

STRAIGHT TALK

DECEMBER 2002/JANUARY 2003

VOL. 20 NO. 6



Season's Greetings!

STRAIT TALK

George Strait's "Road Less Traveled" Tour Continues Into 2003

George Strait's highly successful "Road Less Traveled" Tour will continue to roll into the early part of 2003 with twenty new dates added. In addition to the twenty new dates, Strait will also perform the first show at Reliant Stadium in Houston, Texas during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on February 25th.

The 2003 leg of the tour will bring George

Strait and his "Ace In The Hole Band" back to many markets they haven't visited in several years as well as several cities that haven't been played in recent memory. Strait will be joined on the 2003 portion of the tour by Epic recording artist, Tammy Cochran, who scored a huge hit in 2002 with the song "Angels in Waiting." The tour will begin on January 16th in Greenville, South Carolina

and end in Louisville, Kentucky on February 28th. Other cities that the tour will visit will include Birmingham, AL; Shreveport, LA; Austin, TX; Phoenix, AZ; Las Vegas, NV; Dayton, OH; E. Lansing, MI; Washington, DC; Philadelphia, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Moline, IL; Kansas City, MO; Evansville, IN; N. Charleston, SC; Atlanta, GA; Raleigh, NC and Ft. Wayne, IN. ❄️

*Thanks for making 2002
another great year!*

*Have a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year and
will see you at the next one.*

George Strait

George Strait Team Roping Tickets On Sale December 1st

Tickets for the 21st Edition of the George Strait Team Roping Classic will go on sale to the public on December 1st. Once again, fans using a credit card will be able to order their tickets online through the George Strait Team Roping Classic website at www.gstrc.com. Fans may also access the site from a link at www.georgestrait.com. Ticket prices for each day will be \$16, including shipping and handling. Fans who would prefer to order their tickets by phone using a credit card may call 210-698-0791 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Those wishing to order their tickets by mail may send their checks or money

orders for \$16.00 per ticket to:

George Strait Team Roping Classic
PMB #452
24165 IH-10 West, Suite 217
San Antonio, TX 78257-1159

GSTRC 2003 will take place on Friday and Saturday, March 14th and 15th at the Rose Palace in San Antonio, Texas. The 2002 GSTRC, sponsored by Chevy Trucks and Tractor Supply Co., awarded almost \$300,000 in cash and prizes to contestants. The 2002 Champions, Speed Williams and Tyler Mangus, each won Chevy dually pick-up trucks and Bruton trailers and shared more than \$46,000 in cash.

The 2002 GSTRC also introduced an exciting new feature as H.E.B. Food Stores sponsored the H.E.B. Challenge. Each round a number of random ropers was given the opportunity to rope one of the red wrapped steers. Ropers that won the round on one of the red wrapped steers earned an additional \$2500 for the round. H.E.B. has agreed to return in 2003 and increase the Challenge prizes which should make it even more exciting.

In 2002, ropers came from all across the country to compete as 562 teams were entered in the event. 🌟

Strait and Messina: Magic and Fire

*Written by William Kerns
A-J Entertainment Editor*

Submitted by Wanda Boyd, Lubbock, TX

Country music superstar George Strait obviously doesn't give a lick about the complaints of many critics over the years. In many ways, Thursday's concert by Strait at the United Spirit Arena — his first trip back to Lubbock in an amazing 10 years — was completely predictable.

So let's just get all that out of the way first.

A "concert-in-the-round" simply means a few more places for Strait to stand in place. With four microphones at four center-stages, the entire show was "two songs in place and a step to the left." The fact that the first 16 songs were delivered in less than one hour is a pretty fair indication of what Strait thinks of musical detours and spontaneity.

His fans buy the CDs, and his concerts are the CDs live.

Pure and simple.

Well, almost.

Heck, even Strait's fans have heard what naysayers have had to say all these years. They just shake their heads, a little sad that those critics don't get it.

Because, let's face it, there's something magical about a George Strait concert these days. His shows are not just concerts; they are must-see events.

And to Strait's credit, his vocals were

near-perfect Thursday night - more than 90 minutes, more than two dozen songs, more than even die-hard loyalists probably expected.

Whereas Strait once simply sang the lyrics, there now are some pauses and emphatic moments that find him closing his eyes, reaching deeper inside for the meaning behind the words.

Oh, it's obvious that he's also having fun on stage. There was a time when he was shy about the screams and camera lenses, and now he gives an easy grin at the cameras that will project his face in close-up on a quartet of screens surrounding the stage.

But then there are renditions of such songs as "Meanwhile" (admittedly a personal fave) and "She'll leave You with a Smile" which find him temporarily living, or at least better interpreting, the songs as he sings them.

At other times, the musicians provide the flavoring. And Strait, strumming an acoustic guitar during tours around the stage, has been smart enough to hire some of Texas' best players for his Ace in the

Hole Band.

To the point where musical phrases earn applause. (The Ace in the Hole itself enjoyed a partial standing ovation.)

