to be located at various streets around the area leading to the Auburn Eagles. This will provide more direction to those looking for the Hall of Fame venue.

Sharyn Lee and Sharon Smith will decorate the ballroom. Dave DuChane will run the jam room. New T shirts will be provided to the NWWSMS.

Security team, with the wording "SECURITY" being very visible.

No alcohol will be allowed on the bandstand; band leaders will be so informed.

Leroy King has assembled a binder with copies of photos of past Honorees retrieved from his computer/printer system. The original binder has been misplaced, and we are grateful to Leroy King for his efforts. This binder will be available for viewing-only at the Hall of Fame.

The NWWSMS Board members will assemble in front of the stage at the Auburn Eagles at 10:30 for a presentation.

The Board offered Jeanne Yearian a heart-felt, enthusiastic round of applause for her devotion to this Hall of Fame. She has put forth a major effort and we are surely appreciative.

**For The Good Of The Order:** Matthew McCravey (our 2012 Scholarship recipient) is improving healthwise and hopes to attend the Hall of Fame. Updates for those on the "Sharing The Journey" list were provided by Lou Bischoff.

Motion passed to adjourn at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Striegel, Secretary

## Join us in October at the Lynnwood Eagles

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

**The October 13, 2013  
Western Swing Showcase  
will feature**

**Lloyd Hooper  
and  
The Cascade  
Ramblers**

**Members' Notice: The  
NWWSMS Annual Meeting will  
be held on October 13 at the  
Lynnwood Eagles. Time and  
agenda will be posted in the  
October 2013 newsletter.**

# Prez Sez-

By Lloyd Hooper



Well, another Hall of Fame event is under our belts. Hopefully, everyone is as proud of our Society as I am. There may have been a slight bump or two in the road, but I think our board members smoothed them out pretty well. My friends, I am *still* in awe of the people who keep our society at, or near, the top of the heap.

I, personally, was humbled by me being selected as "Man of the Year." The way I figure it, the only reason I was selected must have been my ability to put together such a devoted group of board members! Just look at their accomplishments at Auburn.

Lou Bischoff, our Chairman, was always available, smiling, and, like all of our members, made our guests feel at home. Alice Striegel ran the concession table single-handedly. Ramon Selby and Jerry Seitz organized admissions to run more smoothly than in years past. LeRoy King, our go-to guy, helped with everything. Dave DuChane ran the Jam Room. Patty McConnell was found wherever help was needed in addition to selling Split-the-Pot tickets (*like no one else can!*). Bill Gates helped where needed and Jeanne Yearian assisted with sound and video.

Speaking of sound and video, a special, great big 'thank you' to Fred and Jeanne Yearian, Del Mark (*who assisted bands setting up and breaking down as well as helping run one of the video cameras from time to time*), Shorty Stroud and Dave Vines (*who helped behind the scenes with equipment transport, set up and break down*) for an outstanding job.

Also, a very special 'thank you' goes out to all our volunteers who kept the admissions desk running smoothly. You all know who you are and, believe me, we couldn't have done it without you.

To the Auburn Eagles and Marv Little, a sincere 'thank you' from our

hearts for being such gracious hosts. The Auburn Eagles' reputation as the friendliest Aerie in the state remains unchallenged in our eyes!

Time to get swingin'  
Lloyd

Dear Lloyd,

On behalf of my late father Ted Preston (Bensmiller), our entire family wants to thank the NWWSSMS for honoring him by inducting into the "Hall of Fame." I, personally, wish also to thank the Society for a wonderful time at this year's festival. Any organization is only as good as those running it. I was very impressed as to how well organized the event was. I was, however, most impressed with how nicely we were treated by all those involved. Good job everyone and I hope to see you again next year.

George Bensmiller

Hi Jeanne,

Just a short note to let you know that the new website is beautiful and wonderful. And, if you want to save postage, I will be happy to access future newsletters via the site.

Hope the Hall of Fame was a huge success. I really missed being there this year. Hopefully, I can make it next year.

Say 'hi' to everyone and tell them I miss them and the music terribly. We don't have anything like it in the small town I live in.

Take care,  
Beryl Shawley

## It's Your Newsletter

Contributions of your news items, letters, pictures and advertisements to the **Western Swing Music Society News** are needed and encouraged. (Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of materials.)

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

Jeanne Yearian, Editor  
21221 174th Ave SE  
Renton, WA 98058-9740

Phone: 425-432-7888

Email: [jeanneyearian@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneyearian@yahoo.com)

## Around the Sound Support Live, Local Music

For upcoming appearances to be included in the newsletter, contact the editor. Play dates / times / locations must be received by the first of the month.

