

# STRAIT TALK

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# STRAIT TALK

## George Strait Bids An Emotional Farewell To Oklahoma City On His “The Cowboy Rides Away Tour”

By Brandy McDonnell...*The Daily Oklahoman*

The King of Country took on the role of “The King of Broken Hearts” Saturday night, bidding an emotional and engaging farewell to Oklahoma City.

George Strait embarked on his “The Cowboy Rides Away Tour” Friday night with a home-state show in Lubbock, Texas. The second stop on his 2013-14 farewell trek was the sold-out Chesapeake Energy Arena, where he has reigned as a top concert draw since the venue opened in 2002.

As usual, Strait put on a frills-free show designed to spotlight outstanding singing, songwriting and musicianship. He and his excellent opening act, Martina McBride, along with their strong respective bands, performed in the round on a massive diamond-shaped stage in the center of the arena floor. Employing just a few light effects and video screens primarily used to show the performers, the concert was a far cry from the high-tech spectacles favored by many contemporary country acts.

With their long, platinum-gilded careers, Strait and McBride could have made their sets veritable hit parades. Instead, the veteran vocalists mixed in playful covers and deep album cuts with the expected fan favorites.

McBride opened her 70-minute crowd-warming set with the feisty toe-tapper “When God-Fearin’ Women Get the Blues”



and kept the proceedings sassy with “Wild Angels,” “My Baby Loves Me,” “This One’s for the Girls” and her recent top 20 single “Teenage Daughters.”

“I’m the luckiest girl in the world ‘cause I get to tour with George frickin’ Strait,”

declared McBride, who looked sassy in a red leather jacket over black jeans, a black scooped-neck top and tall black boots with skinny skyscraper heels.

The Kansas native told the packed house that one of her favorite parts of planning a tour is choosing cover songs, and she wowed the crowd with her crystalline country version of Etta James’ “At Last” and got fans wailing along with a medley of the Cat Stevens classic “The First Cut Is the Deepest” and Tom Petty’s “Free Fallin’.”

“We’re not clapping; we’re snapping. It’s the new thing. All the cool kids are doing it,” she quipped before launching into a lively rendition of “King of the Road,” paying double tribute to her tourmate and the late, great Erick-bred singer-songwriter Roger Miller.

She even broke out a harmonica for her bluesy ballad “Love’s the Only House.” But the songstress was at her best belting soaring love songs and heartbreaking anthems like “Whatever You Say,” “A Broken Wing,” “Concrete Angel” “I’m Gonna Love You Through It” and her big finish “Independence Day,” which not only highlighted her big voice but her skill at delving into the emotion of each song.

The night only got more emotional as

*Continued on following page...*

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# George Strait Bids An Emotional Farewell To Oklahoma City

*Continued from previous page...*

Strait and his Ace in the Hole Band took the stage following a pair of video tributes, one featuring country superstars like Reba McEntire, Blake Shelton and Alan Jackson wishing King George well on his farewell tour and another highlighting his myriad career accomplishments.

The Country Music Hall of Famer, 60, got his final Oklahoma City show off to a spirited start with the title track of his 2011 album "Here for a Good Time" and the title cut from his 1987 record "Ocean Front Property," setting the tone for his career-spanning two-hour-plus set.

"Hello, Oklahoma City. It's so good to be here tonight," Strait greeted the crowd, who showered him with deafening praise for virtually every song. "(It's) probably my last one here and that's sad because I'm gonna miss you. Thank you for coming and thank you for coming all those years, too."

There's a curious formality to a George Strait concert. After he straps on his black acoustic guitar, the superstar performs two songs at one point of the diamond-shaped stage before methodically moving on to the next point and two more songs. Fans in each quadrant inevitably get to their feet as the king moves to their point on the stage.

On his first turn around, Strait offered a mix of hits and cuts from the latter half of his three-decade career: "Check Yes or No," "I Saw God Today," "A Showman's Life," "Love's Gonna Make It Alright" and "Drinkin' Man," which he proudly announced he co-wrote with his son Bubba and longtime collaborator Dean Dillon. He quickly proved he still has the worn-leather rich voice and potent country charisma to hold an audience in his thrall.

The Academy of Country Music Artist of the Decade didn't have to switch up his tried-and-true show format, but he did it anyway on his second rotation around the stage. At each point of the diamond, he pulled up a stool and regaled his fervent fans with tales of his early days recording in

Nashville, punctuated with deep album cuts like "80 Proof Bottle of Tear Stopper" and "Honky Tonk Crazy" and classic hits like the gorgeous heartbreaker "Marina del Rey."

"That brings back some pretty good memories," said Strait, who was dressed in a pale checked button-down shirt and his usual cowboy boots, black hat and tight Wrangler jeans. "Y'all like those old songs? Me, too."

He smiled widely and wistfully as he reminisced about his 1980s beginnings, recalling songwriters he worked with and his early plans to incorporate his last name into all his album titles until "luckily I wised up."

"We're moving into the '90s and old Dusty," Strait said as he pulled up his stool for the final time to play "The King of Broken Hearts" and "Where the Sidewalk Ends" from his 1992 film "Pure Country."

The Texas troubadour left the stool behind for his next trip around the stage, which ironically started with his 1985 smash "The Chair," a favorite that got the whole crowd wailing along and ended in a standing ovation.

"Thank you so much. What a great crowd you are. I'm really, really gonna miss that," Strait said.

The superstar graciously shared the stage with retired Gen. Leroy Sisco of the Military Warriors Support Foundation, who invited Strait to present an Iraq War veteran and his wife with the ceremonial key to their new house as part of the Homes 4 Wounded Heroes program. Naturally, King George followed up the presentation with the lively "Give It Away."

