
STRAIT TALK

George Strait Country Music Festival Tour Is Set

After months of preparation and planning, all of the logistics and details have finally been worked out for the 1999 George Strait Country Music Festival Tour. It will begin on March 6th in Phoenix, AZ and wrap up on June 6th in Pittsburgh, PA. The tour will consist of 18 shows in major athletic stadiums. The cities to be visited will include, in addition to Phoenix and Pittsburgh, El Paso, Tampa, Clemson, S.C., New Orleans, San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, Ames, IA, Chicago, Las Vegas, Oakland, Washington D.C., Foxboro, MA, Kansas City, Louisville, and Detroit. The stops in Washington and Foxboro will be the first in several years in the northeast. A complete itinerary can be found on the back page of the newsletter. Special fan club seating will be available at all locations. A story elsewhere in the newsletter will furnish all of the information.

Joining George Strait on tour this year will be CMA "Album of the Year" winner, Tim McGraw and double CMA Award winners The Dixie Chicks. The Dixie Chicks have also been nominated for three Grammy awards. Kenny Chesney, one of country music's most consistent chart toppers will be included on the show along with Jo Dee Messina and Mark Wills and Asleep at the Wheel. Messina chalked up two of country music's top 5 hits in 1998 while Wills was the most successful new male artist of 1998. Asleep At The Wheel, who will open the show, is considered by virtually all critics to be the best western swing band in America. As a part of last year's show, the Wheel did an outstanding

job of setting the pace for the days entertainment.

Each show will also feature the "Straitland" entertainment area outside of the stadium. "Straitland" will consist of sponsor booths, food and beverage concession stands, vendors and a stage that will

showcase newer nationally known country music talent. The stages will have talent performing each day before the stadium show starts and during each one of the set changes. Check your local schedules for the time that "Straitland" opens. In many

Continued on next page



George Strait Country Music Festival Tour Is Set (Continued)

locations, where space is available, a number of carnival rides will be set up. "Straitland" was a huge hit in 1998 and every effort is being made to make it even more enjoyable in 1999.

An added feature to the tour this year will be the brand new "George Strait Country Music Festival" website. The website, which is expected to be functional toward the end of February, will feature many different pages. Included, along with many other features, will be biographies and photographs of all of the performers on the show, links to their home pages, photos from each of the shows, local information for each show, ticket information for each show and the ability to buy tour merchandise. The site will also feature a new innovation called "StraitCam." "StraitCams" will be set up in every stadium beginning on the day that our crews move in to prepare for the show. Fans can keep up with the progress of each show, by checking in on the "StraitCam" daily. No sound will be available, but fans will be able to see fresh photographs every few minutes. Fans will be able to check on and look at photographs of all the activities including the day of the show. In addition, another "StraitCam" will be placed in "Straitland" at each stadium to give fans a good idea of what is going on there. The photos from the "StraitCam" will be refreshed every few minutes. Fans will be able to access the tour "StraitCams" through the Official George Strait website at www.georgestraitfans.com. 🐾



JoDee Messina



Asleep At The Wheel



Kenny Chesney



Dixie Chicks



Tim McGraw



Mark Wills

New George Strait Album Arrives March 2nd

The new George Strait Album "Always Never The Same" will arrive in record outlets on Wednesday, March 2nd. The album, co-produced by Strait and MCA President, Tony Brown was finished just before the end of the year. It will contain ten new songs. Several of Nashville's most promi-

nent writers and some of Strait's favorites, contributed songs for the album. They included Dean Dillon, Hank Cochran, Kostas, Jim Lauderdale, Aaron Barker, Jeff Stevens, Steve Bogard, Melba Montgomery, Lonnie Williams, Steve Leslie, Mart Green, Terry McBride, Wayland Holyfield, Fred

Knobloch, Dana Hunt and the late Kent Robbins.

The first single off the album, "Meanwhile" by Holyfield and Knobloch is already climbing the Billboard and R & R charts. 🐾

