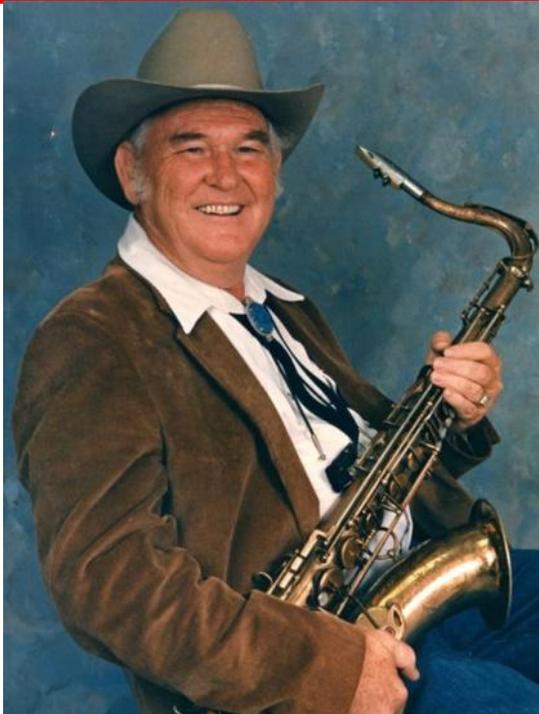




- ★ It's time to get your nominations in for Hall of Fame nominees! See pg 5.
- ★ Once again we will HEAT the hall for the dance!
- ★ Bob Woods to put on a Bob Wills Tribute Show at WSS on April 3, 2022.



GLENN RHEES

Inducted Oct. 4, 1987



EDDIE RIVERS

Inducted Oct. 3, 2021

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 3

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MONTHLY CAKES



GUEST BAND
Sunday, April 3, 2022



Bob Woods
 Bob Wills Tribute
1:00 to 3:00pm

Followed by
 The "House 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, Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345
 Treas, Linda Swanson (530) 383-1129
 Secretary, Doug Weiss

Other Directors:

Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463
 Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
 Jeff Tilton (916) 798-9377
 Mary Harris (916) 991-3100
 Mae McCoy (916) 873-2023

Staff and Committee Chairpersons:

Admissions Coord, Linda McCarley
 Bar Manager, Cyndi Lee
 Bartender, Cyndi Lee
 Community Outreach, Mae McCoy
 Decorating Chair, Rex Barnes
 Equipment and Staging, Gary Blodgett
 Historian, (open)
 Jam Room, Tony Arana
 Master of Ceremonies, Terry Crouson
 Membership Director, (open)
 Music Director, Ronnie Elkan
 Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan
 Photographer, Mary Harris
 Public Relations, Jeff Tilton
 Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
 Slide Show, Janet Jimenez
 Sound Engineer, Gary Blodgett
 Website Manager, Dave Rietz

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



Hello friends of the Western Swing Society. I heard that the last dance on March 6, 2022 was fabulous. I only heard because I was not there. I had a "cold" going and thought that it would be best not to go. I really missed out and it was not an easy decision to make.

Lincoln Highway was spectacular and kept the dance floor packed. Go see these boys if you get a chance. If not we'll just bring them back.

They are so generous to us at



WSS. Doug Weiss plays bass and sings; Terry Crouson plays lead guitar and sings; Brian McCommas plays lead guitar and sings; Mike Cox plays drums.

The "House Band" came on in the 3-5pm slot and kept the dance floor going. Jimmy Baughman plays lead guitar and sings; Ralph Chase plays piano and sings; Lenny Serdahl Sr. plays lead guitar and sings; Bill Cornett

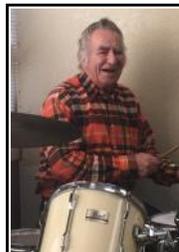


plays drums and sings; Steve

Clark plays bass guitar and sings; Gary Blodgett plays guitar and sings. Mae McCoy, Nancy Long & Janice Allen got up and sang a few songs and Arron Smith from the Buck Ford Band sang and played drums. I know I'm forget-

Continued on next column

JAM ROOM JAMMERS



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.

Come in and join in, you can listen or sign up to play and/or sing.



Editor's letter continued
 ting someone, I'm sorry. We sure can't thank our volunteers enough. Please take a look on page 4 and see what our volunteers at American Legion are planning for lunch.

See Ya at the next dance, Ronnie (Editor)

GLENN RHEES

Inducted October 3, 1987
Born July 23, 1925 Died March 28, 1996



Glenn Donald Rhees was born on July 23, 1925 in Oilton, Oklahoma. Glenn started playing the sax in the seventh grade at age 12 in Jennings, Oklahoma. He changed schools in the eighth grade and played in the Oilton High School Band. He then moved to Tulsa and played in the

Webster High School Band. While there, he performed on shows with fellow student Patti Page. Following his high school days, he gained experience in music playing with area bands while working for oil exploration companies in Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming and Louisiana. He moved back to Tulsa after three years to make the music scene.

