

News Flash! **Sad News NO DANCE I Repeat NO DANCE August 2, 2020**



RYAN GOODPASTOR

Inducted Oct. 6, 2019



TOBY HANSON

Inducted Oct. 6, 2019

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 3

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**NO DANCE on August 2,
We are sorry to inform all
our great people that we
have to CANCEL our Au-
gust 2 dance due to the pan-
demic (Coronavirus)
STAY SAFE EVERYONE**

goodbye July, hello
AUGUST

The Western Swing Society

PO Box 2474

Carmichael, CA 95609

westernswingsociety.net

Facebook: SacramentoWestemSwingSociety

Founded in 1981 by Loyd and Perry Jones to enable performance, preservation and perpetuation of the unique American art form known as Westem Swing Music.

Officers:

President, Rex Barnes (916) 704-1566
 Vice Pres, Jimmy Boehnke (530) 886-8375
 Treasurer, Edward Burhans (916) 225-3645
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 Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345
 Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463
 Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
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 Music Director, Ronnie Elkan
 Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan
 Photographer, Donald deMars
 Public Relations Administrator, Jeff Tilton
 Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
 Slide Show, (open)
 Sound Engineer, Gary Blodgett
 Website, Dave Rietz

EDITOR'S LETTER

We are still locked down and shut down at Western Swing, but we are still here. There are so many generous musicians doing concerts online. Tune in to Facebook and you will see are very own "sound man", Gary Blodgett and his wife Lynn put on there "Dance Party". Carylon Martin and Dave Martin put on a show every Wednesday and Sunday and Shane Guse with his wife Stacy Lee Guse (Western Swing Authority Band) put on their [Honky-Tonk Cocktail Hour](#) every Friday.

Just like to take a moment to wish our great Sound Man and volunteer, Gary Blodgett a Happy Birthday today and look back to a birthday photo from 4 years ago with Western Swings great friends Doctor Bob, Betty and Gary's wife Lynn. We sure do miss Dr. Bob!



STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY! See ya soon!

Your Editor, Ronnie Elkan



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.



RYAN GOODPASTOR

Inducted October 6, 2019

Ryan (Thumper) grew up listening to his dad play Western Swing, Irish tunes, and Bluegrass on the mandolin, fiddle, and banjo. At the age of 5 he picked up some drum sticks and started banging on pots and pans. From there he grew to appreciate a wide variety of music and learned to play the drums.



An early influence on Ryan was watching Sacramento's Jazz drummer Johnny Peacock play with the local swing bands led by Jim Whitehead and Charlie Gehlbach. His interest sparked attending the Sacramento Dixieland Jazz Jubilee, an annual California event, and eventually led to playing at the Jubilee during high school and college. Ryan received a Bachelor's degree in Percussion Performance from California State University, Sacramento.

When Ryan first started out he played drums regularly at an open jam session in Gold Run, CA put on by a local fiddle player. Years later in 2008 Ryan was asked to join The Stardust Cowboys, led by Gary Campbell, where he truly invested himself in western swing music. A primary reason Ryan was anxious to join the band was to play their "original" western swing music and the opportunity to keep this unique genre alive. The Stardust Cowboys dubbed him with the nickname "Thumper". His dedication and energy to driving a solid rhythm was right on the money. His broad experience in jazz and orchestra percussion added a sensitivity that readily shows off his multiple talents. The nickname was a natural!

Highlight performances for Ryan include playing with the Stardust Cowboys at the annual Sacramento Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Festivals, the Northwest Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame Festival (2009), the Sacramento Jazz Festival, the End of Summer Hot Jazz Jubilee, the Three Rivers Jazz Festival, Summer Concerts up & down California, and the band's Tribute to Bob Wills Shows. It was a privilege to be complimented by Texas

*Continued page 5***TOBY HANSON**

Inducted October 6, 2019

Toby Hanson was born November 25, 1975 in Puyallup, WA to a family where music was always present. His grandmother had an extensive collection of records going back to the 1930s and including early Western Swing recordings. As a young child he began picking out familiar tunes on his family's piano. After he taught himself to play a song in one afternoon on his family's electric organ, his grandmother decided to get him formal piano lessons. He studied piano for many years with Becky Jacobsen until she moved out of the area. In the sixth grade, Toby began studying clarinet and saxophone in the school band which he continued through high school. After high school, he attended Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, WA from which he graduated magna cum laude in 1998 with a degree in classical composition.