And the sadness or sweetness within Strait's story songs sometimes is reflected to every arena seat by individual musicians.

Face it, there are times when Strait might as well be Tevye, with an expressive fiddle player following him so often.

His drummer is excellent, and his pianist and steel player work miracles together.

Strait's vocals of course anchor the songs, which is worth mentioning only because they don't have to. In short, he does not have to put forth the effort.

He is the gladiator that the masses have come to cheer. Many stand for his performance, and some raise their hands to the sky almost as if they were in a holy place. Other women scream as though he were the second coming of The Beatles.

The headliner is aware of the adulation and has to know he could hold back and still be rewarded with the same applause.

Continued on next page

Visit The Official George Strait Website ▶ www.georgestrait.com
user name: winter ▶ password: season

STRAIT COUNTRY - Singer Delivers a no-nonsense, Texas-sized show at the Forum

Written by Robert Kreuzer

The Press Enterprise

Submitted by Fran Nakayama,

Sun City, CA

Some things were missing from George Strait's show Saturday night at the Great Western Forum.

There weren't any blazing rock guitars. There weren't any big-haired posers or jocks with cowboy hats anywhere near the microphone. There weren't any American flag backdrops nor any attempts to cash in on 9/11.

What was there was a Texas-sized supply of great country music, with Strait doing his reliable bull's-eye of a show, traversing his career from the early '80s to releases from the past few years. Plenty of others are doing traditional country music, and most of them aren't embarrassing themselves, but Strait's concert showed why he's as strong as ever.

Mr. Pure Country isn't the most overpowering stage presence in country, since he leaves the gyrating and chit-chat for others. The point of a George Strait show is plain-and-to-the-point country music, not a senses-pounding multimedia spectacle. Strait's show is regular as clockwork. You know what you're going to get — and you're probably going to like it a bunch.

Whatever Strait may have lacked in activity is more than made up for with honest, believable delivery. Aching ballads like "I Can Still Make Cheyenne" and "When Did You Stop Loving Me," songs that many singers would turn into faux tear-soaked messes, sounded like the real deal coming from Strait.

But Strait didn't have to sob in his beer to keep it real. He was just as expert with the snappy lyrics of songs like "Write This Down." His uptempo best came on the joyous longterm puppy-love song "Check Yes or No" and the rousing "Heartland."

Even tunes that sounded a little overproduced on CD, like "Stars on the Water," came out sounding like good down-home stuff.

It's difficult to overestimate the importance of Strait's backup band, Ace in the Hole, whose tones were perfect throughout. But Strait didn't use the group as a crutch. With Strait's perfect nasality, and his willingness to let the fiddle or pedal steel have its say-so, it was a one-two punch with few equals.

In an unusual move, the stage was a platform erected in the center of the Forum floor, allowing a lot more eye contact and intimacy. Strait took turns doing a couple of songs facing out each direction, with the band arrayed around him at various angles.

The Texan stayed right on tradition for the entire show. While most country singers can toss out a decent honky-tonk, Strait did it like he owned the style, performing wonderful tunes like very old-

style "I Just Want to Dance With You," which helped some couples leave their seats to do some twirling on the aisles. Western Swing also colored the show in a big way, with Strait doing, among others, "Take Me Back To Tulsa."

Adding some pointed moments, Strait performed the scathing critique of the country industry, "Murder on Music Row," which was recorded with Alan Jackson. Some stations that are open-minded about what constitutes country music weren't quite as open to hearing their playlists questioned, and refused to air the song. Alas, no surprise appearance from Jackson this time, but Strait still delivered it sting intact.

Strait always throws in a bunch of covers, but always picks great songs that highlight his own strengths. This time out included lively version of George Jones' "The Love Bug," and well-built blues/western, standard "Milk Cow Blues." ♪

Strait and Messina *(continued)*

Strait may not work a sweat or dance a jig, but he is interpreting tunes probably better now than he was back when he was a yearly arrival in Lubbock.

He left arenas in favor of playing football stadiums for these many years, and now he seems to connect better with so many fans in closer proximity.

Strait also made sure that fans heard their favorites Thursday.

The loudest applause by far arrived late in the show for "Amarillo By Morning," although, suitably, he left fans swaying during a final encore rendition of "The Cowboy Rides Away."

It must be mentioned that anyone who wanted to see a rip-roaring, high energy, give-it-all-up country performance will have a hard time finding a better one than Jo Dee Messina's one-hour opening set at the USA.

If Strait was magic Thursday, Messina was fire.

