

ENTERTAINER BIO'S

HEADLINERS

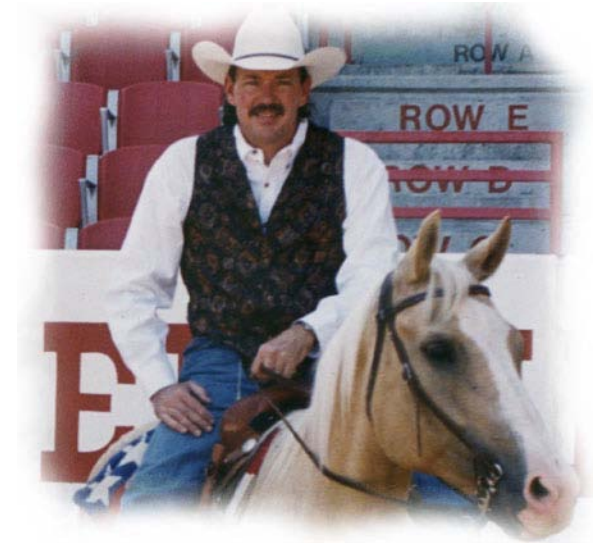


MEL TILLIS returns to the LCCS stage following an outstanding show at our 20th Symposium. He has recorded more than 60 albums, with nine of them going to Number One. *Good Woman Blues*, *Coca Cola Cowboy* and *Southern Rain* to mention a few. In 1993 he recorded his first gospel album entitled *Beyond the Sunset*. One of Mel's 1998 recordings, the *Old Dogs* album, was nominated by the Country Music Association for the 1999 Vocal Event of the Year. Joining Mel on that album were Bobby Bare, Waylon Jennings and Jerry Reed. Mel Tillis and Marty Robbins were chosen to receive the Cliffie Stone Pioneer Award which honors pioneers in the country music genre. He and his band, **The Statesiders**, have worked in concerts all over the 50 states, Canada, England and other countries.

The Statesiders Band Members:

Dennis Pratt, bandleader, musical director, keyboard
Jamie Carter, audio engineer, production manager
Ernie Reed, fiddle
Bruce Hoffman, fiddle
Terry Bethel, steel guitar
Jim Garstang, keyboard
Chuck Landry, drums
George Beasley, percussion
Brian Sterling, acoustic guitar
Al Weir, bass guitar

PERFORMERS



Dave Alexander and The Big Texas Swing Band. In 2004 **Dave** was inducted into the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame as Male Vocalist of the Year by the Academy of Western Artists. The 3-time Grammy nominee remains one of the nation's top selling western artists. His band has been recognized as one of the finest western big bands ever assembled to deliver his overwhelming performances.

The Big Texas Swing Band Members:

Tommy Nash, guitar
Randy "Snuffy" Elmore, fiddle
Cindy Cashdollar, steel guitar
Brass

All American Chuck Truck Match Race. NEW EVENT.
1:30 Friday starting at the Quarter Horse Track Finish Line. See the trucks at Spaces 5 and 6 of the Chuck Wagon lineup. Vote the **PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD** at the ballot box found at that location.





Tommy Allsup has been an ongoing fixture at every Cowboy Symposium since its beginnings in 1989. His contribution to the music industry is legendary, having played in more than 9,000 Nashville recording sessions for artists of every genre. Born in Owasso, Oklahoma, his career began nearly 60 years ago as a guitarist with the Oklahoma Swingbillies. In 1958, he met Buddy Holly during a recording session at Norman Petty's, Clovis, New Mexico, studio. Tommy will always be known for losing a coin flip with Ritchie Valens that "day the music died" in 1959.

Joe Baker will be acting as emcee on the Billy the Kid Sports Bar throughout the Symposium. He's been inducted into the Promoters Wing of the Southwest Swing Music Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

Will Banister and the **Mulberry Band** are newcomers to the music business from Portales, New Mexico. Will has been singing in the West Texas Eastern New Mexico area since he was 10 years old. He has a smooth voice ideal for country music, The Mulberry Band is one of the most versatile bands in the area.

