

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HALL OF FAME MEMBERS



BOB ROHAN



HOWARD EDWARDS

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SUNDAY, July 5, 2025



Lincoln Highway

1:00pm-3:00pm

**Followed by the
House band**

**"The Hall of
Famers"**

3:00pm-5:00pm

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

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**FREE DANCE
LESSONS
With Admission @
12:00 pm**

*Thank You
Volunteers*

Letter from The Editor



Happy 4th!!! Hello to all you dancers and listeners. Another great dance is in the books. Thanks to Ralph Chase and the Machinist's Hall we had air conditioning for our dance. Yes, I for one was very happy about that.

This is the dance that we ask you for your yearly membership fees. Thank you all for making this dance possible. Even though we have a membership and ask for an entry fee we are still a non-profit organization and depend on volunteers. For me, it is so worth it to keep western swing music and dancing alive in our Sacramento area.

The June dance had a great band come in and play for us. They all told me that they can't wait to come back. One thing is for sure, all our folks are always

Continued on page 2

*Western Swing Society
Presents*

Lincoln Highway
The Goodbye Tour

Sunday, July 5, 2025
12pm-5pm

12pm Dance Lessons with Dave West
1pm Music by Lincoln Highway
3pm Music by our House Band

- Jam Room open all afternoon
- 50/50 Raffle
- Food and Drinks available for purchase

\$10 Admission At The Door

Machinist Hall
2759 Sunrise Blvd
Rancho Cordova, Ca

The Western Swing Society

PO Box 2474

Carmichael, CA 95609

westernswingsociety.net

Facebook: SacramentoWesternSwingSociety

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

Officers:

President, Ronnie Elkan (916) 765-4345

Vice Pres, Meghan McCoy

Treasurer, Linda Swanson

Secretary, Sandra Robinson

Social Media, Sandra Robinson

Social Media Specialist, Meghan McCoy

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, Arron Smith Sr.

Bartender, Chuck

Decorating Chair, Open

Equipment and Staging, Arron Smith

Historian, (open)

Jam Room, Brad Barnett & Dave Rietz

Master of Ceremonies, Terry Crouson

Membership Director, Linda McCarley

Music Director, Ronnie Elkan

Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan

Photographer, Alicia Fox

Public Relations Administrator Mae

McCoy

Facebook Administrator: Sandra Robinson

Volunteer Coordinator: Sandra Robinson

Raffle, Bob and Virginia Kuykendall

Slide Show, Janet Jimenez

Sound Engineer, Arron Smith

Website Manager, Dave Rietz

Editors Letter continued from page 1



so gracious to the bands. The Beau Jeffers Band is fronted by singer/guitar player Beau Jeffers. He does play professionally around town. In his band is Sammi on vocals; Richard Warran on bass; Steve Mazucca on drums; Brad Barnett on vocals and keyboards; and I joined in on a couple of songs on fiddle. Thanks Beau, we appreciate you.

The Hall of Fame band finished the day with the help of some guest singers. The band is Jimmy Bauchman on vocals and guitar; Ralph Chase on vocals and piano; Olen Dillingham on fiddle and mandolin; Ronnie Elkan on fiddle; Brian McCommas on vocals and guitar; Steve Clark on vocals and bass guitar; Bill Cornett on vocals and drums; Arron Smith on vocals and drums and sound man.

Guest singers were Janice Allen, Linda Baughman, Rhonda Rogers and Nancy Long.

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. Are "Hall of Fame" hosts, Brad Barnett and Dave Rietz will be there to welcome you!

COME IN AND JAM



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.



BOB ROHAN

Inducted October 6, 2024



Bob Rohan or as he is known in Texas as "Bad Bob" has been playing the fiddle and singing in various groups for over 30 years in Texas, and has opened for Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, Charlie Daniels, Carlene Carter and John Conley to name a few.

Bob has played in bands that have backed up country legends like Hank Thompson, Ray Price, Jack Greene, Pam Tillis, and Dale Watson.

His first album "Bad Bob" recorded in 1983 was well-received in Texas and his version of "Orange Blossom Special" was a favorite at country nightclubs and discos in the Houston area.

Bob's new CD "Bad Bob and his Good Friends" has been played a great deal in the United States and Europe and his traditional swing style has been popular in Holland, Australia, England, Belgium, Germany and recently Spain!

Bob is also a gifted songwriter and wrote nine songs on his recent CD. Along with songwriting, Bob is an also a talented cartoonist has a self syndicated comic strip titled "Buffalo Gals". The comic feature is about two cowgirls "Bess Winchester" and "Connie Cheyenne". The comic strip was inspired after playing with "The Hays County Gals and Pals" a cowgirl western group that toured through Texas, Oklahoma and as far west as Elko, Nevada.

