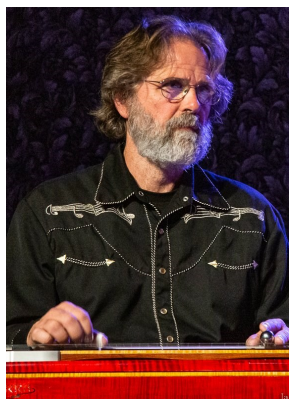


THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HALL OF FAME MEMBERS



DAVE ZIRBEL



BONNIE GUITAR

(Go to Page 3)

SUNDAY, December 7, 2025

Letter from The Editor



Great dance for November. I can't say enough about our great dancers that really packed the dance floor for Let The Horses Run. The Band had a great time and will be back to entertain us soon. As usual our volunteers were there to make the dance a great success. We are so fortunate that our dance is something we all look forward to.

We also notice that the hall is really starting to make some great improvements. Our Ralph Chase has been working with the hall to make sure repairs are done and he has been doing a great job. I was happy to see that repairs were done to the dance floor.

Let The Horses Run is lead by Singer/Guitar player

Continued on page 2



Beau Jeffers

1:00pm-3:00pm

Followed by the
House band

"The Hall of
Famers"

3:00pm-5:00pm

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

*Thank You
Volunteers*

Western Swing Society Presents

BEAU JEFFERS

Admission \$10 at the Door

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER
7TH**

12PM DANCE
LESSON
1PM BEAU
JEFFERS
3PM HOUSE
BAND

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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, Open

Treasurer, Linda Swanson

Secretary, Sandra Robinson

Social Media, Sandra Robinson

Social Media Specialist, Alicia West

Other Directors:

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Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520

Jimmy Boehnke

Arron Smith

Ralph Chase

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Bartender, Chuck

Decorating Chair, Open

Equipment and Staging, Arron Smith

Historian, (open)

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Membership Director, Linda McCarley

Music Director, Ronnie Elkan

Newsletter Editor, Ronnie Elkan

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Public Relations Administrator Open

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

Hall of Fame ; Carol Spiker

Editors Letter continued from page 1



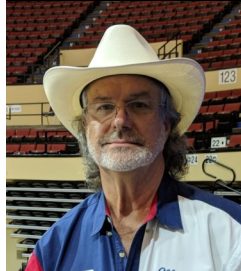
Rob Shotwell. On Bass is Greg Brooding; FiddleMandolin Olen Dillingham; Drums Charlie Nickrenz; Pedal Steel guitar Joe Ybarra and Fiddle Ronnie Elkan. If you enjoyed this band I will let you know where you can see them perform.

The Hall of Famers took over and kept the folks dancing right up to 5:00pm. Joe Ybarra stuck around to add his pedal steel to the group. Regular players are Jimmy Baughman on guitar and vocals; Steve Clark on bass and vocals; Ralph Chase on Keyboard and vocals; Arron Smith on drums, vocals & sound system; Ronnie Elkan on fiddle and Brian McCommas on guitar and vocal. Brian volunteer to help out setting up and breaking down the sound system when he is in town. Thanks Brian.

This month we are partnering up with the Machinest Hall for a food and gift drive. Personally, I will write a check for the needed and the kids, but if you have the time to shop for a gift or food we will make sure that it goes to the right place.

Along with the food drive we have Beau Jeffers coming in to play for us. He has been there before and he and his band were a huge success. I can't wait to see all of my WSS friends at our December dance.

JAM ROOM JAMMERS

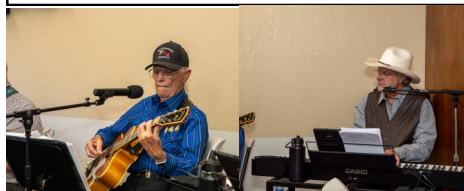


We'd like to have you write to us about your experience if you play in the jam room or go in to listen.

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.

DAVE ZIRBEL

Born February 23, 1963
Inducted October 6, 2024



Born: Alhambra CA
2/23/63.

He started playing tuba/sousaphone in fourth grade. Became interested in electric guitar at age 12 when his late uncle loaned him Beatles and Rolling Stones records. He was

influenced by rock bands that used pedal steel that eventually led me to country/ swing/roots music.