Last seen opening the 2000 Panhandle-South Plains Fair in Lubbock, Messina took a difficult situation - essentially a rectangular "concert-in-the-round" - and literally worked the crowd. Until, only a few songs into her show, she owned that crowd. ♪



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Fan Collectable Column

December 2002 / January 2003

- Fort Worth Star-Telegram - 11/1/02. Page 1 story w/photo. Fort Worth, TX.
- Fort Worth Star-Telegram - 11/1/02. Page 37 "Your Guide to the Entertainment Galaxy Star Time." Ft. Worth, TX.
- Fort Worth Star-Telegram - 11/2/02. Encore section, page 21A. Story/photo. Ft. Worth, TX.
- San Antonio Express-News - 11/2/02. "George Strait in Concert" pull out posters. Page 1-2-3x. San Antonio, TX.
- Durant Daily Democrat - "American Profile" page 1 Question/Answer section w/photo. Nashville, TN.
- San Antonio Express-News - 11/6/02. S.A. Life section p. 1G & 3G mentioned in article. San Antonio, TX.
- San Antonio Express-News - 11/1/02. Metro Section. Photo w/story. San Antonio, TX.
- San Antonio Express-News - 11/3/02. S.A. Life page 1, section J. Mentioned in story w/photo. San Antonio, TX.
- San Antonio Express-News - 10/27/02. Front page and page 3H. Story on George and band members. San Antonio, TX.
- American Cowboy - 11/12/02. Page 58 ad for Ranch Equipment. Dallas, TX.
- San Antonio Express-News - 10/20/02. Page 6A Cavender's ad. San Antonio, TX.
- Country Weekly - 10/29/02. Page 4 Letters, page 24 mentioned. Nashville, TN.
- San Antonio Express-News - 10/16/02. Page 10G ad for "For the Love of Kids and Harleys" and story, page 19H. San Antonio, TX.
- Lubbock Avalanche-Journal - 10/25/02. Page 2 photo w/story. Lubbock, TX.
- Progressive Farmer - 10/02. Page 22 story w/photo. Lawton, OK.
- San Antonio Express-News - 10/25/02. Page 2B small photo w/short story. San Antonio, TX.
- Gravelbourg Tribune - 10/21/02. Vol. 15, #37, p. 14. Article on "Contest Winner." Saskatchewan, Canada.
- Seattle Post Intelligence - 10/25/02. Front cover, page 3 article w/photo. Seattle, WA.
- The Tennessean - 11/4/02. Local News section, p. B-1 mentioned in article. Nashville, TN.
- Country Music - 12/1/02 issue. Letters p. 4-5, p. 25 ad, p. 29 mention, p. 94 charts. Nashville, TN.
- Country Weekly - 11/12/02. Page 5 photo w/ad, CMA Awards pp. 38-39, 48-49, p. 50, 53, 56. Photo w/story, p. 78 Fan page, p. 92 charts. Nashville, TN.
- Star Time - 11/1/02. Page 37 photo w/story. Dallas, TX.
- The Dallas Morning News - 11/1/02. Page 27 photo w/story. Dallas, 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!!!

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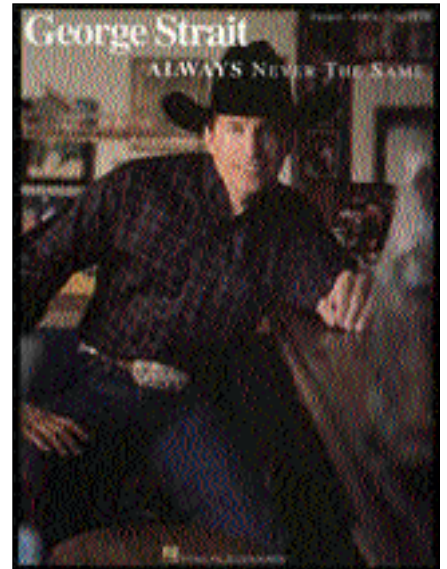
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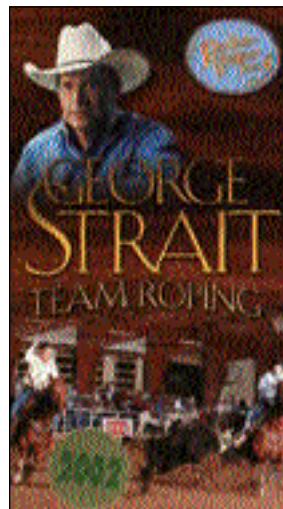
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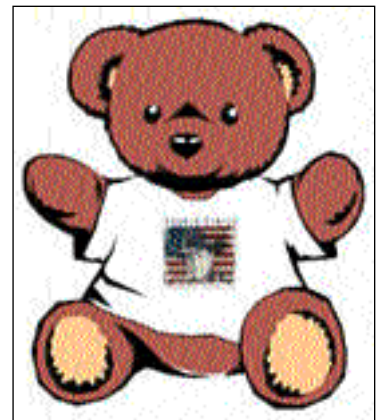
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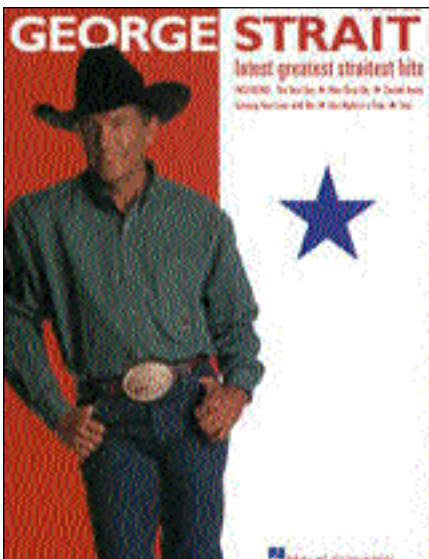
#9003 Sweat Pants



