

# Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter

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Home of the Backforty Roundup & CD Chorale

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Joe Baker - Publisher

February, 2008

The Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter is sent to over 500 email subscribers periodically and is growing every day. These are DJs, artists, and fans whose interests are Western Swing, Cowboy Poetry, Cowboy Heritage and Texas Honky Tonk music genres. We solicit your comments, suggestions and ways we may better serve you. If you do not want to receive this newsletter and want to be removed from our mailing list, reply to this email by entering "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject box of the email.

Published By Joe Baker

Cowtown Society of Western Music Hall of Fame

Academy of Western Artists Disc Jockey of the Year.

Cowtown Society of Western Music Disc Jockey of the Year

Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest Hall of Fame

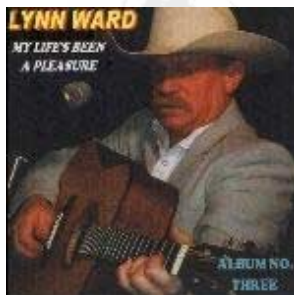
Membership Director—Cowtown Society of Western Music

Editor: Howard Higgins

Lynn Ward

My Life's Been A Pleasure

CD Review by Joe Baker



Lynn Ward's "My Life's Been A Pleasure" is the best I've heard in a long while. I had the pleasure of shaking Lynn's hand back in July of 2007 in Oklahoma City and what a really good man, Lynn is. I am so impressed with all three of his albums that I just can't seem to get them out of my player. Ward hails from

Calico Rock, Arkansas and I look for great things to happen down the trail. Some of the finest players are featured on all of Lynn's albums, a few that even I have never heard of but sure want to meet one of these days including *Jack Dever* on steel & rhythm guitar, *Rich Owen* on bass, *Jim Burrell* on steel, *Tom Ward* taking care of the rhythm, my good friend *Bobby Gilstrap* on lead guitar along with *Keith Holter* on lead. I'm always impressed when an artist dedicates his or her project to folks who has inspired them to continue in the foot steps of others great work, Ward's no exception to this as his hero's are *Buck Wayne Johnston*, *John Paul Jones* and *Monte Raines*. I can't say enough good words about Lynn Ward, but if you play western swing and down right good ole two steppin' Texas Honky Tonk music, then you've just got have his CDs in your music library. You can purchase Lynn Ward's CD's by emailing Lynn at: [tomcatproduct@yahoo.com](mailto:tomcatproduct@yahoo.com) or at: [www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com/CDChoraleArtists](http://www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com/CDChoraleArtists).

Attention Overseas DJs

Your Top Ten lists are welcome for the newsletter. Just send them to [news@backfortybunkhouse.com](mailto:news@backfortybunkhouse.com) along with a picture. Send only your top ten (not a complete list).

Joe Baker's KNMB Top 10 Western Swing Albums

1. Carolyn Martin—*Swing*
2. Brady Bowen—*In My Spare Time, Vol.#4*
3. Jeff Griffith—*If It Ain't One Thing It's Another*
4. Jerry Webb—*Red Lips and Honkytonks*
5. Bobby Flores—*Neon Lights*
6. Robert Weeks—*I never Had The One I Wanted*
7. Joe Paul Clark—*Joe Paul Clark*
8. Bad Bob Rohan—*Prairie Rose*
9. Dave Caley—*Live This Life*
10. Johnny Johnson—*Angel's Don't Lie*

Joe Baker's KNMB Top Western Music/Cowboy Poetry Albums

1. Gil Prather—*Last of the Border Cowboys*
2. Buckshot Dot—*One More Dance, DSJ Prod*
3. Joe A Green—*Back to the Good old Days*
4. Monty Teel—*A Country Boy Looks Back*
5. Susan Parker—*She Rode A wild Horse*
6. Andy Nelson—*Full Nelson Shoeing*
7. Bar D Roundup—*CowboyPoetry.com*
8. Gary Prescott—*Rough Country Wild Cattle*
9. Jean Prescott—*Sweethearts And Carharts*
10. Yvonne Hollenbeck—*What Would Martha Do*

Backforty Bunkhouse Show On The Internet

Joe Baker's multi-award winning Backforty Bunkhouse Radio Show can now be heard on the world wide web broadcasting live every Saturday morning from 6 AM to 10 AM from the MTD studios located in Ruidoso, New Mexico (MST) on KMMW, Regional Radio W-105. Listen to some of the best Western Swing, Classic Country, Cowboy Music, Texas Honkytonk and Cowboy Poetry on the internet.

Also you can hear Tim Keithley's New Mexico In The Morning, weekdays 9-10 AM (MST). News, Talk, and Tourism plus Will Rooney's afternoon Drive Home show from 2-5:30 PM (MST). Classic Country, Top 40 Country, and Indie Country Music. **It's just a couple of clicks away and here's how to get there...**

1. Go to [www.MTDradio.com](http://www.MTDradio.com)
2. Right Under the Coyote 107 & W-105 Logo is a link that says "[Click Here To Listen Live to W-105](#)"
3. Click on the link and you're there.



**Mike Gross**  
WVOF-FM  
Fairfield, CT  
Swingin' West

### Mike's Top 10 Picks

#### Songs:

1. Here in Old Fort Worth - *Jerry Webb*
2. I Left the Best Part of Texas in Tennessee - *Red Steagall*
3. Texas to a T - *Carolyn Martin*
4. Lost My Baby Blues - *Reid Wells & Segovia 1862*
5. More Than I Ever Bargained For - *Reid Wells & Segovia 1862*
6. She Loves to Dance - *Stardust Cowboys*
7. Happy Daze - *Chuck Cusimano*
8. Texas Eyes - *Cornell Hurd Band*
9. The Prettiest Girls in Texas - *Brian Burns*
10. Gotta Keep 'Em Movin' Along - *Billy Mata*

#### Albums

1. Don't Ever Take Our Picture Down - *River Road Boys*
2. Swing - *Carolyn Martin*
3. Jumpin' Time - *The Time Jumpers*
4. Here We Go Again - *Red Steagall & Friends*
5. Segovia Road - *Reid Wells & Segovia 1862*
6. Scratchin' the Surface - *Ray Harrison*
7. Reinventing the Wheel - *Asleep at the Wheel*
8. Neon Nights- *Bobby Flores*
9. Domino Effect - *Billy Mata*
10. Old Boots New Steps - *Wild River Band*

