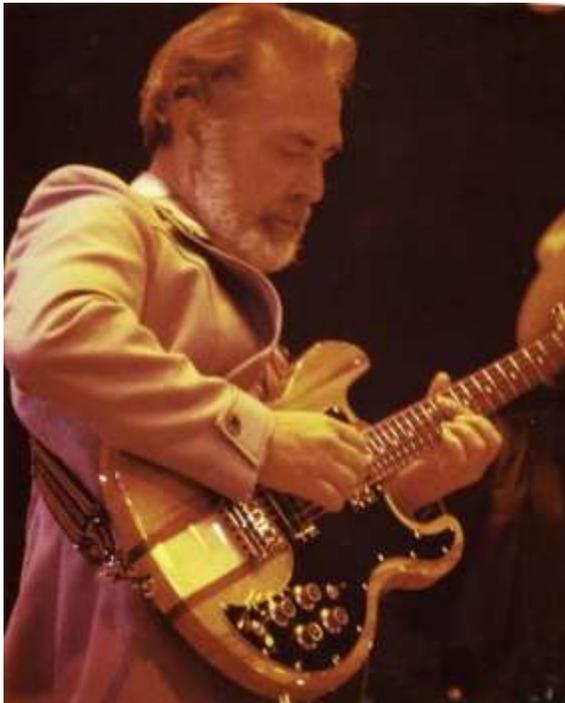




AIR CONDITIONER IS REPAIRED! See photos online page 4
DON'T MISS RHONDA LYNN at the Sunday Dance July 2, 2023
Dues Due in July and BIG NEWS on Hall of Fame coming your way!
Please read important Hall of Fame News on page 11 (IMPORTANT)



ROY NICHOLS
Inducted Oct. 2, 1988



BELINDA GAIL
Inducted Oct. 2, 2022

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 3

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Swingers of May

GUEST BAND
Sunday, July 2, 2023



RHONDA LYNN & Edge-wood Station
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, Open
Vice Pres, Ronnie Elkan
Treasurer, Linda Swanson
Secretary, Doug Weiss

Other Directors:

Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345
Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463
Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
Jimmy Boehnke
Mae McCoy
Sandy Robinson

Staff and Committee Chairpersons:

Admissions Coord, Linda McCarley
Bar Manager, Cyndi Lee
Bartender, Cyndi Lee
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 Administrator Mae McCoy
Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
Slide Show, Janet Jimenez
Sound Engineer, Open
Website Manager, Dave Rietz

Letter from The Editor



IT'S FIXED! We have been notified that the air conditioner is working. No getting around it, that was a tough



day for all of us. I got there in the morning and noticed the 5 portable swamp coolers spread out in the hall. I knew at that point we were in trouble. The board members, musicians and all our folks were surprised also. If I had any idea that there was a problem with the air conditioner we surely would have warned everyone ahead of time. That said our folks were so great about it. Some folks had to leave early for health reasons and we are so sorry about that. Others stayed and danced to the last beat to Geoffery Miller and his great band.



I have to recognize the incredible effort of all of our volunteers. What a day, Whew! Cindi Lee our bartender was ringing wet from the heat but still filled the orders as fast as they came in.



Geoffery Miller brought in a powerhouse combo. He always does. I was so thrilled to hear that great band that I forgot about the heat. Geoffery fronts the band singing and playing guitar. He always does a mix of original music and great dance tunes. He is a Hall of Famer

Continued on page 8

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 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.
Tony Arana, Jam room Host



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

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.

ROY NICHOLS

Born October 21, 1932-Died July 3, 2001
Inducted October 2, 1988



Roy Nichols was born in Chandler, Arizona, October 21, 1932, and moved to California when he was two years old. Roy’s dad, Bruce Nichols, was a fine musician. His main instrument was the upright bass. Roy started playing guitar at age 11 accompanying his father who also played fiddle at local dances.

dle at local dances.

“When Roy was 14, he went to work for “Curley Roberts and the Rangers” playing dances on Friday and Saturday nights. He later joined “Elwin Cross” and played in his group. Just before his 16th birthday, Roy went on the road with the famous “Maddox Brothers and Rose.” After two years, Roy joined up with “Smiley Maxidon” for one hour live daily radio show on radio station KNKS in Hanford, California.