**Dan Leal and the Hometown Band**, at the Historic Everett Theatre, 2911 Colby. Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: [www.hometownhootenanny.com](http://www.hometownhootenanny.com)

**Lloyd Hooper and the Cascade Ramblers**, at the Sedro-Woolley Legion. Check the Legion calendar for dates or call Lloyd Hooper at:

(Home) 360-757-0486; (Cell) 360-202-6930

**Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners**. Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates: [www.thesundownersband.com](http://www.thesundownersband.com)

**Patty and the Travelin' Four**. Dance to their music on Wednesdays, from 6-9 pm, Auburn, Eagles. Everyone welcome. Food available.

For additional information, call Patty: 425-255-3178 or Leroy at 253-845-8359.

**Ken Fullerton and Country Fever**. Auburn Eagles, every Monday, 6-9 pm. Dinner is available! First Fridays dinner/dance at the Black Diamond Eagles from 5:30 to 9:30. Call 253-922-7888 or 253-380-2445 for more information.

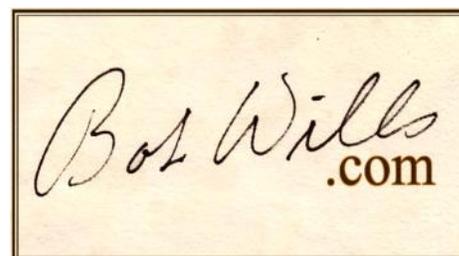
**Nick Dumas, Northern Departure**, Visit their website for information on upcoming play dates and appearances:

[www.northerndeparture.com](http://www.northerndeparture.com)

**Rick Jorgensen, The Dakota Territory Show**, live webcast playing 78s from 1925-1965, on the 3rd Saturday of the month, from noon to 6 pm at: [www.therightcountry.com](http://www.therightcountry.com)

**Dwight Adair**, Listen every Monday for the newest Western Swing broadcast - or browse the archives of both current and past broadcasts at:

[www.bobwills.com/BobWills/radio](http://www.bobwills.com/BobWills/radio)



## Me Again

The life and times of B. F. "Froggy" Worden

## Memories of Cindy Walker

Here is part of Cindy's obituary from The New York Times:

*Cindy Walker, a country songwriter whose pure, plainspoken lyrics of romance, heartbreak and picturesque prairies were recorded by major artists like Bing Crosby, Elvis Presley and Willie Nelson, making Top-40 country or pop charts more than 400 times, died on March 23, 2006, in Mexia, Texas.*

*She was 87 but did not broadcast her birthday any more than the brief marriage she sometimes confirmed and sometimes did not. Her niece, Carol Adams, reported her death, The Associated Press said.*

In October 1997, during the annual Red Steagall event, I decided to visit friends Jim and AJ at Ernest Tubbs Record Shop in the Fort Worth Stockyard district. Fate took a hand at this point. They asked me to take photos at Cindy Walker's CD signing. I knew a lot about Cindy, had checked the raft of songs she had published, never dreaming I would get to meet this icon of music. The day arrived - a Saturday - and I was ready with three cameras. When I arrived I found Cindy seated at a table at the rear of the shop. She was already busy signing autographs and her CD (*which was selling like hot cakes.*) Dean McKinney Moore was to her left and Smokey Montgomery from the Lightcrust Doughboys to her right. A pickup band was jamming in the background and the Cowtown Buckaroos headed by Devon Dawson were near the table. I moved around and finally got a few pictures of the band, Cindy, and her guests at the table. I must stop here and say what a great group of people I was allowed to photograph.



Cindy Walker (seated) with Devon Dawson and the Cowtown Buckaroos

film processed at a One Hour store. Jim and AJ asked for several enlargements and I duplicated the order for Cindy. I mailed them to her and a few days later received a phone call from the lady herself. She said the photos were wonderful but I had not included a bill. I told her, I didn't charge people like her for photos, only rich people. She fumed a little bit and said, "I am rich! Send me a bill." Time passed and I received a note along with a generous check. I have a copy of that check. Without knowing it, Cindy set the price for my 8x10 color enlargements. If anyone questions the charge, I tell them, "Cindy Walker set the price."

Another Cindy story: My old picking buddy, Clyde Smith from Gatesville, Texas, called and asked if I knew Cindy Walker had died. I told him, "I don't think so, I just got off the phone with her five minutes ago." "Why" I asked? He said, "I was listening to the radio at Hamilton and the disc jockey said he was going to play a song written by the *late* Cindy Walker." I told him I would call and make sure which I did. I relayed his story to Cindy and she boiled over. She said, "What is the call sign for that station?" I said, "Better than that Cindy I can give you the disc jockey's name and the phone number of the station."

Later, Clyde called again. He said, "You should have heard what Cindy did. She made the disc jockey take back what he had said and then made him put her on the air so she could tell everyone she was alive and well in Mexia, Texas!" I knew the disc jockey, who was also the owner of the station. I called and "sandpapered" him pretty good about his faux pas. (*How you like that French word?*) He vowed he would pay more attention. What he had meant to say was a song by the "*great* Cindy Walker" but it came out wrong.