Through old favorites like "Amarillo by Morning" to his newest single from his forthcoming album "Give It All We Got Tonight," from the peppy dance number "Stars on the Water" to the lovely piano ballad "Living for the Night," Strait seemed determined to savor every moment and emotion. Emotion almost seemed to overwhelm him on the all-too-appropriate recent tracks

"Troubadour" and "I'll Always Remember You."

"I really wasn't thinking about retiring or slowing down. I don't know, maybe it was in the back of mind," Strait said during the latter, which seemed to bring tears to his eyes. "I just wanted to say how much you guys have meant to me over the years. So I figured the best way to do that was in a song."

In keeping with tradition, Strait closed his set with his first hit, 1981's "Unwound." Although he and his Ace in the Hole Band didn't leave the stage for long, the crowd welcomed them back for the encore with ear-splitting screams of joy.

"Thank you very much. Yes, we'll play on," Strait said, grinning as he strapped his guitar back on and launched into the party-time love song "Same Kind of Crazy," followed by the hilarious hit "All Exes Live in Texas."

He gave his Ace in the Hole Band, which started in 1975 and has backed Strait throughout his career, a prime showcase with a raucous extended cover of Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues," which got the superstar grinning as broadly as his dancing devotees.

Alas, nothing lasts forever, and many fans groaned when they heard the opening of Strait's customary closer, "The Cowboy Rides Away." Folks were singing and swaying, waving their arms and holding up their lighted cell phones.

When the ballad was over, Strait gave a big sigh as he made one last circle around the stage. The emotion was obvious in his face as he waved and pointed to the fans, bowed and patted his heart.

"Good night, everybody. Thank you," he said, spreading his arms wide and basking in one more collective cheer.

And then he was gone, striding off the stage and proving the lyric true: "The last goodbye's the hardest one to say."

Still, it was a great ride, King George.

# Strait Kicks Off Final Tour With Memorable, Record-Setting Concert in Lubbock

By William Kerns...A-J ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Singer-songwriter George Strait delivered a consistently entertaining musical thank you to West Texas fans for their past 32 years of support — kicking off his final concert tour Friday night with a two-hour, 29-song performance at the United Spirit Arena.

He set a venue attendance record by attracting 15,200 energetic, enthusiastic and loud supporters to his 15th Lubbock concert.

Indeed, one doubts that noise levels at past Texas Tech basketball thrillers in the same arena could match the aural bedlam that greeted even Strait's performance of "Amarillo by Morning."

He and his Ace in the Hole band raised the attendance bar set by the 14,944 fans a prior record, who witnessed a co-headlining appearance by Strait and Reba McEntire back in March 2011.

Strait's vocals were consistently strong again on Friday, even when production occasionally, and oddly, found the mix leaning in favor of the band.

From beginning to end, he came across as thrilled and appreciative of the colossal turnout. Indeed, Strait climbed on stage at 9:15 p.m., wearing a button-down shirt, traditional Wranglers and a smile as big as Texas.

He appeared more animated Friday than at prior Lubbock performances, and delivered an impressive balance of old and new material.

In addition, he refused to limit his set to any sort of greatest hits package, instead introducing a number of obvious personal favorites from past albums.

An encore found him diving right into an arrangement of "Same Kind of Crazy" that was infectiously fun, if decidedly something other than country.

Not surprisingly, his audience almost inserted a sigh of relief amid its cheers when

greeting Strait's follow-up rendition of "All My Exes Live in Texas."

Strait ably communicated varied fun and sad tunes throughout his show. He also seemed to share more personal background, whether mentioning an early songwriting effort by his own son, Bubba (George Jr.), or getting a kick out of how many of his own albums featured Dean Dillon compositions.

Still, he came across as briefly uncomfortable when mentioning, in a near whisper, that friend and songwriter Frank Dycus had passed away.

There was great fun within the video clips shared while singing "Troubador."

"I still feel 25 most of the time," the song begins, and there followed wonderful clips of a youthful Strait riding, roping and, away from the rodeo grounds, singing — and succeeding everywhere.

Lyrics later stated, "I was a young troubador, when I wrote in on a song, but I'll be an old troubador when I'm gone."

It remains obvious, however, that Strait can continue to entertain as long as he wants.

Mind you, the performer insists that, until last year, he never planned to embark on a final tour, with hopes to keep recording.

Subconsciously, that subject was up for debate, though.

The proof lies in fascinating 2011 song "I'll Always Remember You," which he saved for late in Friday's show. "You've pulled me through some hard times," he sang to his fans, "Hope I've pulled you through a few. And just know that I'll always remember you."

Strait transformed the final words into a personal promise, prompting a slow turn as he pointed to sections throughout the area.

By the way, if there were empty seats even in the upper rows of the United Spirit Arena, few could make them out. The hall appeared packed, and I remembered when basketball coach Bobby Knight pointed to seats in the upper corner of section 222, and said he

wanted the Red Raider basketball team to fill those seats. Strait certainly had no difficulty pulling that off.

Also having a great time were a number of female fans attending in small groups of friends, so excited when cameras captured them singing and swaying while Strait sang, "How 'Bout Them Cowgirls?"

It is only fair that Martina McBride also receive credit for her own wonderful opening performance. She, too, pulled out all the stops, and cameras made sure that fans could see her respond with, "Oh, my God," when she was honored with a much-deserved standing ovation.

McBride appeared positively giddy that she had been asked, yet again, to tour with seemingly every country superstar's favorite country superstar.

