George Strait Team
Roping Time Is Here

New Year, New Sponsor and more Excitement

The 29th Annual George Strait Team Roping Classic is upon us and the excitement is building to a fever pitch. The ropers are all pre-registered and the only thing left is to show up and pay their entry fees. They will begin doing that on Thursday afternoon, the 10th of March. After that it’s all about how quick they are wrapping up the steers heads and heels and that will begin at 9am on Friday, March 11th. The 50 leaders on Friday will come back on Saturday morning, March 12th for a chance at the big bucks. The 2010 GSTRC paid out over $600,000 in cash and prizes to the 468 teams that entered with best friends Coleman Proctor and Jake Long hauling away the lions share of the prize money. The duo earned $159,630 between them and hauled it away in brand new Chevrolet dually pickups from Cavender Chevrolet and Strait Extreme 3-horse slant trailers from Bruton Trailers.

All ropers will pay an entry fee of $1000 per team for an opportunity to earn the title of Champion Header and Heeler of the prestigious George Strait Team Roping Classic. All ropers must pay their entry fees by 8:30 Friday morning, March 12th, in order to compete.

In addition the sensational roping, fans will have the chance to wander through the spectacular vendor area taking a look at the great food and merchandise available. Most of the sponsors will have booths set up in the vendor area along with dozens of retailers selling everything from furniture to cowboy hats and the latest western jewelry.

The 2011 GSTRC is again sponsored by Cavender Chevrolet of Boerne, TX, Bruton Trailers of San Angelo, TX, Wayne Wright Lawyers, Bill Millers BBQ, Hill Country/Kioti Tractors, Brake Check, Cactus Ropers, LiftMaster Gate Access Systems, Tractor Supply Co, Wrangler, Justin Boots, Resistol, Classic Ropes, Capital Farm Credit, Frost Bank and Bar-G Feedyards of Hereford, TX.

Left to right: Stuart Cavender, Coleman Proctor, George Strait, Jake Long
Taste of Country is giving away a trip to see George Strait perform live at his concert in Lubbock, Texas on March 26, 2011. All you have to do for a chance to see this country legend in person is email us a link to a video of yourself singing his hit song ‘Troubadour.’

The winner will receive a guitar signed by George Strait, two tickets to the show, hotel accommodations plus airfare from anywhere in the U.S. But the best part is, the winner will also get to meet Strait backstage at the show!

Here’s how to register to win: Upload a performance of yourself singing George Strait’s hit single ‘Troubadour’ onto YouTube. Then email us a link to the video at TasteOfCountry@TownSquareMedia.com. The winner will be notified on Friday, March 11, 2011.

Make sure to include your full name, age, city and state of residence, e-mail address and telephone number. We’ll judge the entries based on musical and entertainment quality, including talent and vocal ability, and select a winner.

All email entries must be submitted by 11:59 PM ET on March 7, 2011 in order to be counted as an official submission for the contest. Be sure to check the Taste of Country website for official contest rules before turning in your entry. The winner will be notified on Friday, March 11, 2011.
Continued from previous page

with such ease.”

McEntire was joined on stage by opening performer Lee Ann Womack for the duet "Does He Love You." I do believe the arena roof was lifted a few feet before these two had finished singing.

The audience got a surprise when McEntire's co-star from the television sitcom "Reba," Melissa Peterman, who portrays the character of Barbara Jean, moseyed up on stage, making jokes and singing the theme song "I'm a Survivor." McEntire closed her show with beautiful songs written by two very special friends. "Because Of You" written by Kelly Clarkson and "I Keep On Loving You" written by Ronnie Dunn.

After she left the stage, the venue went crazy! The screams and chants became deafening. As the video "Fancy" appeared on the big screens, a yellow cab drove up to the front of the stage, and out stepped Reba in a beautiful red dress. This is one encore I won't soon forget as the magnificent McEntire left everyone breathless.

If ever there was an American Cowboy with a little "Twang," starched wrangler jeans, and a black felt hat, keeping country real, it would be none other than the king of country, superstar, George Strait.