Mike Gross — [www.swingingwest.com](http://www.swingingwest.com)

### Graham Lees Top 10 Songs and Albums

HWD Radio — United Kingdom



#### Top 10 CDs

- 1 Timeless - *Quebe Sisters Band*
- 2 Swing - *Carolyn Martin*
- 3 Jumping Time - *Time Jumpers*
- 4 'Cause I Always Wanted To - *Lon Hannah*
- 5 Cowpokes, Horses & Old Glory - *Palo Duro*
- 6 *RW Hampton - Oklahoma...Where The West Remains*
- 7 In My Spare Time Vol 4 - *Brady Bowen*

- 8 Crocus In The Snow - *Stephanie Davis*
- 9 Honk Tonk Cowboy & The Desert Flower - *Stardust Cowboys*
- 10 Here Comes A Change - *Jim Garling*

#### Top 10 Songs

- 1 Exactly Like You - *Carolyn Martin*
- 2 You Don' Care What Happens To Me - *Quebe Sisters Band*
- 3 Tumbleweed - *Kip Calahan*
- 4 San Antonio Rose - *Swing Commanders*
- 5 I Ride An Old Paint - *Lon Hannah*
- 6 A Horse Called Music - *Palo Duro*
- 7 City Lights - *Brady Bowen*
- 8 Cold Wind Blow - *Stephanie Davis*
- 9 You'll Want Me To Want Me - *Jim Garling*
- 10 Good Friends - *Stardust Cowboys*

[graham@grahamlees.co.uk](mailto:graham@grahamlees.co.uk)

### New CD Titles At Backforty CD Chorale

- Yvonne Hollenbeck - *Pieces of the Past*  
 Jeff Griffith - *If It Ain't One Thing It's Another*  
 Donald Fuller - *The Texas Twister*  
 Rodger Maxwell - *Cowboy Promises*  
 Joe Paul Clark - *Joe Paul Clark*

[www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com](http://www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com)



[www.cowboypoetry.com](http://www.cowboypoetry.com)



[www.mountainannies.com](http://www.mountainannies.com)



[www.duggcollins.com](http://www.duggcollins.com)

### So You Think You Want to Yodel or "Yodeling – 101"

By Susan Parker



Ya-hoo-ooo! Everyone knows that sound. But did you know those three notes were written by [Wylie Gustafson](#) of Wylie and the Wild West? The world renowned yodeler wrote them in 1996, and they soon became the quirky, household sound of the internet. Gustafson freely admits those three little notes, followed later by a five note version, "have been good to me."

Yodel-ay-eee-tee! and other sounds to "tickle my tonsils" started my adventure at the 24th National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, January 26 – February 2, 2008. Before a packed house in Elko, Wylie led a group of yodeler-wannabes through the "how-to's" of yodeling. Starting with a brief history of the yodel's beginnings as a form of communication in the Bavarian mountains to its evolution as a cool art form in today's cowboy music, he taught the basics of yodeling and shared how he got started in this energetic and sometimes soulful vocal art form. His dad, Rib, would yodel when he was happy. It was infectious to a young cowboy so Wylie started yodeling at an early age. Then in the 1980s while living in Los Angeles, he would hang out at old record stores looking for vinyl records recorded by the likes of [Kenny Roberts](#), [Jimmie Rodgers](#), and [Slim Whitman](#).



Yodeling uses the voice break, a smooth, pleasant-sounding (hopefully!) transition from your natural or "chest" voice to your falsetto or "head" voice. He spoke of the importance of warming up the voice box first. Since this was a 9:00 am workshop and I'd been out a "tad" late the night before this was a good idea. Leading the class through breathing, relaxation, and tongue exercises, the room sounded at first a bit like a sick train pulling into the station. As we relaxed with our neighbors and realized this was to be fun, not a contest, the highs and lows of the "ooooooooooooo's" echoing across the room sounded pretty smooth. Each participant brought his or her own character and attitude, putting the soul into the sound, bringing the yodel to life. Stressing the importance of yodeling in a key that is comfortable for each individual, we "toggled and flipped" through a range of "yodel-ay-eee-hee's" and "idle-ay-eee-tees." While there are a variety of yodeling styles the class kept it to the simpler forms. This all reminded me of a comment made by Simon Cowell during this year's American Idol auditions, "Why do country singers always have to do that yodeling thing"? Well, Simon, because it is cool and they can!

To me the best information he gave was that you must have a sense of humor, you don't have to be a good singer to be a good yodeler, AND the yodeling voice seems to get better as you get older. Some of the best yodelers are in their 50s and 60s. Yes! Finally something that gets better as you get older! If you've a hankerin' to try a little yodeling on your own, you can buy Wylie's book "How to Yodel – Lessons to Tickle Your Tonsils" together with an instructional CD for \$10, available at his web site. For more information on Wylie Gustafson and Wylie and the Wild West check out his web site at <http://www.wylieww.com>.

So...jump in the shower and let 'er rip. Yodeling sounds will reverberate around the shower as if you were standing on the highest peak of the Alps. Simon Cowell, eat your heart out!

Hey folks, Western music disc jockey's love the Roundup for the mega selections of great music and poetry. You sure want to get in the saddle for the Backforty Roundup's next issue.

[Curly Fletcher](#) was born in San Francisco in 1892 and grew up in Bishop, California. His many occupations included cowboy, poet, musician, rodeo promoter, publisher, prospector, and actor (he appeared as a rancher in the movie Gunsmoke in 1947).

Fletcher's best-known poem, "The Strawberry Roan," became popular everywhere, from bunkhouses to Hollywood. The influential 1930s songwriters and radio personalities [Fred Howard](#) and [Nat Vincent](#) ("The Happy Chappies") reworked the lyrics and the song quickly became one of the most-often recorded cowboy songs.

