

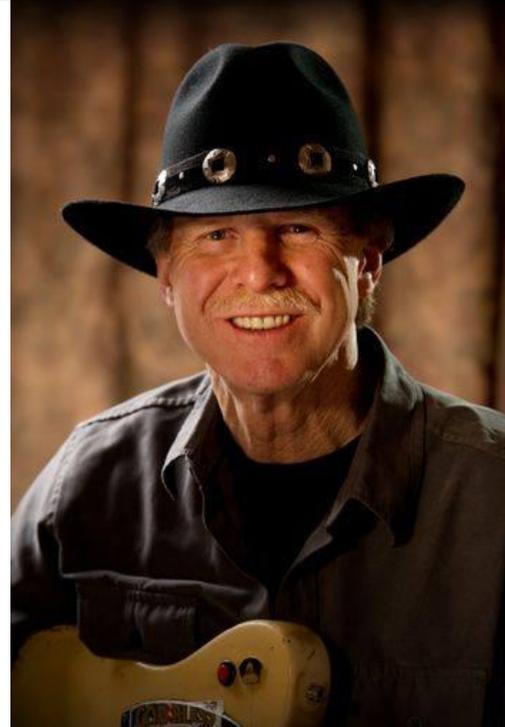


“Running Out Of Time” Hall of Fame nomination submissions close May 31st.—Page 4



STEVE FRENCH

Inducted Oct. 7, 2018



JERRY MCCLEENDON

Inducted October 2, 1983

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 4

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GUEST BAND March. 3, 2019



Geoff Miller & the Sactown Playboys
1:00 to 3:00 pm

Followed by
The Dry Creek Band
3:00 to 5:00pm

The Western Swing Society

PO Box 2474

Carmichael, CA 95609

westernswingsociety.net

Facebook: SacramentoWesternSwingSociety

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, Rex Barnes (916) 704-1566
 Vice Pres, Jimmy Boehnke (530) 886-8375
 Treasurer, Edward Burhans (916) 225-3645
 Secretary, Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463

Other Directors:

Tony Arana (775) 971-3070
 Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345
 John James (916) 202-9251
 Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
 Jeff Tilton (916) 798-9377

Staff and Committee Chairpersons:

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 Historian, (open)
 Jam Room, Tony Arana
 Master of Ceremonies, Jimmy Boehnke
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 Music Director, Ronnie Elkan
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 Public Relations Administrator, Jeff Tilton
 Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
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 Sound Engineer, Gary Blodgett
 Website, Dave Rietz
 Youth Program, Edward Burhans

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.

Letter from The Editor

Shelley Elkan and Bite the Bullet proved that the "Show must go on" at our March dance. Everybody in the band was either recovering from a cold bug or had a cold bug. Really hard for the singers. It's hard for me to critique the band because I'm part



of it so I will just say it's an honor and a lot of fun to play with this group of musicians. Shelley Elkan, our editor, sings lead and plays rhythm guitar. Rob Shotwell gives us vocals and lead guitar, Gary Blodgett plays lead guitar and sings. Conrad Nelson plays bass guitar and sings. Steve French plays pedal steel guitar and sings. Olen Dillingham and I played fiddle and mandolin and joined in on the singing.



We had a special guest on drums, Arron Smith. He sang for us also. Arron plays regularly for Buck Ford.

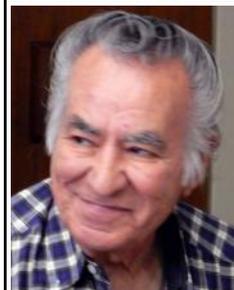
Dry Creek Band came up to play next. This band is there for us every



dance, rain or shine. Billy Smith, Bass; Lenny Serdahl, guitar and vocal; Jimmy Baughman, guitar and vocal; Ralph Chase, keyboard and vocal; Bill Cornett, drums and vocal; Ronnie Elkan (me) on fiddle; John Bush, harmonica. These guys work

Continued on page 5

JAM ROOM JAMMERS



As always the jam room was packed and swingin'! Participating were: Dave Rietz - Fiddle, Mandolin, Vocals

Bill Enyeart; Lead Guitar & Vocals, Bobby Giasson; Lead Guitar & Vocals, Joe Champion; Keyboard & Vocals, Bill Fortin, Bill Cornett & Tony Arana; Drums

Chuck Webb; Bass, Tom Gunterman; Fiddle & Vocals, Terry Crouson; Lead Guitar & Vocals, Steve Kallal; Fiddle, Lenny Serdahl; Lead Guitar, Grace Clark; Rhythm Guitar & Vocals.