The Mulberry Bank Members:

Johnny Mulhair, guitar
Jill Mulhair, vocalist, bass
Duane Castleberry, lead and harmony vocals, drummer

Bob Boze Bell bought *True West* magazine in 1999 and moved editorial offices to Arizona. He has published and illustrated groundbreaking books on the west. Among the subjects are Wyatt Earp, Billy

the Kid and Doc Holliday. His series of western gunfights is titled *Classic Gunfights*. In addition to his efforts for **True West**, Boze's work has appeared in *Arizona Highways*, *Playboy* and *National Lampoon*. He has illustrated numerous book covers and appears as a guest speaker on the History Channel, Discovery Channel and the Westerns Channel.

Byron Berline, a 3-time National Fiddle Champion, turned to a musical career after earning a B. A. in Physical Education at the University of Oklahoma. He has been touted as "one of the most inventive fiddlers ever ..." His skill, versatility and artistry continue to be recognized by his peers, the press and audiences worldwide. He has a witty, charming personality and his music is evidence of that.

Brady Bowen & Friends. Brady is a world champion cutting horse trainer from Jacksboro, Texas, who in his spare time has developed a successful music career. You can always count on Brady to dig deep to find a few songs that haven't been recorded lately and bring them back with the Texas swing tradition.

Band Members:

Brady Bowen, fiddle
Hugo Chambers, drums
Joe Paul Clark, drums & vocal
Billy Dozier, guitar & steel guitar
Gregg Gibbs, fiddle
Wayne Glassen, piano
Harland Kubos, base
Jess Meador, 18-year-old fiddle player
Albert Talley, steel guitar

Don Bullis, western history writer, is the author of eight nonfiction books and two novels. He graduated from ENMU in 1970 and attended UNM. He has been a student of New Mexico history since 1967 and is vice president of the Historical Society of New Mexico, sheriff of the Central New Mexico Corral of Westerners and in 2010 was named New Mexico's Centennial Author by the State Library. Don's presentation topic at the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent** is titled *The Lincoln County War and New Mexico's Struggle for Statehood*.

Jimmy Burson, a full-time rancher and former Briscoe County, Texas, judge, has performed at Western music festivals for more than 25 years. Jimmy is a former church music director. As part of a cultural exchange program he toured Russia with

his swing band, Texas in the Swing, to promote his style of western music



Craig Cameron, known as “The Gentle Horse Trainer,” imparts his unique horsemanship skills and philosophy of training through short demonstrations. Craig’s demonstrations take place **On the Track** at the **Craig Cameron Arena**, near the **crossover**.

Coby Carter, as a young fiddle player, started out on the piano but didn’t like it. See this great fiddler throughout the symposium.



Cee Dub gained his reputation as a fantastic Dutch oven cook years ago while patrolling Idaho’s back

country as a conservation officer for the Idaho Department of Fish & Game. In 1999, Cee Dub traded in his gun belt for an apron and began “patrolling” the airwaves of the Public Broadcasting System with his 39-part series: Dutch Oven & Camp Cooking. Cee Dub’s demonstrations will be held on the **Wild West Mesa**.

At the **Civil War Camp** you will learn about the life of Captain James Walker of the 2nd Regiment Texas Cavalry, or the 2nd Texas Mounted Rifles, who was born on October 15, 1812, in England and immigrated to the United States. He attended West Point Military Academy for three years, lived in Missouri and later came to Texas, living in the Hallettsville, Lavaca County, Texas, area. Captain Walker first enlisted into service for the State of Texas on April 15, 1861. During May of 1861, he was listed as being stationed at Fort Filmore, New Mexico/Arizona. Later that year, he was listed as being on duty at Fort Bliss, Texas, in September of 1861. Learn more about this Civil War experience at the **Wild West Mesa**.

