



Joe Baker - Publisher

Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter

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The Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter is sent to over 700 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 Heroes

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

Board of Directors—Cowtown Society of Western Music

Seattle Western Swing Music Society POWS Hall of Fame

Backforty Newsletter—CSWM's Publication of the Year 2009

Editor: Howard Higgins

Seattle Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame

Cowtown Society of Western Music Heroes of Western Swing

Poet: Ken Cook, Martin, SD

Album: Cowboys Are Like That, Released: 2009

by Joe Baker



There are cowboy poets and there are cowboy poets. incorporating ranch life with cowboy poetry is not your everyday 8 to 5 employment but a twenty four hour way of life. Anyone who has been there knows it not only to be true but fact as well. Fixing' fence, sorting' haying' breaking' ice, mending tack, mowing

the grass in the front yard or fixing' a leak under the sink at the house, that's the cowboy way of life. This is the way Ken Cook chose to live his life. Cowboy poetry fits with Ken as his latest project "Cowboys Are Like That" is receiving grand reviews and radio airplay around the world. I've only known Ken for a couple of years and having worked the ranch life myself when I was young and self taught these values, we became quick Pardners. My longtime friend Yvonne Hollenbeck said it best about Ken and I quote her about Ken's style. "It always amazes when a newcomer arrives on the scene with the polish and professionalism of an 'old hand. That's what happened the first time I saw Ken Cook. He wears his cowboy heritage as comfortably as an old pair of boots. Ken is a master poet, a great entertainer and a real cowboy." I absolutely agree with Hollenbeck. True situations with day to day ranch life creates time to think and write. Ken has used his thoughts and dreams to become a master of cowboy poetry. My thought, Ken Cook, The Real Deal Cowboy Poet.

To purchase this CD, please visit Ken Cook At: www.kencookcowboypoet.com or www.backfortybunkhouse.com/cdchorale

Joe Baker's KNMB Top Western Swing Albums

- Rebecca Linda Smith - *Timeless*
- Tom Houston - *Tuxedo Country*
- Hank Stone - *Somewhere In Texas*
- Brady Bowen - *In My Spare Time*
- Joe Paul Nichols - *The Price Is Right*
- Jerry Webb - *There's A Song In That*
- Jody Nix - *The Fiddle Man*
- Johnny Lyon - *Wynn Stewart Favorites, Vol. # 2*
- The River Road Boys - *Houston*
- Johnny Bush - *Lillie's White Lies*
- Cornell Hurd - *American Shadows*
- Johnny Johnson - *One Last Time*
- Dave Caley - *Live This Life*
- Billy Mata - *This Is Tommy Duncan, Vol. # 1*
- Randy Brown - *Hard Face To Face*
- Curtis Potter - *When The Neon Lights Come On*
- Amber Digby - *Passion, Pride & What Might Have Been*
- Bobby Flores - *Eleven Roses*
- *Backforty Roundup Vol. # 38*

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

- Bob & Johnny Boatright - *Lost Trails*
- Ken Cook - *Cowboys Are Like That*
- Cliff Douglas - *Truckin' Country*
- Leon Venerable - *Best Life*
- Chuck Cusimano - *Wind, Blow My Blues Away*
- Prescott/Hollenbeck/Masterson - *Ranch Life 101*
- Gil Prather - *Last Of The Border Cowboys*
- K.R. Wood - *Live In The Alamo*
- Mike Dunn - *Somewhere Between Earth & Heaven*
- *Bar D Roundup, Vol. # 4, Various Poets*
- Joe Fisher - *Holding On Tight*
- Forever West - *Belinda Gail/Curly Musgrave*
- Willie P. Richardson - *Live At The Ritz*
- Jim Jones - *Different State Of Mind*
- Sons Of The San Joaquin - *Live WJW*
- Sourdough Slim - *Classics II*
- Ol' Ugly - *I Remember Me & Blue*
- The Buckaretttes - *Cowgirl Serenade*
- Eli Barsi - *Darn Hard To Tame*

www.backfortybunkhouse.com



Joe Baker's Backforty Bunkhouse Show is broadcast on 100,000 watt KNMB, 96.7FM "New Mexico's Bear" & 100,000 watt KVMW, 105.1FM, "Regional Radio W-105" every Saturday morning 6 am to 10 am In Ruidoso, New Mexico covering New Mexico & West Texas. Member: Western Music Broadcasters Association (WMBA). Also available 'streaming live' 24 / 7 on the internet at W-105.

Cowtown Society of Western Music' 2009 Publication of the Year

Decoration Day to Memorial Day By Julie Carter



Memorial Day is all about remembering the fallen, the honored, those gone on to their great rewards, traditionally in the service of our country.

However, before life became complicated and I understood all those things, it was simply "Decoration Day" to me and we decorated all the graves of all the kinfolk, military or not.

Decoration Day was delightfully fun for my siblings and me. It was a much less organized family reunion of sorts. But, instead of meeting at some park or at a relative's house, we met at the cemetery.

My dad's side of the family was quite extensive. My grandmother was one of 12 children of a German homesteader and my grandfather was one of seven born and raised there.

Apparently, at the time, there was a large number of them still alive and living within a day's drive to the Colorado high mountain valley where it all began. There, where the roots of the family tree were first planted on homesteads, farms and ranches.

The cars and pickups of every age, size and color would pull up the hillside in the old pine tree-shaded cemetery where our clan had claimed resting ground since the 1870s.

Kids would roll out of the vehicles first and begin running up and down the pathways, seeking familiar faces and space to blow off the hot crowded car ride.

Trunk lids would raise and as chattering voices carried on the late May breezes, shovels, rakes and buckets and buckets of flowers would appear.

There were fresh-cut pine and spruce boughs, irises by the dozens and lilacs with a strong fragrance that wafted through the piney woods.

I don't know just how or who got it all done, but shortly, every grave would be clean, orderly and with a fresh bouquet. My grandmother would, as she did every year, explain to us who this person was or that name and how they were related.

She would laugh with me at the given names of the time - Hulda and George Washington Baker was just the funniest, I thought.

As we wandered through the many tiny tombstones that told a story, she told me about the flu epidemic that took so many children in 1880-82. Each marker bore the tale of the horrible loss of one, two and more children in the same family that died, sometimes within days of each other.

With history reviewed and duty done, we'd all pile back in the vehicles and travel off to have a huge picnic lunch; somewhere that allowed us to leave the propriety and reverence behind us while got reacquainted with kin folk that we might not see again until the next May.

Today, all I can do is recapture those moments in memories. Families have scattered far and wide and that tradition, at least for my immediate family, got lost in the miles and with my generation. Those same graves are now tended by an enduring uncle who faithfully looks after our history.

Quietly every year, I gather my son and we stop to pay our respects to his grandfather here in New Mexico. Along a little-traveled road in a quiet country cemetery, we chop back the weeds, reshape the dirt and place a new bouquet of bright flowers in remembrance.

His tradition is different but in keeping with mine, the reverence is the same - honoring those that came first, from a world they never could have imagined.

Julie can be reached for comment at www.julie-carter.com



Andy & Jim Nelson's C.O.W. Radio 4-Week Playlist



4/25/09, Cowboy Poetry Week

- Jean Prescott - *Queen of Diamonds*
- Doris Daley - *Average Girl (Bar D Roundup Vol. 4)*
- David Anderson - *The Saddle*
- Pat Richardson - *Henry (Bar D Roundup Vol. 4)*
- Gail Gardner - *The Sierry Petes (Bar D*

Roundup Vol. 4)

- Eli Barsi - *Just Call Him Cowboy*
- Elizabeth Ebert - *Cowboy (Bar D Roundup Vol. 4)*
- Rod Nelson - *Cowboy Laundry (Bar D Roundup Vol. 4)*
- Yvonne Hollenbeck - *A Plain Ol' Ranchwife (Bar D Roundup Vol. 4)*
- Wylie and the Wild West - *Laska*

4/18/09, The Gypsy Horse

- Craig Chambers - *Crime and Ranchin'*
- Stephanie Davis - *Crocus in the Snow*
- Bob Nolan - *He Walks with the Wild and the Lonely*
- The Texas Trailhands - *Pico de Gallo*
- Waddie Mitchell - *Orejana*
- Michael Martin Murphy - *Red River Valley*

4/11/09, This is a True Story

- Joe Merrick - *Eat Too Much*
- Journey West - *Cowboy Moon*
- Rex Allen - *Windy Bill*
- Prickly Pair - *Cow Cow Boogie*
- Baxter Black - *Chicken Training*
- R.W. Hampton - *It's You I'm Missing Most of All*

4/4/09, The Quebe Sisters Band

- The Quebe Sisters Band - *There's a Rainbow Over the Range*
- The Quebe Sisters Band - *Across the Alley from the Alamo*
- Marty Robbins - *Runnin' Gun*
- The Quebe Sisters Band - *Air Mail Special*
- R.P. Smith - *Showdown at the Snowdrift Corral*
- The Quebe Sisters Band - *There's a Gold Mine in the Sky*

"Clear Out West" Radio Show
PO Box 1547, Pinedale, WY 82941

Skeebo Norris' KBAL Top Playlist.