At the age four he was requesting to listen to Roger Millers Golden Hits. Also the kids tv shows like the Banana Splits and the Monkees, etc. had a big influence on him regarding performing.

He does not remember my first professional performance...probably early 80's playing top 40.

After taking up steel he's had the pleasure of working with George Frayne (Commander Cody), Tommy Thompson, Kevin Russell's Familiar Strangers, Megan McCoy, Tom Armstrong And The Branded Men, Johnny Dilks & His Country Soul Brothers, Gary Wayne Claxton & the Hellbound Honkytonk Band, and Dave Gonzalez (Paladins, Hacienda Brothers, and Sone River Boys.

He played at the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival ,the Portland Waterfront Blues Festival, Konocti Harbor, toured the Hawaiian Islands with Commander Cody playing the best venues on four different islands, and played some nice venues in San Francisco such as the Fillmore Auditorium, the Great American Music Hall, the Maritime Hall, De-Marcos 23 Club, and Slim's.

He has personal reasons for being involved with Western Swing: while he performs and enjoys several genres of music from several eras, he equally



enjoy playing Western swing , it's a steel players dream, and I hope to continue growing musicaly within the genre, also it's important to keep this important piece of American musical history alive.

BONNIE GUITAR

Born March 25, 1923 Died January 13, 2019
Inducted October 6, 2013



Born in 1923 in Seattle as Bonnie Buckingham, she took up playing the guitar as a teenager which led to her stage name, **Bonnie Guitar**.

At the same time, she also started songwriting. In 1944 she married her former guitar teacher Paul Tutmarc. Bonnie

and Paul had one daughter, Paula, born in 1950; they split in 1955 and Bonnie moved to Los Angeles.

Through much of the 1950s, Bonnie worked as a session guitarist at some small labels, where she got noticed as a professional guitarist and she ended up playing on sessions for such well-known singers as Jim Reeves, Dorsey Burnette, Ned Miller, and the DeCastro Sisters. After working with so many singers, she acquired her own singing aspirations and a desire to make her very own recording career in the process.

When Bonnie's rendition of "Dark Moon" hit the Country and Pop charts in the Spring of 1957, she received recognition in the music business. Not only was she one of the few female Country singers in Country Music at the time, but she was also one of the few Country singers that had a hit on the Country and Pop charts at the same time. "Dark Moon" brought Guitar a wide audience, and she was soon appearing on quite a few Pop Music programs

Guitar decided she would form her very own record label, called Dolphin Records, which she co-founded with Bob Reisdorff. When the pair decided to rename the label Dolton Records, many of Guitar's singles like "Candy Apple Red" and "Born to Be With You" were released. Groups who recorded on their label include The Fleetwoods, The Ventures.

Although the Dolton label was successful, Bonnie thought it was time she would get her own music career back on foot. She soon left Dolton, and went back to Dot Records where she recorded a series of country albums throughout the 60's.

In 1966 Guitar became one of the most successful female soloists in the country music field with her first Top 10 hit, "I'm Living In Two Worlds". That same year, she won the Academy of Country Music's "Top Female Vocalist" award.



All skill levels welcome!

Western Swing Society
Jam Room

Want to try out singing a song or two or playing an instrument with a group?
Join us in a comfortable environment!