Any time I called Cindy we would chat for a few minutes, then she would excuse herself and say, "Let me call you back." The phone wouldn't grow cold until it would ring with Cindy asking, "Where were we?" She didn't want me to spend my nickel for a phone call. I just wish I had recorded those calls. They meant so much to me and I miss her a lot. (*Continued on Page 5*)



B.F. "Froggy" Worden

## Sharing the Journey

### WITH BEST WISHES and PRAYERS

Toppe Brigge  
Gary Hood  
Vicki Campbell  
Matthew McCravey  
Vi & Darrell Anderson  
Keith Holter  
Bob Cobb  
Betty Reeves  
Harry Coffman  
Bob Woeck  
Julie Martin (Mrs. Bob)  
Carmen Champion

### CONDOLENCES

*What we have once enjoyed we  
can never lose... All that we love  
deeply becomes a part of us.*

*~Helen Keller*

*A friend  
is someone who knows the  
song in your heart  
And can sing it back to you  
When you have forgotten the  
words.*

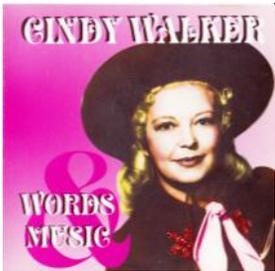
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*Did we miss someone or  
do you know of someone  
who should be included in the next  
Sharing the Journey report?  
Please let us know.*

*Contact a member of the Board  
(see page 2) or  
the editor of the newsletter  
(see page 2).*

(Continued from page 4, Memories of Cindy Walker)



"Called the greatest female Country composer in history, Cindy wrote her first song when she was twelve. She is the only songwriter to have made the Top Ten Hits in five successive decades. Cindy wrote more than 500 classic songs and was

inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. A recording artist in her own right, Cindy wrote songs for Bob Wills, appeared in Gene Autry movies and hosted her own radio show in California."

In 1998, I received a letter from the Cowgirl Hall of Fame. Inside were two tickets to the induction ceremony to be held at a swanky hotel downtown. I had checked the price of these tickets and didn't feel I could afford them (\$180.00). I called the museum to tell them they had made a mistake - that I had not ordered them. The little lady said, "Oh no Mr. Worden! Those are from Cindy Walker. You are her guests." I sure couldn't refuse such a wonderful offer from Cindy, but felt a little embarrassed - she had already been so generous. But Nonie (*my wife*) and I saddled up and drove to the hotel. The Valet Parking attendant asked if we were there for the Cowgirl Hall of Fame and when I told him, "Yes," he gave us a complimentary claim check. Gets better with age.

Inside the huge hall we were greeted by a member of the staff who looked at our tickets and pointed to a seating chart. I thought we might be in the "nosebleed section" but not so. We were at table Number 20, with Cindy and six or seven other guests. I had to move my chair to allow Dale Evans to sit down at the table next to ours. She remembered me and Memphis Mackey from the Walk of Fame in the Stockyards when Memphis sang "Happy Trails" to her. I had to loosen my hat band after that.

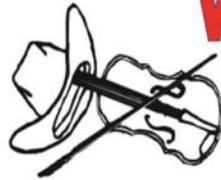
It finally came Cindy's time to star. It began with Leon Rausch and Rich O'Brien doing the song she had written for the event, "*Fort Worth*." After she made her acceptance speech, it was time for photos and this is when she told the lady from the Star-Telegram that she had brought her own photographer, ME! It was a great day, lots of good photos.

Froggy



Autographed photo of Cindy Walker playing Gene Autry's guitar to his horse, Champion

Come Join The Fun At  
The Western Swing Society's  
32nd Annual  
**WESTERN SWING  
HALL of FAME  
MUSIC FESTIVAL**



October 3-4-5-6, 2013

Machinists Hall, Rancho Cordova, California

**FOUR DAYS OF DANCING  
AND LISTENING FUN**

*A Dozen Great Western Swing Bands  
Morning and Late Night Jam Sessions  
For Listening and Dancing*

Hall of Fame Inductions on Sunday, Oct. 6th

On-site Beverages and Hot Food

Special Western Swing  
Room Rates  
at Nearby Locations

For information call (916) 974-1236, or  
browse to [www.westernswingsociety.org](http://www.westernswingsociety.org)

**Sincere thanks to Dennis Ford, our Festival Photographer**

Over 800 event photos from this year's festival were taken by Dennis Ford, who comes up from Sacramento to volunteer. If you would like to view or download *any* of the photos that Dennis has taken for the NWWSMS or the Sacramento Society, please go to his photo website: <http://fordphotos.phanfare.com/>

(Continued from page 1, Highlights from Friday, August 9)

of *Hurting Me*, followed by Chuck doing *China Doll* and *Statue of a Fool*. Chuck made mention that this set and the entire week-end would be a tribute to our Inductees and those members of the **Longhorn** band that have passed on, leaving great memories. Thank you, Chuck and Keith, for your thoughtfulness.