Fan Collectable Column

February/March 1999

- Small Town Girl - Paperback by LaVyrle Spencer - p. 229, mentioned in the paragraph.
- The Orange County Register - Cover story - 12/2/98. Mentioned in story, page 4. Tustin, CA.
- Country America - 1/1999 issue. Cover picture of 1998's Biggest Stars and Best - pgs. 54-55, photo and story - page 76, story.
- Music City News - 1/1999. Photo pg. 1, pg. 24 photo, pg. 48 mentioned, pg. 56 photo. Nashville, TN.
- The Spokesman-Review - CD Review. 12/13/98. pg. E7 - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.
- The Fargo Forum - 12/6/98. Article on the "Ticket sales at the Fargodome" p. C6. Fargo, ND.
- Country Weekly - 12/8/98. Front cover photo, pg. 3 mentioned, pg. 4, pg. 16-21 story and photos, pg. 22, pg. 30 & 54 Singles and LPs.
- Holiday 1998 Catalog - "The Ft. Western Stores" pg. 64 Photo of G.S. w/"G.S. Hill Country 4xQuality Beaver Felt."
- People Magazine - 12/28/98. p. 117 mentioned, NY, NY.
- Country Weekly - 12/22/98. Pg. 9 mentioned and p. 50 and 52. Nashville, TN.
- Star Tribune - 12/28/98. Metro/State section mentioned - p. B2. Minneapolis, MN.
- Country Weekly - 1/5/99. Small cover photo, mentioned pgs. 14, 16, 19, 23, 26-28. 1998 Top Songs pg. 38, 50 and 64. Nashville, TN.
- Courier - Journal - 12/29/98. Feature section, The Insiders. True Tales About People In The News. p. C3 mentioned. Louisville, KY.
- Cowboys and Indians - G.S. Cowboy Hat ad. 1/99, p. 111.
- Christian Science Monitor - 12/11/98. Pg. 18 - Arts and Leisure - Music section, mentioned. Indianola, Iowa.
- Detroit Free Press - 12/28/98. Pg. 10-D, G.S. mentioned in "Names and Faces" section - 1988 Concert Circuit.
- The Spokesman - Review "Entertainment Section". 12/20/98. Pg. E6 - Music Charts - mentioned.
- Modern Screen Presents - "Who's Who In Country Music" - Vol. 93, No. 5 - March 1999. Small cover picture, mentioned on pages 16, 28, 34, 42, 56, 57 and 68. Page 58 - small picture w/article. Page 91 - full page photo of George.
- Pocono Record - "Nashville Sound Section" - 12/28/98. Pg. A-8 article - G.S. mentioned. Swiftwater, PA.
- St. Petersburg Times - Weekender Section - 1/1/99. Page 16 - Pop Beat #7 "G.S. at Houlihan's Stadium." St. Petersburg, FL.
- Modern Screens Country Music - April 1999. Pg. 30 photo w/letters to the Editor. Pg. A7 Lyrics to "We Really Shouldn't Be Doing This" w/photo. Pg. 16 photo.
- Indianapolis Star News Paper - Jan. 4, pg. 2 mentioned in article. Indianapolis, IN.
- The Spokesman Review - 12/30/98. Pg. B4 article. Spokane, WA.
- Country Weekly - 1/12/99. Pg. 8 - Letters. Nashville, TN.
- Music City News - Feb. issue. Pg. 18-19. TNN/Music City News Awards Ballot. Nashville, TN.

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!

Freddie and Rosa Goymor - Dallas, TX
 Virginia Jackson - Charles Town, W.Va.
 Jean George - Longview, TX
 Alex Gaffney - Gales Creek, OR
 Trudy Holderby - Davenport, WA
 Joyce Shoults - Tulsa, OK
 Helen Miller - Belton, TX
 Debbie Erickson - Taylor, MI
 Jean Hurt - Beech Grover, IN
 G. Stevens - Melbourne, FL
 Mary Tillman - Alamo, TN

Mrs. John J. Evans - Harrisburg, MO
 Beverly Neely - San Antonio, TX
 Linda Ressler - Mandon, ND
 Mildred Crawford - Tustin, CA
 Lou Dallman - Oshkosh, WI
 Carolyn Evans - Harrisburg, MO
 Vickie Kulp - Fredericksburg, VA
 Rosa Goymor - Dallas, TX
 Jolie Wilson - Canada
 Margaret Stangl - St. Louis Park, MN
 Luella Jumps - Mound City, MO
 Debbie Erickson - Taylor, MI

LaVanda Rzhron - Martinez, CA
 John M. Fehn - Indianola, Iowa
 Beverly Enlow - Louisville, KY
 LeAnn Munney - Victoria, TX
 Alison T. Kachenko Magera - Swiftwater, PA
 Karen Johnson - Barrhead-Alta-Canada
 Beverly M. Sloan - St. Petersburg, FL
 Sue and Frank Zoltowski - Philadelphia, PA
 Margaret Filippi - Noxon, MT
 Beverly Bolam - Niagara Falls, NY
 Steve McDaniel - Indals, IN