This Texas Cowboy holds the record for the most number one singles in any genre, (more than fifty), and has more gold and platinum albums than any other country artist. So it was no surprise that Strait so easily charmed his Florida audience of more than fifteen thousand enthusiastic fans, for more than two hours, singing his hits from past decades to present.

"Seashores Of Old Mexico" defiantly seemed to be one of the crowds favorites. A song written by Merle Haggard, "an ol friend of mine," says Strait. For me, I got a little teary eyed when Strait sang "The Breath You Take", a tune that happens to be my Mother's (Wanda McNeely) and my Om's (other mother, Cheryl Harvey Hill) favorite song. A verse from the chorus I admire so much is "Life's not the breaths you take / but the moments that take your breath away."

SRAIT TALK

George Strait, Reba McEntire & LeeAnn Womack

By Chuck Yarborough....The Plain Dealer

William Shakespeare had a quill, Leonardo Da Vinci had a brush, Ansel Adams had a camera, Fred Astaire had spats and Errol Flynn had a script. George Strait has a microphone.

For more than two hours Friday night, the king of country music held sway over a packed Quicken Loans Arena, using his gift to create sonic poetry as beautiful as any couplet by the Bard, lyrical pictures worthy of the Louvre ... Well, you get the point. We could go overboard with this.

And it's hard not to do so.

George Strait has had 57 No. 1 hits in a recording career that dates back to 1981. One of the 31 tunes – 31! – in his return to Cleveland was off that first album, and “Unwound" sounded just as clean, just as fresh, just as “Pure Country" as it did when “Strait Country" was released during the first year of Ronald Reagan's presidency.

That's part of the wonder of George Strait: He can sing a 30-year-old song and make it sound like it's the next thing his label will be sending to country radio. His passion for the music shows through. That's why "Twang," his latest album, reverberates with the same vitality as "Strait Country," which debuted so long ago that fans had the option of choosing vinyl, cassette ... or eight-track.

It's not that Strait goes through any vocal or onstage histrionics. Some artists need to swing from the rafters or devise elaborate sets that turn a concert hall into a Hollywood soundstage. Not Strait.

His stage is as simple as his boot-cut Wranglers, just a square set up in the round, twisted into a diamond now, with a mic at each vertex. Two songs per mic and move along. Boo-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-r-r-r-r-r-r-r, right? Wrong. It's just the palette for an artist who paints life in a pitch-perfect baritone. "Honk If You Honky-Tonk," "I Can Still Make Cheyenne," "I Hate Everything," "Check Yes Or No," "Same Kind Of Crazy," "Blue Clear Sky" and "The Chair," staples all. When Strait sings his most recent No. 1, "I Saw God Today," appreciative crowds have to admit that maybe we didn't ... but we saw the country music equivalent.
There was a time when country musicians didn’t have to play pop music to be popular, and there’s hardly better proof of that than George Strait and Reba McEntire.

With combined album sales of more than 100 million, the reigning King and Queen of Country aimed to assert that time could have been Saturday night with its near-capacity show at Oklahoma City Arena.

Being the top-selling country tour of 2010 — the second leg starting just a night before in Austin, Texas — and a stellar outing in Oklahoma City, it’s hard to argue. Roughly 30,000 leather boots crossed the ticket barrier, all of whose owners packed the venue to witness a good ol’ dose of authentic country spirit from two of the genre’s biggest icons and surely couldn’t have been more pleased with the night, filled with big hits; surprise appearances; and pure, unadulterated country tunes.

The show began with special guest Lee Ann Womack — a relative slouch with a mere 6 million albums sold to her credit — who played a no-frills but solid 30-minute set of songs, dashing from vintage Western swing to her signature monster ballads. She warmed the crowd up with singles running the length of her career, none of which were received to her signature monster ballads. She warmed the crowd up with singles running the length of her career, none of which were received to

The fiery redhead looked not a day over 30 (she’s 55) and championed the stage with the youth and vigor of a country upstart as she sashayed from corner to corner of the stage, gunning forward at full-speed the entire set.