Enjoy **Cowboy Storytelling** as you hear stories of the history of ranching in New Mexico and Texas as shared by **Leon Hamm**, moderator, **Boots O’Neal**, **Ted Rodriquez**, **Buff Douthitt**, **Doggie Jones**, **Betty Sims** and **Mary Dobry** held in the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Chuck Cusimano makes his 21st appearance in Ruidoso at this year’s 22nd Annual Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium. Born and raised in Southern Colorado, and growing up on a large cattle ranch, Chuck has an extensive background in ranching. Since his father played in a western swing band in the 50’s and 60’s, Chuck cut his teeth on a solid foundation of great music. Cusimano, after serving in Vietnam, began his career in the country music field. He has played lead guitar in his own band as well as in many other bands. Two songs have won the Will Rogers Award for Song of the Year. *Eleven Eighteen Nadine Lane* Western Swing Song of the Year recorded by Joe Paul Nichols in 2006, and *When She Does Me Right* for Pure Country Song of the Year by Justin Trevino in 2008. Chuck is one of two male vocalists ever to win the Ray Reed Wang Award given at the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium a few years ago.

Grammy-winner **Floyd Domino**’s boogie-woogie and swing piano has been heard on dozens of No. 1 hits.

Floyd plays or records with Texas favorites, The Texas Playboys and Asleep at the Wheel, among others. Floyd has released five children's albums on his own label, Golliber, that have received rave reviews from the national press.

John Downey, a saddle maker from Capitan, New Mexico, began his career shoeing horses, first in the country-sale barns and feedlots, and then at New Mexico race tracks. He quit the race track circuit and settled in Capitan in 1987. In the early 80's he met and shod for Joe Smith, a saddle maker. After working on Joe's horses they would go to his shop and talk saddles. Under Joe's training and by studying books, Joe became a saddle maker. He quit his horse shoeing and now works from home making and repairing saddles. His saddles have gone to several states and he specializes in ranch-type working saddles. John has made 25 saddles. See the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage**.

If there's a hometown advantage for anyone at the Symposium, it's with the **Flying J Wranglers**, who just completed another season at their wonderful Bonita City location just north of Ruidoso.

Band Members:

James Hobbs, vocal & guitar
Cindy Hobbs, vocal & guitar
Corina Ripple, fiddle & vocal
Randy Jones, banjo, mandolin, guitar & vocal
Jaime Estes, bass
Greg Meeks, vocal

Good News Band. An ordained Southern Baptist minister, **Rev. Charles Clary**, pastor of the J Bar J Country Church of Ruidoso, formed this traditional country gospel band seven years ago, when he led a group of followers to build a new church on Highway 70.

Band Members:

Tom Hiser, reed, sing lead, lead guitar
Truman Boothe, rhythm guitar, harmony
Jeff Schmidt, harmonic
Thom Morris, bass guitar
Charles Clary, high harmony, keyboard

George Grassie, a saddle maker and working cowboy for many years, knows what it means to have quality equipment. In 1982 he worked and trained for a year with Kirk Clawson, a saddle maker from Ramah, New Mexico. While saddle making has

never been his sole livelihood, it has provided a good supplemental wage. He makes all types of saddles and other leather products and works out of Capitan, New Mexico. George has made a total of 97 saddles. See George at the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage**



New Mexico native **Melody Groves** has a deep love for anything cowboy and the old west. As a member of New Mexico Gunfighters she shoots, sheriffs and outlaws every other Sunday in Albuquerque Old Town. The winner of two first-place writing awards, Melody is president of SouthWest Writers and publicity chairman for Western Writers of America. She writes for *American Cowboy*, *True West*, and *New Mexico Magazine*. Her most recent book is *Hoist a Cold One! Historic Bars of the Southwest*, a nonfiction look of the history and beauty of 26 front and back bars. Melody's presentation, *Prohibition: Death to Bars*, can be heard at **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Heart of Texas Show. Artists from the Heart of Texas Recording Studio:

Tracy Pitcox, MC
Tony Booth, vocal
Randy Lindley, guitar

Shane Lively, drums
Darrell McCall, vocal & bass
Mona McCall, vocal
Dickey Overby, steel guitar
Curtis Potter, vocal
John Shattenberg, fiddle
Justin Trevino, harmony vocals, tic tac guitar

Monty Henson, world, champion saddle bronc rider will MC on the **Tuffy Cooper Stage**.