Singers were Micheal Ray, Peggy Van der Brock, Eddie Burr, Victorian King Bowman, Linda Fortin and Don Spiker.

We had a great crowd!

We'd like to have you write to us about your experience if you play in the jam room or go in to listen. We'll share your comments here in this column. Just send your thoughts to this email:

ronnie.elkan@gmail.com or send us a letter via snail mail. In the meantime we'll list the players who joined us last month.

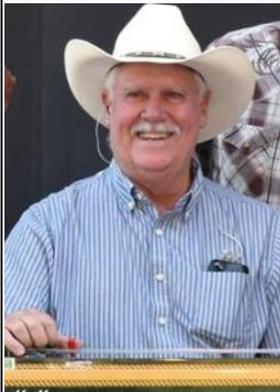
Thanks gang. It was great!!!!!!

Tony Arana, Jam Room Host



STEVE FRENCH

Inducted October 7, 2018



Steve French was born in San Diego, California on October 11, 1950, to Hugh and Lorraine French. His earliest recollection of music was hearing the popular songs of the day on the radio. He was a “night-owl” even as an infant, and his mother tells stories of hearing Steve hum various TV jingles and fragments of popular songs as a very young child. All through the 50s, Steve listened to and absorbed the songs of Elvis, Chuck Berry, Fats Domino, Sam Cooke, Eddy Arnold and Patsy Cline.

Hugh and Lorraine divorced in 1958, and when Lorraine met Bob Alley in 1960, Steve’s musical direction was set. Bob was born in Georgia in 1929, to a dirt-poor farming family. Growing up, he and his seven siblings all played instruments and listened to the “Grand Ole Opry every Saturday night”. The Navy took Bob to San Diego in 1947, and when he got out of the Navy he started working the night clubs and honky-tonks around town.

When Steve first heard Bob play guitar, he was entranced. Bob and Lorraine married in 1962, and by that time, Steve had many times heard Bob play around the house and family gatherings. Bob played the hits of Bob Wills, Hank Thompson, and other country artists of that time. Steve heard and loved songs like “Choo Choo Ch-Boogie,” “House of Blue Lights,” Chattanooga Shoeshine Boy,” Smoke, Smoke, Smoke That Cigarette,” Won’t You Ride in My Little Red Wagon,” and dozens of others. “Bob was a chord guy,” says Steve, “one of those rhythm guitar players who could pound out 4 chords to the bar on that cool swing stuff. Sure, he could do hot single-string leads, but he loved pounding out those chords.”

Naturally, Steve wanted to learn to play like his dad. Bob showed him some chords, and Steve took off. All through the 60s, Steve played around the house and jammed with friends, combining the popular hits of the day in both rock and country music.

Continued on page 7

JERRY MCCLENDON

Inducted October 2, 1983

Jerry McClendon is a native of Pendleton, Indiana.

In 1973, Raven Records, based in Sacramento, California was touting him as their latest artist to sign with the label.

A 1973 article notes by 1973, he had already had 12 years of professional music experience, having traveled all over the west coast, the northwest and into Canada. He worked at such famed venues as the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Personal appearances during that time included regular stints at the Metro Club, 40 Grand Club, Maverick Club in Sacramento. He shared the stage with such artists as Jerry Lee Lewis, Willie Nelson, George Jones, Sammi Smith, Freddie Hart, Rose Maddox, Jerry Wallace and Buddy Allen and many many more.

Jerry was known as a versatile musician as well, playing the lead guitar, piano, fiddle, sax, harmonica, bass guitar and drums.

He also wrote and arranged some of the tunes on his recording sessions. One session was at Bradley’s Barn in Nashville, Tennessee. Another recording session was at the Buck Owens studios in Bakersfield, California.

Credits & Sources

Country Music Reporter; Vol. 4 No. 1; January 1973; Country Music, Inc.; 2401 East Lancaster; Fort Worth, TX

Country Music Reporter; Vol. 4 No. 2; February 1973; Country Music, Inc.; 2401 East Lancaster; Fort Worth, TX

Billboard Magazine 1974 / 76

Lloyd Hickeys 40 Grand Country Jamboree Weekly TV Show

Easy Livin’ Country TV channel 3 Show

N.C.C.M.A 1980 male vocalist of the year





HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

THE TIMING

January 1—May 31st: Submissions of nominees for consideration accepted from a member in good standing

June: Hall of Fame Selection Committee reviews and chooses 12 nominees to be inducted in the Hall of Fame. Nominations must adhere to the rules and be complete in order to be considered. Any submissions not chosen roll forward to the next year for consideration

July: Board signs off on the chosen inductees. Inductees are notified and told about our Hall of Fame Event details

August: List of inductees first appear in the newsletter

September: Photos of inductees appear in newsletter. List of HOF bands in newsletter

October: The three day celebration, culminating in the Induction Ceremony on Sunday

HOW TO AND THE RULES

Let's have another inspiring set of inductees for the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame event, the 1st Friday—Sunday in October. ***The closing date for submission of nominations is May 31st. Start NOW. Time FLIES!***

Any member in good standing may make 2 nominations, by either postal or email.