#987 George Strait Team
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#701 Strait Bear
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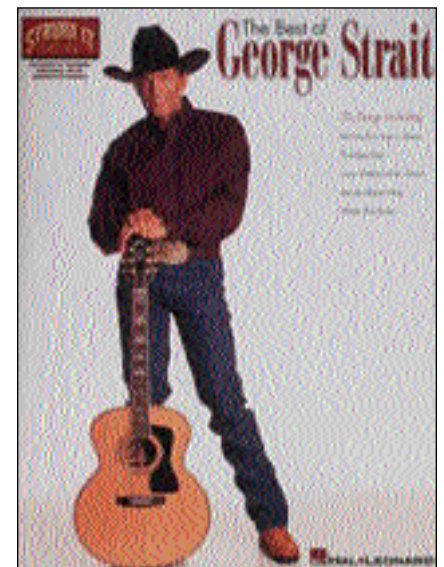
#662 "Latest Greatest Straitest Hits"
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#663 "The Best of George Strait"
Songbook

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	100	FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP (Newsletter Sent By Mail) - 1 YEAR U.S.	\$20	
		(Includes photo magnet, sticker, fact sheet, discography, bio, 5 x 7 photo & 6 issues of STRAIT TALK sent through the mail) CANADA	\$20	
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		(Includes photo magnet, sticker, fact sheet, discography, bio, 5 x 7 photo & 6 issues of STRAIT TALK sent via e-mail - your newsletter will arrive about 2 weeks earlier and all photos will appear in color) CANADA	\$15	
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	140	FAN CLUB RENEWAL (Newsletter Sent By Mail) - 1 YEAR U.S.	\$20	
		(Same as 1 year membership - Newsletter sent through the mail) CANADA	\$20	
	 FOREIGN	\$25	
	160	FAN CLUB RENEWAL (Newsletter Sent Via E-Mail) - 1 YEAR U.S.	\$15	
		(Same as 1 year membership - Newsletter sent via e-mail) CANADA	\$15	
	 FOREIGN	\$20	
	202	BUMPER STICKER (George Strait Horse Design) \$1.95		
	204	BUMPER STICKER (4"x3-1/2" sticker w/Sharp G.S. lettering in Red, White, and Blue) \$1.95		
☆☆☆	211	PHOTO MAGNET (2"x2" square magnet with G.S. American Flag design) NEW	\$2.95	
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	220	COLOR 8x10 PHOTO (From LP "George Strait") \$3.95		
	221	COLOR 8x10 PHOTO (From LP, "Latest Greatest Straitest Hits") \$3.95		
	223	COLOR 8x10 PHOTO (From LP, "One Step At A Time," George in Blue Shirt) \$3.95		
	315	STRAIT RULER (White ruler w/"STRAIT RULER for a STRAIGHT EDGE" logo in blue) \$2.95		
	325	SHOELACES (36" LACES, NEW longer length, white w/G.S. name in red) \$2.95		
	340	BELT BUCKLE (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		
	396	CANDLE (10 oz. Vanilla scented candle with cover photo from NEW LP "George Strait") \$12.95		
	409	CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT (Trim your tree with our "Merry Christmas Strait To You" ornament, which is the seventh in our series. Each ornament is custom crested and hand-crafted from statemetal, an alloy created to emulate the rich warmth of pewter, unbreakable, double-sided, trimmed with ribbon and boxed for your gift giving convenience) \$8.95		
	415	PHOTO NOTE CUBE (3-1/2" cube note pad with two different color photos and G.S. logo on sides, with website address (www.georgestrait.com) at the top of every page) \$9.95		
	506	WIND CHIMES (Large "Nature's Melody" Chimes hand crafted from statemetal, a recycled aluminum alloy created to emulate the rich warmth of pewter. Custom crested with G.S. Rope design and horse medallion which creates deep, rich tones with every gentle breeze. Carson wind chimes stand up to the most severe weather conditions and will not chip, crack or rust. Approx. 5" w x 22-1/4" l, Boxed) \$34.95		
	530	KOOZIE (Hunter Green w/white and tan G.S. star design - The Koozie maintains a beverage can temperature of 40 degrees or below for 35 minutes or three times longer than a can without a KOOZIE) \$3.95		
☆☆☆	554	PHOTO KEYCHAIN Double sided Photo Keychain - containing a BRAND NEW Photo from George's latest photo session) NEW	\$3.95	
	555	LICENSE TAG (White Plate which reads (STR8 FAN" with "George Strait" on top and "www.georgestrait.com" on the bottom in Tan, Navy and Burgundy)..... \$4.95		
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☆☆☆	641	CALENDAR (12 page, 15 month calendar - January 2003 - March 2004 - Excellent full color photos) \$12.95		
	650	SONGBOOK (The Best of George Strait 2nd Edition, includes 34 of George's Greatest Hits for Piano, Vocal and Guitar) \$17.95		
	652	CHRISTMAS SONGBOOK (Includes lyrics and music for piano & guitar for all songs on G.S. Christmas Album) \$10.95		
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	810	WALL CLOCK (Round Clock with great looking photo of G.S.) \$39.95		
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	989	2000 GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING CLASSIC VIDEO \$29.95		
	988	2001 GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING CLASSIC VIDEO \$29.95		
☆☆☆	987	2002 GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING CLASSIC VIDEO NEW	\$29.95	
9999		"PURE COUNTRY" VHS (Original motion picture) RATED PG..... \$19.95		
9999DVD		"PURE COUNTRY" DVD (Digital Video Disc, Original Motion Picture, Rated PG) \$24.95		
	1015	PHOTO COFFEE MUG (White mug with 4 color photo process w/George in black hat with background rodeo scene) \$7.95		
	1026	COASTER SET (Four different coasters with wonderful photos of G.S. - 3-5/8" square coasters made of super absorbent porous sandstone - cork backed to protect your furniture - boxed for your gift giving convenience) \$17.95		
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	4605	LADIES LONG SLEEVE BABY DOLL (Lemon yellow 100% cotton baby doll long sleeve shirt, side seamed to fit the body, glitter G.S. star logo across front) Check size: M L XL	\$19.95	
	4610	LADIES BASEBALL JERSEY (00% ring spun cotton, white body with pink 3/4 length sleeves. CUTE "George Strait Girl" logo in pink and periwinkle glitter)..... Check size: S M L	\$21.95	
	4615	ONE SHOULDER TOP (100% cotton girls top - available in one size only - City lights "George Strait" foil stamping on full chest) Black or Red Medium only	\$19.95	
	4630	LADIES KIWI CAP SLEEVE T-SHIRT (Kiwi color 100% cotton cap sleeve t-shirt, w/g" block design shimmering in glitter on front, G.S. patch design on left sleeve in white) Check size: S M L XL	\$19.95	

