

Dates Set For 16th Annual George Strait Team Roping Classic

The dates of July 10th and 11th have been ormally announced as the official dates for he 16th Annual George Strait Team Roping Classic. The two day event, featuring many of the country's best team ropers, will again be held at the J.K. Northway Arena in Kingsville, Texas.

The first day of roping on July 10th will ind an estimated 200 teams competing for ash and prizes valued at more than 3100,000. The fastest 25 teams after the first wo go-rounds will return on Saturday, July 11th, to compete in the finals. The ropers on he winning team will drive away with a ruckload full of cash in the back of their new 1998 Chevy trucks pulling their brand new 3ruton trailers.

On Saturday night, following the finals, George and his Ace In The Hole Band will be oined by a very special guest in a concert at he Arena.

Registration for the 1998 Team Roping Classic will take place on May 29th and 30th. Feams willing to put up their \$400 entry fee can register between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. each

day by calling 512-668-1513. Classic officials will be on duty both nights to make sure that anyone interested in competing will be able to do so.

Tickets for the concert will go on sale June 6th. ALL SEATS ARE GENERALADMIS-SION. There is no reserved seating. The floor of the arena is standing room only. Due to the general admission nature of the concert, parents are discouraged from bringing children ten years of age or younger to the event. Fan club members who choose to do so, may order their tickets by mail in advance. This is very helpful since the concert has sold out instantly during each of the last 15 years. Mail your ticket orders in early because mail order tickets are limited. Persons ordering by mail should note that only money orders and cashiers checks will be accepted. NO PER-SONAL CHECKS, CASH OR CREDIT CARDS should be sent as they will be returned without concert tickets. If you would like to order tickets, please send \$27.00 for each ticket (including shipping and handling)

GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING CLASSIC

Attn: Susan Ivy P.O. Drawer 512 Kingsville, TX 78363

Tickets for the daily roping events are \$7.00 and are available at the door. A limited number of the daily roping tickets will be available by mail on a first come, first served basis. Orders for the concert tickets and the limited supply of daily roping tickets will be taken as of April 15th and must be postmarked no later than May 23rd. For any further information call (512) 595-8591.

The Kleberg County Parks Department will once again have their Fan Appreciation Party this year. For further details on the party, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Parks Department at the address above. Please remember that the party is being put on by the Kleberg County Parks Department and is not affiliated with the George Strait Fan Club or the George Strait Team Roping Classic. We hope you enjoy yourself.

George Strait Nabs Four Nominations For The American Country Misic Awards

George Strait has once again, received a nost of nominations for the Academy of Country Music. When the nominations were ead in Los Angeles on February 24th, Strait nad accumulated four more nominations for his year's awards.

The finalists for the 33rd Annual ACM Awards were announced by Marty Roe of

Diamond Rio, Randy Travis and Lee Ann Womack. When the air cleared, George Strait was a finalist in four categories. They included "Entertainer of the Year," "Album of the Year" for Carrying Your Love With Me, "Single of the Year" for Carrying Your Love With Me" as well as "Top Male Vocalist."

The awards will be handed out on

Wednesday, April 22nd at the Universal Amphitheater in Los Angeles, California. The awards show will be broadcast live on C-B-S TV from 7-10pm Central Time. George Strait and his "Ace In The Hole Band" are expected to perform on the nationally televised program.

New George Strait Album Set To Be In Stores On April 21st

The new George Strait album, 'One Step At A Time" is expected o be in retail stores on April 21st, one day before the he appears on he nationally televised ACM Awards show on CBS TV. Strait inished putting the finishing touchs on the album with co-producer Γony Brown shortly before Christmas. It includes all new mateial. Some of the songs were written by some of George's favorite writers including Roger Cook, Earl Clark, Jeff Stevens, Jim Lauderdale, Steve Bogart, Donny Kees, Dana Hunt (Oglesby) and Dean Dillon.



Happy Birthday! George (May 18th) & George, Jr. (May 14th)!!!

