
STRAIT TALK

George Strait Wins His 5th Major Country Music Award

George Strait added a 5th major country music award to his list of accomplishments for the year at the 32nd Annual Country Music Association Awards show. Strait picked up his third consecutive "Male Vocalist of the Year" award from the CMA during the nationally televised show. Strait's first two awards of the year came at the American Music Awards when he picked up trophies for "Best Country Male Artist" and

"Best Country Album." He followed that with the "Male Vocalist of the Year" and "Album of the Year" awards from the Academy of Country Music.

In addition to his awards, Strait has now received more Country Music Association award nominations than anyone in history. His five nominations for 1998 gave him a total of 47, breaking the previous record held by Merle Haggard.

Two other artists who will be performing with Strait during his 1999 George Strait Country Music Festival Tour also won awards. They included Tim McGraw who won the award for "Album of the Year" and the Dixie Chicks who won the "Horizon Award" for new artists and "Vocal Group of the Year." The tour begins in March. 🌟



Planning Is Underway For George Strait's 1999 Tour

The 1998 George Strait Country Music Festival Tour was the biggest in country music history as almost one million fans experienced the excitement generated by the events in only 18 tour days that lasted from the middle of March through the middle of June. The festivals included George Strait and six other acts in day long events that took place in football and baseball stadiums around the country. It also included a unique area outside the stadiums named "Straitland," where fans could spend time before the events and during set changes. "Straitland" featured a separate stage for young upcoming talent as well as food and beverage outlets, concession stands and

sponsor booths. In many locations there were carnival rides and mid-way games. It was the most unique and special tour ever attempted in country music, and it was a huge success.

The 1998 tour included Tim McGraw, John Michael Montgomery, Faith Hill, Lee Ann Womack, Lila McCann and Asleep at the Wheel. It took two huge sound and light systems, two extremely large stages and hundreds of people to make the shows work. It was also so enjoyable for the entertainers that George Strait has decided to do it again.

The 1999 George Strait Country Music Festival is tentatively scheduled to begin the first weekend in March and end the first

weekend in June. The routing for the tour has not been completed as negotiations are still being held with stadiums across the country. While the routing will not be completed for several weeks, it is believed that festival shows will be held in most sections of the country including the northeast.

The line-up for the 1999 tour has not been completed but it is known that Tim McGraw and the Dixie Chicks will be included. We will have a complete line-up and a complete list of all of the tour dates in the next issue of Strait Talk. We will also have all the information on the Official George Strait Website at www.georgestraitfans.com when it becomes available. 🌟

Fan Collectable Column

December 1998 / January 1998

San Antonio Express News Star Newspaper - 10/4/98. Pp. 17-18 mentioned. San Antonio, TX.
 "People" Magazine - 10/12/98. P. 70 mentioned. N.Y., N.Y.
 Modern Screen Country Music - 12/1998 issue. P. 4 - large colored picture of George Strait. Name mentioned on pages 22-23, 29, 30, 59.
 Modern Screen Country Magazine - 11/1998 issue. Picture of George and name mentioned in the History of Fan Fair, page 23 - words to the best song ever, "I Just Want To Dance With You." Name mentioned on page 40 for auction item offer of \$585 for George Strait's multi-platinum plaque at Nashville Fan Fair softball charity game.
 Country Weekly - 10/13/98. Mentioned

on pages 26, 27, 28, 29 & 33, 54. Photo p. 27, Nashville, TN.
 • Country Weekly - 10/20/98. Pg. 53. "Cowboy Hits Test" w/photo.
 • Country Weekly - 10/27/98. Mentioned on pg. 7, pg. 16, pg. 36 w/photo, p. 42, 54. Nashville, TN.
 • Texas Monthly - 10/1998. Mentioned on pages 21 & 88. Red Oak, Iowa.
 • San Antonio Express News - 10/12/98. P. D-4, mentioned in article. San Antonio, TX.
 • Country America - 11/1998. Pg. 19 mentioned.
 • Star Tribune Newspaper - 10/15/98. P. B5. Minneapolis, MN.
 • The Rockdale Reporter & Messenger - 10/15/98. P. 14a Story and photo. Cedar Park, TX.

