

ALL COWBOY & ARENA CHAMPIONS HALL OF FAME

Johnny Nicholas



Johnny Nicholas is a versatile musician who was a member of the western swing group, *Asleep at the Wheel*. However, Johnny has strong ties to the sport of rodeo. His

first cousin was Clyde Vamvoras the 1968 RCA World Champion Bareback Rider.

In their younger days they would pick guitars and sing. Clyde left Lake Charles, Louisiana to go down the rodeo road. Johnny went on his own path to pursue a career in music. He plays Guitar, Piano, Harmonica, Mandolin and sings too. Johnny has recorded 8 albums of his own.

While traveling with “The Wheel” one year he met up with his cousin Clyde Vamvoras in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. They stayed up late into the night and Clyde suggested they should write a song. Well, they wrote a song that Johnny has been saving for a special time to record and release.



Clyde Vamvoras



Around 1980, Johnny and his wife Brenda moved to the Texas Hill Country just north of Fredericksburg. They bought an old gas station and developed the Hill Top Café. The Café features great food and music. Several nights a week there is live music with Johnny and guest musicians such as Augie Myers, Marcia Ball, Linda Gail Louis, Bill Kirchen and other talented people.

Many rodeo friends that knew Clyde Vamvoras and Johnny stop by to visit at the Hill Top Café. Larry Mahan, Garland Weeks and Gary Parli are a few of the old RCA cowboys to stop in to see Clyde's table.

For more information, please visit www.hilltopcafe.com.