Her natural charisma was hardly needed in winning over an already adoring crowd, but she flashed her quick grin anyway, bantering like she was having a one-on-one conversation with everyone in the room. Her obvious desire to be performing out in front of her fellow Okies only helped make her hits like “The Night the Lights Went Out in Georgia,” “Turn on the Radio” and her new single, “If I Were a Boy,” land that much harder.

As if she needed the help, the second half of her show brought about all sorts of tricks and surprises, including a vocal duet/duel with Womack (“Does He Love You”) and a surprise appearance by comedian Melissa Peterman, the goofball to McEntire’s straight man in her eponymous sitcom. Peterman had the crowd in stitches as she faux-drunkenly fawned over George Strait and McEntire’s backing band, acting as a hypeman à la Flava Flav as the duo busted out into the “Reba” theme song. Reba returned to the stage via taxicab for an encore performance of “Fantasy,” donning a fittingly fiery ruby-sequined dress and left the stage with the full intention of owning the night.

STRAIT UP

She probably did, not that George Strait is the type of guy to put up much of a fuss about it. There were no tricks up Strait’s starched and pressed sleeve, just a decidedly understated set that let the hits speak for themselves; when you have 57 #1 singles to your name (that’s a record, mind you), it doesn’t take much. His nearly two-hour performance included a great number of them, including “The Chair,” “Ocean Front Property,” “Ace in the Hole” and “Check Yes or No,” along with two stellar covers (Merle Haggard’s “The Seashores of Old Mexico” and a steel-toed version of Johnny Cash’s “Folsom Prison Blues”). Strait performed a sort of square dance across that stage, moving like clockwork as he ran through two songs at each corner of the diamond, flashing his sincere smile at every turn. He bowed his stark black cowboy hat at the end of each mini-set, charming the wowing the crowd with nothing more than voice and song. His impressive backing band — 11 members by my count — only bolstered the affair, with expert fiddle and steel guitar work. He took the time to introduce each one by name to uproarious applause at each mention.

But that hardly matched the deafening noise flaring up as he tore through “Amarillo by Morning”; his closing number, “The Cowboy Rides Away”; or any of his other selections, really. He held the entire audience captive from start to finish, and the whooping and Hollering only took breaks for somber moments of Strait’s choosing.

He entertained both young and old, best evidenced by one fan who waved a homemade sign declaring the love of Strait by four generations of country music fans. The time is indeed now; maybe it never left.
George, Reba Top Elton For Highest Grossing Show at Erwin Center

By Michael Corcoran
Austin American-Statesman, Jan. 15, 2010

Country rules at the Erwin Center. Friday night’s concert starring George Strait, Reba McEntire and Lee Ann Womack topped Sir Elton John’s April 2010 record $1.3 million by about $200,000. A crowd of 16,635 paid prices ranging from $89.50 to $39.50 for the Strait show.

Though this seemed like a double headlined show on paper, Strait and his aptly named Ace In the Hole Band, the best in country music, reduced McEntire to an opening act with a splendid tour-opening set that found the heroic frontman rotating between microphones at each corner of a stage set up in the middle of the arena. I’ve reviewed about half a dozen Strait shows through the years and have never heard the 58-year-old Pearsall native sing with more caressing character than on Friday night. “Ocean Front Property” found him coming off like Nashville’s Sinatra, better in his fifties than he was in his thirties. And without the throat-coating help of Jack Daniels.

Can’t say enough about Strait’s Austin/ San Marcos-based backing band, who ripped and roared through “Honk If You Honky Tonk” and lead number “Twang,” yet provided a nice pop bounce to Bruce Robison’s “Wrapped” and gave a pensive lilt to the rodeo ode “I Can Still Make Cheyenne.” Strait’s set was greatly aided by a sound mix that made every instrument stand out, especially the Spanish-styled acoustic guitar on a cover of Merle Haggard’s “Seashores of Old Mexico.” Great singing, great playing and hit after hit- no wonder his fans can’t get enough of Strait, who proves that no matter what’s going down in Nashville, Texas is still the king.