In 1953, Roy took a touring job with “Lefty Frizzell” for the next two years and then joined “Cousin Herb Henson’s Trading Post Gang” TV show on KERO Television, Channel 10. This was a Monday through Friday 45 minute show which went on to be one of the longest running daily country shows—eventually running almost 11 years. Roy stayed with it until Cousin Herb’s death. In 1960, Roy moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, to work for Wynn Stewart at the Nashville Nevada Club.



In 1965, he left Wynn’s band to become a member for the next 22 years of “Merle Haggard’s” famous “Strangers”. Roy Nichols decided to retire from the road in March of 1987, having posted one of the most impressive records if not “the most impressive” of any picker in the business (as far as road miles, years on the road, and most hit records played on). Roy also played on the road with “Johnny Cash”.

Continued on page 10

BELINDA GAIL

Inducted October 2, 2023

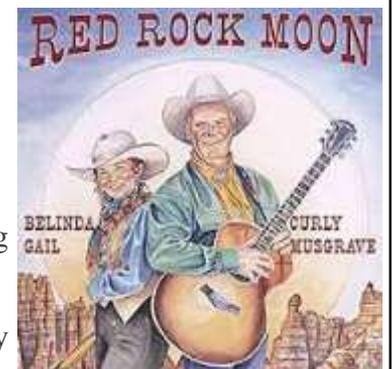


Belinda Gail was raised on ranches in Nevada’s Carson Valley and in the California Sierra Nevada foothills near Sequoia National Park. Her rich ranching heritage and love of the West runs deep in her music and evoke the character of the people, as well as the beauty, majesty, and deep connection to the land that only those who

have lived the ranch life can truly capture. Ranching and the ‘cowboy life’ are very much part of the essence of this dynamic Western Performer.

Belinda is honored and humbled to not only be counted among the top female Western Music performers of this era, but she was recently listed as one of the top 50 Country and Western Entertainers of all time by American Cowboy Magazine in their collector edition entitled “Legends”. She has committed her full-time effort to this music for nearly two decades and crisscrosses this country taking her special brand of Western Music to the masses.

Her numerous awards are evidence of the level to which she has risen not only with Western Music fans, but with her peers as well. Along with being a gifted singer/songwriter her warm and vibrant personality beautifully captures



the ‘Spirit of the West’ and easily wraps itself around her audience. Belinda Gail is one of the most sought after women performing Western music today. A vibrant and natural entertainer with a dynamic and captivating voice, Belinda stirs the emotions and visions of the West in the heart of every audience she embraces. She truly is “America’s Western Sweetheart”.

As a professional western entertainer Belinda continues to capture the attention of national venues. She tours the Midwest and Western United States extensively and has also performed in Iowa, Michigan, Florida, New York, Ohio, Illinois and Tennes

SUNDAY JULY 2, 2023 AT WSS



**Western Swing Society
Café Menu**

Serving time: 12pm– 3:15pm

- 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



**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/BL3D6qgdewy1nXUu6>

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 added.



2023 UPCOMING BANDS

July 2	Rhonda Lynn & Edgewood Station
August 6	Lincoln Highway
September 3	The DeLeons
Sept 29,30 Oct. 1	Hall Of Fame
November 5	Rob Shotwell Band
December 3	TBD



DANCE, DANCE, DANCE (Photo's By Don deMars)



TIME TO SWING (Photo's By Don deMars)



ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL AT 3 STAGES ON JUNE 11, 2023



Mary Dillingham caught this photograph on Sunday June 11 at 3 stages in Folsom. I'm sure a lot of our WSS people were there but I know that Steve and Luana French, Olen and Mary Dillingham and Jimmy and Linda Baughman were there for sure. I heard it was a great show as usual. When I looked at this photograph and realized that Ray Benson, the 6' 5" front man, was the only one in the band that I recognized.

This band has been performing for 53 years, WOW.