An 8 x 10 hard copy photo or a digital jpeg (at least res. 300 dpi) 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 name (as they wish it to appear in our Hall of Fame registry), address, 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

It's Easy!

Nominate a musician or exceptional volunteer for this year's Hall of Fame

Time is running out. May 31st is the last date to submit your nominations for our Hall of Fame celebration!

Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is a BIG HONOR, so submit a nomination and make someone's day!

1. The name, address, phone and email of member submitting the nomination
2. The name, address, phone and email of the nominee
3. The nominee's name as the nominee wants it shown in the bio and on the Hall of Fame registry
4. Biographical information about the nominee, with emphasis on involvement with Western Swing Music.
 - Birthplace and date.
 - Age at which participation in music began? How? Singing? Playing an instrument?
 - Early inspirations and influences?
 - Time and place of first professional performance.
 - Name of well-known bands and/or performers with which nominee has played.
 - Names of well-known locations where nominee has performed.
 - List of any awards or formal recognitions received by the nominee related to his or her music career.
 - Nominee's personal reasons for involvement in and support of Western Swing Music.

See the instructions in the previous column and email or mail your completed nomination information so that it is received by WSS no later than May 31st.

DON'T FORGET to include *your* phone, email and the *nominee's* phone, email and mailing address so that we can contact you.

Editor's Letter continued from page 2

hard and knock it out of the park every dance.

Coming up to sing with the band were Janice Allen, who will be bringing her band in to perform at our September dance, Nancy Long and Micheal Ray. This is not only a pleasure but it also keeps the band on their toes (LOL).

Please take a look at the minutes on page 12. We have some very energetic board members who are coming up with some new and exciting ideas. We all have to pitch in to keep this Western Swing Society moving along. New people coming through the door is a priority and the new folks on the board are working hard to make it happen.

As always, I want to thank you volunteers. Bar, Food, Door, Board and Set up/Tear Down. Whew, I'm worn out just writing about it. Don deMars really deserves a special thanks. He sets up, takes photos and is one of the last to leave every dance.

We have a great line up of bands. I can't believe how fortunate the Western Swing Society is to have all this talent coming up. This month we have Geoff Miller and the Sactown Playboys. Notice they are in Mike Gross' top ten album review!!!

On March 15 your editors (Shelley and Ronnie Elkan) had the pleasure of seeing the Carolyn Sills Combo at Lincoln Del Webb. This show was sold

out for a very good reason. They have agreed to come in and play at our July 7 dance. Winners of the 2018 Ameripolitan Western Swing Group of the Year, you



won't want to miss this show. If you are interested in looking them up (<https://www.carolynsills.com/>)

Dance lessons are doing great. We had a big crowd for our dance instructor Jim . Come on out at 12:30 to take part. You "pros" are always appreciated for helping out.

See Ya Soon, *Ronnie*

NEW FLYER FOR WSS

President Rex Barnes and the board came up with a brand new flyer. Let us know if you need some to post somewhere that will attract folks who might be interested in the monthly dances.



FRIENDS



UPCOMING BANDS

- April** Geoff Miller & the Sactown Playboys
- May** Doug Weiss & Lincoln Highway
- June** Bob Woods Swampbilly
- July** Carolyn Sills Combo
- August** Slade Rivers Band
- September** Janice Allen & Friends
- October** Hall of Fame Oct. 4, 5 & 6
- November** Jessica Rose Band
- December** Eddie Burr & the Western Swingers

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.

MEMBERSHIP

Any Changes? Keep us up to date on any changes in your membership information, especially email addresses. We can't get your newsletter to you unless we have your current information.

You can mail changes in your information to the Society at P.O. Box 2474, Carmichael, CA; phone it to (916) 689-9546; or email it to membership@westernswingsociety.net. Thanks!

Keep on Western Swingin'

**WINNERS OF OUR 50/50 DRAWING!
CASH, BABY!**



FOOD AVAILABLE

Thank you to the American Legion Post #9 for providing us with delicious hot food at our monthly dances!