- Country Weekly - 11/3/98. Pgs. 3, 7, 30, 27, 48 & 54. Mentioned, ad, crossword, photo, and Top 40 singles & LP's.
- Country Weekly - 11/10/98. Small cover picture: "Salute to Country Legends," pg. 54 article and photo and pg. 70.
- BMG Music Service - Featured selection, pgs. 1, 2, & 3. 10/20/90. Indianapolis, IN.
- Columbia House Record Company - Artist Spotlight: G.S. story with photo. Nov. 19, 1998. Gales Creek, OR.
- Modern Screen's - Vol. 93, No. 3. January 1999. P. 20 - photo and mentioned, p. 24 Letter to Editor, p. 38 Photo w/words to "TRUE" p. 69 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!

Jean Hunt - Beech Grove, IN
 Judy Shisk - San Antonio, TX
 Debbie Erickson - Taylor, MI
 Lori Dallman - Oshkosh, WI
 Irene R. Diver - Cedar Park, TX

Margaret Stangl - St. Louis Park, MN
 Diane Curtis - Murphy, NC
 Chuck and Lorna Stover - Valley Center, KS
 Shirley Jenkins - San Antonio, TX

Janice Upton - Ira, TX
 Alexis Gaffney - Gales Creek, OR
 Carolyn Evans - Harrisburg, MO
 Cortney Brown - Bedford, IN
 Shirley Smallwood - Kilgore, TX

GEORGE STRAIT DISCOGRAPHY

ALBUMS:

		RELEASE DATE
Strait Country	Gold	9-4-81
Strait From The Heart	Platinum	6-3-82
Right Or Wrong	Gold	10-6-83
Does Ft. Worth Ever Cross Your Mind	Platinum - 1985 CMA and AMC Album Of The Year	9-26-84
Greatest Hits Volume I	Triple Platinum	3-4-85
Something Special	Platinum	8-29-85
#7	Platinum	5-14-86
Merry Christmas Strait To You	Platinum	9-8-86
Ocean Front Property	Double Platinum - Debuted #1 Billboard	1-12-87
Greatest Hits Volume II	Triple Platinum	9-7-87
If You Ain't Lovin' You Ain't Livin'	Platinum	2-22-88
Beyond The Blue Neon	Platinum	2-6-89
Livin' It Up	Platinum	5-15-90
Chill Of An Early Fall	Platinum	3-19-91
Ten Strait Hits	Platinum	12-31-91
Holding My Own	Platinum	4-21-92
Pure Country	Quintuple Platinum	9-15-92
Easy Come, Easy Go	Double Platinum	9-28-93
Lead On	Double Platinum	11-8-94
Strait Out Of The Box	Quintuple Platinum	9-12-95

Continued next page...

S T R A I T T A L K

GEORGE STRAIT DISCOGRAPHY (CONTINUED)

