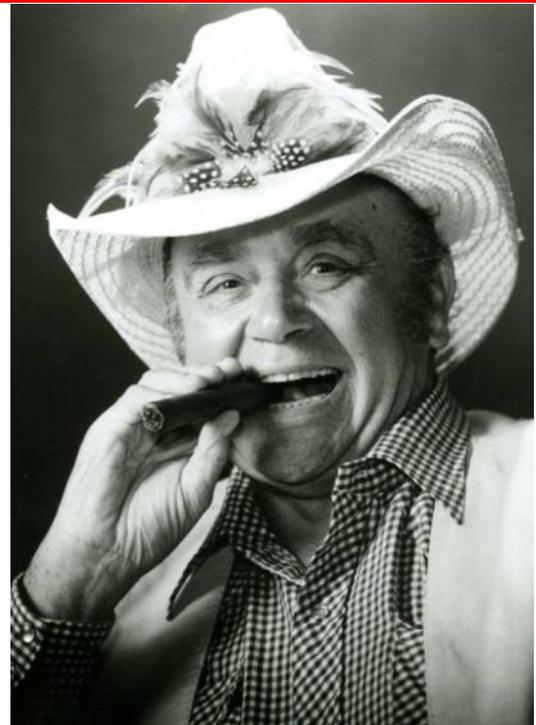


**News Flash!** **GOOD NEWS, We will have a dance Sunday May 16, 2021 at the Valencia Club in Penryn, 1-5 with Lincon Highway**



**LITTLE JIMMY DICKENS**

*Inducted Oct. 4, 1987*



**CLIFFE STONE**

*Inducted Oct. 4, 1987*

*Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 3*

WHAT'S INSIDE	
Officials & Staff..... 2	Dancers Photos .....6
Letter From The Editor ..... 2	New Merchandise .....7
Membership Application... 2	VC Photos .....8 & 9
HOF Profiles .....3	Other WSS Orgs .....10
VC Photos ..... 4	Monthly Music .....10

**Membership Dues to Resume! The WSS board had a meeting and felt that we need to start our membership drive up. A lot of folks have already paid their dues and will be receiving their cards soon, Thank You!**

**Special Dance Sunday 1-5 pm With Lincoln Highway at the Valencia Cub in Penryn CA**



**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, (open)

Treasurer, Linda Swanson

Secretary, Cheryl Dearborn

**Other Directors:**

Tony Arana (775) 971-3070

Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345

Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463

Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520

Jeff Tilton (916) 798-9377

**Staff and Committee Chairpersons:**

Admissions Coordinator, Linda McCarley

Bar Manager, (open)

Bartender, Cyndi Lee

Decorating Chair, Rex Barnes

Equipment and Staging, Gary Blodgett

Historian, (open)

Jam Room, Tony Arana

Master of Ceremonies, (open)

Membership Director, (open)

Music Director, Ronnie Elkan

Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan

Photographer, (open)

Public Relations Administrator, Jeff Tilton

Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall

Slide Show, (open)

Sound Engineer, Gary Blodgett

Website, Dave Rietz

**EDITOR'S LETTER**

Yes Folks!

We had a great time on the April 18th at the Valencia Club in Penryn, CA. I got a chance to see it from the stage with "Bite the Bullet". I won't critique a band I play with but I will thank everyone for the very gracious comments I read on Facebook. From the stage I got to see all of our folks and some new folks dancing, smiling and visiting with friends that they haven't seen since Covid-19 came down on our society. It was a heart-warming sight so we are gonna try it again. On Sunday May 16th Lincoln Highway will play another dance for us. Like last time it is a good idea to bring a chair. The Valencia staff will be ready for us this time.

The Jamroom Band under the direction of Tony Arana entertained inside. There were so many great musicians and vocalists that participated. Dave Rietz- Fiddle, Mandolin & Vocals; Tony Arana-Drums; Chuck Webb-Bass; Dave Wren-Pedal Steel; Terry Crouson-Guitar & Vocals; Brad Burnett-Piano; Dan Jones-Drums; Billy Smith-Fiddle; Rex Barnes, Nancy Long-Vocal; Danny Rupley-Guitar & Vocal. Thanks everyone and we'll do it again on May 16th.

Bite the Bullet took the outside stage. Folks brought their own chairs and we had a "dance".

We had a table set up for memberships. People were able to catch up on there membership status and we had a lot of folks sign up for new memberships. This will insure us of a great start up when we get back to it.