*We buy, sell, & trade new & used gear!
-- Free appraisals --
Serving the Western Swing Society for
over 45 years!*

Elk Grove (916) 686 - 5666 www.skipsmusic.com	2740 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95821 (916) 484 - 7575
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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).

Dues renew every July.

If you join during any other month, your membership fee will be prorated to align with the July renewal.

You will receive a color version of our newsletter via email. 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, April 3, 2019

GEOFF MILLER & THE SACTOWN PLAYBOYS
FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT AND DANCING PLEASURE



Steve French continued from page 4

In the fall of 1970, Steve moved to San Jose and transferred to San Jose State. Supposedly there to study journalism, Steve spent much more of his time jamming with his dorm-mates and college buddies. He coasted through another couple years of college, but by 1972, Steve had decided he wanted to try and make a living playing music.

At first he only gigged occasionally with local bands, while working a series of dead-end day jobs. He kept practicing regularly and was determined to find full-time work playing. In 1975, he purchased a pedal steel guitar. Zing! "There were a lot of great guitar players around, even then, and the competition on guitar was stiff," says Steve. "Steel guitar was such a fundamental part of the swing and country music I loved. And it had that mysterious quality – nobody knew exactly what you were doing, which is not a bad thing, especially when you're learning a new instrument." He was cleaning pools at the time, and he would rush through his route, then go home and practice steel for a couple hours, then take his truck back to the pool yard. "If you got back too soon, they gave you more pools," he says.

He took steel lessons for a year. "In those days, it was harder to learn. There was no You-Tube, Google or online learning videos." Within 18 months, he got his first full-time gig playing, steel guitar at Marriott's Great America, seven 30-minute shows a day, six days a week, Memorial Day to Labor Day, and weekends in the spring and fall. He did two seasons at Great America, which included opening shows for the Bellamy Brothers and Merle Haggard.

He was playing full-time at night by this time. He spent a year at the Saddle Rack with a band called The Sequoia Brothers, working 5 nights a week and opening shows for Rick Nelson, Loretta Lynn, and Johnny Paycheck. "It was the summer of the 'Urban Cowboy' movie. Country music with fiddle and steel was hot again," he says. "There wasn't a lot of western swing that was popular at the time, but we always did a few, anyway. The older folks would love it, and now and then Merle, or Willie, or George Strait would get some radio play with swing tunes"

Continued next col.

Steve French continued from prev. col.

In 1980 he hooked up with some new players, and within a few months entered the Seagram's Battle of the Bands. . That band, Cheyenne, would win the weekly and regional battles, and get a free trip to Nashville to compete in the national finals. "In Nashville, there were seven bands a night for seven nights – it was a Seagram's Seven promotion, after all," says Steve. There were seven finalists, and the final battle would be broadcast live back in San Jose on KEEN radio, the best-known country radio station at the time. "We made the finals, and of course everyone back in San Jose was rooting for us. We took third in the nation, and it was one of the most thrilling moments of my life."

Cheyenne was now well-known to country music fans in San Jose, and would spend the next 5 years at Sam's Club and Cowtown, playing all the country hits of the day, and squeezing in western swing music whenever they could.

When Cheyenne finally broke up, Steve continued to work steadily around the Bay Area. He would spend a season with the San Jose Civic Light Opera, playing steel in a Broadway production of "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas." He played a TV pilot for Gill Cable, opening for Hag, Hoyt Axton, and Gail Davies.

It was now the 90s, and country music club work was drying up. He went back to college and finished his degree in journalism, all while still working at least 4 nights a week. "Playing music at night is a great way to put yourself through college," he says. He ultimately got a day job but never quit playing nights, often times working with little sleep. He did a third tour at the Saddle Rack, this time with Diana Cox and the Boys in the Band, opening for a number of traveling Nashville acts, including Martina McBride and Neal McCoy.

By 2002 Steve was working with literally a dozen bands a year. "I did my best to fill the calendar, and a lot of bandleaders would call me to work or fill-in." He continued to work playing, averaging 90 to 100 dates a year, with local bandleaders like Fred McCarty, Steve Bennett, Candie Cobb, and Aaron Avila. "I wanted to work, and I would learn and play whatever song or style the gig called for. But I

Continued on page 8

MEET THE BOARD: President Rex Barnes

I was born May 15, 1942 in Hobart, Oklahoma. The youngest of four boys, I remember my mother teaching me the 2-step, and a dance you don't hear about anymore, Put Your Little Foot. I was about six then.

Mom and Dad always danced and because they were young parents, they were asked to chaperone High School dances and I got to go. Also, my brother's girlfriends got a kick out of dancing with "Little Brother", that's what they all called me.

