
STRAIT TALK

The 2000 George Strait Tour Plans Near Completion

After several months of preparation and speculation the planning is almost complete for George Strait's Country Music Festival Tour for the year 2000. The tentative cities and dates have been set but are still subject to change. Several acts have already been chosen but the process is not quite complete.

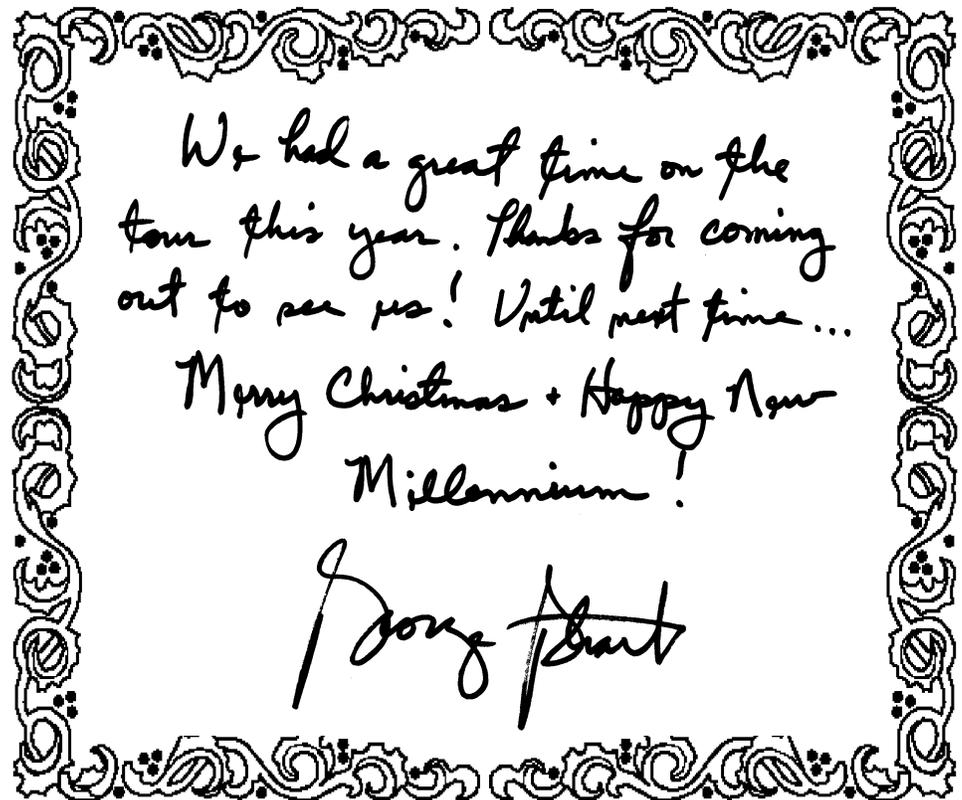
The tour is tentatively scheduled to kick off at the Loews Motor Speedway in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 29th and culminate at the new Enron Field in Houston, Texas on June 14th. A total of ten cities will be visited during the 2000 Festival Tour. In addition to Charlotte and Houston, the tour is tentatively scheduled to visit Nashville, Tennessee; Orlando and Jacksonville, Florida; Cleveland and Cincinnati, Ohio; Landover, Maryland; Buffalo, New York and Dallas, Texas. The complete tentative schedule can be found on the back of the newsletter.

Tim McGraw has agreed to appear once again with George on the tour. Other acts that have agreed to date are Martina McBride, Kenny Chesney and Asleep at the Wheel. The other two acts that will perform on the stadium stage will be announced in the near future. Fans are asked to visit the George Strait

website at www.georgestrait.com for the latest information as it comes available. Three other acts will perform before the show begins and during set changes on the Straitland stage that will be set up outside the stadium. The tour will once again be presented by Chevy Trucks and Nokia.

Resistol, Justin Boots, Wrangler, Pemmican and Bud Light are also returning as associate sponsors of the event.