Meanwhile, those present at George Strait's very first concert in his very last tour had to be aware that they had just taken part in something very special.

Happy  
Birthday!



George

May 18th

George Jr.

May 14th

# Look for a New Strait Album, Even as the Cowboy Rides Away

BY Brian Mansfield, @brian\_mansfield, Special for USA TODAY

## The last goodbye

George Strait is not retiring. He has a new single -- his 115th -- called Give It All We Got Tonight on the country charts, and a new album in the works. When it comes to touring, though, the end is in sight. Strait's two-year farewell tour, The Cowboy Rides Away, begins Friday in Lubbock, Texas. "I always had it in the back of my mind that when I turned 60, it might be the time to start thinking about it," says the Country Music Hall of Famer, who turned 60 last May, in announcing the tour. "Also, I didn't want to book a tour where nobody came." The 21 dates on this year's tour last through June 1, when Strait plays the Alamodome in San Antonio; Martina McBride opens.

## His Ace in the Hole

Strait started fronting the Ace in the Hole Band at the Cheatham Street Warehouse in San Marcos, Texas, playing his first gig there on Oct. 13, 1975. "Our biggest night was Wednesdays," Strait recalls. "Fifty cents at the door, ladies free." The players bonded over their love of Texas swing. "Back when we were doing the honky-tonks, Western swing was all we did," Strait says. "We'd play four hours of nothing but swing." Bassist Terry Hale and steel player Mike Daily still play with Strait, and former drummer

Tom Foote now works as his road manager. And Strait still cuts the occasional swing song, when he hears a new one he likes. "I don't get as many sent to me anymore as I used to. But I still love that music."

## Something special

The performing bug bit Strait during his U.S. Army service in the early '70s. "I bought a guitar and started learning how to play it with these old songbooks that had the chords there," he says. "I got to where I thought I was pretty good." When did he know he was? "I guess the first time I got up on stage and sang with a band and a microphone and real speakers. I'm thinking, 'I love this, and I really want to make a career out of it. Maybe I can.'"

## The road less traveled

Strait came close to changing his life's course when he almost took a job in 1980 with a company that designed cattle pens. He and his wife, Norma, decided he'd give music one more year. He signed to MCA Records and released his first single, Unwound, in 1981. His first big tour came when he opened West Coast dates for Ray Price. The two singers' first encounter didn't go well. Strait left his guitar on Price's bus, then checked into his hotel room. He came back to find Price chewing out the band. "I'm just sinking down in my seat as he goes, 'Whose guitar is this? These guitars go under the bus!'" Strait says. "Still, to

watch him sing each night was amazing."

## Somewhere down in Texas

As part of The Cowboy Rides Away tour, Strait will play the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on March 17. He has played the event more than 20 times, the first coming 30 years ago as an eleventh-hour substitution for an ailing Eddie Rabbitt. "I thought it was a joke" when the offer came in, Strait says. "They sent a plane for us, flew us up to Houston. We were probably there 30 minutes before we walked out on stage. It was pretty scary."

## Playing on through

If Strait did nothing but play his No. 1 hits (he has more than 50) back to back, his show would push four hours, and it wouldn't include fan favorites such as 1983's Amarillo by Morning and 1985's The Fireman. How does he pick a set list? "It's a tough thing to do," he concedes. "There are songs you have to play or you might get booed off the stage. It's hard, year to year, to put your list together and still change things up."

## Hat act

If there's one thing Strait must take with him on the road, it's his Resistol hat. "I've left my hat (at home) on one or two occasions and had to borrow a hat from one of my guys. I can't go out there without my hat."

# George Strait to be Honored with CRB Career Achievement Award

(Nashville, TN) – Country superstar George Strait will be honored with the 2013 Country Radio Broadcasters, Inc. Career Achievement Award at the Country Radio Hall of Fame Induction on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m.

The CRB Career Achievement Award is presented to an individual artist or act that, through their creativity, vision, performance or leadership has made a significant contribution to the development and promotion of country music and country radio.

"George Strait has done a superb job promoting country music and country radio over the years. His dedication to the format and on-going contribution to the industry as a whole make him

the perfect recipient for this award," said Mike Culotta, CRS President.

With a career spanning more than 30 years, George Strait has the most number one singles of any artist in history including Elvis Presley. He has sold nearly 69 million records and with 33 different platinum or multi-platinum albums, has the most RIAA platinum certifications in country music and the third in all genres behind The Beatles and Elvis Presley. Strait was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2006. Strait is the only artist to have 85 out of 90 radio singles make it to Top 10 and 24 albums at the number one position on Billboard's Country Music Album Chart, and has recently released "Give It

All We Got Tonight" from his forthcoming 2013 album.

As previously announced, the evening will also feature Gaylan Christie being inducted into the Country Radio Hall of Fame and Dr. Don Carpenter, Crook & Chase, Eddie Edwards and Bill "Dex" Poindexter will be inducted in the Air Personality category. Bob Romeo will receive the 2013 Presidents' Award.

Previous winners of this Award include Brooks and Dunn, Kenny Rogers, Charlie Daniels, Dolly Parton, and Reba McEntire.

The Country Radio Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony unofficially kicks off Country Radio Seminar each year.

# Warriors Recognized As The Cowboy Rides Away

George Strait, with longtime friend Lieutenant General Leroy Sisco, U.S. Army (Retired), provide housing at each tour stop for Military Warriors Support Foundation

Friday night, January 18, 2013, the King of Country Music, George Strait, kicked-off the first of 21 tour stops on his 2013 The Cowboy Rides Away Tour in Lubbock, Texas at United Spirit Arena with special guest Martina McBride. An audience of 15,326 was afforded what will soon be a rare occurrence--seeing Strait and his Ace In The Hole Band live in concert.

