

# THE WESTERN WAY

The Official Publication of the International  
Western Music Association

IN THE CROSSHAIRS

## Almeda Bradshaw

SINGER | SONGWRITER  
ENTREPRENEUR

PAGE 6



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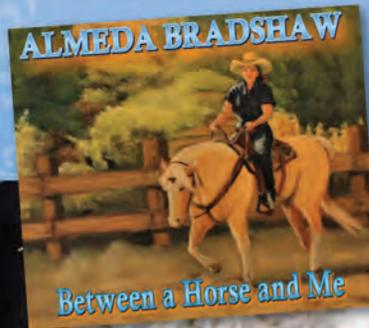
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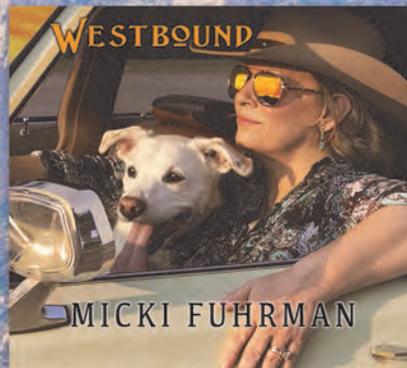


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## From The President...



Robert Lorbeer  
IWMA President

## ROBERT'S RAMBLINGS

It is COLD in Texas today, and I can't imagine what it is like in Kansas or North Dakota or...

The IWMA Board of Directors is conducting monthly meetings and in these early meetings discussions and preparations

for the IWMA2022 Convention in Albuquerque has been the topic of discussion. Because of Covid, the Board stopped traveling to meetings in different places around the country. All of our meetings are now via Zoom®. A Zoom meeting allows the members to sign on from their computer at home and participate as though sitting around a conference table. This has been a great cost savings to each Board member who pays their own expenses for travel, food and lodging to attend board meetings. One of the positive conveniences of modern technology!

A large part of our discussion has been about what changes need to be made and what we can do better, or what we can add to make our next Convention the best ever. We are constantly exploring new possibilities to enhance the program and provide more opportunities for performances and workshops – to make it a time well-spent for all attendees.

The Board voted to invite a very special guest to this year's convention, someone that probably every member of IWMA knows, or at least knows of, and as soon as we get a "yes, I'll be there" confirmation, we will share the news!

So, a great big thank you to our Board of Directors for their dedication to IWMA and their dedication to every member of IWMA. And, thank you to our Executive Director, Marsha, for the ongoing support to the Board and the organization.

And PS, *The Western Way* magazine doesn't just all of a sudden pop up in your mailbox, we are fortunate to have has an incredible Editor, Theresa O'Dell. Please tell her "thank you" the next time you see her or drop her a thank-you note for a job well-done.

Robert Lorbeer  
President IWMA



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### ON THE COVER...

Almeda Bradshaw, a portrait of a woman carved by the world around her and the travels that helped her discover her niche. Music was at the root with influences from Crosby, Stills and Nash to Willie Nelson and Lefty Frizzell. Through it all she found her western heart!

Cover photography by Anita Crane – [photographybyneets.com](http://photographybyneets.com)

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*In Memoriam*  
**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**



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## Editor's Insight



Theresa O'Dell  
Editor

# Enjoying Western American Art

Retirement – well, at least from my “day” job – allows me to enjoy simple pleasures at my leisure and my convenience. One such opportunity came a few weeks ago when I learned about a private collection

gallery of Western American Art that was practically in my backyard in Arizona. So, off we went (I took my hubby, too) to check it out.

Expecting a small collection, imagine our surprise to find this very extensive private collection of not only Western American Art but also American Indian Art. And it is no small collection. It is a fascinating beginning of how the private collection of Eddie Basha blossomed into Zelma Basha Salmeri

Gallery. I won't bore with details, but I was so taken with the display of work presented, I wanted to tell our mobile, traveling friends of

western culture about its existence. When your travels bring you to Arizona and if you love western and native American art, then this gallery should be a destination stop for you!

The artists' work on display here may be lesser known to some than the work of Frederic Remington or Charles Russell, but their work is pure to the core! They are part



of the Cowboy Artists of America (CAA) organization founded by Joe Beeler, Charlie Dye and John Hampton. CAA organized officially in 1965 with other charter members such as Fred Harman and George Phippen. The work of this caliber of artists now has an annual exhibition in Ft. Worth, TX. Previously, their annual exhibition was for many years at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma and the Phoenix Art Museum in Arizona.

But I digress. My thought is to share with you, those who embrace the beauty and love of the west in all forms, a wonderful place where you can go to reminisce about a time what once was but is now seen through the eyes of some very talented men

and women who paint, sculpt and weave. These craftsmen use canvas, metal, grain, gems and clay to tell the story of the West.

You can visit the Zelma Basha Salmeri Gallery Monday-Friday, 22402 S. Basha Road, Chandler, AZ 85248. Call for more information, 480-895-5230 (Option 2). And amazingly – the price of admission: Free.



*Theresa*

## From The Executive Director...



Marsha Short  
Executive Director

It's Spring in Texas... no wait, it's Winter again. NOW it's Spring...shoot, maybe after this ice storm it will be Spring. We can't blame this on global warming: it's just Texas weather!

And speaking of changes, it looks like we might be getting closer to "normal" this year. Mask mandates are being canceled around

the country. The last couple of years have affected all of us, whether it was the loss of a friend or loved one or the loss of income. Hopefully, this year will be one of recovery and healing.

IWMA is finally back in a growth mode. We've had a surge of new members and former members returning. We also have added a Tennessee Chapter! Congratulations to Gary Holt-President, Tecia McKenna-Vice President, and Micki Fuhrman-Secretary/Treasurer for all their work to make this possible! You can check out the chapter on Facebook and in the Chapter Update.

Nominations are now open for the 2022 IWMA Awards of Excellence. You can use the form in this issue of *The Western Way* to nominate your favorites. All nominations are considered by the committee.

Applications for performing during the 2022 Convention in Albuquerque November 9-13 were sent to all performing members. If you didn't receive yours, just drop me a quick email and I'll send you another one. Something new this year is the contest sign-up on the application form. You don't have to shuffle papers trying to find the right form to fill out. You can also email or call to sign up for the Harmony, Yodeling, Poetry, and Team Penning Contests.

We're looking forward to a good year at IWMA. We're in good financial shape, membership is growing, and the IWMA Board is committed to planning for the continuing preservation of Western Music and Cowboy Poetry.

*Marsha*



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- Rex Allen Arizona Cowboy Museum – Willcox, AZ
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*The Western Way is the official magazine of the International Western Music Association, a non-profit 501(c)3 Corporation, and is supported through paid advertising.*

# In the CROSSHAIRS

*Almeda Bradshaw shares a story marked by stages, twists and turns. Her journey is best described as “notches” placed on her saddle or on her guitar strap. Those saddle notches mark her physical travels... the people, places, horses and life lessons.. The musical accomplishments are recorded in guitar strap notches...the development and uncovering of her singing, playing, and writing talents combined with the personal ambitions that grew along the way. This is her story. Whatever the stage, wherever the journey, there is always a smile from this “town” girl who moved east to discover the “cowgirl” within and uncover her destiny embedded in a deep love and respect for the west.*



Almeda Bradshaw. Photography by Anita Crane.  
photographybyneets.com

## ALMEDA BRADSHAW

### Town Girl Turned Cowgirl

A Story told to KC LaCourse

**F**rom city child to western woman, Almeda Bradshaw has lived life in distinct stages, each one adding notches to both her guitar strap and to her saddle in the journey to become a western songwriter and cowgirl hand.

**SADDLE NOTCH #1:** Growing up on the Oregon coast, Almeda had a typical girl’s love for horses and dreamed of being a cowgirl. Whether on a tricycle, a swing set saddle or the family’s trusty propane tank, Almeda rode the “ranges of her imaginations” until a move to the country made it possible for her to have a real horse.

**KC:** “Tell me about your first horse.”

**ALMEDA:** “My folks didn’t know a thing about horses, but they knew Dick Bull, who was head of maintenance for the high school. Dick was the real deal. He sold us a Quarter/Morgan cross gelding. “Black Jack” was a great starter horse for me.”



Whether on a tricycle, swing, or eventually on horseback, Almeda was always ridin' high.

**STRAP NOTCH #1:** Almeda's musical education began with listening to her dad's LP collection of classical music. But she wore out his only western LP album; a recording of cowboy songs sung by the Norman Luboff Choir and made the deepest impression on her psyche.

**KC:** "What about seeing cowboys on TV or the silver screen?"

**ALMEDA:** "You know I really didn't see much of the classic singing cowboys. They were mostly reruns on TV by then and not something my parents tuned into. I remember Sky King, Rin Tin Tin and Lassie. And the only "cowboy" show I remember was Bonanza on Sunday evenings. None of the Cartwrights sang! So that album was really my whole early experience of western music."

**STRAP NOTCH #2:** Next came piano lessons and playing cello in the elementary school orchestra. She played both instruments into her mid teens at which time she dropped piano and advanced to playing cello for the community college orchestra.

**KC:** "What was going on with you that caused these changes?"

**ALMEDA:** "Well, I was tired of piano and bored with high school orchestra. I don't mean to brag, but it all came to me pretty easy. It's embarrassing to say now, but back then, I never practiced. It all came to me naturally. I did solo and ensemble competitions and always aced them. Now, of course, I wished I had practiced and had had a mentor or coach who could have inspired me to do more with my talent."

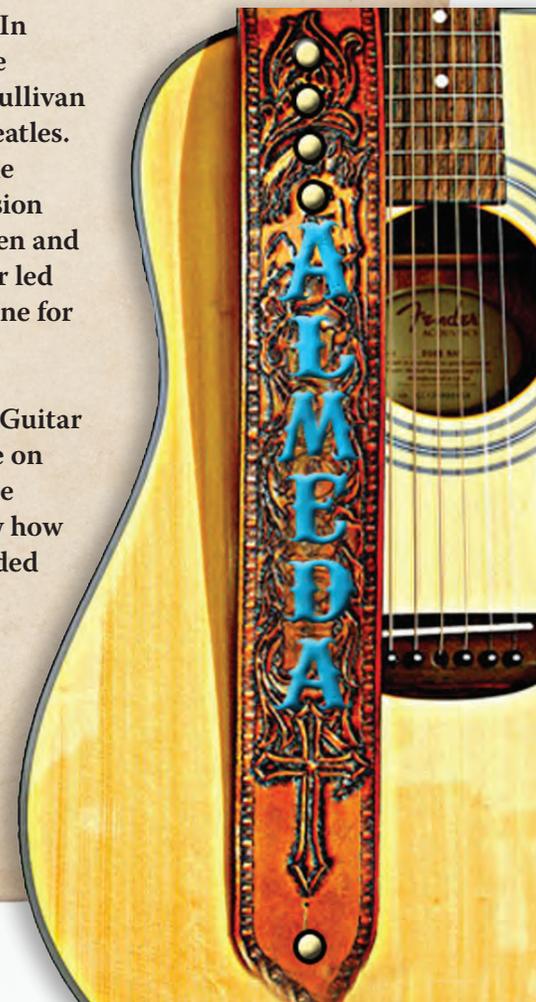
**KC:** "What did you do with music after high school?"

**ALMEDA:** "I attended Southern Oregon State in Ashland. I really fell in love with Ashland when our drama coach took the high school theater class on a field trip to see Shakespearean plays there. So, I majored in music, but minored in Frisbee. I really had too much fun! And this is where my not having developed a practice discipline in the early years really hurt me. I was at a much higher level in college and I found myself struggling. I think that's why I escaped into Frisbee."

**STRAP NOTCH #3:** In 1964, Almeda saw the groundbreaking Ed Sullivan show featuring the Beatles. As it was for the whole world, a huge impression was left on the pre-teen and wanting to play guitar led to an acoustic Epiphone for Christmas in 1968.

**STRAP NOTCH #4:** Guitar lessons were available on television, but because Almeda already knew how to read music, she ended up teaching herself.

*Continued from page 8*



## IN THE CROSSHAIRS

*Continued from page 7*



Singing competition at Marshfield High School, circa 1973.

**SADDLE NOTCH #2:** Almeda's new country home in Echo Valley was surrounded by a dairy. The Lillianthal family had a rough and tumble daughter named Mary who rode bareback on Chief, her Medicine Hat paint. The two girls became fast friends and spent their teen years together pushing dairy cows, sorting bulls, carrying newborn calves across the saddle so mama'd follow, and Almeda helped Mary with a trap line and the two often camped by horseback in the hills above their homes. In addition, Almeda belonged to a 4-H horse club where she learned about showing and horsemanship in the arena.

**STRAP NOTCH #5:** Almeda sang and played the day's popular music like Crosby, Stills & Nash, and Joni Mitchell until the 1972 release of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's "Circle" album. This musical epiphany led to her learning the Carter Scratch. Another major musical influence happened the summer of 1978 when she discovered Willie Nelson and Lefty Frizzell simultaneously through Nelson's tribute album, "To Lefty from Willie" and found her Bakersfield country western roots.



Oregon coastline. Dreamin' for what could be.



Willy the Wonder Horse and Almeda.

### MOVING EAST TO FIND THE WEST

Once she got serious about school, Almeda earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Portland State University. She then made her first major move east in search of the west by leaving Oregon to teach in north Idaho. There she met master luthier, R.L. Givens while waiting tables at the historic Pastime Café in Sandpoint. Bob was smitten and after some repair work on her old Epiphone guitar, they moved to Bonners Ferry where he set up shop in Almeda's grandfather's house.

Almeda learned to assist building instruments and she managed Bob's business. She also taught music at Rocky Mountain Academy, a private CEDU school and she worked as a ski instructor at Schweitzer Mountain, all while they started their family of three daughters. Sadly, Bob was not a family man. He was often driven by demons and sensing his days were numbered, he left his family at Thanksgiving in 1988 to focus only on building mandolins. He died of cancer in 1992.

A single mom, Almeda returned to college to renew her teaching degree, taking requisite classes through the winter and summer semesters of 1989 at the University of Idaho. Still recovering from the pain of losing Bob and needing to take care of

three little girls, Almeda opened a licensed home daycare in the U of I town of Moscow. A year of healing at home with her children renewed her strength to take a job teaching junior high in Columbia Falls, Montana, and thus, Almeda made another move east in search of the west.

### BECOMING A COWBOY'S WIFE

**SADDLE NOTCH #3:** Almeda dated an Idaho roper and learned to swing a pretty fair loop. She advanced to heading out of the box, but wasn't yet going to the horn. Then about that time, she saw her friend's dad strip the flesh from his pinky finger in a bad dally. That was enough for Almeda to decide her guitar-playing hands were too valuable to risk in such a wreck. Now, if she picks up a rope at all, it's to catch a plastic dummy!

**SADDLE NOTCH #4:** While in the Flathead Valley, Almeda met and married a Montana cowboy with two sons. They raised APHA paints and raced thoroughbreds before switching to quarter horses on the Montana circuit. In the late 90s, their son of Western Dash was Montana's AQHA High Point Race Gelding. Always a hard worker, Almeda exercised and ponied racehorses, managed the breeding operation and showed their foal crops, all while teaching school and learning to handle the challenges of a blended family.

In 1994, the two bought a seed and feed business in Big Sandy, a small ranch/farm town in Montana's north central Golden Triangle. Almeda quit teaching and worked as a ranch wife which included, of course, all the usual domestic executive duties of keeping a home and raising a family, as well as managing the seed business, raising paint and quarter horses, running a mother cow herd, finishing hogs, serving as a 4-H leader, cheer coach and simply being that all-around do-what-needs-to-git-done woman! Then in 2005, Almeda competed in NRCHA reined cow horse events on her wonder horse, Willy, finishing the year as the high point non-pro limited rider.

*Continued to page 10*

## IN THE CROSSHAIRS

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The "Fiddlekids" in concert.

**KC:** *"Wow! You were busy!! How did your music fit in?"*

**ALMEDA:** "Well, it didn't too much in this marriage. Mostly I was leading worship at church. But then I attended my first cowboy poetry gathering, a little one-day local event, in 1995 I think, shortly after we moved to Big Sandy. I LOVED it and I realized THIS was THE WEST I'd been moving east to find!! It was in the words and the songs of these cowboy poets and western singers. I had finally found where I could express my western heart."

**STRAP NOTCH #6:** Almeda began attending gatherings in Montana. She picked up the fiddle and rejuvenated the languishing District 8 of Montana's National Old-Time Fiddlers Association, organizing and participating in monthly jams. She then opened a music store in Big Sandy and began teaching piano, guitar, fiddle and mandolin with an average of twenty-five students a year between Big Sandy, Havre and Fort Benton. Her "FiddleKids" were well-known in the area. And she began to write western songs.

**KC:** *"Tell me about your writing"*

**ALMEDA:** "I come from a long line of writers. My great grandmother on my father's side, May Howard Monks, wrote journals. Her daughter wrote for

pulp fiction magazines in the 20s and 30s. I have a dozen of her original manuscripts that I treasure. Her brother, my grandfather, Howard Monks, kept journals every year, as did my dad, Howard Monks Jr. Our family still has all these journals and my dad, in retirement, spent a couple of years compiling them into one book of family history. I'm the only one of my generation that has continued this habit of simply recording the facts of the day. I started journaling as a teenager. I wrote some bad songs in my teen years. I wrote my first cowboy love song, "A Cowboy Memory" in my early twenties."