1st Sunday Of The Month beginning at 12pm




2749 Sunrise Blvd Rancho Cordova, CA

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
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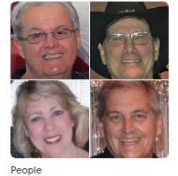
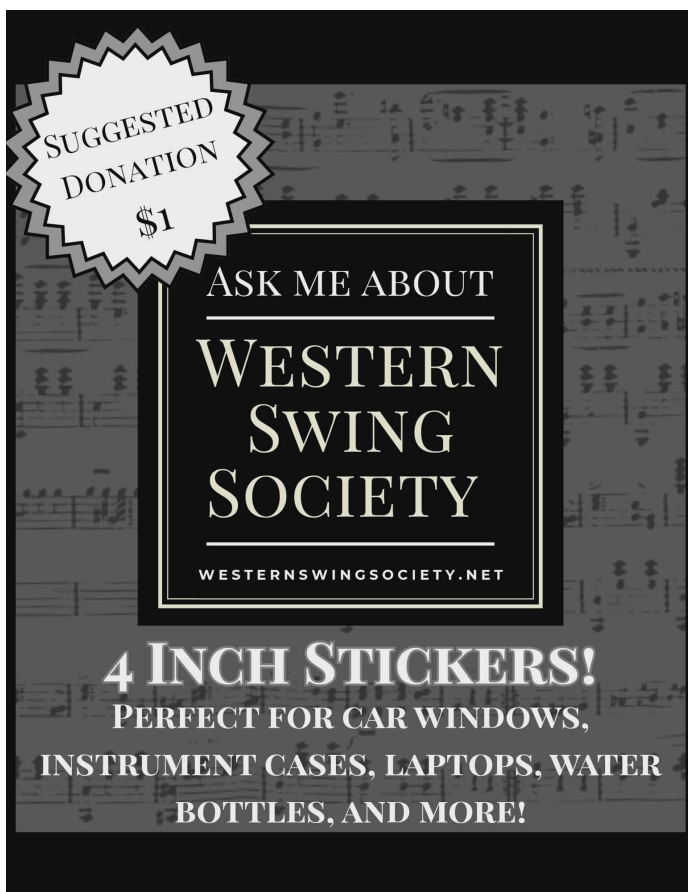


PHOTO LINKS

Monthly Dance Photos April Dance

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/p8vtXdsKtYbnkUH8>



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Let's Eat!

PLACE YOUR ORDER AT THE BACK COUNTER

Western Swing Society Café Menu	
Serving time: 12pm-3:15pm	
Hamburger with chips or potato salad	\$9.00
Double Burger— add \$2.00	
Cheeseburger with chips or potato salad	\$9.50
Double Burger— add \$2.00	
Beyond Burger (Plant based)	\$11.00
Pulled Pork with coleslaw	\$10.00
Cobb Salad	\$11.00
Hot Dog with chips or potato salad	\$5.00
Chips	\$0.50

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Food provided by The Auxiliary
ALA Unit 233 Elk Grove

Uncovering the best kept secret of Western Swing Society. The long and rich history of the Jam Room is something very special. As a musician, it's an invaluable place to sit and practice, try out a new song or just simply play for the love of the craft. As a spectator, the music drives itself into your bones and leaves an imprint and a feeling of joy and whimsy that we take with us back into our everyday life. The amount of pure talent is overwhelming and you know you've received a gift by visiting the space. If you haven't sat for a listen.....or brought your instrument or song to play, the Jam Room is open the first Sunday of every month starting around noon! Looking forward to seeing you there!



RAFFLE WINNERS (Photo's By Alicia Fox)



TIME TO VISIT AT WSS (Photos bt Alicia Fox West)



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



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



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

2025/2026 UPCOMING BANDS

December 7	Beau Jeffers
January 4 2026	Bob Woods Swing
February 1	TBA
March 1	The Baughmans

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

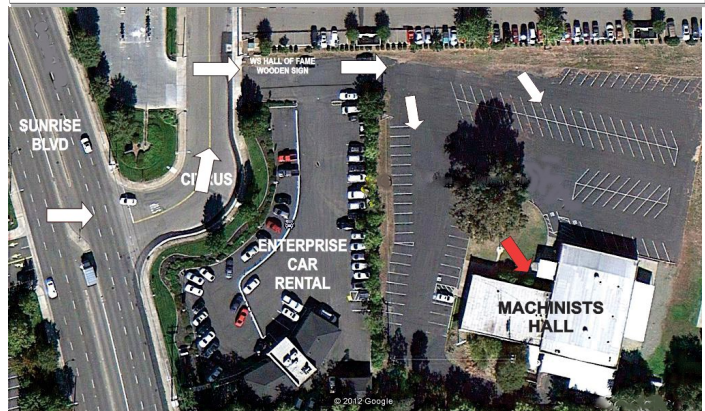
The Western Swing Society holds a music and dance session on the first Sunday of each month, featuring guest bands and artists and jam sets.

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.