From 1946 to 1948, he played with Art Davis and the Rhythm Riders. They played in Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. Lucky Moeller heard Glenn and offered him a job with the Western Okies. Glenn later moved to New Mexico and played night clubs. In 1950, he moved back to Oklahoma City and joined Luke Wills Band the Rhythm Busters at the Trianon Ballrom. A year later Glenn moved to Lawton, Oklahoma to join the Southernairs. While with this band he played with Lefty Frizzel, Tommy Duncan, Webb Pierce, Hank Williams and Tex Ritter, plus a host of other stars from Nashville.

Four years later he moved back to Tulsa and went to work with Johnnie Lee Wills. In 1957, Bob Wills was looking for a sax man, and Johnnie Lee said Glenn was just the man for him.

Glenn Rhees recalled the day he joined the Texas Playboys: "The way it happened was we were getting ready to do our noon broadcast on KVOO. Bob needed a horn man and Johnnie Lee said 'Well, I've got one right here in the band.' At the end of the broadcast, Johnnie Lee came up to me and said, 'Why don't you take all your stuff off my bus and put it on Bob's and go with him tonight?' I told Johnnie Lee I would try it out, but just for one night."

Glenn became a full-fledged Texas Playboy for the

Continued on page 11

EDDIE RIVERS

Inducted October 3, 2021



Adapted from article by TOM GIESE - Associate Editor, Daily Citizen, written November 23, 2004

You can't say he hasn't paid his dues.

Today, after more than three decades in the music business, a Beaver Dam, Wisconsin native has hit paydirt. And he's both pleased and humbled by his success.

Since June 2004, Eddie Rivers has played steel guitar for "Asleep at the Wheel," a Texas-based western swing band. It represents the top of the mountain for a fellow who has played in hundreds of honky-tonks in Wisconsin since he was a teenager.

"I can't hardly see a better job," said Rivers in a recent telephone conversation. "It's nice to give up my day job."

The 1972 Beaver Dam High School graduate (he says that he barely graduated) was known during his early years as an Elvis Presley impersonator. He shook his hips, curled his lip and combed his hair like the legendary performer. The act gave him a start in the business.

In 1974, he joined the first of several country and western swing bands. A few years later, he added his stage name while maintaining ties to the past through his given name, Mark Malak.

He composed the name, Eddie Rivers, on something of a whim. At the time, there were several cool guys, including Eddie Haskell of "Leave it to Beaver" fame, with Eddie as a first name. Rivers came from the last name of a character Elvis Presley played in a movie.



For the next 23 years, he played with the Fond du Lac-based group, "Ida Red," and the Milwaukee-based group, "The Western Box

Continued on page 11

Eddie Rivers Continued from page 3
Turtles."

"I beat my brains out and no one seemed to care," Rivers said of his career.

Less than a year ago, he got the break that has moved him into the limelight. Ray Benson, leader of "Asleep at the Wheel," was looking for a steel guitar player. As fate would have it, Benson heard a tape featuring Rivers' talent and asked him to audition for the band. Rivers obliged.

Benson was impressed by Rivers' skill, especially since he played the instrument in the 1950s style, without using pedals. He also plays the tenor saxophone. He was hired.



Eddie with Jason Roberts of Asleep at the Wheel!

Shortly after, the group set out on a European tour. Rivers said he enjoyed the experience, but was happy to return to the United States. Since then, the group has performed throughout the Midwest, including Milwaukee's Summerfest, and in the South.

Indeed, he has come a long way since his youth when he listened devotedly to Bob Wills and Spade Cooley records on his father Norb's phonograph.

Rivers, 50, is looking forward to a full-time career in the music business. He is making Austin, Texas his home, along with his wife.

Taken from a thread on "the Steel Guitar Forum"

T.C. Furlong, from Lake County, Illinois, USA, Posted 8 July 2014

I first saw Eddie Rivers in a band called The Western Box Turtles. This was before he got the gig with AATW. If I'm not mistaken, Eddie is from Milwaukee. He's a perfect addition to AATW. He plays really nice authentic steel and doubles on sax. Plus, he's a really nice guy to boot.

Taken from a thread on "the Steel Guitar Forum"

Mark Wayne, from Wisconsin, USA, Posted 10 July 2014

Continued on page 11

**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 link below these instructions to enter that photo album.
- 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 of a particular person, click  then click [→ See all people](#) at the bottom of the dropdown list. Scroll and click on a person. You will see all photos of that person. Then you can download and print what you like.