The evening began for many with a VIP reception in the aptly named "The King's Tavern" which features multiple traveling memorabilia cases on display as part of "The King's Exhibit" with featured items ranging from Dusty Chandler's jacket, Strait's lead character in Pure Country, to his Country Music Hall of Fame medallion from his November 2006 induction.

After a riveting set from McBride, Strait sauntered to the stage and opened his nearly 100 minute set with his 2011 anthem and the title of his last recording, "Here For A Good Time."

Partway through the show, however, Strait broke stride after he performed his current single, "Give It All We Got Tonight," and introduced U.S. Marine Corps E-3/Lance Corporal Christopher Allen to a captivated audience. Allen was then recognized as the 287th recipient of the Military Warriors Support Foundation's (MWSF) "Homes 4 Wounded Heroes" (H4WH) program and the first awardee to receive a key directly from Strait. The presentation was made possible through Strait's longtime friend, Lieutenant General Leroy Sisco, U.S. Army (Retired) who shares, "Our foundation is thrilled at this opportunity to work with such an incredible patriot as George Strait and with his help we are going to change the lives of the heroes and their families by awarding 100% mortgage-free homes at the next 20 concerts on George's 'The Cowboy Rides Away' finale tour."

The Allen family received a one-story home with 1,717 sq. ft. of living space including a spacious 3 bedroom/2.5 bathroom home in Bakersfield, California complete with a pool and a two car garage.

The homes made available for the program are donated to MWSF through partnerships and, as unveiled at the show in Lubbock and all his shows since, the homes will be awarded to one service member at every tour stop on The Cow-

boy Rides Away Tour.

The good news continued when Sisco revealed in Minneapolis, MN that in addition to the homes, their good friends at Wal-Mart would also provide a 42" Flat Screen HD TV, \$500 a month for groceries for 12 months, and George Strait's entire song library for the recipients. Here's a list of awardees and a photo gallery from the presen-



Salt Lake City, Photo by Jill Trunnell

tations thus far on the tour:

**1/18/13 - Lubbock, TX**

Christopher Allen

Home Location: Bakersfield, CA

One story home with 1,717 sq. ft. of living space

3 bedrooms/2.5 bathrooms

2-car attached garage. Pool.

**1/19/13 - Oklahoma City, OK**

Sean McEndree

Home Location: Salado, TX

Two story home with 2,279 sq. ft. of living space.

3 bedroom/2.5 bathroom.

2- Car attached garage

**1/25/13 Nampa, ID**

Kyle Thompson

Home Location: Bend, OR

One story home, with 2,376 sq. ft. of living space

3 bedroom/2 bathroom

2-car attached garage

**1/26/13 Salt Lake City, UT**

Nicholas Kruthoff, Hero, joined by his spouse

Katarzyna Kruthoff, and daughter, Emma

Kruthoff (age 5)

Home Location: Cedar City, UT

2-story home, with 3,815 Sq. Ft. of living space

4 bed / 3 bath

3-car attached garage

**1/31/13 - Sacramento, CA**

Kaitlin Joiner, Hero, joined by his daughter, Madeline Joiner (age 6)

Home Location: Sacramento, CA

One story home with 1,557 sq. ft. of living space

3 bedroom/ 2 bathroom

2-car attached garage

**2/1/13 - Fresno, CA**

Brandon Elliott, Hero joined by his spouse

Rebecca Elliott

Home Location: Modest, CA

One story home with 2,354 sq. ft. of living space

3 bedroom/2.5 bathroom

3-car attached garage

**2/2/13 - Las Vegas, NV**

Derek Holman, Hero, joined by his spouse

Delia Holman and son, Jack Holman

Home Location: Laughlin, NV

Two story home with 1,744 sq. ft. of living space.

3 bedroom/2.5 bathroom

2-car attached garage

**2/15/13- St. Paul, MN**

Matthew Lawson (house accepted by Scott Adams)

Property Details:

Location: Waterford, MI

Two story home built in 1981 with 1695 sq. ft. of living space.

3 bedroom/ 1.5 bathroom

2- car attached garage

**2/16/13 - Grand Forks, ND**

Anthony Smith, wife Heather attended with him.

Property Details:

Location: Weeki Wachee, FL

One story home, built in 2007 with 1897 sq. ft. of living space.

3 bedroom/2 bathroom

3-car attached garage

**2/22/13 - Buffalo, NY**

Christopher Dooley, hero joined on stage by his spouse Kendra Dooley (son, Hunter Dooley (age 3), not present)

Location-Land O'Lakes, FL

One story home, built in 2001 with 1,632 sq. ft. of living space

3 bedrooms/2 bathrooms

2-carr attached garage

**2/23/13 - Hartford, CT**

Mikel Withers, Hero, joined by his spouse

Christy Bell-Withers, daughter Kelsey Bell (age 14), and his son Zane Withers (age 4)

Home details:

Location- Snellville, GA

2 story home, built in 2001 with 1,867 sq. ft. of living space.

4 bedroom/2.5 bathroom

2-car attached garage

# 2013 TOUR WORD SEARCH

Listed below are 21 cities that George Strait will visit and perform during the 2013 Tour. The cities can be found backward, diagonally, across, and downwards. Good luck!

