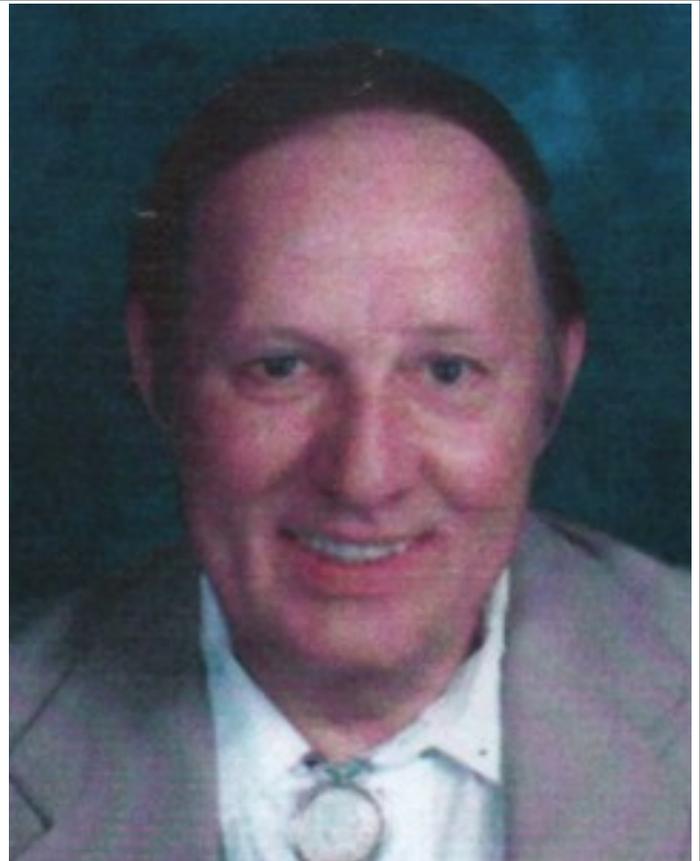




CONRAD NELSON



AL PARRETT

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profiles ~ Page 9

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GUEST BAND JUNE 1, 2014



**Doug Weiss
 and Lincoln
 Highway**

The Western Swing Society

P.O. Box PO Box 2474

Carmichael, CA 95609

Phone (916) 974-1236

Founded in 1981 by Loyd and Perry Jones to enable performance, preservation and perpetuation of the unique American art form known as Western Swing Music.

Officers:

President, Bill Enyeart 373-3368
 Vice-President, Doug Weiss 434-8189
 Treasurer, Harley Doughty 635-0450
 Secretary, Janet Jimenez 487-1727

Other Directors:

Tony Arana, (775) 971-3070
 Hubert "Brownie" Brown 276-4059
 Olen Dillingham, 645-8878
 Ronnie Elkan, 765-4345
 Jetta Riley, 371-6454

Staff and Committee Chairpersons:

Decorating Chair, Myrtle Brown
 Equipment and Staging, Bill Enyeart
 Hall of Fame Archivist, Jay Riley
 Historian, John Towner
 Jam Room, Tony Arana
 Membership Director, Tink Cariker
 Newsletter Team: Editor, Tink Cariker
 Layout and Publication: Shelley Elkan,
 Distribution: Bill Enyeart, Janet Jimenez and Jetta Riley
 Photographer: Dennis Ford
 Publicity, Lisa Braswell
 Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
 Sales Table, Donald and Susan deMars
 Scholarship, Ronnie Elkan and Hubert "Brownie" Brown
 Slide Show, Janet Jimenez
 Sound Engineer, Roy Nall and David Bean
 Website, (volunteer opportunity)

(All phone numbers are in area code 916 unless otherwise stated.)

Western Swing Society Music News

is published monthly by the Western Swing Society

Views and opinions expressed by contributing authors are not necessarily those of the editorial staff or the Society.

Submitted articles, publicity notices and letters not relating directly to the Society or its members may be published at the discretion of the Editor, as space permits. The staff reserves the right to edit any and all items submitted for publication.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTALS:

All items, photographs, articles, and ad's are due to the Editor no later than the 10th of the month.