Bob has won The Wisconsin State Fiddle Championship and has been nominated several times from The Academy of Western Artists for Best Cowboy Cartoonist.

**HOWARD CHARLES EDWARDS**

Born September 22, 1933 Died October 23, 2016

Inducted October 6, 2002



Howard was born September 22, 1933 in Virginia City, Nevada, where his father worked in the silver mines. He was first introduced to music by his mother who played honky-tonk piano while he accompanied her on the guitar and mandolin. They spent many hours together.

His first music jobs were playing guitar in the 16 piece swing

bands of Jim Ingram and Russ Holiday in the bay area. In 1957 he started playing western swing and country in a club in Alameda, CA with Vern Baughman, a member of the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame. He then joined Bobby Thompson's trio playing bass at the Garden Inn in Hayward, CA. He played the Garden Inn nightclub for 23 years.

In 1958 Howard was hired by Red Murell to play at Forester Hall in Redwood City, CA on Saturday nights. When Forester Hall closed, he was hired by Cottonseed Clark to play in his band for two TV shows every Saturday on KTVU Channel 2 in Oakland, CA and Saturday nights at Naperdack Hall in San Jose, CA. During the time he played with Red Murell and Cottonseed Clark he had the privilege of playing with many stars including; Ernest Tubb, Jimmy Dickens, George Jones, Tex Ritter Eddie Dean, Freddie Hary, Lefty Frizzell, Jimmy Wakely, Buck Owens, George Morgan, Merle Travis, Cal Smith, Carl Smith, Rose Maddox, Hank Snow, Joe Mafis, Webb Pierce, Merle Haggard, Wynn Stewart, Johnny Bond, Carl & Pearl Butler, Porter Wagonner, George Hamilton IV, and many others.

In 1960 he opened Guitar Village music store in Fremont, CA, teaching guitar and making and selling guitars. During this time he provided "Free Booking Service" to help provide the clubs in the area with country and western swing musicians. He also played bass and rhythm guitar on several recordings in the 1960's. He worked with many Bay Area musicians such as Bobby and Larry Black, Vern Baughman, Bobby Thompson, Gene Savage,

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Howard Edwards continued from page 3

Jim Luttrell, Chuck Wayne, Vance Terry, Big Jim Danoon, Marty James, Bill Starr, Cal Smith, Max Wilson, Huck Fields, Leon Richardson, Red Hayes, Gene Duncan, Jimmy Rivers, Scotty Bray, Arveda Miller, Al Barle, Johnny Fain and many others.

In 1963 his band opened for the Grand Ole Opry at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. Howard played many of the popular clubs in the Bay Area including the Garden Inn, 1902 Club, Hitching Post, Top Hat, Cameo Club, Coral Club, Mustang Club, Standford University along with several San Francisco hotels and halls.

In 1970 Howard bought the Garden Inn. During the 10 years he owned and operated the club he employed many country and western swing musicians. Howard produced and played for over 400 swing dance contests at the club, promoting western swing music. Howard has been an ardent supporter of western swing music for over 45 years.

Howard and his wife Fran joined the Western Swing Society in 1992. They moved to Meadow Vista in 1995. Howard has many hobbies along with his music, he enjoys the outdoors and restoring vintage cars and musical instruments. He is also a private pilot and a member of the Civil Air Patrol and California Sheriffs Association and a licensed California Realtor.

2025 UPCOMING BANDS

July 6	Lincoln Highway
August 3	Geoff Miller
September 7	Rhonda Lynn & Edgewood Station
October 3,4 & 5	Hall of Fame
November 2	Rob Shotwell & Let the Horses Run
December 7	Mae McCoy & Her Neon Stars
January 4	The Baughmans

COMING THIS DECEMBER

A Nashville Christmas

Presented by Meghan "Mae" McCoy

A celebration of Western Swing, holiday cheer, and surprise guests.

Full band announcement coming soon...

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



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
- Once back at the home page, click on Albums in the left column
- To find all photos of a particular person, click then click 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 April Dance

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZYGr48H3LvWb6Vb27>

Western Swing Society Café Menu

Serving 12-3:15

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

Beyond Burger \$10.00

Chips \$.50

Thank you for supporting

**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**



WSS BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 10, 2024

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

Members Present: President Ronnie Elkan, Secretary Sandy Robinson, Treasurer Linda Bentley, Arron Smith, Linda McCarley, Ralph Chase Guest: Nick Dennis

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: We are still in the process of accepting nominations for Inductees into the Hall of Fame. Ronnie Elkan thanked Ralph Chase for his great endeavor to understand our air conditioning unit at our monthly Dance. We enjoyed a very comfortable air conditioned June Dance. Ronnie Elkan announced that Alicia Fox West is our Official Photographer and appraised her incredible contribution to our Newsletter photos and to our monthly dances. Lincoln Highway Band will be playing for us at our July Dance.

