



GENE WATSON



Dear Friends –

What a winter we're having so far! I hope you haven't had too many problems where you live and are keeping warm til we get some nice, Spring weather coming our way.

In the winter months when we're not quite as busy traveling all over the world, I like to listen to new music and come up with new ideas for albums. I've been working steadily over this year on a special project that I think you're going to like and I'll be able to tell you more about that in the coming months so stay tuned.

If you haven't been to a show recently, you might not know that we've added a new steel guitar player to the band. His name is Johnny Cox and he's one of the best on steel you'll ever hear. Johnny has played with Ernest Tubb, Connie Smith, Ray Price, Mel Tillis, Cal Smith and many more. We're pleased to have him with us and hope you'll come out and make him welcome.

With all the snow and ice hitting everywhere, we're taking the easy way out and heading to the Sunshine state! We'll be in Avon Park, FL on Feb. 4th and Weirsdale, FL on Feb. 5th so take a break from the frigid temperatures and come thaw out with us there. Take care and hope to see you soon,

**Jan./Feb. 2011
Volume 16**

2011 TOUR DATES

- Feb. 4 Avon Park, FL
- Feb. 5 Weirsdale, FL
- Feb. 25 Hinton, OK
- Feb. 26 Ft. Worth, TX
- March 4 Shelby, NC
- March 5 Chocowinity, NC
- March 6 Liberty, NC
- March 19 New Washington, IN
- March 20 Marion, IN
- April 2 W. Monroe, LA
- April 9 Bowler, WI
- April 16-24 England/Scotland

More dates added constantly so check the website often!



Party Time!

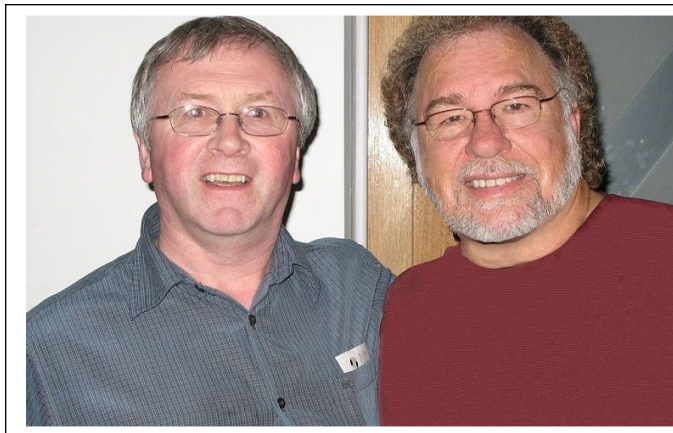
What a way to kick off the New Year! Gene (r), Johnny Lee and TG Sheppard (l) performed New Year's Day at the Black Gold Casino in Hobbs, NM .



Hitting the High Notes

Gene is pictured here onstage at the Black Gold Casino in Hobbs, NM January 1, 2011.

FAN SPOTLIGHT ON RAYMOND GLENN



1: Where do you live?

I live in Northern Ireland in a beautiful holiday seaside town called Portstewart, I have lived here for the past 26 years and have no plans to move in the future as I am very happy here.

2: What type work do you do?

I currently work as a web designer and computer engineer. I previously worked as an office administrator and have done quite a bit of electronic repair work in the past, although that is a long time ago.

3. Tell us about your family .

I have been married to my wife Barbara for 36 years and we have 1 daughter Louise (25) who works and lives in Bristol UK.

4: What are your Top Five Favorite Gene Watson songs?

This is a difficult question for me as I have many, I won't put them in any order, but I will choose:

If the Shoe Fits; The Great Divide; Desperation; Till You Can Make It On Your Own and Getting Over You Again

5: What are your hobbies?

I am mainly interested in sports, also I like anything computer related and current technology. I'm a bit of a gadget freak and try to keep up with all the latest devices on the market.

I enjoy looking after my Youtube channel "GeneWatsonSongs". The channel has had thousands of fan comments from people around the world and I have never come across a negative comment for any song or performance by Gene Watson.

Click here to check out Raymond's great site: <http://www.youtube.com/user/GeneWatsonSongs>

6: Where did you first hear about Gene Watson ? I have been a Gene fan since I bought his first album (on Stoneway) way back in the mid 70's. At that time, many country albums could not be purchased in Ireland so most had to be ordered direct from Ernest Tubb Records shop in Nashville.