Jake Hooker and **The Outsiders**. Jake formed his own band at the age of 14 after growing up to the sounds of traditional country music of his father's west Texas country band. He signed with Southland Records in 1998 and his popularity continued to grow in and around the Fort Worth area. He strives to relay his love and passion for traditional country music to his fans. He is strongly influenced by the music of Ray Price, Johnny Bush, Farran Young, Curtis Potter, Leon Rausch and Darrell McCall.

The Outsiders Band Members:

Rick Price, steel guitar
Randy Elmore, fiddle
Jess Meador, fiddle
John Jenkins, drums

Lonnie Joe Howell steps up to the mike to share some of the great harmonica music he has recorded on his recent albums. His Texas-style interpretations of many hits are handclapping, toe-tapping, crowd pleasers. Part of Howell's show involves teaching segments where he shows how simple it is to turn your harmonica into a train whistle, a fiddle, an accordion and more. Come enjoy these many sound effects at the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Jim Jones from Corrales, New Mexico, is a native Texan and a student of the west. He's a life-long devotee of all things cowboy, a writer and singer of western songs and the author of western novels. He has recorded seven western albums. His song, *King*, was a finalist in the Western Writers of America 2011 Spur Award competition for Best Western Song. His song, *The Cowboys of New Mexico* as the New Mexico Music Awards Western Song of the Year in 2009 and *Smoke of the Brandin' Fire* was a finalist in the New Mexico Music Awards Western Song competition in 2010. Jim's western novels include 2009's *Rustler's Moon* and 2011's *Colorado Moon*. Jim can be seen at the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Kid's Poetry Contest is a competition for aspiring cowboy poets and is open to local school groups. Contestants read their original poetry about *The Trail* as part of the competition at the Symposium. Listen to the poems at the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Kid's Rodeo, Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse Kids Rodeo – **Saturday, October 8, 12:30 PM, Section 3 of the Grandstands—Winner's Circle**. The Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Posse feature one of the best kid's rodeos in the region. Held in the **Sheriff's Posse Arena**, just like the pros, the kid's rodeo offers exciting events for kids ages 3 to 10 years. **ALL participating cowboys and cowgirls MUST PREREGISTER – 10:30-12:00 PM Saturday**.

Teresa Bowe Landry, wife of Wade Benson Landry, started singing at the age of five when she would join her father, brother and sister on stage. As a solo artist she has opened for numerous stars, including the Gatlin Brothers, Toby Keith and Ronda Vincent. She performs in Branson with her husband in their morning show, *Swingin' Cajun Style*.

Wade Benson Landry, from Abbeville, Louisiana, began playing the fiddle at an early age. He quickly established his great versatility playing traditional country, Cajun, big band and western swing music. He has made countless television appearances and traveled the world sharing his high-energy fiddle style. He began performing at Branson, Missouri, more than 10 years ago, initially working with banjo great, Buck Trent. Wade has twice won the title Louisiana State Champion Fiddler.

Band Members:

Adam Guidry, drums, accordion, vocals
Russ Wever, steel guitar
Dave Owens, bass guitar, vocals

Pete Laumbach is a native New Mexican who continues to sing and write about his home state, including songs about Ruidoso, Artesia, Santa Rosa and other towns. He operates a livestock company in Hope, New Mexico, and regularly performs throughout the area. He will emcee at the Symposium on the **Larry McWhorter Stage**.

"A horse of good breed should not be dishonored by its saddle" (Arabian Proverb). Visit the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** to understand the true impact of this proverb. Stop by their exhibit at the

West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage to see and hear about the skill and art related to saddle making. The group represents a wide range of experience as saddle makers, including John Downey, George Grassie, Dave Nelson, David and Tanner Pope, Alan Townley and Lee York, who will recognize their mentors, Joe Smith and Harlan Webb.



Little Roy of the **Little Roy and Lizzie Show** was the pride of the original Lewis Family long known as “America’s first family of bluegrass gospel music.” He is considered a master of the 5-string banjo. His touring partner and foster daughter, Lizzie Long, plays guitar, mandolin, fiddle and assorted other instruments. Roy and Lizzie have a current CD, *Lifetime*, with the greatest banjo player of all time, Earl Scruggs.



Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition. Even though Billy Mata has been performing southwestern swing music for 30 years, his career continues to thrive, reaching new heights. It would be difficult to match Billy’s schedule of performances all over Texas and the rest of the world – his band, **Texas Tradition**, tours nationally as well as internationally. Billy is a past recipient of the Western Music Association’s Male Vocalist of the Year and the prestigious Will Rogers Award for high achievement in the western swing music industry.

Texas Tradition Band Members:

- Roger Edington, steel guitar
- Richard Helsley, fiddle
- Billy Holt, bass
- David Waters, guitar
- Rocco Fortunato, drums



Darrell McCall grew up listening to the music and guitar picking of Merle Travis. McCall and Willie Nelson recorded the Top 40 single *Lily Dale*. It was the very first duet recording for Nelson and resulted in a very successful album by the same title. In October 2009, Heart of Texas Records released *Darrell McCall - Keeping With Tradition*. The project was recorded in Brady, Texas, by Justin Trevino, at the Heart of Texas recording studio. In 2010 McCall joined fellow Heart of Texas recording artists Tony Booth and Curtis Potter with the release of *The Survivors*, a collection of some of the trio's favorite classics as well as some new material. "It has been a great career and a great life and I am right where I want to be with my family, my record label and my fans. I am a very lucky person."

Mona McCall was born in Canada, but moved to Nashville where she started working on the Buck Owens Show and was a drummer for the Audrey William's band. She met and married Darrell McCall and raised their children before going back out on the road with her husband. She released her first CD, *Memories Love a Melody*, at Justin Trevino's studio in San Marcos, Texas. It includes her own unique touch to *Sweet Lips* and *Memory Number One*. Grand Ole Opry star Connie Smith said about Mona, "I'm very choosy about the music I listen to. I like the real thing and this is the real thing."

The **Mountain Man Encampment** will bring living history to the Cowboy Symposium as re-enactors and demonstrators reflect and demonstrate Old West and Native American culture. The Mountain Man Encampment is complete with teepee and equipped with historical items. Visit with **Leroy Anderson, Wild Bill Housler, Rattler, and B. Paul Wenzel**, and others at this display at **Wild West Mesa**.

Dave Nelson, is "a lanky old cowboy" who works as a saddle maker at The Saddle Shop just outside Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico. In 1989 he made a saddle for his father using the "champagne bubble" pattern. He learned this pattern from Harlan Webb who worked at the S.D. Meyers Saddle Co. in El Paso long ago. See Dave Nelson at the **Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand** near the **Larry McWhorter Stage**.

The **New Mexico Beef Council** is a consumer-focused, producer-directed organization representing the largest segment of our nation's food industry. As family farmers and ranchers, New Mexico's cattlemen have a vested interest in the wise stewardship of our natural resources and the implementation of good care-taking practices. As responsive producers, they share an interest in meeting the needs of consumers by providing high-quality, nutritious beef, while setting higher quality and safety standards than those required by the government. Visit their exhibit at the **Family Fun Paddock**.



Chuck wagon demonstrations by the **New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum** will teach you how to cook on an authentic chuck wagon and make "bag

biscuits" at the **Family Fun Paddock.**

Jody Nix inherited his father's love of music and his talent. He began his professional career playing with his father's band, Hoyle Nix and the West Texas Cowboys. As a front stage performer in his own right, he has created a mix of pure, traditional western swing and true country music which blends to produce his unique sound of today. He has numerous albums to his credit and was a guest artist with Asleep at the Wheel on their *Tribute to Bob Wills* album. Jody was inducted into the Western Swing Hall of Fame in Sacramento, California, in 1996. See Jody at the Friday and Saturday night dances.

The Texas Cowboys Band Members:

Junior Knight , steel guitar

Robert Weeks, fiddle, vocals

Dixie Hankins, drums, harmony vocals

Brady Weeks, bass

Biscuits O'Bryan, cook for the I.O. Everbody Ranch located north of San Angelo, began his storytelling career at the Covered Wagon Dinner Theater in Sonora. He has been a regular performer at the National Cowboy Symposium in Lubbock, the Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Alpine, and the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium in Ruidoso. Under his pen name, The Reverend Monte Jones, Biscuits has authored three books. His CD, *Biscuits Live at the Grand*, is a one-man show performed at the Grand 1894 Opera House in Galveston. Biscuits was named Outstanding Cowboy Storyteller/Humorist by his peers in the Academy of Western Artists and has received the Will Rogers Award. When he is not telling stories, Biscuits is The Reverend Monte Jones, retired Episcopal priest. Monte is also proud to have served his country in the U.S. Army Special Forces known as the Green Berets.