TREASURER'S PRESIDENT'S REPORT: March and April Treasurer's Reports previously Approved via email. **REPORT:** March and April Treasurer's Reports previously Approved via email. Treasurer Linda Bentley reported good news that our Dance Instructor, David West, generously lowered his fee by \$25 for our May Dance because our attendance at the Lesson was a bit lower than April. Thank you, David and Alicia West.

VOLUNTEER REPORT: Volunteer Coordinator, Sandy Robinson, announced that our wonderful WSS Member, Caroline Kennedy, has stepped up to volunteer to supervise and run our Popcorn Machine for our dances. We have greatly missed our Ms. Eleanor, who for so many years made sure we had fresh popcorn at our dances. Caroline Kennedy will be seeking a few more friends to volunteer to help her. Thank you, Caroline Kennedy!! It is Volunteers like you that keep our Western Swing Society so successful!!!

Our Board Member, Linda McCarley who so expertly “mans the door and admissions” – can use some help at our July Dance. It is time to renew your Annual Membership. There will be an additional table at the front door. Linda McCarley could use a couple of Volunteers at the door to help expedite the Renewal Process.

Our Board Member Arron Smith wanted to give a “shout out” to Brian McCommas for his continued help and expertise with our front-of-house sound. Thank You, Brian.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved Ralph Chase, Second Arron Smith, Approved 6-0.

Sandy Robinson (Secretary)

RAFFLE WINNERS (Photo's By Alicia Fox)



July 2025 By Meghan By WSS Vice President Meghan "Mae" McCoy



This summer's shaping up to be one of the biggest in my Western Swing life, even if you haven't seen me around much. Between my son's 8th grade graduation, my daughter's Filipino cultural dancing, and keeping a band upright in this economy, I've been stretched thin in the best and wildest ways.

Life's been full. Rich. A little chaotic. I haven't had much time to pop in at the dances lately, but I've been working, quietly, steadily, and in motion.

In July, I'll be opening for Dale Watson in Santa Cruz (Moe's Alley.) A Texas legend that needs no introduction. One of the greats. Playing a show with someone like Dale is a reminder of why I keep doing this. That same month, my band, Mae McCoy and Her Neon



Stars, will take the stage at the California State Fair in Sacramento. We'll be carrying the sound of Western Swing into one of the state's biggest venues. It's a moment I don't take lightly.

In August, my dear friend Don Caldwell from Keepin' It Country is flying me out to Illinois to open for Mr. 'Keys in the Mailbox' himself, Tony Booth, another cornerstone in the music I love. In between, we've been holding it down in the Bay Area, playing dance halls and gala stages where the floor still creaks and the people still smile when the music kicks in.

I was originally set to dance alongside my daughter in the Filipino Cultural Showcase at the State Fair, but since our band plays there just days later, I took the opportunity to emcee the event instead. Two stages, two different ways to represent—seemed like the smart play.



Come December, I'll be presenting "A Nashville Christmas in Rancho Cordova," featuring The Farmer & Adele, one of Nashville's most charming and dedicated Western Swing bands. I'm also proud to say that Mae McCoy and Her Neon Stars will be backing them during their Northern California tour dates. There's something beautiful about being both the host and the music. That's the space I'm working in these days.

Western Swing is alive, well, and expanding, and there's room for all of us who find home in it. Every time we gather, whether to dance, play, or simply listen, we help continue a heritage rooted in joy, resilience, and culture.

I'm deeply grateful for the artists who came before us, musicians like Bob Wills, Cindy Walker, Milton Brown, Adolph Hofner, and Leon Rausch, who shaped the sound and spirit of Western Swing long before it ever reached a state fair stage or Spotify playlist. This music

wasn't built overnight. It was carried, stretched, refined, and passed down. I'm equally inspired by those keeping the flame alive today, including Billy Mata, Carolyn Martin, and California's own Poi Rogers, The Lucky Stars, and my band-crush for life, The Familiar Strangers. Every time I plug in a mic, I'm reminded that I belong to something bigger than myself. That awareness keeps me honest. It keeps me grateful.

If you see me this season, say hello. And if you're building something of your own, don't hesitate. The door's never been more open.

Meghan "Mae" McCoy Vice President, Western Swing Society

To learn more about A Nashville Christmas and ways you can support, feel free to visit MeghanMcCoy.com, email me at Meghan@MeghanMcCoy.com, or call and leave a message at (916) 281-9311. I'd truly be honored to connect.