To her credit, Reba joined the night’s Strait worship theme when, during the otherwise unremarkable “I Want a Cowboy,” her video screen flashed photos of famous men in Stetsons- Roy Rogers, James Dean in “Giant,” Michael Landon in “Bonanza” - before closing out to a photo of Strait which, of course, received applause to rival that which greeted Reba’s best musical moment, a duet with Womack on “Does He Love You.” The five per cent of stratospheric soar that McEntire has lost in her voice in the past 30 years was more than made up for by her sidekick Jennifer Wrinkle, who not only harmonized beautifully, but played a variety of stringed instruments. The rest of the band, however, wasn’t helped with somewhat muddy acoustics.

A horrendous traffic jam caused many (including myself) to miss Womack’s 30-minute opening set, but when you’ve got two bonafide country music superstars belting it out for more than 90 minutes each, it’s hard to feel shortchanged.

Fan Collectable Column

- Tampa Tribune. Jan. 28, 2011. Page 2, photo and name mentioned regarding the Tampa Show, page 10 and page 26, ad for the Tampa Concert. Tampa, FL.

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 2 Collector’s Cards. We are also selecting one name from the list and sending them a George Strait Goodie Box. 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!!!

Maria Rodriguez - Miami, FL
Willie Mae Pfluger - Georgetown, TX
Doris Harvey - Mulvane, KS
Dean Hoes - Cedar Park, TX
Ellen Goerlich - Texas City, TX
Margaret Eckers - St. Louis, MN
Debbie Erickson - Taylor, MI
Incredible Career, Behind the Scenes Fact Sheet & Biography. All Fan Club Documents are emailed immediately

**209 GRAPHIC PHOTO** (Black/Red) BUMPER STICKER (Black Bumper Sticker features a Heritage Graphic Photo of G.S. with large "GEORGE STRAIT" lettering in red) NEW $1.95

**256 "PURE COUNTRY" PHOTO MAGNET** (2 x 2 Square Photo Magnet Features a Handsome Color Photo of George Strait as Dusty Chandler from his 1992 Feature Film, "Pure Country") NEW $2.95

**309 PHOTO MOUSE PAD** (Gorgeous Close-up Photo of George Strait, Compatible with Ball Type or Optical Mouse. 1/4" thick non-slip material keeps your G.S. photo mouse pad firmly in place. Dimensions: 7.5" x 9.5" ) NEW $9.95

**313 BALL POINT PEN** (Fashionable Lime Green Color Black Ink Medium Point Ball Point Pen With A Fashion Clip and Design Comfort Soft Gripper, This Elegant Pen for Everyday Use. *"GEORGE STRAIT" Printed on side on Black.) $2.95

**340 BELT BUCKLE** (Solid bronze buckle w/stereing 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

**560 Songbook** (The Best of George Strait 2nd Edition, includes 34 of George's Greatest Hits for Piano, Vocal and Guitar) $17.95

**662 LATEST GREATEST STRAITEST SONGS** (Songbook) $14.95

**700GEORGE STRAIT (Songbook)** $10.95

**979DVD 28TH ANNUAL GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING DVD (2010)** NEW $29.95

**999DVD 27TH ANNUAL GEORGE STRAIT TEAM ROPING DVD (2009)** $29.95

**8888DVD "FOR THE LAST TIME - LIVE FROM THE ASTRODOME" (Recorded at the closing night of the Houston Livestock Rodeo on March 3, 2002 - Available in DVD only). $29.95

**1030 AMBER PHOTO COFFEE MUG** (Our Exclusive 11 oz. White Ceramic Coffee Mug Features Two GREAT Concert Photos of George Strait with an Amber Color Background. A Dye Sublimation manufacturing process ensures that the double-sided images stays brilliant and colorful for the life of the mug - Perfect for Gift Giving!) $10.95

**1031 "KING GEORGE" PHOTO COFFEE MUG** (This Beautiful 11 oz. White Ceramic Coffee Mug Features Four Outstanding Concert Photos of "KING GEORGE." Matches Item #4135 Iris Blue "KING GEORGE" Award T-Shirt A Dye Sublimation manufacturing process ensures that the double-sided images stays brilliant and colorful for the life of the mug - Perfect for Gift Giving!) $10.95