VOTE! THE MUSIC CITY NEWS COUNTRY AWARDS

EACH CALL COSTS \$.99. YOU MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER TO VOTE.

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

"Carrying Your Love With Me" Saturday 3/21-3/26 1-900-288-1329

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

"Carrying Your Love With Me" Friday 3/27-4/1 1-900-288-1348

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

"Carrying Your Love With Me" Thursday 4/2-4/7 1-900-288-1317

SONG OF THE YEAR

"Carrying Your Love With Me" Wednesday 4/8-4/13 1-900-288-1329

MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

George Strait Wednesday 5/13-5/18 1-900-288-1346

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

George Strait Monday 5/25-5/30 1-900-288-1328

Fan Collectable Column

April / May 1998

Modern Screen's Country Music Magazine - May, 1998 - Photo p. 8, photo p. 75. The Arizona Republic - Feb. 21, 1998, p. 20.

Nokia Ad - "George Strait Country Music Festival."

People Magazine - "Celebrity Style Secrets '98" issue - Feb. 16, 1998, p. 67 photo. Country Song Roundup - April, 1998 - Photo and song lyrics - "Today My World Slipped Away."

News Tribune - Jefferson City, MO, 2-8-98 mentioned.

San Antonio Express Newspaper - 2-22-98, p. 4 mentioned.

Kingsport Times - News, Kingsport, TN - 2-24-98 mentioned, p. 8A.

Flint Journal - 1st Edition, Flint, MI, 2-19-98. Tempo Section B, page B6.

San Antonio Express Newspaper - 2-24-98, p. 2Amentioned.

San Antonio Express Newspaper - 2-25-98, p. 16 mentioned.

Country Weekly - March 10, 1998, page 6 - picture and name mentioned; page 43 - picture for Country Weekly Golden Pick Awards; page 54 - name mentioned for top 40 singles "Round About Way" and top 40 albums "Carrying Your Love With Me" ending February 21, 1998.

Country Weekly - March 17, 1998 - Cover - small picture; pages 9, 12, 32 - name mentioned; page 13 - picture; page 14 - name mentioned for Golden Pick Awards for Favorite Entertainer and Favorite Male Artist; page 15 - name mentioned for Golden Pick Awards for Favorite Album "Carrying Your Love With Me," Favorite Video Entertainer and Favorite Line Dance Song "One Night At ATime;" page 16 - name mentioned for top 10 5 years ago for Heartland (#2); page 32 -

picture with Lee Ann Womack; page 54 - name mentioned for top 40 singles "Round About Way" and top 40 albums "Carrying Your Love With Me" ending February 28, 1998.

- Houston Chronicle Zest Section February 22, 1998, page 6 - Billboard's Top Country Singles for "Round About Way."
- Houston Chronicle Zest Section March 1, 1998, page 6 - Billboard's Top Country Singles for "Round About Way" (#1).
- Houston Chronicle Rodeo Advertisement -February 19, 1998, page 7 - name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle February 20, 1998, page 1F - name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle February 22, 1998, page 16B name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle February 26, 1998, page 12B - name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle February 28, 1998, page 12B - name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle March 2, 1998, page 1A - name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle March 3, 1998, page 10B name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle March 4, 1998, page 12B name mentioned.
- Houston Chronicle March 5, 1998, page 12B - name mentioned.
- Texas City Sun "Teen Beat" February 27, 1998, page 1 Billboard's Best Bets "Round About Way" (#1).
- Texas City Sun "Teen Beat" March 6, 1998, page 8 - Billboard's Best Bets - "Round About Way" (#1).
- The Jamestown Sun Newspaper Jamestown, ND - 2-24-98, p. 13 mentioned (ACM Awards 4-22).
- Times-Picayune Newspaper New Orleans, LA - 2-24-98, p. A-5 mentioned (ACM

Awards).

