

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HALL OF FAME MEMBERS



**KEVIN PORTER**



**JIM VANCE**

*(Go to Page 3)*



## Letter from The Editor

What a fabulous Hall of Fame 2023 turned out to be! We had music from 5:00pm on Friday till 7:00pm on Sunday. Even with our wonderful Hall of Fame awards ceremony there was great music and dancing

all afternoon.

Most of you know I've been spending a lot of time in the Houston area for medical reasons, so my participation in the Hall of Fame was limited. As it turned out Shelley and I were able to attend the festivities. It takes a lot of work and dedication to put a show like that on and the Board of Directors and all the volunteers stepped up to the task. I was amazed and I appreciate all the compliments I received on behalf of everyone that did all the work.

We try our best to keep the "tradition" of western swing music alive. And yes it is written in our by-

*Continued on page 2*

**SUNDAY, November 5th 2023**



**Janice Allen & All The Queens Men**

**1:00pm-3:00pm**

**Followed by the House band "The Hall of Famers"**

**3:00pm-5:00pm**

## NEW!!! FREE DANCE LESSONS

**With Admission @ 12:00 pm**

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**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, Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345

Vice Pres, Meghan McCoy

Treasurer, Linda Swanson

Secretary, Sandra Robinson

**Other Directors:**

Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463

Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520

Jimmy Boehnke

Arron Smith

Ralph Chase

**Staff and Committee Chairpersons:**

Admissions Coord, Linda McCarley

Bar Manager, Cyndi Lee

Bartender, Cyndi Lee

Decorating Chair, Open

Equipment and Staging, Arron Smith

Historian, (open)

Jam Room, Tony Arana

Master of Ceremonies, Terry Crouson

Membership Director, Linda McCarley

Music Director, Ronnie Elkan

Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan

Photographer, Mary Harris

Public Relations Administrator Mae

McCoy

Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall

Slide Show, Janet Jimenez

Sound Engineer, Open

Website Manager, Dave Rietz

*Editor's Letter continued from page 1*

laws that that is what we are here to do. Preserve, promote and perpetuate western swing music. Sometime finding bands that do our kind of music exclusively is a tough task so we do the best we can to provide "danceable" music while preserving our great tradition. We do appreciate our musicians and bands that come in and volunteer their time and talent to us. They love a thumbs up as you dance by the bandstand.

The Board of Directors has gone to work already on next years Hall of Fame. Now is the time to give us your suggestion if you have one. Just flag down any board member and let them know.

As most of you know our sister organization in the pacific northwest (Northwest Western Swing Music Society) has disbanded. When all the dust settled they donated \$3000.00 to us and \$3000 to the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest for our scholarship program. What an incredible gift to our kids that want to learn western swing. Thank you Jeanne and Fred and your entire society.

Please check out our flyer that let's you know we are going to be giving free dance lessons with admission. We have professional dance instructors ready to go. That is going to start on Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup> before the band starts. The lessons will start at 12:00pm. Hopefully the bands will tune up quiet enough for the dancers and the dancers will be patient with the musicians. Come on out and participate even if you're a great dancer, gonna be fun.



**Free Dance Lessons with admission on Sunday November 4th 2023!**

**JAM ROOM JAMMERS**



We are sad to announce that Tony Arana, our long time host/drummer in the Jam Room is gonna step down. He has assured me that he will still be around

but he has decided to let someone else take the responsibility of running the Jam Session. He will be missed.

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 [ronnie.elkan@gmail.com](mailto: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. Are "Hall of Fame" hosts, Brad Barnett and Dave Rietz will be there to welcome you!



**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.

**KEVIN PORTER**

Inducted October 2, 2022\



Trombonist Kevin Porter began working music gigs at the age of 14, and he's been a full-time professional musician since graduating from high school.

Arriving in the Bay Area in 1980, Kevin quickly became an in-demand low

brass specialist, doing numerous recordings, films, television, and theater work, as well as conventions, shows, nightclubs, and casuals in a wide variety of styles and formats. Kevin has worked extensively since 1996 in the Los Angeles area as well.