When I was about 12 the town I lived in had some dance classes that I took. I picked it up real fast and I wasn't shy about dancing, so my love of dancing has been with me throughout my life.

In the winter of 1956, Mom and Dad came home and said, "We're moving to California". The spring of 1957 my oldest brother got married, the next one graduated from Jr. college, the next one from high school, and me from Jr. high and we moved to Fullerton California. I moved from a town of about 6,000 to a high school of almost 6,000! Talk about a little fish in a big sea! But kids are kids and I soon fit in. I could dance, I talked funny, with an "Okie Accent", I had a job and cool car.

I graduated in 1960 and was going to Fullerton Jr. College to be a high school art teacher when I met a really nice lady. Janet and I got married and in 1962 my son, Richard was born. I went to work as a display person for a company named Akron where I was soon promoted to Display Manager. I worked for Akron for 4 years but they were not very big and could not provide much of a future. That's when I left them and went to work for JC Penney in June of 1966, the year my daughter Tawny was born. In 6 years I transferred to 6 stores, Fullerton, Whittier, Huntington Beach, Chula Vista, and Fresno. In 1980 I was promoted to the district advertising department in Fresno where I worked until they promoted me to be a District Visual Merchandise Manager.

I met my second wife, "dancing of course", in a bar in Bakersfield called The Funny Farm, quite appropriate. By this time I was tired of traveling so I took

Continued Page 13

Steve French continued from page 7

still loved the swing and country shuffles I learned from Bob, wrote a couple of my own too. Whenever a bandleader would let me sing, it would be "Choo Choo Ch-Boogie" or "My Shoes Keep Walkin' Back to You."

In 2009, Steve got a call to play a few steel gigs with Buck Ford and the Pure Country Band. "I loved playing with that band. Buck played nothing but country music and a lot of western swing." However, Buck's band was working a lot in the Sacramento area, and Steve was still working days in San Jose. "I really wanted to stay in the band, but there was no way I could manage the travel," he says.

As luck would have it, in the summer of 2014 he got a call to play guitar with Buck. He filled in a few times that summer and fall, and by early 2015 he was the regular guitar player in the Pure Country Band. Buck's shows always feature western swing music, with songs like "Big Balls in Cowtown," "Home in San Antone," and "Take Me Back to Tulsa." Steve was so close to retirement from his day job that he could now manage the travel. "It was tough, but I had a ton of vacation and comp time." He would spend the next three years on guitar with Buck.

In November 2017, Buck offered Steve the steel guitar chair in the band. He jumped at the chance. "The steel guitar is so closely associated with western swing music," he says. "Because we play western swing in every one of our shows, we've become ambassadors for this music. It is a thrill for me to carry on a tradition I first learned from Bob Alley, my musical mentor. He's still around and still an inspiration to me."

In 2018 and beyond, Steve hopes to continue in that role. "As long as I'm still able to play at a high level and manage the other physical aspects of playing with the band, I will. We really are ambassadors for western swing music."



Olen Dillingham On The Road

Well, it's always fun to see where our Hall of Famer, Olen Dillingham is traveling to this month. He



was asked to play with Hall of Famer Kevin Healy and the



Barn Door Slammers in Coos Bay Oregon at their famous Clambake Music Festival. The Festival was March 8, 9 & 10. They performed five high powered shows in three days.

We're proud of you, Olen and Kevin! Thanks for keeping this music alive!



ACADEMY OF WESTERN ARTISTS HONORS BARBARA MARTIN



Barbara Martin accepting her AWA Lifetime Achievement Award with Albert Talley and Brady Bowen.

"I was very happy on stage. Albert, Debbie Talley and Brady Bowen brought me up. I was so excited but got a little verklempt feeling all the love that was in the room. Lost composure for a second, then got it together. Love was all around and I

Photo by Diana Wood

was in Heaven! Thank you to everyone for my special night receiving AWA Lifetime Achievement Award!! It's beautiful on my entry table!! Xo"

Western Swing Society is so proud of you and we hope to see you soon!

FREE DANCE LESSONS BEFORE EACH DANCE!

12:30 to 1:00 pm prior to our first band starting

Learn the 2-STEP and other couples dances!!! You do not have to have a partner to learn! Just get to the hall by 12:15 so you're ready to start on time.



DANCE LESSONS A BIG HIT!

Don't Miss out on our FREE lessons! 12:30 to 1:00



DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!



