



AUGUST 1994—Merry Christmas... a little early.

After twenty-five years of recording, we finally have the Jerry Jeff Christmas Album (on CD). It started last January or so. I'm over at Manny Gammage's Texas Hatters gettin' my hats re-created. Norma Gammage is sittin' there so sweet, and she says "Jerry Jeff, we sure wish we had a Christmas album (on CD), where we could hear your deep voice singing 'White Christmas' and such."

I said, "Yeah, and I could do 'The 12 Days of Christmas' cowboy style; 'Six-shooters shooting...'" We all laughed.

Well, I sang "White Christmas" and we did "The 12 Days of Christmas" cowboy style. In fact, the whole album (on CD) is called *Christmas Gonzo Style*.

Speaking of firsts, we will sing the national anthem for the first time at the St. Paul Saints baseball game on Sept. 1 in Minnesota. We're starting in the minors; We hope to work our way up to the Big Show.

It was a wild summer. The high point was watching Django and his music camp friends perform at the Broken Spoke. There he was, on the same stage where Bob Wills

and his own dad had played. We even took his photo with Spoke owner James White to put on the Spoke's Wall of Fame. Django sang "Mama, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Cowboys" and played bass on "Whole Lotta Shakin'". He also sang with dad on the Christmas album on "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Quite a "Little Man."

More family stuff this summer found us in Oneonta, NY for Grandma Jessie's (whom my daughter Jessie Jane is named after) 100th birthday. The big gathering at my sister Cheryl's house produced some memorable moments. They had hired a team of horses pulling a surrey with the fringe on top for Jessie to drive. She drove us up and down the country road in front of Cheryl's house. Then we adjourned to a big open tent for food and music. Someone produced a banjo made by Jessie's brother. I re-strung it and we all sang "She'll Be Comin' Around the Mountain". It was the first song I ever learned on a guitar. Some party!

See ya down the road,

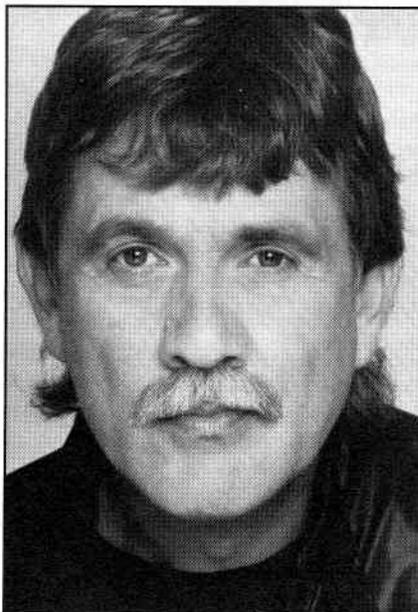
FROMHOLZ: Live (at last) at The Birchmere

Steven Fromholz's debut as a musician was not auspicious. Back in the 1960s, while essaying the state of matrimony, Fromholz was given a banjo as a wedding present. The noise he made thrashing away at it at his bachelor party so infuriated one musician present that he threatened either "to take away that banjo from him or teach him to play it."

His fortunes have, needless to say, improved since then. Today, Fromholz is regarded as one of the deans of the Texas school of singer-songwriters, and he counts Jerry Jeff among his biggest fans. To date, Jerry Jeff has recorded three of his friend's songs: "Man With the Big Hat," "Rockin' On the River" and "Singin' the Dinosaur Blues."

As for Fromholz himself, his "I'd Have To Be Crazy" became a substantial hit for Willie Nelson ("It's my accountant's favorite song," Fromholz confesses). And his own generation-spanning "Texas Trilogy" is widely regarded as one of the most indelibly moving songs ever penned about the Lone Star State; one writer likened it to "a Larry McMurty novel set to music."

Since moving to Austin in 1974, Steven has released



Singer, songwriter, and Lone Star bon vivant Steven Fromholz will be recording a live album for T&TM at The Birchmere in Alexandria, VA on Sept. 26-29.

eight albums and tapes on a variety of major and independent labels (all, sad to say, are out of print). He has also carved out substantial careers as a theatre and movie actor and a whitewater rafting guide.

But now Tried & True Music is dragging Fromholz kicking and screaming into the CD age. Steven and guitarist Larry Nye will be opening four nights' worth of shows, on Sept. 26-29, for Jerry Jeff and the Gonzo Compadres at The Birchmere, the famous listening room in Alexandria, VA, just across the river from the nation's capitol.

We will be recording Steven's sets for a live album, to be released on Tried & True sometime in 1995 (We will also be recording Jerry Jeff's sets for a possible "greatest hits" package to be released sometime in the future).

Jerry Jeff and Tried & True are proud to have the chance to showcase Steven Fromholz's music. All of us—and many others in Texas besides—have been fans for years. Now it's time to share the wealth.

For information on the shows, call The Birchmere (703/549-5919), or the Tried & True offices (512/288-1695).



