



- ★ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRESIDENT REX BARNES**
- ★ **TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP PLEASE**
- ★ **Great Dance planned for Sunday June 5th!**



DARLA DARET STEVENS

Inducted Oct. 4, 1987



RAMON SELBY

Inducted Oct. 3, 2021

Western Swing Society Hall of Fame Profile ~ Page 3

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MONTHLY CAKES



GUEST BAND

Sunday, June 5,

**Tony Arana
 & The Jam Room
 Band
 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



Hey there all my Western Swing Society friends. I'm happy to report that we had another great dance May 1st. Of course a big thank you goes out to all of you that support our 1st Sunday of the month dances.

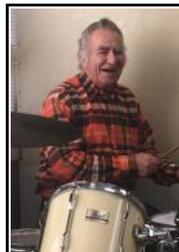
We started off with our feature band, Mae McCoy and her Neon Stars, singing and playing all those great western swing songs. A lot of those songs you just don't hear anymore unless you have the old recordings. It always makes me smile to hear that brand of music and it was done so well.

The Neon Stars are led by Mae McCoy who does the vocals and plays rhythm guitar. The Neon Stars have Jim Baughman on lead guitar; Ralph Chase on vocals and keyboard; Gary Blodgett on drums; Chuck Webb on bass; and Jesse Personeni on pedal steel guitar. Thanks for coming in and donating your time and talent to us.

Next up was The House Band and guest vocalists. In this case a lot of The House Band had to pull double duty and play both shows. What stamina and dedication. Jim Baughman on vocals and lead guitar; Ralph Chase on vocals and keyboard; Gary Blodgett took a break off the drums and did some vocals and guitar; Bill Cornett on drums and vocals; Arron Smith on drums; Steve Clark on vocals and bass; Jesse Personeni on pedal steel guitar; Ronnie Elkan on fiddle. Singing with us was Janice Allen,

Continued on page 3

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.

Tony Arana, Jam room Host



PLEASE SUPPORT



Our food people from the American Legion, we appreciate them coming out to do all that cooking.

DARLA DARET STEVENSON

Inducted October 3, 1987
Born 1937



US Country singer born Patty Saturday in 1937. A busy session vocalist in the 1950s and early-60s, Darla Daret was equally comfortable singing pop as she was singing country music. A member of western swing group, Bob Wills and the Texas

Playboys, in 1955, she continued to periodically work with the band throughout the remainder of the 1950s. Her Vocals on the Sonny James recording, "Are You Mine", went un-credited until the release of a six-CD boxed set, Sonny James: Young Love -- The Complete Recordings 1952-1962, in 2002.

Daret unknowingly became a foot-note in rock and roll history when she recorded her only solo single, "Don't Cha Wanna" b/w "Honey Hush". Released in 1957, the single featured accompaniment by the Johnny Mann Orchestra and rock pioneer Eddie Cochran on guitar.

**RAMON SELBY**

Inducted October 3, 2021
Born 1942



Ramon was born into a musical family in Casper, Wyoming in 1942. His father started playing for dances in 1932, when he was 12 years old. His mother and two brothers were musicians who

traveled around the Sandhills of Nebraska by team and wagon with a pump organ and fiddle, playing dances that might last several days. His mother was a gymnast, dancer and singer. She took Hawaiian guitar lessons in the 30s from Jack Blakely, who had moved from Oklahoma to Casper to escape the Depression, but landed right in the middle of it. In 1950 he became Ramon's fiddle teacher. Jack was a multi-instrumentalist and had musical tastes ranging from old fiddle tunes and waltzes to popular swing music, jazz, Hawaiian, Western, Western Swing and Classical.

Ramon's parents were into all that (*except classical*) and after they were married played many dances and shows around Central Wyoming. There was always music in their home and Ramon has recordings of family sessions from 1943 -1945, Mom playing piano and singing, Dad on guitar and vocals, Ramon's aunt Bette on pump organ (*the same one that had traveled in the wagon*) and his Grandma harmonizing with his Dad on "Texas Plains," even though she suffered from Parkinson's. There were lots of jams in the homes of friends as well. Along with his sisters, he listened late into the night, even though they were supposed to be sleeping.

As each of the children started taking lessons from Jack, they got to take part in the jamming. In addition, Jack did the sound for bands that came to town, so Ramon got to go see and hear fiddler Bob Simmons in a two-room schoolhouse on the Goose Egg Ranch. The Selbys saw Bob Wills' group at the Wagon Wheel Roller Rink in Mills, Wyoming, about 1951 or '52.

In 1946 the Selby family started going to Southern California every year to see relatives as well as musicians they could not see in Wyoming. Ramon's

Continued on page 4

Editor's Letter continued from page 2

Nancy Long, Micheal Ray, Linda Baughman, Mae McCoy and Shelley Elkan

Jam room was going strong and we look forward to those guys coming out to the main stage June 5. I understand that they will add Steve French vocals and guitar; Steve Clark bass; and Joe Ybarra pedal steel guitar to their show. Regular band members are Dave Rietz vocals and fiddle; Tony Arana drums; Brad Barnett keyboard and vocal. Gonna be a great show!