## CITIES:

LUBBOCK  
OKLAHOMA CITY  
SALT LAKE CITY  
NAMPA  
SACRAMENTO  
FRESNO  
LAS VEGAS  
ST PAUL  
GRAND FORKS  
BUFFALO  
HARTFORD  
KNOXVILLE  
LEXINGTON  
HOUSTON  
GREENVILLE  
GREENSBORO  
ALBUQUERQUE  
LAS CRUCES  
LITTLE ROCK  
NEW ORLEANS  
SAN ANTONIO

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K A L A S C R U C E S Z D Y E L A R A
B N G H L N P T V X Y D A N Y U Z N L
D C O I M O Q U W H A E I T O B L X B
E L E X I N G T O N V X Z D Y B O U U
S F J K V R S X Y T H A T I Y O L O Q
A Z X V E I X Y O U Y S O Z M C U Z U
N A H O Y P L I T T L E R O C K E X E
A W B Y E Z C L A N D S O K O M Z E R
N Z T A X H L N E X G Y F U N Y H L Q
T H O U S T O N E L L O X T H S L A U
O G R E E N S B O R O W E N D X S S E
N R C D O W E Y H T D E K O Y U Z V A
I E U N T Z O W D A H Y Z E Y O W E X
O E E T H X L V O K L A H O M A S G T
G N X F A Y W L K R T U O V U R W A Z
X V H T R T N U L S L T O X W P O S S
O I W X T D X Z A P Y E F W B Y C O Y
I L O D F A B A H A O N A M P A Z F T
V L T Y O W R D O M A C P N E X D R X
W E J H R P Y O M P B X G X S P Y S A
U X S L D D H S A L T L A K E C I T Y
Y W W E R A S A C R A M E N T O Z P T
P V E Y Z R X R I O Z D H W P B O A O
C I N K I P Y S T K A T I H S L R U X
K X Z D N U O T Y V N Y X Z A Y Z L D
Y I Y A F R E S N O I T U F T R U O A
R G R A N D F O R K S A F P O X T O R
P O N D Z E L L A Z O U V A Z P X W C
A N Y P X O Y Y P W B C A S E O V Z I
L I L I J A O D A N O E X B R Y A N U

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Please Print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size (Circle One):    Medium    Large    XL    XXL

**\* All entries must be received by May 17, 2013. One Entry Only!!!**  
Return entry to GSFC, PO Box 2119, Hendersonville, TN 37077. **Thank you.**