Toby's association with his most well-known instrument, the accordion, began early in his life. His uncle, George Crombie, was an accordionist and gave Toby his first few lessons on the instrument. When Toby was still quite young, his grandfather bought an old accordion for \$25 and put it away in the closet for Toby to learn when he was older. Eventually the draw of the accordion was so strong that, in junior high school, he began to practice on the instrument and teach himself a few rudimentary skills.

His accordion playing really became serious in college when he began studying with noted local accordion educator Gary Dahl. Gary's teaching gave Toby the foundations he would need for his professional career as a musician, including the skills that would make him a valuable band member like listening, being able to follow music by ear, and paying attention to arrangements done in real time on the bandstand.

Toby's performance career in Western Swing began with the local favorite band Mended Heart in 1998. Randy Dreyer, the group's bass player and baritone singer, contacted Toby about auditioning to join the band to replace their recently departed accordionist.

Continued page 5

ED WHITT

Born November 7, 1939

Died May 27, 2016

Inducted #0115 October 6 1985



Began playing guitar in 1955 in West Virginia. Came to California in 1960.

Performed with Freddy Fender and Eddy Fukano

For 8 years he was an officer in country Music Club

Ed Performed with many of the local Hall of Fame members. Played for: Easter Seals, Convalescent and Senior citizens and prisons. Played with Allie Rudy, Leo Uilyons, Don Diffre, Old Time Fiddlers, and AFofM.

Currently plays with Miller High Lite.

Biography on file at the Western Swing Society. Ed died May 27, 2016.

James E. “Jimmy” Belken

Born May 25,1931

Died August 19, 2000

Inducted #0115 October 5, 1986



Jimmy was born in Dallas Texas. He played fiddle with Bob Wills 1964, 65, and 88. Played fiddle on Bob’s “from the Heart of Texas” album.

He was one of the original Ray Price “Cherokee Cow-boys”. He was a member of Red Foley’s “Ozark Jubilee Band” in the mid 50’s during the ABCTV

syndication. He was also one of Hank Thompson’s original “Brazos Valley Boys”.

He went to Bob Wills from Hank Thompson’s group, and remembers Bob saying this was the first time Hank had sent him a fiddler, normally he was training and sending fiddlers to Hank.

Jim has been a member of the “Merle Haggard Strangers band” from 1980.

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

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, August 2, 2020

AUGUST DANCE CANCELED

FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT AND DANCING PLEASURE



Ryan Goodpastor continued from page 3

Playboy drummer Johnny CuvIELLO when he showed up at a County Fair performance to watch the band. A recent career highlight was being asked by Nashville recording artists Carolyn Martin and Eric Lewis to play in their band for a Patsy Cline tribute show (2016).

Recordings: Ryan recorded drums on two albums with the Stardust Cowboys: *Ridin' Back to You* which earned Album of the Year from Academy of Western Artists and *How the Cowboys Swung the West*. He is a guest musician on *What's Left of the West* by the Old West Trio. In the group Chronic With a K led by Leigh Stephens, the original guitarists for Blue Cheer, Ryan played drums on *Ride the Thunder* and is included on the compilation album *A Fourth Wave of Bay Area Blues*. He played on the recording *El Dia de los Reyes* by Camerata California.

Beyond drums and percussion instruments, his talents stretch to the technical side of production. Ryan was the Assistant Engineer on The Sacramento Film Orchestra recording *Creative String Ensembles (String Ensembles / Quirky / Drama / Minimalist)*. Other credits include Executive Producer on *Bamboo Rising*, *Mountain Hermit's Secret Wisdom*, and *Sacred Root: Kung Fu Flute & Buddhist Blues (Shakuhachi Unleashed Vol. III)* by Cornelius Boots.

In addition to the Stardust Cowboys, Ryan performs with the Tepid Club of Cool, Stickwithit, and Wild Duck playing Western Swing, Gypsy Jazz, Standards, and some older Rock 'N Roll. He has been performing with the Auburn Symphony since 1991 and is a regular member of the Folsom Symphony and the Sierra Nevada Winds. In addition, he occasionally performs with Sierra Master Chorale Orchestra, Fremont Presbyterian Orchestra, Camellia Symphony Orchestra, and assists with the Placer County Youth Orchestra. In a more recent adventure, Ryan is playing drums for musicals produced by Sierra Stages.