Meanwhile back at the board meeting! The board is working on this year's Hall of Fame. We have some new ideas we are working on. Last year Friday was really slow so we are looking at doing a dinner dance with a "Western Theme". That means we will ask everyone to pull that crazy western wear out of the closet. To keep the cost of the dinner dance down we are trying to use local talent, I just know it will be a great dance. "Stay tuned"! Saturday and Sunday will be our bands with lots of music to dance to all day, *Ronnie Elkan (Editor)*

Ramon Selby Continued from page 3



parents got to be friends with The Sons of the Pioneers. He saw them at The Riverside Rancho in a two band dance and show with Tex Williams and Western Caravan that will never be forgotten. That was about 1952 or 1953. In 1952 the Pioneers played in Casper at

the fair and rodeo. Ramon and his family were invited back behind the chutes to visit with all the Pioneers and watch the show from backstage. One day during the fair, fiddler Hugh Farr came over to their home and played with Ramon and his dad.

It was a real thrill to show Hugh what he had learned just listening to Hugh's records. One of Ramon's prized possessions is a snapshot with Hugh - Ramon with his fiddle - in the Selby's front yard. From 1953 or '54 through 1960 the



Selby family had a five piece band that played many church dinners, fraternal organization meetings and PTA meetings sometimes two or three a week. The nights they did not play out they rehearsed and recorded. One Sunday a month Jack Blakely held a recital with all his students - guitar, fiddle, accordion, steel guitar, bass, 20 to 30 students all together. It was great practice playing with others, particularly for those who were not in bands and did not otherwise get to perform for audiences.

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.



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/QQ5FJmh7wP2qxssC7>

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 Sunday's 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.

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.



Follow the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest at www.wsmss.com

or on Facebook at: [Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest](#)

What's Happening at Other Swing Societies

Additional Learning Opportunities at the 2022 NWSMS

Western Swing Music Camp & Festival

August 10-13

Individual Instruction

Registered students can arrange private lessons with individual instructors on Friday afternoon, after lunch. The half-hour sessions will be scheduled by the instructors according to their schedule. A \$40 fee/30 minutes will be paid directly to the instructor.

Slow Jams

In the late afternoons, we gather for a friendly jam session. Acoustic only. Everyone encouraged to participate.



Introducing the Instructors for the NWSMS 2022 Western Swing Music Camp & Festival

At the historic Field House in Enumclaw, WA, August 10-13

Suze Spencer, Camp Coordinator, rhythm guitar, mandolin, ukulele, chord theory, vocals

Toby Hanson, Assistant Coordinator, accordion, keyboard

and featuring:

- ★ Joey McKenzie - rhythm guitar/fiddle
- ★ Sheri McKenzie - fiddle/rhythm guitar
- ★ Ridge Roberts - fiddle/guitar
- ★ Matthew Mefford - bass

Meal options and lodging/camping are within minutes of the venue. Book a room or reserve a space in the RV Park early.



www.nwsms.com

The NorthWest Western Swing Music Society's

2022 Western Swing Music Camp and Festival

- ★ The Culture Behind the Genre
 - ★ The Musicianship
 - ★ The Repertoire
 - ★ The Dancing Steps
 - ★ Vocals & Harmony
 - ★ We've Got Rhythm
 - ★ Chord Tool Kit
 - ★ Give Me a Break
 - ★ Side Person Strategy
 - ★ Stage Craft
 - ★ The Art of JAM

ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED. REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL FULL.

To register complete the enclosed application and mail it to the address included. Payment can be made by check or through PayPal.

\$150.00 - Tuition includes Hall of Fame Festival weekend pass. (Save \$20.00 by paying \$130.00 in full by July 15, 2022.)

NWSMS Application for 2022 Music Camp

COMPLETE & MAIL THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO: SUZE SPENCER, PO BOX 61509, VANCOUVER, WA 98666-1509 (SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE - PLEASE CONTACT jeanneyearian@yahoo.com FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY) QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING CAMP EXPERIENCE: CALL SUZE AT 360-696-0801

NAME: _____ INSTRUMENTALIST VOCALIST SOLOIST

ADDRESS: _____ INSTRUMENT(S): _____

CITY: _____

STATE / ZIP: _____ \$150.00 (\$130.00 early registration before July 15) I am signing up for the full music camp package

PHONE: _____ \$20.00 to become a member of the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society from August 2022 to August 2023. Thank you for your support!

E-MAIL: _____

MUSICAL EXPERIENCE (IN YEARS): _____

Pay online using PayPal. Send money to: nwsms treasurer@gmail.com

Make checks payable to: NWSMS

I have enclosed an additional \$ _____ donation to the NWSMS music camp/scholarship fund

TIME TO SWING



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

LET'S VISIT AT WESTERN SWING

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



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

THANKS FOR ALL THE MUSIC—MAE MCCOY AND HER NEON STARS



THE HOUSE BAND



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

WESTERN SWING SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MAY 1, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Barnes at 10:25am.