Asleep at the Wheel is an American Western swing group that was formed in Paw Paw, West Virginia,^[3] and is based in Austin, Texas. The band has won nine Grammy Awards since their 1970 inception, released over twenty albums, and has charted more than 21 singles on the *Billboard* country charts.



Raffle Winners



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

WHERE IS “YOUNG JESSIE”?



We are so proud of this young man Jessie Personeni. We met him when he was playing pedal steel with Mae McCoy and the Neon Stars here at WSS. It didn't take long for Jessie to become a regular in The House Band. He plays just about every instrument that has strings.

Well he landed a steady gig with the famous Malpass Brothers. We are just so happy for him even though that bands schedule wears me out just looking at it. You can see him and the band on Youtube if you just search Malpass Brothers. Here is a little about them:

Best known as modern-day troubadours who carry the torch for traditional country music, The Malpass Brothers began singing and playing together professionally at a very young age. Alongside their dad, Chris Malpass Sr., the siblings performed at churches all over the southeast, but they continued to hone their traditional sound

by working alongside and amongst the legends.

While Taylor finished high school, Chris began honing his songwriting skills, and working with steel guitar legend, Don Helms—an original member of the Drifting Cowboys. A few years later, he found himself on Merle Haggard's bus, singing and performing for Merle on his 000 Martin guitar. Taylor, in the meantime, played lead guitar in a local band, and upon graduation, flew out to Redding, CA to join his brother as the opening act for Merle Haggard for the next seven years.

In 2011, Haggard produced The Malpass Brothers' debut album, *Memory That Bad* on Hag Records. The title track hit number 6 on the CMT Pure Country 12-Pack Countdown and remained in the charts for several weeks. In 2015, Bluegrass Hall of Fame inductee, Doyle Lawson picked up the gauntlet and produced their sophomore, self-titled album on Organic Records, and in 2017, The Malpass Brothers released a live album, *Live at the Paramount*, which captures the energy and excitement of their highly polished, traditional country music show.

However, their latest album, *Lonely Street* (released May 12, 2023), also produced by Lawson alongside Ben Isaacs (of the multi-Dove Award-winning/Grammy nominated group The Isaacs), may be their strongest pro

Continued on page 11

Editor's Letter Continued from page 9

and so is his pedal steel player Bill Bergren. On bass guitar is Mark Eagleton, and Jim Frink handles the drums.

Geoffery posted on Facebook on his gigs in June and when he wrote about Sunday at WSS he put it like this: “Sunday, we played to committed dance crowd at the Sacramento Western Swing Society in a room cooled only by a few swamp coolers and open doors due to a broken AC - the room was hot and humid and the dancers were still in full swing! Thanks everyone for braving the heat and coming out to hear us!”

Geoffery could only do the 3-5 spot for us so The House Band played the 1-3 spot. This band is always ready to play. Jimmy Baughman singing and playing guitar; Ralph Chase singing and piano; Steve Clark singing and bass guitar; Lenny Serdahl Sr. singing and playing guitar; Bill Cornett singing and drums; Ronnie Elkan talking and fiddle (hahahaha). Helping out on vocals as Shelley Elkan, Nancy Long, Linda Baughman, Mae McCoy and Janice Allen.

For those of us who are amazed at how good the stage sound and stage volume is getting please give our drummer Arron Smith a big thank you. He asked Gary Roda (Buck Ford's pedal steel player) to come in and donate his time and knowledge at sound engineering to our stage. Along with many hours of their time they are fine tuning our stage equipment, and they are doing a great job. Thanks Boys!

The Jam room is always a big hit. Please let those guys know your there and would like to sing or play. They will give everybody a chance to do a couple of songs. When everyone has had a chance to perform they will ask you to do a couple of more. The whole idea is to give everyone a chance to perform. Music is what we do, dancing, playing or listening.

See Ya on Sunday July 2, Ronnie Elkan

LET'S SWING (Photo's By Don deMars)



TO ALL THE MUSICIANS, THANK YOU (Photo's By Don deMars)



Roy Nichols continued from page 3



Bill Woods says, “I am honored to say that it was a real pleasure to have picked with ‘the greatest picker’ in the music business—Roy Nichols”.