From the PRESIDENT



Hi folks:

Nice to have a brand new guest band this month in May. Bill Ward and his

band "Western Lights" performed for us and they looked like they were having a great time on the stage. These guys play a little bit of everything from Western Swing to bluegrass and beyond.

Bill played guitar with Melvin Fong on the fiddle and vocals too. Sam Ferry sang and played bass along with Mike Brooks on the mandolin. On steel guitar was Gerry Mamola who also played dobro. Jim Heberline was back on the drums. You could tell this group has been together for a while. The crowd really liked what they were doing. Thanks a lot, guys! We hope to have you back in the future.

After Western Lights, Dry Creek band took the stage. You might have noticed we have a new drummer who takes the place of Bill Cornett. Bill was with us for many years but finally retired from the music business. David Bryan moved back on the drums a few weeks ago. I needed someone back there to help me with vocals as my lungs seem to be getting weaker. I don't think all that smoking helped me much. What was I thinking???

We're still missing Joe Champion on the keyboard. He's staying home taking care of his wife while she recuperates. We wish her well.

Continued on page 8

MOVERS AND SHAKERS



MEMBERSHIP

Because of printing and mailing deadlines, this listing reflects membership dues received up to the tenth of the month. Dues received after the tenth will be acknowledged in the next issue.

And a big THANK YOU to Renewing Members:

Jean Alley, Sacramento; Peggy Bondi, Carmichael; John Funes, Concord; Chris & Teal Howard, Sacramento; Joseph Infante, Vacaville; Jacqueline Kern, Sacramento; Bob & Virginia Kuykendall, San Pablo; Rose Anne Lamb, Citrus Heights; Ed Lewis & Pat Craze, Colusa; Maryann & Joe Nemec, Sacramento; Sherrie Pedersen & John Hottinger, Sacramento; Dave & Evelyn Raulien, Elk Grove; Michael & Lyn Kelly.

Please remember to update your information when you have a change of address/phone number/email address to insure you receive your newsletter timely. You can leave a message for me at (916) 383-2848 or email me at tinkcariker7044@att.net. If you choose to update your information at the door, please bring it in an envelope addressed to me.

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children"

...Native American Proverb

Tink Cariker, Membership Director

**UPCOMING BANDS**

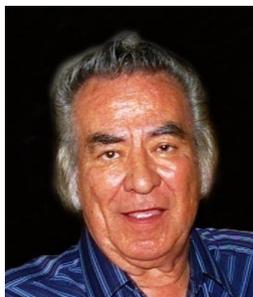
June: Doug Weiss and Lincoln Highway

July: Charlie Hull and Country Swing Playboys

August: David Bryan

September: Tony Arana's Jam Room Band

October: Hall of Fame 4-Day Celebration

JAM-ARANA REPORT

Our May jam session was really a good one. All the musicians that showed up came to play at their best. From the start of the day until the end the afternoon, the music was excellent.

I had the usual musicians there with three good lead guitar players; Cliff Brizendine, Jeff Felsher, and Bobby Giasson, who also did some vocals. Loved having Cliff with us. Come back again Cliff. Playing fiddle was Dave Rietz who can play all types of music. Sam Davidson was on steel guitar for us and that man is sounding better on that guitar every month. The bass player was Chuck Webb. This guy is there every month helping me set things up and stays to help put things away at the end of the day. He plays a great bass too. Bill Enyeart, our President, did some vocals and then gave Chuck a break and played bass. Other guitar players and singers were Nick Dennis, playing lead; Burl Smith playing rhythm and then the man with the Big Voice, Marty Martin, also on guitar. Mikel Ray did some fine singing for us. Terry Crouson left his family at home but he showed up, did some singing and played guitar for us. Terry not only sings and plays but he occasionally entertains with his comedic song style and story telling. If you've not caught his "act," drop into the jam room. You'll also hear music to rival the best we have on the main stage.

The ladies that came in to sing were; Jeanette Giasson, Peggy Van den Broek, Nancy Long, Christina Brizendine, and Karen Hellar who also played rhythm.