7&TM Special Events



■ **SCHOOL DAZE IN GRUENE:** Jerry Jeff and the band will be hosting a back-to-school show and dance at Gruene Hall on SEPT. 16. Tickets are \$20 (plus a \$1 credit card surcharge) and will go on sale through the T&TM offices on SEPT. 1. WE CAN ACCEPT NO MAIL OR PHONE ORDERS BEFORE THAT DATE. Payment can be made via check or money order (payable to T&TM), or MC/VISA. Call 512/288-1695 to place an order.

■ **TAPE IT OR LEAVE IT:** Tried & True Music is finally dragging Steven Fromholz dragging and kicking and screaming into the Nineties and onto compact disc. That's right, one of our favorite songwriters—Jerry Jeff has covered his "Man With the Big Hat," "Singin' the Dinosaur Blues" and "Rockin' On the River"—will be recording live for his first CD, to be released on T&TM in 1995. He will be featuring not only those songs, but new compositions and an encore performance of his justly-celebrated song cycle, "The Texas Trilogy." Steven will be opening four nights' worth of shows for Jerry Jeff at The Birchmere in Alexandria, VA on Sept. 26-29. (We'd like to make the night of Sept. 27 an "All Texas" night, with as many D.C.-area expatriates as we can manage, so y'all come on out!)...We will also be recording Jerry Jeff's sets for a possible "greatest hits" package...For information on the shows, call 703/549-5919.

■ **CURTAINS UP IN LUCKENBACH:** As Jerry Jeff sings, "Texas in October/Is about as pretty as it gets..." Just to prove it, we've put together a unique two-night Hill Country experience in Luckenbach on Oct. 21-22. On Friday, Austin's Live Oak Theatre will present a special production of Texas playwright's Ellsworth Schave's lovely play, *A Texas Romance*, in the Luckenbach Dancehall.

Then on Saturday, Jerry Jeff and the band will perform for fans and friends alike. For Oct. 21 play tickets, call Walter Gibson at Live Oak Theatre (512/472-7134). Jerry Jeff concert tickets for Oct. 22 will go on sale through the T&TM offices on SEPT. 15. WE WILL ACCEPT NO PHONE OR MAIL ORDERS BEFORE THIS DATE: Concert tickets are \$50, and may be purchased via check, money order (payable to T&TM), or MC/VISA. Those interested in making a weekend of it may contact the Fredericksburg Convention and Visitor's Bureau (512/997-6253) for lodging information.

■ **TALKIN' TURKEY IN THE BIG EASY:** "Gobble," in New Orleans at least, is not only a noun but a verb. So it's appropriate that Jerry Jeff and the band are making a swing through the Crescent City the week before Thanksgiving. The guys will be performing at Tipitina's on Sat., NOV. 19, and we're making a weekend of it. T&TM has reserved a bloc of rooms at the lovely Dauphine Orleans (415 Dauphine St., 504/586-1800, 800/521-7111) in the French Quarter for ourselves and our fans. The rooms are available for a \$120 rate through SEPT. 30 (Ask for the Jerry Jeff Walker Fan Club group rate), and have been blocked out for NOV. 18-20.

Autumn is a great time to be in New Orleans, with cool weather, great holiday shopping, world-class food (we are big fans of Bayona's, which is across from the Dauphine Orleans, as well as Emeril's in the Warehouse District, and NOLA's). Come join us!

■ **I'M DREAMING OF A GRUENE CHRISTMAS:** Jerry Jeff and the band will be returning to Gruene Hall on December 9-10 for a pair of Christmas-time shows. This is a lovely time to get out and soak up a little Hill Country holiday spirit. Tickets will go on sale through the T&TM office on NOV. 7; WE WILL ACCEPT NO PHONE OR MAIL ORDERS BEFORE THIS DATE. Tickets may be purchased via MC/VISA, money order or check (payable to T&TM). Call T&TM (512/288-1695) to order.

■ **BELIZE IT OR NOT:** Our two-week idyll in tropical Belize is still on for January 8-22, 1995. But available space is dwindling rapidly; As of this writing, there are still rooms for both weeks. To recap, Jerry Jeff will be hosting a Tried & True tropical vacation next winter. Once more, we'll be staying at the Victoria House on the beautiful Ambergris Caye, in close proximity to sun, surf and Belikin Beer. Interested parties should contact Agnes with the Victoria House, 800/247-5159.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL T&TM, 512/288-1695. OFFICE HOURS ARE 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. CENTRAL TIME, WEEKDAYS.

FYI

■ **X-MAS MARKS THE SPOT:** You haven't lived until you've celebrated Christmas in May, like Jerry Jeff, Susan, the Gonzo Compadres, and the T&TM staff did this spring. There was a tree, lights, and presents all accounted for, and all in celebration of the photo session for the cover of *Christmas Gonzo Style*, Jerry Jeff's first Christmas album. After the photographers got done capturing us in all of our holiday finery, we switched back to our usual shorts and Hawaiian shirts to enjoy a Christmas turkey dinner with most of the trimmings (Have you ever tried to find cranberry sauce in May? In Texas?) Anyway, a great time was had by all, and the finished product will be available on Rykodisc on or about October 15. (And remember, we need your holiday orders in hand by NOVEMBER 15 to insure Christmas delivery!). And yes, we are sorry to bring up Christmas in such close proximity to Labor Day, but that's what happens with a quarterly newsletter!