- Ellwood City Ledger Elwood City, PA-2-28-98, p. 6 article.
- Country Music January/February 1998, page 35 - name mentioned for top 25 Albums for "Carrying Your Love With Me" (8) and top 25 singles for "Today My World Slipped Away" (5), pages 55, 56, 65 - name mentioned.
- Texas Monthly February 1998 page 123 picture.
- Country America March 1998, pages 79, 125 name mentioned.
- Country Weekly February 10, 1998, cover small picture with Norma; pages 3, 5, 30, 34, 46, 47, 67, 73 name mentioned; page 35, 46, 59 full page picture with Norma; page 58 article and picture; page 78 name mentioned for top 40 singles "Round About Way" and top 40 albums "Carrying Your Love With Me" ending January 24, 1998 and album cover for "Carrying Your Love With Me."
- Country Weekly February 17, 1998, cover, page 4 - name mentioned; page 8 - full page picture with Star Stats; page 54 - name mentioned for top 40 singles "Round About Way" and top 40 albums "Carrying Your Love With Me" ending January 31, 1998.
- Houston Chronicle Zest Section February 1, 1998, page 6 - Billboard's Top Country Singles for "Round About Way."
- Houston Chronicle Zest Section February 8, 1998, page 6 - Billboard's Top Country Singles for "Round About Way."
- Music City News March 1998, pages 6, 29, 49.
- Texas City Sun "Teen Beat" February 6, 1998, page 8 - name mentioned for Billboard's Country Single for "Round About Way."
- Texas City Sun February 8, 1998, page 5A name mentioned.

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!

Judy Duncan - Napa, CA
Ellen Goerlich - Texas City, TX
Trudy Holderby - Davenport, WA
Sharron Cox - Houston, TX
Donald R. Minteer - Ellwood City, PA
Jane S. Jancso - Brookfield, OH
Karen Johnson - Valleyview, Alta, Canada
Chuck & Lorna Stover - Valley Center, KS
Carolyn K. LeBlanc - Chalmette, LA
Judy Hoyt - Jamestown, ND
Alexis Gaffney - Gales Creek, OR

Dotsie Lehr - New Braunfels, TX
Judy Shisk - San Antonio, TX
Donna Grashorn - Wayne, NE
Sharon Folts - Swarte Creek, MI
Margaret Gilreath - Kingsport, TN
Jeanie Hawkins - Rolla, MO
Margaret Stangl - St. Louis Park, MN
Carolyn Evans - Harrisburg, MO
Virginia Jackson - Charles Town, W.Va.
Judy Anderson - Garland, TX

Phyllis E. Marth - Madison, WI
Claudia Car-Gilleland - Bellevue, WA
Mary E. Marowski - Jamestown, NY
Beverly Cable - Serndee, MI
Carolyn Huffman - Versailles, MO
Lou Dallman - Oshkosh, WI
Nancy Piechota - Golden, CO
Celeste Pakebusch - Alice, TX
Dede Kirkpatrick - Lubbock, TX
Helen Tomasek - Phoenix, AZ
Gina Leon - Parsons, KS

STRAIT WORD SEARCH GAME-

TRAITLAND TRAIT TALK WAPSHOP

EAM ROPING

OURDATES

RUE

JP FUN /IDEO

ONY BROWN

Created by: Mildred Miller, Whitestown, IN

Vords are always in a straight line and may read up, down, forward, backward, and diagonally.

THESE NAMES AND ITEMS MAY BE FOUND ON THE GEORGE STRAIT WEBSITES:

ACADEMY OF COUNTRY	Y	U	R	P	Н	E	G	E	O	R	G	Е	N	Q	R	В	W	Z	N	O	P	E	T	G
MUSIC	O	N	G	R	В	N	N	X	С	V	R	G	Α	Ι	L	Ι	Α	R	Т	R	Α	Т	S	J
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ENTERTAINER	R	E	N	S	G	R	Η	E	S	U	S	M	В	P	G	F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L	V
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OHN	M	T	N	U	F	P	I	C	T	U	R	E	S	E	E	M	A	I	L	C	R	S	M	I
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PEOPLE MAGAZINE	Q	S	W	O	C	A	E	R	T	Y	U	O	I	\mathbf{Z}	C	S	D	R	A	W	Α	В	W	E
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CONGRATULATIONS!

