

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HALL OF FAME MEMBERS



STEVE HATHAWAY



JOHN GIRTON

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SUNDAY, January 4, 2026

Letter from The Editor



Hello there WSS friends Happy New Year, what a great dance. I still can't get over the generosity of our folks. I'm sure you saw the gift table piled up high. All of that will be joined by what the Machinists Hal gifts people's also donated. They'll be wrapped and distributed to kids that are



less fortunate than us. There were also cash donations. Just made me so grateful and proud to be part of it.

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BOB WOODS SWING

1:00pm-3:00pm

Followed by the House band

"The Hall of Famers"

3:00pm-5:00pm

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CHECK OUT PHOTOS On Page 4

SURPRISE VISIT AT WSS

WESTERN SWING SOCIETY PRESENTS

ADMISSION \$10 AT THE DOOR

JANUARY 4, 2026

LIVE BANDS - DANCE - FOOD - DRINK



BOB WOODS & Friends

2 STEP DANCE LESSON 12PM-1PM
 BOB WOODS AND FRIENDS 1PM-3PM
 HOUSE BAND 3PM-5PM

**Jam Room *50/50 Raffle
 Food and Drink Available for Purchase

2749 SUNRISE BLVD, RANCHO CORDOVA



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, Open
 Treasurer, Linda Swanson
 Secretary, Sandra Robinson
 Social Media, Sandra Robinson
 Social Media Specialist, Alicia West
Other Directors:
 Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463
 Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
 Alicia West
 Chuck Webb
 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 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

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 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.

Editors Letter continued from page 1

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and is looking forward to a New Year. This is a great time of year for us and it feels good to reflect on how much we enjoy each other.

We had music by Beau Jeffers who had no trouble keeping the dance floor full. I gave Beau a call on fairly short notice and he was there for us. He is so honored to play at WSS and carry on that great tradition. Beau played lead guitar and lead vocals. Also in the band was Sammi Cornwell on lead and harmony vocals; Joe Ybarra on pedal steel;



Richard Warren on bass guitar; Kevin Coughlin on drums; Zach Mundy on fiddle. I hope they come back soon. I was especially happy to see a new face on fiddle, just say-in'.

Beau was followed by our house band "The Hall of Famers" along with some great guests. Jim Baughman is a show all alone on vocals and lead guitar. The band was rounded out with Ralph Chase on vocals and keyboard; Steve Clark on vocals and bass guitar; Charlie Nickerenz on drums; Ronnie Elkan on fiddle and MC, hahahaha; Olen Dillingham on vocal, Mando and Fiddle; and I can't say enough to Brian McCommas for running sound, setting up sound and singing and playing guitar. Singing with the band was Janice Allen, Linda Baughman, Nancy Long and Rhonda Lynn.

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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



LOOK FOR THIS BAND TO TAKE THE MAIN STAGE FOR A DANCE FEBRUARY 1 2026



STEVE HATHAWAY

Inducted October 3, 2013



Stompin' Steve Hathaway has hosted the weekly radio program, "The Cupertino Barn-dance," for over 35 years on KKUP, Cupertino, California. The program features classic country music (50's and 60's honky tonk, western swing, bluegrass, rockabilly, and an-

anything contemporary that fits). It airs 9 P.M. to Mid-night, Sundays at 91.5 FM on the dial.

Stompin' Steve is an avid country music collector with an extensive library of books, records, photographs, 16mm films, and videos of country and jazz music. He has contributed to the liner notes and/or photos and received acknowledgements on numerous western swing record reissues on such labels as Old Timey, Rambler, Rhino, Country Routes, Bear Family, and Franklin Mint.



Steve with Eldon Chamblin and Tiny Moore

Clips from his film collection including those of Bob Wills have been used in television documentaries on PBS, A&E and TNN. Clips of his Cindy Walker films were used, at her request, for her induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame CMA Awards Show on CBS. He also contributed biographies for The Encyclopedia of Country Music (Oxford University Press) for Billy Hughes, Smokey Rogers, Billy Jack Wills, and Luke Wills.

He has tirelessly promoted western swing through his radio program, hosting many bands live on-air including Smith's Ranch Boys, The Saddle Cats, West Coast Ramblers, and the Lone Star Retrobates as well as interviews with Johnny CuvIELLO, Vance Terry, Tom Morrell, Bobby Black, Shorty Joe, Billy Mize, Bill Woods, Speedy West, Herb Remington and many more.

He was a major contributor to the Baylor University Texas Oral History Project. For many years he published the *Western Swing Newsletter*, aimed at record collectors and western swing music aficionados. His current website www.westernswing.com contin

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John Girton

Inducted October 5, 2025



John Girton is well known throughout the world for his work as lead guitarist with the group "Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks." John recorded 3 albums with the group, and also wrote and arranged material for them. He was also fea-

tured as guitarist, saxophonist, clarinetist, and occasional mandolinist with the popular vocalist, Maria Muldaur for many years.