At this point we are hopping to be back at the Machinist Hall by our July dance. This is predicated on being able to get the proper permits from the

*Continued page 4*



Sacramento  
**WESTERN SWING SOCIETY**  
PRESENTS



At the Valencia Club  
2162 Taylor Rd. Penryn  
Sunday, April 18th. 1 to 5pm  
CLASSIC WESTERN MUSIC  
FOR YOUR LISTENING AND DANCING PLEASURE!  
Inside and Outside DANCING  
Open Western Swing Jam Room

**!FREE!FREE!FREE!**



**JAMMERS**

**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.

**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.

**“LITTLE JIMMY DICKENS**

**JAMES CECIL DICKENS**

Inducted October 4, 1987

Born December 19 – Died January 2, 2015



Born into a large West Virginia family, Dickens got his early radio experience on local radio station WJLS in Beckley, with performers such as Mel Steele, Molly O’Day, and Johnnie Bailes.

Through the 1940s Dickens hosted his own radio programs in

such spots as Fairmont, West Virginia; Indianapolis; Cincinnati; Topeka; and Saginaw, Michigan. Roy Acuff heard him for the first time in Cincinnati, in 1947 and brought him to the attention of both Grand Ole Opry officials and Art Satherley at Columbia Records. After guest appearances on the Opry, Dickens signed with Columbia on September 16, 1948, and joined the Opry shortly thereafter. He achieved success quickly, in the studio and on the Opry stage.

At the Opry, Hank Williams gave Dickens the nickname Tater, from the Dickens hit “Take an Old Cold ’Tater (and Wait).” Shortly after joining the show, Dickens took over Paul Howard’s band, which included crack guitarists Jabbo Arrington and Grady Martin (later, Jimmy “Spider” Wilson and Howard Rhoton), and bassist Bob Moore. Named the Country Boys, Dickens’s band became known for its topflight musicianship and for its pioneering twin-lead-guitar sound. Later, Dickens hired young steel guitarist Buddy Emmons and guitarist Thumbs Carlisle.

“Jimmy wanted a specific tone from the guitars,” Rhoton recalled in 1997, for the liner notes of the Bear Family boxed set, *Country Boy*. “Jimmy was keenly aware of what was going on all the time. He liked the single-string, hot-licks type of backup, while he was singing the up-tempo stuff. He was the only artist back in those days that you could play that way with.”

Dickens and the Country Boys’ innovative, instantly identifiable sound drew plenty of radio listeners to the WSM-AM (650) signal on Saturday nights.

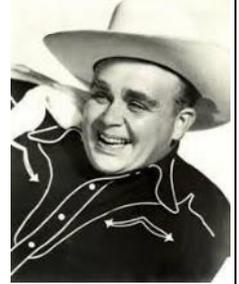
“Turn on all your radios, I know that you will

**“CLIFFE STONE”**

**CLIFFORD GILPIN SNYDER**

Inducted October 4 1987

Born March 1, 1917-Died January 16, 1998



Born in Stockton, California, Stone's father was country musician Herman the Hermit. The family moved to Burbank, and early in his life, he played bass in the big bands of Freddie Slack and Anson Weeks in Southern California, as well as working at local radio stations KXLA, KFI, KFVD, KFVB and KFOX-AM 1280 in Long Beach. Starting in 1935, Stone appeared on the Los Angeles-based radio shows *Covered Wagon Jubilee*, *Hollywood Barn Dance*, *Dinner Bell Roundup*, and *Lucky Stars*, singing as well as performing comedy routines and acting as host and DJ in the mid-1940s. In 1939, he married his first wife, Dorothy, and they had four children.

Stone began working at Capitol Records in 1946, and became an A&R man there; among the talents he discovered were Tennessee Ernie Ford (for whom he acted as manager from 1947 to 1957), Molly Bee, Hank Thompson and Stan Freberg. He also worked regularly with Merle Travis after his relocation from Nashville to Hollywood. Stone was instrumental in helping various young musicians get their start in television, such as guitarist Zane Ashton (aka Bill Aken) who would also write songs for Stone's Central Songs publishing firm. His *Hometown Jamboree* premiered as a weekly TV broadcast in December 1949 over KLAC-TV/KCOP-TV in Los Angeles; in 1953 it moved to KTLA-TV, where it replaced a competing program hosted by Spade Cooley and itself ran until cancellation in 1959.