Kevin joined Don Burnham's Western Swing outfit circa 1994 (following trombonist Bob Mielke), rounding out the LOST WEEKEND Western Swing Band's "Longhorns". Kevin appeared on both the LOST WEEKEND albums, and he also recorded on Don's original Western swing CD "I DREAMED COUNT BASIE WAS A COWBOY (2011), and most recently on the new Don Burnham Western swing CD, CALIFORNIA SKIES.

In addition to his contribution to Western Swing with the LOST WEEKEND BAND, Kevin has worked extensively in the Bay Area, contracting for and performing in the theaters in San Francisco, including such shows as Legally Blonde, The Producers, Wicked, La Boheme and Lion King and for the last few years, the hit production Hamilton.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO GRACE CLARK**



"Grace Clark, Dancin' with Swingitude," my CD, has been nominated by the International Western Music

Association (IWMA) for the 2023 "*IWMA Cowboy Swing Album of the Year.*"

The CD is a Top Five Finalist (see the attachment below). The award will be presented at the IWMA convention in Albuquerque, NM on November 11, 2023.

The CD has also spent more than a year on the *IWMA Top Ten Western Swing Album* chart, rising as high as **Number 6.**

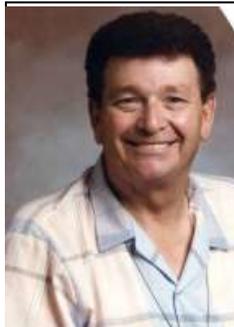
Western Swing Radio DJs (both national and international) play CDs and rank them by the amount of air time they receive.

The CD is available through Grace's website: [graceAclarkmusic.com](http://graceAclarkmusic.com) or by contacting Grace at 925-518-9532, [clarkga017@gmail.com](mailto:clarkga017@gmail.com)

**JIM VANCE**

Born September 3, 1942 Died January 27, 2014

Inducted October 6, 1991



Jim was born in Knox City, Texas, September 3, 1942. His musical career began when he started playing trombone and guitar in the 4th grade. When he began performing professionally, the first few years were spent fronting a standard pop band and playing 30s, 40s, and 50s standard tunes and Dixieland jazz. In

1968, he began learning to play bass and changed back to his musical roots; country and country swing. Jim played in the *San Juan Club* in Rancho Cordova in 1971 and also played *Nashville West* with their original country band. After that time, he was a band leader in the Sacramento area for several years and played all the major clubs - and some that were not so major.

Jim continued to play the casual circuit every weekend with his band, *Country Commotion*, for the next 25 years. Many Hall of Fame members, too numerous to mention, played with his band at one time or another. He was president of the original County Music Club and had a column called *Vance's Ventures* in *Bucky Burl's Country Music News* for 3 years, writing about all the local clubs and musicians.

In later years, Jim became very active in the Eagles Lodge, served as President and performed regularly with his band at their functions.

Jim was inducted into the Western Swing Society in 1991. He passed away, January 27, 2014.



VISIT THE NEW LOCATION FOR THEIR NEW STORE @ 4614 Madison Ave. Sacramento CA 95841



WE LOVE THE CEREMONY @ HOF



Every year the Auburn Area Honor Guard comes to our Hall of Fame to "Present The Colors". It is a moment for everyone to show appreciation for what we have in this wonderful country. These men have been there and protected this flag! Thank You !!!!!!!

# Western Swing Society Café Menu

Serving All 3 Days of HOF

Hamburger with chips or potato salad \$8.00

Cheeseburger with chips or potato salad \$8.50

Pulled Pork with coleslaw \$9.00

Cobb Salad \$10.00

Hot Dog with chips or potato salad \$4.00

Chili Dog with chips or potato salad \$5.00

BLT on Sourdough with chips or potato salad \$7.00

Chips \$ .50

Thank you for supporting



## FOOD AVAILABLE

American Legion, Mather and Rancho Cordova, are all volunteer veterans that prepare meals and cook for us at all our Sunday dances. Come early for lunch to support these volunteers and stay to dance.

A hot meal, reasonably priced, provided by our American Legion

Thank you for your service!