2013 02 02



2013 02 02



2013 02 02



2013 02 02



2013 02 02

# ~NEW MERCHANDISE~



1053 Stadium Cup



2750 Brown Camouflage Cap



2760 Copper/Brown Mesh Cap



2765 Ladies Pink Camouflage Cap



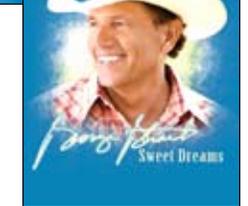
2770 Ladies Painter's Cap



3865 Ladies Pink Photo Long Sleeve T-Shirt



4350 Texas Crest T-Shirt



4330 Cobalt Blue Nighshirt



4355 Starburst Photo T-Shirt



4360 Truck T-Shirt



8940 Ladies Charcoal Zip-Up Hooded Sweatshirt



4395 Black Long Sleeve Distressed Flag T-Shirt



8945 Saddle Brown Hoodie

QTY.	MODEL	ITEM DESCRIPTION	COST	AMOUNT
	120	<b>FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP</b> (Newsletter Sent Via E-Mail) - 1 YEAR (All Fan Club Documents are emailed immediately ..... U.S. following payment authorization)..... CANADA	\$15 \$15	
	160	<b>FAN CLUB RENEWAL</b> (Newsletter Sent Via E-Mail) - 1 YEAR ..... U.S. (All Fan Club Documents are emailed immediately following payment authorization)..... CANADA	\$15 \$15	
	210	<b>"HRE 4 A GD TME" BUMPER STICKER</b> (Black, Red and White 8.75" x 4" Bumper Sticker featuring a license plate graphic design with large "HRE 4 A GD TME" lettering).....	\$1.95	
	257	<b>PHOTO MAGNET</b> (2"x2" Square Photo Magnet Featuring Cover Photo from George Strait's Album, "Here For A Good Time").....	\$2.95	
	313	<b>BALLPOINT PEN</b> (Fashionable Blue Color Black Ink Medium Point Ball Point Pen With A Fashion Clip and a Web Design Comfort Soft Gripper, an Elegant Pen for Everyday Use. "GEORGE STRAIT Printed on side on Black.).....	\$3.95	
	340	<b>BELT BUCKLE</b> (Solid bronze buckle w/sterling silver and gold electroplated classic western design w/G.S. highlighted over a team roping scene. Each buckle will be NUMBERED and gift boxed. Size 4" x 3-1/2".).....	\$119.95	
	544	<b>PHOTO KEYCHAIN</b> (Double Sided Photo Keychain Features George Strait's 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour Logo on one side with an Amazing G.S. Photo on the other side).....	\$4.95	
	639	<b>CALENDAR</b> (5 Page, 15 Month Calendar (January 2013 - March 2014) with Great Looking full-color photos of George Strait. It opens to an amazing 14" Wide x 21" High - Wonderful gift idea for every George Strait Fan!).....	\$12.95	
	650	<b>SONGBOOK</b> (The Best of George Strait 2nd Edition, includes 34 of George's Greatest Hits for Piano, Vocal and Guitar).....	\$17.95	
	663	<b>THE BEST OF GEORGE STRAIT</b> (Songbook).....	\$14.95	
	970DVD	<b>30TH ANNUAL GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING DVD</b> (2012).....	\$29.95	
	8888DVD	<b>'FOR THE LAST TIME' - LIVE FROM THE ASTRODOME DVD</b> (Recorded at the closing night of the Houston Livestock show and Rodeo on March 3, 2002 - Available in DVD only).....	\$29.95	
	1012	<b>SHOT GLASS</b> (1.75 oz. Tapered Shot Glass, Features a SHARP Black Logo Celebrating George Strait's 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour, part of our GS Barware Collection, specially designed to complement our Wine Glass (1014) and Old Fashioned Glass (1013)).....	\$8.95	
	1013	<b>OLD FASHIONED GLASS</b> (11 oz. Glass, Features a SHARP Black Logo Celebrating George Strait's 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour, part of our GS Barware Collection, specially designed to complement our Wine Glass (1014) and Shot Glass (1012)).....	\$9.95	
	1014	<b>WINE GLASS</b> (10 oz. Goblet, Classic Wine Shape Crafted with Pulled Stem and Fire-polished Rim, Features a SHARP Black Logo Celebrating George Strait's 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour, part of our GS Barware Collection, specially designed to complement our Shot Glass (1012) and Old Fashioned Glass (1013)).....	\$9.95	
	1035	<b>"HERE FOR A GOOD TIME" BLACK PHOTO COFFEE MUG</b> (This Gorgeous 11 oz. BLACK Ceramic Coffee Mug features two different outstanding concert photos of George Strait with a "Here For A Good Time" logo celebrating George Strait's newest hit single. A dye sublimation manufacturing process ensures that the double-sided image stays brilliant and colorful for the life of the mug. Perfect for Gift Giving!).....	\$12.95	
	1052	<b>TUMBLER (DOUBLE WALL ACRYLIC)</b> (Our Blue, 16 oz. Acrylic Tumbler with "George Strait King Of Country" logo is perfect for your favorite hot or cold drinks. It has insulated double wall construction which helps prevent sweating and is made with durable BPA-Free plastic material. It has a screw-on cap which prevents unnecessary spills and a reusable matching straw is included. Top rack dishwasher safe).....	\$13.95	
	☆☆☆ 1053	<b>STADIUM CUP</b> (2013 Tour) (Black Matte Finish Stadium Cup with HUGE 32 oz. capacity, beautiful photo design with three great concert photos and George on horseback across front of cup, back of cup has large "The Cowboy Rides Away" tour logo, made with durable BPA-FREE plastic material, top rack dishwasher safe)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$5.00	
	1085	<b>TOTE BAG</b> (Our 10 oz. 100% Cotton Canvas Tote Bag With 22" Red Webbing Handles Features A Large Tone-On-Tone G.S. Signature Logo In Red And White. Perfect For Travel, Shopping, Beach, School Or Knitting! Dimensions: 15" x 14.5" x 3" Gusset Bottom).....	\$10.95	
	1142	<b>LATTE MUG</b> (Simple, Oversized Styling For Those Luscious Lattes, Comfortable To Hold With A 16 oz. Capacity, Features A SHARP Black Logo Celebrating George Strait's 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour On Both Sides Of The Mug. A Dye Sublimation Manufacturing Process Ensures That The Double-sided Image Stays Brilliant For The Life Of The Mug. Perfect For Gift Giving!).....	\$11.95	
	☆☆☆ 2750	<b>BROWN CAMOUFLAGE CAP</b> (Brown Rip Stop and Realtree Max-1 HD Camouflage Cap, custom embroidered with round GS logo on front and "Cowboy Ride Away" on back, self fabric back strap with slide buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 2760	<b>COPPER/BROWN MESH CAP</b> (The Classic Look of Mesh is Back! The simple retro styling of a mesh back and a cotton twill front combine for the best of both old and new, copper crown and bill with contrasting brown mesh back, custom embroidered G.S. star logo on crown, "COWBOY RIDES AWAY" embroidered patch across back, self fabric back strap with slide buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 2765	<b>LADIES PINK CAMOUFLAGE PATCH CAP</b> (Ladies "Go Camo" in our pink and camouflage cap, custom embroidered round patch with "GS" logo on front and "Cowboy Rides Away" on back, self fabric back strap with slide buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	