Until next month. See ya

Tony Arana, Jam room host

JOIN THE JAM-A-RANA

The Jam Room is proving to be a great success and a lot of fun. Time often runs out on the main stage for guest performers but that doesn't mean you can't strut your stuff. Come on back to the JR where Board member, **Tony 'Jammin' Arana** is in charge. Bring your instrument, voice, fans, or whatever and share your talent. We'd love to hear you.

**THE JAMROOM
JAMMERS**



Board Meeting Invitation

You can attend the Society's monthly Board meetings; first Sunday of each month starting at 10:30 a.m. in the Machinists Hall in Rancho Cordova.

**SUNSHINE/VOLUNTEER REPORT
(2-4-6-8, WHO DO WE APPRECIATE)**



Our guest band this month was Bill Ward and Western Lights. They are all great musicians and we enjoyed their program very much. Come see us again.

Bill Enyeart and Dry Creek finished out the afternoon with more toe tapping music for our dancers and listeners. Fun afternoon.

The ballroom, as always, looked so great. Our thanks to Barbara Bauer, Myrtle Brown, Dewey and Gloria for the great job they do. We also want to thank everyone who helps with the set up and tear down of table and chairs, cleaning the hall, sound system, our great photographer, popcorn, raffle, jam room, newsletter team, sales, slide show, admissions. Listed below are some of these volunteers: Tony Arana, Dennis & Eleanor Ford, Jim & Lisa Braswell, Don & Susan deMars, Don & Arliss Johnson, Nate Brian, Tink Cariker, Shelly Elkan, Harley Doughty, Bob & Virginia Kuykendall, Janet Jimenez, Monte Schmid, A big thanks to all who help out. Become a volunteer. We can always use you!!!!

Thank you to Jason Enyeart and Natalie Kosenko for taking care of the bar this month.

GET WELL/THINKING OF YOU: Lou Butler, Betty Reeves, Skeeter Elkin, Gene Albright, Glen Tarver, Wanda Ramos-Love, Lloyd Frankini, Betty Champion.

SYMPATHY: Condolences to Robin Torbet and family on the death of her father.

Jetta Riley

SKIP'S MUSIC

Sacramento - Elk Grove

Instruments—Sound—Accessories—Repairs

2740 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95821
Elk Grove (916) 686-5666

(916) 484-7575
Fax (916) 484-0390
skipsmusic.com

GUEST BAND BILL WARD & WESTERN LIGHTS



HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

It's time again to think about nominations for induction into the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame in October. The closing date for submission of nominations is May 31, 2014.

Any member in good standing may make nominations, by either postal or email. An 8 x 10 hard copy photo is *required* at the time of nomination. The nomination should contain sufficient biographical information to enable the committee to evaluate the nominee's qualifications. Nominations must include the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (if available) for the nominee and the person submitting them. If the nominee is deceased, please include the name of a person who may be able to accept the award.

Mail to: Western Swing Nominations Committee,
P. O. Box 2474, Carmichael, CA 95609



APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

Submit the following information in a note with your check to **The Western Swing Society**, P.O. Box 2474, Carmichael, CA 95609:

Name(s), mailing address, email address, and telephone number.

Fees (make check payable to Western Swing Society)

Individual Membership, \$15 per year. *

Couples Membership, \$20 per year. (one address only). *

Non-member Subscription, \$12 per year.

* Newsletter Subscription is included in benefits of dues paying members. Don't miss the color version of our newsletter, with additional content and photo pages, by signing up to receive it via email rather than mail – It's free to members. Paid membership also includes reduced admission fee at Society music functions, and the right to vote in Society elections and on proposed By-Law changes.



SUNDAY, June 1 2014

Doug Weiss and Lincoln Highway





OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS/MUSIC HAPPENINGS

Lincoln Highway Band.

4th Sunday of the month, 1-4pm, VFW POST 4647
3300 U Street, Antelope, \$5.00 cover charge
For more information call (916)580-7390.

Canadian Western Swing Music Society.