**Butch Gibson and Parners** were next, with Judy Hayes on bass, Jim Hollinger on drums, loyal Wayne Franco on steel, Paul Anastasio on fiddle, Larry Broad on lead guitar, Larry Nelson on sax and Shelley McNaughton on vocals. Shelley rocked the house singing *Pride* and *Walkin' After Midnight*. Butch sang *Maiden's Prayer* and *If I Ever Need a Lady, I'll Call You*. Larry fiddled *Bonaparte's Retreat*. With Larry Nelson on sax, Shelley belted out *Route 66* to the delight of the dancers. What a lady with a voice you will find hard to beat!



**LeRoy King and GTO** opened with *Faded Love* and *Rosetta*. Jim Neel and Larry Broad were on rhythm/lead guitars, Red Gillean on drums, Judy Hayes on bass, Rus Davis and Paul Anastasio played twin fiddles, and Wayne Franco was on steel. *Waltz Across Texas*, sung by LeRoy was followed by Larry with *Lonestar Beer*. LeRoy went on with *Route 66*, *I've Just Destroyed the World I'm Living In* and *Four in the Morning*, closing his set with *You Don't Know Me*.

As I walked back to the jam room, it was so good to see Dennis Liden taking part – we miss him! And what a joy to see Homer and Martha Matney with us again. They traveled by train all the way from Decatur, Texas, to join us.



**Patty McConnell and the Travelin' Four** opened with *Sugar Moon* and *Wings of a Dove*, nicely done with Kevin Parr on lead guitar and vocals. Judy Hayes was on bass, Jim Hollinger on drums and LeRoy Brigge, one of our favorites, played steel. Kevin belted out *Detour* and harmonized with Patty on *Somewhere Between*. Next, Kevin had the dancers jumping to their feet with *Corrine, Corrina*. Patty slowed it down a bit singing, *Today, I Started Loving You Again*. *Honky Tonk*, with Patty and Kevin stirred the entire room. *Roly Poly*, featuring Kevin and LeRoy made for a grand closing of their set.



**Mike Faast and Jangles** opened with *San Antonio Rose*. What a great beginning to their set! Mike was on rhythm guitar, with Paul Anastasio on fiddle, Gary Ballard on lead guitar, Toby Hanson on accordion, Lance Haslund on upright bass and Laurie Haslund on ukulele. Their rich harmonies were beyond awesome as they sang *My Adobe Hacienda*, *Sweet Sue*, *Blues for Dixie*, then adding *Roly Poly* for good measure. Mike sang *From a Jack to a King*, followed by Laurie Haslund singing *Ragtime Cowboy Joe*. Another favorite, *Bonaparte's Retreat*, was done so well by Mike with Paul on fiddle. **Jangles** is a well-polished band that make me so proud!

**Country Fever** was up next, with 2013 Inductee Chet Hasting leading the band in *Wildwood Flower*. Jeanne Yearian was on fiddle. Ken Fullerton and Bob Gaede were on rhythm guitars with Dave Vines on bass and Pete Bonari on drums. Ken Fullerton was up next, singing *Old Fashioned Love*, done so well. Bob Gaede wowed us with *New Green Light*! Dave Vines sang a favorite, *For the Good Times*. Chet filled the floor with *The Waltz You Saved for Me* – the dancers love those waltzes. Ken



also sang *The Kind of Love I Can't Forget* – beautiful! Chet gave us a real treat with *Under the Double Eagle* on his lead guitar. That was something to be proud of! Slowing the tempo down a bit, Dave sang *Drinking Champagne*, closing the set.



**Bill Enyeart & Dry Creek Band** opened the final set on Friday with *Another Day, Another Dollar*. Chuck Hayes was on steel, 2013 Inductee Biff Adam was on drums, Kevin Healy was on fiddle, and Lloyd Hooper on bass. Billy Champion joined in on banjo. 2013 Inductees Jim Baughman and Cliff Brizendine played twin lead guitars and Lloyd sang *I've Just Destroyed the World I'm Living In*. Billy Champion followed with *Milk Cow Blues* and *September in the Rain*. Jim Baughman played as wife, Linda, sang *I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter*.



Next up was Cliff Brizendine, singing *I'm Walkin' the Floor over You*, as Christina watched intently. Christina was up next, singing *Roly Poly* and *Jambalaya*. Bill sang *There's Still a lot of Love in San Antonio*. Chuck followed with *You Don't Have Very Far to Go*. Jim Baughman and Bill Enyeart ended the set with *Cherokee Maiden*. Great job, fellows!