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



## 2023 UPCOMING BANDS

November 5	Janice Allen & All the QueensMen
December 3	Mae McCoy & her Neon Stars
January 7 2024	Bite the Bullet
February 4	Classic Country Boys

## MAE MCCOY OUR RISING STAR and Western Swing Society Vice President



*Mae has a new album coming out with Justin Trevino that is just spectacular Ronnie Elkan.*

Raised on country music albums leftover from wartime in the Philippines, Mae McCoy had a taste of traditional music since she was a young girl. Born and raised in Silicon Valley, Mae's ear-

liest memories were of her mom playing old-timey records and her grandfather singing acapella with other Filipino immigrants at social gatherings.

Mae caught the music bug playing piano at 5 years old; bass guitar at 14; followed by guitar and drums. Soon thereafter she began leading bands as a guitarist, singer, and songwriter for a quartet. When she wasn't performing, she used her free time to photograph local bands up and down the SF Bay Area (a skill she would continue to utilize well into adulthood), and volunteering at KSCU 103.3 Santa Clara University radio.

At age 19, Mae began studio recording as a bass and upright bass player, for multiple genres including punk rock and psychobilly musical outfits. Playing bars before she was old enough to legally enter them.

In 2005, Mae co-founded "the Heartache Valley Girls", which was a female harmony duo who received the admiration of Charlie Louvin and Billy Mize. "The Heartache Valley Girls" played in historic Bakersfield honky tonks, such as: The Trouts, Ethel's Corral, and Buck Owen's Crystal Palace. It was during this period of time that "the Heartache Valley Girls" opened up for Capitol Records recording artists that contributed to the "Bakersfield sound", such as: Bobby Durham and Red Simpson.

In 2007, "the Heartache Valley Girls" flew to Nashville, Tennessee, to film and compete in a reality show called, "Can You Duet?" This show was from the producers of "American Idol" and aired on CMT. "Can You Duet?" was the show that brought Rory and Joey Feek to fame and featured Naomi Judd on the judges' panel.

In 2008, Mae relocated to Sacramento and began "Mae McCoy and Her Neon Stars". They played around California and Nevada, opening up for

*Continued on next column*

names such as Rosie Flores, Big Sandy, and Deke Dickerson. Continuing her passion for radio, Mae McCoy co-hosted a radio show, called the "Dinner Bell Roundup &#39;&#39;, on KDRT 95.7 FM, Davis. It was there she interviewed legends, such as: "Whispering" Bill Anderson and Leon Rausch "the Voice of the Texas Playboys."

In 2021, Mae McCoy returned back to the Western Swing Society; a place she had visited in the past during Bill Enyeart's tenure. Except this time around, Mae took a more hands-on approach to the mission of the Western Swing Society. She now sits on the Board of Directors, handling social media and heading the grant unit.

In 2022, she was able to acquire grant money for the Western Swing Society by way of the Community Enhancement Grant from the City of Rancho Cordova. She also coordinates the annual toy-drives in alliance with Rancho Cordova's Police Activities League. She also contributes to the newsletter; helps with sound, and creates flyers for the organization. She also takes photographs and video clips of the Western Swing Society and shares them to their social media platforms, in order to boost their online presence.

In 2023, Mae will launch her first full-length album under her record label, "Neon Star Records". This album was recorded between 2022 and 2023 at "the Heart of Texas Recording Studio&#39;&#39; in Brady, Texas. This album was produced and engineered by Justin Trevino who has recorded Curtis Potter, Tony Booth, Floyd Tillman, Johnny Bush, Wanda Jackson, Dawn Sears, to name a few. Mae's album was a collaboration with other Texas legends, such as:

- Jim Loessberg (steel for Ray Price, Johnny Bush, Bobby Flores.)
- Emily Gimble (granddaughter of Johnny Gimble- "Asleep at the Wheel")
- Jess Meador (Jake Hooker)
- Lisa Layne Stewart
- Justin Trevino

Mae continues to front the Neon Stars with a lineup of western swing hall of fame inductees: Jim Baughman, Ralph Chase, Chuck Webb, Tom Gunterman, Ronnie Elkan, Aaron Smith, and Steve French. She continues to create online videos performing Western Swing and Honky Tonk across online platforms on a consistent basis.

