VOLUME 44 NUMBER 11 NOVEMBER 2026

Western Swing Society Music News

Published by the Western Swing Society, Sacramento, California
Founded in 1981 by Loyd and Perry Jones

Coming Up

November 1st
Rhonda Lynn and Edgewood Station
December 6th
To Be Announced
January 3rd
Lincoln Highway



Always Looking for Volunteers!

Tech/Creative
Decorating/Miscellaneous

Letter From The Editor



Alicia
Fox West



2026 Hall of Fame was nothing short of terrific! We kicked off Hall of Fame weekend with our Induction Ceremony. Our attendance was record breaking and we enjoyed having so much support for our new Inductees. Saturday's bands were Bob Woods Swing, The Inductee Band, Geoffrey Miller, John Jones Texas Swing with Tommy Thomsen & Cornell Hurd and Wendy Dewitt and Kirk Harwood. Sunday kicked off with our dance lesson with Dave West. Our always incredible Sunday's bands were Janice Allen and & All the Queen's Men, Tommy Thomsen, Let the Horses Run, and John Jones Texas Swing with Tommy Thomsen & Cornell Hurd with a whopping 12 musicians on stage! A very special thanks to all of our musicians both on stage and in the Jam Room.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again for our November 1st dance with Rhonda Lynn & Edgewood Station. Rhonda always entertains and is fun music to dance to along with free dance lessons and the House Band!

As the holidays approach, we are gearing up for our Holiday Food Drive and Toy Drive. Last year was an utter sucess and we are looking forward to all of the holiday cheer of the season at our December 6th dance!

A massive THANK YOU again to our Board of Directors. our musicians, volunteers and of course all those that attend month after month! We appreciate you!

HALL OF FAMERS



AL PARRETT
Inducted October 6, 2013
#0644

Al was born in 1931 in Indiana. When he was 15 years old he became interested in the steel guitar. The playing style of Roy Wiggins ignited his enthusiasm for the steel guitar. The first song he learned to play solo was The Steel Guitar Rag.

With his A6th tuned lap steel, Al joined a band when he was 15. In the mid 50's, he purchased a Fender Triple Neck and went to work in Oceanside, California working six nights a week playing mostly swing

In 1957 Al worked with the Billy Sherrill organization. Billy went on to Nashville to promote Patsy Cline, Dottie West and Loretta Lynn. From 1962 to 1964, Al worked with Billy Mize and Cliff Crawford at the Famous Foot Hill Club In Long Beach, California. In 1990 and 1991, he made the West Coast Hall Of Fame tour with Hank Thompson . In 1996 he made a Far East Tour with the USO. They played a host of military clubs in that area.

Al received the Country Music Association award for Best Pedal Steel Player for the years 1992, 1994 and 1995

Having all the equipment necessary, Al performed a One Man Show at senior citizen homes, military bases and other venues. Hauling all the equipment necessary to do a one man show limits the number of shows, but he still does them occasionally.

Al's dedication to his musical style makes him an ideal candidate for The Western Swing Hall Of Fame.



VALMA JEWELL STANE
Born September 23, 1934
Inducted October 6, 2013
#0646

Valma was born September 23, 1934 to Clyde and Jessie Christian in Obion, Tennessee. As the only child at home, she had a lot of time to pretend she was a singer and a song writer. She would stand on a box and sing to her dad and to a large, invisible audience. She also took the opportunity to sing in churches.

She wrote her first song, "I Am Blind" , at the age of 10, just before the loss of her dad to cancer. Her father was her inspiration.

Valma continued to sing in church, and at the age of 12 was asked to sing in a quartet. They traveled locally for a year, then wanted to go on the road, but her mother was not willing to let me go on the road at such a young age.

Valma never stopped dreaming of becoming a singer and song writer. She took a few years off for her son Michael Parker and her daughter Sheila Parker (now Williams), and worked for North American Aviation in California. She transferred to a job in Tulsa, Oklahoma and retired from Boeing Aircraft Co. after 30 years.

In Tulsa there seemed to be music everywhere. While she was still working, Valma had the opportunity to attend Hank Thompson's School of Music at Rogers State College. She took classes in music theory, song writing, piano and voice.

Continued on Page 4

Free Dance Lesson 1st Sunday of the Month 12pm-1pm

Jam Room

Meet Your Hosts



Chuck Webb



Dave Rietz

Come on in, sing a song, play and instrument and make new friends! Look for the sign up sheet if you'd like to participate or see one of our hosts!













DID YOU KNOW?

- We are an ALL volunteer organization? That includes our musicians, sound, advertising and support staff.
- We have our membership drive June/July but you can become a member anytime and help support our organization?
- We are always looking for people willing to help and participate?



Valma Jewell Stane continued from Page 2

She took private guitar lessons for over a year at The Dick Gordon Studio in Tulsa, OK. She also took private guitar and vocal lessons from The Andrew Stane of Owasso, Oklahoma. Valma has written over 20 songs, and has performed with many bands, including those of Bob Cobb, Roy Stane, Hank Ballard, Ray Branch, Chuck Coulter, Phil Smith, Bobby Curtis, Tommy Seay, Leroy Faucett, Ray Poe, and Sid Littrell.