AT THE DANCE!!! (Photo's By Alicia Fox) See all The Photos Page 4



DANCING AND VISITING AT WSS !!!!!(PHOTOS BY ALICIA FOX)





HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

THE TIMING

January 1—May 31st: Submissions of nominees for consideration accepted from a member in good standing

June: Hall of Fame Selection Committee reviews and chooses 12 nominees to be inducted in the Hall of Fame. Nominations must adhere to the rules and be complete in order to be considered. Any submissions not chosen roll forward to the next year for consideration

July: Board signs off on the chosen inductees. Inductees are notified and told about our Hall of Fame Event details

August: List of inductees first appear in the newsletter

September: Photos of inductees appear in newsletter. List of HOF bands in newsletter

October: The three day celebration, culminating in the Induction Ceremony on Sunday

HOW TO AND THE RULES

Let's have another inspiring set of inductees for the Western Swing Society Hall of Fame event, the 1st Friday—Sunday in October. ***The closing date for submission of nominations is May 31st. Start NOW. Time FLIES!***

Any member in good standing may make 2 nominations, by either postal or email.

An 8 x 10 hard copy photo or a digital jpeg (at least res. 300 dpi) is required at the time of nomination.

The nomination should contain sufficient biographical information to enable the committee to evaluate the nominee's qualifications.

Nominations must include the name (as they wish it to appear in our Hall of Fame registry), address, phone numbers and email addresses (if available) for the nominee **and** the person submitting them. If the nominee is deceased, please include the name of a person who may be able to accept the award.

Mail to: Western Swing Nominations Committee,
P. O. Box 2474, Carmichael, CA 95609

It's Easy!

Nominate a musician or exceptional volunteer for this year's Hall of Fame

Time is running out. May 31st is the last date to submit your nominations for our Hall of Fame celebration!

Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is a BIG HONOR, so submit a nomination and make someone's day!

1. The name, address, phone and email of member submitting the nomination
2. The name, address, phone and email of the nominee
3. The nominee's name as the nominee wants it shown in the bio and on the Hall of Fame registry
4. Biographical information about the nominee, with emphasis on involvement with Western Swing Music.
 - Birthplace and date.
 - Age at which participation in music began? How? Singing? Playing an instrument?
 - Early inspirations and influences?
 - Time and place of first professional performance.
 - Name of well-known bands and/or performers with which nominee has played.
 - Names of well-known locations where nominee has performed.
 - List of any awards or formal recognitions received by the nominee related to his or her music career.
 - Nominee's personal reasons for involvement in and support of Western Swing Music.

See the instructions in the previous column and email or mail your completed nomination information so that it is received by WSS no later than May 31st.

DON'T FORGET to include *your* phone, email and the *nominee's* phone, email and mailing address so that we can contact you.

UPCOMING DANCES YOU MIGHT ENJOY!

**Kenny and the Crickets Dance**

July 20th. 5pm. to 8pm.
at the Golden Empire Grange
11363 Grange Court, Grass Valley CA.
LARGE dance floor

\$15 per person

Water will be provided.

Bring your own sodas, alcoholic beverages and a snack to share if you wish. Information at:

Loralie Scott-(530-913-5423) or <https://www.cousincricket.com/>



Excited to officially share that Mae McCoy and Her Neon Stars will be performing at the California State Fair on Monday, July 14, 2025, at the Western Saloon Stage.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Location: Western Saloon Stage

Date: Monday, July 14, 2025

Times:

•Set 1: 5:30 PM – 6:20 PM

•Set 2: 6:30 PM – 7:20

In other news, I'm excited to share that The Farmer & Adele will be joining us from Nashville for this year's Annual Toy Drive, as part of "A Nashville Christmas in Rancho Cordova" this December.

I'm personally covering their performance and accommodations to help bring this special event to life. If you'd like to support or help spread the word, all the details and sponsor info are at MeghanMcCoy.com.

Thank you in advance for being part of this! **Yip!**

THANK YOU MUSICIANS!!!!!! (PHOTOS BY ALICIA FOX)



VISITING AT WSS (Photos By Fox West Photos) See all the photos on page 4



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/>

The Lincoln Highway Trio:
Every Tuesday, 1:15-3:45pm. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr, Carmichael. \$8 cover at the door. <https://www.facebook.com/lincolnhighwaybandca/>

Mae McCoy and Her Neon Stars

Contact: www.maemccoymusic.com
<https://youtube.com/@maemccoyandherneonstars>
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%2027%20outlaws>

Rhonda Lynn & Edgewood Station **Contact: Rhonda Rogers** 916-240-8736 **email:** info@rhondalynn.com **website:** www.rhondalynn.com facebook.com/rhondalynn66

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.

FREE DANCE LESSONS

With Admission @ 12:00 pm



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.