ALBUMS:		RELEASE DATE
Blue Clear Sky	Double Platinum - Debuted #1 Billboard	4-23-96
Carrying Your Love With Me	CMA and ACM Album of the Year Triple Platinum - Debuted #1 Billboard	4-22-97
One Step At A Time	CMA and AMA Album of the Year Double Platinum	4-21-98
SINGLES:		RELEASE DATE
Inwound	MCA Number 6	4-23-81
Down And Out	MCA Number 16	8-28-81
If You're Thinking You Want A Stranger	MCA Number 1	1-7-82
Fool Hearted Memory	MCA Number 1	5-27-82
Marina Del Rey	MCA Number 6	9-16-82
Amarillo By Morning	MCA Number 1	1-13-83
A Fire I Can't Put Out	MCA Number 1	5-19-83
You Look So Good In Love	MCA Number 1	9-22-83
Right Or Wrong	MCA Number 1	1-25-84
Let's Fall To Pieces Together	MCA Number 1	5-17-84
Does Ft. Worth Ever Cross Your Mind	MCA Number 1	9-4-84
The Cowboy Rides Again	MCA Number 5	1-14-85
The Fireman	MCA Number 5	5-6-85
The Chair	MCA Number 1	8-26-85
You're Something Special To Me	MCA Number 4	12-23-85
Nobody In His Right Mind Would Left Her	MCA Number 1	4-21-86
It Ain't Cool To Be Crazy About You	MCA Number 1	8-25-86
Ocean Front Property	MCA Number 1	12-22-86
All My Ex's Live in Texas	MCA Number 1	4-6-87
Am I Blue	MCA Number 1	8-3-87
Famous Last Words Of A Fool	MCA Number 1	1-11-88
Baby Blue	MCA Number 1	4-25-88
If You Ain't Lovin' You Ain't Livin'	MCA Number 1	8-22-88
Baby's Gotten Good at Goodbye	MCA Number 1	12-26-88
What's Going On In Your World	MCA Number 1	4-3-89
Ace In The Hole	MCA Number 1	7-17-89
Overnight Success	MCA Number 8	11-6-89
Love Without End, Amen	MCA Number 1 (Five weeks)	4-6-90
Drinking Champagne	MCA Number 4	7-20-90
I've Come To Expect It From You	MCA Number 1 (Five weeks)	10-22-90
If I Know Me	MCA Number 1 (Two weeks)	3-12-91
You Know Me Better Than That	MCA Number 1	6-11-91
Chill Of An Early Fall	MCA Number 1	9-23-91
Love Sick Blues	MCA Number 20	1-7-92
Gone As A Girl Can Get	MCA Number 5	4-6-92
So Much Like My Dad	MCA Number 1	6-29-92
Across My Heart	MCA Number 1 (Two weeks)	9-14-92
Heartland	MCA Number 1	1-11-93
When Did You Stop Loving Me	MCA Number 1	4-19-93
Easy Come, Easy Go	MCA Number 1	8-9-93
I'd Like To Have That One Back	MCA Number 1	11-22-93
Lovebug	MCA Number 8	2-24-94
The Man In Love With You	MCA Number 4	6-14-94
The Big One	MCA Number 1	9-19-94
You Can't Make A Heart Love Somebody	MCA Number 1	12-5-94
Adalida	MCA Number 2	3-21-95
Lead On	MCA Number 1	6-13-95
Check Yes Or No	MCA Number 1 (Four weeks) - CMA and ACM Single of the Year	9-18-95
I Know She Still Loves Me	MCA Number 1	12-11-95
Blue Clear Sky	MCA Number 1	3-26-96
Carried Away	MCA Number 1 (Three weeks)	6-17-96
I Can Still Make Cheyenne	MCA Number 1	9-2-96
King Of The Mountain	MCA Number 12	12-9-96
One Night At A Time	MCA Number 1 (Five weeks)	3-3-97
Carrying Your Love With Me	MCA Number 1 (Four weeks)	5-23-97
Today My World Slipped Away	MCA Number 1 (Four weeks)	9-8-97
Round About Way	MCA Number 1	1-5-98
I Just Wanna Dance With You	MCA Number 1	4-6-98
True	MCA Number 1	8-24-98
We Really Shouldn't Be Doin' This	MCA Number 1	9-14-98

LIMITED EDITION ITEM AVAILABLE FOR THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON

#9100 Christmas Sweatshirt

White, heavy weight cotton sweat
80% cotton, 20% polyester
with Holiday photo scene



SPECIAL ORDER FORM

QTY.	ITEM	SIZES	COST	TOTAL
9100	Christmas Sweatshirt	M___ L___ XL___ XXL___	\$29.95	

Shipping and Handling
\$4.00 per T-Shirt

Shipping Charges \$4.00 per T-Shirt \$ _____
Grand Total \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CUSTOMER #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

