



Steel Guitar 'Rag'

Nov. "Official Publication of the Southwestern Steel Guitar Association" 2015

Welcome to the latest issue of the SWSGA's official publication, The Steel Guitar Rag'. Have you noticed that this is the BEST steel guitar related newsletter anywhere? I am so proud of all the people who are actively producing useful articles. They have covered topics from steel guitar news, steel guitar tabs, playing tips, maintenance on steel guitars, SWSGA club news and many other useful tidbits. When you see one of these contributors, please tell them how much you appreciate their efforts. My hat is off to each of you who contribute.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Saturday, November 14, 2015. The annual fall jam and Association meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in the Crestview building. We will load in between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. and will have the facility until 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. Hopefully we will have a live backup band as well as the Band In A Box on computer. Remember, you need not be a member to attend, so feel free to bring a friend if you'd like. Bring your instrument, or just listen and enjoy the music and the fellowship. It will be our last official gathering before the big show in January. We will also be having a meeting to discuss and vote on proposed changes in our by-laws.

Yes, the big show in January is shaping up! It will be at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel on January 14th, 15th & 16th. I have confirmed several players and am still waiting for confirmation from others. If you, as a member, would like to play on Thursday the 14th, please contact me ASAP! I will be starting the schedule very soon. You can expect to be entertained by JayDee Maness and the California Band, Joe Wright, Doug Jernigan, Fred Justice, Leona Williams and many others. We have planned several seminars where excellent world class instruction will be available. This is going to be a wonderful show, so please help us get the word out to your friends and help us increase our attendance. We depend on admission fees to finance this show, so if we are to continue, we need all the attendees we can find.

With the cooling temperatures, many of our northern friends will be migrating to the south to escape the winter. I myself, have been in NY for the past few months, but will be returning soon. I am looking forward to seeing you at the jam on November 14th.

Till next time, let's continue to promote the steel guitar!

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Billy Easton, Chairman

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This newsletter is published monthly from P.O. Box 1128, Globe AZ. 85502 and presents information for the members of the SWSGA, a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization.

Editor: Bill Tauson

Events:

**2015 SWSGA
Fall Jam and
Association
meeting at the
Sheraton Crescent
Hotel in Phoenix
November 14th.**

2016 SWSGA Steel Guitar Show

The 2016 show is scheduled for **January 14th, 15th & 16th**. Your Board of Directors are already hard at work to make this another great show.

Mark your calendar.



Find us on
Facebook

*Southwestern Steel Guitar Association
2015 Fall Jam*

*Saturday
Nov. 14th
8:00 a.m.*

*Come and
enjoy
the music*

*Great
Friends*

*Band in
a box*

*All levels
welcomed*

Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 Dunlap Ave., Phoenix



*Upcoming highlights at the January 2016
SWSGA Steel Guitar Show*



This beautiful *Infinity Steel Guitar* will be for sale at the January 2016 SWSGA show. It has 8 pedals and 8 levers with the standard Emmons set-up. Some minor changes can be made at the show. Come say "hello" to Frank Carter and check out this great guitar!

(530) 470-3434

www.infinitysteelguitar.com



The **Aero** is designed as a compact, more travel friendly pedal steel guitar. Below is a side by side photo of the Aero next to a D-10 Ultra. [Test drive the Aero steel guitar at the 2016 SWSGA show!](#)



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7 Position Bell Cranks,

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Deluxe Padded Hardshell Carpet Covered Case.

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More highlights at the January 2016 SWSGA Steel Guitar Show



Click the Handy Patch to view a great demonstration video by Telonics!

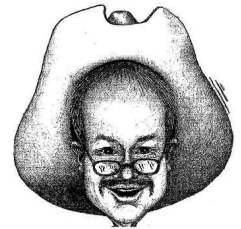
Telonics will be featuring all their great products and will be introducing the new, "***Handy Patch***".