**1032 "PURE COUNTRY" PHOTO COFFEE MUG** (Our exclusive 11 oz. White Ceramic Coffee Mug Features a Handsome Color Photo of George Strait as Dusty Chandler from his 1992 Feature Film, "Pure Country." A Dye Sublimation manufacturing process ensures that the double-sided images stays brilliant and colorful for the life of the mug - Perfect for Gift Giving!) $10.95

**1033 "EL REY" COFFEE COFFEE MUG** (This beautiful 11 oz. White Ceramic Coffee Mug Features as Outstanding Concert Photo of George Strait, A Dye Sublimation manufacturing process ensures that the double-sided images stays brilliant and colorful for the life of the mug - Perfect for Gift Giving!) $10.95

**1039 "TWANG" TRAVEL MUG STAINLESS STEEL** (Thermal 16 oz. Stainless Steel Travel Mug offers a secure cap and an easy-slide drink top closure to keep beverages from spilling during daily commutes. Designed to fit securely in most vehicles' holders and consoles; features bold G.S. "TWANG" logo in black.) NEW $12.95

**1056 "EL REY" CAR TRAVEL PHOTO MUG** (Thermal Double Wall Insulated 24 oz. White Travel Mug With Double Sided Custom Color GS "EL REY" Photo, Open/Close Swivel Lid, Fits Car Cup Holders, Dishwasher and Microwave Safe, BPA Free). NEW $9.95

**2835 BROWN PUFF SIGNATURE PATCH CAP** (Rugged Steel Brown Garment Washed Twill Cap with "George Strait" Signature Puff Embroidery Frayed Patch on Front, GS Signature Logo Embroidered on Back, Self Fabric Back Strap with Slide Buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). $19.95

**2840 BLUE BRUSHED TWILL CAMOFLAGE CAP** (Rugged Blue Garment Washed Cotton Twill Cap with Realtree AP HD Camouflage Crown and Bill, Custom Signature "GEORGE STRAIT" 3-D Frayed Puff Embroidery on Front in Navy, Khaki Color "STRAIT" Embroidered Across VELCRO Strap, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). $19.95


**2853 BROWN WAX SIGNATURE CAP** (Sealed Wax Canvas Chocolate Color Cap, breathable yet water resistant, custom "George Strait" 3-D signature puff embroidered patch, small "GEORGE STRAIT"starg logo embroidered across back, self fabric back strap with slide buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). NEW $19.95

**2860 LADIES PINK SIGNATURE CAP** (Pink Cotton Brushed Twill Ladies Fit 6 Panel Cap, Beautifully Feminine Custom "George Strait" 3-D Puff Embroidery on Front in Black and White, Small "Strat Girl" Logo Embroidered on Back, Self Fabric Back Strap with Slide Buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). NEW $9.95

**2865 BLACK/GREEN CAMOFLAGE CAP** (Black Brushed Cotton Twill Cap with Realtree AP HD Camouflage Crown and Bill, custom Signature "George Strait" 3-D Puff Embroidery on Front in Black and White, Small "Strat Girl" Logo Embroidered on Back, Self Fabric Back Strap with Slide Buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). $19.95

**2870 BLUE/WHITE/ORANGE SIGNATURE CAP** (Cotton Twill Cap with Navy Blue and White Panels, Orange Bill with Contrasting Stitching, Custom "George Strait" 3-D Signature Puff Embroidery on Crown, Small "GEORGE STRAIT" Embroidered across Bill. On Back, Self Fabric Back Strap with Slide Buckle, ONE SIZE FITS MOST). NEW $19.95

**3695 JUNIORS MILITARY GREEN FOIL PHOTO TEE** (Juniors Military Green 100% Combed Ring Spun Cotton Fine Jersey Tee, Hour Glass Shape For A More Flattering Fit, Side Seamed, Double Needle Hemmed Sleeves And Bottom, Full Chest GS Photo With Flashy Foil "George Strait" Logo) . Check Juniors Size: M, L, XL NEW $19.95