### **GOOD-BYE BIG SANDY, HELLO BILLINGS**

In December of 2007, Almeda was served divorce papers after sixteen years of blended family frustration. She remained in Big Sandy through that winter and spring to finish the school year with her music students. Living as a house mate with a dear friend who had tragically lost her husband the harvest season before, Almeda and Kay wintered together and with the help of the Holy Spirit, they contributed to each other's comfort and healing.

In June of 2008, Almeda moved to Billings to be near her oldest daughter, Linda, a graduate student at MSU-Billings. Not knowing anyone in Montana's largest urban area except for some cowboy named Ritt Bradshaw to whom Linda had introduced her, Almeda decided the safest bet was to rent a small house from him. Those of you reading this who

know Merritt (Bradshaw) and Almeda, you also know she's been happily married to her Marlboro Man since 2010. Merritt is truly her "Montana Man", a poem from her autobiographical (second) album, "A Way of Heart."

### "I USED TO BE A WANNA BE"

Almeda still wanted to work, but instead of going back into teaching or retraining to compete against a younger work force, she put her God-given talent to the test. She formed a business and publishing company, M2B MUSIC, and began to hire out as a western entertainment. "Voices from the Range" was her first album released in 2010. Then came "A Way of Heart." Five years later, after experiencing enough success to keep going, Almeda produced "Lovers, Wives and Mothers: A Western Woman's Voice" (2015), followed by a two-song EP, "Tribute," (2017). Another five years later, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Almeda's fifth western album, "Between a Horse and Me" was released.



In 2010, Almeda married her true "Montana Man" Merritt Bradshaw.

Six IWMA, AWA and WWoA nominations later for albums, songs and entertainer of the year, Almeda is looking forward to releasing a future bluegrass gospel album featuring her original songs of testimony. It will happen, as she likes to say, "God willing and the creek don't rise!" 🐾



The cowgirl left the town-girl behind.

**KC LaCourse** writes and recites original Western poetry. She is a proud member of New Mexico and Colorado IWMA chapters. KC has created a weekly video showcase that she hosts called "Hearts of the West" with over two hundred performers from across the globe that love the western life. Follow her on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. <https://www.facebook.com/kclacourse1>



# WESTERN EVENTS CALENDAR

## 2022

**Cache Valley Cowboy Rendezvous**  
Mar 11-13 – Logan, UT

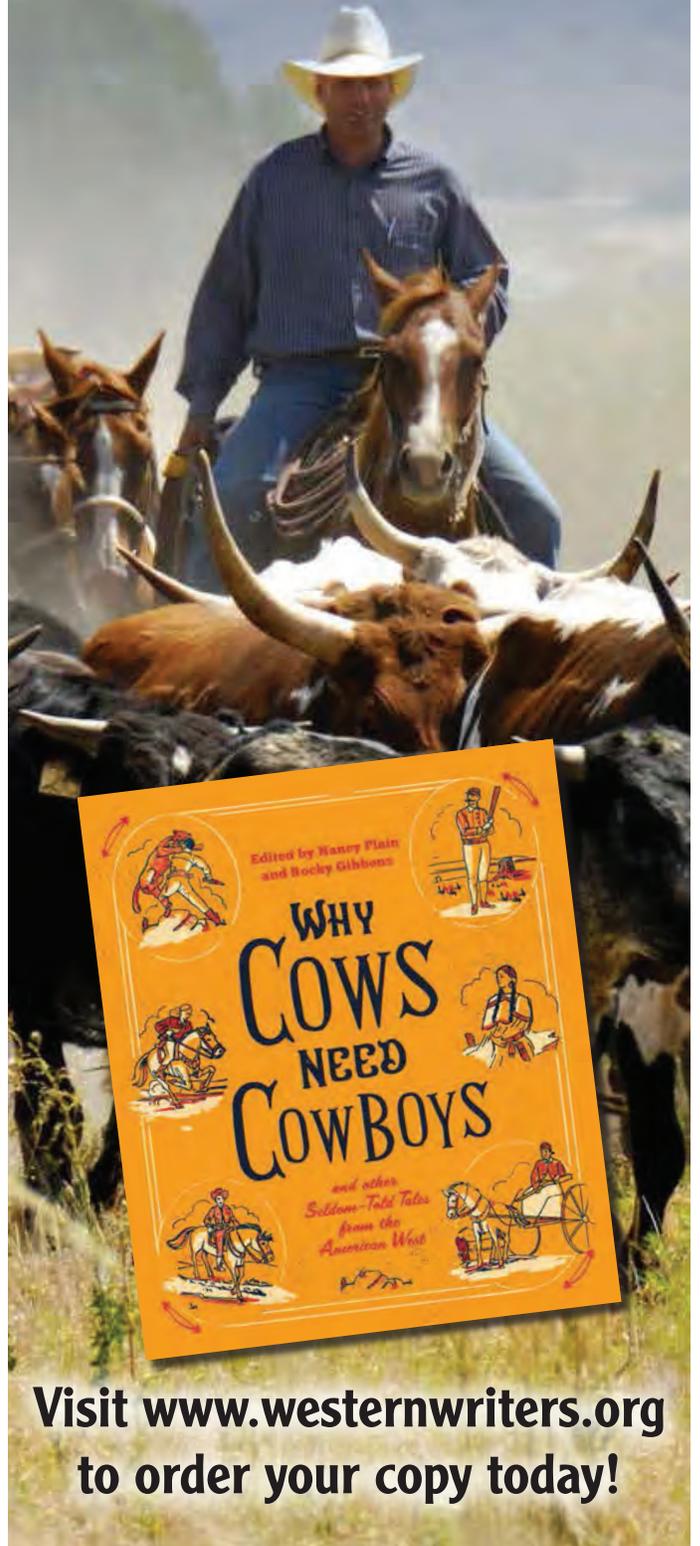
**Arizona Cowboy Poets Gathering**  
Aug 11-13 – Prescott, AZ

**Cimarron Cowboy Music and Poetry Gathering**  
Aug 26-28 – Cimarron, NM

**Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering**  
Sep 29-Oct 2 – Durango, CO

**IWMA2022 Convention**  
Nov 9-13 – Albuquerque, NM

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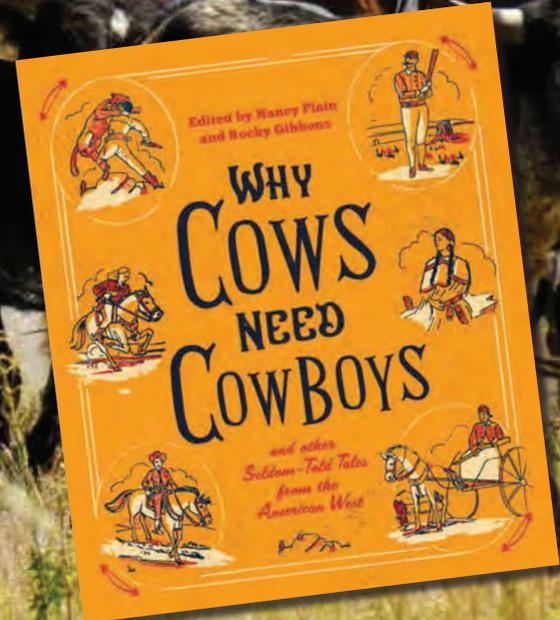
Mailing Address: PO Box 235, Sierra Vista, AZ 85636



### Artist Contact:

Mike Rutherford  
mike@rdiinc.us

Arizona Folklore Preserve (AFP) is a non-profit organization where Arizona's songs, legends, poetry and myths are collected, presented for audiences of today, and preserved for the enrichment of future generations. Member of the Western Music Association.



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# Penned by Lantern Light

This column will spotlight members of the Western Wordsmiths Chapter of the International Western Music Association. It will highlight an invited poet guest with possible short biographical information of his/her works. If a member of the Western Wordsmiths Chapter and if interested in submitting one piece of original work for publication, please contact the Western Wordsmiths chapter president.



---

## NEBRASKA WIND

by Sherl Cederburg ©2019

---

*A TEN mile an hour wind,  
We call that a gentle breeze.  
It might bring an evening shower  
As it whistles through the trees.*

*And at FIFTEEN mile per hour  
It makes the windmill spin,  
That brings water to the stock  
When they all come trudgin' in.*

*At TWENTY mile an hour-  
Just hold on to your hat,  
And tighten that stam pede string;  
Cause you'll sure need that.*

*Your blanket's in one hand  
Cause it won't stay there long,  
While you swing your saddle on  
When it's TWENTY-FIVE mile strong.*

*But a THIRTY mile gust  
Roars right down the canyon,  
You softly touch your horse's neck  
To steady your companion.*

*A THIRTY-FIVE mile wind,  
Brings in a "dirty blow".  
Dirt like sandpaper pits your face  
'fore you reach the barn below.*

*Tumbleweeds are rollin'  
And catching on the wire  
Cause we're up to FORTY mile  
And the piles are gettin' higher.*

*FORTY-FIVE per hour now  
It makes the windows rattle.  
Though you'd like to go inside  
You've got to check those cattle!*

*Good thing there is no snow;  
We'd be in a blizzard,  
'Cause we're at FIFTY mile-  
Don't that stick in your gizzard?*

*But a SIXTY mile wind  
Get out that baling twine,  
And tie down everything you own  
'For it blows past the county line.*

*It CAN blow from all directions-  
That's all in a single day.  
Better get used to it my friend  
"Cause it's the "Nebraska Way"!*



**Sherl Cederburg** is a Cowgirl Poet who loves to tell a good story. She wants to make you laugh, or cry, or at least think. She writes and recites her own poetry. Most of her inspiration comes from her faith, her life experiences, and from listening to the stories of those around her. Sherl rides and drives horses regularly. Sherl writes old west, new west, and gospel-based cowboy poetry. She recites regularly at her Cowboy Church and Cowboy Poetry Gatherings. She is available to recite around campfires, at camps, retreats, cowboy gatherings, churches, or just about any other group. Sherl performs regularly with Pegie Douglas and Kimberly Kay Bachman. These ladies are known as the WILDFLOWERS.

# In The Spotlight...

by Marvin O'Dell

...**RW Hampton** plays the part of a minister and high school rodeo coach in the film *Peace River*, which premiered in more than 600 theaters from coast to coast in March. The film is the story of Casey Shane, a fifth-generation New Mexico Rancher, who is raised by his grandfather, Bo Shane, a WWII vet who pours his life's love and wisdom into Casey. Learning the ways of the cowboy alongside his childhood friend, Maria Martinez, Casey is a championship-caliber bull rider. Casey and Maria form a romantic bond before Casey enlists in the U.S. Army and joins the elite Special Forces. Immediately following the events of September 11, 2001, Casey is deployed to Afghanistan where he fights alongside the Northern Alliance when wounded. Returning home, crushed by war and personal loss, Casey must draw on the Cowboy Way and a profound Faith in Christ to recover the will to live and the love of his life. The horse Casey rides in the film is RW's horse, Jack. Casey is played by Shane Garland.

...Songwriter **Annie Wilson** of the band **Tallgrass Express** learned her artist friend Susan Rose was creating a series of 12 paintings illustrating the lyrics of Annie's new song, "Peace on the Prairie." The two joined in a unique "art and music collaboration celebrating the Flint Hills landscape", holding art exhibit plus concert events, creating a video, and publishing a booklet matching the paintings to the lyrics.

...**Sherl Cederburg** is announcing that she will be releasing her second western poetry album this spring. *Wisdom in the Wind* is being produced by Butch Hause of the Ranger Station Studio in Berthoud, Colorado.

...Original songs by **Carol Markstrom** from her *Mile After Mile* album won awards at the Wild Bunch Film Festival in October. "Miner's Candle" won Grand Winner Overall in the MP3 category (Carol's co-write with Manuela Schneider), and the title cut, "Mile After Mile" and "Dust of Palomas" also received awards.

...**Patty Clayton** has been busy in the recording studio since December. Her new western CD entitled *The Real West* is now available on her website for CD sales or digital downloads at pattyclayton.com, and she's already back in the studio recording a bluegrass album entitled *Heartland Express* with an anticipated release date of late May.

...The latest cowboy poetry book from **P.W. Conway** has been released and is titled *Buckaroo Poetry*. Several of his favorite poems are found in this selection. Copies are available on Amazon.

...A flash fiction book written by **Sandy Reay** titled *Damn The Dream* will be published in the Pikes Peaks Writers Anthology "Dream." It should be available in stores and online in April.

...**The Farmer & Adele** are proud to announce Western Wednesday twice a month for 2022 at the world-famous Station Inn in Nashville, TN! Grace Adele was on maternity leave February-March and the special-est of all special western guests, **Ranger Doug**, heroically stepped up to fill in for her during this time. Ranger Doug's only demand was "I will not wear a skirt."

...**Red Steagall** has won his fourth Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum for his television show *Somewhere West of Wall Street*. This award was for Outstanding Western Lifestyle Program.

...New Mexico's **Steve Cormier** is finishing work on his sixth album, titled *Santa Fe Trail*, to go on sale this summer. A number of tour dates are pending.

...**Stan Lawrence** is working on a new album in his home studio in Albuquerque and has started writing material for his next cowboy album as well. The latest album is more singer-songwriter material, but there will be a couple of things there for the Western Music DJs, too. Stan has been playing the Open Mics organized by the New Mexico Chapter and looks forward to more activity of that nature in the coming months.

...The current single release from **Ron Christopher** is "Down the Rio Grande", a cover of a **Tom Russell** song. It will eventually appear on his next album which will also have covers of a **Richard Elloyan** song and a **Dan McCorison** song, three co-writes with **Mag Mawhinney**, and six original songs. The album is due out by the end of the year.

...After an exciting and successful Colorado Gathering, Australian Bush Poet **Carol Heuchan** unfortunately contracted Covid. She had to stay an extra week and was very appreciative of **Diana Raven** and **Ernie Martinez** for hosting her. She's home and fine and has a massive schedule ahead in Australia. Apart from individual poetry shows and broadcasting, she has been contracted to perform at Sydney's 17-day Royal Easter Show - a huge event which will see Carol doing four half-hour poetry shows a day as well as standby ad-lib broadcasting each night for the main arena's entertainment spectacular.

...**Tecia McKenna** has just wrapped up the recording of her new single, "Big Sky Country," set to be released on April 1. To keep in touch and learn more about this new release, dates and news, visit her website at [TeciaMcKenna.com](http://TeciaMcKenna.com) and her Tecia McKenna artist page on social media.

...**Barefoot 'n Bonafide** (Marilyn "Twinkle Fingers" Haynes and Lonnie "The Eclectic Cowboy" Shurtleff) is streaming country and western music every Friday evening on their Barefoot 'n Bonafide Facebook site. There are about 60 weeks-worth of shows in the cloud now, ranging from "mediocre amateurish" to "pretty darn good." A new album will be released soon.

...**LTEC** (Lonnie Shurtleff, The Eclectic Cowboy) is in the Canyon Mountain Studio in John Day, OR with Jim Klusmier (who produced **Kathy Moss'** award-winning poetry album recently) recording original poems, music, and unlikely stories. Work on a cowboy poetry "chapbook" continues. In addition, Lonnie's children's story, *Little Cryska Tearski* is slowly moving forward.

...In March, **Teresa Bursleson** released her new poetry CD titled *Between the Sun and the Moon*.

...Geary Parsons and J. Michael Mullins, aka **The Timberline Cowboys** out of Durango, CO, are working on a new CD due out in the summer. They are also gearing up to headline a fundraiser for this year's Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering.

...**Allen and Jill Kirkham** were awarded a two-year "Touring Artist Grant" from the South Dakota Arts Council to perform Western Music Shows throughout South Dakota. Recently they also enjoyed a road trip to upstate New York where they had lunch with New York Cowboy Poet **Mark Munzert** and his Valentine Kathleen. Allen and Jill are now Reporting DJs for *The Western Way* magazine from their "Circuit Rider Roundup Show" on [AmericanCowboyRadio.com](http://AmericanCowboyRadio.com).

...The latest western album by **Larry Krause**, *Warm Breeze*, has been nominated by the Saskatchewan Country Music Association for Alternative Country Album of the year. The nomination comes from his peers in the association.

...**Peggy and Billy Malone** traveled to Guthrie, TX in March just to see the stallion "Paddy's Irish Whiskey." Well...they are Irish!

...IWMA Kansas Chapter President **Orin Friesen** is the music director of an upcoming film called *The Contested Plains*. It is another Ken Spurgeon Production. Ken also produced of the Western Heritage Wrangler Award-winning films *Road to Valhalla* and *Home on the Range*. Release of the new film will likely be late 2022.

...England's **Clint Bradley** has been in the studio working on a new western single to be released later this year. The A side is an original song titled "Everything That I Hold Dear"; the B side is a song from his live set. The single will be released as a 7" vinyl 45 with a CD insert; it will also be released on all digital platforms.