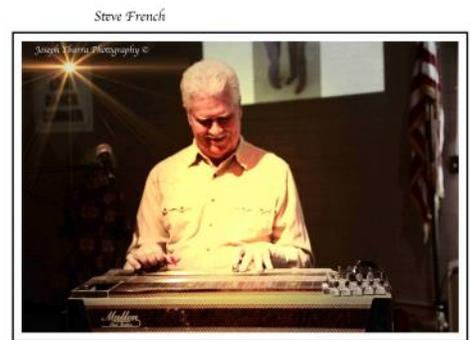
SO. MUCH. FUN.



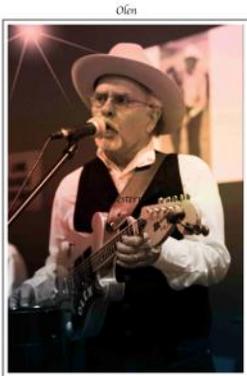
GUEST BAND—SHELLEY ELKAN & BITE THE BULLET



Steve French, Olen Dillingham, Ronnie Elkan, Shelley Elkan, Arron Smith, Rob Shotwell, Conrad Nelson, Gary Blodgett



Western Swing Society 3/3/2019



Western Swing Society 3/3/2019



Group Photo by Don deMars, Close-ups by Joseph Ybarra



Western Swing Society 3/3/2019

HOUSE BAND—DRY CREEK



Lenny Serdahl Jr, John Bush, Ronnie Elkan, Jimmy Baughman, Bill Cornett, Janice Allen-Terry, Billy Smith, Ralph Chase



Album Reviews

by Mike Gross



Album: Shadows of What Used to Be

Artist: Emily George

This is a wonderful new CD with hit potential by a talented young lady. On this album Emily is backed by

many talented musicians who are heard throughout this CD of 10 very enjoyable cuts.

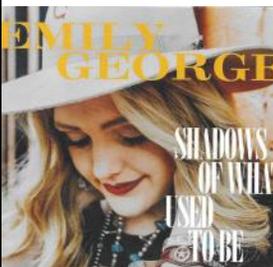
The steel guitarist is Tommy White and the rhythm and lead guitarists are Andy Reiss and Joe Settlemires. Harold Bradley also

plays rhythm guitar. Jeff Taylor plays piano, Kenny Sears plays fiddle and Dennis Crouch plays up-right bass.

This album opens with *Texas in the Swing*, a swinging sound from the pen and book of Jimmy Burson. Jimmy also wrote *Shadows of What Used to Be* and *I'm Back Texas*, a tune with huge top 10 potential. From the pop music world Emily borrows the Harold Arlen/Yip Harburg standard *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, *Are You Lonesome Tonight* from Elvis and a duet with Jimmy Burson on *You've Got a Friend in Me*. Felice and Boudleaux Bryant wrote *Raining in My Heart*, Luke Reed penned *Bluebonnet Blues* and from the Bob Wills book Emily brings back Cindy Walker's *You're from Texas* and the standard *Old Fashioned Love*.

The CD can be ordered on line at www.leeleemusic.com or at iTunes, CD Baby, Amazon, etc.

Mike Gross, KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX & KTNK-AM, Lompoc, CA



PICTURES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE TO DOWNLOAD AND PRINT

Pictures are now available on our website:

<http://westernswingsociety.net/>. OR on [Google Photos](#)

Tips:

- From PDF newsletter, click on Monthly Dance link below to enter that month's photo album.

[3-3-2019 Monthly Dance](#)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/hKch1MG3dy8PgCLS9>

- Use the three dots at top right to download entire album or a selected photo
- To see all albums, click top left on [Google Photos](#)
- Once back at the home page, click on Albums in the left column
- To find all photos with a particular person, click in the upper left corner on People then scroll down to see all photos of that person. Then you can download and print what you like.



People

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

2019 Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony!

DANCE AND JAM

LAWTON - FORT SILL July 11th, 12th and 13th

Sponsored by The Lawton Fort Sill Convention and Visitors Bureau

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawings

\$5.00 MEMBER—\$10.00 NON-MEMBER

The Great Plains Coliseum (Comanche County Fairgrounds)

920 S.W. Sheridan Rd.

Lawton, Oklahoma 73505

*** Mention Western Swing Music Society for Special Rates ***

Early Reservations are Highly Recommended

- 1.) Best Western - 1125 E Gore Boulevard - 580-353-0200
\$69.00 + tax - one or two queen beds - **Hot breakfast included**
** Reservations made after 6/10/2019 subject to availability **
- 2.) Plenty of onsite RV sites available - no need for reservations!
(30 & 50 amp, water hookups, dump station - \$20.00 per day)