Hollywood did not suit Fletcher. [John I. White](#), in his book, *Git Along, Little Dogies...* wrote about him, "In Hollywood's world of make-believe, the cowboy poet was out of his element and often an unhappy man. One day when he was fed up with the film capitol and lawsuits, he wrote me a letter which concluded with these nostalgic lines: 'Hell, I was born and reared here in the West. My earliest memory is of cowmen and cattle. I spent my best years as a cowboy of the old school...And I still look back to long days and nights in the saddle, at \$30 a month, as the happiest of my existence.'"

Among Fletcher's other well-known songs and poems are "The Saddle Tramp," "The Pot Wrassler," "The Saga of Borax Bill," "Yavapai Pete," "Wild Buckeroo," and "The Ridge-Running Roan," a takeoff on "The Strawberry Roan."

Fletcher published *Rhymes of the Round-up* in 1917, a now-rare little booklet with nine poems. His 1932 *Ballads of the Badlands* was a songbook, and much of his poetry is collected in his 1931 book, *Songs of the Sage* (there was a reprint edition of that book in 1986, edited by [Hal Cannon](#) and published by Gibbs-Smith).

Fletcher died in 1954.

### The Strawberry Roan

I wuz hangin' 'round town just uh spendin' muh time,  
I wuz out of a job an' not makin' uh dime,  
When uh feller steps up an' he sez,  
"I suppose you're a bronc ridin' guy from the looks uh yure clothes."

"Well yuh guesses me right, I'm a good un I claim,  
Do yuh happen tuh have any bad uns tuh tame?"  
An' he sez he's got one, an' uh bad un tuh buck,  
An' fer throwin' good riders he's had lots uh luck.

An' he sez that this pony has never been rode,  
That the boys that gits on him is bound to git throwed,  
Well, I gits all excited an' asks what he pays  
Fer to ride that old pony uh couple uh days.

Well, he offers uh ten-spot—Sez I, "I'm yure man,  
'Cause the bronc never lived that I couldn't fan  
That no hoss never lived, nor he never drew breath  
That I just couldn't ride till he starved plum tuh death.

Now I don't like tuh brag but I got this tuh say,  
That I ain't been piled up fer uh many uh day;  
And sez he, "Git yure saddle an' I'll give yuh uh chance,"  
So I gits in his buck-board an' drifts tuh his ranch.

There I stays until mornin' an' right after chuck  
Then I steps out tuh see if that outlaw kin buck,  
An' I spots the corral an' uh' standin' alone  
There I sees this caballo, uh strawberry roan.

An his laigs is all spavined, he's got pigeon toes,  
He's got little pig-eyes and a big Roman nose.  
He's got little pin-ears an' they touch at the tip,  
An' a double-square iron it was stamped on his hip.

He wuz yew-necked an' old with uh long lower jaw,  
I kin see with one eye he's uh reg'lar outlaw,  
So I puts on muh spurs an' I'm sure feelin' fine  
An' I turns up muh hat an' I picks up muh twine.

Now I throws the loop on him an' well I knows then  
That before he gits rode I will sure earn that ten;  
Then I gits my blinds on an' it sure wuz uh fight,  
an' a-next comes my saddle an I screws it down tight.

Then I up an' piles on him an' raises the blind,  
I am right in his middle tuh see him unwind,  
An' I spots the corral an uh stand-in' alone  
There I seems tuh quit livin' down here on the ground.

And he goes toward the east an' he goes toward the west,  
An' tuh stay in the middle I'm doin' my best;  
Now he's sure walkin' frog an' he heaves uh big sigh  
And he only lacks wings fer tuh be on the fly.

Then he turns his old belly right up tuh the sun  
An' he sure is a sun fishin' son uv uh gun,  
He's the worst buckin' bronc that I've seen on the range,  
He kin turn on a nickle and give yuh some change.

While he's buckin' he's squealin' he sounds like a shoat,  
An' I tells yuh that pony has sure got muh goat;  
An' I claim that, no foolin' that bronc could sure step,  
An' I'm still in the saddle uh buildin' up rep;

Then he hits on all fours an' he suns up his side,  
I don't see how he keeps from a sheddin' his hide.  
An' I loses muh stirrups an' also muh hat  
An' I'm grabbing the leather ez blind ez a bat.

With a phenomenal jump then he goes up on high,  
An' I'm settin on nuthin' way up in the sky,  
An' it's then I turns over an' I comes back tuh earth,  
An' I lights in the tuh cussin' the day of his birth.

Then I knows that the hosses I ain't able tuh ride  
Is some uv 'em livin—they haven't all died;  
But I bets all muh money thar's no man alive  
That kin stay with that bronc when he makes that high dive.

*By Curley Fletcher, from "Ballads of the Badlands," where it is labeled "The Original Strawberry Roan."*

There's more poetry and information about hundreds of other classic and contemporary cowboy poets and Western musicians at [CowboyPoetry.com's](#) BAR-D Ranch. It's an on-going gathering, with continuous news, features, event calendars, the best in classic and contemporary Cowboy Poetry and Western Music lyrics, and a free email newsletter.

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### LEESWING88 TOP TWELVE CDs *Kountry Korral Magazine—Bennerstigen, Sala, Sweden*



#### TOP TWELVE CDs

- 1 BOB WILLS & The(Sic) TX Playboys – *Live in San Antonio*
- 2 GAYLYNN ROBINSON – *Songs By A West Texas Songstress*
- 3 HEYBALE – *The Last Country Album*
- 4 JEFF GRIFFITH – *If It Ain't One Thing It's Another*
- 5 JOHNNY JOHNSON – *Angels Don't Lie*
- 6 KELLI GRANT – *Swing Like That*
- 7 LUCKY TOMBLIN BAND – *Red Hot from Blue Rock*
- 8 MIKE BLAKELY & Whiskey Traders – *Live At The Uptown*
- 9 MILLER BROTHERS BAND – *Miller Brothers Band*
- 10 TEXAS PLAYBOYS – *Live In Pawhuska*
- 11 TIME JUMPERS – *Jumping Time*
- 12 TOM MORRELL & BOBBY KOEFER – *No Peddlers Allowed*