...**Jeff Mamett** is planning to release a solo EP of live unplugged songs performed at the 2021 Rochester Fringe Festival this spring. He is currently writing songs for his third studio album and hoping to begin recording in September.

...**Bob Thomas** is in the studio creating his yet-to-be-titled ninth CD. He hopes to have it out this summer.

...**Riders in the Sky** filmed a new episode of Larry's Country Diner in March. Also, they will celebrate 40 years of Grand Ole Opry membership on June 19.

*Continued on page 16*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

*Continued from page 15*

...California State Senator Melissa Hurtado has announced that **Jerry Hall**, retired CHP Sergeant, Vietnam veteran, and lead singer for **Jerry Hall & Trick shot** has been honored as Volunteer of the Year for Porterville, CA. Senator Hurtado said that Hall is “always there to volunteer for a fundraiser, color guard or to ‘step up and clean up.’ He’s constantly on the go supporting veterans and his community.” Hurtado said that she’s been told if you want something done in Porterville, Jerry’s the one to call.

...One of the newest members of the IWMA, **Buddy Greenbloom** (joined in January), is in the studio recording his first album in nearly 20 years. It’s a sentimental album of original ballads and waltzes he has composed over the past 20 years. The first single, “Better Off,” released on iTunes/Apple Music, Amazon Music, and more in March.

...**Jan Schiferl** was featured on Nebraska News Channel’s Quarantine Tonight TV Show in March. She will soon release her second children’s book in her “WJ Ranch Critter Series” and plans to be back in the recording studio by mid-summer.

...Tennessee chapter member **Micki Fuhrman** debuted music from her new album *WESTBOUND* at the Tucson Festival of Books in March. The 11-song collection features guest duets with **Jon Chandler**, **Ronny Robbins** and **Buck Ford**.

...**The Brazos Valley Boys** band leader, **Morey Sullivan**, has been elected to the NorthWest Western Swing Music Society Board of Directors. He will also serve as the Chairperson of the Hall of Fame nomination and selection committee.

...**Mike Mahaney** reports that he is working his guitar arrangements with the Fender American Acousticonic Telecaster. Mike says, “This was introduced at the NAMM Show 2019 and is the best of acoustic/electric guitars. Up to eight acoustic voices and the famous Tele sound too. For the singer/songwriter that wants a variety of guitar sounds in their show and not having to carry three or more guitars, this is the ax to consider.”

...**Rusted Spurs West**, a cowboy and Western swing acoustic trio, is finishing up their third CD at a Tucson studio. It will be titled *Arizona Stars* and will contain some original songs. The group expresses “A big thank you to the IWMA for their songwriting workshops at the annual meetings.”

...Released in March was the first single off of the yet-untitled album by **Sarah Pierce**. The song is titled “It’s The Cowboy Way.” It is posted on Sarah’s website, [www.sarahpierce.com](http://www.sarahpierce.com).

...Engineer/producer **Merel Bregante** is a new member of the IWMA. He recently recorded the latest **Carol Markstrom** album *Mile After Mile*. Coming early summer, he will be recording a new **Jim Jones** project as well as a project for new member **Sarah Pierce**. Currently, he is wrapping up albums by multi-award singer/songwriters **Randy Brown** and **Randy Palmer**.

...After a busy fall season playing around the country with his sons, **Dave Munsick** is writing, fiddling, and picking at his hideout in Arizona. He says his “smile is big as he watches his sons raise kids, write songs, and run the winter music road without him.”

...**John D. Nesbitt** of Torrington, WY has released a new CD of western poetry. *Trails and Crossings* has poems ranging from traditional ballads to unrhymed poetry to sonnets. Several of the poems have been recorded as songs.

...**Olivia Harms** is currently traveling the roads on another trailer tour. Her first stop in February was Ft. Worth, TX to accept the honor of being in this year’s class of *Cowgirl Magazine’s* “30 Under 30.” The tour, which goes through May 2, takes her to Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Amarillo, and north through Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. Find where she’s playing nearest to you at [www.oliviaharms.com](http://www.oliviaharms.com).

...In Alberta, Canada, **Doc Mehl** released two new album projects in January. *Tried and True* is a collection of Doc's previously-released classics along with a fistful of brand new tracks showcasing his signature "west-clectic" music. And *West of the 22* is 13 new tracks of western folk (for western folk!). Both CDs are available at DocMehl.com.

...**Tom Swearingen** served as a judge for his city's Arbor Day Poetry Contest. And his own poetry was featured when he presented a workshop and performance as guest author in the Dalles, OR Art Center's monthly Writer's Talks Series.

...**Steve Jones** has a new logo that is a pictorial version for the naming of the Yampa River and Valley and thus the name for the Yampa Valley Boys and now Yampa Valley Steve. The logo and the back story are posted on Steve's Facebook page.

...The **Marty Davis** Show has grown! In addition to Marty, The Legend of the Pioneers now also features **Daniel Hanson** (from the famed **Hanson Family** Singers) on bass and vocals and **Lindy Rasmusson** (formerly of **the Doo-Wah Riders**) on guitar and vocals.

...**The Ramblin' Rangers** were featured in the recent YouTube video series "Trailer Tales", which is filmed and produced by Abby Maginnis of the **Carr Family Cowboy Band**. The Rangers have also been invited to perform at the first Waxahachie Chautauqua Cowboy Poet Gathering, on October 7 and 8 in Waxahachie, TX.

...**Miss V**, The Gypsy Cameleer, has returned to the US following an enchanting 15-day trek through the Sahara Desert of Tunisia. As one might expect, trading in her spurs for sandals proved to be an eye opening and life changing journey, drifting with the sands of time and learning the ways of the timeless Bedouins and their camels who call that incredible landscape "home."

...Riding tall in the saddle, sporting a shiny badge and totin' a six-string guitar, **Cisco Jim** & Taza, the Spanish Barb, reprise their roles as Town Marshal and four-legged pursuit vehicle at Roaring Camp Railroads, Felton, CA. This singing cowboy performs every weekend throughout the summer. Cisco & Taza are also featured performers at several county fairs including Santa Cruz County Fair and Plumas/Sierra County Fair. 🐾



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MUSIC AND POETRY GATHERING

AUGUST 26TH - 28TH, 2022

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**WHERE THE WEST IS STILL WILD**

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Jo Lynn Kirkwood | Peggy Malone | Terry Nash | Dale Page | Miska Paget | Ramblin' Rangers  
The Russellers | JJ Steele | Rocky Sullivan | Caitlyn Taussig | Rod Taylor | Kacey and Jenna Thunborg

Join us for the night time jams at the St. James Hotel after the shows

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# Chapter Update

## ARIZONA CHAPTER

**President: John Paulson**  
**Johnpaulson1945@gmail.com**

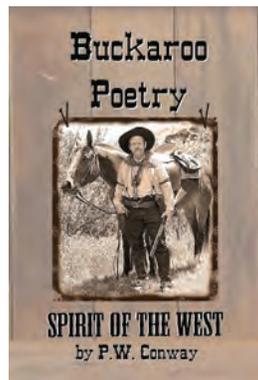
As the COVID-19 situation continues to improve daily, the executive committee is searching for and considering possible venues in the Phoenix and central Arizona areas for future chapter performance events open to the public. Chapter members are invited to offer suggestions and/or to volunteer by contacting a chapter officer. Announcements about upcoming events will be sent to email to all members.

## CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

**President: Greg Khougaz**  
**gregkhougaz@earthlink.net**

California learned that draconian measures had zero benefit and is opening. Masks are becoming just a bad memory. We are back to finding venues to play Western Music! Our Grand dame, Marilyn Tuttle, will host home concerts for Almeda Bradshaw and Scott T, this spring and 3 Trails West, this Summer. We continue to work with the Cowboy Social Club to plan musical events. Our Zoom Guitar Circles continue to be a hit and help polish performances. Join us at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82772824459?pwd=K2ZJYlVvUUxpQnhGNlh2bHYyaHRkdz09>. Member highlights: Our chapter VP, Scott T will play in Palm Springs this month and with Greg Khougaz will play in the Palos Verdes

Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival at the Empty Saddle Club. Secretary, Yvonne Ryan, is to be commended for getting our NorCal members more involved. Mike Mahaney is developing a streaming show to be performed in Public Libraries across rural, northern CA. Mike is part of the Far West Campfire series and has been found doing some acting work. Almeda Bradshaw will play in Lone Pine for the annual FFA fundraiser with Scott Tonelson. They are working on a show called "Early Country Icons: The Carters, Jimmy and Chet." Our Poet laureate, P.W. Conway, published his latest cowboy poetry book, *Buckaroo Poetry, Spirit Of The West*.



*Buckaroo Poetry, Spirit Of The West*  
by P.W. Conway

## COLUMBIA CHAPTER

**President: Tom Swearingen**  
**tomswearingen@gmail.com**

Columbia Chapter members in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia, and multiple other states and provinces are starting to find opportunities to perform before live audiences as some venues re-open and gatherings and other events resume. After two years of cancellation, we are hopeful that our spring chapter open mic



Art entitled "Your Move" by Lynn Kopelke

and concert in Lewiston, ID can take place. Poet Lynn Kopelke is coordinating that and working with the host venue on potential dates. Fingers crossed! Speaking of Lynn, his art has been prominently featured in galleries and venues in Washington. In the absence of in-person get-togethers we continue monthly Zoom song and poem circles with several members joining in. Our Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest is taking 2022 entries in three categories: grade school, middle, and high school. Winners in each category will receive a custom trophy buckle and travel stipend to perform their poems at one of our chapter concerts. Thanks to the Western Wordsmiths Chapter for their donation to help support the contest. Contest details and online entry can be found on our chapter website [iwmacolumbia.org](http://iwmacolumbia.org). Last year's winners Thomas Fitzgerald and Venessa Carpenter are finding themselves on stage to the surprise of none of us. Thomas auditioned for and was accepted to perform his winning poem at the Prineville, Oregon Follies. Venessa's appearances include an invitation to the Cache Valley Rendezvous. The

*Continued on page 20*

# CHRONICLE OF THE OLD WEST

"The Old West Is A Time And Place Of The Heart"

## TRAVELING VIA A STAGECOACH

BY DAKOTA LIVESAY



Have you ever wondered what it was like riding a stagecoach across the plains during the Old West? Like most events in the western movies we watch, riding a stagecoach was portrayed in a dramatic way.

Some day you may find yourself in a position where the only way you can get from here to there is by stagecoach. So I'm going to give

you some insight on how to make the ride a bit more pleasurable.

First, when the driver asks you to get off and walk, do it without complaining. He won't request it unless absolutely necessary.

Should the team of horses start running out of control, don't jump off. Stay with the stage. If you jump off the chances of being seriously injured are much greater.

If you're riding during cold weather make sure you have loose fitting boots and gloves that are a couple sizes to large. Don't grease your hair before starting the trip, or the dust along the trail will gather on it to the point you can plant a garden.

In very cold weather do not drink liquor while traveling. You can freeze twice as fast under the

influence. During warm weather drinking alcohol is acceptable as long as you pass it around.

Don't swear, or don't lay on your neighbor while you're sleeping. And that could be a problem because a stagecoach had a capacity of up to nine passengers inside and almost a dozen on the roof.

If you're carrying a pistol, leave it in the holster. Never cock it. If it goes off by accident, it will scare the horses. And even if it doesn't fire, it will make the other passengers nervous.

When the stage stops at a food station, don't complain about the food. Stage companies try to provide the best food possible for the circumstances. There are stories of passengers "accidentally" being left behind.

**Dakota Livesay** is the host of a daily and weekly syndicated radio show with five million listeners per week. He's also the publisher of *Chronicle of the Old West*, a monthly newspaper comprised of actual 1800's newspaper articles. In addition, he writes a weekly syndicated newspaper and Internet column called *This Week In The Old West*.

Dakota has written a book entitled *Living The Code*, explaining how we're a great country because of the traditional values developed on our frontier, and how we can continue our greatness by maintaining those values.

In his personal appearances, Dakota tells stories about Old West characters and events in a way that keeps the audience riveted to his every word. He also delivers talks, based on his book *Living The Code*, motivating people to a higher standard of living.

Although Dakota doesn't consider himself an expert – just an enthusiast – through print, Internet, radio, TV, CDs and personal appearances, he gives people a taste of the real Old West.

Dubbed "the radio voice of the Old West" Dakota has won the coveted National Day of the Cowboy, Cowboy Keeper Award, Spirit of the Old West Alive Award and the Straight Shooter Award.

# Chapter Update

Continued from page 18



Happy 18th Venessa Carpenter!

chapter will also be represented by Tom Swearingen at that gathering. Tom will also team up with chapter member Lonnie Shurtleff to entertain at special event Cowboy Brunches at a resort in Washington. The chapter was well represented at the Cochise Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering with Kathy Moss, Almeda Bradshaw, Aspen Black, Kerry Grombacher and Miss Devon and the Outlaw invited. Judy Coder and Jennifer Epps continue following the sun on their Notable Exceptions tour.



Kathy Moss

## KANSAS CHAPTER

**President: Orin Friesen**

**orin@rbanjoranch.com**

Our chapter suffered a major loss when our vice-president, Jim Farrell, passed away on February 1. He was an original member of the Prairie Rose Wranglers, which later became the Diamond W Wranglers. Jim has been a very active member of our chapter since day one. One of his many passions was songwriting and he enjoyed mentoring others and helping them improve their songwriting skills. A more detailed obituary written by Jim's wife is shared in this issue of *Western Way*. In the Winter 2022 issue of this magazine, it was reported that Kansas Chapter member Ron Wilson testified before in support of legislation which would designate the Chisholm and Western cattle trails as national historic trails. Since that time, Ron has reported some good news. On Wednesday, January 19, 2022, the House Natural Resources Committee approved Kansas Congressman Ron Estes's bill (H.R. 2512) which would designate the Chisholm and Western Trails as national historic trails. The bill was

approved on a bipartisan basis with no amendments or objections. H.R. 2512 will now move to the full House of Representatives for consideration.

## NEW MEXICO CHAPTER

**President: Dennis Russell**

**drnpoet@gmail.com**

Members are up and going. They are booking live venues again. Many are already posted on our updated Web Site thanks to Bobbi Jean Bell. Congratulations goes out to Jim Jones, Deanna and Dave McCall. Their song 'Old Horses and Old Men' was chosen to receive the 2022 Western Heritage Wrangler Award for Outstanding original Western Composition. They will be receiving this award in Oklahoma City in April. Can you imagine both Dave and Jim in Tuxedos? The IWMA Youth Chapter President Jenna Thunborg has been busy with the youth chapter board creating some exciting ideas and opportunities for the youth in this coming year. More youth and more fun. Stay tuned! Kacey and Jenna are taking a recording arts class at their high school and are learning about songwriting, recording,

*Continued on page 22*





# BUFFHAM'S BUFFOONERY

by Les Buffham



## CORNFLAKES AND KETCHUP

I always wondered why, when I was a kid, my dad would give me such a hard time when I would put ketchup on my taters. He would also express at times that he had no fondness for dry cereal, especially cornflakes. One day he told me this story and then I began to get the drift.

One spring, several years before I arrived upon the scene of life, my dad moved a herd of horses from where they had wintered out on the south slopes of Douglas Mountain in northwest Colorado for the Chew Ranch to their HQ located near Pats Hole in the canyon country where the Green and Yampa rivers converge. This is close to what is today the Dinosaur National Monument.

He made the drive with about twenty horses with little consequence as those horses seemed to want to be getting home and knew the way. He arrived about midday and was anxious to be heading back as he had to re-ford the Yampa (or Bear) River again and he didn't want to try it in the dark. My Dad wasn't scared of much but one thing that did spook him was water. Any more water than what was in a bathtub would make him a little nervous! One of my uncles claimed it was because he thought Dad's mother tried to drown him when he was little and only failed to succeed because baby Buff, as he was called, splashed the tub dry with his kickin' and screamin'.

Mrs. Chew fixed him with some meat and bread in a flour sack and as he began his return trip it started pouring down rain. He made it about halfway to the river when he came across an old prospector's dugout where he decided to hump up for a while and wait for the rain to let up. There was a small horse pasture and after checking the fence around it, he drug his saddle and blankets inside and built himself a fire in the cook stove. As was the custom in that country, the last person to occupy the place had filled the wood box before they left.

That storm turned out to be a real frog strangler. Soon Dad's meat and biscuits was gone. He'd already searched the place and all he'd found was a box of cornflakes and a bottle of ketchup. The cornflakes were full of weevils and seein' as how he figured he didn't need a lot of protein right then he dumped them out on his lunch flower sack and flicked those weevils out of the cornflakes with his finger.

Dad said it didn't take but two meals of ketchup and cornflakes and he was ready to ride on home, storm or not. By then he figured drownin' was much preferred to another meal like this and I finally understood why he didn't have any use for ketchup and cornflakes.

**The Real West**  
Patty Clayton

- Prairie Passages
- Long Gone Out West Blues
- A Call For Brides
- This Flat Land
- Red Buffalo
- Prairie Dog Blues
- Wagonhound
- One Lone Man
- The Lilacs & The Roses
- Buffalo Chips
- Before the Prairie Met the Plow

**PATTY CLAYTON**

Brand new CD by Patty Clayton!  
CD or download now from [www.pattyclayton.com](http://www.pattyclayton.com)

**Barbara Nelson**  
*Swingin' Open Range*

SONGS YOU KNOW & SONGS YOU WILL REALLY LIKE!

