



Southwestern Writers Collection

Special Collections at the Alkek Library
Texas State University-San Marcos

A Guide to the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame Collection

1930s – 1990s

Collection 045

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Texas Western Swing Hall
Title:	The Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame Collection
Dates:	1930s - 1990s
Abstract:	The collection includes photographs, costumes, posters, awards, and clippings featuring Hall of Fame members.
Identification:	Collection 045
Extent:	6 boxes (8 linear feet)
Language:	English
Repository:	Southwestern Writers Collection, Special Collections, Alkek Library, Texas State University-San Marcos

Historical Sketch

The Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame was founded in Austin by Al Dressen in 1988. Inductions have taken place at the annual Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame show, held in Austin during the years 1988-1993, and in San Marcos from 1994 to the present, on the third weekend in May. The Hall of Fame's first inductee was Bob Wills, leader of the legendary swing band, Bob Wills & his Texas Playboys. Other members include such artists as Hank Thompson, Laura Lee McBride, The Sons of the Pioneers, Floyd Tilman, Eldon Shamblin, Hoyle Nix, and Asleep at the Wheel. The Hall of Fame also publishes a newsletter, *Jamboree*, which keeps its membership informed of special events and features music reviews.

Scope and Content Note

Photographs, costumes, posters, awards, clippings dating from 1930s-1990s and featuring members of the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame comprise the bulk of this collection. Items of note include Bob Wills' hat and a fiddle he reportedly played, and Laura Lee McBride's fringed leather costume.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Open for research.

Preferred Citation

The Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame Collection, Southwestern Writers Collection, Texas State University-San Marcos

Acquisition Information

Gifts donated by Al Dressen since 1991.

Processing Information

Processed by Amanda Oates, 1999. Finding aid revised by Alan Schaefer, 2010.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame

Box Folder

1 1 List of inductees
1 2 Newsletter

Framed Art case Poster featuring Bob Wills, The Sons of the Pioneers, Laura Lee McBride, The Light Crust Doughboys, Cliff Bruner, Milton Brown and his Musical Brownies, and Smokey Montgomery

Series II: Hall of Fame Artists

General Publicity Photos

1 3 Al Dressen
Tommy Duncan, Bob Wills, and Laura Lee McBride
Bob Wills and Hoyle Nix
Bob Wills and Laura Lee McBride
Sons of the Pioneers
Ted Daffan
Texas Swing Pioneers (Johnny Gimble, Jerry Gimble, Smokey Montgomery, J.R. Chatwell), Fall 1980
McKinney Sisters (Dean and Evelyn)
Tiny Moore
Billy Briggs

Individual Artists

Jimmy Davis
1 4 Photo, bio, clippings

Light Crust Doughboys

1 5 Photographs and postcard
2 - Hall of Fame Induction Award, 1989

Hall of Fame Textile box Cotton shirts embroidered with band name (1 blue, 1 white)

Series II: Hall of Fame Artists, continued

Box Folder

Individual Artists, continued

Laura Lee McBride

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 6 | Photograph |
| 2 | - | Hall of Fame Induction Award, 1989 |

Hall of Fame
Textile box Leather vest, skirt, and wrist cuffs

Hank Thompson

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|
| 1 | 8 | Photograph |
| 3 | 5 | 1956 Billboard Award |
| 3 | 6 | 1963 Cash Box Award |
| 5 | - | Cowboy Hat |

Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| 1 | 9 | Photographs |
| 1 | 10 | Radio interview with Johnny Gimble about Bob Wills' sideman Eldon Shamblin,
National Public Radio, August, 12, 1998 (audiocassette) |
| 2 | - | Hall of Fame Induction Award, 1988 |
| 3 | 1 | Poster signed by band, 1941 |
| 4 | - | Fiddle reported to have been played by Wills |
| 6 | - | Cowboy Hat worn by Wills |

Hall of Fame
Textile box Blue Blazer worn by Wills