#### TOP TWELVE SONGS

- 1 Ballad Of The Pony Express – *Casey Anderson*
- 2 Call Back My Heart Texas Moon – *GayLynn Robinson*
- 3 Don't Mess With Texas – *Kelli Grant*
- 4 Fat Boy Rag – *Swing Shift Band*
- 5 I Wish It Was That Easy Going Home – *Curtis Potter*
- 6 Leavin' And Sayin' Goodbye – *Time Jumpers*
- 7 Let's Go To Mexico – *Heybale*
- 8 Old Cantina, The – *Mike Blakely*
- 9 Snap Your Fingers – *Johnny Johnson*
- 10 That's Why There's Honky Tonks In Texas – *Chuck Cusimano*
- 11 Time Changes Everything – *Lucky Tomblin Band*
- 12 (Turn Me Loose and) Let Me Swing – *Pennington & Emmons*



## Judy James' Cowboy Jubilee Show Top Ten

Cowboy Jubilee stations:  
 KSQX 89.1 FM -Springtown and Weatherford,  
 KMQX 88.5 FM - Mineral Wells,  
 KEQX 89.1 -Stephenville,  
 93.7 FM in Granbury  
 93.3 in Graham.  
 Saturday mornings from 7:30 to 9:30

- K R Wood – “Listen to the Wind”
- Rex Allen & Rex Allen Jr. – “Texas Plains”
- Dan Roberts – “Horse Tradin”
- Dave Stamey – “¾ Time”
- Michael Martin Murphey – “Belle Starr”
- Jean Prescott – “Life Between the Rivers”
- Ian Tyson – “Jaquima to Freno”
- Red Steagall – “Freckles Brown”
- Judy James – “Canned Goods”
- Peggy Coleman – “Whoa Mule”

[www.JudyJames.com](http://www.JudyJames.com)

### The Big Fred Walker Show WOES 91.3 FM Mid-Michigan



“THE BIG FRED WALKER SHOW” Internet Radio [www.oe.k12.mi.us](http://www.oe.k12.mi.us) Wed. 4:00 to 6:00 PM and Sat. 9:00 to 11:00/PM EST. The Gospel Show is on Sunday 9:00 AM & 9:00 PM EST. For airplay send music to: The Big Fred Walker Show WOES, 2101 Cook Road, Owosso, MI 48867-8927

#### Top Ten Songs:

- 1 Darrell McCall – *I Miss You Already*
- 2 Kevin Collins – *Only In Your Eyes*
- 3 Amber Digby – *Hinges On The Door*
- 4 Bobby Flores – *Big Shoes*
- 5 Derrick Mehaffey – *Waltzing Margarita*
- 6 Pat James – *Bud's Pearl*
- 7 Jerry Webb – *Wrong From The Ring*
- 8 Ernie Oldfield – *Say Hello*
- 9 T. Jae Christian – *I Don't Care Where You Dig That Hole*
- 10 Jody Nix – *All Night Long*

#### Top Ten CDs:

- 1 Kevin Collins – *The Photograph*
- 2 The Starline Rhythm Boys – *Red's Place*
- 3 Mary Lee – *When I'm Good and Lonely*
- 4 David Cline – *Another Man's Treasure*
- 5 Bobby Flores – *Neon Nights*
- 6 Melinda Marie – *All of Me*
- 7 Dusty Owens – *You Can't Find Hank Williams' (On the Jukebox Anymore)*
- 8 Bob Boatright – *Fiddle Swing*
- 9 Glenn Lenderman – *Here's To You (My Texas Lady)*
- 10 Hank Stone – *In a Texas Honky Tonk*

#### Top Seven Gospel Songs:

- 1 Sandra Lee Burdick – *It's So Amazing*
  - 2 Wylie and The Wild West Show – *Jesus Loves Me*
  - 3 Joe Paul Nichols – *Falling Leaves*
  - 4 Dusty Owens – *A taste Of Heaven*
  - 5 Justin Trevino – *Life's Railway to Heaven*
  - 6 Ann Brown – *The Old Village Church on The Hill*
  - 7 Mike Siler – *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*
- [djcountryone@charter.net](mailto:djcountryone@charter.net)

### Don't Forget To Listen To the Backforty Bunkhouse Show Every Saturday Morning from 6 AM to 10 AM (MST) On The Internet.

We've had some start-up problems but we're getting these ironed out daily. Anything new has its growing pains and the Backforty Bunkhouse Show is not any different. We think we've got most of the problems fixed, so you shouldn't be bothered with the constant buffering that we experienced recently.

## SEATTLE WESTERN SWING MUSIC SOCIETY UPDATE

By Bill Bailey

### Showcase for January 13, 2008 at Normanna Hall



**Sandy Sanderson** & Rhythm Riders Reunion Valentine's Dance, February 10, 2008

It was a special day today as we were celebrating the Sandy Sanderson and the Rhythm Riders band reunion.

Sandy had reluctantly announced that he would be discontinuing the band. This reunion performance reunited the members of the Rhythm Riders for one last time and it was a memorable day indeed. With Sandy on guitar and vocals, there was **Nancy Peterson** on fiddle and vocals, **Judy Collender** on keyboard and vocals, **Eddie Fields** on drums, **Jack Jahoda** on steel, **Gene Boyd** on guitar and **Rich Curnow** on bass and vocals. Later in their set they called **J.C. Smith** on stage to sing a couple of numbers. And they surprised **Ed** and **Lou Bischoff** by calling them up to celebrate their 12th anniversary by dancing to a special song. They were joined on the dance floor by the crowd joining their hands and dancing around Lou and Ed in a circle.

It was announced that Sandy and his wife Jean were chosen as our Valentine's Day Sweetheart couple, but unfortunately **Jean Sanderson** wasn't able to make it to the dance due to ill health. But Sandy's family was there to celebrate with him and it made a lovely picture.