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	4635	LADIES BLACK SPAGHETTI TANK (100% cotton black spaghetti tank with rhinestone-like glitter design across front) Check size: S M L XL	\$18.95	
	4640	LADIES WHITE CAP SLEEVE T-SHIRT (White ring spun, 100% superfine combed cotton, scoop neck, cap sleeve t-shirt w/"George Strait Girl" logo in pink and periwinkle glitter) Medium only	\$19.95	
	4645	LADIES RINGER TEE (100% cotton sports gray baby doll tee with black trim rib neck and sleeves - G.S. glitter design across front) Check size: M L XL	\$18.95	
	4650	LADIES GREEN/BLUE CAP RAGLAN SLEEVE T-SHIRT (Green/Blue ring spun, 100% superfine combed cotton cap sleeve t-shirt w/"G.S. glitter logo on front) Medium only	\$21.95	
	4655	RED/ORANGE LADIES BASEBALL SHIRT (Red body with orange 3/4 length sleeves, 100% superfine combed cotton, "George Strait Cowgirl" roper design shimmering in orange glitter - CUTE!) Medium only	\$19.95	
	5008	ROAD CREW T-SHIRT (Charcoal/Heather Gray 100% cotton t-shirt with G.S. Road Crew logo on the front and small G.S. tag logo on the back) Check size: M L XL	\$18.95	
				XXL
	5009	BLACK T-SHIRT (Black 100% preshrunk cotton short sleeve t-shirt with large photo of George on front and G.S. American Original emblem on back - Also available in matching youth size LG, Item #5310) Check size: M L XL	\$18.95	
				XXL
	5012	PRAIRIE DUST T-SHIRT (Prairie Dust color 100% preshrunk cotton short sleeve t-shirt with 5 photos of G.S. imprinted across front with an American Original flag logo on front and a small Flag tag logo on back) Check size: M L XL	\$18.95	
				XXL
	5015	WHITE LONG SLEEVE SHIRT (White 100% cotton long sleeve shirt with "Strait Across America" Eagle design on front and down left arm) Check size: M L XL XXL	\$21.95	
	5023	SPORTS GRAY BASEBALL SHIRT (Heavyweight 100% preshrunk cotton sports gray baseball shirt, 6 button placket w/sporty "George Strait - 02" logo on left front chest, Huge "STRAIT" across back with "02" underneath) Check size: L XL XXL	\$29.95	
	5205	BABY BIB (White Bib with "I Love George Strait" in Blue and Red - CUTE!)	\$6.95	
	5300	BABY SHIRT (100% cotton white shirt with little singing cowboy and his dog - "I'm a little George Strait Fan") Check Size: 12 month 24 month	\$8.95	
	5310	YOUTH TOUR T-SHIRT (Black 100% preshrunk cotton short sleeve t-shirt with large photo of George on front and G.S. American Original emblem on back - Matches adult shirt #5009) Available in Youth Large (14-16) only	\$14.95	
	5320	YOUTH FLAG T-SHIRT (White 100% preshrunk cotton short sleeve t-shirt with "George Strait Across America - 2002" logo and SHARP photo of G.S. and American Flag) Check size: XS (2-4) S (6-8) M (10-12) L (14-16)	\$14.95	
	6515	NIGHTSHIRT (Lavendar, 100% heavyweight cotton, 37" long, one size fits all, sparkling glitter lime, white and lemon G.S. logo)	\$24.95	
	7035	TAPESTRY AFGHAN (3 ply, 54" x 70" 100% cotton custom tapestry weave afghan - 40 colors are woven into lifelike photo of G.S. standing against a picket fence with colorful G.S. logo - BEAUTIFUL! USA Made)	\$49.95	