FAN CLUB SEATING

CITY	ON SALE	LOCATION
Phoenix	1/25	Gammage Theatre (on campus), corner of Mill Avenue and Apache Blvd.
El Paso	1/23	Sun Bowl Stadium Box Office, Sun Bowl Drive Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. only
Tampa	2/13	Raymond James Stadium Box Office, 4201 North Dalmabry Hwy. Hours: 10 a.m., cannot lineup before 8 a.m.
Clemson	2/13	Death Valley Stadium Box Office, Centennial Blvd. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. only
New Orleans	2/27	Superdome Box Office, 1500 Poydras Street, Gate H Plaza Level Line-up 2 hours prior to sale
San Antonio	2/20	Alamodome Box Office, 100 Montana Street Line-up 2 hours prior to sale
Houston	3/6	Autry Court (on Rice campus-NOT stadium), 1 mile east of stadium parking lot next to Jake Hess Tennis Courts Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dallas	2/27	Texas Stadium Box Office, 2401 East Airport Freeway, Irving, TX Line-up 2 hours prior to sale
Ames	3/13	Iowa State Center - Stevens Auditorium, Lincoln Way and Beach Avenue Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Line-up at 8 a.m.
Chicago	3/13	Soldier Field Box Office, 425 E. McFetridge Drive, Gate "O" Lakeshore Drive and Waldron, Line-up 2 hours prior to sale
Las Vegas	3/27	Sam Boyd Silverbowl Box Office, 7000 E. Russell Avenue
Oakland	3/27	Network Associates Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Way Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Line-up 8:00 a.m.
Washington D.C.	3/27	RFK Stadium Box Office, 2400 E. Capital Street S.E. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Line-up 8:00 a.m.
Foxboro	3/27	Foxboro Stadium Box Office, Rt. 1
Kansas City	4/17	Arrowhead Stadium Box Office, 1 Arrowhead Dr. (Gate E)
Louisville	4/10	Papa Johns Stadium Box Office, 2800 S. Floyd Street
Detroit, MI	4/24	Silverdome Box Office, 1200 Featherstone Rd. Line-up at 8 a.m.
Pittsburgh	4/24	Three Rivers Stadium Box Office, 400 Stadium Circle Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Line-up at 8:30 a.m.

Anita's Notes

Each year as we try and put together the Feb/March issue of Strait Talk, we are usually surrounded with very chilly temperatures. This year, for instance, it is 20 degrees. For some of you across the world, there is a heat wave and for others, it's chilling right down to the bone. We hope we have some blazing news for you that will warm you up a bit.

1999 has arrived and once again George is listed among the nominees for the 26th Annual American Music Awards. He has been nominated for "Favorite Male Performer" and "Favorite Album" for "One Step At A Time." George has also been nominated for two People's Choice Awards. They are "All Time Favorite Musical Performer" and "Male Musical Performer." By the time you read this you will probably already know who the winners are since both of them will be handed out by the end of January. You will also have noticed that George was unable to attend either of the awards shows as he had previous commitments. Congratulations to George for the nominations and I know that we will all have our fingers crossed.

George Strait's next studio album is complete and you will find it in your record shops on March 2nd. The album is titled "Always Never The Same" after one of the cuts on the album. Believe me, when you listen to the album and hear the purity of George's voice, chills will run through your body. Please let us know your feelings on the project. We will be taking a poll of your favorite cuts on our website at www.georgestraitfans.com beginning on March 2nd. The first single from the album is "Meanwhile" and is already doing great.

We hope you are up for another year of great music and shows as the George Strait Country Music Festival tour is about to get underway. It will kick off in Phoenix, Arizona on March 6th and will continue through the first weekend of June. The complete itinerary is on the back of the newsletter and a complete listing of fan club seating information is also available in the newsletter as well. Remember that on-sale dates are always subject to change so keep in touch with Strait Line and the website in case there are any corrections.

Fan club seating will be available at all venues again this year. To obtain fan club

seating, members must go to the designated location, as indicated elsewhere in the newsletter and present their unexpired, current membership card to purchase their two fan club seats. Please remember, that fan club seats may not be the best seats. They are for the sole purpose of making sure that fan club members who make the effort, get good and decent seats. They do not guarantee front row seats or even the front section. They were designed to make sure that members were not shut out when concerts were sold out quickly. Fan club members who wish to buy additional seats outside the fan club section of the venue must move to another line to make those purchases. Please read the page on fan club seating carefully as each venue has its own set of rules. In most places, where fan club seating will be sold there will be no camping out and lines will not be allowed to form more than two hours before tickets go on sale. We hope you enjoy the shows.

We are really excited about our new "Straitcams" that will be set up at each venue so members and other fans who do not get a chance to see the tour will get an idea of what is going on during the tour. Please read the complete tour story to learn all about these marvelous new technological wonders.

For those of you who visit the official George Strait website at www.georgestraitfans.com, here is the new User Name and Password for February and March.

User Name: sierra
Password: blazer

We hope you enjoy the new look of the website and will particularly enjoy all the new features we have added for the tour. Let us know what you think. Enjoy!!

A few reminders. Please call or drop us a line if you are moving. Strait Talk newsletters are not forwarded because they are shipped bulk mail. If you have moved and have not notified us, a second copy will not be sent. If you have any questions, please call us. Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Central time. The Strait Line number is 615-824-7176. The toll free number for placing orders is 1-800-338-GSFC (4738). We have noticed that many more of you are placing your orders on our website. If you are on-line it is a great idea as

the website General Store has photographs of virtually all our merchandise.