QTY.	MODEL	ITEM DESCRIPTION	COST	AMOUNT
	☆☆☆ 2770	<b>LADIES PAINTER'S CAP</b> (Lightweight, stylish, and Oh-So-80's is our NEW grey cotton denim ladies painter's cap, custom puff embroidered pink "Strait Girl" logo on front with "Cowboy Rides Away" on back, contrast white double needle stitching, fabric velcro backstrap, ONE SIZE FITS MOST)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 3865	<b>LADIES PINK PHOTO LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT</b> (Adult ladies UNISEX size relaxed silhouette fit. Pale pink 100% combed ring-spun cotton, super soft LONG sleeve t-shirt, features an attractive GS concert..... Check Size: M__L__XL__ <b>NEW</b> photo star design with "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour with a Tour Cities logo)..... Check Size: XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$25.95 \$26.95	
	☆☆☆ 4330	<b>COBALT BLUE NIGHTSHIRT</b> (Ladies BLUE Short Sleeve V-Neck Nightshirt, cozy with the silky smoothness of 100% combed ring spun cotton jersey knit. Features a handsome GS photo and "Sweet Dreams" logo on full front chest, ONE SIZE FITS MOST)..... <b>NEW</b>	\$29.95	
	☆☆☆ 4350	<b>TEXAS CREST T-SHIRT</b> (Charcoal Adult UNISEX 100% Preshrunk Cotton Short Sleeve T-Shirt, features a GS Texas Crest Heritage graphic photo guitar design on front chest, back of shirt celebrates George Strait's 2013 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour with an amazing vintage G.S. silhouette horseback design and Tour Cities logo) ..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 4355	<b>STARBURST PHOTO T-SHIRT</b> (Chocolate Brown Adult UNISEX 100% Preshrunk Cotton Short Sleeve T-Shirt, features a handsome GS concert photo starburst design with "The Cowboy Rides Away" logo on front chest, back of shirt celebrates George Strait's 2013 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour with a starburst Tour Cities logo)..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 4360	<b>TRUCK T-SHIRT</b> (Brown Adult UNISEX 100% Preshrunk Cotton Short Sleeve T-Shirt, features a GS Heritage graphic "The Cowboy Rides Away" design on front chest, back of shirt celebrates George Strait's 2013 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour with a Vintage G.S. truck design and Tour Cities logo)..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$18.95	
	☆☆☆ 4395	<b>BLACK LONG SLEEVE DISTRESSED FLAG T-SHIRT</b> (Black Adult UNISEX 100% Combed Ring-Spun Cotton Super Soft LONG Sleeve T-Shirt, features large "GEORGE STRAIT" distressed flag heritage graphic on front chest, back of shirt celebrates George Strait's 2013 "The Cowboy Rides Away" Tour with a distressed Flag Tour Cities logo, "King Of Country" logo down left sleeve) ..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$24.95	
	5255	<b>YOUTH COWBOY TEE</b> (Our super comfy preshrunk cotton heather grey color YOUTH Tee features a fun and colorful "George Strait" cowboy design.) ..... Check size: M (10-12)__ L (14-16)__	\$12.95	
	☆☆☆ 8935	<b>HEATHER NAVY ZIP-UP HOODED SWEATSHIRT</b> (Heather Navy UNISEX Full Zip Hooded Sweatshirt, Cozy Heavy Blend Fabric That's As Soft And Comfy As It Is Durable And Good-Looking, Cut To Fit Both Men And Women, Jersey Lined Hood With Matching Drawstring, Zip Front With Split Muff Pocket, Ribbed Cuffs And Waistband, GEORGE STRAIT" 2013-2014 Tour Logo And Concert Photo Imprint On Right Front Chest And..... Check Size: M__L__XL__ <b>NEW</b> "The Cowboy Rides Away" Imprint Down Left Sleeve) ..... Check Size: XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$59.95 \$60.95	
	☆☆☆ 8940	<b>LADIES CHARCOAL ZIP-UP HOODED SWEATSHIRT</b> (This Stylish and Comfortable Hoodie is Perfect for All Day Wear, 100% California fleece cotton, combed for softness and comfort, Raglan sleeves, stretchy comfortably fitted double-stitched cuffs and waistband with a kangaroo pocket, custom applique pink G.S. felt signature on full chest with a pink "The Cowboy Rides Away" logo down left sleeve) ..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$49.95	
	☆☆☆ 8945	<b>SADDLE BROWN HOODIE</b> (Saddle Brown UNISEX Hooded Sweatshirt, cozy heavy blend fabric that's as soft and comfy as it is durable and good-looking, cut to fit both men and women, jersey lined hood with matching drawstring front kangaroo pocket, ribbed cuffs and waistband, large round G.S. applique logo on front chest and "Cowboy Rides Away" imprint down left sleeve)..... Check Size: M__L__XL__XXL__ <b>NEW</b>	\$49.95	
		<b>GEORGE STRAIT CDs</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	
	937	TROUBADOUR .....	\$16	

☆☆☆ NEW ITEMS    ☆☆ PLEASE MARK SIZES WHERE APPROPRIATE

\*\*\*\* PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY      CUSTOMER #: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST.: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT MADE BY: CHECK:\_\_\_ MONEY ORDER:\_\_\_

MASTERCARD:\_\_\_ VISA:\_\_\_ If paying by MasterCard or Visa, please fill out below:

MASTERCARD/VISA NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One:      SUB TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

YES \_\_\_ This is a new address.      TENNESSEE SALES TAX(9.25%) \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_ This is not a new address.      (All Tennessee Customers must add 9.25%)

**SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES**      SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT APPLY TO**      DEDUCT STRAIT CASH HERE - \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP PACKETS!**      TOTAL AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling Charges apply to only one address. Split shipments to separate addresses require a separate shipping & handling charge for each address.

FOR ALL ORDERS OVER \$300.00:	.00 - 20.00 = \$10.00	50.01 - 75.00 = \$17.25
PLEASE ADD AN ADD'L. \$8.00 PER \$100.00 INCREASE.	20.01 - 30.00 = \$12.75	75.00 - 100.00 = \$19.00
	30.01 - 50.00 = \$15.00	Over 101.01 = \$22.50

\*\*\* NOTE: ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID IN U.S. CURRENCY. Orders will only be shipped in the United States and Canada.

**All U.S. and Canadian orders must have a physical mailing address.**

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ORDERS FOR A FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP WILL NOT BE SHIPPED BY OVERNIGHT SERVICES AND ARE NOT REFUNDABLE.  
EXCHANGES AND REFUNDS: All returns must be accompanied by our packing slip with all necessary information pertaining to your return.  
We will credit your original payment method less shipping and handling charges. There is a 30 day return policy on all merchandise.