But more than music, Mae enjoys being a mother and a wife. She spends most of her time with her family: Thomas, Leilani, and Edgar, which is something she loves to do most of all.

**WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON?**

**Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest**

A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

**2023 - HULBERT, OK - WINTER SHOWCASE DANCE AND JAM**

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawing  
November 2nd - November 4th, 2023

**THU:** MEMBERS FREE - \$5.00 NON-MEMBER

**FRI & SAT:** \$5.00 MEMBER—\$10.00 NON-MEMBER

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

Early Reservations are Highly Recommended

**Sequoyah State Park and Lodge**

Sequoyah Lodge Reservations (rooms & cabins)

RV sites also available:

(800) 368-1486 or (918) 772-2545

17131 Park 10

Hulbert, OK 74441

*All Dances and Jam Sessions held on-site at Lodge*

Wednesday, November 1st, 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm: Setup and Jams

Thursday, November 2nd, 10:00 am to 11:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands

Friday, November 3rd, 10:00 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

Saturday, November 4th, 10:00 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

For Information Contact: Jimmy Lee Brummett @ 918-625-2016

**PICTURES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE TO DOWNLOAD AND PRINT**

Pictures are now available on our website:

<http://westernswingsociety.net/>. OR on 

**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 
- 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 September & October**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ctifTpF3HGox15baA>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ht4Zj1seV5RKwDeh7>

**WSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES October 10, 2023**

**Meeting called to order** by President Ronnie Elkan at 6pm via Zoom.

Members Present: President Ronnie Elkan, Vice President Mae McCoy, Treasurer Linda Swanson, Secretary Sandy Robinson, Linda McCarley, Jimmy Boehnke, Aaron Smith, Ralph Chase

Approval of Minutes: Approved by email and printed in the Hall of Fame Newsletter

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Many praises and thank yous to the Hall of Fame Team – job well done. Discussion of starting 2024 Hall of Fame planning and team in place starting in February 2024. Friday night attendance: 47 –Saturday paid attendance 106 – Sunday paid attendance 92. Discussion of dropping Friday night dance to be continued . Discussion of shortening list of Inductees.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Received August and September 2023 Income and Expense Reports via email and Approved 8-0. Treasurer Linda Swanson will forward October report which will include Hall of Fame income and expense.

Northwest Western Swing Music Society donated \$3,000 to Western Swing Society which is specifically designated to go to our Scholarship Fund.

**PUBLICITY REPORT:** Discussion of what we can do to continually support the City of Rancho Cordova. Discussion of advertising in the local paper about our monthly events and how we are bringing people to Rancho Cordova at our monthly events and annual Hall of Fame.

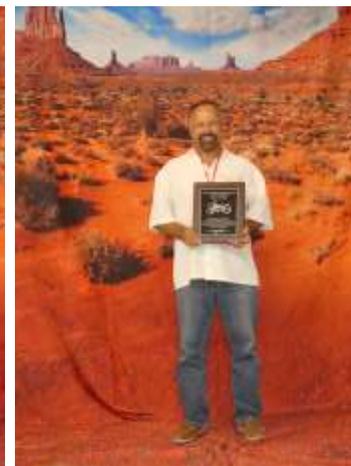
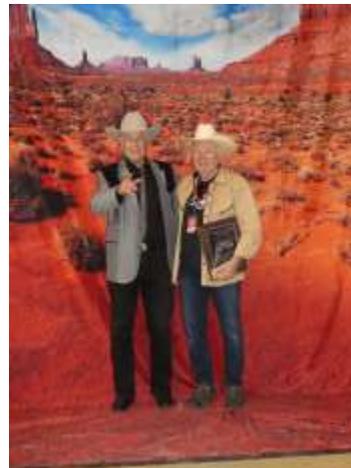
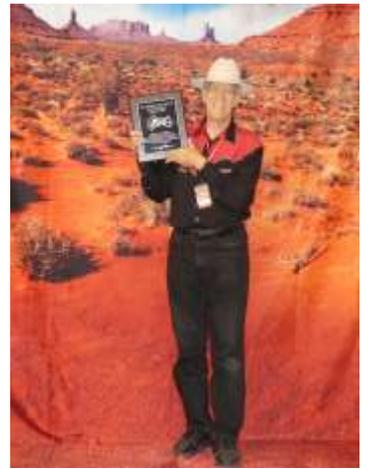
Vice President Mae McCoy announced that she has obtained an agreement with Dance Instructors Dave and Alyssa to provide dance lessons to our attendees for our November and December dances. Dance lessons will be offered free to our attendees starting at noon – one hour prior to our 1pm band and dance starting time. Mae McCoy is also communicating with the dance instructors at the Valencia Club in Loomis. There is unanimous agreement by the Board of Directors that we should invite and encourage a younger group of Western Swing Music fans to join our group.