The February/March issue of Strait Talk will have complete details of the tour including tickets on sale dates. #



Fan Collectable Column

December 1999/January 2000

- The Oregonian - 10/8/99. Living Section E-3, by John Foyston. Mentioned in article.
- The Spokesman-Review - 9/26/99. Mentioned in article by John Austin and Shirley Jenkins, p. F-4.
- Country Weekly - 11/2/99. Mentioned in "The Top 10 from 10/28/89." #2 on the charts "Ace in the Hole," p. 72, mentioned p. 55 and 10. Nashville, TN.
- "Memories at Midnight" - by Joanna Wayne. Harlequin Books, p. 130 mentioned. Ontario, Canada. 1999
- Country Music - Oct./Nov. 1999 issue. Front cover photos, p. 8 letters, p. 19 ad, p. 34 story, p. 35 full page photo, p. 75 photo. New York, NY.
- Country Weekly - 11/16/99. Mentioned in article p. 40 and p. 72. Nashville, TN.
- Western Horseman - 11/99 issue. Advertisement for Justin Boots. Nice photo. Dallas, TX.
- American Cowboy - Nov./Dec. 1999 issue. Full page ad, p. 15 Christmas CD. New York, NY.
- San Antonio Express - News - 9/23/99. P. 17A. CMA story by Jim Patterson. San Antonio, TX.
- Country Weekly - 10/5/99. P. 3, 42, 49 mentioned w/photos. Nashville, TN.
- Entertainment Weekly - 10/1/99. P. 73 mentioned by David Browne. Axson, GA.
- San Antonio Express-News - 9/24/99. P. 8F CMA story by John Goodspeed. San Antonio, TX.
- Texas Monthly - 10/99 issue. Mentioned "All Stars." (The celebrity high school football hall of fame) by Michael Hall. P. 115. Vol. 27, Issue 10.
- Country Weekly - 10/10/99. p. 58. Photo w/story "Behind The Song" by Gerry Wood, p. 7 mentioned and p. 72 mentioned. Nashville, TN.
- "The Wrangler and the Runaway Mom" by Rae Anne Thayne. Silhouette Books, p. 810. 10/99. New York, NY.
- "The Horseman's Bride" by Marilyn Pappano. Silhouette Books, p. 159. 10/99. New York, NY.
- "The Millionaire and the Pregnant Paup" by Christie Ridgways. Harlequin Books. S. A. Silhouette Series, pgs. 88, 89, 90, 92, and 167. 1999.
- San Antonio Express News - 11/4/99. Mentioned in article by Ihosvani Rodriguez. Section F. p. 1, S. A. Life. San Antonio, TX.
- Newsday - 10/31/99. P. D3 mentioned in article. New York, NY.
- San Antonio Express News - 10/31/99. Mentioned in article by John Goodspeed. Profile section, p. 1 & 8H. San Antonio, TX.

The following George Strait Fan Club Members submitted to the Collectable Column -

And We Thank You!

As a GSFC member, you can join in and earn Strait Cash, receive your Strait Talk 1st Class and a Collector's Card. This is all you need to do - collect magazine or newspaper articles, photos or reviews - send them in and if we use them, your name is added to the list. It's easy. Remember to enclose the article, where it came from, date, page #, issue and your name and address. Thank You!!!

Alexis Gaffney - Gales Creek, OR
 Ann Brownson - Mt. Vernon, VA
 Shirley Everett - Burnet, TX
 Dotsie Lehr - New Braunfels, TX
 April Rogers - Alpharetta, GA
 Janice Upton - Ira, TX
 Linda Robbins - San Antonio, TX
 Mark Young - Tempe, AZ
 Agnes Olson - Axson, GA
 Tammy Penner - Saskatoon, Canada

Shirley Smallwood - Kilgore, TX
 Trudy Holderby - Davenport, WA
 Florence Bieniek - Amsterdam, NY
 Debbie Erickson - Taylor, MI
 Rosemary Ott - Troy, MO
 Barbara Kelly - Park City, MT
 Judy Shisk - San Antonio, TX
 Lena DeJoseph - Howard Beach, NY
 Dee Walker - Tuscaloosa, AL
 Nell Eskridge - San Antonio, TX

LIMITED EDITION ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON



#9100 - Christmas Sweatshirt



#5099
Team Roping
T-Shirt

SPECIAL ORDER FORM

QTY.	ITEM	SIZES	COST	TOTAL
	5099 Team Roping T-Shirt	M___ L___ XL___ XXL___	\$20.00	
	9100 Christmas Sweatshirt	M___ L___ XL___ XXL___	\$29.95	

Shipping and Handling
\$4.00 per T-Shirt
\$4.00 per Sweatshirt

Shipping Charges \$4.00 per T-Shirt \$ _____
Shipping Charges \$4.00 per Sweatshirt \$ _____
TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CUSTOMER #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

Z I P : _____

PHONE: (____) _____

Method of Payment: Check _____ Money Order _____ Cashier Check _____ Credit Card _____

(If paying with Credit Card, please fill out below)