San Saba, TX (Freeze)

I am happy to announce that our sister station KNVR, 1410 AM is now simulcasting our GREAT programming, along with our streaming 24/7 on www.kbalfm.com. Tune in daily 9-12, for "The Skeebo Show" but KBAL/KNVR and www.kbalfm.com also feature Legend Radio, in the afternoons and Saturdays with Host Jim Lossberg. Check us out for the best in Classic Country and Western Swing..



Favorites

- Vance Lane - *Texas Two Step*
- Jody Nix - *The Fiddle Man*
- Leona Williams - *Sings Merle Haggard*
- Justin Trevino - *Too Many Heartaches*
- Bobby Flores - *Eleven Roses*
- The Quebe Sisters - *Timeless*
- Bobby Lueders - *Still Swinging in Texas*
- Brady Bowen - *In My Spare Time, Vol 5*
- Curtis Potter - *When The Neon Lights Come On*
- Red Stegall - *Here We Go Again*
- Jerry Webb - *Red Lips & Honkytonks*

www.kbalfm.com

All Things Country Top Ten CDs

Rowena Muldavin



1. Liz Talley - *More Than Satisfied*
2. David Serby - *Honkytonk & Vine*
3. Dale Watson - *Truckin' Sessions, Vol. 2*
4. Joni Harms - *That's Faith*
5. Curtis Potter - *Curtis Potter Sings Willie Nelson*
6. Rick & The Ramblers - *I Rode The Ti*
7. Becky Hobbs - *Best Of The Beckaroo, Part 1*
8. Leona Williams - *New Patches*
9. Dennis Ivey - *Something Old, Something New*
10. Ginny Mac - *Wishing River*

All Things Country email address

rowena@hpr.org

Mike's Top 10 Picks

Songs:

1. Brownsville - *John England*
2. Are You Teasing Me - *Bobby Flores*
3. Southern Hospitality - *Cornell Hurd Band*
4. I'll Take the Blame - *Price Porter*
5. Crystal Canyon - *Patty Parker*
6. She's Comin' Home with Me - *John England*
7. Heartless Lover - *Cornell Hurd Band*
8. Feelin' Blue for Texas - *i*
9. Over the Hill - *River Road Boys*
10. Driving Lesson - *Don Burnham*

Albums

1. This is Tommy Duncan - *Billy Mata*
2. Open That Gate - *John England*

3. Last Call for Heartaches - *Price Porter*
4. *Willie and the Wheel*
5. The Songs of Moon Mullican - *Cornell Hurd Band*
6. Favorite Requests - *Don Sulesky*
7. Houston - *i*
8. Something Old, Nothing New - *Dennis Ivey*
9. Bluebonnet Lane - *River Road Boys*
10. Celtex Swing - *Stretch Dawson & the Mending Hearts*

Mike Gross — www.swinginwest.com

Around the Campfire



In a change of format, Around the Campfire on Heartland Public Radio is now a program featuring the latest western recordings. In noticing that most western music shows feature older material or, at least, a limited amount of newer material, HPR decided that Around the Campfire should devote its time to keeping listeners up-to-date on what the new western releases are. Here are what I believe to be

the Top 10 western releases in the past few months (in no particular order):

- Heaven on Horseback - Don Edwards
- Come Ride With Me - Dave Stamey
- The Silver Screen Cowboy Project - Various Artists
- Roads to Colorado - Liz Masterson
- That Faraway Look - Daron Little
- Romance With the Range - The Prickly Pair
- Still Ridin' - Jim Jones
- Longing for the Range - Vince Crofts & Mindi Reid
- It Sings in the Hi-Line - Kerry Grombacher
- Forever West - Curly Musgrave & Belinda Gail

Marvin O'Dell — *Around the Campfire*
HeartlandPublicRadio.org — marvin@hpr.org

The Big Fred Walker Show

WOES 91.3 FM Mid-Michigan



"THE BIG FRED WALKER SHOW" Internet Radio 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 RAY HARRISON – *DOES HE LOVE YOU LIKE I DO*
- 2 BILLY MATA – *CLOSED FOR REPAIRS*
- 3 BOBBY FLORES – *ARE YOU TEASING ME*
- 4 JODY NIX – *I'VE ENJOYED AS MUCH OF THIS AS I CAN STAND*
- 5 CLELIA ADAMS – *WILDFLOWERS*
- 6 HANK STONE – *ONE THING AFFECT ANOTHER*
- 7 JEAN PRESCOTT – *TEXAS BLUEBONNETS*
- 8 JEFF GRIFFITH – *IT AIN'T THE CLOTHES THAT MAKE THE MAN*
- 9 STEPHANIE DAVIS – *WHAT A LITTLE MOONLIGHT CAN DO*
- 10 CAROLYN MARTIN – *IF YOU AIN'T LOVIN (YOU AIN'T LIVIN)*

Top Ten CDs:

- 1 DANNEY BALL – *PALM SPRING'S I LOVE YOU*
- 2 THE QUEBE SISTERS – *TIMELESS*
- 3 JOHNNY JOHNSON – *ONE LAST TIME' VOL. 1*
- 4 BILLY MATA – *THIS IS TOMMY DUNCAN*
- 5 JANIE BRANNON – *HONKY TONK MEMORIES*
- 6 BELINDA GAIL – *LASS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN*
- 7 LIZ TALLEY – *MORE THAN SATISFIED*
- 8 BOBBY FLORES – *ELEVEN ROSES*
- 9 SWEETHEARTS IN CARHARTTS – *RANCH LIFE 101*
- 10 JODY NIX – *THE FIDDLE MAN*

Top Ten Gospel Songs

- 1 MONTY TEEL – *THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE*
- 2 RIDERS OF THE J-CROSS-C' - *OLD RUGGED CROSS*
- 3 BELINDA GAIL – *AMAZING GRACE*
- 4 EDDY HARRISON – *PEACE IN THE VALLEY*
- 5 THE OJAI VALLEY BOYS – *MAN OF CONTANT SORROW*
- 6 RICKY BOEN & TEXAS MUD – *THE OLD RUGGED CROSS*
- 7 THE FLYING "W" WRANGLERS – *SAGEBRUSH IN HEAVEN*
- 8 THE QUEBE SISTERS – *JUST A CLOSER WALK*
- 9 THE WRIGHT SISTERS – *I'LL FLY AWAY*
- 10 T. JAE CHRISTIAN – *I DON'T CARE WHERE THEY DIG THAT HOLE*

djcountryone@charter.net

Graham Lees Top 10 Songs and Albums

HWD Radio — United Kingdom

Top 10 CDs

- 1 The River Road Boys - *Houston*
- 2 Cornell Hurd Band - *American Shadows*
- 3 Sweethearts In Carharts - *Ranch Life 101*
- 4 Billy Mata & The Texas Tradition - *This Is Tommy Duncan Vol One*
- 5 John England - *Open That Gate*
- 6 Carolyn Martin - *Swing*
- 7 Bobby & Johnny Boatright - *Lost Trails*
- 8 Sons Of The San Joaquin - *Live*
- 9 Devon Dawson - *Keepin' Your Head Above The Water*
- 10 Various Artists - *The Silver Screen Cowboy Project*

Top 10 Songs

- 1 Donnie Blanz - *Taking Pictures With My Heart*
- 2 Sisters Of The Silver Sage - *He's A Cowboy*
- 3 Sons Of The San Joaquin - *Is It Because*
- 4 Liz Masterson - *Little Green Valley*
- 5 Jean Prescott - *Road Of Dreams*
- 6 Sons Of The San Joaquin - *Happy Roving Cowboy*
- 7 Les Gilliam - *One Less Than You Think*
- 8 Barry Ward - *Statue In the Heat*
- 9 Jennifer Lind - *Fair and Tender Ladies*
- 10 Riders Of The Purple Sage - *Nobody Kisses Their Horses Anymore*

graham@grahamlees.co.uk

Cowboy Poetry at the BAR-D Ranch
Margo Metegrano, www.cowboypoetry.com

Like the weather, you could say that everyone knows about "cowboy logic," but no one does anything about it. That quirky way of looking at the world is often at the heart of *Baxter Black's* poetry and commentaries, and is perfectly summed up in *Michael Martin Murphey's* popular song that takes the term for its title.