Thursday, July 11th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands (no cover)

Friday, July 12th, 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

Saturday, July 13th 10:45 am to 11:00 pm: Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

For Information Contact: Orville Lindsey @ 972-658-0204 or John Jones @ 713-208-4793



Mike Gross Top 10

"Swingin' West"- Mike Gross
KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX
March 1, 2019

Songs

- 1 Swing Time Baby- Steel Horse Swing
- 2 In the Middle of the Song- Western Swing Authority & Carolyn Martin
- 3 King of the Blues- Western Caravan
- 4 Wild Texas Rose- Jimmy Burson
- 5 I'm Back Texas- Emily George
- 6 Texas When it Swings- Terry Brown
- 7 Lone Lonesome Moon- Clint Bradley (Bluelight)
- 8 One Fiddle, Two Fiddles- Bret Raper
- 9 Swing Me Back to Texas- 3 Trails West
- 10 Rainbow Song- Jimmy Burson

Albums

- 1 Swing Time Baby- Steel Horse Swing
- 2 Honky Tonk- Western Caravan
- 3 Time Changes Everything- Leon Rausch
- 4 Lone Star Dust- Jimmy Burson
- 5 Big Deal- The Western Swing Authority
- 6 Swing Set- Lee Lee Robert (Musikode)
- 7 Sactown Playboys- Sactown Playboys
- 8 Somewhere Near Austin- Bret Raper
- 9 Timeless Treasures for a Living Legend - Tommy Thomsen
- 10 Shadows of What Used to Be- Emily George

Congratulations to our own Geoffrey Miller and the Sactown Playboys, and Tommy Thomsen for making Mike's Top Ten Albums list!



Western Swing Society

Board Meeting Minutes 3/3/2019

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am by Rex Barnes, President.

Board Members Present: Rex Barnes, Jim Boehnke, Tony Arana, Ronnie Elkan, Edd Burhans, Dave Rietz, Jeff Tilton, John James and Linda McCarley.

Visitors present: Jon, Bill Seabridge, Don deMars, Janet Jiminez, Chuck Webb.

Minutes of February 3, 2019 meeting were approved as read.

President's report: Completed flyers were presented and it was suggested that ADA Compliant be added at the next printing. The flyers will be distributed to Senior Mobile home Parks, Senior Apartments, Assisted Living facilities, and Senior Centers.

Treasurer's report – Approved as reported.

Newsletter report- Things are going well. The band for July has been changed to the Carolyn Sills Combo, winners of the 2018 Ameripolitan Western Swing Group of the Year.

New business—Dave Rietz researched the charges for Pay Pal: 2.9% +30 cents/sale. Also was discussed using square for charges at the dance for those wishing to use credit cards, charges are similar.

Also discussed was sale of jackets, T-shirts, hats, etc through the web site, no consensus was reached.

Procedure developed for admissions desk presented and given to John James.

Discussion held regarding an increasing price of admission, tabled from the last meeting. Moved by Dave Reitz and seconded by John James to raise member admission to \$7 and non—member to \$10. Passed unanimously. A flyer will be developed to communicate this to participants that will also list advantages of being a member.

Discussed that we need a bar manager who will inventory the alcohol at the end of the event, buy replacement alcohol, sodas, water, and paper supplies.

Rex Barnes moved that Jim Boehnke be appointed Vice President by the board, second by Linda and

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Meet the Board: Rex Barnes continued from Page 8

a manager job in the new Bakersfield JC Penney around 1985. That didn't last too long as I got an offer to go back in to a district office in Sacramento. You don't turn down promotions in JC Penney, so in 1990 we moved to Citrus Heights and in 1998 I was promoted to a new position in the company called Regional Modernization Coordinator. I was traveling once again all over the U.S., drawing up plans for remodeling stores. I did that until 2000 when I got a "VERP", the acronym for Very Early Retirement Person (a "buy-out"), which I took and retired. I was retired for a year until I got tired of being home so I went back to work in the Catalog Outlet Store at Florin Mall doing their advertising and sales promotion until 2005 when they closed the store. At that time I went back to school and took up landscape design and started a business.

In 2013 I was divorced again and moved to Auburn. I still dance a lot with my girlfriend Jacqueline at Eagles, Elks, and the Western Swing Society. We enjoy sailing at Folsom and cruising in my classic car, just enjoying life and our friends.

Another one of my passions is remodeling, decorating and just making things. I bought a real "fixer-upper" mobile home in Auburn and have done extensive work. I installed new carpet, hard wood floors and I painted. It's decorated in what is called "Cowboy Highstyle" with barn wood cornice boards, rusty corrugated tin on some walls and cowhide rugs on the floors. I've made antler lamps and lamp bases from western boots. Even my toilet paper is hung on horse shoes.

