



RICK AND THE ALL-STAR RAMBLERS



Vermont's Premier Western Swing Band

RICK NORCROSS - VOCALS/RHYTHM GUITAR · **TARYN NOELLE** - VOCALS · **JOSIE RITTER** - VOCALS · **JULIA SHANNON-GRILLO** - VOCALS · **CHARLIE MACFADYEN** - PIANO/ACCORDION/LAP STEEL · **DONO SCHABNER** - LEAD GUITAR · **DOUG REID** - FIDDLE · **DAVE ROWELL** - VOCALS/BASS · **IAN KOELLER** - DRUMS · **KEN GRILLO** - SOUND ENGINEER · **THOMAS MARGETIC** - CREW CHIEF

Nominated "Best Western Swing Band" by The Academy of Western Artists, Gene Autry, Oklahoma

RAMBLER UPDATE!

JANUARY 2015



Rick Norcross

January 1 at 9:53pm

Happy New Year to our Friends of Rick & The All-Star Ramblers.

Wanted to give a warm shout out to all the folks who came to my First Night show last night for the 10 o'clock concert at the College Street Congregational Church. I have played at First Night more than 20 times solo over the years and last night's audience was the largest turnout I ever had. Special thanks to VPR and WDEV's Joel Najman for being a very colorful part of the audience, popping in after his First Night Sock Hop at Edmunds.



I want to thank WCAX Television News Director Anson Tebbetts for using three of our songs this evening on Channel 3's very wonderful "Year In Pictures" piece put together by videographer Lance MacKenzie. They even had a live clip of me playing "Welcome To OUR Vermont" from my appearance earlier this year on "The :30." Lance also worked "Paint It Like A Cow" and "I Heard The Highway" into the piece. And the editing of the stories made the songs compliment the subjects beautifully. It was a real honor to hear our tunes come across on the statewide CBS affiliate and I deeply appreciate WCAX making the choice to use our Vermont music. If you missed it, Anson sent me this link:

<http://www.wcax.com/story/27744265/2014-year-in-pictures>

Take a look at a great 2014 in review! Thanks again, Anson, Gina & Lance!

Thanks to SEVEN DAYS Music Editor Dan Bolles for making this prediction in this week's (01/07/15) Issue. Great call, Dan!



Longtime ramblin' man RICK NORCROSS and his band, the ALL-STAR RAMBLERS, will win at least one award in the six categories for which they have been nominated in the 2014 Academy of Western Artists awards. These include Best Western Swing Group/Duo, Best Western Swing Album (*Welcome to OUR Vermont*) Best Western Swing Female (TARYN NOELLE) and three nominations for Best Western Swing Song. Norcross and co. were finalists in that first category last year, but came up empty. I say the Academy makes it up to them at the awards ceremony in Dallas this year. Question: Do they have to stay at a Best Western to win? Don't leave anything to chance, guys.

I would like to share with you that we have received SIX nominations for the 2015 Academy of Western Artists awards. Western Swing DJs and Academy Members have nominated us and the next step is for the Academy Awards Panel to winnow the nominations down to five finalists in each category. As you all know, we made the finals last year for "Best Western Swing Band" and four Ramblers went down to Dallas for the awards ceremony at the end of March. We have received nominations in these categories: "Best Western Swing Band," Best Western Swing Album - "Welcome To OUR Vermont," "Best Female Vocalist - Taryn Noelle," and three nominations for "Best Western Swing Song - "Welcome To OUR Vermont," "Here's Yer Hat, What's Yer Hurry" & "You Can't Make It Up." Ironically, I wrote "Here's Yer Hat, What's Yer Hurry" during breakfast at the hotel where the awards ceremony was held. I am tickled to report that I wrote all three of the nominated "Best" songs.

We will hear who made the finals within a matter of weeks. If we make the finals in any of the six categories, we'll make the pilgrimage back to Dallas for the blessed event.



I also want to let you know that Charlie Papillo over at WVMT invited me to be one of the honored guests at his “Politically Incorrect Christmas Party” on the Monday before Christmas. So there I am standing around jawboning with two governors, current one, Peter Shumlin and previous Governor, Jim Douglas, Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger, Lt. Gov. Phil Scott, Senator Dick Mazza and musicians Billy Bratcher of the Starline Rhythm Boys, Jimmy T. Thurston and Tracy Lord from Keegan Nolan’s band. Governor Shumlin reaffirmed his appreciation for our “Welcome To OUR Vermont” album. Over the holidays, the Charlie, Ernie & Lisa Show played “Best Of” segments and Charlie played TWO different interviews with me from earlier in 2014. Thanks, Charlie!



(l-r) Rick, Tracy Lord, Jimmy T. Thurston, Billy Bratcher

Well, as mentioned, I wish you all the best for the New Year and look forward to seeing everybody when the outdoor music season resumes in Vermont next Summer! Warm Regards to you all! - Rambler Rick



After a break last season, our longtime songbird, Taryn Noelle has rejoined the Ramblers and will be back where she belongs - Ramblin’ with us for the 2015 Tour! Taryn has been nominated “Best Female Vocalist” by the AWA for the past two years. Come hear why! Welcome Home, Taryn!



FEEDBACK

Thomas Raum: Happy New Year, Rick! Wish we could get to Burlington more often to attend your shows. But we enjoy playing your discs here in Virginia. Come visit us some time.

Joel Najman: So much fun to see and hear you perform. Your banter and original songs are wonderful. You are truly a Vermont treasure... and Happy New Year, my friend!

Jack Donovan > Rick Norcross

January 1 at 7:58pm ·

Just saw the year-ender on WCAX-TV...and your music was a huge part of it...even got a shot of you on “Welcome to OUR Vermont.” What a nice recognition of what you have given us these past 50 plus years....you deserve the spotlight...and as I have told you this past year...this edition of the Ramblers and Riding My Guitar is some of your finest work....Happy New Year to you and the Ramblers... looking forward to seeing you in the New Year!



Joel Najman at the Hotel Vermont

Dan Dubonnet: It was amazing! Rick you have much to be proud of! Our family is proud to have you in our lives! Yee-Haw!

Jane Johns: Just a quick note to tell you how much I am enjoying the CD – Welcome to Our Vermont. I had purchased it at the Holiday Happenings event in Hardwick. But didn’t realize how much my grandchildren (I have a small apartment added to their house) were listening to it too – until this morning – when I was playing the CD and my 4 year old grandson said, “Meme, I like the song Take Me Back to Hardwick, I’m too Young to Marry. That’s my favorite.” Another young fan!!!