"When Barbara does them they're worth your ears." RICK HUFF

"Best one yet!" #3 SON

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# Chapter Update

Continued from page 20

and making music videos. Their class will produce a CD as their final project. I've heard from other New Mexico members, such as Steve Jones, Almeda Bradshaw, Doug Figgs, The Ramblin' Rangers, Dale Page, Floyd and Valerie Beard, The Russellers, David Nidel, and Susie Knight. They all have upcoming dates scheduled. See the website for more details. We are back to having monthly chapter meetings in person and have hit the ground running. Here is just some of what is in the works: Bonnie Rutherford helped form and is participating in a committee to aid traveling IWMA members in locating potential venues throughout the adjoining states and hopefully expand it to all chapters in the near future. This would help performers finance

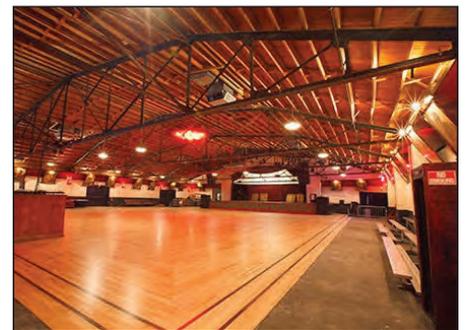
travel to other shows and would be a place for Music and Poetry fans to have access to quality performers. Please watch our Chapter Website for current venues and performances. We are currently negotiating with the NM State Fair Entertainment and cultural committees in having daily entertainment, workshops, and vendors during the state fair. Don't forget 'Day of the Cowboy' on July 23 in Albuquerque with Kristyn Harris.

### OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

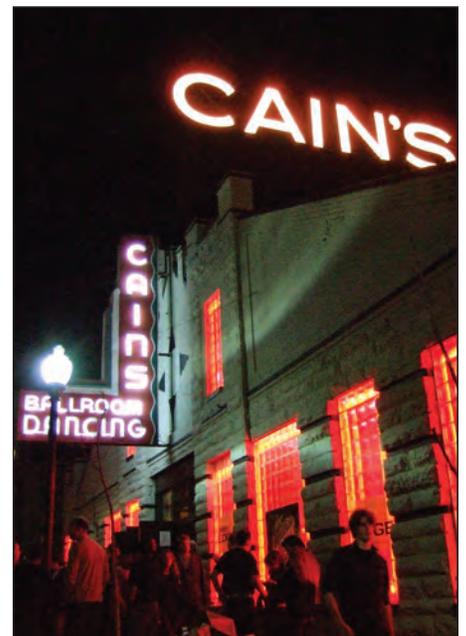
**President: Robert Maxwell Case**  
**robert@robertmaxwellcase.com**

There does seem to be a lull in the pandemic, but our members' activities haven't caught up yet. As our new president, I'm hoping to do face-to-face meet ups this year with

as many of our in-state members as I can. In the meantime, I'd like to spotlight one of Oklahoma's stellar attractions, the Cain's Ballroom on Main Street in Tulsa. It's the first place we take visitors. Built in 1924, it became "The Home of Bob Wills" from January 1, 1935 until 1942. It's built like an airplane hangar with a beautiful stage and a large dance floor. The Cain's is decorated with the usual neon, but with the addition of nearly 50 large photos of many of the early performers who have graced its stage: Bob Wills,



Cain's Ballroom interior. Photo Courtesy Cain's Ballroom



Cain's Ballroom exterior. Photo Courtesy Cain's Ballroom

Consider a  
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Continued on page 30



# 2022

## IWMA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE NOMINATIONS

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR MUSIC AWARDS:

- Albums can be self-nominated. IF YOU ARE SELF-NOMINATING, please provide the following: A copy of the nominated album must accompany the Western Album or Cowboy/Western Swing of the Year nomination, a copy of the album containing a nominated song, or an album containing only the nominated song must accompany the Song of the Year nomination. Song nomination albums must be accompanied by either album artwork or a photocopy of the artwork showing the release date.
- In the case of Western Album of the Year and Cowboy/Western Swing Album of the Year, 75% of the music on the album must be of Western in content, lyrically or musically. Country Music content does not count as Western Music.
- Albums must have a release date and bar code.
- Any individual whose body of work meets criteria may be nominated for IWMA awards. Forms are made available to all members and may be provided to non-members by request. Current IWMA membership is required for voting.
- Albums and songs will all have a "birth" date of January 1 of the release year and will be eligible that year and one subsequent year (January 1, 2021 through September 1, 2022).

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR POETRY AWARDS:

#### COWBOY POETRY CD OF THE YEAR

##### REQUIREMENTS

- Albums may be self-nominated. If you are self-nominating, a copy of the nominated album must be submitted with the nomination.
- Albums must have a release date.
- Albums must have a bar code.
- Non-IWMA authors may be nominated. They will be notified that they have been nominated and be given a chance to become a member to win the award. At that time, they can choose to become a member or decline the nomination and lose eligibility.
- All albums will have a "birth date" of January 1 of the release year and will be eligible that year plus one subsequent year (Example: January 1, 2021 through September 1, 2022).
- Poems written in free verse or blank verse are not eligible.
- 75% of the album tracks must be Cowboy Poetry, written and recited by a single person; the reciter must be the principal author of the poetry. The poetry must be the original work of the reciter, written in rhythm, rhyme and meter.

- 25% of the album tracks may contain other material including:
  - Western Music, pre-recorded or live,
  - Prose, including short stories or spoken introductions,
  - Material written by someone other than the collaborators,
  - Poetry recited by someone other than the principal author, including poetry written by the principal author.
- Collaboration in writing is permitted. In the event a poem is written by the collaboration of two or more persons, one of the collaborators must be named as the "principal" author. The other collaborators will be regarded as co-authors. Editors are considered collaborators.
- Collaboration in reciting is not eligible. Any poetry tracks that are recited by other than the principal author, regardless of authorship of the poem, will not count toward the 75% Cowboy Poetry requirement.

#### BACKGROUND MUSIC

- Background music performed for the poetry album is permitted. Music need not be original.
- Background music must be Western.
- Background music imported from an external source (CD, radio, etc.) is permitted. Such music must be properly licensed for inclusion in the poetry album.

#### COWBOY POETRY BOOK OF THE YEAR

*Poetry is defined as works containing rhyme and meter. Although the book's content may include short prose and free verse, the poetry alone will be judged in meeting criteria for eligibility. Anything that is not poetry as hereby described, including free verse, will be classified as prose.*

- 50% of the book must be "poetry" with rhyme and meter and must be original work written by the author of the book.
- 50% of those poems (criteria #1) must be 20 lines or more in length.
- Credits for poems used as a "cover" and poems written by someone other than the author of the book (including anonymous works) must be given. Poems not written by the author of the book will be considered "prose" and will not qualify for the 50% eligibility criteria as described above.
- Books written by multiple authors are not eligible.
- All books will have a "birth" date of January 1 of the copyright year. Eligibility is for that year, plus two subsequent years.
- Non-IWMA authors may be nominated. They will be notified that they have been nominated and be given a chance to become a member to win the award. At that time, they can choose to become a member or decline the nomination and lose eligibility.
- A reprint of a book published in a previous award year is not eligible.

# 2022

## IWMA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE NOMINATIONS BALLOTS

**WESTERN ALBUM OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) albums. Award for an outstanding recorded performance by an artist or artists released during the specified time period. The award recognizes the featured artist(s) and producer **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY SWING ALBUM OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) albums. This award is for an outstanding cowboy swing recorded performance which was either commercially released or showed significant chart action during the eligibility period. The award recognizes the featured artist(s) and the producer. **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**SONG OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songs. This award is for any song which was released or showed significant chart action within the eligibility period. The award recognizes the songwriter(s). **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKING COWBOY SONG OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songs. This award goes to a song recorded within the eligibility period that speaks expressly and clearly to real, authentic working cowboy life, historic or current. The award goes to the songwriter(s) and is based on lyrics, not performance. **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Song:** \_\_\_\_\_

Written by: \_\_\_\_\_ Performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUMENTALIST OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) instrumentalists. This award is for the instrumental artist who has shown an extraordinary mastery of his/her instrument(s) on recorded and/or in-person performance during the specified time period. The award recognizes the artist.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**MALE PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) male performers. Award for the outstanding male vocalist based on recorded and in-person performance. The award recognizes the artist.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEMALE PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) female performers. Award for the outstanding female vocalist based on recorded and in-person performance. The award recognizes the artist.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**DUO or GROUP OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) duos or groups. Award for a group or duo who regularly performs together that has shown outstanding recorded and in-person performance vocally. The award recognizes the performing group or duo for their excellence.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) entertainers. This award is for the performing act who displayed the greatest competence in all aspects of the entertainment field. Consideration will be given to recorded and in-person performance, public acceptance, attitude, leadership, entertainment value of performances, and over-all contributions to the western music image. The award recognizes the entertainer or group.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) songwriters. Award for outstanding songs written in the past year by a songwriter(s). Commercial release and number of songs recorded during the year are to be considered. The award recognizes the songwriter(s). **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIZ MASTERSON CRESCENDO AWARD** Nominate up to three (3) individuals or groups. This award is for a group or individual, under 21, having made considerable advances artistically and/or commercially during the eligibility period. The band or individual should be performing under its/his/her name on a regular basis. The award recognizes the group or individual artist.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO DJ/RADIO PROGRAM OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) radio DJs/radio programs. This award recognizes outstanding service to western music in the field of broadcasting. The recipient will be judged for contributions to the field western music, professionalism, work and involvement in the western music community, and promotion and fostering of the western music image. **Beginning in 2020, this will be a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY POETRY ALBUM OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) albums. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding achievement on writing, reciting and recording original Cowboy Poetry. The award recognizes the poet. **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**COWBOY POETRY BOOK OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) books. The award recognizes the author. **This is a juried award and will not appear on the final ballot.**

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**MALE POET OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) male poets. This award is for the person who exhibits the ability to write original Cowboy/Western poetry or verse, who writes or expresses himself with imaginative power and beauty of thought, language and form. He performs original work but may occasionally perform the work of others to live audiences who showing the ability to enable audiences to develop a deeper understanding and appreciate of the Western lifestyle and history (with accuracy) through his performance.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEMALE POET OF THE YEAR** Nominate up to three (3) female poets. This award is for the person who exhibits the ability to write original Cowboy/Western poetry or verse, who writes or expresses herself with imaginative power and beauty of thought, language and form. She performs original work but may occasionally perform the work of others to live audiences who showing the ability to enable audiences to develop a deeper understanding and appreciate of the Western lifestyle and history (with accuracy) through her performance.

Nominee #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ballot must be postmarked or emailed on or before September 5, 2022 to be counted:  
IWMA Awards, PO Box 648, Coppell, TX 75019 or [info@westernmusic.org](mailto:info@westernmusic.org)**

# In Memoriam

## JAMES A. FARRELL, JR – “TENNESSEE JIM” (1952 – 2022)



Jim Farrell, known to worldwide audiences as “Tennessee Jim” passed away on February 1, 2022, a week after his 70th birthday.

Jim was known as a musical performer with the Diamond W Wranglers. He was also a songwriter, arranger, harmony specialist, music producer, recording engineer, and radio host. Born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee, Jim’s father was a choral director whose barbershop group received national accolades. Jim and his sister Stephanie were expected to be able sing any harmony part on cue as the family drove down the highway.

### NASHVILLE YEARS

By the age of 14, Jim was an accomplished musician playing bass professionally with adult groups, and by the age of 16 was doing sessions and backing artists who performed on the Grand Ole Opry.

When Jim was 15 he started an informal apprenticeship with one of Nashville’s renowned recording engineers and independent music publishers, Ben Hall of Home Place Studios. Ben Hall had recorded many musical icons, including Buddy Holly and The Crickets, Roy Orbison and Alabama.

Ben and Jim worked together on and off for more than 20 years. Jim was groomed to be a session musician, producer, and music publisher. Jim also helped Ben build two different recording studios, and learned how to hear and adjust acoustics, know sound frequencies; pick hit songs; co-write music; and be a contributing member of the music industry in Nashville. Jim played and worked on hundreds of sessions, meeting musical greats from Jeannie C Riley to Garth Brooks.

### WESTERN MUSIC

Along the way Jim became intrigued with the close harmonies and inspiring viewpoint of Western Music. When Jim met Stu Stuart in Nashville in the

mid 1990’s, they formed a group called J38 Land and Cattle Company with lawman Clay Jerrolds. Stu later returned home to Kansas, where in 1999 he recruited Jim to join a new group, the Prairie Rose Wranglers. Over the next 8 years the group helped build a major tourist attraction called the Prairie Rose Chuckwagon Supper in Benton, KS. They developed an avid fan base who followed them on musical tours from Carnegie Hall to the Great Wall of China, and on many “Cowboy Cruises” to the Caribbean. Jim was musical director for “The Great American Cowboy” concerts at Carnegie Hall in 2003 and 2004, Beijing and Shanghai - China in 2006, and Nashville in 2007.

In 2007 the group changed its name to the Diamond W Wranglers and moved their musical home base to Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita for 7 years. They continued touring the country and the world. Jim was particularly known for his “galloping guitar” rhythms that were a signature sound for the Wranglers.

Jim always felt that Western Music was a natural partner with orchestral music. He had many of the Diamond W original songs scored, and fulfilled his dream of playing with a symphony and a chamber orchestra on a number of occasions.

### JIM FARRELL STUDIOS

Jim regarded his work inside the recording studio as his most significant. He produced all the Diamond W Wranglers CD’s and worked with Western Music stars Rex Allen Jr, Roy Rogers Jr (Dusty), Les Gilliam, Barry Ward, Mindy Rogers Petersen and others to produce some of their favorite recordings. He also loved nurturing new songwriters.

Jim and his wife Martha met during a recording session to promote Kansas Tourism in 2003. The title of the video project was “The Cowboy Experience”, and so launched an adventure Martha could never have imagined for herself. Over the next 18 years she traveled with Jim, helped promote the Diamond W Wranglers, and worked on many projects in the recording studio they built in Towanda, KS.

Since 2019 Jim and Martha have partnered with Rex Allen Jr in an internet radio station called

“Truckers Radio USA”, which has a format of traditional country, western and roots music. Jim hosted a weekly Western Music show called “Full Gallop”, which has listeners from all over the world and will continue to run as “classic episodes”. Jim was passionate about the need for Western Music to grow as a genre and celebrated the work of New West artists in addition to classic western harmonies.

## AWARDS

Jim Farrell’s awards and accomplishments include a Wrangler Award for Western Producer of the Year for Les Gilliam’s CD “It’s Time to Sing a Song” (Western Heritage Awards – National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum) and “Western Album of the Year” for the Diamond W Wranglers CD “Deep in the Saddle”, from the Academy of Western Artists. He had been Vice President of the Kansas Chapter of the International Western Music Association for several years and produced a compilation CD of Chapter members’ music called “Kansas Cowboy” which was a good fundraiser for the group.

## SURVIVORS

Jim is survived by his wife - Martha Farrell; Children – Shana Farrell Rummage (Jay), James Allen Farrell III (Lacey), and Sean Thomas Farrell; Grandchildren – Owen and Olivia Rummage, River and Ronan Farrell; Sister – Stephanie Kifer (Mark) and her sons Josh and Logan Britt and their families; plus extended family in Tennessee, Iowa and Kansas.

Jim was also treasured by longtime Diamond W bandmates Stu Stuart, Orin Friesen, Steve Crawford, and Chip Worthington, and his business partner Rex Allen Jr. The family encourages donations to IWMA if you’d like to honor Jim Farrell’s life. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Prairie Rose Chuckwagon in March.

Jim was being treated for cancer, and although he was fully vaccinated, he was vulnerable to COVID. He fought valiantly, and finally succumbed to pneumonia after his 4th hospitalization.

## THOMAS BERRY CHAMBERS III (1947 – 2022)



Tom Chambers (Cowboy Tom), age 74, passed away in loving peace after a long battle with cancer on January 24, 2022, in Sahuarita, Arizona. Tom was a founding member of IWMA and its first president and a member of the Board of Advisors.

Born on July 26, 1947, in Plainfield, New Jersey, Tom was one of three children to parents Thomas and Sadie Mae Chambers. After graduating from high school in Freehold, NJ, and college at Tampa University, he went on to enlist in the Navy. While on service duty in Antarctica in his 20s, Tom learned to play the guitar and discovered his passion for music. When he returned, Tom relocated to Colorado to pursue his love for the outdoors, music, and horses. He spent much of his life in the beautiful West, eventually leading him to his final destination of Tucson, AZ.



Tom and well-known actress Betty White.

Throughout his robust and exciting career, Tom made a positive impact on the lives of many. He will be remembered in the community for the dedicated work he did with the Western Music Association, Tanque Verde Ranch and BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding Center.