Montana ranch hand, poet, and songwriter *DW Groethe* demonstrates that art of cowboy reasoning in this poem:

Two Cowpokes and a Tamper

They came upon a fencepost,
a tamper leanin' on it,
an' pondered on the world of fencin' arts.
"Ever worked them things?" one asked,
"Not a chance," the other quipped,
"the darn thing's got too many workin' parts."

© 2008, DW Groethe. All rights reserved.

DW's been featured at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering and other gatherings, the Library of Congress, The Kennedy Center, and returns to the 71st National Folk Festival in Butte, Montana, July 10-12, 2009. His recent book, *West River Waltz*, received the Will Rogers Medallion Award (\$24.50 postpaid from: DW Groethe, PO Box 144, Bainville, MT 59212; 406/769-2312).

Third-generation South Dakota rancher and poet *Ken Cook* makes a bold statement about cowboy and ranching life in a poem inspired by memories of his grandfather:

The Conversation

What has not changed of' cowboy friend
Since you was young and men were men?
When horse not broke till nearly five?
Cow's horns intact kept calf alive!
What has not changed in all your days,
Is nothin' left of cowboy ways?
The wagon was your only home
And blackest eve Nighthawk did roam,
To hold 'em quiet with lullaby
And ride the ridge where coyotes cry.
What has not changed in all your days,
Is nothin' left of cowboy ways?
When fences held a garden tight
And grass for miles a wondrous sight,
With horse and rope to branding fire
You burned the hide with one desire,
To live a life on Sandhills grass.
Tell me cowboy, has all that passed?
I'll tell you boy what still remains
Of cowboy ways here on the plains.
By God you ride the same as me
And cows are cows near's I can see.
I'll tell you son what still survives
Of cowboy ways shines in your eyes.
Few teams are left and fence appeared
So Nighthawk sleeps but over years,
By God you rope and do it grand
'Cause it's your life, you've made your stand,
Which has not changed in all the days
You've kept alive a cowboy's ways.
You fight back change to keep old ways
That every year make ranching pay,
So generations yet to come
Might live this life that we've begun.
They'll saddle horse to work a cow
Here on this ranch like we do now.

© 2007, Ken Cook. All rights reserved.

Ken has been featured at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering and

other events across the West. He will perform at the Dakota Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Medora, North Dakota, May 23-24, 2009. "The Conversation" is on his new CD, *Cowboys Are Like That* (\$15 postpaid from Ken Cook, 23154 Teal Lane, Martin, SD 57551-6601; 605/685-6749; www.kencookcowboypoet.com).

Both DW Groethe and Ken Cook are a part of The BAR-D Roundup: Volume Four (2009) from *CowboyPoetry.com* (\$20 postpaid from CowboyPoetry.com, Box 330444, San Francisco, CA 94133; www.cowboypoetry.com).

There's poetry and information about hundreds of cowboy poets and Western musicians at CowboyPoetry.com. It's an on-going gathering, with continuous news, features, an events calendar, the best in classic and contemporary cowboy poetry and Western music lyrics, and an e-newsletter. CowboyPoetry.com is a project of the non-profit Center for Western and Cowboy Poetry.

Backforty Newsletter Editor Changing Hands



Howard Higgins, Seattle Western Swing Music Society Hall of Fame and Cowtown Society of Western Swing Music Hero Hall of Fame member will be leaving the Backforty Newsletter as Editor June 1st. Higgins, along with Joe Baker put together the Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter in January of 2007. It started out with approximately 30 subscribers and within 2 years had climbed to over 600 subscribers.

Today it hosts 700 + subscribers. This is the music genres of Texas Honky Tonk, Western Swing, Cowboy Poetry, Cowboy Heritage and Classic Country and it's gaining every day. On May 2nd, 2009 the Cowtown Society Of Western Swing Music recognized The Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter as Publication Of The Year. The Newsletter shares the past publication honors with such notables as Rope Burns, Western Swing Monthly, Fort Worth Star Telegram's Entertainment Guide, Power Source Magazine and Buddy Magazine.

Howard said that since his daughter has graduated from college this spring from McMurray University in Abilene, TX he is going to find himself a shade tree and not move at all this summer. He has put out the newsletter every month since January of 2007 except for two months when he was in the hospital for bypass surgery and is welcoming some rest. He will still be associated with Backforty Productions in the Backforty Roundup and the CD Chorale.

As editor, Howard has worked countless hours on every issue of the newsletter to insure the finest quality and informative information for our subscribers. He has always been the backbone of this publication and stepping down from the newsletter to free up some of his time to enjoy life with his family and friends will be most welcome. You can contact Howard at chh1@suddenlink.net.



The new Editor of the Backforty Newsletter is *Totsie Slover*. Totsie is the wife of the late Howard Staub from Deming, NM. Totsie hosts the Deming, NM radio show, "The Real West From The Old West" at: <http://demingradio.com>. Expect new formats, new changes, and new everything. She will introduce a new look from the original format that Higgins & Baker set up. To

submit playlists, articles and information, the Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter has a new email address: bbnewslettereditor@gmail.com or contact Joe Baker at: joe@backfortybunkhouse.com

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

Just go to www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com and click on the "Listen Live to W-105" logo. You can also listen to commercial free previous shows from the opening page of the website.

Cowtown Society of Western Music Update

By Joyce Miller



Cowtown Society of Western Music 11th Annual Swing Fest is Best Ever!

On Saturday, May 2nd, Cowtown Society of Western Music held the 11th Annual Swing Fest to honor Heroes of Western Swing. The Holiday Hills Country Club in Mineral Wells welcomed us with open arms. People starting drifting through the doors as soon as we opened at 11:00 A.M. and there was a steady stream of guests arriving all morning. It was great to see the event was so well received by locals and out-of-towners as well. By the time [Larry Lange](#) and the [Lone Star Troubadours](#) fired up their first dance tune, the place was packed. It was a non-stop, smooth running event the rest of the afternoon and evening. The dance floor immediately filled with anxious dancers every time the bands changed throughout the day.

[Joe Baker](#), as usual, did a grand job as emcee for the event, keeping the program interesting and noteworthy. A big thanks to Joe. [Monty "Hawkeye" Henson](#) and [Gary Beaver](#) served as co-emcees, adding a touch of humor at times to their presentations; in other words, clowning around a lot, and yet, pulling off smart introductions and catching the attention of the audience.



[Terry Elliot](#), from London, England and lifetime member of CSWM was at our disposal and helped get us through some rough spots with his hosting expertise and continental aire; always adding a bit of sophistication to the program. Back stage, which really was just a table behind the podium, [Joyce Miller](#), [Lynn Ryan](#) and [Marian Elliott](#) worked feverishly to sort, edit and direct the awards ceremonies, door prize give-a-ways and special announcements. Marian also handled selling the tee shirts, caps, programs and posters all day long. Thanks to [JoAnn Lange](#) and her girlfriends for selling tickets, programs, etc.. and checking in the heroes at the front door all day. It really does take a village!

There were many highlights of the awards presentations. One of my personal favorites was when [Lynn Carter-Morgan](#), Promoter of the Year inductee took the podium. She was dressed in her black western cowgirl outfit complete with black cowboy hat. Nervously and humbly, she accepted her lifetime achievement award in honor of her twenty years service with the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium. She expressed how surprised she was to be honored by such an award and how she appreciated the recognition, with her voice sometimes giving way to emotion. She also became teary eyed, as did many of us in the audience, when she read aloud from a poem her best friend had sent congratulating her on her big day. Many of this year's inductees expressed to Gary and I their appreciation for just being able to gather at such an event and have time to visit with their peers without pressure of performing. [Johnny Boatright](#), Bobby's younger brother, his wife, two sisters, and Bobby's widow, [Linda](#), and family and friends gathered around several long tables and had a lively time reminiscing throughout the afternoon. Johnny sang some special songs dedicated to Bobby and spoke lovingly of his brother and the rest of his family in a short, but well received oratory before he sang. All through the day, musicians such as [Brady Bowen](#), [Bob Bone](#), [Chuck Curtis](#), and others spoke respectfully of [Bob Boatright](#), paying homage to the soft-spoken fiddle player and expressing how much they missed him. It was a low-key and fitting tribute to this wonderful man.

When Gary Beaver presented the President's Choice Award to [Brady Bowen](#), there was a standing ovation. The camera's flash bulbs were a poppin.' Brady, in his soft-spoken and gentlemanly cowboy way, accepted with grace and humility while his lovely, wife, Laura and two children beamed. Then Gary called [Durwood Strube](#), Brady's long-time friend and band member to the stage to say a few words about Brady. Both men tossed jokes about the other back and forth in a way that only

good friends and comrades can do. There was and is an underlying respect for each other that shines through.