## Highlights from Saturday, August 10

On Saturday, the festival opened with Cindy DeLeon singing *America the Beautiful*. Lloyd Hooper, Cindy's proud father (and president of the NW Western Swing Music Society), was emcee for the day and began by introducing the first band, **Keith Holter with Longhorn and Friends**. Chuck Hayes acted as emcee for the band. Dean Rankin was on steel, Kevin Healy on fiddle, Dave DuChane on bass, Red Gillean on drums, Larry Nelson on sax, Keith Holter and Cliff Brizendine on lead guitars, and Mary Rondthaler on vocals. Chuck sang *Convict and the Rose*, followed by *Corrine Corrina* with Kevin Healy. Christina



Brizendine sang *Sweet Memories*. Tears trickled down from some eyes. That's ok. Chuck gave a bit of the history behind the song before he sang *Got a Letter from My Kid Today*. Red sang the western swing standard, *Time Changes Everything*. Sometimes it's hard to bear the changes, but life goes on. *Statue of a Fool* was done so well by Chuck. Thanks, my friend. Christina Brizendine joined the group again to sing, *Leavin' and Sayin' Good-Bye*. What a voice!!! She and hubby, Cliff, make a great musical team! Chuck closed the set with *You're Nobody 'till Somebody Loves You*.



Now came time to present the President's Award. Lloyd Hooper honored a very surprised NWWSMS Secretary, Alice Striegel. This was so very much deserved! She has taken her job as Secretary for the NWWSMS seriously for many years in addition to running the concession tables at the monthly Showcases as well as during the annual festival! This great lady deserves the very best and we all thank you, Alice!

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7, Highlights from Saturday)



Then, Jeanne Yearian was given the special Sweetheart of the Year award for her dedication to the Society. In addition to publishing the newsletter and producing videos from the festival and Hall of Fame, she has helped with the development of the

new website. We love her with all our hearts. Can't thank her enough. She is our Western Swing Sweetheart.

**Sharyn Lee and the Sundowners** were up next and kicked off their set with *Sugar Moon* followed by *Kansas City*, with vocals coming from the lovely Sharyn Lee herself. Dave Wheeler, playing bass, followed singing *Old Flames*. Lew Packwood and Sharyn Lee were on rhythm guitars. Tom Manhart played drums, Jerry Seitz was on fiddle, Pat Edwards on steel and the Sundowner's guest, 2012 Inductee Harvey Nelsen, played lead guitar. Jerry sang *Sierra Swing* as well as *I'm Satisfied with You*. Sharyn Lee sang *Old Fashioned Love* and *Home in San Antone*. The band played *Blue Spanish Eyes* as an instrumental. Well done!



Between sets, we checked out the jam room. Dave DuChane took charge and I saw Sherry Stinson, Gil Barbee, the Bensmillers (*George, Lora, and Allen*), and Larry Broad all taking part. Gerry Creason was just joining them. Dave knows I love the song *From a Jack to a King* so he sang it for me as I looked on. Back in the main ballroom, did you notice hard-working Del Mark? Thanks, Del, for helping the bands get on and off the stage!

**Bill Enyeart and the Dry Creek Band** were up next with Bill singing *All My Ex's Live in Texas*. Lloyd followed with *Take Me as I Am or Let Me Go*. Christina Brizendine sang *If Ever Again* and *Walkin' After Midnight*. Cliff was next with *Funny How Time Slips Away*. Bill sang *Memories to Burn* and *All My Friends Are Gonna Be Strangers*. Linda Baughman sang *My Window Faces the South* and *Sweet Dreams*. What a strong, rich voice she has! Billy Champion sang *A Legend in My Time*.

**Kristi Nebel and Cowgirls Dream** opened their set with *Just Because*. Toby Hansen was on accordion, playing *San Antonio Rose* behind Kristi and Steve Nebel's vocals. Steve played rhythm and lead guitar while Kristi handled the bass. Mike Friel was on drums. They played one of Hank Thompson's hits, *Six*



*Pack to Go*. Kristi sang *Heartaches by the Number* and *Right or Wrong*, followed by *Detour*, with vocal harmonizing by the band. It was waltz time as Kristi sang *Waltz Across Texas*, then *Deep Water*. I love her vocals. Be sure to plan on attending the September showcase. Kristi and the band are hosting. Closing the set, Steve, Kristi and Toby joined voices on the Bob Wills/Tommy Duncan classic, *Stay All Night (Stay a Little Longer)*.



I spoke with a long-time member, who graciously provided a program for viewing of the very first Hall of Fame in 1991! It was very interesting to look back. So much has happened since then. Did you notice the red rosettes around the buttons worn by the Inductees? LeRoy King makes all of those as well as buttons for all of the festival participants and their guests. He does such a good job!