Present: Barnes, Elkan, Harris, McCarley, McCoy, Rietz, Tilton, Weiss

Approval of Minutes. Moved Rietz, Second McCarley, To approve the minutes of the April 21, 2022 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors as corrected, 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.

Approval of Minutes. Via an email vote the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of May 1, 2022 were approved as corrected; 5 Approved; 0 Not Approved; 0 Abstentions; 3 No Reply.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Barnes reported that last month's attendance was the largest (191) the Society has recorded in a long time. There is a new Union Hall rep (Andre Perez) and he has pledged to help improve conditions in the Hall including the stage curtain. There is also a new rep for the American Legion. Barnes has appointed McCoy to Chair the Hall of Fame Festival planning committee. The printer has agreed to release our logo. Bob Woods will assist the President in listing our next three month's activities on KVMR as a free public service. Our next Hall of Fame planning meeting has been RESCHEDULED to Thursday, May 12. Dinner 5pm – Meeting 6pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

In the absence of Swanson, Barnes distributed the monthly Income/Expense Report. Moved Weiss, Second Harris, To accept the report, 6-0.

NEWSLETTER REPORT.

Elkan will establish a link to the revised By-Laws when they have been completed and approved. They should also be made available on the website.

WEB MASTER REPORT.

Rietz is spending time cleaning up the website. Currently it is working well. Once a replacement is found, he will be willing to help the new Web Master through the transitional phase and be available as a consultant.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT.

McCoy indicated the City of Rancho Cordova is now in the process of reviewing some 90 grant requests which includes that of the Society. Barnes asked for McCoy's assistance in scheduling a meeting with the Mayor. Our website continues to show an increase in viewership. She suggested recording a welcome video; be more aggressive with online information about what's going on; even live streaming our dances.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS.

Harris related that the Rio Vista Fair is not opposed to the Society providing entertainment. Elkan is to contact their Entertainment Coordinator. Harris will also continue searching for food trucks as a possible dance food source.

Weiss conducted a review of the revisions of Article I through IV in the By-Laws. After examination, the Board found no objection to the modifications.

ADJOURNMENT.

Move Rietz, Second Elkan, To adjourn, 7-0.
Doug Weiss, Secretary

JUST A GREAT TIME TO DO SOME VISITING



Raffle Winners



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

What's Happening at Other Swing Societys



1983-2022
Celebrating 39 Years!

The NorthWest Western Swing Music Society's

30th Annual

Western Swing Music Festival & "Hall of Fame Celebration"

August 11 -13, 2022

At the Enumclaw Expo Center Field House (Hwy 410) - Enumclaw, WA, With Its Beautiful, Big Dance Floor - Three Days of Great Music, dancing, western swing music workshops and more!

A family event. Everyone welcome!

Continuing the tradition, the Thursday night (August 11) meet & greet potluck is followed by the FREE community dance.

For latest information: www.nwwsms.com

MOTELS SPONSORING THE 2022 NWWSMS WESTERN SWING FESTIVAL/HALL OF FAME, AUGUST 11-13

To receive special prices listed below

Call and ask for the 'Western Swing Music Festival' rates

Rodeway Inn Located next door to the Festival location at 1334 Roosevelt Ave. E (Hwy 410), Enumclaw, WA 98022

Western Swing rate . . . \$130.00 for singles with queen bed
\$140.00 for two queen beds

Phone: 360-825-1626

Amenities: Free wireless high-speed Internet access, Outdoor heated pool. Refrigerator, microwave, and coffeemaker in each room.

Econo Lodge Buckley Located at 29405 State Route 410 E, Buckley, WA 98321 (8 miles from the festival venue)

Western Swing rate . . . \$159.99 for singles with either a queen/king bed or two beds

Phone: 360-829-1100

Amenities: Complimentary hot breakfast, Outdoor pool, Washers/Dryers.

*Make your motel reservations as soon as possible!
Tourist season is on! Rooms are limited.*

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest

A Texas based 501(c)(3) nonprofit

2022 Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony!

DANCE AND JAM



July 14th, 15th and 16th

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

King \$89, Double \$95 plus tax **continental breakfast**

3. Fairfield Inn & Suites - 201 SE 7th St - 580-248-5000

King \$99, Double \$114 plus tax **complimentary buffet breakfast**

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

(30 & 50 amp, some full hookups & dump station - \$20.00 per day)

Thursday, July 14th, 10:30 am to 11:00 pm: All Day Jam Bands

Friday, July 15th, 10:30 am to 11:00 pm: Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

Saturday, July 16th 10:30 am to 11:00 pm: Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Scheduled Bands and Jam Sessions

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



NWWSMS Hall of Fame 2022 Inductees

Lowell 'Red' Arwood - Tennessee

Ray Benson - Texas

Steve Carter - Washington

Jim Halsey - Kansas

Mike Hylton - Kansas

Joey & Sherry McKenzie - Texas

Shelley McNaughton - Washington

Lenny Serdahl - California

Dave Waters - Texas

John Wooley - Oklahoma

Posthumous Inductees

Pee Wee King - Kentucky

Special Recognition

Fred Yearian - Washington

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
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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.