PHOTO LINKS

Monthly Dance Photos

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/WuGwJum8DRGnKJzy9>

FOOD AVAILABLE

American Legion Post #709 , Mather and Rancho Cordova, are all volunteer veterans that prepare meals and cook for us at all our Sunday dances. Next Sundays Dance we will have an expanded menu with some new items on the menu. Come early for lunch to support these volunteers and stay to dance.

FYI, the guy out back cooking your hamburgers and hotdogs served 27 months in Iraq in the infantry and is a clinical psychologist who serves veterans. BIG THANK YOU!

A hot meal, reasonably priced, provided by our American Legion Post #9! Thank you for your service!

All credit card transactions will have a \$.50 surcharge added.





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!

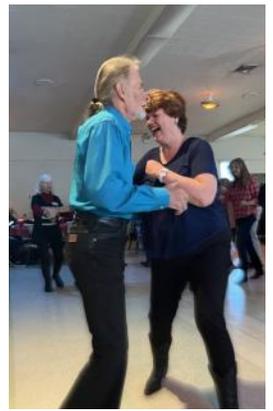
Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is a BIG HONOR, so submit a nomination and make someone's day!

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.

TIME TO SWING



Thank you to Mary Harris, and anyone else who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.

TIME TO DANCE

Make sure to see the instructions on how to access them online, page 5



Thank you to Mary Harris, and anyone else who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.

BRAND NEW AT THE WESTERN SWING SOCIETY



Order Now:
We are going to place an order for jackets in all sizes. We need a certain amount of orders to make it happen. Please let us know if you are interested!



LET'S VISIT AT THE WESTERN SWING SOCIETY



WESTERN SWING SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MARCH 3, 2022

March 6, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Barnes at 10:35am

Members present: Barnes, McCarley, McCoy, Reitz, Swanson, Tilton, Weiss

A quorum was present at the start of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes. Moved Tilton, Second Reitz, Approved 4-0 to accept the minutes as corrected.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT.

Barnes told the group that Western Swing will continue to get a “lack of heat” discount on our rent. It appears that the Union is in good health. He also reported that he will be distributing a short food survey today in an attempt to determine approximately how many of our members eat at the Hall.

TREASURER’S REPORT.

Moved Weiss, Second Reitz, Approved 4-0 to accept the February, 2022 Income/Expense report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

McCoy gave a brief description of the grant request she is writing to be presented to the City of Rancho Cordova March 18, 2022.

There appears to be a problem making changes, especially the logo, on our facebook page. McCoy and Tilton will work with the Elkans to resolve the issue.

WEBMASTER REPORT.

Reitz reported that our site is running well and this

Continued next column

Continued from previous column

month’s Newsletter is posted on it. He indicated he is in hopes that the Board can find a replacement for him.

OLD BUSINESS.

By-Laws Revision. Weiss related that the re-writing process is proceeding on schedule. He suggested that language be added in Article II, Section 1, b, 1 to read “charitable purposes” that would include scholarships. The Board by a straw vote majority approved.

Again by a straw vote, the Board approved changing the timeline in the Hall of Fame selection process, such as the President appointing the Chair of the selection committee in January and a nomination deadline of April 30.

NEW BUSINESS.

The Board discussed at length the merits of on-air ads with local radio stations KVMR and 103.5. No decision was made.

Barnes reported that we are running out of on-sale clothing. After a brief discussion Weiss Moved, Reitz Second, Approved 6-0 that Western Swing cease purchasing apparel for re-sale; keep samples of popular items for individual purchase; put existing items on-sale for 50% off.

ADJOURNMENT.

Moved Weiss, Second McCarly, Approved 6-0.

Doug Weiss, Secretary



**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS
THOSE PICTURED AND NOT**



Left: Sound Man and Musician Gary Blodgett
Right: President Rex Barnes



Thank you to Mary Harris, and anyone else who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.

JUST A GREAT TIME TO DO SOME VISITING



Raffle Winners



Thank you to Mary Harris, Mae McCoy and anyone else who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.

Glenn Rhees continued from page 3

next five years. He is on all of the Liberty recordings. Glenn picked up the nickname "Blub" because of the extra pounds he carried under his belt. In 1962, he went back to Johnnie Lee Wills band. Glenn also had two Top 40 hits with Johnnie Lee Wills, including "Blub Twist" and "Slush" in 1962.

Rhees was a member of the Musicians Union and had been inducted into the Western Swing Hall of Fame in Colorado, Washington, and California. He was also inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. Glenn Rhees' recordings are included in the archives of the Smithsonian Institute under Oklahoma Folk Music.

Glenn Rhees later became a Superintendent of the Tulsa County Park System. Glenn "Blub" Rhees just couldn't hang up his horn, and played with the Former Texas Playboys for many shows in the early 1990's.

Glenn was a resident of Collinsville, Oklahoma for 23 years prior to his death March 29, 1996. Glenn and his wife Shirley had one son and three daughters.