[Dayna Wills](#) smilingly accepted her honor and then graced the bandstand with her fabulous western swing vocals to the delight of the crowd. [Barbara Martin](#), editor of Western Swing Monthly, made her rounds throughout the entire day, laughing and talking to people, jotting down notes, and taking photos. There's no telling who all will show up in her newspaper.

Throughout the whole day, there was a jovial feeling in the building and lots of handshakes, hugs, and kisses among the attendees. [Gene "Geno" Niven](#) was very pleased with the event and looked quite handsome in his suit and tie. He brought a large crowd of family and friends with him and they seemed to be enjoying the festive atmosphere. A-10, Creative Achievement Award inductee, for his humorous cartoon drawings, was beaming with pride as he shook hands and visited among the crowd. He also enjoyed several spins around the dance floor with his wife and despite his manly size, he was quite debonair out there. Our inductees, [Buddy](#) and [Darlene Thornton](#) accepted happily. Buddy even gave quite a funny acceptance speech. What a cute couple they are.



Of course, the music was fantastic. All the musicians deserve a *Hats Off* for their talents and for volunteering their time to help make Swing Fest 2009 the most successful one we have ever held. Kudos to all the musicians and, especially, my buddy, [Bob Bone](#). Even though, he is battling leukemia, he had a brilliant smile and infectious laughter and an envied stamina throughout the long event. His eyes expressed his

happiness to everyone during his wonderful fiddle playing. [Chuck Curtis](#) on bass was so influential in the success of Swing Fest and we so appreciate him performing this year. [Chuck Cusimano](#) and his band out did themselves and the dancers loved his great dance music. Larry Lange and his Lone Star Troubadours even cancelled another gig so they could stay all day and celebrate the induction of two of their band members, [Rick Langford](#) and [Jack Brown](#) as Heroes of Western Swing. Larry said, "we took a vote and decided this was more important." Thanks to Larry and his great band and their wives too for making this financial sacrifice for Swing Fest.

The icing on the cake was when the beloved crooner, [Leon Rausch](#), took center stage. The audience was enthralled. He and Vonda came in about mid-afternoon and socialized before Leon sang. It was great having him perform and we at CSWM appreciate him so much. He was his usual joking self and, from all appearances, enjoyed his performance as much as anyone in the room as he joked and cut up with his fellow musicians.

Well, I am getting a little wordy on this subject. I could go on and on, and I know I was not able to capture every moment, but I hope this little synopsis will give you a peak at what Swing Fest is all about. The CSWM Board of Directors and Swing Fest committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the musicians, inductees, past and present heroes, families, friends, volunteers and especially, the western swing fans who combined to make this the most successful Swing Fest ever.

By the way, if anyone is interested, we still have some 2009 Swing Fest Programs left for sale (\$8.00 includes postage & handling), a few collectible posters (\$5.00 including postage), tee shirts with all the 2009 Heroes listed on the back for only \$12.50 including postage, and Cowtown Society ball caps (Navy Blue for \$10.00 including postage). Contact me via e-mail joyce@accentwholesale.com or call 817-558-7580 and leave a message or mail an order to: Joyce Miller - CSWM, 3709 E. Hwy 67, Cleburne, TX 76031. All proceeds will go to maintain the museum and for the 2010 Swing Fest fund. Check out our website www.cowtown-swm.org for info on upcoming events.

The Real West From The Old West™



Totsie Slover 220 S Gold Ave
Deming, NM 88030
AM 1230 KOTS <http://demingradio.com>
Top 10 April, 2009

- Travelin' Light - R. W. Hampton
- Wild New Mexico Cowgirl - Juni Fisher
- Honky Tonkitis - Buddie Hrabal
- If I Hadn't Seen The West - Joyce Woodson
- Cowboy Logic - Michael Martin Murphy
- Next Think Smokin' - Kip Calahan
- Put Yourself in My Blues - Carolyn Martin
- Ride Cowboy Ride - T. J. Casey
- The Saddle Tale - Jean Prescott
- Let's Go Dancing - Rooster Quantrell

bbnewslettereditor@gmail.com

Lincoln County Horseman's Ball

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse proudly presents the Horseman's Ball, June 13th, 2009 at Mountain Annie's Dinner Theater in downtown Ruidoso, New Mexico. A gourmet dinner at 7 pm and dance the night away on the New 1,700 square foot dance floor with [Ted Scanlon](#) and [The Desperados](#) from Las Cruces, NM. The Desperados' award winning western swing band has just recently recorded their 7th CD and play regularly throughout the Southwestern States. \$45.00 per person that includes the dinner, door prizes, silent auction and dance. A cash bar is also available. Ruidoso Downs Racetrack and Billy The Kid Casino will be running full swing with live horseracing. Tickets are on sale now at the Ruidoso Valley Chamber Of Commerce, the Wagon Wheel Gift Shop at 575-257-5876 or any Sheriff's Posse member including Jim Browning at 575-354-0115. A BACKFORTY BUNKHOUSE PRODUCTION

Album: The Right Five - Volume 1

Artist: Country Night Live



The Ft. Worth, Texas area has had for years spotlighted some of the top musicians in both the Western Swing and Texas dance hall music areas. Now, five of the very best have got together to form this band and record this awesome new CD. The group guitar player is [Chuck Cusimano](#), who is heard on vocal on three of the album's 12 tunes. Chuck is also a world renowned songwriter. The band steel guitarist, also heard on three vocals, is former Ray Price steel wizard,

[Buddie Hrabal](#). Current Ray Price fantastic Cherokee Cowboy fiddle player, [Dale Morris Jr.](#) is heard playing fiddle and also does three vocals. [Billy Martin](#) is the bassist and also does three vocals. The fifth group member is the drummer, [Danny Adams](#). Joining the five for this CD is the talented Texas pianist, [Chip Bricker](#).

The album opens in the Texas dance hall mood with Buddie bringing back the Carl and Pearl Butler hit from the early 1960s Honky Tonkitis. Chuck's first in the album is a western swing oriented tune that he wrote Brand New Tune. Billy's first entry is Big Blue Diamonds and Dale's first entry is Hank Cochran's Don't you Ever Get Tired from the great Ray Price. Also from Chuck's pen are his other two vocals Speakin' of Cheatin' and Heartbreak Town. He also wrote Another Day in the Life of a Fool which Billy Sings. Billy's third entry is the beautiful The Rose is for Today. Buddie's other two vocals are Buck Owens and Don Rich's Something to Remember you By and the Faron Young composition and hit Your Old Used to Be. Dale also borrows from Ray Price a Wayne Walker composition I've Got a New Heartache and closes the album in the Texas dance hall mood with Your Still on My Mind.

The album can be obtained from Country Night Live, 908 Bradbury CT, Arlington, TX 76014 or www.countrynightlive.com for \$20.00 including shipping.

Mike Gross, WVOF-FM, Fairfield, CT and www.swinginwest.com

BOOK REVIEW: COMPADRES, A COWBOY STORY

If you like your western novels jam packed with authentic action and adventure, then "Compadres, A Cowboy Story" by [Paul Pumpian](#) is the book for you.



It's 1915 when Jeff Price and Will Denton, two Texas cowboys who've been compadres since their pre-teens, find themselves dead broke in Juarez, Mexico, they see a poster advertising that Pancho Villa is recruiting experienced American machine gunners for his Revolutionary Army, they flat out lie about their ability and are accepted.

From then on, they're involved in several bloody battles of the revolutionary period; they're forced into a hard labor Mexican prison; are in Columbus, New Mexico in time to help the U.S. Army when Villa attacks the town and then join General Pershing and his aide, a young 2nd Lieutenant George S. Patton, when the Army enters Mexico to catch or kill Villa.

Toss in a few dramatic gun fights; a battle to the death between a Wild West Show cowboy and a killer horse; a no holds barred look at ranch life of that era; a crooked poker game that gets hot in a hurry; some steamy lovin'; a fortune in gold that must be smuggled across the border; visits to bordellos and gambling halls and you have a book that'll keep you turning pages so fast, it'll stir up a breeze.

YOU CAN ORDER "COMPADRES A COWBOY STORY" ON LINE AT: WWW.COMPADRESBOOK.COM OR THROUGH AMAZON OR BARNES AND NOBLE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Pumpian's writing career covers nearly 100 hours of Prime Time TV credits including several TV Specials for Bob Hope and two seasons with the Donny & Marie Show.



