

Western Swing

Your Schedule of Western Swing Music Events and More!
Barbara Martin, Publisher

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Gatesville Texas Country Music Hall of Fame

Rhythm guitarist **Bill Dowdy of Lexington**, fiddler and vocalist **Paul Schlesinger of Taylor**, and steel guitarist and vocalist **Roy Carroll of Round Rock** were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame of Gatesville, TX on November 16, 2012. The ceremony was held at the Gatesville City Auditorium.



Bob, Paul and Bill

Fellow band members J.C. George of Buda (bass) and Jim Bowles of Austin (drums) were also installed as honorary members.

According to Roger Viersé, director of the Hall of Fame, the three musicians were selected because "they exemplify country music in a way that's truly outstanding. They've paid their dues, and have given many, many people lasting memories."



According to the Hall of Fame, Dowdy's, Schlesinger's, and Carroll's dedication and devotion to country music sets high standards of excellence of those with true professional ability. Other prominent members include country superstar Tracy Lawrence, renowned Texas artist Clifton Jansky, and our good friend, **guitar great Buddy Ferguson.**

The musicians were recommended to Viersé by Henry Jost, a musician and songwriter from Copperas Cove, who wrote the song "A Million Tears" which was recorded by and became a regional hit for Jimmy Heap and the Melody Masters in 1950. Schlesinger had met Jost at a Melody Masters tribute a few years ago. Schlesinger was taught to play fiddle by Perk Williams, Heap's fiddler and vocalist in 1993. Dowdy sang on a record with the Melody Masters in 1950.

Paul, Bill, and Roy all play together at the Thorndale VFW Jamboree, held the 4th Monday of every month.

Special congratulations to Bill on his recent 90th birthday!

Paul and Roy also work together with Glen Collins and the Alibis, who play all over Central Texas. The band also includes the aforementioned JC George and Jim Bowles. Collins' grandfather, Cotton Collins, wrote the world-famous Westphalia Waltz.

Paul has his own group, the Knights of Texas Swing, that frequently plays around Central Texas. Bill and Roy are often members of that group, as is guitarist Ray Tesmer of Round Rock, steel guitarist Jimmy Grabowske of Austin, drummer Sherman Lindsay of Buda, and bassist Kim Cochran Jr. of Austin.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to these music greats with wishes for many more

February 6 Laura Hazelbaker

February 7 Susan Riley and David Sanger

February 8 Bobby Dixon and Mike Siler

February 9 James Gwyn

February 11 Pee Wee Whitewing

February 14 Tony Harrison

February 16 George McClure

February 17 Johnny Bush

February 18 Johnny Dutton and Gina Lee

February 21 Retta Christie

February 23 Erik Hokkanen

February 24 Ken Carter

February 26 Cal Foster

February 27 Roy Lee Brown

February 28 Joe

Chovanec

Remembering these greats at this month of their births: Rick

Alexander, Buster Doss, Bob Dunn, Speedy Price, Ernest Tubb, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Jimmie Widener, Jimmy Wakely, Merle David, Pee Wee King, Les Carrot Top Anderson, Jesse Ashlock, Lloyd Jordan, Harry Choates, Billy Jack Wills, Don Helms.



Dear Friends, I regret to inform you that there will be no Barn Dance at Silver Dollar City in 2013. My band and I provided the music for the Barn Dance for 16 consecutive years. I knew it had to end someday. We wish to thank you for your support and friendship. Please stay in touch and hopefully our trails will cross again soon. **Les Gilliam, The Oklahoma Balladeer**