# Anita's Notes

Welcome to the spring issue of Strait Talk. As you can see from the concert reviews, George and the Ace In The Hole Band have been very busy. That includes thousands of miles traveled, coast to coast and performing in front of hundreds of thousands of loyal fans. The shows seem to be a little longer as he travels through his time machine of music. The fans have embraced his low key approach, even sitting down on a stool at times to talk about specific songs and how they came about. It is so refreshing. The fans are eating it up. From the many comments we are getting, the consensus seems to be "This is the very best of George Strait". If you have an opportunity to take in a show this year, don't miss it. It is an experience you will not want to miss.

With the first half of the 2013 tour completed, there are still a lot of miles and a lot of shows to go. I'm sure that many of you know about the time 30 years ago when George filled in for an ailing Eddie Rabbit at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. It has been a wonderful and unique experience in that environment for many years and there will be one more time on March 17th as he returns to Reliant Stadium, right next door to the old Astrodome where it all started. It should be a very exciting night.

On March 8 & 9th, George will host his 31st Annual George Strait Team Roping Classic at the Rose Palace in San Antonio, TX. It is a totally different atmosphere from the tour as he totally immerses himself in a sport that his name has become synonymous with. He has nurtured the event into one of the greatest Team Roping events in the US as it brings the greatest Team Ropers from all across America together at one time to compete for hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and prizes. Ropers and fans alike can't wait for the event each year as it always sells out so quickly. George competes against the best ropers, acts as the host and presents all the awards. If you and your friends have a golden ticket for this event, we suggest that you watch the weather closely. The weather can be anywhere from clear and sunny to cold and rainy, but at least you will

have a roof over your head during the event. We also suggest you bring stadium cushions with you for the bleacher style seating as the roping begins early on Friday and can go late into the night. After you arrive and get your seats and make friends with your neighbors, we suggest you take a walk around the Rose Palace and check out the area. There are many booths set up with everything from Food Vendors to merchants and sponsors selling their amazing goods. If you find something you really like, most of the merchants do accept credit cards. There are many unique items to see. Have fun and take a lot of photos.

The last show of the year at the Alamodome in San Antonio will also go on sale to the public on Saturday, March 9th. Fan Club seats will be on sale March 5th so it will not interfere with your team roping experience. The show will also be a little special as Miranda Lambert will join George and his tour mate Martina McBride for the show. We expect the show to sell out fast so don't miss your chance to get tickets early. Please note carefully!!!! You must be a certified member of the fan club for 7 full days in order to be eligible to purchase Fan Club seating on March 5th. People, who join the fan club at the last minute in order to try and order tickets, will not be able to get them. We will send an email to certified members a day or two in advance with all the information you need to order your tickets. Please remember, you will need your Username and Password while logging in. The only way to purchase Fan Club tickets is on line. Please make sure your Username and Password are in working order before March 5th. You can test them out by going to the Members Only section of the website at [www.georgestrait.com](http://www.georgestrait.com) and logging in. You will be able to make one purchase of up to 4 tickets. Any attempts to duplicate orders will be cancelled should they get through. Also, please download the seating chart before you make your purchase and see where your tickets will be located. If you do not like the location, do not purchase them. They cannot be changed. Fan club seating is

not all on the floor. Fan club seats are available at every level of the stadium. For those of you, who have never visited the Alamodome, please note that it is a very large building. If you are coming to San Antonio for the first time, please don't miss the beautiful sites of the city including the River walk, The Alamo and The Botanical Gardens. And the food.....It's to die for.

If you are taking in one of the show, don't forget to check out the great George Strait merchandise being sold at the tables. There are many different items there than are carried in the Fan Club, so don't miss out on an opportunity to pick up something you really like. However, if you miss something check out our website general Store at [www.georgestrait.com](http://www.georgestrait.com) and see if we might have it.

When George announced his plans for the 2013-2014 "The Cowboy Rides Away Tour", we also made some announcements for the Fan Club. After 30 years of printing and mailing Strait Talk, we will be going all email exclusively in December of 2013. Please make sure that we have your current and up-to-date email address. In addition, we must have a physical address in order to send you any merchandise orders you may place. We ship exclusively with UPS and they cannot deliver to P.O. Boxes.

George was back in the recording studio in February and is wrapping up a new album that should be available sometime in the next few months. We are hearing late spring but dates can always change.

In closing, we would like to thank you for your support of George Strait and the George Strait Fan Club. We would also like to suggest you read the wonderful story elsewhere in the newsletter about the Home 4 Wounded Warriors program that George is involved with. Each night on the tour, the program presents the keys to a home for one of the heroes who have suffered so much for us. It is a wonderful tribute to our soldiers and their families and for the sacrifices they make for all of us. Please continue to pray for all of them.



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# GEORGE STRAIT ITINERARY

Date	City & State	Venue	Public On-Sale	FC Pre-Sale
3/1	Knoxville, TN	Thompson-Boling Arena	On-Sale	
3/2	Lexington, KY	Rupp Arena	On Sale	
3/8-9	San Antonio, TX	George Strait Team Roping Classic	Sold Out	
3/17	Houston, TX	Reliant Stadium	Sold Out	
3/22	Greenville, SC	Bi-Lo Center	On Sale	
4/5	Albuquerque, NM	The Pit	On Sale	
4/6	Las Cruces, NM	Pan American Center	On Sale	
4/12	Little Rock, AR	Verizon Arena	On Sale	
4/13	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Arena	On Sale	
6/1	San Antonio, TX	Alamodome	3/9	3/5

Please check the George Strait website at [www.georgestrait.com](http://www.georgestrait.com) for any further information.

You may also check Strait Line by calling 615-824-7176 and pressing 2.