For 23 years he submitted over 41,000 Daily Strips and 4,100 Sunday Pages to the "Blondie" comic strip.

He's written acres of monologue material for a number of comedians including Pat Buttram. Pat created the "Golden Boot Awards," an annual Hollywood affair that recognizes outstanding work in Western films. Pat served as it's MC for many years and Paul wrote lines for all of them.

As a dedicated horseman for over 40 years, Paul has shown in reining and in the cutting pen. His horses have won a number of Appaloosa World and National Championships. "Compadres A Cowboy Story" is his first serious work, but when you consider his background you can be sure there'll be some belly laughs along the way.

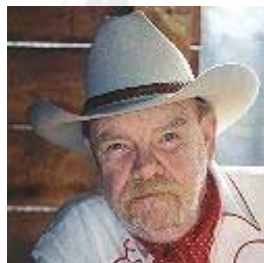
2009 Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium

The 20th Annual Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium is October 8-11, 2009 in Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico. Thursday night concert opens with [Mel Tillis](#) and [Bob Wills' Texas Playboys](#) featuring the official voice of the Texas Playboys the legendary [Leon Rausch](#) and friends. All day entertainment. Worlds richest chuck wagon cook off, Kids Rodeo, Craig Cameron Horse Clinic. Friday and Saturday from 10 am to midnight enjoy live western swing music At Billy The Kid Casino and sports bar with [Brady Bowen and Swing Country](#) with Tracy Pitcox's Heart Of Texas Recording Artists [Darrell & Mona McCall](#), [Curtis Potter](#), [Amber Digby](#), [Justin Trevino](#). [The Gatlin Brothers](#), [Larry Gatlin](#) will be Performing as well. Western Swing Music dances Friday & Saturday nights with [Bobby Flores](#), [Floyd Domino](#), [Billy Mata Ginny Mac](#), [Liz Talley](#) and many more. Over 100 western vendors Throughout Ruidoso Downs Racetrack selling their wares. For more information and tickets please call 575-378-4431.

Roundup Compilation Download Available To All DJs

Joe Baker's Backforty Roundup Compilation CD available for digital download for overseas DJs is now available to all US and Canadian DJs. Inquire at joe@backfortybunkhouse.com

"Cowboy Bills" Top 10 Playlist
Top 10 Most Requested Songs...



Cowboy fun in Georgia in 2009.

The 4th annual Johnny Mack Brown Western Festival is coming up this month and will be in Dothan, Alabama on May 8th & 9th. What a spectacular event it will be. Cowboy Bill and Wrangler Marv will be there with Los Pistoleros reenacting The Dothan Riot. This will be our 4th year doing this event and what



a great time we have. In 1889 there was a big gunfight in Dothan that involved over 100 participants. The gunfight caused such shock that it actually led to a repeal of several laws in Dothan.



In many respects, Dothan is like the Tombstone of the southeast with a young marshal who was as tough as Wyatt Earp. Maybe they should make a movie about the gunfight in 1889 in Dothan. A great title would be "Bad, Bad, Dothan". Each year the city of Dothan buses all the school kids to Landmark Park where there is all kinds of cowboy stuff. Everything from Cowboy

Mounted Shooting to the reenactment of the Dothan Riot. We will be performing several times each day but mostly Friday is for the kids. What a great idea to teach the kids the history of Dothan. And don't forget Johnny Mack Brown. He was not only a great cowboy "B" Western star but he also was an All-American halfback at the University of Alabama and led his team to a victory in the Rose Bowl in the late 1920's. Our guns are loaded and we're ready to go!

As always, we appreciate all our fans and will continue our quest to preserve the cowboy spirit. Until next month, we want all you pards out there to stay warm, keep your powder dry and keep it cowboy. Just remember, There's the right way, the wrong way and the ...Cowboy Way!!!!



We continue to get CDs from many artists and groups and we welcome them all. If you want to send us your CD, we are at:

The Cowboy Way Show
 146 Hwy 139 #230
 Monroe, Georgia 30565

Attached is a couple of photos of Cowboy Bill & Wrangler Marv from last years Johnny Mack Brown Western Festival.

Our top ten playlist for May, 2009 is:

1. A Cowboy's Life - *Jim Garling*
2. My Saddle Pal and I - *The Tumbling Tumbleweeds*
3. Wedding Day - *Stan Jones*
4. The Cowboy Spirit - *Jim Reader*
5. Call of the Canyon - *Jim Garling*
6. Punchin Cows - *Jim Brooks*
7. Black Diamond - *Earl Gleason*
8. Whittler's Corner - *Butch Martin*
9. The Texas Cowboy Blues - *Donnie Blanz*
10. Wide Open Range - *The Buckerettes*

Cowboy Bill Can be contacted at: wilrand@comcast.net

Texas-Radio.nl, The Netherlands



Eddy and Ria Veldkamp' Soon To Be Texans

Eddy & Ria are relocating to Hondo, Texas in June. KCWM's station manager Mike Carr offered Eddy a radio job at his station. Eddy says, "I'm workin' Monday through Friday from 6 PM—12 PM as a country DJ on my own brand new show. May 31st will be the last TEXAS RADIO show in the Netherlands." You can listen to KCWM live on the stream via:

www.kcwm.net. I'll also promote artists on my new radio show for KCWM.

Until June 2nd Contact Eddy & Ria at www.Texas-Radio.nl



Wyn Machon

Oamaru heritage Radio 88.3 & 107fm.
 5 Lowther St. Oamaru 9400.
 Whitestone City, New Zealand .

- Randy Brown - *Your secret's safe with me* .BF VOL37
- Buddie Hrable - *Honky tonkitis*.BF VOL37
- John Bergstrom - *Tiburcio Vasquez*. BF VOL37
- Dusty Owens - *Don't come cryin' to me.*
- Bill Murphree - *The never lasting kind.*
- Razyzy Baily - *Hank wrote that.*
- Ann J Morton - *Black and blue heart.*
- Floyd Cramer - *On a rebound.*
- Erin Hay - *High on a hilltop.*
- Chuck Cusimano - *Weeping Wanda.*

Contact Wyn at wynjoy@orcon.net.nz

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

TOP TWELVE CDs



- 1 Bobby Koefer – *Thumbin' It*
- 2 Chuck Cusimano – *Wind, Blow My Blues Away*
- 3 Cow Bop – *Route 66*
- 4 Eilen Jewell – *Letters from Sinners & Strangers*
- 5 Gaylynn Robinson – *Love & Heartache*
- 6 Hank Stone – *Somewhere in Texas*
- 7 Joe Paul Nichols – *The Price Is Right*
- 8 Kelli Grant – *Swings & Sings*
- 9 Miss Leslie – *Between the Whiskey & the Wine*

- 10 Ray Sanders – *Texas Dance Hall Style*
- 11 Rich Flanders – *Yondering*
- 12 The Silver Screen Cowboy Project (2 CD Var.art.)

TOP TWELVE SONGS

- 1 Between the Whiskey & the Wine – *Miss Leslie*
- 2 Blue Shadows on the Trail – *Rich Flanders*
- 3 Call Back My Heart Texas Moon – *Gaylynn Robinson*
- 4 Honky Tonk Stardust Cowboy – *Stardust Cowboys*
- 5 I'll Be There – *Joe Paul Nichols*
- 6 My Last Word to You – *Chuck Cusimano*
- 7 Nobody Kisses Their Horses Anymore – *Buckshot Dot*
- 8 Put a Little Texas in Your Swing – *Mary Allen-Keating*
- 9 Shuffle Me Back to Texas – *Ray Sanders*
- 10 Somewhere in Texas – *Hank Stone*
- 11 Thanks a Lot – *Eilen Jewell*
- 12 When the Bloom Is on the Sage – *Cow Bop*

You're welcome to send CDs for review (mark Promos) to
 Lillies Ohlsson
 Bennerstigen 120
 SE-733 95 SALA * SWEDEN
 Lillies Ohlsson—Leeswing88@sheab.net



April has sure been wet here in the valley but it has not dampened our spirits here at WSMC. We kicked off the show this month with some great western swing. [Lyle Lovett's](#) "Cowboy Man," and Two tunes from a CD by [CMH](#) called "A Steel Guitar Salute to the Music of Leonard Skynard," "T for Texas" and "I know a Little" are really hot cuts. These CMH tribute CD's are great for any collector. CMH produces these

CDs with great instrumental music and done up western swing style and sometimes acoustic style but always "in good taste." Many of you may have seen them as they are sometimes marketed as "Pickin On" and then the artist name appears. These "Pickin On" CD's are always done by some of the best musicians around and feature some really hot licks. [Asleep at the Wheel](#) and "New San Antonio Rose," "End of the Line," and "Bob Wills is Still the King" were nice picks this month along with [Bobby Flores](#), "My Life's Been a Pleasure," [Jody Nix](#) and "Play Me Something I Can Swing To" and [Carolyn Martin](#) with "When You're Smiling." We had some great Cowboy Poetry this month from [Gary Robertson's](#) "Word Wranglin," and from [The Bar D Roundup](#) with [Elizabeth Ebert](#) and [Joel Nelson](#), [Diane Tribett](#). [Dave Stamey's](#) "The Trail Took Me Away" along with [Ian Tyson's](#) "Fifty Years Ago."