We have three GSFC Winners from the February/March 1998 issue of Strait Talk. They are:

1st Place (Jacket): Karen D. Clark - Colorado Springs, CO 2nd Place (Sweatshirt): Lisa Watson - Sabina, OH 3rd Place (T-shirt): Eva Jane Queen - Pflugerville, TX

Name		
Address		
City	_ State	_Zip
elephone:		
acket Size All entries must be received by May 15, 1998, One Entry Only!		

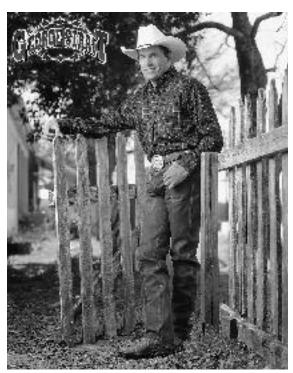
- New George Strait Merchandise -



#5007 - White Tour T-Shirt



#224 - 8"x10" George in Red Plaid Shirt



#612 - Poster 24"x36"



#1051 - Thermal Mug 32 oz. Black Mug w/New Country Music Festival design



#223 - 8"x10" George in Blue Shirt



#638 - Calendar (12 page, 15 month - June 1998-August 1999

FAN CLUB # - 1-615-824-7176 MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. ORDER DESK # - 1-800-338-4732 FAX # - 1-615-822-2527

S I R A I I I A L K

Anita's Notes

Welcome back! The first three months have lown by so quickly and from our busy phone ines and website reports, I believe the next few nonths will pass just as quickly.

As we write this issue of "Strait Talk," George nd his band are beginning to kick off the 1998 Beorge Strait Country Music Festival tour. In act, by the time you get this newsletter, we will robably have three or four of the festivals under ur belts. I have to admit that this is the most xciting undertaking that we have ever attemptd. George Strait and six other acts, including im McGraw, John Michael Montgomery, Faith Iill, Lee Ann Womack, Lila McCann and Asleep t The Wheel, will entertain almost one million ans over the next three and one-half months. Jever before in country music has anyone ttempted to put together a stadium tour like this ne. Early ticket sales indications are that sell uts are on the horizon for all the stadiums. A omplete itinerary is available on the back page of the newsletter. There will be no additions to his list. Our thanks to Chevy Trucks, Nokia, Vrangler and all of the other sponsors who are elping to make the event possible. We could not to the festival tour and keep the prices at a very air level without their help.

George appeared on the American Music twards on January 26th in Los Angeles and nany of you watched as he walked away a doule winner. The front cover of this issue of Strait alk shows George holding the two trophies he von that night for "Best Country Male Artist" nd "Best Country Album." We are happy to let ou know that George has completely healed the evere case of Laryngitis that kept him from perorming on the Grammy Awards show in New York City.

There are many more awards to be handed out ver the next few months and George has eceived his share of the nominations. He has een nominated in four categories for the cademy of Country Music Awards show to be eld on April 22nd in Los Angeles, California. Ie has been nominated in for "Entertainer of the Year," "Top Male Vocalist," "Album of the Year" Carrying Your Love With Me) and "Single of he Year" (Carrying Your Love With Me). Let's eep our fingers crossed and wish George the est.

We hope you have ordered your Academy of Country Music Awards program that we had offered in the last issue. It might help you keep p with the show as there will be no "Host" for his year's program.

The Country Weekly Golden Pick Awards will e handed out at the 4th Anniversary Party in Vashville, TN. In April, George has been nomiated for "Favorite Entertainer," "Favorite Male Artist," Favorite Album (1997 release) - 'Carrying Your Love With Me'," "Favorite Video Entertainer," "Favorite Line Dance Song (1997 release) - 'One Night At ATime'."