**3765 JUNIORS ELECTRIC BLUE RETRO TEE** (Juniors cut baby doll style short sleeve silky smooth 100% cotton fine knit jersey t-shirt, retro style "Electric Company" George Strait lettering and rose design adorns the front of this fun tee... Check Size: M, L, XL NEW $19.95

**3765 JUNIORS BLACK FOIL TEE** (Juniors Black 100% Combed Ring Spun Cotton Fine Jersey Tee, Hour Glass Shape for a more flattering fit, Side Seamed, Double Needle Hemmed Sleeves and Bottom, Full Chest Hot Pink Guitar Design Accented with a Flashy Foil "George Strait" Logo) . Check Juniors Size: M, L, XL. NEW $19.95

**3775 JUNIORS DARK-CHOCOLATE LONG SLEEVE TEE** (Juniors Dark-Chocolate Long Sleeve Tee, 100% Super Soft Ring-Spun Cotton with a slight stretch for a perfect length, slightly scoped neck, fashionably longer sleeves and body, a Subtle and Attractive "GEORGE STRAIT" Western Style Vintage Screen adorns the front of this lovely casual-wear tee). Check Size: M, L, XL, XXL NEW $19.95

**3940 NAVY BLUE SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRT** (Navy Blue Adult Unisex 100% Preshrunk Cotton Short Sleeve T-shirt with G.S. "Twang" Photo and Logo on Front Chest and 2011 Tour Cities Listed on Back of Shirt) . Check Size: M, L, XL, XXL NEW $18.95

**4115 "PURE COUNTRY" CHARCOAL GREY T-SHIRT** (Charcoal Grey Adult UNISEX 100% Preshrunk Cotton Short Sleeve T-Shirt features Three Good Looking Photos of George Strait as Dusty Chandler... Check Size: M, L, XL $17.95

From his 1992 Feature Film, "Pure Country," exclusive designs on both front and back)... Check Size: XXL $19.95
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<td>STRAIGHT 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.)</td>
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--- NEW ITEMS ---

*** PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY  **** CUSTOMER #:  
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STREET ADDRESS:  
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MASTERCARD: VISA:  
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SIGNATURE ON CARD:  

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YES ___ This is a new address.  
NO ____ This is not a new address.  

SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES DO NOT APPLY TO MEMBERSHIPS!

SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES TO DELIVER TO:  

SHIPPING & HANDLING CHARGES TO DELIVER TO:  

DEDUCT STRAIGHT CASH HERE -  

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--- NEW ITEMS ---

*** 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 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.  

GSFC  •  P.O. BOX 2119  •  HENDERSONVILLE, TN 37077  •  STRAIT LINE: (615) 824-7176  •  ALLOW 2 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY • http://www.georgestraight.com

ORDERS FOR A FAN CLUB MEMBERSHIP WILL NOT BE SHIPPED BY OVERNIGHT SERVICES AND ARE NOT REFUNDABLE.

EXCHANGES AND REFUNDS: All returns must be accompanied by our packing slip with all necessary information pertaining to your return. We will credit your original payment method less shipping and handling charges. There is a 30 day return policy on all merchandise.
NEW MERCHANDISE

4180 George Strait Metro Blue T-Shirt

209 George Strait Bumper Sticker

309 Mousepad

4185 - Black
"El Rey"
T-Shirt
Anita’s Notes

Here we go again! Welcome to the Spring issue of Strait Talk. We can’t take credit for the weather that has hit everyone this winter and honestly, why would we want to? We have spoken to so many George Strait Fan Club Members lately, that have been stuck in their homes and need a George Strait fix. Well, time to warm up!

George and the Ace In The Hole Band are back on the road and are having a blast. George’s first show was in Austin, TX at the Frank Erwin Center with Reba and Lee Ann Womack. The ladies will travel to all the shows with George this year on the tour that will last through April 9th in Louisville, KY. Be sure and try to catch one of the shows. It will be a night to remember.