A native of Placer County, Ryan lives in Auburn, CA where he is involved in many community music



Toby Hanson continued from page 3

Toby was an immediate hit in the audition and went on to play with Mended Heart until the end of the band. During that time he produced the band's final album, *Cowboy Snapshots*, which was nominated for Album Of The Year by the Academy of Western Artists. He also led the band for Marty Dahlgren's pre- Thanksgiving Western Swing Dance at the Swedish Club in Seattle, sponsored by Northwest Dance Network.

After the end of Mended Heart and its successor band, The Dreyer Brothers, Toby began working with Mike Faast and The Jangles, lending his piano and accordion talents to their live performances and their recording *Hick Jazz, Volume II*. In addition, Toby is also a founding member of Kristi Nebel's band, Cowgirl's Dream, and produced her debut Western Swing CD, *Detour*. Toby is also a frequent guest musician with Patty McConnell and her Travelin' Four Band. In 2017, Toby was the keyboard teacher for the Northwest Western Swing Workshop and his accordion student was selected for the Workshop Band.

Besides his work in Western Swing, Toby is also the leader of the Smilin' Scandinavians polka band, whose 2016 recording *Twenty Years* was nominated for Album of the Year by the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame. He's music director and arranger for the Valse Café Orchestra, accordionist for the French cabaret band Rouge, and former music director for Terry Palasz's one-woman musical revue "The Polish Diva From Milwaukee," for which Mr. Hanson provided music direction in the 2015 off-Broadway production in New York City.

In everything he has done, Toby Hanson has been a tireless advocate for the performance, recording, and preservation of Western Swing. In his career, he has been fortunate to work with some of the best musicians in the genre in the Pacific Northwest, including, but not limited to Darrell Dunn, Stan Remick, Marty Dahlgren, Randy Dreyer, Stacy Dreyer, Doug Dreyer, Joshua Dreyer, Randy Oesch, Paul Anastasio, Country Dave Harmonson, John Olufs, Jimmy Webb, Judy Hayes, Patty McConnell, Mike Faast, Roger Ferguson, Mark Drake, Lance Haslund, Laurie Haslund, Mike Friel, Steve Nebel, Kristi Nebel, and so many others. As a producer, performer, and educator he has made a consistent effort to always present Western Swing in its rightful place as one of America's great musical styles.



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





Mike Gross Top 10

"Swingin' West" - Mike Gross
KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX
July 1, 2020

Songs

- 1 Wand'rin' Star- Kristyn Harris (Horsefly)
- 2 Little Bit of Texas- Carlos Washington's Steel Horse Swing
- 3 Wild Texas Rose- Jimmy Burson
- 4 There's Not a Cow in Texas - Rod Moag (Tex Trax)
- 5 Route 66- Mike Faast
- 6 Don't You Dare- Curio Cowboys (Ruido)
- 7 In the Middle of the Song- Western Swing Authority & Carolyn Martin
- 8 Rainbow Song- Jimmy Burson
- 9 San Antonio Rose- Jan Schiferl
- 10 Stardust Ballroom- Nancy Elliott

Albums

- 1 Little Bit of Texas- Carlos Washington's Steel Horse Swing
- 2 A Place to Land- Kristyn Harris
- 3 Room in Your Heart- Curio Cowboys (Ruido)
- 4 Lone Star Dust- Jimmy Burson
- 5 Sactown Playboys- Sactown Playboys
- 6 Swing Set- Lee Lee Robert (Musikode)
- 7 Timeless Treasures for a Living Legend - Tommy Thomsen
- 8 Ridin' Ropin' & Rounders- Rusted Spurs West
- 9 Big Deal- The Western Swing Authority
- 10 Shadows of What Used to Be- Emily George



MIKE GROSS REVIEW

Album: California Skies

Artist: Don Burnham

Label: Redoubtable

Don Burnham, longtime leader of Lost Weekend, the fantastic San

Francisco, CA Western Swing band has just released a new album featuring 12 wonderful cuts on which he sings, plays rhythm guitar and produced.

For backing vocalists Don chose Bernard Peyton, Rick Dougherty, Bruce Stelter, Frannie Leopold and Sara Winge. The steel guitarist heard is Hall of Fame member Bobby Black while Paul Shelasky, Jeremy Cohen and Chad Manning play the fiddles. Mark Holzinger and Richard Saslow are heard on electric guitars, Bing Nathan and Karen Horner on bass and Scott Lawrence plays piano. Rick Alegria is the drummer, Ernie Mansfield plays sax and clarinet and Will Scarlett plays harmonica.