**WEBSITE REPORT:** Mae McCoy suggested a website program that can be easily created and kept up to date by our Board of Directors. The cost is approximately \$200 per year. Moved Arron Smith , Second Linda McCarley – Approved 8-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ralph Chase suggested we pursue avenues to have our Western Swing Society merchandise (T-shirts, jackets, hats) available to be purchased online. Mae McCoy has experience with this and will report back.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved Chase, Second McCarley Approved 8-0  
Sandy Robinson, Secretary

2023 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



### HUBERT "BROWNIE" BROWN RIP OLD FRIEND



Brownie and his wife Myrtle were the heart and soul of our Society for many years. They did what ever needed to be done. Decorations, clean-up and of course Brownie was in the Dry Creek Band playing pedal steel guitar. Next month I would like to publish his biography in the

newsletter.

I consider him a legend on his pedal steel guitar and was lucky enough to play in the Dry Creek Band when he was on stage. I also got a chance to do some gigs with him outside of our hall. What an honor.



Brownie was inducted into the Hall of Fame in October of 1982 as # 46. That is as close to original as it gets.

He will be missed and forever considered one of the best! Our heart goes out to Myrtle and the family.

Ronnie Elkan



### RIP BOB JARBOE JR



I was notified last month by Candy Galassi that our good friend and avid dancer Bob Jarboe Jr. had passed away. He and his partner Cletis (Pictured Below) were loved by so many folks in our Western Swing family. His son wrote the

family and close friends this note.

*Hello:*

*This is to let you know, my Dad, Robert Ernest Jarboe Jr. passed away on August 9, 2023. He had been dealing with several health issues over the last few years. He lived independently at home until a week prior to his death. He was hospitalized and passed peacefully in his sleep at the age of 97 (1926-2023). He was interred with his wife Sara.*

*He requested no service or memorials and requested you be notified of his death.*

*Sincerely, Robert E Jarboe III and Marilyn Jarboe*

*(rmjarboe@sbcglobal.net)*



### WHAT AN HONOR TO PRESENT AN AWARD TO OUR PAST PRESIDENTS



### Raffle Winners



*Thank you to Don deMars who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.*

**DANCING TO THE GREAT HOF BANDS**



*Thank you to Don deMars who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.*

**THANK YOU MUSICIANS**



*Thank you to Don deMars who helped me get some pictures for our newsletter.*

**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

**Grace Clark and Swingitude:** [www.graceAclarkmusic.com](http://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 Trio:** Every Tuesday, 1:15-3:45pm. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr, Carmichael. \$6 cover at the door. <https://www.facebook.com/lincolnhighwaybandca/>

**Mae McCoy and Her Neon Stars**  
Contact: maemccoy@gmail.com  
<https://youtube.com/@maemccoyandherneonstars>

**Micheal Ray Strauch & The Fortunate Few**  
Contact Facebook for dates and places  
**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).

**Cliff Huey 27 Outlaws Band @**  
<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=cliff%20huey%202027%20outlaws>

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD OF WESTERN SWING MUSIC, HERE IS WHERE TO GO!

<https://www.westernswing.com/Events.html>

**Board Meeting Invitation**

You can attend the Society's monthly Board meetings; Please contact any board member if you would like to attend on Google Meet or if you have a suggestion.

**SWINGERS of the MONTH**



**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 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](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.