Ol' George Two Feathers is sure to teach you a thing or two, such as tomahawk throwing and pine-needle basket weaving. Be careful, you never know what kinds of things Ol' George may have up his sleeve. Come and see him at the **Family Fun Paddock.**

Max Oliver was born in Vernon, Texas, near a place the Comanche Indians called Eagle Flats. His grandmother was a Comanche and the novels in his Saga of a Comanche Warrior series are rooted in things he learned from Comanche friends and his own study of the Comanche people. His Comanche novels include *Little Boy*, *No More*, *Tomo Pui*, *Red Nose* and *Chief Red Nose*. Max's two presentations at the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent** include *Comanche from a Different Point of View* and *Oilfield*. **Tracy Pitcox** is president of Heart of Texas Records.

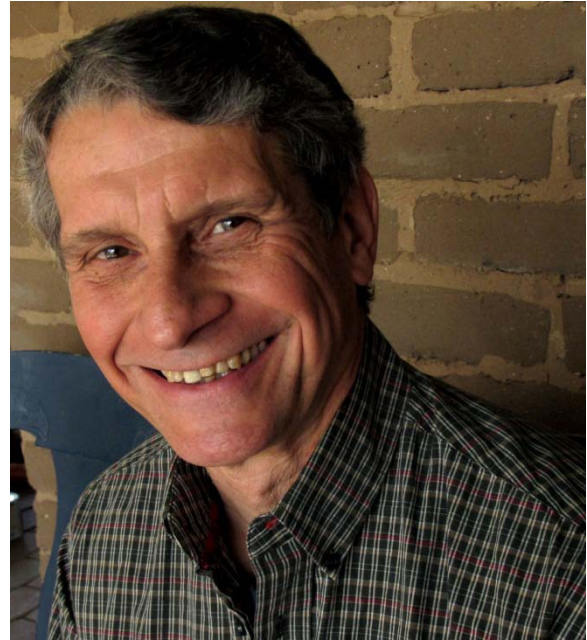
David Pope's life of fixing and building saddle began in the early 1970's when he replaced a broken tree in his father's saddle. He then put it on a bronc and the horse flipped over backward and broke the tree. Since that time, nearly 40 years, he's cowboied and built saddles. Joe Smith and Harlan Webb have both helped with his learning the art of saddle making. See David Pope at the Lincoln County **Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage.**

Tanner Pope, a 19-year old from the Capitan area, has been in his father's (Dave Pope) saddle Shop since "I was a kid." He built his first saddle in 2007 and has continued from there. He has built multiple saddles, chaps and other tack, even boots. See Tanner at the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** in the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage**.

Known as *The Man from the Rio Grande*, **Gill Prather's** self-penned music has a Tex-Mex border flavor reflecting his younger years as a working cowboy in the Big Bend Country of west Texas. He wrote "*I'll be Back in Texas by the Fall*," which was voted Song of the Year in 1996 by the Academy of Western Artists.

For **Leon Rausch** It all started on St. Patrick's Day, 1958 and continues through the era, when he performed with Bob Wills in his final concert held in Fort Worth, Texas, November 16, 1986. Leon has kept the music alive since then as lead vocalist. His legend, along with that of the Texas Playboys, has been recorded and kept in the Department of American Music History for the Smithsonian Institute.

A native of Lockney, **Lucy Dean Record** started piano lessons at the age of 5. Anyone who's ever watched Record play keyboard (piano, organ or accordion) knows she's smiling because she likes making music and when she plays, everyone smiles. Since 1946 Record has taught music. Now, in her 80's her music is taking her many places and putting smiles on more faces than ever. She has traveled both to Silver Dollar City in Branson and to Vienna, Austria, to play western music with Jimmy Burson. Record's talents make her a welcome performer on many stages.