MASTERCARD/VISA NO.: _____

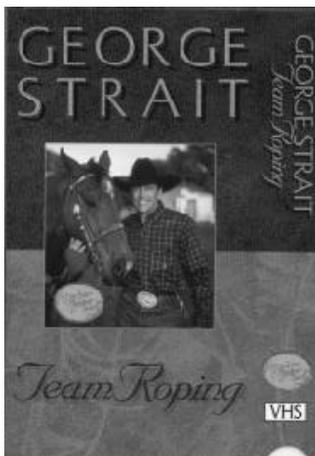
EXPIRATION DATE: _____

NAME ON CARD: _____

SIGNATURE ON CARD: _____

MASTERCARD/VISA ORDERS CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-338-GSFC

NEW MERCHANDISE



#991 - Roping Video



#925-Christmas Cassette/CD
& art featured on
#395-Christmas Candle Art



#650-Songbook



#4045 - Sports Towel



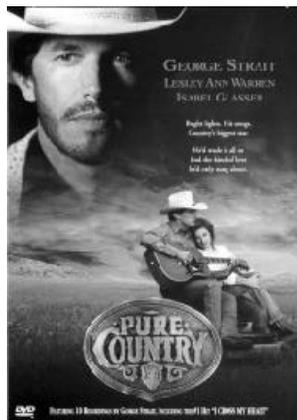
#5150-Fan Club T-Shirt



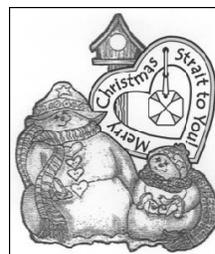
#1120-Beach Towel



#9005 - Sweatshirt
&
#9003 - Sweat Pants



#9999DVD-Pure Country DVD



#407-Christmas Ornament



#565 - License Tag Holder



#555-License Tag



#5205-Baby Bib



From The Mailbox

George Strait Fan Club,

I received "Strait Talk" today and really enjoyed it and all the others I have gotten. It's such fun to work the puzzles. I'm so happy for George when he wins the awards. I too helped him win those 6 Golden Pick awards and I think he deserved all of them. He is the best country singer that there is. Hoping he wins lots more.

A George Strait Fan,
Gertrude Schiffner
Lisbon, N. Dakota

GSFC,

Congratulations to George Strait on his best album ever, "Always Never The Same." It's no wonder that the first three releases from that album have all been smash hits as he has never sounded better!

I sincerely hope that his next release from the album will be "Always Never The Same." That song is sensational and so captivating. When I listen to it I just can't sit still - it really packs a punch and the ending is just great. Also, "I Look at You" would also be a great single; it is such a romantic love song.

I purchased the "Merry Christmas Wherever You Are" CD and it is really fabulous, especially the title song. I hope to be hearing it on the air around the holiday season together with "The Christmas Song" and all the other songs. Something to look forward to.

Wishing George and everyone there a Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,
Millie Porter
Poland, OH

Hi GSFC and Anita,

I just wanted to write and tell you how much I'm enjoying the fan club. After George came to Chicago this year, I just had to join. It was such a thrill to see him in concert - he really is enchanting! He started my heart racing when I first saw him on an awards show years ago, and it's been increasing every time I see him and "Pure Country!" And one of the highlights of my life was the concert in April. PLEASE come back to Chicago George! The voice, the looks - he's got the whole package!!

Thanks for many years of enjoyment - looking forward to many more! STR8 4EVER!

Chris Wales
Woodridge, IL

Dear George,

Although I've been a true fan of yours since 1981, I just recently joined the George Strait Fan Club and received my membership card along with the packet of material. I've thoroughly enjoyed reading all and also being able to access those pages on your website normally reserved for members. This I can only do while spending part of my time in Seattle with my son who has Internet capabilities. The rest of my time is spent with my daughter in Yakima (WA). So far, she doesn't have the equipment for accessing the Internet.

Reading the letters of praise from the fans in "Strait Talk" pretty well sums up my feelings on your tremendous talent and wonderful gift. Your ability in choosing songs and staying within a true country tradition as well as your personality is fantastic.

Choosing any one particular recording as a favorite is very hard since they're all terrific. As a result, I have all of them in addition to the two videos and movie video of "Pure Country." My only complaint is that there aren't more as I'm very greedy and can't get enough of "George Strait." Your ability to switch from country to big band Jazz vocalist (referring to "Fly Me To The Moon" with Frank Sinatra) certainly should make a lot of vocalists envious.

I'm hoping that some time in the near future, you'll be able to make the State of Washington a part of your tour. I followed your last summer tour through "Country Weekly" magazine and various radio coverage. I was unable to attend the one in 1996 in Tacoma.

I believe there should be an honorable PhD in medicine awarded to you. Late in July I had major surgery (knee replacement) and underwent a great deal of pain for a good two months. If it hadn't been for all of my George Strait tapes and trusty earphones, I'd have gone nuts or become a "junkie." Thank you Dr. George Strait.