Stone's career at Capitol was successful, but he was ultimately better known for his successes in radio. He recorded six albums with a backing band which went under various names, including Cliffie Stone & His Orchestra, Cliffie Stone & His Barn Dance Band, Cliffie Stone & His Hometown Jamboree Gang, Cliffie Stone & His Hepcats, and Cliffie Stone's

*Continued on page 4*

Cliffe Stone continued from page 3

Country Hombres. His 1955 hit, "The Popcorn Song", peaked at No. 14 on *Billboard* magazine's singles charts in 1955.

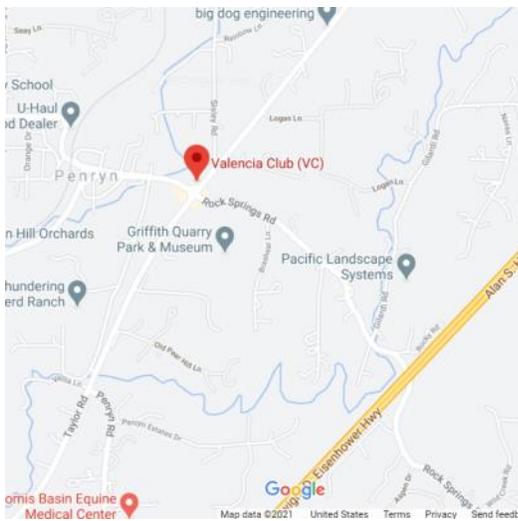
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Letter from the editor from page 2

state. The hall is open but we can't get the ok from the state.

I want to be very clear, **THERE WILL NOT BE A DANCE AT THE MACHINIST'S HALL THIS SUNDAY MAY 2, 2021.** But we plan to have a free dance at the Valencia Club in Penryn on My 16, 2021 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm

The Valencia Club is at 2162 Taylor Rd., Penryn CA 95663. It really isn't hard to find at all. It is the Penryn Exit off of Highway 80. Their web page is <http://www.valencia-club.com/>.



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

If you have an interest in volunteering, please contact President, Rex Barnes (916-704-1566)

Needs/Skills:

- Word processing
- Photo editing
- Set up and tear down assistance

**WE HAVE A BOARD POSITION OPEN!**  
We will be looking for a new secretary if you have the time and the experience.

**DANCE AT THE VALENCIA CLUB 4/18/21**



**MAY DANCE AT MACHINIST HALL CANCELED**  
BUT JOIN US AT THE VALENCIA CLUB, MAY 16th, 1 TO 5 PM INSTEAD



*Little Jimmy Dickens continued from page 3*

wait,” beseeched bluegrass king Jimmy Martin in “Grand Ole Opry Song,” a 1956 record that Martin re-recorded as the first track of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band’s classic 1972 album, *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*. “Hear Little Jimmy Dickens sing ‘Take an Old, Cold ‘Tater and Wait.’”

“Grand Ole Opry Song” also name-checked country greats including Bill Monroe, Minnie Pearl, and Ernest Tubb. With Dickens’s passing, Martin and all of the twenty-two Opry performers mentioned in the song are gone.



Dickens not only influenced country music’s sound, he also had an impact on its fashion sense. In 1949, he became the first person on the Opry to wear a suit designed by Los Angeles-

based tailor, Nudie Cohn. In the early 1950s, Cohn adorned some Dickens suits with rhinestones, and Dickens became the first Opry star to glitter.

In the late 1950s, Dickens recorded some rockabilly numbers, including “Salty Boogie,” “Blackeyed Joe’s,” and “(I Got) a Hole in My Pocket” (later a hit for Ricky Van Shelton). Other well-known Dickens novelty numbers include “Hillbilly Fever,” “Bessie the Heifer,” “Hot Diggity Dog,” and “Cold Feet.” He also performed romantic ballads, such as “I’ve Just Got to See You Once More” and “My Heart’s Bouquet,” but his novelty hits overshadowed them.

Following his #9 hit with Boudleaux and Felice Bryant’s “Out Behind the Barn” in 1954, Dickens did not place another song on the country chart until “The Violet and a Rose,” in 1962. He left the Opry to tour with the Philip Morris Country Music Show in 1957, but returned in 1975. His biggest hit came in 1965 with a new novelty song, “May the Bird of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose,” which peaked at #1 and went on to #15 on the pop listings. Thereafter, Dickens placed singles for Columbia regularly on the charts, until 1972. He moved to Decca Records in 1967 and to United Artists in 1971. Of his later songs, “Country Music Lover” in 1967 had the highest chart ranking, but along with his novelty classics, the sentimental recitation “Raggedy Ann

*Continued on next column*

*Little Jimmy Dickens continued from previous column*

(You’ve Been Quite a Doll)” retained the longest popularity with his fans.