The Handy Patch was designed with Steel Players, the Telonics TCA-500B combo and the TC electronic G-Major 2 effects processor in mind, however, it can be used as a midi controller for the Lexicon MX200 or any other midi controllable effects processor. For more information regarding the Handy Patch, click the Telonics Handy Patch for a demonstration video.

The Handy Patch is currently available through Telonics and will be available at the 2016 SWSGA Steel Guitar Show.

Ax Ron ????????

By Ron Pruter



Welcome to my new addition to this fine publication. I want to do my part to promote this wonderful instrument. Please Email me at ronprutermusic@outlook.com and I'll try to answer your questions, as space allows, each month. Questions like, what's a comp, what's a split, why gauged rollers? You name it. Sounds like fun.

Continuing from last month, at this stage I used a good stripper and removed as much finish as I could. Apply the stuff and wait awhile. Let the stripper do it's job so you don't have to work so hard. You want to do as little sanding as possible as to not shrink it down so it no longer fits the end plates. Tightening the front attaching screw on an old ShoBud with a gap will most likely break the apron to deck joint. Putting a spacer in there will keep that from happening but it's UGLY! **Note:** In regards to sanding, look into cabinet scrapers. One of the greatest time savers I've learned in my life.

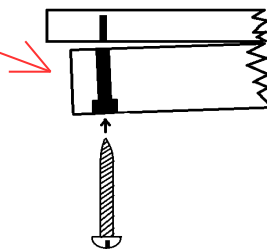
After I got my cabinet looking really good,

Wouldn't you agree? →

I dealt with my loosened cabinet. It was loose at the deck joint and the apron to deck joints. The two decks only overlap by about a ½ inch or so. In both cases I pre-drilled the holes as to draw the screw head piece and grab the other piece using a larger hole in the first part so it would slip on through and pull up nice and close. *See Illustration:*



Note: Use extra care to make sure you don't drill through the top.



I added at least three such screws at each end of the aprons making sure not to interfere with the path of the end plate screw, and maybe six more at the center seam. Before screwing them down, I pushed yellow carpenters glue into the seam using a 1" by 2" piece of an old x-ray. I covered the screw heads with pieces of dowel rod. The cabinet was **Solid**, Jackson! An unexpected benefit from all this was absolutely **no** cabinet drop. I'm starting to miss this guitar.

So, Keep on Steelin' and stay tuned for more adventures of Ax Ron.



Professor Twang's E9 Grab Bag!

Hi fellow steelers, John McClung here (aka Mr. Twang / Professor Twang) coming to you from Olympia, WA. For questions about this lesson, or inquiries about private Skype lessons, write to me at: steelguitarlessons@earthlink.net, or phone me at 310-480-0717. I welcome suggestions for topics for this column!

<http://steelguitarlessons.com>

Emmon's "Wichita Lineman" from "Suite Steel;" Part 1

HERE'S MY TRANSCRIPTION OF Buddy Emmons' beautiful arrangement of Jimmy Webb's "Wichita Lineman," found on the 1970 vinyl record "Suite Steel," produced by John Boylan, Linda Ronstadt's producer at the time.

- Note that Buddy kicks off at the chorus — very creative!

- Buddy took liberties with phrasing and syllables being dropped or added, as reflected in the strike-through lyrics.

- E lever lowers strings 4 and 8 a half tone.

- G lever lowers string 6 a whole tone. If your E9 neck doesn't have that change, you can get the same note by using string 7 instead of 6, but you'll have to block more and the smooth transitions

continued ►

SONG KEY

D

$\frac{4}{4}$

T=Thumb * = Index ** = Middle ^ = Rock On v = Rock Off

1	TANG				2	
1	CHORDS D				2	Cadd9
1						1
2						2
3						3
4	5	5	5	5	3-3E	4
5	5^A	5A	5^A	5A	3A-3A	5
6	5^B	5B	5^B	5B	3B-3B	6
7						7
8						8
9						9
10						10

And I need you more than want you

3	TANG		4	TANG		5	TANG	
1	CHORDS		4	CHORDS		5	CHORDS	
1	3	3		G/B			Gm/Bb	3
2								
3								
4			3-3E	3-3E			3-3E	4
5				3	3	1A	3	5
6					3	1B		6
7								7
8								8
9								9
10								10

And I want you for all ti - i - ime And the Wich - i - ta

Professor Twang's E9 Grab Bag!