Tom was an acclaimed western musician, storyteller, horseman and adventurer. His legacy and spirit will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and fans by all the memories made, music he gave, and the many hearts that he touched along the way.

He is survived by his two children: daughter Christie Chambers and son Tom Chambers, along with his 2 grandchildren, Mikayla and Theo. He also leaves his brother, Don Chambers, wife Cheryl, as well as their children and grandchildren.

*Continued on page 28*

# In Memoriam

Continued from page 27

## DEBRA KAY PUNDT (1955-2021)



Debra was born February 27, 1955, in Tucson, AZ where she later married her high school sweetheart and started a wonderful journey together. Debra started her phlebotomist job at a Plasma recovery center

ending up at El Dorado Hospital for five years. She then became a homemaker raising her two wonderful children.

She and her husband Jeff were on the Wild Wild West dance team where they taught country western dances. She and her husband competed in three different dance competitions (Two-Step & The Waltz) taking first place in one hosted in Tucson and 8th place in an Arizona State Competition. Debra was a well-known lifetime member of the International Western Music Association, holding the office of the Executive Director and board member for many years.

She started working at Cowtown Boots in Tucson, AZ as a sales associate and worked her way up to the General Manager position for 20+ years before she decided to retire and move to Showlow. She loved spending time looking at any of the wild animals they saw while driving around the forest and lakes (deer, elk, antelope). She also enjoyed spending time fishing. She passed in the town she retired in Lakeside, Arizona

She is survived by her, Husband of 48 yrs/ Jeffrey Pundt; Son / Mark Pundt (Deborah); Daughter / Sherry Pundt; Grandson / Dominik Pundt (Mark); Siblings: Sister/ Linda (Shaw) Black, Brother / Ronald Shaw; and many aunts and uncles, cousins & in-laws. She was loved my many not of blood relation. Debra was preceded in death by her parents: Father/ Henry Shaw and Mother/ Mary A. (Hopkins) Shaw.

## WILL ARTHUR MORRIS – “ARTIE” (1933-2021)



Former IWMA Professional Member Will Arthur “Artie” Morris, 88, born on September 26, 1933, in Temple, TX, passed away December 26, 2021.

Artie had a deep love for country and western music. After graduating from high school, he auditioned for the popular radio show “Stars of Tomorrow” in Dallas. He was chosen as a regular on The Big D Jamboree and appeared on the Louisiana Hayride in Shreveport and The Saturday Night Jamboree in Houston.

Artie’s dream came true when he signed a recording contract with Adkrop Records and began touring with his band, The Trailblazers, throughout the United States. Artie’s recordings of “When I Found You” and “The Life I’ve Been Accused of” left a lasting impression in the minds and hearts of fans around the country.

He is survived by his wife Lorie Baker Morris, children Janet Morris, Andrea Merrill, Danye’ Morris (wife Puja) and Kenny Morris, 13 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his oldest child, Chris.

## TERRY WECKESSER (1944-2022)



Terry Weckesser, 78, Born January 11, 1944 in Rhinebeck, New York. Passed away February 6, 2022 in Prescott, Arizona. He had been hospitalized multiple times in the weeks preceding his passing. He finally succumbed to the effects of the Covid virus.

Terry was a long-time member of the International Western Music Association and served on the Board of Directors at one time. He frequented the IWMA conventions and was a noted figure in the hallways dressed in authentic western attire, from hat to chaps. Terry loved to dance and could be found on the dance floor or spontaneously dancing in the aisles or the back of room during a concert event floor whenever the opportunity presented itself.

A Celebration of Life was held on February 20, 2022 in Prescott Valley, AZ. 🐾



**Western Music** is most often acoustic in its core instrumentation. Its lyrics are typically about the lives, loves, lore, locales, legends and legacy of the old and new West, its peoples or Cowboying worldwide.

Tips? Comments? Ideas for the column, send to:  
Rick Huff, P.O. Box 8442, Albuquerque, NM 87198-8442  
or [bestofthewest@swcp.com](mailto:bestofthewest@swcp.com)

Hopefully you don't feel I have been placing too much emphasis or attaching undue meaning to the frequent appearance of specific Western imagery in national advertising. Over the past three years or so in this column, we have cited dozens of examples of it, and it is still occurring. That makes it more than a fad-like trend inspired by some other source. But are we making too much of it as being something from which our Cowboy-promoting organization might benefit? If made aware, might the general public now be made to say "there are cowboys in ads, so of course there's Cowboy Music" and actually understand what that is?! We'll never know if we don't actively explore it. By the way, here are a few of the latest examples of the phenomenon. And please note the number of times the products or services being promoted would otherwise have no specific Western connection!

What better to represent Door Dash's service than its TV ad underscored with speed yodeling?? Or Zillow, which chose to go with slow yodeling (Eddy Arnold's "Cattle Call") to accompany a carefree bike rider coasting along holding a balloon?! Has yodeling become deeply societal? One fellow, freshly rescued from a December tram jam, stated on the national news "I was so happy to be down off the thing I began yodeling for joy!!" But is it the "joy" of blood thinning from Eliquis that finds three feisty cowgirls striding down the lanes of Old Tucson in an ad for that product? Or the sheer elation of tax preparation that has a cowboy lassoing and leading a receipt-covered steer for the software Taxslayer? How 'bout the two cowboys at a campfire grousing about the need to cowboy-up being unnecessary if only they had used [betterhelp.com](http://betterhelp.com)! Still more cowboys at a campfire compared the discomforts of the wild against the creature comforts to be found in a Hyundai! And, of course, we mustn't forget Liberty Insurance's "real cowboy" aboard a mechanical bucking bull labeled "Mild Mitch." Oh, the pain. And not to be topped by the Geico Insurance ad with the two gunfighters trying to schedule a gunfight on their smartphones only to find they're over booked, Alexa rode out on one with disembodied voices and kibbitzers ordering up changes to a TV showdown. Cowboys tossed lariats around a kitchen for Hidden Valley Ranch Dressing! Ok, "Ranch." A tenuous

Western connection. But a Stetson-hatted dude in his car, tapping out a rhythm of "Sales, Big O Sales" on his steering wheel?? "Steer" maybe??

Seriously, what's going on here?! Media didn't breed this. It was showing up prior to the premieres of Western themed TV shows like "Yellowstone" and its prequel "1883." Or films like 2021's Oscar-nominated "Power Of The Dog" or even the tragedy-saddled and now scrapped "Rust." Should we take this ongoing visibility of Western to be an awakening of our latent frontier spirit? Is it some emergent, hidebound "Me Too" movement on the part of advertisers?? I noticed one of the Favorite Superbowl Ads run ahead of the game was the classic with the cowboys herding thousands of cats for E.D.S.! I would be tempted to say "who cares, let's just enjoy the moment" were it not for realizing there is serious money being poured into it and, it seems, being made from it. That latter part will be why the Western commercial presence hasn't gone the way of The Pet Rock. Of course, neither has the sagging pants thing, but that's another issue. Anyway Applebee's has made their own statement with the wiggling Wrangler butt cowboy over the Zac Brown Band's line "a pair of jeans that fit just right."

To get more professional input, I even reached out to the media diagnosticians at Advertising Age, one of the principal voices of the industry. By press time, they had nothing to offer on it. At least not to me. So I turned to another online source. Rather than going into it here, I will suggest you also google the title "Like A Cowboy – Imagery In Politics, Prose and Reality." While not specifically aimed at our subject, it offers some salient back-fill. And speaking of "back-fill" as it might apply to diapers, one additional but unfortunate cowboy image put in an appearance in 2021. At the press conference following his initial billionaire joyride into space, Jeff Bezos chose to wear a cowboy hat (yeah, the new frontier and all that) as he made a hugely unpopular remark newshawks have gleefully replayed in video clips ever since. He thanked Amazon employees, who feel undercompensated, and Amazon customers, who have their own issues, saying "you paid for the trip!" Apparently the Western image has survived it! 🐾

# Chapter Update

*Continued from page 22*

Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, Tex Ritter, PeeWee King, and more. The venue had a rough time during the height of the pandemic, closing to live shows from March 2020 until August 2021. It currently hosts about three shows a week consisting of all music genres. The most recent "western" show was Bob Will's Texas Playboys led by Jason Roberts on March 5. A piece of living history, the Cain's is definitely worth a visit if you're in the Tulsa area: cainsballroom.com

## TENNESSEE CHAPTER

**President: Gary Holt**  
**gih50@live.com**

Welcome to Tennessee IWMA!!! We are so excited to be launching our Tennessee Chapter of the IWMA right here, in the very epicenter of Country, Music City USA!!! 2021 closed out with a gathering of local talented folks, with a mutual desire to bring the "Western" back into "Country!" Most importantly, back to Tennessee!!! It was in those moments that, Gary Holt, (radio host of the Equestrian Legacy Radio Show) shared his vision of instating the Tennessee Chapter of the IWMA, and without a doubt, everyone agreed it was time!!! We had our elections for the Executive Office in late December and are rearing to move forward! By unanimous vote our sitting executives are: Gary Holt, President, Tecia McKenna, Vice President and Micki Fuhrman, Secretary/Treasurer. 2022 is shaping up to be a very exciting year for Western Music. We are looking forward to seeing more events, and live performances, along with, raising awareness of this rich, multi-cultural, as American as it gets genre, here in our very own state of Tennessee! We're inviting all singers,

songwriters, poets, musicians, radio personalities, producers and all-around lovers of the western way, to become members and join us on this adventure!!! Whether you're a

Tennessean by birth, adopted son or daughter, or a transplant to or from anywhere in the world, we are looking forward to having y'all along on this ride!!! Saddle up!!!



*IWMA-Tennessee members Ranger Doug with Riders in the Sky, The Farmer & Adele's Keenan Wade and Mary Kaye Holt performing at the World Famous STATION INN in Nashville.*

*Continued on page 32*

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# IWMA 2022 CONVENTION COMPETITIONS

## RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

### POETRY (Saturday)

This is a contest to judge individual poets' recitations. Poets must recite his/her original poem. Reading is not allowed. You will have 1-1/2 to 4 minutes in which to present your selection, including any introduction. Time will be called after four minutes. No exceptions.

You will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Rhyme** *Avoiding slant rhymes*
- **Meter** *(Adherence to uniform metrical pattern)*
- **Form** *(Uniformity of verse; consistent rhyming patterns)*
- **Theme** *(Appropriate Western theme, regardless of era)*
- **Value** *(Ethical, moral, principled)*
- **Delivery** *(Smooth flow of lines; inflection; diction; projection)*
- **Stage Presence** *(Interaction with audience; confidence, enthusiasm, attire)*

### HARMONY (Saturday)

This is a contest to judge your group's harmony singing ability. An omni-directional mic will be provided. You may use one instrument of your choice. You will have 4 minutes in which to present your selection, including any introduction.

You will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Technical Difficulty** *(Complexity, structure)*
- **Vocal musicianship** *(Intonation, rhythm and phrasing)*
- **Interpretation** *(Communication, style, diction)*
- **Originality**
- **Appropriateness of song selection** *(Western music)*
- **Stage Deportment** *(Appearance, personality)*
- **Time allotment** *(The 4-minute time limit means 4 minutes)*

### YODELING (Saturday)

This is a contest to judge your Western or Cowboy yodeling ability and instruments are discouraged. You will be judged on your ability to yodel and not your instrumental ability. You will have 4 minutes in which to present your selection, including any introduction.

You will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Voice Pitch** *(Are you flat or sharp?)*
- **Falsetto** *(Voice break notes clean and clear?)*
- **Content** *(Format, Western-style yodeling?)*
- **Intricacy (complexity)** *(The more difficult the yodel patterns, the more points you will receive)*
- **Stage Deportment** *(Appearance, personality).*
- **Time allotment** *(The 4-minute time limit means 4 minutes)*

# Chapter Update

Continued from page 30

## WESTERN WORDSMITHS CHAPTER

**President: Mark Munzert**  
[markmunzert@gmail.com](mailto:markmunzert@gmail.com)

Sherl Cederburg is excited to announce that she will be releasing her second Western Poetry album this spring. "Wisdom in the Wind" is being produced by Butch Hause of the Ranger Station Studio in Berthoud, Colorado. Doc Wilson, past president of Western Wordsmiths, was elected as vice-president of the Arizona Chapter of IWMA. Doc also took part in the Green Valley Roundup (Sept. '21) presenting several of his poems. Deanna Dickinson's article about MARY was published in the acclaimed RANGE magazine and she was scheduled shortly thereafter to perform at the Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering. And now the Wordsmith extraordinaire, along with Jim Jones has won her second Wrangler Award! Deanna was in disbelief having now won two. The Wrangler was presented for their song Old Horses and Old Men! Congratulations Deanna. PW (Peter Conway) is proud to introduce his latest cowboy poetry

book, *Buckaroo Poetry, Spirit Of The West* if you are interested in a signed copy, just message PW on FB. Poppa Mac (Geoff Mackay) 'penned again', his upcoming release of his two newest books. One is original cowboy and Christian cowboy poetry. The other is a coffee table book. It highlights the amazing artistry of Doug Monson and Geoff has written corresponding poems to accompany each drawing. Geoff has been asked as the only Cowboy poet to participate in an international poet panel discussing how his Christian beliefs have influenced his poetry. Vic Anderson is spearheading an effort to promote and involve more storytelling into our genres. Anyone interested in spinning yarns should look Vic up and help get the ball rolling. Hear tell there were a few other Wordsmiths once again out-and-about performing and all have done the craft so well. Please send your 'news' in. Your scribe is packing saddle bags to join Western Wordsmiths: Jo Lynn Kirkwood; and Tom Swearingen at the Cache Valley Cowboy Rendezvous. Happy trails, indeed!

## YOUTH CHAPTER

**Coordinator: Jane Leche**  
[wmayouthcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:wmayouthcoordinator@gmail.com)

Youth Chapter Officers are excited to announce the first annual IWMA Youth Chapter Showcase of the year to be held at the Arizona Folklore Preserve (AFP) near Sierra Vista, AZ, June 11-12, 2022. The AFP is a huge supporter of the IWMA's young performers and generously donates to the YC general and scholarship funds every year. To be considered for this showcase, interested performers must be Youth Chapter members in good standing and have their application submitted to Jane Leche, Youth chapter Coordinator at [wmayouthcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:wmayouthcoordinator@gmail.com), by March 31. Blank applications will be available by an email to all Youth Chapter members, download from the IWMA website or by contacting Jane Leche. All general IWMA members are encouraged to attend the showcase if you're in the area! For more information, contact Jane Leche or check the IWMA website at [www.iwesternmusic.org](http://www.iwesternmusic.org). 🐾

## AROUND The CAMPFIRE

*"Songs for, by and about the  
Cowboys and the Western Way of Life!"*

and

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*"Where you hear REAL Country Music!"*

**WITH MARVIN O'DELL**  
[meoteo@aol.com](mailto:meoteo@aol.com)

### Earsradio.com

#### **The Country Campfire**

M 11am – 2 pm  
SA 6 am – 9 am

#### **Around the Campfire**

TH 10am – 12 pm  
SU 1 am – 3 am

### KKRN, Redding, CA

#### **The Country Campfire**

SA 10 am – 11 am

### KZNO, Santa Clarita, CA

#### **The Country Campfire**

W 10 pm – 11 pm

#### **Around the Campfire**

TU 10 pm – 11 pm  
TH 10 pm – 11 pm



**TIMES ARE CST AND AIRTIME MAY VARY**

# JAZZ COWBOYS

JUMPER CABLES #29



## IWMA TEAM PENNING RULES & APPLICATION

SATURDAY – NOVEMBER 12, 2022

HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE FRANCISCAN ROOM

A committee will create a theme for the song and email it to the contestants two months prior to the competition. Be prepared to perform the song at the IWMA Convention on Saturday afternoon. The song can only be performed by the writers, with no additional musicians or singers allowed.

A team will consist of two people (one musician and one poet recommended but not required).

Songs must be no longer than 4 minutes.

Because of time constraints this competition will be limited to 18 teams.

Once registered, watch for more information via email.

Registrant #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

All entry forms must be received before September 1.

On-site entries will be on a space available basis. There is no entry fee for this contest.

Return this entry form to:

IWMA | P. O. Box 648 | Coppell, TX 75019  
info@westernmusic.org



Executive Director Marsha Short and Western Way Editor Theresa O'Dell

## SAVE THE DATE

NOV. 9-13, 2022

COME HOME TO  
IWMA 2022 IN  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

*"We want to see you there!"*

## THE FUN IS BACK:

Yodeling, Poetry and Harmony Contests  
Team Penning Competition  
Special Guests  
Music, Poetry, Vendors and  
Workshops Galore!



# A MUSICAL NOTE AND REVIEWS FROM O.J. SIKES

**To submit your CD for review, send to:** O.J. Sikes, 681 Ellington Road, Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
**Required:** Album cost, S&H cost, Address, Phone Number | **Questions?** You can email O.J. at [ojisikes@gmail.com](mailto:ojisikes@gmail.com)

## THROUGH THE DECADES – THE MUSIC LIVES ON

Back in the mid-50s, you might have been forgiven if you thought Western music would die with the end of the Singing Cowboy Movie Era in 1954. At that point, it looked like the music was going the way of the musical Western. Although music had been the identifying characteristic of those movies since 1934 when **Rex Allen's** last movie was released twenty years later, Rex sang no songs in it. **Roy Rogers** had left Republic late in 1951 to film his TV show, which had no music other than the theme. Interestingly, that song became Western music's signature song and is sung by performers and audiences alike, wherever Western music is celebrated to this day, over 70 years later. **Gene Autry's** TV show, which began in 1950, included music. But by 1954, singing cowboys were gone from the big screen.