Contact: John York, 3565 Cambridge St., Vancouver, BC, Canada V5K 1M3. Phone 604-299-2301.

Northwest Western Swing Music Society.

Contact: Jeannie Yearian, Editor, 21221 174th Ave. SE, Renton, WA 98058-9740. **Meets 2nd Sunday**
www.nwwsms.com

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest.

PO Box 644, Shattuck, OK 73858. **Meets quarterly.**
Contact Chuck Hayes at 918-683-3511 or go to website at: www.wsmss.com.

Greater Arizona Country/Western Swing Association and Hall of Fame, Inc. PO Box 953, Dewey, AZ 86326. Contact Jim Gamble at 928-458-0714.

Cowtown Society of Western Music. Contact: Joe Baker, Membership Director, 575-808-4111, 106 Roswell Street, Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345

CA Old Time Fiddlers Association, Orangevale Grange on Walnut Avenue in Orangevale, CA. Meets 2nd Sunday. www.cbaontheweb.org/region_details.asp?regionID=2

Bakersfield Country Music Museum, P.O. Box 81623, Bakersfield CA 93380-1623. Call 661-366-6003 24/7 for more information.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Western Swing Society is a non-profit organization operated solely with volunteer help. There is occasional turnover in staff positions, creating a need for replacements. The following positions are currently open or filled on a temporary basis. If you want to serve the Society and have the listed skills, contact the Secretary at (916) 487-1727, or speak with the President at the monthly sessions.

The Society will provide the necessary training and tools (computer, software, etc.) to get the job done.

Newsletter Archivist: We have need of someone to archive newsletters, which involves scanning and saving the files.

Typesetter: Hall of Fame annual tasks of printing Gold Cards, Programs, and Certificates.

If you have a highschooler or college student in your family who's comfortable with computers and wants to get some good experience to put on their resumes, please have them consider participating in the newsletter and/or website program.



FRIENDS ~ GOOD TIMES



Continued from page 2

Good buddy Marty Martin was on hand to help out. This guy is a great vocalist. We go back a long, long ways Really missed Jimmy Baughman and Biff Adam. Not sure what happened but I hope they will be with us in June. Happy to have Nancy Long with us. She shows up at a lot of our shows. What a gal. Thanks to Billy Smith for sitting in on fiddle with us too. He also played bass on one of our gigs a few weeks ago.

Tony Arana is doing one whale of a job back in the jam room. He has that room packed all afternoon. Bring your axe down to the hall and sit in with them back there. You'll have a good time, I promise.

Looking forward to seeing Lincoln Highway back on the main stage in June. Hope you all plan to attend.

Until then.....

Bill Enyeart, President



ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The photos in this newsletter were taken by Dennis Ford. If you would like to view or download *all* the photos that Dennis takes at WSS, please go to his photo website:

<http://fordphotos.phanfare.com/>

Dennis' beautiful photos are in color and can be downloaded to the viewer's computer and printed as wonderful keepsakes.

A SPECIAL THANKS!



(Natalie Kosenko, Sally Collins, Jason Enyeart)

Many thanks to President Bill's son, Jason and Brownie's granddaughter, Natalie Kosenko (visiting guests) for stepping up and filling in as bartenders for the month of May. They also helped with breaking down the stage, carrying amps and instruments, and putting away tables and chairs at the end of the day. That is a major chore that has to be done every month and the regular volunteers greatly appreciated their help. Jason and Natalie were both born into musical families and music continues to be a source of pleasure for both of them. Jason is owner of the Hop House restaurant in El Dorado Hills, which will be opening August 1. The restaurant will be featuring local beers; a good thing for the local economy and beer lovers.

Sally (also a visiting guest) is featured because she will be our bartender for the next three months, in which time the Society will be looking for a permanent bartender. Sally has volunteered in the past as bartender, food server, and with anything else that needs to be done, when she is in the area. (She lives in Washington state.) Sally was introduced to Western Swing music when she walked into a San Leandro nightclub in the early 70's with a friend. On stage was Bill's band, The Three Gents. Sally's story: She took one look at Bill and it was "goodbye friend" and "hello future husband." Bill must have liked the "cute little redhead" he saw too, as Sally is still following Bill and his band. The Society is deeply grateful to Jason, Natalie, and Sally for volunteering their services. It is gratifying to see visitors supporting the Society by jumping in and helping get the job done.

