

# Gene Watson Fan Club Newsletter



August, 2021

75th Diamond Edition

Dear Friends - Can you believe this is our 75th newsletter? That's why we are calling this our 75th Diamond Edition. Sounds fancy don't you think? We're just glad you're still reading our newsletter and still being the loyal fans that you are. You are why I get to sing for my living. I never forget that and I always appreciate you.

The band and I have been enjoying our shows more than ever since we had to go so long without being able to sing for you. We've also been fortunate to get back onto the Opry stage. We truly enjoy the family atmosphere that you can feel at the Opry so we go as often as we can and in fact, our next appearance is Friday, August 27th. I'm not sure what songs we'll sing yet but I expect we'll be on close to 7PM since we'll have to head right out to get on the road to Winchester, OH.

Another exciting thing is the new music in the works. I plan to get back to the studio in a couple of weeks and that has kept me busy, working on song selections and more. It always takes far longer than I expect to get everything done after the recording sessions are finished. All that licensing and stuff that I'm glad to turn over to other people takes time, then there's getting artwork approved and more. I'll just have to let you know as its coming along what we expect the release date will be.

At our recent lunch with Jeannie Seely and Rhonda Vincent, Rhonda showed us a new item she had for sale and we liked it so much we decided to make one too. It's a USB flash drive in the shape of our bus (photo below). Rhonda's is a replica of her mandolin. For all the new vehicles that don't have a CD player anymore (and this affects me for sure) , this little flash drive is perfect and our first one is my 25 Greatest Hits (and also includes 2 rare photos) . We only have it for sale on the road right now but we will have it up on my website store very soon (at [www.GeneWatsonMusic.com](http://www.GeneWatsonMusic.com)).



OPEN

For the Larry's Country Diner TV show I taped July 15th, the on-air dates are: Airing on RFD-TV Network Thursday, September 2nd at 7Pm CST/ 8Pm EST and it repeats Saturday, September 4th at 10pm CST /11 PM EST.

I hope if we're in a city near you, you'll come out to hear us or if not, you can catch our music on the Grand Ole Opry (you can listen at WSM online) and of course, watch us on Larry's Country Diner if you get RFD-TV.

Take care,

# A NIGHT AT THE OPRY!

JULY, 2021



Left to right: Bill Anderson, Craig Morgan, Gene Watson. When you haven't seen an old friend like Bill since the pandemic, it's like greeting a longtime family member. Gene said he was delighted to catch up with Bill and Craig, shown here just off to the side of the Opry stage.



Craig Morgan (left) and Gene: It meant a great deal to Gene that Craig Morgan stood and listened to Gene's entire show and then leaned in to hug and congratulate Gene upon being a new Opry member. This is what being an Opry "family" is all about.



Gene and Mark Willis (right): Gene and Mark have become friends as both are frequently on the Diner TV shows and on the cruises. Gene first met Mark many years ago when Mark was the lead singer of a house band at the Buckboard club in Marietta, GA. Gene stayed to watch Mark's set and said he knew Mark would become a star. Now the two are members together at the Grand Ole Opry.



Gene and Jeannie Seely (right): Gene and Jeannie are great friends. Jeannie is celebrating her 54th year as an Opry member! Jeannie also just released a great, new album "An American Classic" on Curb Records which you can find at her website [www.JeannieSeely.com](http://www.JeannieSeely.com)

# THE BILBREY BENEFIT

July 15, 2021



Gene (left) Richard Sterban (right) : Gene and Richard Sterban, bass singer for the Oak Ridge Boys, had a moment to visit prior to The Bilbrey Benefit July 15th, held for Keith & Emy Jo Bilbrey who lost everything to a house fire. Among his many accomplishments, did you know Richard Sterban was once a background vocalist for Elvis Presley?



Gene(left), Nadine (right): Mona Brown, who performs as her super funny alter ego, Nadine, and Gene share a moment of calm before the big benefit began. One thing these two have in common is that neither likes to arrive late to anything so consequently, they arrived at nearly the same time which was hours earlier than any of the other performers. With all that time, they shared a LOT of laughs! Catch Nadine's performances on the Larry's Country Diner TV shows on RFD-TV.



Moe Bandy (Left), Hall of Fame musician, Charlie McCoy (Center) and Gene Watson (right): These three legends and friends have plenty to catch up on. For the benefit, Moe Bandy performed his hit "Americana" on the show while Charlie McCoy, legendary A Team session player and virtuoso on the harmonica, performed in the band as well as for a duet with Rhonda Vincent.



Ben Hall (Left) Gene (Center), Michele Capps (right) : With Ben Hall on guitar and Michele Capps on background vocals, Gene's performance of "Raisin' Cane in Texas" was a big hit and helped to raise money for Keith & Emy Jo Bilbrey. Hosts for that night's program were Larry Black and former Governor of Arkansas, Mike Huckabee. The entire night of music was streamed live over the Country Roads TV platform.