We did a memorial to [Dan Seals](#) this past month and included his "God Must Be a Cowboy at Heart" by the [In Cahoots Band](#). Inspirational music provided this month by [Doug Flowers](#) with "Born Again" and [Cedar Hill](#) with "Pearl" and [Luke Reed](#) with "Cowboy Church."

I know the entire music community was saddened with the loss of Dan Seals and early in May my friend [Vern Gosdin](#) passed away as well. I have a great interview with Vern Gosdin that was done by [Ben Cagle](#) at a concert in Bristol Tennessee back in the 80's we'll play in May as well as several gospel songs by Vern himself. I had a television show back in the 80's and Vern Gosdin came down to Chattanooga and did a show with our group and we left early the next morning for Talladega, Alabama for the 500 race and our group did a pre race show and Vern was on Marty Robbins pit crew. Vern and Dan made great contributions to our music world. Their music lives on.

That's about all the news that's fit to print. We broadcast from beautiful downtown Collegedale, Tennessee...where the air always smells like a big oatmeal cookie...100,000 watts every Sunday at 6 pm EST and on the internet at www.wsmc.org. If it ever stops raining I'm riding the steel pony to the Dragon's Tail in North Carolina...beautiful country.

You Can Contact Bill at: bill.mccallie@gmail.com
Sundays at 6:00 pm—www.wsmc.org/webstream.html

Ken Bass KALH - Variety 95.1 FM

Serving

Alamogordo - La Luz - Holloman AFB & Tularosa, NM



KALH - Variety 95.1 FM airs a variety format consisting of current West Texas, Western Swing, Honky Tonk and Traditional C & W music mixed with vintage Country. The format runs pretty much 24/7 with the exception of a couple of syndicated programs on Sunday.

1 Liz Talley - *Bump Bounce Boogie*
2 Bobby Flores - *Are You Teasing Me*
3 Buddie Harbal - *Honky Tonkitis*

4 Russ Murphy - *America's Hero's*
5 Justin Grant - *Drink More Beer*
6 Cory Bivens Band - *Whiskey Lullaby*
7 Maiden Texas - *Don't You*
8 Hank Stone - *Somewhere in Texas*
9 Josh Turner - *Everything is Fine*
10 Willie Nelson - *Corine, Corina*

kalhlp@earthlink.net



THE FINAL STEP.

The final step in making a professional recording is the mastering. A studio master tape is not a final master.

You've had a recording session, with top notch musicians, in a good studio. You have your beautiful mixdown, thanks to expert engineers and producer. Are you ready to press your CD's? Not quite. Next you send it to the mastering studio. The mastering process puts the final touches, the idea being this...to make the recording sound perfect on most players and radio stations. Mastering engineers do a number of processes to accomplish this.

Here are a few of the things we think about in our mastering studio, the Music Hospital...It should sound great in both stereo and mono. In fringe areas, FM radio reverts to mono on most receivers. There's not much you can do about it after the recording is out there, but you can keep hitting the mono button during the mix...or you can leave it to the mastering guy to fix it. There are several ways to make it mono/stereo compatible during mastering. If nothing is done, some instruments might just disappear in mono, and the tone of others can change.

Bass sounds below 40 Hz take airspace away from the rest of the music, and can't even be heard on a lot of systems. Bass sounds below about 28 Hz take up tons of space and can't even be heard by the human ear. I call it "silent rumble". The first thing I do when mastering is to cut away this useless junk. The highs and the rest of the record jump right out. I can see it on the visual display, and the sound is instantly cleaner.

The string bass and bass drum are important. The low end that gives them power is somewhere below 80 Hz. The attack or tap that gives them presence is above 1000 Hz. These factors have to be balanced.

Records get louder every year, so you want to get a good level, but without hurting your music. It's wrong to push the level to 100% and chop it off there with a limiter. This loses punch, sound quality, and dynamics. Dynamics are the soft and louder sounds needed for contrast, like building up to a chorus. If all the music is full blast and chopped off at the top like a hedge, you lose. It can also make the listeners swear and jump for the the volume control.

One way to beat this is with "apparent loudness". The human ear is most efficient in midrange. and hears things loud and clear at 2 KHz to 3 KHz... the CB radio range. So if you roll off some lows and highs, like a TV commercial, it sounds louder, at least to humans. Trouble is it can sound brassy.

"Punch" is not loudness. Punch is how far the speaker cone moves and pushes air. If the whole track is all the way up, the speaker just goes all the way forward and stays there. No punch. So we don't cut off all the peaks. We just even them up a little. Much of this relies on our "ear" and experience.

The mastering engineer has a barrel of terrific tools now'days, thanks to electronic and computer advancements. I have well over a hundred sound tools that didn't exist a few years ago. The only problem with this is that I get too many good mixes to choose from.

There is too much to the subject of mastering to cover here, but I hope I've convinced a few of you recording artists to send your studio mix to the mastering studio before pressing. Especially if you're in this for a career.

Jack Blanchard © 2009.

Jack Blanchard & Misty Morgan...
Grammy Nominees... *Billboard's Duet of the Year*.
MASTERING STUDIO EMAIL: mastering@jackandmisty.com
HOME PAGE: <http://jackandmisty.com>



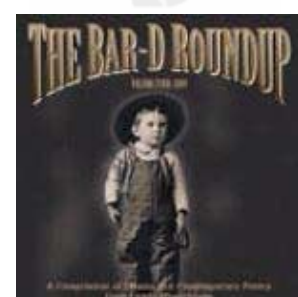
Cowboy Poetry Week: April 19-25, 2009

Rural librarians across the West are hanging a poster featuring vibrant artwork by noted Western artist [Bob Coronato](#) and busting the shrink wrap off [The BAR-D Roundup, Vol. 4](#). The poster and CD are made available at no cost to participating libraries by the [Center for Western and Cowboy Poetry](#). The Center sponsors Cowboy Poetry Week and [CowboyPoetry.com](#).

Cowboy Poetry Week is celebrated during April—designated as National Poetry Month in the U.S. and Canada. This year marks the eighth annual celebration of Cowboy Poetry Week. It ran April 19-25, 2009. The United States Senate passed a resolution recognizing the celebration in 2003. Since then, it has been recognized by 21 states' governors and other officials. A variety of festivities take place in communities across the West and beyond.

Through the outreach of the Rural Library Project, even the smallest communities in the rural West can experience the folklore and tradition associated with cowboy poetry. Each year, an exciting new CD is offered to libraries, along with a Cowboy Poetry Week poster. Some libraries host events and exhibits to celebrate: [www.cowboypoetry.com/week2009.htm#Events](#).

This year's official poster (<http://www.cowboypoetry.com/bobcoronato.htm>) features artwork by Bob Coronato, courtesy The Greenwich Workshop, Inc. An East Coast native, Coronato now divides his time between Hulett, Wyoming (near Devils Tower), and Atascadero, California. His works are often set in southeast Montana and northeast Wyoming. An astute observer of detail, Coronato gets the details right, as evidenced by the title of the painting: "The Horse Wrangler Gather'd The Morning Mounts: 'One That Had'n Lived The Life ... Couldn't Paint a Picture ... To Please The Eye, of One That Had!'"



This year's 28-track, fourth-edition BAR-D Roundup combines classic and contemporary cowboy poetry from a Westerner's viewpoint. Like Coronato, the poets and authors represented on the album "get it right." [Joel Nelson](#), one of the genre's most respected contemporary poets, opens with "The Men Who Ride No More." There's also the epic "The Red Cow" by the late [Larry McWhorter](#), and "Tracks that Won't Blow Out" by the late

[Ray Owens](#).

Classics by [Bruce Kiskaddon](#) and [Henry Herbert Knibbs](#) are recited by [Randy Rieman](#) and [Jerry Brooks](#). [Dick Morton](#) offers the traditional "The Cattleman's Prayer," and the late [JB Allen](#) does "Roundup in the Spring." [Jesse Smith](#) recites the melancholy "The Black Beauty." There is a fourth annual selection from Grass, by the late [Buck Ramsey](#), the recognized spiritual leader of cowboy poetry.