**Jim Sanderson and Jack Daniels Band** opened with another Bob Wills' classic, *Misery*, followed by *Wild Side of Life* with Wayne Franco on steel and Cleo Gilstrap on keyboard. (*Long time no see, Cleo. Happy to have you join us this year!*) Rus Davis and Jerry Seitz were on fiddles. Tony Grasso was on rhythm guitar and vocals with Larry Broad on lead guitar. Tony Arana was on drums and Lloyd Hooper played bass. Guest vocalist, Edd Burnett (from Norman, OK) came up and sang *Time Changes Everything*. Tony Grasso sang *Touch My Heart* and *I Told You So*, with Lloyd adding the harmony. Great job! Jim sang *Four Walls* and Tony closed with *Swingin' Doors*. Tony traveled from Elk, Washington, in Spokane County to assist Jim.

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The Cascade Ramblers with Lloyd Hooper kicked off their set with Lloyd singing, *Still A Lot of Love in San Antone*. Thom Gustafson played steel as well as guitar, Bob Martin was on lead guitar, Peter Brown was on drums. Cindy De Leon on vocals sang *Sweet Memories*. Lloyd and Bob harmonized on *Houston*. Bob sang *Across the Alley from the Alamo*. Lloyd followed with *Thank You for Keeping My House*. Thom turned many a head as he sang *Six Pack to Go* as did *I Don't Wanna Cry* by Lloyd and Bob. *All of Me* with Lloyd on vocal, filled the dance floor again with couples looking lovingly at one another. Another performance by **The Cascade Ramblers** done so well.



**Dave DuChane and the Western Wranglers** took the stage next, with Dave on bass, Wayne Franco on steel, Ramon Selby on fiddle, Geno Burbank on lead guitar, Robert Van den Akker on drums, and Jim Neel on lead guitar. Vocalist Shelley McNaughton led out with *My Window Faces the South*. Geno sang *Way to Survive* with Dave and Shelley on harmony. Ramon sang *Deep Water* with Dave and Shelley again harmonizing. Then, Dave and Shelley belted out *Route 66* and left a roaring crowd wanting more! 2013 Hall of Fame Inductee, Darrell Haddock, took the stage to sing his signature songs, *The Other Woman* and *Muddy Waters*. He sounded great and looks super good. Darrell is making great progress following a stroke and serious fall last year. Shelley sang *I Fall to Pieces* and *Just Call Me Lonesome*. Dave ended the set with *Charlie's Shoes* and *Lonesome 77203*.

**Chuck Hayes and Special Edition**, closing the scheduled entertainment on Saturday evening, began with the classic *Undecided* – a great job! Chuck was on steel, Cliff Brizendine on lead guitar and Kevin Healey was on fiddle. Red Gillean stepped up to play drums, Larry Nelson played sax, and Judy



Hayes played bass. Guest vocalist, Mary Rondthaler, sang *I'm Satisfied with You*, *Going Away Party* and *It's All Your Fault*. What a lovely lady with a voice to match! Chuck sang *Secret Love*. Before starting the next tune, Chuck told of how he learned the history of *Route 66* – as explained by his daddy who was planning to move the family from Oklahoma to California - fun story!! If you would like to hear it, check out the 2012 video highlights either on our website at [www.nwwsms.com](http://www.nwwsms.com) or pick up one of the dvds available at the table during the showcases!

Many familiar faces from past festivals joined us to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society. We sincerely appreciate them helping us mark this milestone in the history of the NW Society. Special thanks to Doris Bruce, Carla Gates and others who stepped in at the last minute give us a boost of energy and helping hands on Sunday!

## Highlights from Sunday, August 11

Sunday, the program began at 11 am with a special awards presentation. All of the board members were honored with certificates of appreciation. In addition to the board, certificates of appreciation were given to all of those who participated in making this year's festival a success. Included were emcee Joe Baker (*who came with his lovely companion, Laura Fouke, from Mineral Wells, Texas*), Geno Burbank, Judy Collender, Rus Davis, Cindy De Leon, Dennis Ford, Marv Little and the Auburn Eagles, Del Mark, Steve McDonald, Shelley McNaughton, Sharyn Lee Packwood, Sammy Sams, Ken Stroud, Tommy Thomsen, and Fred Yearian.

An unsuspecting Lloyd Hooper (*pictured right*) humbly accepted the Man of the Year award. He not only stepped up and did an excellent job as President of the Society in 2013, but also persevered when life situations made his commitment to the Presidency more difficult to uphold.

Then, with shock, surprise and disbelief, my husband, Ed, and I were presented with an award from the Western Swing Dancers Network (WSDN), based out of Oklahoma. This organization recognizes folks who do 'extraordinary deeds that benefit



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**Album:** Songs from Beautiful Texas  
**Artist:** Al Dressen's Super Swing Revue  
**Label:** Range Cube

Dressen and his wonderful group of musicians has recorded an album. Now, after all these years this top class CD of 13 Western Swing gems is now available.