Eddie Rivers Continued from page 4

This is not a full history, but a glance at it. As one of Eddie's students, and Bill McRoberts can chime in here any time, I learned of how Eddie became the proficient Western Swing player he is today: As a budding player in his early 20's, Eddie, like us all, wanted to be in a band...and there was an accomplished band in the Fond du lac, WI, area. Eddie tried out and he was "good", but not quite to the level of what this band was desiring. He could play the simpler phrasings that sounded great, but didn't make the cut, thus not being invited back to the band.

Being upset at the fact of not being qualified enough to play with this band, Eddie became determined to pursue a level of steel guitar playing that would make him competent to play with established bands. Embarking on many trips to Ralph Hanzel from Milwaukee, WI, Eddie woodshedded many hours, which at times even caused the blocking knuckle of the 3rd finger of his ring finger to become raw and even infected (I always wished I could have that callous on that finger like he did, ha). When I met Eddie in 85' he was playing much of the material

Continued next column

Continued from previous column

that Buddy Emmons played (who was kind enough to teach Eddie his blocking technique). He was playing a Sho-Bud 8+2 back then, but was well versed in bar slanting at that time already.

The band Eddie was playing with, Ida Red, I believe opened for Asleep at the Wheel in the 80's, but it wasn't until 2004 that he joined them. During the 90's, Eddie focused more on the non-pedal tunings and would call Herb Remington at times for help. A big fan of Spade Cooley and Noel Boggs, his playing caught the ears of Ray Benson again, and in joining The Wheel Ray has given him much freedom to express his playing on the quadruple neck Fender. Eddie is a humble man who is just a cool guy, never hesitant to reveal his technique. He is not only 'into' the steel, but into the style to which it encompasses.

Which is why he plays with Asleep at the Wheel.

steel guitar education because he was the first "true" western swing (non-pedal) steeler i had ever seen live. AATW comes around here every year to a little spot that only holds about 75 listeners, so i often get to sit right in front of him. he was the first person i had seen 'jump necks' within a song and do the boo-wah stuff with the VP. As a beginning non-pedal steeler it was a revelation to the possibilities. it was also a good education in how a band should sound - they all worked as a team. every player supported the others.

We always got to chat after the show and he was kind to share his knowledge - what i was capable of absorbing. people were always curious about 'that thing' he was playing - a big old fender quad is very impressive.

The four neck steel Eddie is playing was a Christmas present from Ray Benson. It use to belong to Gene Crownover.

2022 UPCOMING BANDS

April 3	Bob Woods with Bob Wills Tribute
May 1	Mae McCoy and her Neon Stars
June 5	TBA
July 3	Geoff Miller Band 3-5pm
August 7	Footlights
December 4	Linda Baughman and Friends

OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS/MUSIC HAPPENINGS

Buck Ford & Pure Country Band: Check Website for schedule, <https://buckford.com/events/>

Carolyn Sills Combo: <https://www.carolynsills.com/>

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

Gary Blodgett, Every Wednesday night at the Valencia Club on the indoor stage from 7:30-10:30. <https://www.facebook.com/gary.blodgett.142>

Grace Clark and Swingitude: www.graceaclarkmusic.com. 925-443-5217

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

Hot Club of Cowtown: <https://hotclubofcowtown.com/>

Lincoln Highway Band: Every Tuesday, 1:15-3:45pm. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr, Carmichael. \$6 cover at the door. <https://www.facebook.com/lincolnhighwaybandca/>

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

Sactown Playboys @ <https://www.facebook.com/sactownpbs/>

Slade Rivers Band: <https://sladeriversband.com/events/>

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



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 Machinist Hall in Rancho Cordova.

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

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 95609; or email it to membership@westernswingsociety.net
 Thanks! Keep on Western Swingin'

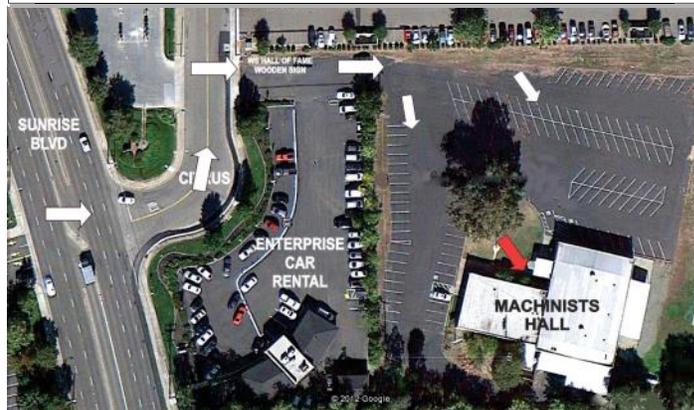
MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS

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: \$7 for Members; \$10 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.