



A GUITAR AND A PEN

Editor Biographies

Robert Hicks

Robert Hicks has lived and worked in Nashville for almost thirty-five years. As a music publisher, he has run his own company, launching the careers of some of Nashville's best-loved singer-songwriters and publishing hits like "Just Call Me Lonesome," "Kisses Don't Lie," "Lipstick Promises," and "Never Say Die." He has worked as an independent publisher and has also been in partnerships with both PolyGram Music and MCA/Universal Music. In 2001, Robert Hicks co-authored *Nashville: The Pilgrims of Guitar Town* (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, New York) with French photographer Michel Arnaud. He is the author of the New York Times Best-Selling novel, *The Widow of the South* published by Warner Books/NY September, 2005.

His regular "guitar pulls" out at his cabin in the hills south of Nashville have attracted everyone from John Hiatt and the late Harlin Howard to Mary Chapin Carpenter and Beth Nielsen Chapman; from Jules Shear and Larry Carlton to Ray Wylie Hubbard and Steppenwolf's John Kay. Keith Richards once remarked, "You just don't stumble upon the guitar pull, you have to persevere in your heart to get there."

John Bohlinger

John Bohlinger is a Montana native and former Ivy League honors student who was close to earning a Ph.D. in psychology when he dropped out to pursue a life in music.

Since 2002, John has worked as the band leader/music director for the USA Network's hit program *Nashville Star*, now in its' sixth season on their new home on NBC. Over his fifteen years in Nashville, John has toured and continues to tour the world nearly constantly, holding down the guitar/mandolin/pedal steel end for over thirty major label artists. Currently, John tours with Randy Owen from the super group Alabama (Forty-two #1 singles, two Grammys, as well as CMA and ACM awards). John currently records for FARM TO MARKET RECORDS, an independent label based in Bozeman, MT.

John's musical compositions and playing can be heard on several major motion pictures, major label albums and over one hundred television spots. Most recently a PBS/HDTV special entitled *The Outlaw Trail* featured his songs performed by Suzy Bogguss, Lee Roy Parnell, Russell Smith (The Amazing Rhythm Aces), Cowboy Troy and Del Castillo.

John writes a monthly column entitled "Side Man Survival" for *Premiere Guitar Magazine*.

Justin Stelter

Justin Stelter grew up in Eagleville, Tennessee. He writes regularly for regional periodicals and as Head Gardener at Historic Carnton Plantation in Franklin, Tennessee, speaks throughout the Mid-South on nineteenth century American gardening. A passionate traveler and student of literature, Justin is planning a career as a fiction and garden writer.