6	7	8	9
CHORDS D	A ¹¹	B ^b	A ^{m7}
1			1
2			2
3			3
4	3-3E		4
5	3-3 3-3-3	3 3 3A 3	5
6	3-3G 3G-3	3B 3B 3B 3B 3B	6
7			7
8	3E-3E-3	3 3 3 3	8
9			9
10			10

li - ine man is still on that line.

10	11	12
CHORDS B ^b	C ⁹	B ^b ^Δ
1		1
2		2
3		3
4		4
5	1-6-8-9A 8A-9A-8A-8	8A →
6		8B →
7		
8		
9		
10		10

I am a line - ma - an for the coun - ty

13	14
CHORDS F ^Δ /A	C ⁹
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	6-8-9A 8A-8
6	8B →
7	
8	8
9	8
10	

And I drive the ma - ain road

won't be quite the same.

To my knowledge, "Suite Steel" has never been reissued on CD. But you can hear this track on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1a7apMLGcCs>

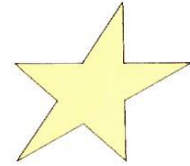
The rest of the song tablature will run in future columns.

Till next time...play party!

Professor Twang



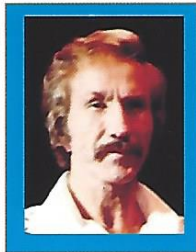
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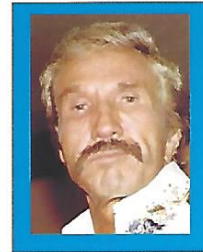
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Contact the editor with your items.)

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Check out Jimmy's playing on Youtube!!

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Steel Guitar Instructors:

Troy Porter in Globe Az. is available for E-9th instruction at any level. Call Troy at (928) 425-5520.

Daun Suarez is available for beginning and intermediate instruction in the north Tucson/Marana area. Call Daun at (520) 682-6609.

Rich Brennion is available at all levels for E-9th instruction in the Tucson area. Call Rich at (520) 661-5682

Blackie Taylor, at "Blackie Taylor Music", in Riverside, Ca, is available to teach all tunings, pedal and non-pedal guitar, dobro, reading music, etc. Blackie is located at 5950 Mission Blvd., Riverside, Ca. from noon to 6:30 P.M. (951) 686-4010.

John McClung teaches E9 lessons in his Olympia, Wa. home studio, or online via "Skype". Call John at (310) 480-0717 or email him at, "steelguitarlessons@earthlink.net".

Margie Mays is available for teaching non pedal, all tunings, E9th pedal steel and learning to read sheet music. Call Margie in Mesa at (480) 807-5443, or email her at, "margiendon@aol.com".

Rick Schmidt is available to teach bass, non-pedal steel, and pedal steel guitar, both E9th and C6th tunings in the North San Diego County area, Prescott Arizona, or online via, "Skype", specializing in improvisation and harmony. Call Rick at (951) 442-9621 or email him at, "questforgigs@gmail.com".

Fred Justice teaches steel guitar in the Phoenix/Mesa area. Call Fred at (480) 986-2599 or (480) 235-8797, or email him at, "fredsmusic@q.com".

Chuck Lettes teaches pedal steel guitar, (E9th and C6th), and lap steel lessons in the Denver, Co. area. Contact Chuck at (720) 545-4803, "clettes@comcast.net", or his website, "chucklettes.com".

Contact Billy Easton (702) 280-9557 and your listing will appear here!



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***Regarding this newsletter,
or material for future issues, contributing articles, photos, etc,
contact: Bill Tauson, Editor, (562) 652-9977 or email at,
"swsgaeditor@icloud.com".***

******Invite a friend or fellow musician to join the SWSGA!******



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