Now, with the hindsight of 2022, we have seen that Western music was too powerful to fade into the sunset! Chuckwagon Supper outfits had started late in the 1940s and an important part of their work was providing Western musical entertainment for their guests. And **The Wagonmasters** began to perform Western music for visitors to Knott's Berry Farm in California. Mid-way through the 50s, Rex Allen and **Jimmy Wakely** recorded landmark Western LPs for Decca, while Roy, Gene and **Tex Ritter**, each with a different record label, went for the children's market.

But about that time, when it looked like the embers in the campfire were about to go out, an up-and-coming singer from Arizona, a Gene Autry and **Sons of the Pioneers** fan, wrote and recorded a Western song that took the nation by storm. **Marty Robbins' "El Paso"** paved the way for what was to come. The same year, 1959, Tex Ritter recorded an excellent album of standards that sold well for years. And the Sons of the Pioneers, now with **Karl Farr** (guitar), **Tommy Doss** (baritone), **Dale Warren** (lead) and leader **Lloyd Perryman** (tenor), recorded their *Cool Water* LP, an

album that was to stay in the RCA Victor catalogue until LPs were replaced by CDs, decades later! They continued to record new albums for the label, largely of standards, until 1969, with numerous re-issues in subsequent years. And before the 60s ended, Tex Ritter recorded another album of standards.

In 1972, Rex Allen recorded a superb LP of classic Western songs, with the intriguing title, *Rex Allen Sings Boney-kneed, Hairy-legged Cowboy Songs*. Although it was on a small label, Rex's friend **John Wayne** wrote the liner notes, lending his own Western credibility to the project. A few years later, in 1977, **The Reinsmen** recorded their first LP. Later, they were to accompany Rex on tour and soon they would record with **Rex Allen, Jr.**, who had recorded "Can You Hear Those Pioneers?" on his album, *Ridin' High*, in 1976.

In 1980, **Riders in the Sky**, taking their name from the title of a Sons of the Pioneers double LP, released their first album. **Bob Nolan** wrote glowing liner notes for it! And in 1982, Rex Allen, Jr. recorded an all-Western LP, *The Singing Cowboy*, that included some of his best new Western songs, e.g., "Roundup Time," "Ride Cowboy Ride" and "The Last of the Silver Screen Cowboys." Rex's frequent appearances on national TV became an additional channel for Western music to reach numerous fans all over the country, and **Michael Martin Murphey** implemented his idea for a *WestFest*, bringing "live" Western music to audiences across the West. Among the artists Murphey "discovered" (or encouraged) were the **Sons of the San Joaquin** and **Don Edwards**. Together with **Red Steagall** and others, they introduced Western music into the 1990s! And in that decade, Roy Rogers and Rex Allen recorded their last albums, **Patsy Montana** performed for legions of fans, new Western-oriented record labels were created, and a large number of new, very talented performers entertained listeners all over the world, and into the 21st Century!

## REX ALLEN

### *"Rex Allen: The Arizona Cowboy – Selected Singles"*

ADDCCD3408



This 2 CD set contains 55 "singles" recorded by Rex Allen for Mercury, Decca and Buena Vista

between 1946 and 1961. Rex began recording with Mercury when he was working on radio in Chicago in the 1940s. His "Ridin' Hidin' Teardrops in My Heart," "Queen of the Rodeo" and "Texas Tornado" were recorded in those years, as were "Chime Bells," "Loaded Pistols (and Loaded Dice)" and his own composition, "Hawaiian Cowboy." His back-up band on many, perhaps most, of the recordings from Chicago, was the Prairie Ramblers, the popular group that backed Patsy Montana and appeared regularly on the WLS Barndance radio show. Steel guitar legend Jerry Byrd played on a number of Rex's Mercury sessions, and toward the end of his time with that label, Rex recorded more memorable titles, including the first version of what was to become his theme, "Too-Lee-Roll-Um (the Arizona Cowboy)."

After being recruited to become a singing cowboy at Republic Pictures in Hollywood at the end of the decade, Rex moved to the Decca label in 1951. There, he scored a hit with "Crying in the Chapel," and in the mid-50's he recorded some of his finest Western work, much of it with Victor Young's orchestra, e.g. "The Last Roundup," which is included here.

Most of Rex's "single" releases were in the country genre, and one

of my favorite Rex Allen country songs, "Blue Dream," is included here. Nudie Cohn, the famous Western tailor, was invited to play mandolin on this record, and he is very much (almost too much) in evidence. He's the fellow who made the flashy sequined shirts for Rex and Roy Rogers, to make it easier for audiences to see them in huge rodeo arenas.

By the end of the 50s Rex was working for the Disney folks and they asked him to record a number of sides for their Buena Vista label, several of the best of which are in this set. And then he returned to Mercury where, in 1962, he recorded his biggest hit, "Don't Go Near the Indians," which closes out this collection. Detailed liner notes, beautifully illustrated with some rare photos. Widely available, but you might try HamiltonBook.com if you're looking for a new source.



## SONS OF THE PIONEERS

### *"Tumbling Tumbleweeds – The Chart Years, 1934 - 1949"*

ADDCCD3395



During the period 1934 - 1949, The Sons of the Pioneers recorded for the Decca, Columbia and RCA Victor labels. The first song they recorded in 1934 was "Way Out There," a three-part harmony yodel tune that they had worked on tirelessly to perfect. And when fiddler Hugh Farr auditioned for the group (he used to claim they auditioned for him!), he said that the way the trio yodeled in harmony so impressed him, he

was eager to sign up with them. He stayed with the group until 1958! They recorded that song in August of that year, along with "Tumbling Tumbleweeds," in their very first recording session. Both of these Decca recordings are in this 2 CD, 56 song set. "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" was recorded again in the 1940s for RCA Victor, and that version is also included here. Listening to it, you can see how the Pioneers' "sound" evolved when you compare the two. There are also 2 versions of "Cool Water," the first on Decca and the second for RCA Victor, and you can choose your favorite.

Only a few of the group's Columbia records are here, in part, because they didn't record as many sides for that label, but those earliest Deccas and most of the Columbians were recorded when Roy Rogers (then using his original name, Len Slye) was singing with the group. And these early recordings reflect the way they sounded in the movies they made with Starles Starrett, Dick Foran, Bing Crosby and Gene Autry in those years.

But as the 1940s got underway, the Pioneers moved from Columbia Pictures to Republic Pictures to work with their old pal, Roy Rogers, who was becoming the "King of the Cowboys." Soon, in 1945, they switched to Roy's record label, RCA Victor, and you can hear the difference in the approach to "Cool Water" between the two labels/time periods, when you play the 2nd CD in this set. Vol. 2 also contains many of their most popular songs, some from 1949 featuring Ken Curtis singing lead, e.g. "Room Full of Roses" and "Let's Go West Again," soon after he joined. Widely available, but you may want to try HamiltonBook.com 🐾



To submit items for review, send to: Rick Huff, P.O. Box 8442, Albuquerque, NM 87198-8442. Include: Album cost, S&H cost, Address, Phone Number. We also recommend you furnish a land source (Address or PO Box) as well as Online sources for obtaining product. Submitting a CD or Book for review does not guarantee that it will be reviewed or that a review will be published. Finalized CD or book cover art must accompany the work and be unsigned.

**PATTY CLAYTON**  
*"The Real West"*



When CDs from Western Music veterans show up.... the ones who really have their props under them....

it's cause for joy. Yippee!! A new Patty Clayton album has come! She has long been a noted proponent of Hawaii's Paniolo Cowboy culture and music, but here the title of this newest album means exactly what it says.

There's plenty of variety in acoustic music styles and originality of perspective in addressing the subject. Original Clayton picks include the CD's opening waltz "Prairie Passages," the novel educations found in both "Prairie Dog Blues" and "Buffalo Chips" and my all-time favorite Clayton song from years back "Red Buffalo" is "revisited" here, too. All the covers are picks: Pharis & Jason Romero's swinging "Long Gone Out West Blues," Paul Wallis Schoenlaub Jr.'s "One Lone Man" and John McInturff's "The Lilacs & The Roses" featuring his Celtic

guitar work. Other Clayton cohorts on this impeccably performed release are Ernie Martinez (Dobro/ mandolin/vocal harmonies), David Richardson (banjo/harmonies), Ron Jones (fiddle) and Jon Chandler (harmonica).

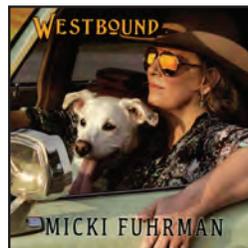
This is a very pleasant album, and Patty Clayton's gentle vocal vibrancy is always welcome on the ears.

Eleven tracks, very highly recommended.

CD: \$15 "plus shipping" (?) or download through [pattyclayton.com](http://pattyclayton.com)



**MICKI FUHRMAN**  
*"Westbound"*



From the first notes of Micki Fuhrman's opening track, I knew her album "Westbound"

stood the chance of containing some of the freshest takes of you-name-it that I have yet encountered! It lived up to that, with full bodied arrangements and

elegant production (both from Ron Oates) along with exemplary musicianship on all levels.

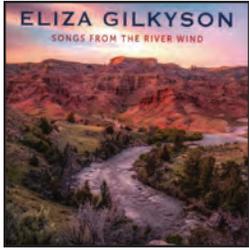
There's not a misfire in the bunch, but we'll name some picks: Fuhrman's opening all-gal treatment of "Buffalo Gals" I alluded to up front, novelist/historian Johnny D. Boggs' "Loving Country" with Jon Chandler guesting and the classic Ken Darby/Lionel Newman movie song "River Of No Return" featuring backup harmony that includes Buck (son of Tennessee Ernie) Ford. Another "dream duet" as she calls them pairs her with Ronnie (son of Marty) Robbins on his dad's "Is There Any Chance." A swinging original pick would be Fuhrman's "What A Moon." Others include her involving "Stories That The Rocks Tell" and, in her hands, Bob Telson's mystical and chilling "Calling You" literally raised goosebumps! Kudos to the cover art choice as well. Pups can sell anything!

Eleven tracks, very highly recommended.

CD: (contact Great Planet Records at (615) 948-0140 or [MickiFuhrmanMusic.com](http://MickiFuhrmanMusic.com)

## ELIZA GILKYSON

*"Songs From The River Wind"*



Long a treasured performer in the genres of Folk and Americana, smoky-voiced Eliza Gilkyson

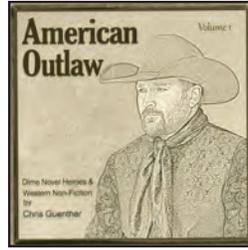
has brought us a gently flowing Western gift to brighten a dark time. Gilkyson is a self-confessed wanderer who is now happily grounded in Taos, NM. This new release is enhanced by the sterling musicianship of The Rifiers (producer Don Richmond, Rod Taylor & Jim Bradley) and four additional players, at least two of whom are fellow New Mexico "wanderers" Michael Hearne and John Egnes.

Gilkyson's songwriting prowess comes naturally. Her singer and dad Terry was the creator of such songs as "Cry Of The Wild Goose" and "Greenfields." Eliza's lyrics consistently provide keen portraits and character insights. Original picks include "Charlie Moore," "Wind River And You" and her frisky song "The Hill Behind This Town." Pick covers: Her easy lope take of "Wanderin'" and "Buffalo Gals Redux" (both with lyric additions), Hugh Prestwood's mystical "Bristlecone Pine," The Rifiers' creation "Before The Great River Was Tamed" and (with lyric modifications) "The Colorado Trail." A crediting note (one I have brought up before): Its creator is now known to have been Eastern composer James A. Bliss, who published it in New York City under the simple name "A Cowboy Song." This CD is a fine addition to any collection or playlist! Thirteen tracks, very highly recommended.

CD: info through [ElizaGilkyson.com](http://ElizaGilkyson.com) or [HowlinDogRecords.com](http://HowlinDogRecords.com)

## CHRIS GUENTHER

*"American Outlaw Vol. One"*



Chris Guenther has applied generous shakes from the Morricone dispenser to flavor this Big

West-style collection. Fans of that effect should savor it.

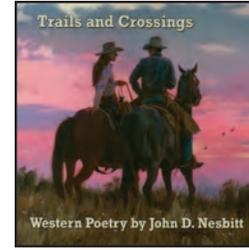
The pleasant-voiced Washingtonian plays a staggering array of stringed and other instruments, and his strong arrangements and musicianship elevate this group of his originals to an upper tier. The CD's two instrumentals are particularly Spaghetti Westernesque ("The Shootist" and "Five Joaquins"). Other picks include "Trail Rage" (about John Wesley Hardin), "Sundance" (about the other 'Kid'), "Dime Novel Hero" (Wild Bill's demise which was doubtlessly covered in them), "Goodnight From The Goodnight Loving Trail" (featuring fiddler Kate McManus) and "Atcheson Topeka & Santa Fe" (nope, different song).

Only infrequently do we encounter the classic Big West sound these days in releases, but you will notice Chris Guenther has dubbed this "Volume One." So it seems more is on the way! Ten tracks, highly recommended.

CD: \$18 ppd through [chrisguenthermusic.com](http://chrisguenthermusic.com) or from Blackboard Records, PO Box 38, Salkum, WA 98582.

## JOHN D. NESBITT

*"Trails & Crossings"*



Wyoming's awarded poet and author John D. Nesbitt has come out with a collection of works that

covers a lot of literary territory in visions of the here and now along with plenty of "then."

More than one of these poems might qualify as mini-novels. Several are sagas such as "Jack O'Malley," "Rustlers' Doom" and "Dark Sparrow Winter." Some are pretty much set to become songs with refrains like "Don't Be A Stranger," "Lonesome Jim" and "Rangeland Lament" (which was put to music and recorded a while back by Carol Markstrom). Notably Nesbitt's Spur Award-winning epic poem "Prairie Center" is rendered here as well.

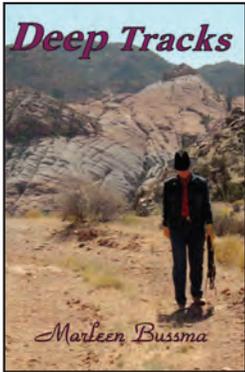
Nesbitt's delivery style is presentational rather than acted. If that aspect isn't a hindrance for you, there ya go. It's a worthy audio record for history inasmuch as the printed versions of most of these poems are found in his book "Thorns On The Rose." It's a title (and poem) showing Nesbitt's own assessment of the works as being "bittersweet." Twenty-one tracks, recommended.

CD \$10 = \$3 s/h from John D. Nesbitt, PO Box 973, Torrington, WY 82240 or download through [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

*Continued on page 38*

**Learn more about the  
International Western Music Association at  
[iwesternmusic.org](http://iwesternmusic.org)**

## MARLEEN BUSSMA "Deep Tracks" (Book)



Here comes the companion volume to the Marleen Bussma CD we reviewed last time...or vice versa!

A nice part of

having poems printed out in front of you is being able to chew the words and digest them at your own speed. There's a fine meal to be had here. On her site, [marleenbussma.com](http://marleenbussma.com), she performs nine additional poems beyond those found on the CD,

but the book contains many more for your dining pleasure! And a pleasure it is, even when Bussma occasionally seeks to unsettle you. It's healthy!

This is a collection Western aficionados of all kinds can get lost in and "found" in, since it captures so many aspects of the West we work to celebrate. Here it's done with Bussma's rare skill at interweaving imagery, lore and history. If you couldn't tell by this point, I'm calling this one a book that can definitely be given to others. Do so! Thirty-seven poems on seventy-five pages, very highly recommended.

Book: \$15 ppd from Marleen Bussma, 1094 Homestead Dr. E., Dammeron Valley, UT 84783. 🐾

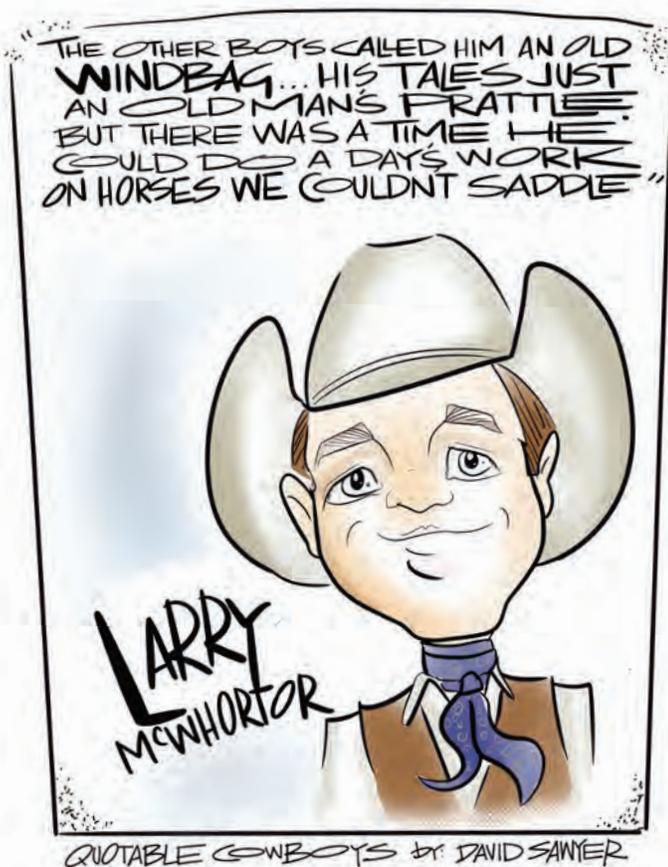
### CORRECTION

#### Krause, Larry:

Someday I'll get this Canada thing straight in my head...maybe. On Canadian Larry Krause's review in the Fall 2021 Issue, I let "dot com" show up instead of the correct "dot ca" in his site address. Note that his correct site location is [www.larrykrause.ca](http://www.larrykrause.ca)! So, Huff! Take tha- !!