Ollie Reed, Jr., of Corrales, New Mexico, is marketing director of the Western Writers of America. He was a reporter, editor and columnist for *The Albuquerque Tribune* from 1976 until the paper's demise in 2008. During his years with *The Tribune*, he wrote *Trail Tales*, a long-running series of stories about the wild and colorful history of New Mexico. Join Ollie as moderator at **Cowboy Story Telling** in the **Cowboy USA Roundup Tent**.

Cole and Matt Reeves represent the Rock 'n Roll side of country music--the music of Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry and others that cowboys and cowgirls have been dancin' to for more than fifty years.

Roadrunner Leather Guild preserves leather craft as an ancient art which to some extent still uses the basic tools used centuries ago. In fact, it is one of the oldest crafts known to mankind. Come watch and participate in hands-on demonstrations at the **Family Fun Paddock**.

The Saddle Cats, a San Francisco-based western swing pocket orchestra brings "infectious joy and high spirits" to the western swing genre. They were awarded the Will Rodgers Cowboy Award for Western Swing Group of the Year and Western Swing Album of the Year by the Academy of Western Artists.

Band Members:

Bobby Black, steel guitar

Richard Chon, fiddle and vocals
Gordon Clegg, guitar
Bill Nathan, bass

Kelly Scott will emcee on the Ray Reed stage. He is a rodeo announcer and manager of Stevens Transport, Dallas, Texas.

Larry Scott has been the music coordinator for the Lincoln County Symposium since its beginning. He was born in Modesto, California, and has hosted numerous county music radio shows across the United States. He is an avid fan of western swing music and hosts western swing revival shows across the southwestern United States. He lives in Terrell, Texas, and hosts several Sunday morning radio shows. On Sunday morning he will emcee on the Ray Reed stage.

Bob "Hopper" Shannon has been blacksmithing for 16 years when he first opened Diamondback Forge for business. He is a self-taught smithy and his interests lean toward 17th and 18th century Spanish Colonial. Come meet Hooper and his wife, Kay, on the **Family Fun Paddock**.

Wendell Sollis and **The Sidekicks**. An accomplished 5-string and tenor banjo player Wendell's shows have taken him from Quartz Mountain Resort, Oklahoma, Six Flags over Texas, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico, and many concerts and dances in-between. He has performed with many well-known western swing bands, some of which include the legendary performers from Bob Wills' Texas Playboys.

The Sidekicks Band Members:

Wendell Sollis, banjo, 5-string & tenor
Bob Baker, steel guitar
Mark Lowe, drums
Liz Talley, drums
Ronny Dale Schultz, guitar, trumpet, base
George Uptmor, fiddler

Jack and Deb Stone's mission is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and in songto bring people to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. See Jack and Deb at the Sunday Gospel performance on the **Ray Reed Stage**.

Rollie Stevens has two interesting lives; one as a Western singer and songwriter, the other as a firefighter in Phoenix, Arizona, where, when he's not on stage, he's driving a fire truck. Rollie has penned

more than 200 songs and recorded seven albums of originals. He currently tours the country when not recording on selected dates and his other performances include the Legend Shows and western festivals all over including, Festival of the West and the WMA Tucson Cowboy Roundup.

Texas Best. Tracy Pitcox, MC, Justin Trevino, Amber Digby, Darrell McCall, Tony Booth, Curtis Potter, Bobby Flores, Shane Lively, John Schattenberg, Dickie Overby and Randy Linley.

The Texas Playboys. Bob Wills was clearly one of the nation's biggest music stars of his era and this was his band. Born 102 years ago, Bob's first appearance with the Playboys was in 1934; his last was in 1973. Bob and the Playboys were known across the country for their Texas swing music that became popular through dances, personal appearances and through the popularity of radio. There have been over 600 members of the Texas Playboys though the years; many of the members of today's Playboys played with Bob while others joined when the band began touring again in the mid-'70s. The **Texas Playboys** have been a cornerstone of the Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium through the years, led by Tommy Allsup and Leon Rausch.