The 32nd Annual TNN Music City News Country Awards will be on June 15th, live from Nashville, TN. This award is fan voted each year by ballots from the Music City News and by calling 900 numbers indicated in the magazine. George has been nominated for "Video of the Year," "Single of the Year," "Album of the Year," "Song of the Year," "Male Artist of the Year," and "Entertainer of the Year."

We would like to thank the fan club members who wrote in and called in their votes last year. Remember, your vote DOES count.

This brings us to the Fan Fair week of June 15-20th in Nashville, TN. Where thousands of fans gather for a week of entertainment, autograph sessions, and photo sessions with many of their favorite artists. George will not be attending the 1998 Fan Fair but, we will have our entire staff at the fairgrounds in our Fan Fair booth during the entire week. We have not been assigned a booth number or location yet, but believe it will be in the same location as in the past. Please come by and see us, we enjoy visiting with you.

The 16th Annual George Strait Team Roping Classic is to take place on July 10-11th in Kingsville, TX. Please read the story on page one about the event and all the happenings. We hope that you have a grand time and would love to hear from you about your visit in South Texas. You can write us at gsfc@concentric.net or fax us at (615) 822-2527.

We have had many calls from Fan Club members who visit the George Strait website at www.georgestraitfans.com but, do not understand how to get in the Fan Club members only. We would like to take the time to again explain to you the procedure. Each issue we have a new User Name and Password for you to use. You DO NOT use your name and fan club membership number. Please use the TWO WORDS indicated below:

User Name: **affirmed** Password: **ready**

The User Name and Password will change in each issue of Strait Talk. There will be a new User Name and Password in the June-July issue of Strait Talk. Remember, for website users the User Name and Password are to be typed in small letters - NO CAPS. If you move and we do not have your current address, you will not receive your newsletter or the new User Name and Password.

Here is another reminder. The tour schedule, on-sale dates and telephone numbers for ticket information is subject to change. Please keep in touch with us at Strait Line or check the website on a regular basis to keep informed. The reason for keeping in touch is that your issue of Strait Talk is written up and printed so far in advance that things do change. We are live on Monday through Friday from 9am-5pm Central Time, but you can call in the evening and listen to the updated recording or visit the website at www.georgestraitfans.com.

Another area of importance of Fan Club seating. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE FAN CLUB SEATING. Our only intention with fan club seating is to attempt and make good seats available to members in the area where the concert is being held, whenever possible. Good seating does not necessarily mean the first five rows. It can also mean good seats a number of rows back or in the lower bowl sections on the side. Each venue may differ. WE DO NOT CONTROL TICKETS. Each venue has a contractual agreement with a local ticketing agency for the handling of tickets. This is not done by the George Strait organization. Fan club members should also understand that they may obtain better seats by going through the normal ticket buying procedure. Members are only allowed to buy "2" fan club seats each at one special location in each city and at the designated time. If fan club seating happens to sell out, we **DO NOT** add any additional tickets. There is no way we can project how many fan club members will show up. so we have to estimate it. In order to buy the special fan club seating, members must present their unexpired membership card and one other form of identification to the ticket seller at the specific location on the day that tickets go on sale to the public. The procedure is on a first come, first served basis. Please keep your G.S.F.C. membership card in a safe place. Lost membership cards will NOT be replaced! Membership fees will no be refunded.

Thanks to all of the fan club members who send in materials for the Fan Club collectable column You can read the explanation of what is appropriate for the column by reading the notes at the end of the column in this issue.

Before we close this issue of Strait Talk, we would like to congratulate Pam and Wade Garrett on the birth of their new son, Ranger Coltor Garrett, who was born on Feb. 10, 1998. Pam is the Operations Manager at the George Strait Fan Club. We would also like to wish George and George Jr. a Happy Birthday and Norma Strait a belated Happy Birthday.

Thanks to each of you for all the cards and letters that continue to pour into the fan club daily.