☆☆☆	9003	SWEAT PANTS (Navy Blue 50/50 sweat pants with covered elastic waist with draw cord and elastic cuff at ankle, pill resistant fleece, G.S. logo embroidered on left leg - specially designed to be worn with #9005 SWEATSHIRT) Check size: M L XL XXL NEW	\$34.95	
☆☆☆	9005	SWEATSHIRT (Navy Blue 50/50 Sweatshirt with pill resistant fleece. Red, White, and Blue G.S. Stars and Stripes logo EMBROIDERED full chest - special designed to be worn with item #9003 SWEAT PANTS) Check size: M L XL XXL NEW	\$34.95	
	9600	NATURAL CANVAS URBAN COAT (10 oz., 100% cotton, natural color canvas coat, chest patch pockets accented w/rivets, two welt pockets and inside pockets, adjustable cuff, 31" in length with detailed back yolk, G.S. tour logo embroidered on left front chest) Check size: M L XL XXL	\$95.00	
	9660	NAVY HALF ZIP POLAR FLEECE PULL-OVER (Navy Blue 100% polyester anti-pill polar fleece half zip pull-over, side seam pockets with G.S. star design embroidered on left front chest) Check size: M L XL XXL	\$75.00	
☆☆☆	9800	EMBOSSED SUEDE BASEBALL JACKET (Navy Blue lined pig suede baseball styled jacket, metal zipper and Navy Blue trim. G.S. embossed on back with detailed team roping scene - the left front chest is embossed with G.S. cattle brand.) NEW COLOR! Check size: M L XL XXL NEW	\$169.95	
	9950	TOUR JACKET (Athletic Team Style Jacket, Black Wool Bodice, Red Suede sleeves, deep front pockets trimmed in Red Suede, Snap front with Black collar and cuffs. Colorful chenille G.S. on front left chest and large colorful chenille G.S. "On Tour" logo on back, quilted satin lining. SHARP! Check size: M L XL XXL	\$175.00	
		GEORGE STRAIT CD's & CASSETTES		
		CD's		CASSETTES
	901	STRAIT COUNTRY\$14	\$9	
	902	STRAIT FROM THE HEART\$14	\$9	
	903	RIGHT OR WRONG\$14	\$9	
	904	DOES FT. WORTH EVER CROSS YOUR MIND(Available in Cassette Only).....\$9	\$9	
	905	GREATEST HITS\$14	\$9	
	906	SOMETHING SPECIAL\$14	\$9	
	907	#7\$14	\$9	
☆☆☆	908	MERRY CHRISTMAS STRAIT TO YOU (Available during the Holiday Season)\$14	\$9	
	909	OCEAN FRONT PROPERTY\$14	\$9	
	910	GREATEST HITS #2\$14	\$9	
	911	IF YOU AIN'T LOVIN' YOU AINT LIVIN'\$14	\$9	
	912	BEYOND THE BLUE NEON(Available in Cassette Only).....\$9	\$9	
	913	LIVIN' IT UP\$15	\$10	
	914	CHILL OF AN EARLY FALL\$15	\$10	
	915	TEN STRAIT HITS\$16	\$11	
	916	HOLDING MY OWN\$16	\$11	
	917	PURE COUNTRY (Original motion picture soundtrack)\$16	\$11	
	918	EASY COME, EASY GO\$16	\$11	
	919	LEAD ON\$16	\$11	
	920	STRAIT OUT OF THE BOX (Boxed set comprised of 72 tracks and accompanying booklet featuring Strait's comments on each record, plus dozens of photographs, a biographical essay, and complete recording session information.)\$49.95	\$39.95	
	921	BLUE CLEAR SKY\$16	\$11	
	922	CARRYING YOUR LOVE WITH ME\$16	\$11	
	923	ONE STEP AT A TIME\$16	\$11	
	924	ALWAYS NEVER THE SAME\$16	\$11	
	925	MERRY CHRISTMAS WHEREVER YOU ARE\$16	\$11	
	926	LATEST GREATEST STRAITEST HITS\$16	\$11	
	927	GEORGE STRAIT\$16	\$11	
	928	THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED\$16	\$11	
☆☆☆	929	THE BEST OF GEORGE STRAIT (20th Century Masters, The Millenium Collection)\$16	Available in CD Only	