That's it for now. We hope to see some of you at one of the shows. Enjoy yourselves and keep Strait and safe.

Pen Pals

FEBRUARY / MARCH 1999

(Fans that exchange letters through mail)

Judy Krochmal
661 Shunpike Road
Green Village, NJ 07935

Kristen Lawley (17)
P.O. Box 402
Eufaula, OK 74432-0402

Mickie Smith (33)
P.O. Box 6395
Chico, CA 95927

Aubriel Johnson (13)
P.O. Box 6395
Chico, CA 95927

Mrs. Rosemary Meinay (35)
18042 N. 1st Place
Phoenix, AZ 85022

Julie Hill
8121 Douglas Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78409

Pat McManus
"Wallaroo" Castlerock Road
Muswellbrook
N.S.W. 2333, Australia

Beth Schoen (42)
829 Greenwood Avenue, Apt. 8J
Brooklyn, NY 11218

Rose Phillips (43)
211 Banksia Street
Juanhoe 3079
Melbourn, Australia

Kathy Head
12 Jarratt House
St. Leonards Road
Windsor
Berkshire, England SL4-3TH

Carolyn Aurandt
2211 8th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602

Karen L. Johnson (26)
Site 7, Box 51 RR3
Barrhead, Alta
T7N-IN4 Canada

NEW ALBUM SONGS AND WRITERS

Created by: GSFC Staff

Words are always in a straight line and maybe read up, down, forward, backward, and diagonally.

T S T E V E L E S L I E D E A R G R G E H W W E A E R A E L Y O U L F I N E
 T H A T S T H E T R U T H M E L B A M O N T G O M E R Y H P E O U H A E K A
 E O A G R D E T T U R L N E N T T Y N I N L O E I D A N O V Y E Y M V U E H
 T O Y T T A E A X O D R D A C E I I L I V E V E L Y O U S O M R U W C H N Y
 O D I S S I L A Y U R E M Y O R G I R L A N D A O I S M Y M A N L H O V T O
 K I A W L W H E N L O T A O L R J U N E L B L B O H Y N G H P Y B A I R R T
 D N A Y D H H M Y D V E E R E Y T O E V O O O L K T T I H H A P U T O Y O H
 A E N R T I S E L O I L T T R M Y O U H W C N I A E Y A O R U D I D L O B D
 A N V N U Y T D R I I L D I T C T H E I L A N K T O Y F O A U L T O D U B R
 E Y O D A Y O I N E G T L H I B E H V O E P A E Y W N E I W C I L Y L H I A
 E D C H N R H I S A I T M O S R I S A H M E S R O E I T S H W E Q O R L N T
 E V A E W A A N K D L W S E N S E S L T O U T Y U O A N L S W Y A U D M S O
 V M U Y O V N C Y H T T A L W A Y S N E V E R T H E S A M E A D A S Y I L O
 D E U S D R K E D G E S O N E O F Y O U T R A T J O Y V E P W J D A E J U W
 Y L O E S E C C L Y O D E M N A R K C H E I R L U D A M M Y K E A Y T I E A
 J Y A B I C O H A R L S J U D A A R O N B A R K E R Y D A I S F M T A N G Y
 G D A I H R C R S R M E A T N G T J P O A H M N D R A A R I C F D O I C K L
 E Y D I T C H K Y E Y D T I J P E A C E O F M I N D C D I A Y S H T E L L A
 D H I M E V R Y N I M A M I A A R A K E A I Y K J A P A G N B T E H L G I N
 U A S T T C A Z E A S E N H T I A L D E D B C E E N V E R L Y E G A E O R D
 G E N T I E N X A S F A N D A L M Y N A O S T C Y A R A E H L V E T O D A H
 T E D N R S T E V E B O G A R D L S A N T U A E I H E D E S L E Y L N A D O
 D E N M W L O N N I E W I L L I A M S A R K R S I U N G N P O N R E E N G L
 K O S T A S A N D A N G E R E R V M I L N E M L Y N A G E E R S G O E P N Y
 H S U O E E B M E A N W H I L E L C U F D T H O O T F M N N D C R N H O S F
 E O N B V R M F R E D K N O B L O C H A R R I E G V R E A G T E A A I R T I
 J I M L A U D E R D A L E L N A A N L N E E D M U B E R A I L M S L I N G E
 4 M I N U S 3 E Q U A L S Z E R O M E N A N D F A L K G H E O E S V I T O L
 T O Y W E E D N A T E R R Y M C B R I D E I G D A E L N I T L D E F A N T D
 D E D A S N E M R K C A Y I S L B R A L L O O N R M A Y L A O L R D A Y O H

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

Jacket Size _____

* All entries must be received by March 12, 1999. **One Entry Only!**