

The Texas Country Music Hall of Fame

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ASK TOMMIE ABOUT SPUD GOODALL...RE: tapes etc...

Parallels:

Dad used to end plowing to coincide with Lightcrust Doughboys show....I used to listen to far-away rock stations...both styles eventually melded to form today's country music....

[great moments in country music history](#)...it's those great moments that allows music to have such impact on the lives of fans

...those magic concert moments when all your daily worries melt into the darkness and your attention is focused on the spotlight

...those driveway moments when you turn off the car and keep the radio on until the end of a classic tune or a new one with lyrics that speak to your heart.

....and if the Texas CMHOF gets it right, those great museum moments when you stand before exhibits of glittering costumes, vintage photos, and information recounting stars' lives and

great moments in the lives of influential musicians and influentialsonce only Texas-born...now relaxed to those who significantly contributed to Texas country music....eg. Mickey Gilley...

Johnny Horton not inducted yet but considered self Texan...

Eg some like Buck Owens was born in Texas but known as Cal guy....

Grand Opening...November-Dec-Jan...w major tribute to Ray Price...

SPECS ON NEW SPACE:

--new exhibits on which artists, esp Ray Price....others...how diff...what adds to visitor exp?

Open but not complete...3,000 sq ft added....added theater esp to entertain bus tours...some people come in dressed as stars and perform...have jukebox area to listen to inductees...

...scheduled performances...20 or more can book it and get lunch or dinner w/ entertainment...old theater seating with stage...sev volunteers dress up and they sing...

Also to show movies, eg old Tex Ritter or Gene Autry...

Also banquet room rented to public...seats up to 200...

We'll have Ray Price display from his Nashville Museum for a couple of years.

Relocated Tex Ritter museum stuff...to make way for

Also will move a few exhibits to new part...Oak Ridge Boys liked place so well...sent more stuff

New exhibits on Tex Ritter sidekicks..."Arkansas Slim...and also leading ladies eg. Rita Hayworth in *Trouble in Texas*.

Larger tribute to John Ritter...

Friends of Museum (non-Texans) will be expanded...supporters through years I wanted to recognize: Jan Howard, Mo Kilgore, Bill Anderson, Ray Emory...people who were friends

Old home is Chamber and CVB...have home tour at Christmas...blt in 1914.

Aug. 8 2015; second Sat.
Texas Country Music Hall of Fame Show
Carthage Civic Center
1702 S. Adams, 7 p.m.

Will announce inductees in Jan...

Fri nite before...auditions last weekend in June....choose 30 to perform...finals judged by celebrities. Reps Hall of Fame at venues and events.

John Ritter Tribute Showcase—develops TX (ET?) talent...good track record recently.

Billie Jo Russell of Emory; 2013-14 winner; also on The Voice...

Taylor Heard, the 2012 winner with fans on "Nashville Tour"

Holly Tucker who is in the Top 6 on The Voice; 2011 winner (at age 14)

Have voice teacher and stage presence coach that grooms the winners...to develop HOF inductees of Future

...John Ritter's family attends it...

KGAS Tex Ritter Roundup

August 8, 2014

9:00 AM-Free Admission

Texaco Country Showdown

10:00 am TCMHOF

Local radio station has contest and has event here for people to go

(when he was alive had Roundup where people had booths)...so revived it so people can sell CDs, books, etc.... Also time to show off new exhibits...

Sunday gospel show at HOF/Museum 9-11...Live performances whoever shows up...Sat nite show guests often come to sing...gives out-of-towners chance to

The Tex Ritter Museum ... cases change time to time... exhibit

The Texas Country Music Hall of Fame/Tex Ritter Museum opened in August 2002 in a \$2.5 million state-of-the-art facility. Since that date, over 30,000 country music fans have stepped back in time to re-live great moments in country music history.

Fans have come from every state as well as numerous foreign countries including England, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark, Canada, India, Sri Lanka, The Netherlands, Germany and Australia.

The museum started in 1993 as the Tex Ritter Museum and expanded to include friends of Tex and other Texas-born country music legends. In August 2004, the museum expanded to add a significant Jim Reeves display with radio equipment from Jim's radio station KGRI in Henderson.

Tex Ritter's Career

Maurice Woodward Ritter was born on January 12, 1905, the youngest of six children born to James Everett and Elizabeth Matthews Ritter, ranchers in Murvaul, Texas. His family later moved to Nederland, Texas, ten miles from Beaumont, where he studied voice, trumpet, and guitar as a teenager. He graduated with honors from a Beaumont, Texas, high school in 1922, and enrolled at the University of Texas, in Austin, to study law.

Ritter starred on Broadway and worked as a radio star on shows such as *The Lone Ranger*, *Tex Ritter's Campfire*, and *Death Valley Days*. Later he starred in movies for three motion picture industries. Ten years before his death in 1974, Tex Ritter was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tenn. Tex is also a member of the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame.

Ritter's 1953 version of *Do Not Forsake Me* was the theme song for the Gary Cooper film *High Noon*. Not only did the song become a popular hit, it also won an academy award. He performed the song on the first televised broadcast of the awards ceremony that year.

Some of his hits include: "Jingle, Jangle, Jingle." "I'm Wastin' My Tears On You," "There's a New Moon Over My Shoulder," "Jealous Heart," (1944) "You Two-Timed Me One Time Too Often," (1945) "You Will Have to Pay," "Christmas Carols by the Old Corral," (1945), "Rye Whiskey" and "Deck of Cards" (1948).

Ritter's recording career was significantly less successful than his film, radio, and television career. For seven years, Ritter was ranked among the top ten money-making stars in Hollywood. In all, he made 78 films between 1936 and 1948 for such studios as Columbia, Monogram, and Universal.

By 1952, he became host of the Southern California country music TV show, *Town Hall Party*, and also its nationally syndicated counterpart, *Ranch Party*. In 1961 he had a final big hit with "I Dreamed of a Hillbilly Heaven."

In 1970, Ritter unsuccessfully campaigned for a seat in the United States Senate.

Ritter joined the cast of the *Grand Ole Opry* in 1965 and remained a member until his death on January 2, 1974.

His son, John Ritter, became a highly successful actor after Tex's death.