# LARRY'S COUNTRY DINER TAPING

July 15, 2021



Gene made his first post-pandemic appearance for a Larry's Country Diner TV taping at the new studio in Columbia, TN. Gene had missed seeing all his old friends and so it was great fun for him to be there. Gene is shown singing with Michele Capps on background vocals. Not pictured here but a big part of the music was Ben Hall on guitar, Dirk Johnson on keyboard and Gail Johnson on fiddle. The songs Gene sang for the program are "When We Were Down To Nothing", "Raisin' Cane in Texas", "When A Man Can't Get A Woman Off His Mind", and "Got No Reason Now For Going Home".



Moe Bandy surprised Gene on the set and as a joke (we think), Gene pretended to either strangle Moe's neck or go in for a hug. You decide.



After the show, it was all smiles for this cast of characters. Left to right: Gene, Michele Capps, Nadine, Moe Bandy and Renae The Waitress. Be sure to watch live or record the show Sept. 2nd 7pm CST or Sept. 4th at 10PM CST.

## At The Opry and A Night About Helping Others



A NIGHT AT THE OPRY: It never fails to feel humble and special, standing in that circle, on the stage!



THE BILBREY BENEFIT: The big finale of the benefit: Multiple performers singing "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" was certainly a grand ending for a wonderful night of music!

# 2021 Tour Schedule

Date	Venue	City/State
August 19th	American Music Theatre	Lancaster, Pennsylvania
August 21st	Walhalla Civic Center	Walhalla, South Carolina
August 27th	Grand Ole Opry	Nashville, Tennessee
August 28th	Red Barn Convention Center	Winchester, Ohio
September 2nd	Dothan Opera House	Dothan, Alabama
September 3rd	Edna Boykin Cultural Center	Wilson, North Carolina
September 4th	Anderson Music Hall	Hiawassee, Georgia
September 5th	Newberry Opera House	Newberry, South Carolina
September 9th	Opry Country Classics At The Ryman	Nashville, Tennessee
September 10th	Palace Theatre	Crossville, Tennessee
September 11th	The Troubadour	Nashville, Tennessee
September 18th	Hardy Murphy Coliseum	Ardmore, Oklahoma
September 25th	Bare Bones BBQ	Gatesville, Texas
September 30th	Red River Valley Fair	Paris, Texas
October 1st	Arlington Music Hall	Arlington, Texas
October 2nd	Municipal Auditorium	Sweetwater, Texas
October 3rd	Dosey Doe	The Woodlands, Texas
October 9th	Palace Theatre	Corsicana, Texas
October 16th	Mansion Theatre	Branson, Missouri
October 23rd & 24th	Old Dominion Barn Dance	Hopewell, Virginia
October 30th	Music City Texas	Linden, Texas
November 6th	Windstone Entertainment Center	Jefferson City, Missouri
November 8th	Mansion Theatre	Branson, Missouri

# 2021 & 2022 Tour Schedule

continued

Date	Venue	City & State
November 12th, 2021	Wild Rose Casino	Emmetsburg, Iowa
November 13th	Sisseton Performing Arts Center	Sisseton, South Dakota
November 19th	Country Tonite Theatre	Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
November 20th	Kentucky Opry	Benton, Kentucky
December 3rd	Main Street Crossing	Tomball, Texas
December 4th	Honky Tonk Texas	Silsbee, Texas
January 1st & 2nd, 2022	Orange Blossom Opry	Weirsdale, Florida
January 8th	Sugar Creek Casino	Hinton, Oklahoma
February 12th	Stagecoach Ballroom	Fort Worth, Texas
March 4th	Harvester Performing Arts Center	Rocky Mount, Virginia
March 11th	Strawberry Festival	Plant City, Florida
March 12th	Dublin Theatre	Dublin, Georgia
March 18th	Heart Of Texas Festival	Brady, Texas
March 19th	2920 Roadhouse	Hockley, Texas
April 9th	Jackson Live Events Center	Seymour, Indiana
April 23rd	Park Theatre	McMinnville, Tennessee
April 29th	Little Roy & Lizzy Festival	Lincolnton, Georgia
July 1st	4th Of July Celebration	Bee Be, Arkansas
July 7th	Blue Gate Performing Arts Center	Shipshewana, Indiana
July 16th	Alto Country Club	Alto, New Mexico
August 19th	Theatre	Reidsville, North Carolina
August 20th	Liberty Showcase Theatre	Liberty, North Carolina

# TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER!

Congratulations to Ray Carstens from North Carolina, who submitted the winning entry for our last trivia contest question: The question : Name one Gene Watson album containing the song "Bitter They Are, Harder They Fall." Answers: "Because You Believed In Me" and "Real. Country. Music.". For your chance to win an autographed tee shirt, just answer the trivia question sent to Fan Club Members only and send the correct answer to: [GeneWatsonMusic@hotmail.com](mailto:GeneWatsonMusic@hotmail.com).

If you are reading this and not a registered member of Gene Watson's Fan Club, just sign up at [www.GeneWatsonMusic.com](http://www.GeneWatsonMusic.com). Only Fan Club members get the Trivia Question!



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