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: _____

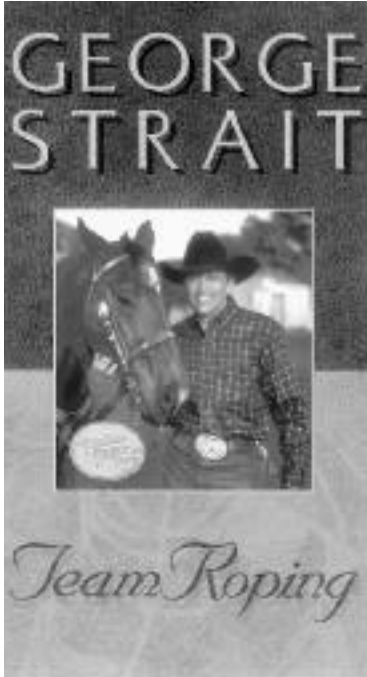
NAME ON CARD: _____

SIGNATURE ON CARD: _____

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

**** NOTE: All orders must be paid for 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 delivery.

- New George Strait Merchandise -



992 - Roping Video



#1025 - Trivet



8060 - Sweatshirt • # 8050 -



#7035 - Afghan



#406 - Christmas Ornament



638 - New 15 Month Calendar
January 1999 - March 2000

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

Anita's Notes

Here we are wrapping up the last issue of Strait Talk of 1998 and coming out with anuary 1999. George Strait has had a wonderful year and looking forward to another exciting year with the 1999 version of the George Strait Music Festival tour. 1998 was filled with numerous accolades as George picked up two trophies early in the year at the American Music Awards for "Best Male Country Artist" and "Best Country Album." He followed that in April with two more from the Academy of Country Music for "Album of the Year" and "Male Vocalist of the Year" award from the Country Music Association. It continues to be very exciting to see George continue to be recognized by the industry and his peers for the great work he does. Let's see what 1999 will bring us.

Hopefully, your local television stations will be broadcasting George's new Chevy Truck commercials that he filmed in September. They have already been seen in some parts of the country.

The next album has been completed and will be released in early spring of 1999. It is another outstanding effort from George. He and Tony Brown have teamed up again to bring us some incredible new music. The first single from the album will probably be released in January. Look for the complete story on the album elsewhere in the newsletter. We have also heard that George will begin work early next year for a new Christmas album that will be out next fall. We will let you know more about that when we can.

We have three (3) GSFC puzzle winners from the Oct./Nov. issue of Strait Talk. They are:

1st Place (Jacket):
Karen Black
Manchester, MD

2nd Place (Sweatshirt):
Jessica Yoakum
Gahanna, OH

3rd Place (T-Shirt):
Barbara A. Rumzek
Citrus Heights, CA

Congratulations to our 3 winners. Your prizes are in the mail to you!

We would like to congratulate two of our staff members and their families. Cheryl Erwin and her husband, Mark, on the birth of their baby girl - Abigail Macy on 8-27-98. She weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. Also, congratulations to Katie Swafford and her husband, Chris, on the birth of their baby boy, Christopher Issac. He was born 10-28-98 and weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. All are doing very well and are back at the office filling your Christmas orders.

With all the excitement going on, yes orders are being filled and membership are being filled also. Our little elves are as busy as can be trying to get everyone's Christmas presents on time.

We will be closing the Fan Club office on December 18th at noon and no new orders will be processed or shipped until after we return to work on January 4, 1999. If you need to return or exchange an item after the holidays, please remember to enclose the shipping charges and your top copy of the invoice and a daytime phone number.

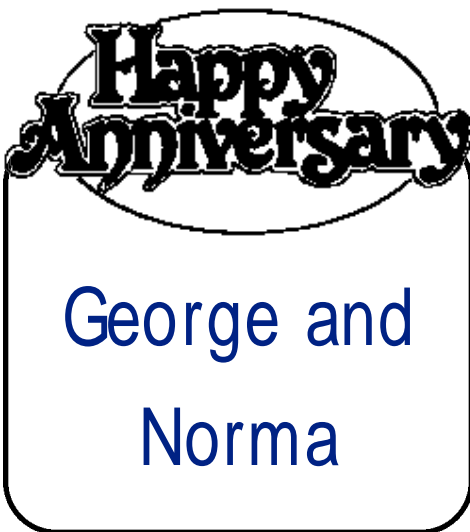
We have the new User Name and Password for the George Strait Fan Club website. They are as follows:

User Name: [maddie](#)

Password: [abbie](#)

Please always use lower case letters.

Well, this wraps up another year and we thank you for all the letters, cards and phone calls. It is always a pleasure to hear from you and we look forward to sharing a successful 1999 with you.