7: How many concerts have you attended? My first Gene concert was at Belfast's Wellington Hall in June 1979, since then I have attended many shows, probably 10-15 as Gene has become a more frequent visitor to Ireland and the UK. I still have not made the trip to Nashville which is something that I have always wanted to do, maybe some day soon. If I may, I would like to give a quick mention to some very good friends of mine from Ireland who are also big Gene Watson fans: Sean Brady (runs www.Gene-Watson.com site), Norman Rainey, John A McKay, & Billy Vance

A big THANKS to RAYMOND for being our Spotlight Fan this month !!

Meet CHIP BRICKER : Farewell Party Band Leader, Tour Manager & Awesome Piano Player !



Q: Where Were You Born?

A: Bloomburg, TX Population: 231 (+ several horses, mules and coon dogs)

Q: Where do you live now?

A: Texarkana, TX since 1991

Married to wife, Debbie, for 19 years and we have two boys -
Lane is age 13 and Ben is age 6

Q: How long have you been with Gene's band?

A: It's been a little over three years now. First just as a fill-in on piano but now full-time and also working as band leader and tour manager.

Q: How did you get started in the music business?

A: I started with piano lessons at age 9. My grandmother played piano and I learned a lot from her. We didn't have a band at school but we did have one with Future Farmers of America so I played with that band.

My first paying gig was at a local church revival service and I still do those services today when I can.

The first professional band for me was called "Texas" – back in 1987. We opened for Marie Osmond, Willie Nelson and others.

The first real recording artist I worked for was Freddy Fender and during my days at Baylor University (Waco, TX), I worked with several artists in the area when they needed a substitute player. Later I worked for Heart of Texas Music in Austin where I learned the marketing side of the music business. Currently besides my work with Gene, I own a full service studio, marketing, promotion and music services business called S.M.A.R.T. Productions. Through this company I've played on, engineered and/or produced eighteen #1 songs and over 82 charted singles in various genres of music. I've been blessed to have received many award nominations over the years including The Grammys and The Dove Awards. I won the 1998 CGMA Producer of the Year, 2002 Coast to Coast Country Music magazine's Piano Player of the Year, 2004 ICGMA Musician of the Year and the 2007 Agape Awards Musician of the Year.

In 2005, I became the CEO of Terajay Music Group, the largest manufacturer and distributor of Inspirational County Music in the United States.

Q: Who are some of your musical influences:

A: Old Gospel to Jazz and Western Swing to Classic Country, Classic Rock. Ie: The Statesmen Quartet In 2006 I fulfilled one of my "bucket list" items: I performed a cameo musician spot with a Gaither Homecoming Tour.

Q: What would you do if you weren't in the music business?

A: I would hope to be in Marketing.. It was a goal to create marketing campaigns for political candidates, including the music and themes for commercials. I've done some of that including designing audio images for companies such as McDonald's and Walmart.

Q: Do you have a hobby?

A: My hobby is what I do for a living - music is my life.

Q: Do have any favorite sports teams?

A: I love sports! My favorite team is the San Antonio Spurs. I played basketball myself in highschool and college.

Q: Besides Gene's music, name some of your favorite songs.

A: Commander Cody's "My Window Faces the South" and gospel classic: "I Bowed On My Knees and Cried Holy"

Q: What other instruments do you play?

A: Bass, Mandolin, Banjo, Guitar and Organ.

Q: What is your favorite Gene Watson song to perform?

A: "Fourteen Carat Mind" I finally learned how to play it right!

THANKS CHIP ! We appreciate all you do with the Farewell Party Band !!



Backstage at the Opry

Marty Roe, lead singer of Diamond Rio, is all smiles here with Gene as they wait backstage at the Opry on December 14, 2010.. Gene spent some quality time with Diamond Rio back when they all performed together in Japan in 2001.



Having Fun in Canada

(L to R): Gene, Helen Cornelius, Jimmy Fortune, Shotgun Red and Shotgun's best friend, Steve Hall, shared the stage at Niagara Falls, Canada on November 29 and 30th.



IT TAKES TWO

Gene and Rhonda Vincent (pictured here backstage October 30th in Dublin, VA) will continue to share the stage on various dates throughout the year. Keep an eye on the tour page of www.GeneWatsonMusic.com or www.Gene-Watson.com for those dates.

WRITE THIS DOWN !

To book a concert with Gene Watson, contact Carrie Moore- Reed at Carrie@ThirdCoastTalent.com or call her at her NEW phone number: (615) 685-3331.

To contact Gene and/or his management, email: Artist@LytleMgmt.com and be sure to put "GENE WATSON" in the subject line.

For more information on Gene, visit the website: www.GeneWatsonMusic.com and the Fan Site www.Gene-Watson.com.



Check out Gene on www.Facebook.com/GeneWatsonMusic, Twitter and MySpace.