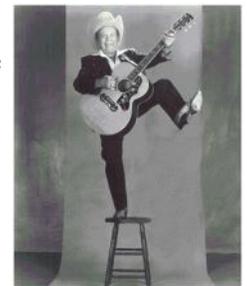
In the new century, Dickens was among the Opry’s best known and best loved performers, and he served as an ambassador for the show, hosting segments, holding court in his dressing room, and sometimes inducting new members into the Opry family. (To induct the six-foot, six-inch Trace Adkins face-to-face in 2003, Dickens climbed a step-



ladder.) He became a friend of contemporary country star Brad Paisley, often appearing in Paisley’s videos and in comedic cameos during the Paisley-hosted CMA

Awards and recording comedy tracks on Paisley’s albums as a member of the “Kung Pao Buckaroos,” with George Jones, Bill Anderson, and others.

Grand Ole Opry announcer and WSM on-air personality Eddie Stubbs wrote extensive liner notes to the *Country Boy* boxed set, surveying the little man’s outsized contributions. “Jimmy Dickens is, without a doubt,” Stubbs wrote, “one of the greatest entertainers, showmen, masters of ceremonies, goodwill ambassadors, troupers, singers of novelty tunes, and interpreters of country ballads that the country music industry has ever known.”



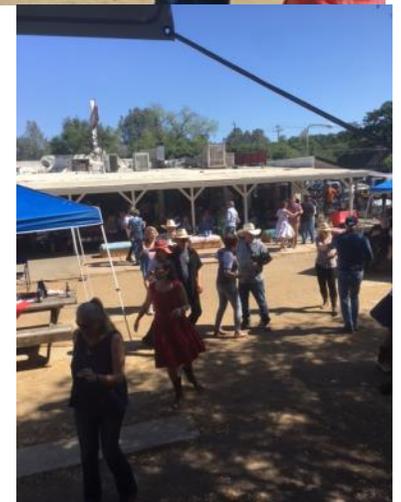
– Ivan M. Tribe and Peter Cooper

– Adapted from the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum’s *Encyclopedia of Country Music*, published by Oxford University Press.

**MUSIC ALERT:** You can see our soundman perform every Wednesday Night at the Valencia Club on the indoor stage from 7:30-10:30. You just never know who he’ll have with him on stage.



BACK TO DANCING



**BRAND NEW AT THE WESTERN SWING SOCIETY by Edd Burhans**



Jacket Front with Fitted Ball Cap



Jacket Back



**T- Shirts**  
 Small - Extra Large      \$15.00  
 2 XL                              \$17.00

**Polo Shirts (Men's & Women's)**  
 Small - Extra Large      \$20.00  
 2 XL                              \$22.00

**Onesies**                              \$12.00

**Caps**                                      \$20.00

**Jackets**  
 Small - Extra Large      \$78.00  
 2 XL                              \$82.00  
 3 XL                              \$85.00  
 4 XL                              \$90.00

**All Prices Include Sales Tax**



Merchandise is available at our monthly dances and at our annual Hall of Fame.

Jackets and Polo shirts can be customized with name for additional cost.

**Brand New: Womens and Girls V-top Tee. The red in the logo is glitter.**

**It will sell for \$18 Small thru Extra Large. \$20 for a XXL**



JUST A GREAT TIME TO DO SOME VISITING



JUST A GREAT TIME TO DO SOME VISITING & DANCING



BIG THANKS TO THE STAFF !  
HUGE CROWD FOR A SUNDAY

BIG THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Thank you to Mary Harris, Marilyn Boehnke, Keith Kendall, Lynn Blodgett and anyone else who helped me get some pictures off of Facebook



**OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS/MUSIC HAPPENINGS**

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

**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)

**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

**Grace Clark & Swingitude:** <http://www.GraceAClarkMusic.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.

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

**Lincoln Highway Band** <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](http://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](http://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 Machinists 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](http://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](mailto:membership@westernswingsociety.net)  
 Thanks! Keep on Western Swingin'

**MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS**

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

1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
 2740 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, CA\*

**ON HOLD DUE TO COVID-19 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

Members; \$8 for Non-Members  
 For more information, browse to [www.westernswingsociety.net](http://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.