Wishing you, Norma, son George Jr. and all your staff the very best.

Warm Regards,
Elsie Naasz & family
Yakima, WA

Dear Mr. Strait,

I want to thank you for the lovely fan club membership package I received. Thank you for all the interesting information, the pictures too are a treasure. I am eighty three and have heard lost of singers in my life, but none can compare with you, to me George

Strait is the best ever, you are #1. "Pure Country" is my favorite video, I now have several CDs and enjoy every one. Last week I bought your Christmas CD and hope to add to my collection. Someday I would love to attend one of your concerts, if you are anywhere in Manitoba or somewhere not far from the U.S. border, I'll be there.

Looking forward to the next issue of Strait Talk.

Sincerely,
Grace Watson

George Strait Fan Club,

A friend of mine gave me a one year membership for my birthday this past May. Talk about a gift that keeps on giving!! This year for Christmas I plan on giving memberships to some of my friends. Thanks for keeping me updated and entertained. Tell George to keep up the Great Work! Hopefully we'll see him again in Ohio this year!

Always a Fan,
Tina Menke
Ft. Jennings, OH

Dear Fan Club,

As a new member, I just wanted to say that I'm really enjoying it. I've been a George Strait fan for years, but I went to my first Strait concert this past March. I saw GSMF in Clemson, SC, as a gift from my husband, and I could never in a million years think of anything better to receive. That was one of the best days I could ever remember having, and to my husband's surprise, I started to cry when George appeared on the stage. I had waited so long for that moment, that I couldn't believe it was finally happening. He was everything and more than what I had been expecting.

I promised my 6 year old daughter, Kelsey, that I would take her this year, and she's almost as excited as I am. She's just as much of a fan, too. Everywhere we go she sings to people, and two of her favorites to sing are "Write This Down" and "Lovebug." Even at her early age, she loves to listen to George's amazing ballads, also. I am awed at how George's music reaches out and grabs every generation. He has a wonderful gift and I'm so grateful that I was able to see it live.

Thank you Fan Club for the wonderful job you do. And, for just being there!

Forever a Strait Fan,
Michelle Matthews
Delta, OH



Anita's Notes

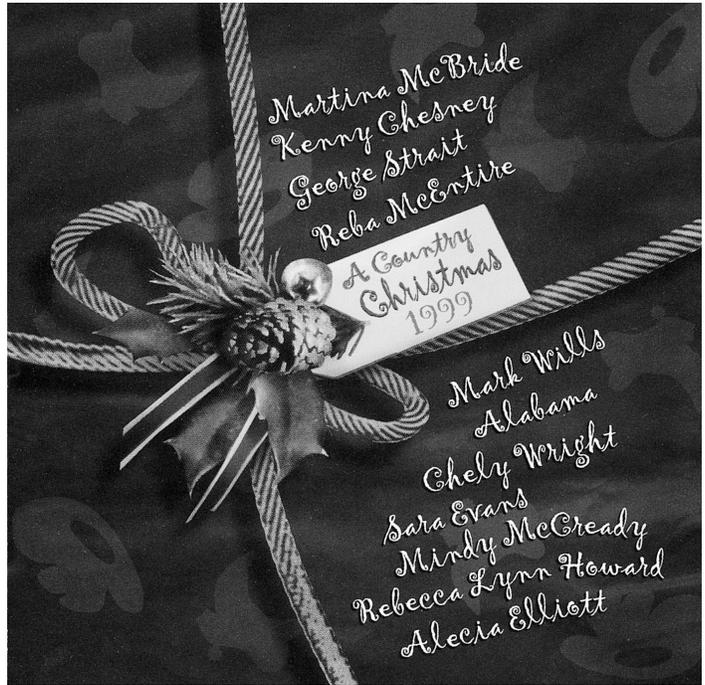
This issue of Strait Talk will complete another year for us and move us into the new millennium. When Strait Talk started in 1983, we never thought we would still be doing this in the year 2000. We were so wrong! Things come and go so quickly in this music business, but George Strait has had a wonderful and successful career. As he continued to record, tour and win awards, there is no other place to go, but continue the wonderful journey. We hope the fans around the world will travel into the next millennium with George and his Ace in the Hole Band. Thank you for all your support!

We have received many calls, notes and e-mails about George's latest album, "Merry Christmas Wherever You Are." Thanks! Also, fans are mentioning George's recording of a song called "Christmas Cookies" that was written by Aaron Barker. This song is in a special compilations Christmas Package that is

being sold only at Target stores. We checked our local Target and MCA office in Nashville and were told that the package contains song by 11 different artists. It is available in CD for \$5.99 and Cassette for \$3.99. The title is "A Country Christmas 1999." We hope you enjoy it.