#### Clark, Grace:

Last time out on Grace Clark's album, my middle name was "Typo!" Let's just try part of it again. Jimmy Spero played lead guitar, Dave Rietz was on fiddle and Sylvia Herold provided vocal harmonies on "I'm An Old Cowhand." And there's my excuse. I am one.



## MAILBAG

**This letter was submitted in response to the Winter 2022 issue.**

I received the *Western Way* this afternoon, production of our magazine gets more polished with every issue. Kudos to Theresa O'Dell for her editing, smooth layout, and a general absence of the constantly annoying spelling and syntax errors I see in other more commercial publications. Minor, but, continual annoyances. About the IWMA 2021 gathering? Another outstanding product, especially considering the constraints encountered. Whew, we needed that! Thanks all, especially Marsha Short (and her minions).

~ L. Peters, NM



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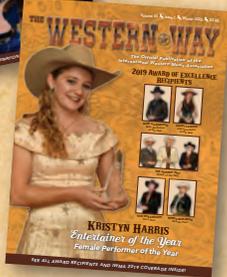
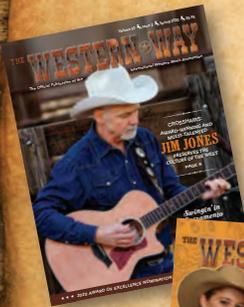


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# CLASSIC PROFILES

## SOUNDS FROM THE PAST

(Recordings From Our Great Western Treasury That Deserve a New Spin)

BY RICK HUFF

We're proud to say that more artists are creating and performing Western Music these days than at any other time in its long and illustrious history. Its legacy includes others who have helped to fortify the trail that Western artists of today continue to ride. So that they might be properly saluted, let's take a fond look back at some of those Western performers and albums from the past. It could be said these people are from our rank and file, but their work ranks high and shouldn't remain filed away. In some cases, you might find their releases available from aftermarket or collector sources. Others might now have been prepared for download through sites. In every case you will find the work should continue to be celebrated, heard and enjoyed.

### THE AMAZING MCNASTY BROTHERS

*"Arizona Sunset" (1997)*



Working out of the Apache Junction, Arizona area, The McNasty's crusty desert rat

look belied an astounding musical proficiency. The Brothers were "Terrible John" (Lucky) Robinson and "Awful Tom" McCormick with their band "Broncin' Bobby" Kahler (amazing on fiddle & mandolin), Chris "Coyote" Scott (slide dobro) and Bob "Willard" Henke (guitars). Together they conveyed a glorious comfort with it all, a feeling I had seldom encountered before or since, for that matter. It tends to pull you in, and you definitely want to go.

Capping the artful effect is a poetic flow in the lyrics from McCormick. Take the title track: "Gonna write a song about an Arizona sunset, like a Maxfield Parrish painting, all flamingo pink and gold!" Or his song "Tears From Heaven" with the singer sitting with his guitar equating himself to an

old pint bottle he finds lying on the desert floor: "The cap is cracked and the label's peelin' and I can't give up this empty feelin' with a couple of tears from Heaven locked inside." That, friends, is liquid gold.

As of 2015...the latest entry I found...the Amazing McNasty Brothers were still goin' strong, with minimal personnel shifts. Regarding any shelved McNasty inventory you DJs may have on hand, I say if you've got 'em, resurrect 'em!

### KEVIN MCNIVEN

*"Horseman, Roughstock & Rawhide" (1999)*



Among the smoother voiced balladeers from Western Music's time of rebirth came

Wyoming's Kevin McNiven, who was certainly a standout. He was the official singing ambassador for his state and he always included Wyoming content on his releases.

For his second release McNiven and his producer Duke Davis opted for more newly written content, such as "High Country Snows" from Dan Fogelberg, "Wyoming Winds" from the enigmatic Jon Cook and four writes and co-writes from Ryan Dennis. There's a smattering of classics ("Sioux City Sue," "Black Lightning" and Foy Willing's "Stampede") with fine originals from McNiven and Davis as well. But the talent pool of players is the eye (and ear) catcher. Rich O'Brien (guitars), Mark Abbott (upright bass), Tommy Morrell (steel & dobro), "Snuffy" Elmore (fiddle & mandolin) plus Greg Hardy (drums), Danny Ortiz (trumpet) and Steve Chavez (marimba)! Background vocals, anyone?? Jean Prescott, Jimmy Reid, Jr. and Shotgun Dan Spanogle (both Syd Masters & The Swing Riders alums) and Duke Davis himself.

Kevin McNiven's debut release "It's Wyoming" was exemplary, but if you wouldn't quite call his follow-up to it a "night and day difference," at least the bud of the first came to full flower in the second! It's a fabulous showcase for its artist and Western Music in general. By the way, the entire McNiven clan...papa Kevin, sons Travis and Tyler with wife (and classically trained fiddler) Nancy... has continued to perform as a unit. 🐾

★ ★ ★ **NEW!** ★ ★ ★

## IWMA 2022 SONGWRITING CONTEST!

The IWMA is sponsoring a Songwriting Contest beginning May 1. Anyone who writes songs is encouraged to enter. There is a nominal entry fee shown below in the rules and rewards section. Let's make this a great event for the IWMA for this year. We hope you will get excited and will enter a song from your own pen.

1. Fee is \$25 a song or three (3) songs for \$50.
2. There can be more than one songwriter for a song, the prize to be divided between them as they see fit.
3. A lyric sheet must be provided for each song.
4. Judges will be music business professionals.
5. Grand prize will be \$1000, a free half-page ad in The Western Way, and a free Silver Spur Package for this year's IWMA convention.
6. Winner will get to perform the song on this year's Convention Friday Night Opry in a featured slot where the \$1,000 prize will be presented.
7. Second Place prize is \$100 and an opportunity to perform the song on this year's Convention Friday Night Opry where the prize will be presented.
8. Contest dates are May 1-July 31. Entries must be received during this window but not later than July 31. Send to: [meoteo@aol.com](mailto:meoteo@aol.com); or, IWMA Contest, 10430 W. Loma Blanca Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351
9. Winner will be notified ahead of time but will not receive his/her award until the convention.
10. Songs must be ones that have not been previously released in a recording.
11. Songs must fall lyrically into the cowboy/western genre. Song may be written to fit any musical style – rock 'n' roll, folk, celtic, easy listening, etc. – but must speak to the life, work, nature, history, landscape, romance, etc., of life in the west past or present or to life lived in the west outside the city.
12. Songs must be submitted by mp3 or on disc. Songs do not have to be recorded in a professional studio. Song may be simply performed and recorded with a home device.
13. Songs must be submitted with no more than two (2) instruments. Judges will be considering lyrics and melodies, not performance of the song.
14. Each entrant must be submitted with the full name(s) of each songwriter.

***For more information contact [marsha@westernmusic.org](mailto:marsha@westernmusic.org) or [meoteo@aol.com](mailto:meoteo@aol.com).***

# Reed's Reading

## Recommendations & Book Reviews



Ollie Reed, Jr.

To have your book reviewed by Ollie, send a copy to: Ollie Reed, Jr., P.O. Box 2381, Corrales, N.M. 87048 or contact him at: [olreed.com@gmail.com](mailto:olreed.com@gmail.com)

Welcome my friends to the weird West. That's not a particular location, but a genre that blends science fiction, fantasy or horror of the supernatural sort with traditional Western themes.

You used to see this in the horror and fantasy pulp magazines, but it crops up in other media as well.

Singing cowboy Gene Autry starred in "The Phantom Empire," a 1935 movie serial in which Gene encounters an advanced underground empire near the dude ranch he runs.

The 1960s TV series "The Wild, Wild West" is about Jim West and Artemus Gordon, 19th Century U.S. government agents who tangle with cyborgs, androids, life-size, steam-powered puppets and so on.

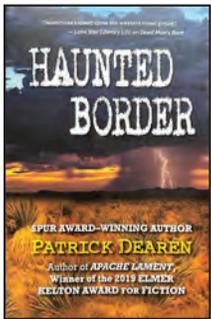
In "Cowboys and Aliens" a 2011 movie, a cattle baron, outlaws and Apaches take on aliens from outer space who arrive in 1873 New Mexico Territory via awesome flying ships.

And then there is Louis L'Amour's 1987 novel "Haunted Mesa" about a portal to an alternate dimension that is discovered in an ancient kiva in the American Southwest.

I think you get the picture. My recent reading took me to two Western novels I believe qualify as weird.

### PATRICK DEAREN

#### *Haunted Border*



Dearen has 25 books to his credit, including the novels "The Big Drift," a Western Writers of America Spur Award winner, and "When Cowboys Die," a Spur finalist.

"Haunted Border" draws on Dearen's research into the actual Brite Ranch raid on Christmas Day 1917 and into the Mexican legend of the tlahuelpuchi, an evil shape-shifting creature that needs to drink human blood to survive.

The main character is Jake Graves, a former Texas Ranger and recently retired U.S. Customs border rider,

a man in his early 60s who is still tormented by memories of a day when he was 17 and Comanche raiders abducted his 14-year-old sister.

His mother implored him to shoot the girl as she was being carried away, in order to spare her a more terrible death, but he could not pull the trigger. He later found his sister's abused body and has carried grief and guilt with him ever since.

"Haunted Border" opens on Christmas Day in 1917. Jake is spending the holiday at his relatives' Cross C Ranch near the Texas-Mexico border when several dozen Mexican bandits, the detritus of the revolution raging at the time, attack the place and make off with Jake's daughter, Dru, a woman in her early 20s, and Dru's slightly younger cousin, Ruthie.

Jake's longtime nightmare comes to life.

Two beautiful young women are in the hands of cutthroat renegades. What could be worse? Well, here's something. Renteria, the bandit leader, believes himself to be a tlahuelpuchi, a creature that must drink human blood, preferably that of infants or young women, to stay alive. His first victim had been his own teenaged sister. That'll work for worse.

Jake and four others go after the bandits. Like Jake, each of those others is burdened with internal conflict. They include a low-life neighboring rancher and his drunkard son, a 16-year-old Mexican boy who blames a tlahuelpuchi for the death of his family and seeks revenge against Renteria, and Nub, the Cross C foreman.

Nub is a decent man, hardworking, responsible and superbly educated. His burden is that he is half Apache and half Mexican. He and Jake's daughter Dru love each other and want to marry, but Jake, who has hated every Indian since the Comanches violated and murdered his little sister and is not all that fond of Mexicans, can't stomach the idea.

Dearen has a lot going on in a novel of not much more than 200 pages. There's prejudice, hate, hurt, guilt, regret and resentment. There's the thrill of the chase. There's even an underlying theme of Christian faith, rejected and accepted.

And then there's the weird stuff. If Renteria is just a psycho killer who thinks he is a vampire, how come those curses and spells he whips up, or pays to get whipped up, cause landslides, hailstorms and things that go flapping around in the night unnerving men and horses?

"It strains credulity to believe it mere coincidence," Nub says of the strange goings-on.

Which brings me to a problem I have with Dearen's writing. In his effort to show Nub as the intelligent person he is, he gives the character dialogue that is unbelievably impeccable.

"It abides wet to the touch," Nub says after finding blood on the spines of a desert plant. No one outside a Shakespeare play talks like that.

But overall, the writing is engaging and evocative. Dearen plants his sentences with ocotillo, cholla, chaparral, lacy-leaf mesquite and other details that pull the reader into the rugged landscape of the relentless pursuit and eventual showdown.

His novel tells a story that is complex, exciting and creepy-weird.

**("Haunted Border," 9781432876395; hardback, 221 pages; \$25.95; Five Star; available at amazon.com, ebay.com, Barnes & Noble and other outlets and bookstores.)**

## MATTHEW MAYO

### Winter Wolves



Mayo is another accomplished writer who has penned an impressive stack of books. His novels "Dilly" and "Stranded" are both WWA Spur Award winners, and the latter was also honored with a Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

"Winter Wolves" is the most recent title in his Roamer series. I like Roamer, a sensitive, book-loving man locked in a huge, hulking body and a homely face that make women and children cringe and lawmen arrest him just because.

Roamer rides the West on his stalwart Percheron stallion Tiny Boy. He means no harm to anyone, but he is formidable enough to take care of any trouble that comes his way.

As this book opens, it is December and Roamer is on his way to visit his one good friend, mountain man Maple Jack, and Jack's companion, Winter Woman, a healer and midwife. But when he arrives at their cabin by Salish Lake in Montana Territory, he finds it upended and Maple Jack badly hurt in the nearby woods. There's no sign of Winter Woman.

When Jack regains consciousness, he tells Roamer that Winter Woman has been kidnapped by blood-eyed demons. Roamer figures Jack has been addled by a blow to his head, but it's apparent Winter Woman has been taken by force, so, after tending to Jack's injuries as best he can, Roamer sets out on the trail of those who absconded with her.

Mayo's writing is vivid. I enjoy the way he writes about the mountain wilderness and the challenges presented by being in it during the dead of winter. Perhaps my favorite part of the book describes Roamer's

desperate, nighttime battle with wolves that invade his campsite.

But then we get to the weird part. After being swept away in an avalanche in which he loses his firearms, Roamer is found and taken captive by a primitive band of people living a Stone Age existence, Maple Jack's blood-eyed demons.

They are a sickly people living deep in caves. They took Winter Woman to replace their own healer woman, who has died. And now they take Roamer to their dank, hole-in-the-mountain home and confine him with Winter Woman.

Eventually Maple Jack, who has managed to regain his feet, follows tracks to the cave in the unwelcome company of three villainous wolf hunters who think Jack is leading them to a cache of gold. As it should in any Western worth its grit, a violent confrontation resolves all difficulties.

Well, most of them. My difficulty with the novel is that I was unable to suspend my disbelief enough to accept the possibility that this band of grunting, cave-dwellers could exist.

If Mayo proposed they had always just been there, undiscovered and uncivilized, I could go with that. But the story is they are the surviving members of a wagon train. Their most prized possession is a battered Bible.

Mayo never specifies the date of the novel's events, but it can't be more recent than the late 19th Century. Montana is still a territory. Even if these people started West prior to the Lewis and Clark expedition, they would have been stranded in those caves for less than a hundred years.

How do you devolve from a Bible-reading Christian community to a prehistoric lifestyle in less than a century? Too weird.