As the jammers were taking the stage Lou was handing out door prizes to the lucky winners. First up on the stage for the jam was **Lloyd Hooper** on bass and vocals, **LeRoy Brigue** on steel, **Paul Anastasio** and **Rus Davis** on fiddles, **Jim Neel** on guitar, **Ray Shawley** on drums and **Ted Kiger** on vocals. There was a short break in order to call up the winner of the Split the Pot drawing. The lucky winner was **Jerry Dezotell**. Joining the jammers on stage was **Darrell Haddock** on lead guitar and vocals, **LeRoy King** on vocals, **Gene Silberberg** on fiddle, **Judy LeBlanc** on vocals, and **Lorraine Jefferson** on accordian. Taking over on drums was **Gil Barbee** and **Cindy DeLeon** came up to sing a couple of numbers. Darrell Anderson joined the jammers on stage with his fiddle and vocals and a little later Dave Wheeler took his turn on the drums and Larry Broad joined in with his guitar. It was a lovely day and everyone had a great time dancing and enjoying their friends.

Be sure to join us at Normanna Hall on Sunday, March 9, 2008 to help us celebrate Bob Wills' birthday. Our host band will be none other than Longhorn. They will be here all the way from Longview and we know you will enjoy them.

Contact Bill Bailey—[eagle032@aol.com](mailto:eagle032@aol.com)  
[www.SeattleWesternSwingMusicSociety.com](http://www.SeattleWesternSwingMusicSociety.com)

### Backforty Bunkhouse Trivia

Congratulations to **Buckshot Dot** for the correct answer to January's Trivia Question. Her name was drawn from over 30 correct answers submitted. She will be receiving the **Andy Nelson's** "Full Nelson Shoeing" CD.

**January's Question:** *When Farmers and Ranchers used to plow fields with horses or mules, who can tell us what "Gee and Haw" meant?*

**Correct Answer:** Gee-Turn Right, Haw-Turn Left

**This Month's Trivia Question** – We had so many responses for the Bob Wills' Story 3-CD set that we are running it again this month. A triple CD set by James Holly on the life of Bob Wills. Three hours of Western Swing history.

**Question:** *What is Lynn Anderson's signature song?*

Answers only accepted by email through Joe's website trivia form. Go to [www.backfortybunkhouse.com](http://www.backfortybunkhouse.com) and on the opening page click on the link to "Trivia." It will take you to a page where you can enter your answer/s through a preset secure form. The winner will be determined by an independent drawing from a list of all correct answers. Remember to enter your answers by the form on Joe's website.

## Bill McCallie's Cowboy Jubilee Radio Show

Classical 90.5 WSMC-FM Chattanooga, TN



It's kinda hard to pick out a top ten this month as I did one complete show on [Juni Fisher's](#) new CD and included all the songs except the public domain songs. Her CD is called *Gone to Colorado* and is the story of her great grandfather [John Overstreet](#). This is really nice material for my public radio audience. Thanks

Juni for keeping me in the loop. Got started off this month with a great interview with one of my favorites in the music business, [Dan Roberts](#). Dan's new CD is called *Beyond the Brand* and a portion of the proceeds goes to Cook's Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth Texas. I highly recommend Dan's music to everyone. His songs are always family oriented and have a great moral and story to them. Dan's song "What Am I Doing About Today" touched me personally and the listeners responded to it as well. [Suzie Bogus](#) and [Carolyn Martin](#) both have a new CD out called "Swing" and I did several cuts from both these CDs this month. I would hate to have to pass judgment on which one of these is the best because they are both great. Suzy had a little help from Ray Benson and Carolyn's got some help from the "Time Jumpers". Played 4 cuts from [Lon Hannah's](#) new CD project "Because I wanted to". The song "Compadres of the Sierra Madres" written by [Woody Paul](#) of Riders in the Sky sure is a nice tune as well as [Dave Stamey's](#) "Vaquero Song". I've always got some western swing in the kick off to the show. [Jody Nix](#), [Bobby Flores](#), and [Ray Benson](#) have been really great about getting some music to me and the listeners are really enjoying it. My friend [John Studdard](#) puts together a great bluegrass festival in Etowah Tennessee to honor [Jake Tullock](#), bass player for Flatt and Scruggs for 25 years. I got several cuts in from Earl Scruggs, [Little Roy Lewis](#) and [Lizzy Long's](#) new CD called "Lifetimes". This is Earl's first recording in some time and he is amazing on the banjo still. I rounded out the month with [David Wilkie's](#) *Cowboy Celtic* and some really good [Ian Tyson](#) songs. Thanks to all you folks who have sent music to me. Our public radio audience really enjoys cowboy music, western swing, fiddle tunes, cowboy poetry and here in Tennessee, you gotta play some bluegrass. Speaking of bluegrass music, you know there is a fella out in Gales Creek Oregon named [Steve Blanchard](#) who does the best job of mixing cowboy music and bluegrass. Steve's got a CD out called "Pass it On" and he does a super job. Got western themes and story lines with a little bluegrass flavor and Steve himself is a great "flat picker". I'll spotlight a few cuts from Steve's CD next month, so be listening for that. Well that all the news that's fit to print from Cowboy Jubilee. Come to see us when you can.

You Can Contact Bill at: [bill.mccallie@gmail.com](mailto:bill.mccallie@gmail.com)  
Sundays at 6:00 pm—[www.wsmc.org/webstream.html](http://www.wsmc.org/webstream.html)

### FRANKIE McWHORTER

By [Dugg Collins](#)



He was a ranch foreman and a cowboy fiddler. I have known Frankie McWhorter all my life. His family lived just down the street from me when I was just a kid in Memphis, Texas. His brother Gary Don and I were school chums. He was raised as a cowboy and learned to play fiddle while working at the JA Ranch. He learned directly from renowned fiddlers like Uncle Eck Robertson and the great Bob Wills. While a ranch hand in his early days he would catch a bus on Friday to Amarillo and work with bands then come back home Sunday morning and be ready for his cowboy duties.

During his professional career Frankie toured with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. He was also a member of the Miller Brothers Band out of Wichita Falls, Texas. That's where he was working when Wills asked him to join the band. Frankie loved the title Texas Playboy. He was proud to have been with Bob for the time he got to spend and he loved telling me stories of the good and bad times. A story teller he was. It's no wonder his son Larry went on to become one of the

greatest cowboy poets around because he talked just like his Daddy and was a great story teller too.

I worked for the theaters in Memphis, Texas when I was in my teens. There I worked with a great guitar player named Joe Higdon. When Frankie would come home from the road, he and Joe always got together and play music. I had not been playing guitar very long but Frankie always invited me to join their little jam sessions. Those were fun sessions I will always remember. It was during those sessions that I learned how to play rhythm guitar.