The viewpoints expressed are not just from men. On the contrary, there's a refreshing abundance of women's' perspectives: "The Cows Came First" by [Jane Morton](#); "Housewife" by [Georgie Sicking](#); "A Plain Ol' Housewife" by [Yvonne Hollenbeck](#); "Average Girl" by [Doris Daley](#); "Ida's Bread" by [Jo Lynne Kirkwood](#), and "Half the Hand" by [Diane Tribitt](#). Even [Rodney Nelson's](#) crowd-pleasing favorite, "Cowboy Laundry," gives voice to a cowboy's wife.

The adorable lad pictured on the album cover is [Gail Gardner](#). Reproduced from an 1890's tintype, it hints at the vintage recording of Gardner (1892-1988) reciting/singing his famous work, "The Sierry Petes (Tying Knots in the Devil's Tail)." Gardner's grandson [Gail Steiger](#) recites another of his grandfather's works, "The Dude Wrangler."

Other poets serving up contemporary and classic poems on the Vol. 4 include [Allen Clark](#), [Ken Cook](#), [Elizabeth Ebert](#), [DW Groethe](#), [Linda Kirkpatrick](#), [Slim McNaught](#), [Rod Miller](#), [Pat Richardson](#), [Jay Snider](#), and [Andy Nelson](#). Nelson, a Wyoming poet, humorist, emcee and radio host, co-produced the project. [Baxter Black](#) sticks a fork in the project and calls it "done" with a radio public service announcement, written and delivered as only he can.

Continuing a tradition of excellence established with The Bar-D Roundup Vol. 1-2-3, this latest release is a must-have for those who savor cowboy poetry.

Look for The BAR-D Roundup, Vol. 4, at your rural Western library. To purchase your own copy, send \$20 to [CowboyPoetry.com](#), PO Box 330444, San Francisco, CA 94133. Previous years' releases are available. Purchase Vol. 3 and 4 together for \$35; Vol. 2, 3, & 4 for \$50. (U.S. and Canadian postage included. Add \$5 for all other addresses.) Pay by a secure, on-line credit card at [www.cowboypoetry.com/cd.htm](#). Proceeds support the Center for Western and Cowboy Poetry.

Posters are not available for purchase. They are offered to libraries and to supporters of the Center for Western and Cowboy Poetry. Become a supporter at [www.cowboypoetry.com/donors.htm#joinus](#).

The 29 Annual *Legends of*

WESTERN SWING

SHOW AND DANCE

Dedicated In Memory of
Bobby Boatright

Featuring
RIVER ROAD BOYS



Special Guest
Leon Rausch
Curly Hollingsworth
Little Red Hayes
Benny Bennett
Fiddle Showcase

Grimes County Expo Center
FM 3455 • Navasota, Texas
Saturday, July 25, 2009 • 8:00 P.M.

Doors Open 6:30
\$18.00/ advance

BYOB Set Ups Available (Cold Drinks, Water & Ice)
Restaurants and Lodging in and around Navasota.
RV Parking Available

To Order Tickets & Reserve Table
Mail Check or Money Order
With Self Addressed Stamped Envelope To:
Western Swing Show
c/o Shirley Curtiss
5708 FM 3455
Navasota, Texas 77858

Contact Information - Shirley Curtiss 836-825-7338 - Email: shirleycurtiss@earthlink.net

Visit These Western Organizations

- Cowtown Society Of Western Music [www.cowtown-swm.org](#)
- Northwest Western Swing Music Society [www.seattlwesternswingmusicsociety.com](#)
- Western Swing Music Society Of The Southwest [www.WSMSS.com](#)
- Western Swing Society, Sacramento, CA. [www.westernswingsociety.org](#)
- Academy Of Western Artists [www.awa-awards.org](#)
- Western Music Association [www.westernmusic.org](#)

How To Request A Song From The Band Author Unknown—Submitted By Dugg Collins



When requesting a song from the band, just say "play ... my song!" We have chips implanted in our heads with an unlimited database of the favorite tunes of every patron who ever walked into a bar and all songs ever recorded so feel free to be vague, we love the challenge.

If we say we really don't remember that tune you want, we're only kidding. Bands do know every song ever recorded, so keep humming. Hum harder if need be... it helps jog the memory, or just repeat your request over and over again.

If a band tells you they do not know a song you want to hear, they either forgot they know the tune or they are just putting you on. Try singing a few words for the band. Any words will do. It also helps to scream your request from across the room several times per set followed by the phrases, "AW COME ON!" and, "YOU SUCK!"

Exaggerated hand gestures expressing disapproval from the dance floor are a big help as well, such as the thumbs down or your middle finger up put-downs are the best way to jog a band's memory. This instantly promotes you to the status of "Personal Friend Of The Band." You can bet your request will be the next song we play.

Entertainers are notorious fakers and jokesters and never really prepare for their shows. They simply walk on stage with no prior thought to what they will do once they arrive. We don't actually make set lists or rehearse songs. We mostly just wait for you to yell something out, then fake it.

An entertainer's job is so easy, even a monkey could do it, so don't let them off the hook easily. Your request is all that matters. Once you've figured out what genre of music the band plays, please make your requests from a totally different genre. The more exaggerated the better. If its a blues band playing, yell for some Metallica or Slayer or Pantera. Likewise, if its a death-speed metal band, be sure to request Brown-Eyed Girl or some Hank Williams. Musicians need to constantly broaden their musical horizons, and its your job to see that it happens....immediately.

TALKING WITH THE BAND. The best time to discuss anything with the band in any meaningful way is at the middle of a song when all band members are singing at the same time. Our hearing is so advanced that we can pick out your tiny voice from the megawatt wall of sound blasting all around us. And we can converse with you in sign language while singing the song, so don't worry that we're in the middle of the chorus.

Musicians are expert lip readers too. If a musician does not reply to your question or comment during a tune, it's because they didn't get a good look at your mouth in order to read your lips. Simply continue to scream your request and be sure to over emphasize the words with your lips. This helps immensely. Don't be fooled. Singers have the innate ability to answer questions and sing at the same time. If the singer doesn't answer your questions immediately, regardless of how stupid the question may seem, it's because they are purposely ignoring you. If this happens, immediately cop an attitude. We love this.

IMPORTANT When an entertainer leans over to hear you better, grab his or her head in both hands and yell directly into their ear, while holding their head securely so they cannot pull away. This will be taken as an invitation to a friendly and playful game of tug of war between their head and your hands. Don't give up! Hang on until the singer or guitar player submits. Drummers are often safe from this fun game since they usually sit in the back, protected by the guitar players. Keyboard players are protected by their instrument, and only play the game when tricked into coming from behind their keyboards. Though difficult to get them to play, it's not impossible, so keep trying. They're especially vulnerable during the break between songs.

HELPING THE BAND. If you inform the band that you are a singer, the band will appreciate your help with the next few tunes, or however long you can remain standing on stage. If you're too drunk to stand unassisted, simply lean on one of the band members or the most

expensive piece of equipment you see. Just pretend you're in a Karaoke bar. Simply feel free to walk up on stage and join in. By the way, the drunker you are, the better you sound, and the louder you should sing. If by chance you fall off the stage, be sure to crawl back up and attempt to sing harmony. Keep in mind that nothing assists the band more than outrageous dancing, fifth and sixth part harmonies, or a tambourine played on one and three and out of tempo. Try the cowbell; they love the challenge. The band always needs the help and will take this as a compliment.

Finally, the microphone and PA system are merely props, they don't really amplify your voice, so when you grab the mic out of the singers hand be sure to scream into it at the top of your lungs, otherwise no one will hear what a great singer you are. Hearing is over-rated anyhow. The crowd and the sound guy will love you for it.

BONUS TIP. As a last resort, wait until the band takes a break and then get on stage and start playing their instruments. They love this. Even if you are ejected from the club, you can rest assured in the fact you have successfully completed your audition. The band will call you the following day to offer you a position.

I always like to add my thoughts on these things:

Approach the band while they are setting up their equipment. This is a very boring time for musicians and having you on stage will give them someone to talk to. Ask them if they are "playing tonight? What time do you start? What kind of music do you play? Where else do you play?" Plus, this is the only exercise they ever get and those extra steps it takes them to walk around you will make for a better workout. Be sure to let the guitar player know that you have a guitar "exactly" like his. When he says, "Please, tell me more", you say, "It's brown, just like yours!" And don't forget to tell everyone in the band about your cousin who has a 1955 Martin and a 1959 Gibson guitar. Every band member is fascinated by the fact that there are people in the world who own vintage musical instruments. The fact that you are related to one of those people will absolutely blow them away! You'll be their new favorite fan and will have made life-long friends.