The album opens with the first of eight standards from the Bob Wills library, *Corinne Corinna*, with Al on lead vocal. Others from Bob Wills are *Misery*, *Take Me Back to Tulsa*, *Deep Water*, *Ida Red*, *The Kind of Love, Right or Wrong* and a beautiful rendition of *Maiden's Prayer* with Katie Holmes in the vocal spotlight. Al and the group borrow *Beautiful Texas* from W. Lee O'Daniel and the Light Crust Doughboys, Johnny Mercer's *I'm An Old Cowhand* from Bing Crosby and the Sons of the Pioneers from Hollywood and Kokomo Arnold's *Milk Cow Blues* from Johnnie Lee Wills. The band also recreates two swinging instrumentals, Leon McAuliffe's *Panhandle Rag* from Leon and his Cimarron Boys and Herb Remington's *Remington Ride* from the Hank Penny Band.

In addition to Al and fiddle player Katie Holmes, fiddle player Ricky Turpin and lead guitarist Lonnie Atkinson are featured on lead vocals. Denny Mathis

It has been too many years since Al

plays some really super steel guitar and Danny Levin rounds out the fiddle section and also plays piano. Also on piano is the great Floyd Domino and Paul Glasse plays mandolin. The bass guitar is that of Billy Dee Donahue with Wes Starr and Neal Clausnitzer playing drums. Neal is also heard on harmony vocals. Mark Kazanoff plays saxophone and Ronnie Stewart plays rhythm guitar.

# Album Reviews

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



Mike Gross

This CD can be obtained for \$15 plus \$4 for S & H from Al at [adressen@austin.rr.com](mailto:adressen@austin.rr.com) or call at 512 745-0659. You can also write him at Al Dressen, 608 PineSiskin, Buda, Tx 78610.

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

## Mike's Top 10 for September 2013

**Songs:**

1. Swing On - Carolyn Martin (*Java Jive*)
2. All Dolled Up - Western Swing Authority
3. New Star Over Texas - The Time Jumpers (Rounder)
4. Can't Get Enough of Texas - River Road Boys (Buzzard Roost)
5. Prairie Skies - Eli Barsi (Red Truck) Canada
6. Yodel Western Swing - Kristyn Harris
7. Alexander's Goodtime Band - Dave Alexander (DAP)
8. Take Me Back to Texas - Mary Kaye (*Don't Fence Me In*)
9. Time Changes Everything - Christina Mae
10. Texas Dance Hall - Hot Texas Swing Band

**Albums:**

1. All Dolled Up - *Western Swing Authority*
2. Songs From Beautiful Texas - Al Dressen's Super Swing Revue (*Range Cube*)
3. Thursday Nite Live at Broken Spoke - Tony Harrison
4. 'Bout Time - Hot Texas Swing Band
5. Can't Get Enough of Texas - River Road Boys
6. The Time Jumpers - The Time Jumpers
7. Alexander's Goodtime Band - Dave Alexander (DAP)
8. Tennessee Local - Carolyn Martin
9. Where in the Dickens R U? - Miss Devon & The Outlaw (*Sharin' the Moon*)
10. By Request - Billy Mata & Texas Tradition



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dancers, with no expectation of compensation in return.' We were presented with a beautiful plaque as the letter from Rhonda Craig was read by Jeanne Yearian, recognizing our years of service as ambassadors of both western swing music and the dancers as well! We accepted graciously with much sincere appreciation for the honor. It is indeed very special. Much love and thanks to the committee who heads this group: Rhonda

and Dick Craig (*the WSDN Administrators*) and Committee Members: Rita Edgar, Bob and Sue Gallup, Wayne and Mary Jo Glasson, Gregg and Brenda Jones, and Beth and Ray Willingham. We thank you with all our hearts for this precious honor.

The main stage opened with Dave DuChane, Shelley McNaughton and Geno Burbank singing the *Star-Spangled Banner* in beautiful, three-part harmony as my hubby, Ed, and I presented the flag. We love that patriotic part of the event.

**Ramon Selby and the Northwest All Stars** took the stage at noon. 2012 Inductee, Harold Selby (*92 years old . . . but who's counting!*), Ramon's father, accompanied on rhythm guitar. Alan Troup played rhythm and lead guitar. Ramon Selby was on fiddle. The Bensmillers came down from Canada to join the celebration and represent their father/grandfather, Ted Preston (*Bensmiller*), a 2013 Inductee. George Bensmiller played accordion and 'phantom bass,' as his brother, Allen, accompanied the group on rhythm guitar. George's daughter, Lora, filled in beautifully on vocals and harmony. Everyone in the talented **Northwest All Stars** sang both lead and harmony, bringing back great memories of times past.