Frankie did a world of recording with his bands over the years and he also recorded with Bob Wills, The Miller Brothers, Hurschuel Clothier and the Coors Cowboy Band. His bands were known as Frankie and the Westerners and The Over The Hill Gang. "Ranch Dance Fiddle" and "Texas Sandman" are two of my treasured CD's.

Frankie hired a steel guitar player that worked with me to play a dance with him in a small town in the Texas Panhandle one Saturday night when we were off. This ol' boy had not been playing very long and I tried to discourage him from taking the job. I said, "Charlie, you have no idea what you are walking into. Frankie and those guys are Western Swing players. They play parts and you can barely struggle through some of the country songs we do." Well, to make a long story even longer Charlie took the job. I went with him to the gig. They started the first set and when Frankie would point the bow at Ol' Charlie he would just shake his head no and Frankie or the guitar player would do the ride. I could tell Frankie was getting madder by the minute.

When break time finally came I went to the bandstand and Frankie was having a word with Charlie. He said, "Now son, when we start playing the next set and when I point that bow at you that's your cue to play. Now if you can't play the song, I just want you to stand up and kick that steel off in the floor. That way at least you'll be doing something." Charlie decided to just pack his steel and head on back to Amarillo. Ol' Charlie learned a hard lesson that night.

One more quick story before this thing gets too long to publish. Those who knew Frankie know he loved to play practical jokes on musicians or anyone else close by. One night I was on the band doing some public service work as was all the band and playing a dance for the Texas State Center. They gave employment to mentally handicapped me and women. We didn't make any money but got a nice meal out of the deal. I smoked cigars back then and had just fired up a brand new one. Mother Nature called and I left the table. Mr. McWhorter thought how funny it would be if he put holes up and down the body of my cigar while I was gone. That way when I tried to light it; the cigar would not draw because of the holes.

When I got back to the table I did try to light the cigar and knew right away what had happened. By that time Mr. McWhorter had moved some place else. Now the worst thing you can do to a practical joker is ignore his joke; which is what I did. Instead I just chewed on the cigar the rest of the night. After the first set Frankie asked, "Aren't you gonna light that damn thing?" I told him no that it probably wouldn't be a good idea in the company of ladies. Later I learned he had called me some choice names because I screwed up his joke. A few years later I let him know that I knew that night. He never did try to get me again.

I have multiple pages of things I could say about my buddy Frankie. A great story teller, a great band leader, a great friend and I am gonna miss him so very much. I used to sit for hours me and my guitar he and that fiddle. I'd do my best to follow him and he would teach and he would pass along stories so funny I would be hurting when he finally told the last one.



I truly appreciate pioneers like Frankie but he always thought too much was being made of him in his latter life. He was uncomfortable having the light shine on him but I'm glad that light hit my friend so others could come to know this marvelous, talented man from Hall County, Texas...

So long Cowboy. I loved you a lot and anyone whoever spent five minutes with you felt the same way. ... Rest well my buddy.

[dugg@duggcollins.com](http://dugg@duggcollins.com)

**Enola Gay Mathews**  
**KSST Radio, Sulphur Springs, TX**



- Jody Nix - Play Me Something I can Swing To
- i - Walk Me To the Door
- Asleep at the Wheel - Roly Poly
- Bob Wills - San Antonio Rose
- Vic Anderson - Smiles Are Made of the Sunshine
- Texas Trailhands - Pico De Gallo
- Devon Dawson - Where's My Cowboy?
- Monty Teel - The Ballad of Andy Royal
- Joe Paul Nichols - There's A Star Spangled Banner Playing Somewhere

Here in Texas, there's some great news afoot about cowboy/western music on the Texas scene! [Enola Gay](#) and her home station KSST have both been nominated in the Texas Music Association's annual awards. Both made the list of the top five by public (listener) vote...and Enola Gay will represent both when she travels to Palestine Texas for the May 3 awards. Instructional e-mails have told her to be prepared to "arrive by limousine, to the red carpet" so it's supposed to be a VERY NICE event. The nod is given to stations/dj's who give new artists a chance to have some air time, and let Texas hear the treasures of talent that is in these as-yet unsigned artists. Well, KSST has filled that bill for a long time...in recent years with Enola's love for the cowboy/western genre. They can expect the "cowgirl" side to be seen when Enola goes to Palestine!

Enola's [2nd annual Cowboy Chili](#) Contest on January 25 was a success. About 30 cooks brought their best chili to be judged for plenty of good Texas taste to those who stood ready to consume the delicacy! Music was provided by [Devon Dawson](#) and "The Dalton" gang and poetry by [Monty Teel](#). A brand-new poem, the "Ballad of Mr. Elmer" was debuted that night to about 200 in attendance. Both Monty and his co-writer [James Terry](#) are thrilled with the prospect of a brand new project that is practically writing itself!

Also in January, Enola finally got a chance to see "A Ride With Bob" in Texarkana, TX's beautiful historic old Perot Theatre...and was blown away...again...by the phenomenon that is [Ray Benson's](#) mind...and let's all remember as we go through life... "It's all about the music"!!!

[enolagay@ksstradio.net](http://enolagay@ksstradio.net)

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**Cowboy Jam Session: Western Culture News & Reviews**  
*by Jeri L. Dobrowski*

Western Folklife Center prepping for 25th anniversary :

Snowstorms pummeled the western United States as folks headed to Elko, Nevada, for the 2008 National Cowboy Poetry Gathering. Some bemoaned the fact that the gathering is held in winter. As I heard the story, organizers settled on late January as the time when ranchers could most easily get away from the demands of land and livestock. It's a formula they've stuck with for 24 years. The sponsoring Western Folklife Center, a regional nonprofit based in Elko with offices in Salt Lake City, is planning for the silver anniversary event January 24-31, 2009. They hinted at things to come in this year's program: inviting all participants back for an ongoing reunion stage; recognition for those who have attended for 20 to 25 years; honoring deceased poets and musicians.