A plea to our regular members: if you are able, please consider staying after the showcase and helping with the hall clean up. More hands will mean less work and time for all.

CONRAD NELSON

Inducted October 6, 2013



Conrad Nelson started his musical career in the Midwest. His dad played harmonica, and one of Conrad's favorite memories is that his dad sang all the time and was a huge fan of western swing music. His father was stationed in Lubbock, Texas during WWII, where he fell in love with country & western, blues, hillbilly and western swing music. Through the 50's and 60's, Conrad was blessed with all the 78 recordings his father brought home from the war. As Conrad grew, he was influenced by many people, in particular, Vernon Dalhart, Jimmie Rodgers, Robert Johnson, Floyd Tillman, Johnny Bond, Joe Turner, Spade Cooley, Milton Brown and of course, *Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys*.

Conrad's first instrument was a Montgomery Ward bass made by National. It wasn't long before he was hooked and had progressed on to his next purchases, a Fender Jazz bass and then a Danelectro DC 2. By 1966, Conrad was in his first band, *The Great Escape*, with whom he played until 1970.

As Conrad matured, so did his musical interests and talents as a multi-instrumentalist. He is accomplished on many instruments; acoustic and electric guitar, upright bass, electric bass, mandolin, violin, 5-string and tenor banjo, and like his dad, is a mean harmonica player.

In 1974 Conrad co-founded the western swing band *The Dusty Rustlers* along with his good friend, Don Dahl. *The Rustlers* soon became one of Northern California's most popular bands. The band played a lot of Bob Wills tunes and related swing material. Don and the guitar player, Bob Woods, were taking lessons from Tiny Moore to work out songs *The Rustlers* wanted to play, like "Twin Guitar Special" and "Roly Poly". Tiny was very gracious and encouraging. He came to see the band perform at Dingus McGee's in Colfax and accepted an offer to sit in. It was magic. There were many occasions Tiny would show up to watch *The Rustlers*, then sit in and play. He joined them several times in their TV spots on "Easy Living Country."

Conrad feels honored to also have had the opportunity to play music with Billy Joe Shaver, Albert Lee, *New Riders of the Purple Sage*, *Asleep at the Wheel*, Vernie and Joe Wren, Vern Baughman, Okie Paul, Vance Terry, *Bob Woods Band*, *Bite the Bullet*, *Stardust Cowboys*, and more recently the *Hickory Wind Band*.

AL PARRETT

Inducted October 6, 2013



Al was born in 1931 in Indiana. When he was 15 years old he became interested in the steel guitar. The playing style of Roy Wiggins ignited his enthusiasm for the steel guitar. The first song he learned to play solo was *The Steel Guitar Rag*.

With his A6th tuned lap steel, Al joined a band when he was 15. In the mid 50's, he purchased a Fender Triple Neck and went to work in Oceanside, California working six nights a week playing mostly swing

In 1957 Al worked with the Billy Sherrill organization. Billy went on to Nashville to promote Patsy Cline, Dottie West and Loretta Lynn. From 1962 to 1964, Al worked with Billy Mize and Cliff Crawford at the Famous Foot Hill Club In Long Beach, California. In 1990 and 1991, he made the West Coast Hall Of Fame tour with Hank Thompson . In 1996 he made a Far East Tour with the USO. They played a host of military clubs in that area.

Al received the Country Music Association award for Best Pedal Steel Player for the years 1992, 1994 and 1995

Having all the equipment necessary, Al performed a One Man Show at senior citizen homes, military bases and other venues. Hauling all the equipment necessary to do a one man show limits the number of shows, but he still does them occasionally.