A lady in the park was so taken with my home she wrote an article about my talents. She took pictures, wrote an article and sent them to Sunset Magazine. We never heard anything from them, but it was fun. Even the landscape was redone with cactus and succulents. I have a sign hanging over the front porch that says "ROCKIN R RANCH".

Also by now I have 6 grand kids and one great grandson and will have another by the time this is printed.

As far as my goals as the President of the Western Swing Society, it's just to keep it going and growing. It is important to me to keep the high standards

Continued on next column

Meet the Board continued

that we have in the bands. I want the dances just to be a nice place that you can go to on the first Sunday of the month to have a good time being with your friends, visiting and dancing. Once in awhile we put on some "Special Dinner Dances" just to keep it interesting.

All that I can add is that Rex is an outstanding President with great vision and ideas, Ronnie Elkan

Minutes continued from page 14

approved by the board. Dave Reitz moved that the vice president be responsible for managing the bar and act as MC for the dances, second by Edd Burhan and passed by the board.

Ronnie reported we need two more powered stage monitors, cost about \$160. Ronnie moved and second by Dave to purchase same, passed by the board.

Web master report: Continuing to post bios as they come in. Has arranged forwarding from the web site to the board members of the e-mail that comes to the web site.

Old business: Bill Seabridge reported on exclusion of dancers and performers from our liability insurance policy and suggested finding another insurance company that includes what we need at possibly lower cost. Dave Reitz has spoken to another insurance agent and will invite him to a meeting to answer questions. Bill advised we make sure that he knows we do not own the building and only rent for events about 15 times per year.

Public Relations: Jeff Tilton has posted Western Swing on Facebook and views have increased by 192%. Rex moved to appoint Jeff to Public Relations, approved by the board. Jim Boenke has contact with Coca Cola and has offered to explore a monthly sponsor ship by them. John James gave information to Jeff on the Blue Grass newsletter as a possible place to advertise our dance. John has also given information to radio station who announces music venues.

Discussion of dinner dance fundraiser tabled until next meeting due to lack of time.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45am
Respectfully submitted,
Linda McCarley

OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS/MUSIC HAPPENINGS

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

Buck Ford & Pure Country Band: Check Website for schedule, <http://www.buckford.com/calendar/>

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

CA Old Time Fiddlers Association, Meets 2nd Sunday. Orangevale Grange on Walnut Avenue in Orangevale, CA. [www.cbaontheweb.org/region_details.asp? Region 2](http://www.cbaontheweb.org/region_details.asp?Region%202)

Cowtown Society of Western Music, Contact: Joe Baker, Membership Director, 940-452-6300, 4361 F.M. 1195, Mineral Springs, TX 76067

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

Lincoln Highway Band, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, 2-5pm, Ramada Inn, 2600 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, \$6.00 cover. Information call (916) 580-7390.

Northwest Western Swing Music Society, Contact: Jeannie Yearian, President, 425-432-7888, or cell 206-271-2295, Lynnwood Eagles, 19223 Hwy. 99, Lynnwood, WA. **Meets 2nd Sunday** www.nwwsms.com

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest, PO Box 644, Shattuck, OK 73858. **Meets quarterly.** Go to website at: www.wsmss.com.



MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS

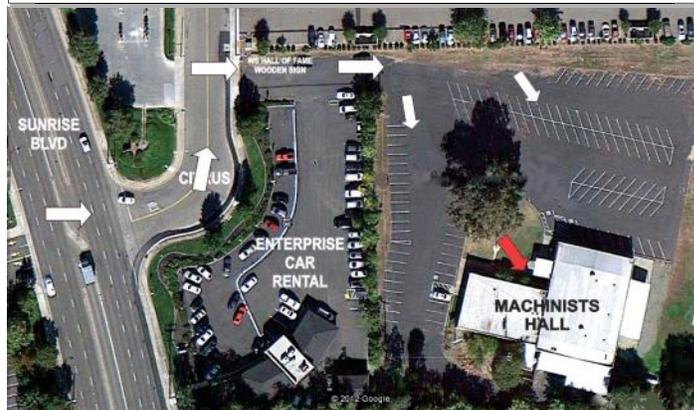
The Western Swing Society holds a music and dance session on the first Sunday of each month, featuring guest bands and artists and jam sets.

1:00 pm to 5:00 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.net

*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 sign, and you are there. Park, come in and join the fun.