But, hold the phone, here's what I consider the most exciting news to date: a performance tour of cowboy poetry and music that will play five sites in the western United States. There were rumors, but the Western Folklife Center (WFC) has made it official. The tour hits the road in the spring of 2009. They are looking for host communities. Each site will host a two to three-day residency, including a concert, school program, writing workshop, and film screening. The WFC is looking for communities with small to medium-sized theaters and a community-based organization to assist on a local level. I encourage readers to find out more about this marvelous opportunity. Contact [Meg Glaser](#) or [Christina Barr](#) at (775) 738-7508 to get the ball rolling.

The WFC is open for business 12 months out of the year. It's an off-

overlooked fact. WFC staff are busy year-round, documenting, preserving, and presenting the heritage of the American West. Resulting exhibits, films, radio programs, recordings, and public presentations are archived at [www.westernfolklife.org](http://www.westernfolklife.org). If you haven't spent time digging into what's there, allow me to highlight a few of my favorites. A series of five-minute videos entitled The Art of Gearmaking profiles four cowboy craftsmen: [Doug Groves](#) of Nevada's TS Ranch demonstrating rawhide work; [Mark Dahl](#), Starr Valley, Nevada, bit making; [Doug Krause](#), Eaton, Colorado, mecate making; and [Dale Harwood](#), Shelley, Idaho, leather carving. The videos, along with an in-depth discussion of cowboy gear, award-winning contest entries, and resources, are part of a larger exhibit entitled Back at the Ranch: an Artful Life. Start your tour at [http://www.westernfolklife.org/site1/batr/tools\\_landing.php](http://www.westernfolklife.org/site1/batr/tools_landing.php)

I reconnected with [Sharon O'Toole](#) at this year's gathering, discussing the delicious leg of lamb that she and husband, [Patrick](#), grilled for the Wyoming party. The O'Toole's ranch is in Little Snake River Valley on the Wyoming-Colorado border. They are among a handful of diarists who log onto the WFC Web site with candid insights on life in the American West (earning them the title "Webloggers"). Blog authors welcome readers with customary Western hospitality, minus the coffee. Sharon faithfully posts her entries, augmented with powerful, workaday photos. You're there as they calve heifers, rake hay, shear, supply the herder's camp, and walk their daughter down the aisle at a ranch wedding: [www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/sharono/](http://www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/sharono/). Three other notable Weblogs are those of [John](#) and [Robbin Dofflemeyer](#), ranchers from the Sierra Nevada foothills near Visalia, California: [www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/dofflemeyer/](http://www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/dofflemeyer/); [Jeremiah Watt](#), Coalinga, California saddlemaker: [www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/watt/](http://www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/watt/); and [Linda Dufurrena](#), photographer from Winnemucca, Nevada: [www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/dufurrenal/](http://www.westernfolklife.org/weblogs/artists/dufurrenal/).

Trying another technological term on you for size, let me tell you about the WFC's Podcasts—something akin to a free radio show that's available on the internet. You can listen to the programming on your computer or download it to an iPod or digital music player. The WFC's first Podcast was a 1990 recording of Texas poet [Joel Nelson](#) reciting [Bruce Kiskaddon's](#) "When They Finish Shipping Cattle in the Fall." The most recent features [Don Edwards'](#) performance of the [Jack Thorp](#) classic, "Chopo." To access Ranch Rhymes: Cowboy Poetry and Music from the Western Folklife Center, paste the following link into your browser: [www.westernfolklife.org/site1/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=blogsection&id=24&Itemid=241](http://www.westernfolklife.org/site1/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogsection&id=24&Itemid=241).

I leave you with one last on-line jewel, the complete set of National Cowboy Poetry Gathering programs. I'm not talking a representative photo of the covers. No, the entire program from each of the past 24 years can be viewed in its entirety, along with the corresponding poster. You can also read or listen to the keynote address. Paste the following into your browser: [http://www.westernfolklife.org/site1/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=100&Itemid=265](http://www.westernfolklife.org/site1/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=100&Itemid=265)

Submit items for consideration to Jeri Dobrowski, 1471 Carlyle Road S, Beach, ND 58621; [jamsession@robscabinets.com](mailto:jamsession@robscabinets.com).

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This column also appears in the Tri-State Livestock News

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**Roundup Compilation CD Goes International**

Joe Baker's Backforty Roundup Compilation CD is now available for digital download for overseas DJs. We have set up a restricted area on the Backforty Website where DJs can digitally download MP3s of each volume. The area is restricted to DJs only and not open to the general public. After only being up for nine (9) days we have over 25 overseas DJs registered and it is steadily growing. We have registered DJs from New Zealand, Australia, France, Germany, UK, Denmark, Sweden, Uruguay, Switzerland, Norway and the Netherlands. This service is also available to US & Canada DJs if you would prefer to have MP3s and the convenience of downloads for your radio show. Just go to [www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com](http://www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com), click on "DJ Downloads" in the main menu and fill out the form for a Username and Password to enter the download area. From there just follow instructions. With the addition of the overseas DJs, the Roundup has expanded its reach in the market by 15% in just nine days.



**February 2, 2008**

1. Don't Fence Me In (CanCon) - *Eli Barsi*
2. Same Kind of Horses (CanCon) - *Curly Musgrave*
3. Old Bronc Saddle (CanCon)
4. Rancher's Song - *Don Edwards*
5. Back When The Longhorn Was King - *Rusty Richards*

**Poem:** It's A Cowboy Thing - *R.J. Vandygriff*

**February 9, 2008**

1. Paniolo Country - *Randy Travis*
2. Goin' Somewhere - *Juni Fisher*
3. She's Only a Dream (CanCon) - *Matt Johnson*
4. Something That A Cowboy Knows - *Sons of the San Joaquin*
5. Saddle Bum - *Wylie & the Wild West*

**Poem:** Home From Winter Rang - *Mike Puhallo*

**February 16, 2008**

1. Ride Safe - *Dan Roberts*
2. Home Town Horse Auction (CanCon) - *Ivan Daines*
3. Home Town Horse Auction (CanCon) - *Ivan Daines*
4. Dangerous Dave's Tractor Show (CanCon) - *Tim Hus*
5. Roundin' up The Slick Ones(CanCon) - *Tom Cole*