Western Swing Music Society
of the
Southwest Hall of Fame Showcase

JULY 10-12 - 15th Annual

Great Plains Fair Grounds, Lawton, OK
(contact: 580-571-5081 or 940-855-8256 or
405-365-0082)



Visit us on the web at: www.nwwsms.com

The Northwest Western Swing Music Society's
24th Annual

Western Swing Music
Festival &
"Hall of Fame"

August 7-10, 2014

At the Auburn Eagles Club - 702 'M' Street SE, Auburn, WA
With Its Beautiful, Big Dance Floor - Four Days of Great Music

Special Note:

*Make your motel reservations as soon as possible!
The motels listed are expecting an unusually high volume of
business in August.*



Come Join The Fun At
The Western Swing Society's
33rd Annual




WESTERN SWING
HALL of FAME
MUSIC FESTIVAL

October 2-3-4-5, 2014

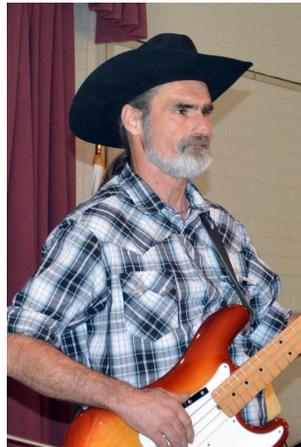
Machinists' Hall, Rancho Cordova, California

FOUR DAYS OF DANCING
AND LISTENING FUN

A Dozen Great Western Swing Bands
Morning and Late Night Jam Sessions



Dry Creek, Our Amazing House Band, and Friends!



AND GUEST SINGERS



MAILBAG



From the Albrights to the Rileys, Reno, NV

Just a note to see if you had heard that Don Pray passed away January 18, 2013, with cancer. I was on the computer looking some things up and saw the article on Don. We felt so bad. What a great guy he was. Gene was back in the hospital two weeks ago. He had problems with his pace maker, caused by the right artery stent in his neck. He is doing ok now but looks like he may have to have surgery on the left side of his neck. We are just waiting to see the doctor. Well, enough about that. How have you folks been and how is Western Swing going? Loyd Frankini said to tell everyone hello for him. He's not doing well at all. We all are getting up in years. Until later, love you both. *Juanita & Gene*

Save the Date! HOF FESTIVAL!!!

October 2—5, 2014
Machinist's Hall, 2749 Sunrise Blvd.,
Rancho Cordova, CA



P.O. Box 2474
Carmichael, CA 95609

www.westernswingsociety.org
www.facebook.com/
SacramentoWesternSwingSociety



NOTICE! If today is later than the date in the upper right hand corner of your address label, you'll need to pay your membership dues or subscription fee in order to keep receiving your newsletter.

If you don't want to be a voting member you can still receive the newsletter by purchasing a subscription. (See below)

MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues in the Western Swing Society are:
\$15 for an Individual
\$20 for a Couple at one address

Newsletter Subscription is included in benefits of dues-paying members. Non-members can subscribe \$12 per year.

Paid membership includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter, reduced admission fee at Society music functions, the right to vote in Society elections and on proposed By-Law changes.

Non-dues payers must subscribe if they wish to receive the newsletter. Subscriptions are for twelve consecutive months. Mail to Subscription, **PO Box 2474, Carmichael, CA 95609**. Include your name, address, phone, and e-mail address

MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS

The Western Swing Society holds a music and dance session on the first Sunday of each month, featuring guest bands and artists and jam sets.

1:00 pm to 6:00 pm at The Machinists Hall
2749 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova, CA*

Donation: \$5 for Members; \$8 for Non-Members

For information, browse to
www.westernswingsociety.org

*The address is Sunrise, but the driveway is on Citrus.

Driving Instructions to MACHINISTS HALL: From Hwy 50, take the Sunrise Blvd. South exit and cross two lights (Folsom Blvd. and Trade Center Drive). After crossing Trade Center, be in the left lane and take the next left turn which is Citrus Road. You will see an Enterprise Car Rental lot in front of you. Turn right into the driveway just past Enterprise. You'll see our wooden sign, and you are there. Park, come in and join the fun.