After numerous international tours, John started his own group in the San Francisco area. This group, the "Girtones" played a blend of Jazz, Swing and Blues in Oregon and California, sometimes including singer Maria Muldaur as a member. John has made several solo tours of England, where he performed in concerts and clubs throughout the country. In recent years he has performed with such groups as "Backwoods Jazz", the "George Souza Band", and is quite active in the Nevada County Music scene.

He currently performs solo jazz guitar at various venues in the Foothills area of California and has recently released a new CD called "You Are There", which was produced at John's "Nugget Studios" in Grass Valley, CA. John has been playing music professionally for over 20 years as an instrumentalist, vocalist, recording artist, studio musician, and composer. His original songs are a mixture of jazz, swing, blues and folk music, with a bit of humor thrown in for good measure.



John and his Daughter Cat Cattinson performing at our 2025 Hall of Fame where John was inducted into the Western Swing Hall of Fame.

Hope John and Cat will come back soon. They both were a big hit for the Dancers.

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 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.

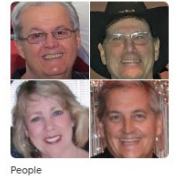


PHOTO LINKS
Monthly Dance Photos April Dance
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/MQKdxnNQwYuKafF67>

SUGGESTED DONATION
\$1

ASK ME ABOUT
WESTERN SWING SOCIETY
 WESTERNSWINGSOCIETY.NET

4 INCH STICKERS!
 PERFECT FOR CAR WINDOWS,
 INSTRUMENT CASES, LAPTOPS, WATER BOTTLES, AND MORE!

Let's Eat!

PLACE YOUR ORDER AT THE BACK COUNTER

Cobb Salad

Pulled Pork

Western Swing Society Cafe Menu	
Serving times: 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

Cheeseburger

Hot Dog

Food provided by The Auxiliary
ALA Unit 233 Elk Grove

Steve Hathaway continued from page 3



ues that effort with calendar and links to western swing events, bands, organizations, recordings, books and videos. He has appeared on KPFA with Tom Diannant for a Bob Wills centennial program, on KFJC twice with John Fletcher for day long Cindy Walker Specials. He participated with Bob Wills historian Dr. John Thompson in a day-long western swing film and lecture presentation at San Francisco State University.

He maintains a calendar of rockabilly and twang shows for the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Online it can be found at HicksWithSticks.com.

He recently provided archival materials and was interviewed for the Dude Martin documentary *Broadcast Cowboy*, which aired on PBS.

He was a 2007 inductee into the Seattle Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame in recognition of his lifelong contribution to Western Swing Music



Steve in the old days with Willie Nelson

Editor's Letter continued from page 2

I happy to announce our new board members. Alicia Fox and Chuck Webb have volunteered to take on some of the stuff that goes on behind the curtain here at WSS. There plenty of room for volunteers here. A great example of selfless service is Linda Baughman in case you're wondering who does all the updating on our cloud account. That's computer stuff in case you are wondering. Thanks Linda.

This month we will be swingin' with the great Bob Woods Swing. Bob's inlaws were members and used dance every dance back in the day. Bob and his band have always been dedicated to WSS and have always been there for us in more way then one. I always look forward to this show.

FREE DANCE LESSONS
With Admission @ 12:00 pm



2025/2026 UPCOMING BANDS

January 4 2026	Bob Woods Swing
February 1	Jamroom Band
March 1	The Baughmans
April 5	Rhonda Lynn & Edgewood Station
May 3	Don Burnham & The Bolos
June 7	Let The Horses Run

RAFFLE WINNERS (Photo's By Alicia Fox)



TIME TO VISIT AT WSS (Photos by Alicia Fox West) More Santa Photos Page 4



AT THE DANCE!!! (Photo's By Alicia Fox) See all The Photos 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%202027%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'

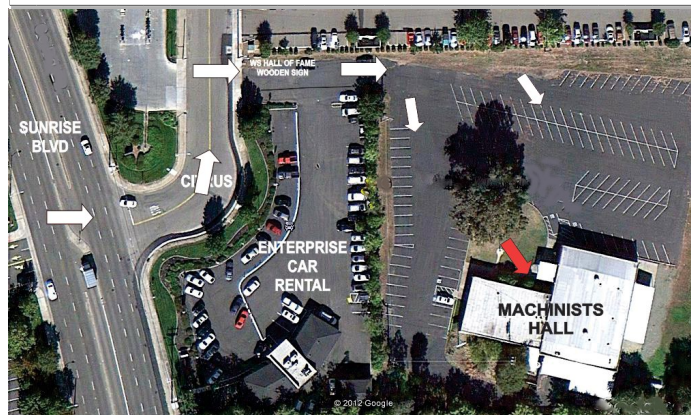
MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS

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.