We hope you have fun at the George Strait Country Music Festivals that are coming your way this spring. Don't forget to send us the reviews from your town papers so we can share them with the rest of the fans.

Till next time, thanks for helping us keep the country STRAIT!!!



From The Mailbox:

leorge,

Congratulations on winning Male Vocalist nd Album of the Year for "Carrying Your ove With Me" during the 25th Annual American Music Awards. I jumped out of my hair.

Sincerely, Ellen Goerlich Texas City, TX

Dear George,

Congratulations on the American Music Awards. How fantastic! You deserve the ecognition.

Hope your tour will bring you close to Vichita, KS.

Your Fan, Janet Schanbacker Udall, KS

Dear Anita & GSFC,

Congrats George!!! You did it again!!! Two wards at the American Music Awards. I vish you would have performed though. Also, congrats on the nominations for The "NN Music City News Awards. Way to go!!! I was glad to read about your concert plans or 1998. I'm planning on going to Tempe, Arizona to see you.

Keep up the GREAT job and can't wait to ee you. Is there a new album coming out his year?

Sincerely, Mari Adams Las Vegas, NV

IOB: Yes, the new album "One Step at a "ime" will be released mid-April.

3SFC.

Way to go George! Congratulations to all nvolved (AMA Awards).

Sincerely, Sharron Cox Houston, TX

Dear George,

Congratulations on your awards at the AMA's. What a great way to start out the

New Year! We are looking forward to your new tour and also your new CD. We missed not seeing you in concert last year and we hope that you will be appearing close enough for us to get the opportunity to see you in concert this year. Again, congratulations and we wish you great success on your new tour.

Pam Rhoades Leo, IN

Dear Anita,

Hooray! George did it again! No one deserves it more.

1997 was a great year for George and his family with all the awards he has received. 1998 has started out great and we hope he continues to receive more honors all year. He's great!

Always enjoy the newsletter. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely, Lorna & Chuck Stover Valley Center, KS

Dear Anita.

Please congratulate "George" for me on the AMA Awards on winning two awards. I could listen to George everyday. He is the best!

A Strait Fan, Stella Prince Pascagoula, MS

Dear GSFC,

Congratulations on a great Feb./March newsletter. I'm really looking forward to the Country Music Festival in Denver. I plan on camping out to get my fan club member tickets when they go on sale. I'll be calling the Strait Line on a regular basis to get the details.

I've been a fan of GS since he began, but only joined GSFC recently. He is "one in a million" and the BEST EVER!!!! He only gets better with age!! I make sure to see him and read everything I can about him.

I want to congratulate him on all his awards; however, I believe he deserves more and more. I want to thank him for being the most wonderful performer and family man in the public eye. I admire him for taking off

this past year to concentrate on personal issues.

I'd like to thank Norma for sharing him with us. She must be a wonderful, understanding woman. I love to see her by his side at the award shows, see him give her a kiss and hear him thank her and his family for all his successes. They truly are great role models for us all. Keep up the GREAT WORK!!!

Love y'all, Karen D. Clark Colorado Springs, CO

Dear George,

Thank you so much for the TNN Special, "Vintage George Strait." The fine collection of music videos is something your fans have been requesting for a long time. The selected interviews mixed well with the arrangement of the show. It was exceptional. Thanks again.

Your fans, Bill and Nancy Piechota Golden, CO



APRII/MAY 1998
(Fans that exchange letters through mail)

Susan Davidson (age 41) 4732 SE 43rd Del City, OK 73115

Fiona Mackinnon (age 17) 31 Weardale Ave. Blyth Northumberland England NE24 5LQ Great Britain

Donna Lyell 319 South 10th Street Mayfield, KY 42066

Maxann Splitstone (age 43) 5774 E. Baseline P.O. Box 811 White Cloud, MI 49349

Jill Van Tuyle (age 44) 6691 Shawnee Run Road Cincinnati, OH 45243

Trent Franklin (age 19) P.O. Box 107 Dallas, NC 28034