A NOTE ABOUT ONE OF OUR JAM ROOM FACILITATORS, DAVE RIETZ

Dave Rietz has been performing for audiences since 1968, when he first took the stage at a nightclub in Kinugasa, Japan. Over the decades that followed, he played countless stages, including the famed Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, and earned induction into both the Western Swing Hall of Fame and the Northwest Western Swing Society Hall of Fame. Now 83, Dave is still performing and still writing. Using today's AI tools alongside a lifetime of musicianship, he's releasing original new songs, with the concepts, lyrics, and musical decisions all his own. For Dave, the technology isn't a shortcut; it's what lets him keep bringing the music in his head to life. His message is simple: he's still here, still creating, and the best way to honor a lifetime of music is to keep making more of it.



Board Meeting Minutes

WESTERN SWING SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2026
Meeting called To Order by President Ronnie Elkan at 6pm via Zoom
MEMBERS PRESENT: President Ronnie Elkan, Treasurer Linda Bentley, Secretary Sandy Robinson, Alicia Fox-West, Chuck Webb, Ralph Chase, Arron Smith Guest: Nick Dennis
PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The Hall of Fame 2-Day Weekend was Fantastic. Everyone on our Team and the Volunteers did a Great Job! Alicia Fox-West did a great job with decorations – there were many new faces – and our change of schedule went off perfectly! A Special Thank You to Carol Spiker for her great job on the Silent Auction.
TREASURER'S REPORT: September Financial Report unanimously approved. The Hall of Fame actually made a profit this year! The Silent Auction brought in $750. The total 2-day attendance was 343!
NEWSLETTER/PUBLICITY: Alicia Fox-West continues to work with Ronnie Elkan on the Monthly Newsletter. Alicia's talented work – our Facebook presence and terrific fliers for the Hall of Fame and our Sunday dances – is contributing enormously to our attendance and new attendees. Articles are always welcome from our Members to include in our Newsletter.
JAM ROOM: Chuck Webb thanked our Guest Board Member, Nick Dennis, for his great help and Music in the Jam Room. Nick and his wife came all the way from Oregon to join us – Nick is always present at our Monthly Board of Directors Meetings – we value his great ideas and input.
HALL OF FAME: What a Fantastic 2 days of honoring our Inductees into this year's Hall of Fame and our October Sunday Dance. Arron Smith reported every musician was courteous and professional. Next year we will be looking for volunteers for a decorating team and Saturday night table/floor clean-up for Sunday dance. Our Attendance was great – we made a profit – our Bar did great – and our new/used popcorn machine worked great, too. Once again Dave West's Dance Lessons were a hit and so appreciated during our band switches. Alicia was very busy taking photos for two days and the photos always add so much to our events.
ADJOURNMENT:
Sandy Robinson
Secretary

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.

50/50 Raffle Winners







PO Box 2474
Carmichael, CA 95609
Website: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 Bentley
Secretary: Sandra Robinson
Other Directors:
Linda McCarley (916) 870-7463
Dave Rietz (916) 806-0520
Alicia Fox West (916) 397-7800
Chuck Webb
Arron Smith
Ralph Chase

Admissions Coord: Linda McCarley
Social Media/Advertising: Alicia Fox West
Bar Manager: Arron Smith Sr.
Bartender: Chuck
Equipment and Staging: Arron Smith
Historian: Open
Jam Room: Chuck Webb & Dave Rietz
Master of Ceremonies: Terry Crouson
Membership Director: Linda McCarley
Music Director: Ronnie Elkan
Newsletter Editor: Ronnie Elkan
Photographer: Alicia Fox West
Public Relations Administrator: Ralph Chase
Volunteer Coordinator: Sandra Robinson
50/50 Raffle: Bob and Virginia Kuykendall
Sound Engineer: Arron Smith
Website Manager: Dave Rietz
Hall of Fame Silent Auction: Carol Spiker
Popcorn: Caroline and Rose

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'

Membership

SCAN ME!

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 it's 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 ads are due to the Editor no later than the 10th of the month.

PICTURES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

PICTURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: HTTP://WESTERNSWINGSOCIETY.NET/. OR ON

HTTPS://PHOTOS.APP.GOO.GL/NRH2AWD2G4XFVG128

TIPS:

- FROM PDF NEWSLETTER, CLICK ON LINK ABOVE 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.



BANDS











Photography
by
Alicia Fox West








































OTHER WESTERN SWING MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS/MUSIC HAPPENINGS

Buck Ford & Pure Country:
https://buckford.com/events/

Geoffrey Miller Music:
https://www.facebook.com/geoffreymillermusic?mibextid=ZbWKwL
https://www.facebook.com/cadillac.rodeo.90sCountry?mibextid=ZbWKwL

Carolyn Sills Combo:
https://www.carolynsills.com/

Cowtown Society of Western Music
Joe Baker, Membership Director
940-452-6300
4361F.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, l:15-3:45pm. Mission Oaks Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr, Carmichael. $8 cover at the door.

Cowtown Birthplace of Western Swing
https://www.birthplaceofwesternswing.com

Slade Rivers Band:
https://sladeriversband.com/events/

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest:,
PO Box 644, Shattuck, OK 73858.
Meets quarterly. www.wsmss.com.

Cliff Huey 27 Outlaws Band:
https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=cliff%20huey%2027%20outlaws

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

Let The Horses Run:
Contact info (530) 228-1447
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61574883143066&mibextid=ZbWKwL

Kenny and the Crickets
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100062317545410&mibextid=ZbWKwL



MONTHLY MUSIC SESSIONS

The Western Swing Society holds a music/dance session on the first Sunday of each month, featuring guest bands, artists, a jam room and free dance lessons
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
at The Machinists Hall
2749 Sunrise Blvd., Rancho Cordova,CA
Donation: $7 for Members; $10 for Non-Members
Food and Drink Available for Purchase
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 Sun rise 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