**("Winter Wolves," 9781432887322; hardback, 239 pages, \$25.95; Five Star; amazon.com, ebay.com, Barnes & Noble and other outlets and bookstores.)** 🐾

# Western Playlists - Reporters

Here are the DJs who submitted their playlists this quarter:

**Joe Angel**

KEOS  
PO Box 1085  
Del Valle, TX 78617  
jangeldj@arhaven.com

**Waynetta Ausmus**

PO Box 294  
Tom Bean, TX 75489  
waynettawwr@yahoo.com  
www.WaynettaAusmus.com

**Michael Babiarz**

KVMR Community Radio 89.5FM  
120 Bridge Street  
Nevada City, Ca 95959  
530-265-9073  
916-233-6203  
www.kvmr.org  
back40radio@kvmr.org

**Bobbi Jean Bell**

*"OutWest Hour"*  
KUPR, www.kupr.org  
Out West, 8201 Golf Course Rd NW  
Ste D3, #189  
Albuquerque, NM 87120  
*"Campfire Café"* & *"Saddle Up, America"*  
Equestrian Legacy Radio Network  
Co-host with Gary Holt  
bobbijeanbell@gmail.com  
www.equestrianlegacy.net  
661-714-0045

**Skip Bessonette & His Pard Lucky**

*"Rogue Valley Bound Show"*  
2395 E. McAndrews Rd.  
Medford, Oregon 97504  
541-301-7649  
www.earsradio.com  
skipbessonette@gmail.com

**Janice Brooks**

*"Bus of Real Country"*  
170 Jodon Ave.  
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823  
Busgaljb@gmail.com

**Peter Bruce**

*"Under Western Skies"*  
KAFF Country Legends  
FM 93.5/AM 930  
1117 W. Route 66  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
928-556-2650  
www.kafflegends.com  
peter.bruce@kaff.com

**Chuckaroo the Buckaroo**

*"Calling All Cowboys Radio"*  
88.9 FM, KPOV High Desert  
Community Radio  
http://www.kpov.org  
http://kpov.od.streamguys.us/calling\_ all\_cowboys\_new\_56k.mp3  
e-mail: callingallcowboys@hotmail.com  
Station NFLY – No Fly Internet Radio/  
The Flying SL Ranch Radio Show  
radio.spalding-labs.com  
22470 Rickard Rd., Bend, OR 97702

**Doug Figgs**

P. O. Box 3  
Lemitar, NM 87823  
505-440-0979  
www.doufiggs.com  
http://www.RioGrandeValleyRadio.com

**Nancy Flagg**

*"Cowboy Tracks"*  
KDRT 95.7 FM live radio  
and internet streaming (www.kdrt.org)  
1623 Fifth Street  
Davis, CA 95616  
Email: CowboyTracks2@gmail.com  
Website: Facebook.com/cowboytracks

**Sam Harris**

CVFM Country  
4 Shadforth Close  
Old Shotton Village  
Peterlee Co. Durham  
SR8 2NG England  
www.cvfm.org.uk  
samharris01@aol.com

**Paul Hazell**

PH Records  
Royal Mail Building (PO Box 3)  
Brambleside  
Bellbrook Industrial Estate  
Uckfield  
East Sussex  
TN22 1XX United Kingdom  
*"Paul Hazell's World Of Country"*  
www.uckfieldfm.co.uk  
Uckfield FM (in the UK)  
paul.hazell@uckfieldfm.co.uk  
Telephone: +44 7775 545 902

**Randy Hill**

*"Western Swing Time Radio Show"*  
5114 Balcones Woods Dr.  
Suite 307-387  
Austin, TX 78759  
(Plays only western swing)  
westernswingtime@gmail.com  
www.westernswingtime.com

**Allen & Jill Kirkham**

*"Circuit Rider Roundup"* on  
*"American Cowboy Radio"*  
KJAG FM 107.7 Guthrie, TX  
http://www.americancowboyradio.com  
25353 S. Lightning Creek Road  
Custer, SD 57730  
(Plays Western Gospel music and  
cowboy poetry)  
Sunday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm CST)  
KirkhamMusic@icloud.com  
605-440-7338

**Susie Knight**

*"The Western Way Hour"*  
(poet friendly)  
http://www.coniferradio.com  
PO Box 76  
Conifer, CO 80433  
303-495-4869

**Al Krtil**

225 W. 7th St.  
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008  
alkrttil@yahoo.com

**Jarle Kvale**

KEYA Public Radio  
PO Box 190  
Belcourt, ND 58316  
jkkeya@utma.com

**Eddy Leverett**

c/o Campfire Productions  
1623 Co. Rd. 820  
Cullman, AL 35057  
*"Around the Campfire"*  
WKUL  
www.wkul.com  
kudzucowboy@outlook.com

**Butch and Christina Martin**

*"Whittler's Corner Show"*  
1410 Kubli Road  
Grants Pass, OR 97527  
Earsradio.com  
KSKO Ashland, OR www.KSKQ.org  
The Dalles, OR Y102  
KKTY, 100.1, Douglas, WY  
KSHD 93.4 Shady Cove, OR  
KORV 93.5 Ladeview, OR  
www.ButchMartinMusic.com  
www.romancingthewest.org  
541-218-2477

**Marvin O'Dell***"Around the Campfire"*

www.defendersoffreedomradio.com

KKRN, Redding, CA

KZNQ, Santa Clarita, CA

[https://tunein.com/radio/KZNQ-Q-](https://tunein.com/radio/KZNQ-Q-Country-1015-s264146/)

Country-1015-s264146/

www.earsradio.com

meoteo@aol.com

10430 W. Loma Blanca Dr.

Sun City, AZ 85351

805-551-4649

**Bob O'Donnell**

455 12th Avenue, Apt 130

Baldwin, WI 54002

justbobswesternjukebox@gmail.com

**O.J. Sikes**

681 Ellington Rd.

Ridgewood, NJ 07450

ojsikes@gmail.com

KKRN, Redding, CA

www.earsradio1.com

**Totsie Slover***"Real West From The Old West"*

AM 1230 KOTS Radio

220 S. Gold Ave., Deming, NM 88030

575-494-0899

realwestoldwest@live.com

www.realwestoldwest.com

www.demingradio.com

Facebook/totsieslover

**JJ Steele***"Cowboy Corral"*

c/o JJ Steele

KLZR

103 South 2nd Street

Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

**Tommy Tucker***"Snake River Radio Roundup"*

93.1 FM/1350 AM KRRC Radio

(Does Not Use MP3s)

805 Stewart Ave.

Lewiston, ID. 83501

208-743-1551

tommy@idavend.com

*"Keepin' It Western"***Wayne & Kathy***"Swing 'n' Country"*

KBOO 90.7 FM

20 SE 8th Ave.

Portland, OR 97214

wkjswingandcountry@comcast.net

## International Western Music Association

**PATRON\* MEMBERS**

Nolan Bruce Allen	Grand Island, NY	Melissa & Michael Murphy	Albuquerque, NM
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Dan Del Fiorentino	Carlsbad, CA	Diana Raven	Lakewood, CO
Jack Elsener	Kalamazoo, MI	Bruce L. Roberts	Biloxi, MS
Bob & Toni Harris	Aurora, OH	Jerry West	Waxahachie, TX
Dennis Heinzig	Whitefish, MT	Larry Wildeboer	Shell Rock, IA
Donna King	Granbury, TX	Katherine Zellerbach	Hereford, AZ
Valerie Lassiter	Kingman, AZ		

\*The Patron Member group in the IWMA is comprised of an elite group of people who pay \$100 annually for IWMA membership. For their generosity, they get nothing more than general members and they expect nothing in return. They simply believe in the cause and the mission of IWMA and go a little above in supporting it. They are unsung, behind the scene folks. We sincerely appreciate their support and take this time to say a public "Thank You!" for your unwavering support. You, too, can be a Patron Member with your \$100+ donation. Contact Marsha Short, [marsha@westernmusic.org](mailto:marsha@westernmusic.org)

*Become a PATRON MEMBER today!*

# Western Charts

## TOP 30 COWBOY / WESTERN ALBUMS

1. Yellow Horse – Doug Figgs
2. Good Days Are Comin' – Jim Jones
3. Between a Horse and Me – Almeda Bradshaw
4. Me and Les – Dan McCorison
5. Range of the Buffalo – Kerry Grombacher
6. She's Leaving Cheyenne – John Lowell
7. Times Like These – Randy Huston
8. Devil on My Tail – Hot Texas Swing Band
9. True Tales...Mostly – Stan Lawrence
10. Once Upon a Desert Night – Richard Elloyan & Steve Wade
11. Mile After Mile – Carol Markstrom
12. Texas Star – Lori Beth Brooke
13. Doin' What We Do – The Cowboy Way
14. Rancher's Paradise – Barry Ward
15. The Lump of Coal (Hope's Diamond) – Steve Jones
16. Frontier – Mary Kaye
17. Westbound – Micki Fuhrman
18. Ride My Pony – Chris Mortensen
19. Little Bit of Texas – Carlos Washington
20. A Place to Land – Kristyn Harris
21. Sarah's Quilt – Janice Deardorf
22. Rhythm Rides Again – The Hanson Family
23. I See You – Gabrielle Gore
24. Good Dog – Dave Stamey
25. Cow Pony – Ryan Fritz
26. Turn 'Em Loose – Susie knight
27. American Outlaw – Chris Guenther
28. Singing Cowgirl Rides Again – Dawn Anita
29. One More River to Cross – The Ramblin' Rangers
30. New Moon – Prairie Moon

## TOP 10 WESTERN SWING ALBUMS

1. Devil on My Tail – Hot Texas Swing Band
2. Yearnin' – Jim Winters
3. Texas Star – Lori Beth Brooke
4. Swingin' Open Range – Barbara Nelson
5. Little Bit of Texas – Carlos Washington
6. A Place to Land – Kristyn Harris
7. Rhythm Rides Again – The Hanson Family
8. Lone Star Fiddler – Ridge Roberts
9. Dancin' With Swingitude – Grace Clark  
Harmony Grits – Ida Red

## 10 MOST PLAYED SONGS BY WESTERN MUSIC DJS

1. Party on Piedre Lumbre – Carlos Washington
2. Range of the Buffalo – Kerry Grombacher
3. If I Had a Horse – Almeda Bradshaw
4. Welcome to Wickenburg – Dan McCorison
5. Ride the River – Jim Jones
6. Yellow Horse – Doug Figgs
7. Sacramentos – Doug Figgs
8. The Grulla Mare – Doug Figgs  
In the Moment – Jim Jones & Kacey &  
Jenna Thunborg  
Blue Cowboy Waltz – Stan Lawrence

## 10 MOST PLAYED POETRY ALBUMS

1. Horse Tales and Cow Trails – Floyd Beard
2. The Best Horses in Heaven, They Have No Tails – Miska Paget
3. Pensive 'n' Playful – Mark Munzert
4. Deep Tracks – Marleen Bussma
5. Stories in Rhyme – Jo Lynne Kirkwood
6. Wagon Train – Colt Blankman  
Born to Ponder – Sherl Cederburg  
The Journey of Life Thru Western Poetry –  
K.C. LaCourse  
New Mexico Stray – Dennis Russell
10. They Come Prancin' – A.K. Moss

**\*A missing number in the list  
represents a tie for that spot.**

**Attention DJs!** Your contributions to *The Western Way* charts are welcomed. Please send your playlist, including the song and the CD on which it appears, to [meoteo@aol.com](mailto:meoteo@aol.com).

Various DJ friends have reported their playlists for the last quarter, thus helping us compile these charts reflecting which CDs are being played the most on their radio shows. You will find a listing of those reporting DJs in this issue.

# IWMA LIFETIME MEMBERS

Nolan Bruce Allen	Grand Island, NY	Jane Leche	Westcliffe, CO
Rex Allen, Jr.	Nashville, TN	Paul Lohr	Nashville, TN
Judi Anderson	Albuquerque, NM	Clyde Lucas	Sylmar, CA
Cindy Argyle	Hooper, UT	Mike Mahaney	Burbank, CA
Cowboy Joe Babcock	Franklin, TN	Michael P. McAleenan	Madison, MS
Troy Bateson	Vilonia, AR	Janet McBride	Rockwall, TX
Floyd Beard	Kim, CO	Steven "Mac" McCartney	Aurora, CO
George & Doris Bensmiller	Armstrong, BC Canada	Tracy McHenry	Tucson, AZ
Diane Bergstrom	Canyon Country, CA	Gary McMahan	Bellvue, CO
John Bergstrom	Canyon Country, CA	Al "Doc" Mehl	Black Diamond, AB, Canada
Carol Bobroff	San Diego, CA	Tree Menane	Taos, NM
Sherry Bond	Nashville, TN	Jon Messenger	Sierra Vista, AZ
Mark E. Brown	Franklin, IN	Kathy Messenger	Sierra Vista, AZ
Ken Bucy	Mesa, AZ	Joseph Miskulin	Kirtland, OH
Les Buffham	Saugus, CA	Michael Martin Murphey	Nashville, TN
Stephen S. Burnette	Brownsville, TN	Rich O'Brien	Afton, OK
Robert Maxwell Case	Slick, OK	Marvin O'Dell	Sun City, AZ
Susan Booth Case	Slick, OK	Theresa O'Dell	Sun City, AZ
Woody Paul Chrisman	Nashville, TN	Darren Oliver	Castle Rock, CO
Patty Clayton	Edgewater, CO	Sara Lou Oliver	Castle Rock, CO
Karen Cloutier	Conyngham, PA	Billy Pitts	Kansas City, MO
Peggy Collins	Cordova, TN	Pamela Plaskitt	Waterloo, IA
Henry "Steve" Conroy	Sierra Vista, AZ	Rich Price	Oakdale, CA
Polly Cooke	Wickenburg, AZ	Jeff Pundt	Lakeside, AZ
Jan Michael Corey	Mesa, AZ	Diana Raven	Lakewood, CO
Stan Corliss	Hillsboro, OR	Herb Remington	Ruidoso, NM
William Crowe	Van Horn, TX	Steven Rhodes	Foosland, IL
Don Cusic	Nashville, TN	Victoria Rhodes	Foosland, IL
Mark & Marlene Davis	Chatsworth, CA	Rusty Richards	Silverado, CA
David DeBolt	Nolensville, TN	Don Richardson	Upland, CA
Rich Dollarhide	Sierra Vista, AZ	Barbara Richhart	Mancos, CO
Arlys Eaton	Scottsdale, AZ	Roger Ringer	Medicine Lodge, KS
Dave Eaton	Scottsdale, AZ	LeeLee Robert	Paradise Valley, AZ
Don Edwards	Hico, TX	Jessie D. Robertson	Fort Worth, TX
Fred Engel	Kimball Junction, UT	Patricia Robinson	Tucson, AZ
Brad & Bonnie Exton	Hot Springs, SD	Roy "Dusty" Rogers, Jr.	Lampe, MO
Robert E. Fee, Esq.	Tucson, AZ	Elizabeth Rukavina	Arleta, CA
Juni Fisher	Franklin, TN	Lori Rutherford	Sierra Vista, AZ
Rick Flory	Paradise Valley, AZ	Mike Rutherford	Sierra Vista, AZ
Robin Freerks (Ned Bodie)	Goldendale, WA	Ray Ryan	San Jose, CA
Norbert Gauch	Walzenhausen, Switzerland	Yvonne Ryan	San Jose, CA
Val Geissler	Cody, WY	Mary M. Ryland	Albuquerque, NM
Dick & Dixie Goodman	Sun City West, AZ	Suzanne Samelson	Thermopolis, WY
Fred Goodwin	Murfreesboro, TN	Rudolf P. Schai	Bernhardzell, Switzerland
Douglas B. Green	Brentwood, TN	Jim Sharp	Nashville, TN
Betsy Bell Hagar	Mill Valley, CA	Hank Sheffer	Apache Junction, AZ
Jerry Hall	Porterville, CA	Sharyn Sheffer	Apache Junction, AZ
Patti Hamel	Petoskey, MI	Lindy Simmons	Mancos, CO
Tex Hamel	St. Ignace, MI	Cowboy Jerry Sooter	Apple Valley, CA
Les Hamilton	Dubois, WY	Julie Spencer	Pacific City, OR
Calvin Danner Hampton	Cimarron, NM	Dave Stamey	Orange Cove, CA
Lisa Hampton	Cimarron, NM	Cheryl Stanley	Roswell, NM
RW Hampton	Cimarron, NM	Red Steagall	Fort Worth, TX
Jack Hannah	Fresno, CA	Bob Taylor	El Cajon, CA
Joe Hannah	Visalia, CA	Steve Taylor	Roy, UT
Lon Hannah	Visalia, CA	Terri Taylor	Roy, UT
Joni Harms	Canby, OR	Ed Terry	Merritt, NC
Eddy Harrison	Las Cruces, NM	J. R. (Ray) Threath	Oklahoma City, OK
Tom & Jane Hilderbrand	North Myrtle Beach, SC	Alma Tussing	Hudson, WY
Randy A. Hoyt	Grand Junction, CO	Stanley Tussing	Deming, NM
Rick Huff	Albuquerque, NM	Marilyn Tuttle	San Fernando, CA
Jack Hummel	Valencia, CA	Robert Wagoner	Bishop, CA
Voleta Hummel	Valencia, CA	Harvey Walker	Anaheim, CA
Charles Jennings	Rockville, MD	Washtub Jerry	Fort Davis, TX
Emma F. Kaenzig	Walzenhausen, Switzerland	Leonard Werner	Flemington, NJ
Paul Kelly	Santa Fe, NM	Johnny Western	Mesa, AZ
Karen L. Killion	Sheridan, WY	Norman Winter	Mills, WY
Fred LaBour	Ashland City, TN	Renee Wood	Ogden, UT
		Joyce Woodson	San Juan Capistrano, CA



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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



[IWesternMusic.org](http://IWesternMusic.org)

It's OK to list my information in the IWMA Membership Directory?  
*(printed annually; distributed during annual meeting)*

- Address  Yes  No  
 Phone Number  Yes  No  
 Email  Yes  No

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Music and or entertainment business persons and performers. Professional members may have a listing on the IWMA website. Choose your level of Professional Membership below:

- Individual Professional Membership ..... \$75
- Individual Youth Membership..... \$15  
*(thru high school graduation)*
- Individual Youth Membership..... \$25  
*(high school graduation thru 21)*
- Patron Membership .....\$100
- Business/Gathering Professional Membership .....\$150
- Individual Professional Life Membership ..... \$1,000
- Sustaining Professional Membership *(CC charged monthly)*  
 \$10 monthly  \$25 monthly  other \_\_\_\_\_

## SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP

Not a Music or Media Professional but want to take part? Choose your level of Supporting Membership below:

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Who can we thank for referring you to IWMA?

\_\_\_\_\_

*For more details or questions*

**Email: [marsha@westernmusic.org](mailto:marsha@westernmusic.org)**

**Phone: 505.563.0673**

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