As you read through this issue of Strait Talk, you will find a few concert reviews from the start of the tour. We hope they will give you an idea of how exciting each of the shows has been. Enjoy!

With the 29th year of the George Strait Team Roping Classic approaching in San Antonio, TX, we are sorry to inform you that the event is completely sold out. This is the one event that, year after year, fans look forward to attending. It’s a special event that George and his family work very hard to make exceptional and the work never ends. The minute one roping is over they are hard at work planning for the next one. We have a number of the ropers that call in and purchase the roping video each year. They say that it helps in working on their techniques. However, we have noticed that sometime they just have been lucky as well. We want to wish George and Bubba Strait good luck as they take on all the other world class ropers that will be there. Coleman Proctor and Jake Long were thrilled with their win last year and we can’t wait to see who will win the Chevy Silverado dually trucks from Cavender Chevrolet and the Strait Extreme 3-horse slant trailers from Bruton trailers.

If you are attending the GSTRC this year be sure and wear comfortable clothes and shoes as Friday is a long day. Also, be sure and check the weather before traveling to San Antonio as you may need a jacket. You might also consider bringing a cushion seat to sit on. The seating is all bleacher style seating and it is on a first-come, first-served basis. The San Antonio Rose Palace does have food and drink stand and so do some of the sponsors. They will be many great vendors in the vendor area selling beautiful crafts, clothing, jewelry, furniture, boots, saddles, hats, home décor and candles to name a few. Most of the vendors do take MC/Visa along with cash.

Also, on Saturday morning before the roping begins, fans are invited to join with many of the ropers, workers and others at Cowboy Church. It has great attendance and we hope to be there as well. Please check the bulletin boards for the exact time on Saturday morning.

My favorite part of the GSTRC is the friendships that have been formed over the years. We see many familiar faces over and over again and get to put names and faces together. Fans travel thousands of miles each year.

If you are new to the GSTRC, when you arrive, get your seat and settle in for a long day (Friday). Get to know who is sitting next to you, behind you and in front of you. You may need help in getting someone to save your seat when you need to get something to eat or drink or use the facilities. You would be amazed how many nice fans there are around you. Lastly, be sure and bring your camera. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Check out the Taste of Country contest running on their website. Fans may enter a video on You Tube singing Troubadour. The winning contestant will be presented at the Lubbock show on March 26th and receive many prizes including a guitar autographed by George Strait. You can read all about it on our website or TasteofCountry.com.

George has once again been nominated in the Male Vocalist category for the awards to be broadcast on CBS. It is his 82nd nomination. Good luck George!

Maria Rodriguez of Miami, FL is this issues winner for submitting to the George Strait Collectables Column. Congratulations and your George Strait Goody Box is on the way. All fans have the opportunity to submit reviews, photos, stories or articles on George to the Fan Club office.

If you’ve been to one of the shows you will notice that there are many new George Strait souvenir items on the road. If there is something you see on the road but do not get a chance to purchase it, please check the General Store on the George Strait website at www.georgestrait.com. Many of the items, along will all of his music, are available in the store. One shirt that we have that is not carried on the road is the Cherry Red “Live In Concert” tour cities t-shirt that comes in sizes M-XXL. It’s a great shirt to have for those Red Shirt Fridays that George proclaimed at the beginning of the tour to salute the military. On Fridays, the arenas are covered with red shirts.

If you would like to order anything, change your email address, mailing address or phone numbers or check your membership status, you may do so through customer service on the website at www.georgestrait.com. You can also call the fan club office between 9am and 3pm daily at 615-824-7176 and talk to a real person.

Thank you for all the Holiday cards for George and his family. Also, the birthday wishes for Norma on Feb. 23rd. George and Bubba will celebrate theirs in May and we want to be the first to wish them both a “Happy Birthday”.

As we close this issue of Strait Talk, we ask that you continue to pray for our servicemen and women all over the world who are watching over us and keeping our country safe. We pray for their safe return home. Keep it Strait!
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