☆☆☆ **NEW ITEMS** ☆ **CLOSEOUT PRICES** ☆☆ **PLEASE MARK SIZES WHERE APPROPRIATE**

**** PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY CUSTOMER #: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST.: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____ PHONE: (____) _____

PAYMENT MADE BY: CASH: _____ 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. SHIPPING CHARGE _____

NO This is not a new address. DEDUCT STRAIT CASH HERE - _____

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40.01 - 50.00 = \$8.00	101.00 & Up = \$12.25

MasterCard / Visa Orders Toll Free 1-800-338-GSFC

*** NOTE: ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID IN U.S. CURRENCY OR THE EQUIVALENT FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES. FOREIGN ORDERS PAID FOR IN ANY OTHER MANNER WILL BE RETURNED. FOREIGN ORDERS, OTHER THAN CANADA, MUST DOUBLE THE NORMAL SHIPPING CHARGE FOR AIR DELIVERY. ** Phone Number must accompany Credit Card orders. We reserve the right to substitute new colors or designs for discontinued items.

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ORDERS FOR A FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP TAKE **FOUR TO SIX WEEKS** TO PROCESS. THEY 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 60 day return policy on all merchandise.

Anita's Notes:

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2002 and the beginning of 2003. The year has really flown by. We continue to have concerns for our country and pray for the safety of all.

George's fan club members came out in droves to his shows. They were traveling by plane, train, cars and of course, Chevy Trucks. The support of the shows was overwhelming and we expect it to be the same when the second leg of the "Road Less Traveled" Tour kicks off in January.

From the reviews, elsewhere in the newsletter, you can tell it was a fun filled season. I attended the Nashville show and enjoyed visiting with many of the fans we have had the opportunity to meet and/or talk to over the years. We have a wonderful fan base and we appreciate all of you.

On October 22nd George attended a wonderful event called "The 8th Annual For the Love of Kids and Harleys" fund raiser in San Antonio, Texas. George was the Special guest auctioneer. They auctioned off 100th Anniversary Harleys. The included the 2003 Deuce, 2003 Fat Boy and the 2003 Wide Glide. Proceeds from the auction benefited "Any Baby Can", Cancer Center Council, Easter Seals, Respite Care of San Antonio and the Ronald McDonald House. In the October 23rd issue of the San Antonio Express, there is a photo of George reaching for his boots, which he included with one of the winning bids. Congratulations to everyone for a very successful event.

We also want to congratulate our October/November puzzle winners. They are:

**1st Place - Jacket Winner:
Carol Stouse of Coeru d'Alene, WI**

**2nd Place - Sweatshirt Winner:
Esther C. Nelson of Milwaukee, WI**

**3rd Place - T-Shirt Winner:
LaVerne Robins of Portales, NM**

Your prizes are in the mail. Thanks for entering. Also, thanks to Jeanie Spears of

Blue Spring, MO for creating the wonderful puzzles.

We hope you watched the CMA Awards from Nashville, TN on November 6th. George was nominated for 4 awards apparently this was not our year. Congratulations to Alan Jackson on his great night.

George also began working on his next studio album during CMA week. He laid down about a dozen tracks and will finish up the album by early next year. It is not expected to be released until late spring. We will keep you posted. There have been many reports of a "Live" album by George. He did record his performance of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo last March and there is still a possibility that it could be released during the first quarter of the year but nothing has been finalized yet. If there is any forthcoming news in the near future you will be able to find it on the George Strait website at www.georgestrait.com.

George will be a very busy man during the first quarter of 2003 with the final leg of the "Road Less Traveled Tour" kicking off in Greenville, SC on January 16th. The entire itinerary can be found on the back cover of this newsletter. We are very happy to announce that Epic Recording Artist Tammy Cochran ("Angels in Waiting") will be joining George for the final leg of the tour. As you can tell by the schedule, we are going to visit many different places that we haven't been in a while and are very excited about it. We hope to see you at one of the tour dates. Remember that many of the shows will go on sale before Christmas and that George Strait tickets would make great Christmas gifts.

Tickets for the George Strait Team Roping Classic will go on sale December 1st. Tickets will be available at the Classic website at www.gstrc.com. Tickets may also be purchased by mail and by phone. All of the information is in the Team Roping story elsewhere in the newsletter. We plan on being at the rop-

ing, March 14th and 15th in San Antonio, Texas at the Rose Palace and look forward to seeing you there.