We have a few well wishes to announce and congratulations to hand out.

First, congratulations to George and Norma Strait on



their Wedding Anniversary on December 4th. Best Wishes!

Congratulations to George's Road Manager, Tom Foote, and his new wife, Sallie, on their recent nuptials. They were married in June.

We also have three GSFC puzzle winners from the October/November issue of Strait Talk. They are:

- 1st Place - Hazel Coady of Holmen, WI
- 2nd Place - Lynn Smith of Arnett, OK
- 3rd Place - Mark Young of Tempe, AZ

Congratulations to our three prize winners. Your prizes are being mailed to you.

For GSFC members who have access to a computer, your new

User Name and Password to get into the secure areas of the web site are as follows:

User Name: noel

Password: leon

Please always remember to use lower case letters when entering your User Name and Password. This area allows you into the member's only area that has information on Fan Club seating and the latest issue of Strait Talk.

We will be closing the Fan Club office for the Holiday Season on Dec. 22nd at Noon and no new orders will be processed or shipped until after we return to work on January 3rd, 2000. If you need to return or exchange an item after the holidays, please remember to enclose the shipping charges and a copy of your invoice. Please include a daytime telephone number. Also, in order to receive the proper credit or exchange, please make sure that the item you are returning is in the excellent condition that you received it. Also, please note that orders for Christmas *need to be shipped* by December 10th to have the best possible chance to arrive by Christmas. We suggest that if you are still ordering for Christmas that you use a Credit Card or Money Order as checks take two weeks to clear the banks before

Happy Anniversary George & Norma Strait



December 4, 1999

Anita's Notes (Continued)

the orders are cleared for shipment.

From all of us in the George Strait orga - nization to all of you around the world, we would like to wish you and your families and friends a very special Merry Christmas and a most joyous and Happy, Healthy Holiday and a most memorable and safe New Year.

IN TEXAS:

George, Norma and George Strait, Jr.
Tom Foote (Road Manager)
Frank Bohman (CPA)
Ted Moffitt (Ranch Foreman)

ACE IN THE HOLE BAND:

David Anthony (Acoustic Guitar & Vocals)
Mike Daily (Steel Guitar)
Gene Elders (Fiddle)
Terry Hale (Bass)
Ronnie Huckaby (Keyboards)
Mike Kennedy (Drums)
Benny MacArthur (Guitar, Fiddle & Vocals)
Rick McRae (Guitar & Fiddle)
Wes Hightower (Vocals)
LeeAnna Maness (Vocals)

ROAD CREW:

Lee Roy Eichler (Dir. of Transportation)
David Latimer (Band Driver)
Jimmy Spivey (Driver)
George Hurtado (Pilot)
Max Benoit (Concession Manager)
Joe Hayes (Concession Sales)
Paul Rogers (Production Manager)

IN NASHVILLE, TN:

Erv Woolsey (Personal Manager)
Danny O'Brian (Tour Coordinator)
Connie Woolsey (Executive Director)
Dottie Oelhafen (Office Manager)
Cheryl Valuja (Adm. Asst.)
Felicity Tidwell (Accounting)
Casey Robertson (Receptionist)
Tom Cheney (Artist Development)
Eddie Tidwell (Creative Dir.-Publishing)
Tarryn Smith (Creative Mgr.-Publishing)
Jim Williams (Catalog Mgr.-Publishing)

THE GEORGE STRAIT FAN CLUB:

Anita O'Brian (President)
Pam Garrett (Operations Manager)
Judy Dismang (Adm. Asst.)

Katie Swafford (Operations Asst.)
Cheryl Erwin (Data Entry)
Darci O'Brian (Creative Director)

Strait Shooters**DECEMBER 1999-JANUARY2000**

(Fans that submit photos that are used in the newsletter)

CMA OFFICE - NASHVILLE, TN (Front Cover)
FRANK ADDINGTON, JR. - WINFIELD, W.VA.
TERRY CALONGE - GOODLETTSVILLE, TN
ELLEN JOHNSON - HEALDSBURG, CA
PHIL JOHNSON - PENFIELD, IL
BILL PIECHOTA - GOLDEN, CO

Pen Pals**DECEMBER 1999-JANUARY2000**

(Fans that exchange letter through mail)

Brian Apfel
6248 N. 103rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53225

Deborah Cassandra Miller (39)
1539 Merritt Blvd.
#133
Dundalk, MD 21222

Micah Phalin (14)
2538 Wetaug Road
Dongola, IL 62926