The opens with a fantastic cut and probable future

top 10 hit, *One Way Ticket Back Home*. Another future top 10 item is *Back in Oklahoma*. Nancy Thorwardson wrote *California Skies* and Billy Rose penned the beautiful pop classic *It Happened in Monterey*. Other enjoyable items are *Old Songs* and the ballads, *Nobody Loves Me Like You Do* and *In the Shadow of the Valley*. There is the feeling of blues with *Woman With a Chainsaw* and *Fool's Paradise*. Western Music is represented with *Utah Moon* and the Billy Hill masterpiece *Empty Saddles*.

The remaining interesting tune is *The Toast*.

This very enjoyable album can be obtained at www.redoubtablerecords.com by Pay Pal or check for \$15 US, plus \$5 for domestic shipping.

Mike Gross, KSEY-FM, Seymour, TX and www.swinginwest.com



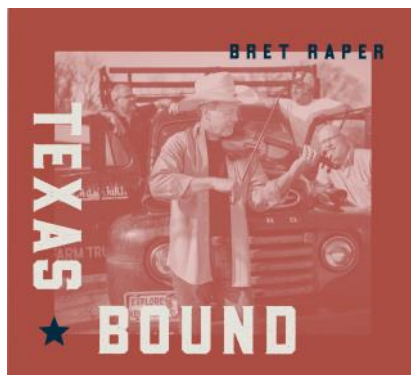


MIKE GROSS REVIEW

Album: Texas Bound

Artist: Bret Raper

Fiddle player Bret Raper has just issued a second fantastic Western Swing album that he co-produced, consisting of 14 very enjoyable tunes. Many other musicians also participated to create this gem. Others are Rob Hajacos and Aaron Till also on fiddles, the steel guitars of Gary Carter, Dave Jackson and the great Doug Jer-nigan and also on piano are Jonathan Brown and Danny Sinoff. The album bass player is Jimmy Carter and the drummer is Garth Justice. The guitarists are Gregg Galbraith, Danny Parks, Shayne Koons and David Graves. The background vocalists are Marty Slaton Jordan and Michael Lusk. Greg Parker does a Cajun yell and a nice surprise is Bret's two year old granddaughter, Audrey Jane Williamson doing a Bob Wills "AH HA."



The album opens with Sheila Stephen singing *Texas Swing*. From the Bob Wills hit parade Gordon Lowry croons *Deep Water*. Also from the Wills song book is *Silver Dew on the Bluegrass*. Lloyd Wood is the vocalist on the Ray Price Texas dance hall classic *Heart Over Mind*. Another Texas dance hall gem, *Play Me a Shuffle Song*, features Cindy Richardson in the vocal spotlight. There are also two wonderful instrumentals, *Cajun Medley* with the spotlight on Shayne Koons

2020 WSS Hall of Fame Cancelled

Due to an abundance of caution in these uncertain times of Covid, the Board has made the decision to cancel our three-day Hall of Fame event in October.

It just would not be fair to the inductees not to honor them properly at our ceremony. Many of our inductees and guest bands travel long distances to join us, and making plans in advance becomes problematic with the uncertainty of the pandemic.

Our three-day celebration allows the out-of-town musicians to forge new friendships and play music with their fellow inductees and WSS member musicians. We want our new inductees to have those opportunities.

All prospective nominee submissions from 2020 will be rolled to 2021.

If our state has opened back up sufficiently for the Board to secure the location and proper permits, we will hold a normal 1 to 5 pm dance in October. Stay tuned as we get closer to the Fall.

Mike Gross Review continued

and an instrumental version of the popular music classic, *Spanish Eyes* featuring Dave Jackson and David Graves. There are more pop standards, *Route 66* and *Cheek to Cheek*. There are other gems that are brought back. They are the early 1930s Ozzie Nelson memory *Dream a Little Dream* and from George Strait, a super Brent Townsend vocal on *Amarillo By Morning* and from the Benny Goodman big band, *Jersey Bounce*. Lloyd Wood wrote and performs the future Top 10 hit *Texas Bound* and the album closes with Angela Parker on vocal on the inspirational classic *Just a Closer Walk*.

This gem is not for sale but I am sure it will make its mark with other classic Western Swing albums that I have previously reviewed. Bret can be contacted at brt.raper@gmail.com

Continued next column

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

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 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 2740 Auburn Blvd.,
 (916) 686 - 5666 Sacramento, CA 95821
www.skipsmusic.com (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: \$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.