**Poem:** Sunday Afternoon Drive (CaCon) - *Doris Bircham*

**February 23, 2008**

1. If There Wasn't Any Cows - *Luke Reed*
2. Hawaiian Cowboy - *Rex Allen*
3. Colorado Trail (CanCon) - *Ian Tyson*
4. March Winds - *Jean Prescott*
5. One Top Hand (CanCon) - *Jim Reader*

**Poem:** Slapshot Delivery (CanCon) - *Brian Salmond*

Hugh can be contacted at: [www.hugh-mclennan.com](http://www.hugh-mclennan.com)

**Cowtown Society of Western Music Update**

By *Joyce Miller*



**BOB WILLS 102nd BIRTHDAY BASH & CSWM FUNDRAISER**

On March 2, 2008 - Sunday 9-5:00 P.M. dance the evening away to some great Bob Wills music performed by *Brady Bowen* and Swing Country with special guests, *Leon Rausch, Tommy Allsup, Bobby Boatright* and a host of magnificent musicians and entertainers. Anyone wishing to donate

money or an auction item for this event: Contact Gary Beaver 817-558-7580 or Joyce Miller at [joyce@accentwholesale.com](mailto:joyce@accentwholesale.com). All proceeds to benefit CSWM Museum Fund.

The benefit held by the Cowtown Society of Western Music for *Charlie and Loretta Owens* on Monday, January 14, was a great success. Amidst great music and friends, we raised approximately \$4,000 to help Charlie and Loretta in this difficult time. Charlie and Loretta are very grateful, and Loretta personally contacted each band member to express her thanks for their participation. Thanks, as well, to all the musicians involved and to all the folks that came out to show their support. A special thanks to *KD* and *Jean* of the Stagecoach for sponsoring this event through the use of that establishment.

Contact Gary Beaver at 817-240-4580 or Joe Baker at 575-808-4111 or Email [joe@backfortybunkhouse.com](mailto:joe@backfortybunkhouse.com) [www.cowtown-swm.org](http://www.cowtown-swm.org)  
Joyce Miller Treasurer - CSWM For more information, call 817-558-87580 or e-mail [joyce@accentwholesale.com](mailto:joyce@accentwholesale.com).

**Backforty Roundup Volume 26 Released**

Be sure to check out the *Backforty Roundup Volume 26* and listen to all the artists songs. There are 13 songs on Vol 26 presenting a mixture of Cowboy Poetry, Texas Honky Tonk, Western Swing and several Cowboy/Western. You don't need to download a special player, BB40 has its own player, go to the backforty website [www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com](http://www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com)

**You can help ... Money Raiser for Willis**

A fund has been established to raise money for trainer Eddie Willis, whose barn in Canay, Oklahoma burned down on January 19. The fire and smoke killed 43 horses, including Heritage Place Futurity winner Southern Take All and Grade 1 qualifier Passion Raging On. Willis, one of the nation's leading money-earning trainers, sent out the earners of \$1.7 million last year.

An account has been set-up with the First National Bank of Ruidoso. Make checks payable to: "Eddie Willis-Fund for the Future" and mail them to JEH New Mexico, P.O. Box 128, Hondo, NM 88336, Attn: Kim Saunders

There will be a fund-raising silent auction for a breeding to Dean Miracle & Leaving Memories donated by JEH NM, MJ Farms has donated a breeding to Jesse James Jr and Rick Kloepfel has donated a breeding to Jess Kicken, Boegner Farms has donated a breeding to Boknaai & Flyin Color. Interested parties should call in their bids to JEH New Mexico (575-653-4480) by April 15, 2008.

Get your Raffle tickets for only \$20 each for the following items, (1) custom made exercise saddle donated by Robert Samuell. David Keiter will be donating a lawn jockey \$550 value, SureBet has donated (1) full page/full color ad, Track Magazine has donated (1) full page ad, Track Magazine has donated (1) lifetime subscription, Track Magazine has donated (1) Monday report, Track Magazine has donated (1) full page color ad on the Monday report. Speedhorse has donated a prominent sires poster \$99 value, Speedhorse has donated a one year subscription \$69 value. Backforty Bunkhouse Productions has donated two months advertising on the Backforty Bunkhouse Show on W-105 Ruidoso, NM airing 6 AM to 10 AM (MST) every Saturday morning.

Winners will be announced March 4, 2008. Tickets for these items are available from Kim Saunders at JEH New Mexico 575-653-4480 or Lisa Saumell 951-741-5255.

For additional information contact: Kim Saunders at JEH New Mexico 575-653-4480 or Lisa Saumell 951-741-5255 .

**Around the Campfire**



1. Oklahoma...Where the West Remains - *R.W. Hampton*
2. Keepin' Your Head Above the Water - *Devon Dawson*
3. Ghosts of Tombstone - *Trails & Rails*
4. Cowgirlography - *Juni Fisher*
5. Astraddle a Saddle - *Patty Clayton*
6. Twilight on the Range - *Call of the West*
7. Rough Country, Wild Cattle - *Gary Prescott*
8. Timeless - *The Quebe Sisters Band*
9. Rugs, Wranglers, & Rodeos - *Tom Hiatt*
10. Every Horse I Ever Rode - *Kevin Davis*

*Marvin O'Dell—Around the Campfire*  
[meoteo@aol.com](mailto:meoteo@aol.com)

**All Things Country Top Ten CDs**

*Rowena Muldavin*



1. Dale Watson - *Little Darlin' Sessions*
2. Cornell Hurd Band - *Live at Jovita's*
3. Devon Dawson - *Keepin' Your Head Above The Water*
4. Mike Siler - *Dreams Of A Dreamer*
5. Bobby Flores - *Neon Nights*
6. Jeff Griffith - *If It Ain't One Thing, It's Another*
7. Rosie Flores - *Single Rose*
8. Pat James - *Some Like It Country*
9. Donna B, the Ebony Cowgirl - *Got Dang Country Song*
10. Justin Trevino - *Take One as Needed For Pain*

All Things Country can be heard via Shoutcast or the website, [www.heartlandpublicradio.org](http://www.heartlandpublicradio.org) on HPR1

All Things Country email address  
[rowena@classicheartland.com](mailto:rowena@classicheartland.com)