Half-way through the set, Ramon took a few moments to welcome 2013 Inductee and Northwest icon, Bonnie Guitar, to the stage (*pictured below*). Jerry Johnson took over on bass and Don Johnstad added drums as Bonnie strapped on her guitar. First, this gracious lady thanked everyone for coming, then she started off with a swinging version of *Bye, Bye Blackbird*. As we watched her fingers travel up and down the frets, I felt that surely she must know every guitar chord ever written. At age 90, she is still performing locally around Soap



Lake, Washington, and hasn't lost that powerful, expressive voice! The audience was enthralled. Beginning with a swinging rendition of *Bye, Bye, Blackbird*, she went on to captivate us with her music, sincerity and class as she sang *The Prisoner's Song* and *Burning Bridges*. In closing, she sang her signature song – the song that propelled her into the music spotlight in 1957 – *Dark Moon*. It was indeed a privilege to have her perform

and be present for her induction into the 2013 Hall of Fame. She was nominated by good friend, Alan Troupe, who joined the NWWSMS last year when he performed with the Selby Family, who were 2012 Inductees.

Emcee Joe Baker introduced Lloyd Hooper as our Presenter for the 2013 Hall of Fame awards. Escorts, Sharyn Lee and Judy Collender, stood ready to bring the Inductees to the stage. Tommy Thomsen sat down at the keyboard and Carla Gates took her place as Lloyd's assistant, to help with the awards and stars as the Inductees made their way across the stage.

After the induction ceremony, it was time for more music. **Big Ed and Steel Country** began their set with *Devil Woman*. The selections included the western swing standard, *My Shoes Keep Walkin' Back to You*, *From a Jack to a King* and *Look at Us*. Dave DuChane, on bass, sang *Crazy Arms* and *All My Exs Live in Texas*. Dan Lyons, on drums, sang *Heartaches by the Number* and *Houston*. Shelley McNaughton added some special vocal harmonies. Pat Rowe, doing an amazing job on steel and lead guitar, sang *Let's Chase Each Other 'Round the Room Tonight*. Great job by Ed and his group. They are regulars at our shows and people love them.



**The Inductee Band** was up next. Sitting in for Biff Adam was Tony Arana on drums. John Jones was on bass and vocals, starting off with *Deep Water* . . . what a voice he adds to his talent on the bass. Darrell Haddock came up to sing *Drinking Champagne* and *The Other Woman*. The twin guitars of Jim Baughman and Cliff Brizendine can't be beat. Those fellas gave us so much entertainment over the week-end. We were honored to have such talent for this special event. Cliff's *Bonaparte's Retreat* was explosive! Can't wait to see these

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guys again at the Sacramento festival in October (for more information, see the ad in this newsletter). I believe that Willie Carter could fiddle all day and not tire! He is such a sweetheart. Hope that many of you were able to hear him sing – what a voice to match his mastery on the fiddle. Glenn “Buddy” Collins chose to put the bass aside for this moment and sing a very moving rendition of *Walk Through This World With Me*. His family sat proud and beaming. Rus Davis showed us what fiddling is all about while Chet Hasting gave us a lesson on playing lead guitar. My, what talent filled the stage. Congratulations to all of you, straight from our hearts to yours! Chuck Hayes did a masterful job as band leader. Again, thank you, Chuck, for all you do for me, personally, as well as our Society.



JC's Cherokee Band took over the stage with JC McCormick on bass and vocals, Jim Ortega on drums, Kelvin Ma on rhythm guitar, Chris Meadors (nephew of Gary who moved to Oklahoma) on lead guitar and Chuck Hayes filling in on steel. JC sang *New Green Light*, which filled the floor instantly. *Six Pack to Go* rang out followed by *Burning Bridges*. *Secret Love* made couples cuddle a little closer while *The Other Woman* found some casting side glances - but all in fun. JC sang *Rose of San Antone*. The band assisted with great pride as JC introduced them all. I'd like to publicly thank JC, his lovely wife, Lenora, and their grandchildren for presenting me with a lovely bouquet of red roses. They said I deserved them after a fun-filled, busy week. How thoughtful!

Our thanks to all the jammers as well. I can't say enough about Gina Alpo, who sang so beautifully. Wish we could have heard more. We so appreciate each one who shared their special talent. All of you are invited to join us at one of the monthly showcases held at the Lynnwood Eagles. We look forward to hearing more of you at our regularly scheduled jam sessions. Heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers and musicians who helped make this event the very best!

God bless and love to you all, Lou



**2013 Hall of Fame Inductees or their representatives:**

**Back row, left to right:** Joe Baker for the Nix Family and B. F. 'Froggy' Worden, Chet Hasting, Darrell Haddock, Biff Adam, Jimmy Baughman, Cliff Brizendine, Allen Bensmiller for Ted Preston (Bensmiller). **Front Row, left to right:** Kate Leland for Sean Allen, Rus Davis, John Jones, Bonnie Guitar, Willie Carter, Glenn 'Buddy' Collins, George and Lora Bensmiller for Ted Preston (Bensmiller). (Not pictured: Lloyd Hooper for Gary Hood.)