■ **JUICE ON THE LOOSE:** From the "We're-not-making-this-up" file... A columnist for the *New York Post* (naturally) wrote that the only thing that would have made the O.J. Simpson highway "chase" in June more bizarre would have been had the television stations covering the spectacle laid a track of Jerry Jeff singing, "If I can just get off of this L.A. Freeway/Without getting killed or caught..." over the film footage. You're telling us!

■ **BIRTHDAY '95 UPDATE:** Once again, it behooves us to point out that it's time to start making plans for the 1995 Jerry Jeff Walker Birthday Weekend. So many fans liked the date switched to the latter part of the month (in terms of weather, wildflowers, no Spring Break conflicts), that we are making it permanent. Henceforth, the Birthday Weekend will be on the last weekend in March. Which means that the dates of the 1995 Birthday Weekend will be MARCH 24-27, 1995. We will have complete details of this year's festivities in the next issue of the newsletter.

■ **CONTRARY TO ORDINARY LIVES!:** The title track to Jerry Jeff's 1978 album, *Contrary To Ordinary*, is still one of his most requested in-concert favorites. So—although the album is out of print and has never been issued on CD—we are happy to offer the abridged cassette version of *Contrary To Ordinary* through T&TM (for mail-order information, see the "Tried & True By Mail" page) for \$10. Please note that, through no fault of our own, this cassette contains two fewer songs (minus "What Are We Doing?" and "Deeper Than Love") than the LP version... ALSO, MCA Records (Jerry Jeff's old label) has begun a new operation called "Texas City Music". Besides a wonderful array of diverse Lone Star artists, the mail-order-only division has available JJW's *Viva Terlingua* (on CD and cassette), *Ridin' High* (on CD and cassette), and *A Man Must Carry On* (cassette only). To receive a "Texas City Music" catalog or place an order, call 800/489-8863.

■ **TRIEDEST & TRUEST:** Every now and then, we have to stop and pay tribute to those Warriors who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in one capacity or another. In this issue, we'd like to extend special thanks to Mike Toomey, who was such a help with our Boston show and in-store appearance; To Will Skinner, who does a first-rate job with our merchandise on our West Coast tours; And Dave Daniels, whose "Walkertoons" have brightened our newsletter for the past couple of years (And speaking of Dave, will the fan with whom he exchanged his jacket in Akron please call Dave at 216/867-7042, thanks!)... AND—Congratulations to John and Cathie Crowley on the birth of their daughter, Paige Glenn, on July 12. John and Cathie got married on our Caribbean Cruise in 1993, and turned up "with child" on our Belize getaway last January. As we always say, it's all JJ's fault!

JERRY JEFF WALKER ON THE ROAD

JERRY JEFF WALKER, with the Gonzo Compadres, unless noted as (SOLO)

August 23	Toolie's; Phoenix, AZ	Sept. 26-29	The Birchmere; Alexandria, VA
August 24	The Coach House; San Juan Capistrano, CA	Sept. 30	Private Party, Washington, D.C.
August 25	The Strand; Redondo Beach, CA		
August 26	Ventura Theatre; Ventura, CA	Oct. 1	Rose Hill Farm; Rocky Mount, NC
August 27	Private Party; Malibu, CA	Oct. 6	Heart O' Texas Fair; Waco, TX
August 28	Mishawaka Amphitheatre; Bellvue, CO	Oct. 8	Billy Bob's Texas; Ft. Worth, TX
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	Fine Line Cafe; Minneapolis, MN	Oct. 14	Private Party; Floresville, TX
		Oct. 15	Floores Country Store; Helotes, TX
Sept. 2	Park West; Chicago, IL	Oct. 22	Luckenbach Dance Hall; Luckenbach, TX
Sept. 3	Labor Fest; Janesville, WI	Oct. 23	Private Party; Houston, TX
Sept. 8	Atlanta Buckboard; Smyrna GA	Oct. 28	City Limits; Stephenville, TX
Sept. 9	Private Party; Charlotte, NC	Oct. 29	Private Party; Waco, TX
Sept. 10	Private Party; Charleston, WV		
Sept. 11	Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds; Conroe, TX	Nov. 12	Private Party; Austin, TX
Sept. 14	Hurricane Harry's; College Station, TX	Nov. 18	Ray's Downtown Bar & Grille; Lake Charles, LA
Sept. 15	Private Party; Houston, TX	Nov. 19	Tipitina's; New Orleans, LA
Sept. 16	Gruene Hall; Gruene, TX		
Sept. 17	Private Party; Dallas, TX	Dec. 9-10	Gruene Hall; Gruene, TX
Sept. 18	Yucatan's; Houston, TX	Dec. 23	Billy Bob's Texas; Ft. Worth, TX
Sept. 23	Tramps; New York City, NY		
Sept. 24	Private Party; New York City, NY		

For schedule updates contact Tried & True Music, 512/288-1695. Please remember, all dates are subject to change.

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