Roy in the middle and our very own Biff Adam on his right. The Strangers



A couple of our wonderful volunteers, Sandy and Mae, having some fun singing and dancing.. Thank You!!!!



CD NEWS FROM GRACE CLARK



Since last year, Grace Clark’s new CD, “*Grace Clark, Dancin’ with Swingitude.*” has consistently made the **Top Ten Western Swing Album** list published by the International Western

Music Association (IWMA). It has risen as high as **Number 6** on the list. Western Swing Radio DJs (both national and international) play CDs and rank them by the amount of air time they get. The CD is available through Grace’s website: graceAclarkmusic.com or by contacting Grace at 925-518-

Belinda Gail continued from page 3

see, as well as Canada and Austria.

WESTERN MUSIC ASSOCIATION

- 1999 / 2000 / 2001 / 2002 / 2005 / 2008 / 2012 Female Performer of the Year
- 2005 / 2006 / 2008 – Traditional Duo/Group with Curly Musgrave
- 2007 – Traditional Album – “Red Rock Moon” Belinda Gail and Curly Musgrave
- 2014 – Traditional Album – “Granite Mountain”

ACADEMY OF WESTERN ARTISTS

- 1999 / 2005 / 2014 – Female Vocalist of the year

AMERICAN COW-BOY MAGAZINE

- Named Belinda one of the top 50 Country and Western Entertainers of all time.



Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

2023 Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony!

DANCE AND JAM

LAWTON-FORT SILL July 13th, 14th and 15th

Sponsored by The Lawton Fort Sill Convention and Visitors Bureau

Cake Walks; Door Prizes; 50/50 Drawings

THU: MEMBERS FREE - \$5.00 NON-MEMBER

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

The Great Plains Coliseum (Comanche County Fairgrounds)

920 S.W. Sheridan Rd.

Lawton, Oklahoma 73505

(No outside alcohol allowed)

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

1. SureStay Plus by Best Western - 1125 E Gore Boulevard - 580-713-0255

Single or Double - \$65 per night plus tax (2 guests) Full hot breakfast included

2. Baymont by Wyndham - 1203 NW 40th St - 580-353-5581

Single or Double \$79 plus tax. cont. breakfast - reservation code: western swing

3. Apache Casino Hotel - 2315 E Gore Blvd - 580-248-5905

Wed & Thu \$99, Fri & Sat \$149 plus tax - reservation code: G237WS

4. Plenty of onsite RV sites available - no need for reservations!

(30 & 50 amp, some full hookups & dump station - \$25.00 per day)

Thursday, July 13th, 10:00 am to 10:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands

Friday, July 14th, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

Saturday, July 15th 9:00 am to 10:00 pm: Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

For Information Contact: Jerry or Sandy Harper (580) 425-1999 / (580) 425-1993

Jessie Personeni continued from page 8



if it were curated from a 50s/60s/70s smoke-filled, classic country jukebox. Chris Malpass wrote the majority of the songs, including co-writes by Dickey Lee, Shawn Camp, Conrad Fisher and Taylor Dunn. The album also includes cover nods like “Love Slips Away” by Merle Haggard and Jeannie Seely’s “We Don’t.”

The Malpass Brothers currently perform over 150 dates per year to packed houses. For more information, or to locate a performance near you, please visit TheMalpassBrothers.com or follow them on Facebook and Instagram

-ject to date. Notably engineered by the late Grammy Award-winning Mark Capps under the oversight of Executive Producer and longstanding Malpass manager, Dan Mann, this 12-song album teems with brand new, traditional country music that sounds as



Hey Dancers, I’ve got some great news. The board wants to do something for our members, have some fun and increase our attend-



ance on Friday night September 29 of Hall of Fame. This year Hall of Fame falls on September 29-30 and Sunday October 1.

So we asked the “Jamroom Band” to play on Friday September 29 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm and have guests up to do a couple of dance songs.

Members will be FREE, so bring your membership cards please. We will have our regular \$10 charge for non-members. Hopefully that will cover the cost of renting the hall. We will see how this works out and try to do something that will keep our tradition of having a western swing dance on Friday at hall of Fame.



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. 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
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.

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

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.

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.