Congratulations to Dottie Oelhafen and her husband Sven on the birth of their son Sven Jr., who was born on September 16th. All are doing well. Dottie is the office manager of the Nashville office.

Have you finished your shopping for the Holidays? Check out the George Strait website at www.georgestrait.com and the newsletter for Christmas gift items for someone on your list. Remember, with the George Strait tour kicking up again in January, you will want your wardrobe to be in style. A jacket or sweatshirt would work nicely into your winter wardrobe. In addition to all of the merchandise in the website General Store, please check out the sale items in our Garage Sale. You will find some great deals there. If you would like to place an order by phone, you may call toll free at 1-800-338-4732. The fan club office is open Monday thru Friday from 8:30-4:30 Central time if you need to check on an order or change your mailing or email address. The number is 615-824-7176. Our offices will be closed for the holiday break from Dec. 21st until Jan. 2nd of 2003.

We hope that you all have a safe and happy holiday. Remember to include our country's leaders, as well as our service men and women, in your prayers during this holiday time period.

IN TEXAS:

George, Norma and George Strait, Jr.
Frank Bohman (CPA)
Linda Scales (Adm. Asst.)

Continued on next page

Pen Pals

DECEMBER 2002/JANUARY 2003

April Burk
166 Tsatsawassa L K Road
East Nassau, NY 12062-2712

IN TEXAS (continued):

Ted Moffitt (Ranch Foreman)
Tom Foote (Road Manager)

ACE IN THE HOLE BAND:

David Anthony (Acoustic Guitar & Vocals)
Mike Daily (Steel Guitar)
Gene Elders (Fiddler)
Terry Hale (Bass)
Ronnie Huckaby (Keyboards)
Mike Kennedy (Drums)
Benny McArthur (Guitar, Fiddle & Vocals)
Rick McRae (Guitar & Fiddle)
Anthony Bazzari
Jeff Sturms
Marty Slayton
Wes Hightower

ROAD CREW:

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

IN NASHVILLE:

Erv Woolsey (Personal Manager)
Danny O'Brian (Agent & Tour Coordinator)
Connie Woolsey (Executive Director)
Dottie Oelhafen (Office Manager)
Cheryl Valuja (Adm. Asst.)
Felicity Tidwell (Accounting)
Casey Robertson (Adm. Asst.)
Jenny Woodall (Director of Telecommunications)
Tom Cheney (Artist Development)
Scott Kernihan (Artist Development)
Eddie Tidwell (Creative Director - Music Publishing)
Tarryn Smith (Creative Manager - Music Publishing)

GEORGE STRAIT FAN CLUB:

Anita O'Brian (President)
Pam Garrett (Operations Manager)
Judy Dismang (Adm. Asst.)
Katie Swafford (Shipping Manager)
Darci O'Brian (Creative Manager)

Happy Anniversary

*George & Norma
Strait
December 4, 2002*

Visit The Official George Strait
Website: www.georgestrait.com

user name: winter
password: season

GEORGE STRAIT ITINERARY

DATE	CITY & STATE	VENUE	ON SALE PUBLIC	ON SALE FAN CLUB
1/16	Greenville, SC	Bi-Lo Center	12/7	12/6
1/17	Birmingham, AL	BJCC Arena	12/14	12/13
1/18	Shreveport, LA	Century Tel Ctr.	12/7	12/6
1/19	Austin, TX	Frank Erwin Ctr.	12/7	12/6
1/23	Phoenix, AZ	Cricket Amphitheatre	12/7	12/6
1/24	Las Vegas, NV	Mandalay Bay Arena	12/7	12/6
1/30	Dayton, OH	Nutter Center	12/14	12/13
1/31	Chicago, IL	Allstate Arena	12/7	12/6
2/1	E. Lansing, MI	Breslin Ctr.	12/14	12/13
2/6	Washington, DC	MCI Center	12/14	12/13
2/7	Philadelphia, PA	First Union Ctr.	12/14	12/13
2/8	Pittsburgh, PA	Mellon Arena	12/14	12/13
2/12	Moline, IL	Mark of the Quad	1/11	1/10
2/13	Kansas City, MO	Kemper Arena	1/11	1/10
2/14	Evansville, IN	Roberts Stadium	1/11	1/10
2/20	N. Charleston, SC	N. Charleston Coliseum	1/18	1/17
2/21	Atlanta, GA	Gwinnet Ctr. Arena	1/18	1/17
2/22	Raleigh, NC	RBC Center	1/11	1/10
2/25	Houston, TX	HLS&R	TBA	N/A
2/27	Ft. Wayne, IN	Allen Cty. Mem. Col.	1/25	1/24
2/28	Louisville, KY	Freedom Hall	1/18	1/17

**Note: Keep checking the George Strait website at www.georgestrait.com or Straitline at 615-824-7176 for any changes that may take place in the cities, venues or on-sale dates. All are subject to change.