Buy a round of drinks for the band. A nice big shooter will get them rockin' & rollin'! Five shots of Triple Sec won't cost you much.

It's hard for a band to compete with a televised sporting event. They probably want to watch that soccer game as badly as you. Remind them that they can take a break any time so you all can catch up on the latest scores and highlights.

Don't forget to tip! A lot of musicians live on their tip money. Be sure to first wave the money in their face. You have to make sure they see you are tipping. It's a good deal for you both since that dollar you dropped in the tip jar is worth at least 6 or 7 requests.

When you request a song and the band says he does not know the song, don't you believe them. So, when told, "We don't know that song," reply, "Yes, you do!" This exchange will go on for a while:

"We don't know it."

Yes, you do!"

"No, we don't."

"Yes, you do."

"No, we don't."

"Yes, you do."

"No, we don't."

Now, hit them with the clincher:

"Yes, you do. I've heard you play it before."

"No, you haven't. It wasn't us."

"Yes, it was."

"No, it wasn't."

"Yes, it was."

"No, it wasn't."

Don't give up! Keep this up for 10-15 minutes until the band admits they are lying. It's a well known fact that bands spend hours memorizing and rehearsing songs that they never intend to play. Your perseverance will impress them and they will gladly play YOUR song!

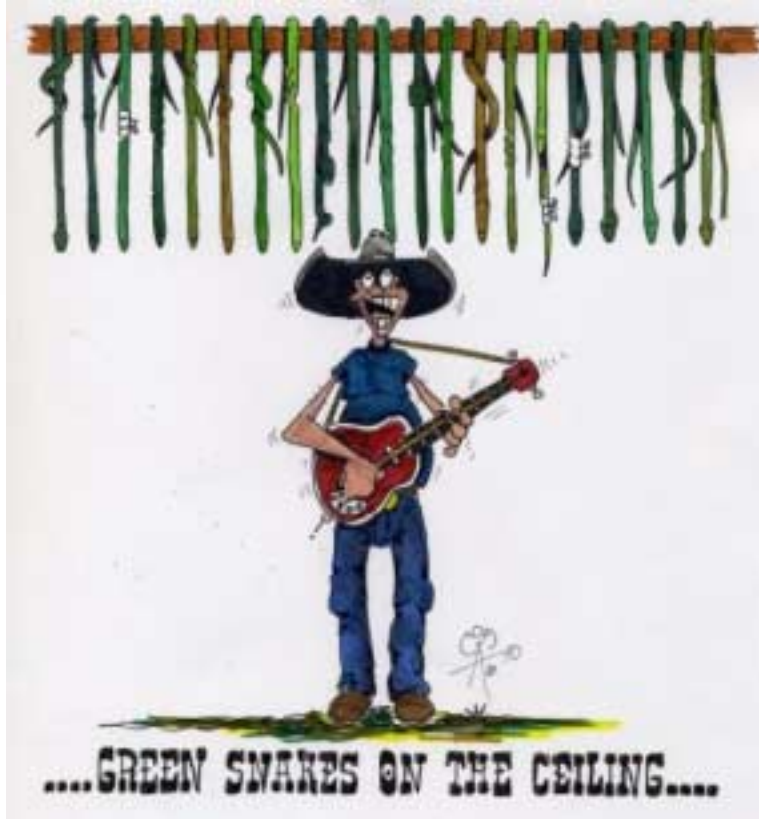
When Joe Baker saddled up and rode out to give the cowboy music and poetry industry a clear voice with the creation of the Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter, his success in doing just that spawned a following I am proud to be a part of. It makes no difference if you are a poet, musician, or fan of cowboy music. Joe's newsletter is a must read, crammed full of in depth articles covering Gatherings, honest reviews, and complete listings of who's music and poetry radio DJ's are playing across this great country of ours and beyond! Joe's years of dedication to our cowboy entertainment industry, and Howard Higgins editorial expertise have me looking forward to ridin' along with Joe's Backforty Bunkhouse Newsletter each and every month. So don't hesitate, pull your boots on and go visit Joe: www.backfortybunkhouse.com because Grandpa always told me, if you're gonna ride...saddle up with the best. **Ken Cook, Cowboy Poet.**

A Farewell Note



Take a look at all the pictures accompanying the articles, song lists, and just general information in this newsletter. These are the people who dedicatedly submitted material to the Backforty Newsletter while I was at the helm. They are the ones who made this newsletter successful during the time that I was editor. I want to thank each of you for your dedication. Joe and I could not have done it without you.

I sincerely hope that each of you will continue to submit your material to the new editor "Totsie Slover" and give her the same dedication and respect that you gave me. This is not goodbye, I'm still associated with Backforty Productions, although in a different avenue. You can contact me at chh1@suddenlink.net anytime and I welcome your emails.



Artist: Jerry Webb

Album: There's A Song In That 2009

Hometown: Tolar, Texas

Produced by Ron Stafford & Chip Bricker

By Joe Baker

My good friend [Jerry Webb](#) has done it again, and again. I'm most impressed with Jerry's songwriting and his live performances are second to none. Jerry says, "Each day I am thankful to God and to my family for their understanding and support. I am very Fortunate to have so many gifted and talented musician friends that make it possible for me to present my songs and music." I could not agree more. In this day and age, recording your own songs and arranging your own music is a win-win deal. Just when I go head over heels for Red Lips And Honky Tonks, here comes "There's A Song In That." My good friend and mentor, Hall Of Fame disc jockey [Joe Bielinski](#) from Country Legends 92.1FM in Fort Worth, Texas says "another wonderful, real country music CD." The top players in the DFW area are all here for sure. [Ron Stafford](#), [Reggie Rueffer](#), [Chip Bricker](#), [Brad Clancey](#), [Paul Holder](#), [Page Blackmon](#) and [Gayla Earlene](#). Gayla Earlene appears Courtesy of 3G Music. Marie Duckworth, owner of [Pearl's Dancehall & Saloon](#) in the Historic Fort Worth Stockyards. Thanks Jerry Webb for keeping "real country" music alive. with eleven tracks on this CD. I know you're gonna love this One. To purchase this new release and other Jerry Webb CD's, you can visit: www.JerryWebbMusic.com or www.BackfortyBunkhouse.com/cdchorale

Empty Saddles



Vern Gosdin breathed new life into country music with his unabashed style of Honky Tonk with hits like "Set 'Em Up, Joe" and "Chiseled in Stone." Like most country music artists, he received his inspiration through gospel music, performing with his brothers in the gospel quartet The Gosdin Family. In the 1960's, Gosdin had a part in the infancy of country rock with future 'Byrd' member Chris Hillman in the group The Hillmen. It took

him going solo in 1967 to attain his own sound and he just decided to pick up where Hank and Lefty left off. He was older and wiser and his brand of country was a by-product of that experience. He was already 43 years old when he enjoyed his first top ten hit in the duet with Emmylou Harris, "Yesterday's Gone." Gosdin had his first #1 hit in 1983 with "I Can Tell By The Way You Dance (You're Gonna Love Me Tonight)." Throughout the late 1970's and 80's, Vern amassed 11 top tens, 5 top fives, and 3 number one hits. Because of his hybrid style of all of the honky tonk legends that have passed before him, he will always be referred to as "The Voice." Gosdin passed away on April 28th, 2009 in his sleep. He was 74 years old.



Loretta Irene Johnson entered this world on November 29, 1941 in Forgan, Oklahoma, the fifth child born to Mack and Audrey (Elston) Johnson. Loretta was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Luther and Olin. Her brother Everett resides in Wild Horse, Colorado and sisters, Loudilla and Kay Johnson reside in Brentwood, Tennessee.

During Loretta's early childhood, the family resided at Booker, Texas, where her Dad worked farming and ranching. In 1948 her Dad achieved a dream of securing his own farm operation and moved the family to Wild Horse, in Cheyenne County Colorado.

While still teenagers on the rolling plains of Eastern Colorado; Loretta and her sisters established their own country music business, a big part of which is the International Fan Club Organization (IFCO), which has promoted and helped numerous country artists build their careers. IFCO has also been instrumental in developing shows and festivals throughout the US and the UK. The annual "IFCO Fun Fest" show" is widely considered to be the precursor to "Fan Fair", known today as the "CMA Music Festival".

In 1991 Loretta and her sisters packed up and moved home and company to "Music City". Loretta will be remembered by all for her "big heart", generosity, wit and charm.

Loretta departed this life on Monday, April 13 at Alive Hospice in Nashville after a long battle with bone marrow cancer.