Band Members:

Leon Rausch, vocal
Tommy Allsup, vocal
Bobby Koefer, steel guitar
Chet Calcote, bass
Wayne Glassen, piano
Floyd Domino, piano
Steve Hamm, trombone
Mac McRae, fiddle & bass
Jess Meador, 17-year-old fiddle player
Larry Reed, sax
Ronny Dale Schultz, guitar, trumpet, base
Terry Thompson, drums
Jimmy Young, 82-year-old fiddle player

Alan Townley had his first experience with leatherworking as a high school student. That experience for the next 20+ years included making repairs on his dad's saddles and equipment. In 1996 he bought some tools, leather and a tree from a retired saddle maker. From that point on he's been self-taught with the help of a few books and much trial and error. Alan feels his education continues daily as he has more opportunities to see other makers and their methods of constructing and as he

repairs and makes saddles. His saddles have been sent to several places across the US as well as to Japan. He is currently located at the Saddle Shop in Ruidoso Downs, NM. Visit with Alan at the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage**.

Justin Trevino began entertaining from the bandstand when he was only thirteen years old. He recorded his first record, *The King of Clubs*, when he was seventeen. It was during this time that he developed a passion for traditional country music and dedicated his career to promoting it. Trevino joined Heart of Texas Records in 2003 and immediately released *Too Many Heartaches* which contains eight songs penned by Trevino and duets with Pretty Miss Norma Jean and Darrell and Mona McCall. Trevino's latest album is a duet with fellow Heart of Texas recording artist, Amber Digby. *Keeping Up Appearances* contains some classic duets from country music's past. Heart of Texas Records president, Tracy Pitcox, says, "Justin Trevino is one of the most important individuals in the preservation and promotion of traditional country music. Few individuals are accomplished as an entertainer, songwriter, engineer, producer and historian. Justin excels in all aspects of our music business."



Charity Jacobs, the star of **Trick Riding 101**, a 4th generation rodeo performer and rancher on both sides of the family, never dreamed of doing

anything else. Both Charity and her son perform as U Spur Rodeo Entertainment. She enjoys covering the history of trick riding and rodeo itself, promoting new and upcoming entertainers, working on her own presentation, and educating potential horse-buyers on the ins and outs of horse ownership. Charity can be found at the **Craig Cameron Arena**.

Western Writers of America Western Writers of America is a national organization of more than 600 men and women who write fiction, nonfiction, songs, poetry and movie and TV scripts about the American west. The organization was founded in 1953 to promote the literature of the American west and to present Spur Awards for distinguished writing about the west. Today, the WWA awards Spurs in 17 categories. See individual member bios for Don Bullis, Melody Graves, Linda Jacobs, Jim Jones, Max Oliver and Ollie Reed. Stop by their booth in the **Grandstand** beside the **Tuffy Cooper Stage**.

Diane Willoughby, a.k.a. **The Mule Lady**, will teach you all about the history and use of the spectacular mule at the **Winner's Circle**.

Lee York started his career in leather work with a few tools from Tandy's that his father bought for him in the 50's. His first experience with leather work was at summer camp in Arizona. As a rancher his skills were used to repair horse equipment and make new items as needed. In 1998 he started in the leather business full-time. As his business grew he collected the tools he needed for building saddles and in 2007 he built his "draw down" stand, ordered a saddle tree and started his first saddle. He continued to build saddles and knows the importance of a well-built saddle to a cowboy. Visit Lee at the **Lincoln County Saddle Makers Exhibit** at the **West End of the Grandstand near the Larry McWhorter Stage**.

The **Zia Paint Horse Club's** Ride and Slide II show is an approved show by the American Paint Horse Association (APHA), American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), and the National Reining Horse Associations (NRHA). Over the course of the 2-day show you will see many of the top riders and exhibitors in our area. The Zia Paint Horse Club is a non-profit organization set up to promote and stimulate interest in the Paint Horse by encouraging Paint breeding for conformation and ability, and by

promoting interest in the Paint Horse as a breed. We sponsor and encourage Paint Horse classes in all horse shows, pleasure and trail riding, racing and all activities of the same nature in every way possible; by promoting good horsemanship and good sportsmanship. See the **All Day Schedule** for location and time for event and demonstrations.