From all of us in the George Strait organization to all of you around the world, a very Merry Christmas and our sincerest best wishes for a Happy, Healthy Holiday and a most memorable 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 McArthur (Guitar, Fiddle & Vocals)
Rick McRae (Guitar, Fiddle)

ROAD CREW:

Lee Roy Eichler (Transportation Director)
David Latimer (Band Driver)
Jimmy Spivey (Driver)
Scott Brown (Driver)
Jim Harrell (Driver)
Carl Haddock (Concessions Driver)
George Hurtado (Pilot)
Max Benoit (Concession Sales)
Joe Hayes (Concession Sales)
Paul Rogers (Production Manager)

IN NASHVILLE:

Erv Woolsey (Personal Manager)
Danny O'Brian (Agent, Tour Coordination)
Connie Woolsey (Executive Director)
Dottie Hagey-Oelhafen (Office Manager)
Cheryl Valuja (Administrative Assistant)
Felicity Tidwell (Accounting)
Casey Robertson (Receptionist)
Tom Cheney (Artist Development)
LaTricia Allen (Publishing-Creative Asst.)
Jeremy Stover (Publishing-Creative Asst.)
Tarryn Smith (Publishing-Catalog Man.)

THE GEORGE STRAIT FAN CLUB:

Anita O'Brian (President)
Pam Garrett (Operations Manager)
Judy Dismang (Administrative Assistant)
Katie Swafford (Operations Assistant)
Cheryl Erwin (Data Entry)
Darci O'Brian (Dir. of Fun and Humor)

George Strait Completes New Studio Album

George Strait and his co-producer, Tony Brown, have wrapped up work on his newest studio album. The project, as yet untitled, is tentatively scheduled for release in the early spring of 1999 with the first single being released in January.

Once again Strait has called upon some of Nashville's best songsmiths and found an outstanding group of ten new songs. The following is a list of the new songs and their writers.

New Album Songs and Writers

1. **That's The Truth** - written by Steve Leslie and Melba Montgomery
2. **That's Where I Wanna Take Our Love (And Settle Down)** - written by Dean Dillon and Hank Cochran
3. **One Of You** - written by Kostas and Jim Lauderdale
4. **Peace Of Mind** - written by Aaron Barker and Dean Dillon
5. **4 Minus 3 Equals Zero** - written by Lonnie Williams
6. **Write This Down** - written by Dana Hunt and Kent Robbins
7. **I Look At You** - written by Jeff Stevens and Steve Bogard
8. **What Do You Say To That** - written by Jim Lauderdale and Melba Montgomery
9. **Always Never The Same** - written by Mart Green and Terry McBride
10. **Meanwhile** - written by Wayland Holyfield and Fred Knobloch

Strait and Tony Brown also rounded up the best musicians in Nashville to contribute to the album. They included Glenn Work on Bass, Eddie Bayers on drums,

Steve Gibson on Guitar, Brent Mason on Guitar, Randy Scruggs on Guitar, Paul Franklin on Steel Guitar, Stewart Duncan on Fiddle and Steve Nathan on Keyboards.

Pen Pals

DECEMBER 1998 / JANUARY 1999

(Fans that exchange letters through mail)

Sarah Spencer (13)
P.O. Box 903
Whiteriver, AZ 85941

Michele Robertson (42)
P.O. Box 330484
Ft. Worth, TX 76163-0484

Sharon Jones (54)
2705B 61st Street, Suite 406
Galveston, TX 77551

Jo Ann Larson
5715 57th Avenue SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Jill Van Tuyle (45)
11532 Gates Mill Drive
Knoxville, TN 37922

Strait Shooters

DECEMBER 1998 / JANUARY 1999

(Fans that submitted photographs that were used in the newsletter)

NORMAALFORLD - TERRY, MS
PHIL JOHNSON - PENFIELD, IL
KATHYCATES - LIBERTY, MO
MICHAELAND TIANE SELTMANN -
NEKOMA, KS
CHARLENE FORREST - CONCORD, CA
PAT CODER, JR. - IRVING, TX
LINDAACHER - MARTINSVILLE, OH
LAUREL STANKAY - EXPORT, PA
HOWARD BOYD - HAYWARD, CA
MARGARET WARREN - LAWTON, OK
TERRY COLONGE - GOODLETTSVILLE, TN



??? MOVING ???



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