



STEVE MEISNER is a multi-talented musician, composer & arranger. He began playing the accordion at the age of 5 and has been earning a living in the music business since the age of 16. Steve's family has a rich musical heritage and he is a second-generation full time working musician. His father, the late Verne Meisner, had a successful music career for over 50 years. Steve's brand of music is extremely versatile and appealing to a wide audience. He has made a name for himself by taking the music he grew up with from his father and adding his own imagination and feeling. He has brought his brand of traditional American polka into the 21st century with a fresh spark & swing while retaining the roots of this music.

From a young age, Steve has been on task to promote quality music that can be accepted by all ages. His main goal has been to persuade the general public's stereotypical view of polka music to bring a new awareness to the masses. "I believe that good music is simply good and I believe people know the difference. They may not always understand what the mechanics of it are, but they feel it. And that is where I've always placed my faith in people. They too feel that good music is simply good and it makes them feel good."

In Steve's 36 year musical career he has performed with the nation's top accordionists, polka icons & musicians including Myron Floren, Frank Yankovic, Joey Miskulin, & Verne Meisner. He has amassed 18 LP/CD, 6 Single, and 7 Video releases with full production credits. He has performed nationally coast to coast and internationally averaging 200 performances annually including performances at the Lawrence Welk Theater in Branson, MO and a two week engagement at the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival on the Mall in Washington, D.C. He and his music have filtered into television broadcasts and motion pictures including TNN's Crook & Chase Show and more recently the ABC Network 4th of July broadcast of "In Search of America, a 4th of July Celebration" hosted by the late Peter Jennings and folklorist Nick Spitzer. He and his music are featured in a full-length motion picture "Chump Change" released by Miramax. He has been heard and seen on the film festival circuit in a short film called "The Pick Up Polka" and has an original composition in an independent film called "Red Betsy".

Steve has received numerous awards and nominations including "Musician and Band of the Year", "Favorite Polka Artist", "Lifetime Achievement award" by the Maryland Accordion Club, resides as the 29th inductee to the Ironworld Polka Hall of Fame, and in 2005 an "Honor Roll" induction in the Wisconsin Polka Hall of Fame. His original compositions are included on many best selling polka recordings and have even received Grammy nominations. He has newspaper, magazine and textbook features and can be found in many Wisconsin state libraries in both textbook and music categories. His recordings are used in preschool and kindergarten classes to teach the young and in nursing homes to bring back memories of care free days and the good life for the old.

"My main goal in life is to use my music to make as many people happy as I possibly can while I can. Music is a large part of the soul of our society and I want to touch that part of people's souls...that part of their soul that makes a difference in their lives and show's them how music and dancing can excite, motivate and heal. There is nothing more gratifying than meeting a new fan who has just discovered my music for the first time. The expression on their face is like a kid's on Christmas morning...its priceless!"

For more information on Steve Meisner and his career go to www.stevemeisner.com or, www.polkas.com/stevemeisner.

Professional Performance Credits:**Steve Meisner Bio, page 2**

Verne Meisner, Myron Floren, Frank Yankovic, Joey Miskulin, Walter Ostanek, Lynn Marie Rink, Jack Grassel, Gary Meisner, Jimmy Sturr, Johnny Vadal, Louie Bashel, Jeff & John Pecon, Frank Kramer, Kenny Bass, Hank Thunander, Spike Micale, Joey Klass, Don Gralak, Bob Timko, Jeff Winard, Russ Allan, Kenny Brandt, Jimmy Monsen, Bob Doszak, Eddie Rodick, Bill Savatski, Carl, Jerry, Kevin & Gordon Hartmann, Eric Noltkamper, Joe Fedorchak, Gary Seibert, Matt Cartsonis, Steve Burrows, Tracy Lords, Kathy Vogt, Tom Brusky, Jerry Krahn, plus dozens of professional sidemen and personalities.

Recording Performance Credits: 19 LP/CD Releases, 6 Single Releases & 7 Video Releases**Steve Meisner:**

Lu Lu Belle & Wild Flower Waltz - Single - Blue Ribbon Records - 1979
 Girl I Love You So & Loves Cheating Ways - Single - HG Records 5019 - 1983
 Songs of Love - LP - HG Records 5015 - 1983
 Songs of Love - LP - re-released HG Records 5038 - 1986
 Meisner Magic - LP - HG Records 5029 - 1984
 Jammin Polkas - LP - HG Records 5045 - 1988
 An Ivory Romance - LP - HG Records 5044 - 1988
 A Meisner Mini Concert - CD - HG Records 5058 - 1991
 A Meisner Mini Concert - 2/CD - Re-released HG Records 5058 - 2002
 A Six Pack of What Made Milwaukee Famous - LP - HG Records 5013 - 1982
 Some of the Best - CD - HG Records 5060CD - 1991
 Deep Polka - CD - Smithsonian Folkways 40088 - 1998
 Here Come the Polka Hero's - CD - Heritage/Cleveland International 2001 - 1998
 Forever Christmas - CD - Meisner Mansion Music MMMFC2003 - 2003
 LIVE! The Way It Was Meant To Be - CD - Meisner Mansion Music - 2005

Verne Meisner:

Polka 76 & Mimi Polka - Single - Bright Productions - 1976
 El Rio Drive & Waltz #3 - Single - HG Records
 Old Laredo & El Rio Drive - Single - HG Records - 1989
 Autumn Leaves - LP - Bright Productions - 1974
 El Rio Drive - LP - Bright Productions 1016 - 1978
 Verne, Verne, Verne - LP - HG Records 5042 - 1987
 A Meisner Mix - CD - Leo Phillips Productions 1503 - 1996
 Meisner Magic 50th Anniversary (Vol. 1 & 2) - CD - VM Productions VM2001 - 1999

Russ Allan:

Shaky Business - LP - American Artists AAEA1000 - 1977

Kenny Juricic:

Single - HG Records - 1987

Movie, TV & Video Performance Credits: Chump Change - Motion Picture Cameo Performance - Miramax 2004

Red Betsy - Motion Picture - Original Song Feature - 2002
 The Pick Up Polka - Short Film Supporting Cast Role- 2002
 In Search of America, A 4th of July Celebration - ABC Network - 2002
 Polka Time - 3 Shows, Green Bay, WI
 Polka Varieties - 2 Shows, Cleveland, OH
 Breakfast Show - 6 shows, WITI, Milwaukee, WI
 Milwaukee & Wisconsin Public Television, (shown nationally in various states)
 Polka from Cuca - 1994 90-minute feature
 Meisner Magic, a Musical Journey - 1995 1-hour feature
 Polka 2000, Old Songs for a New Generation - 1999 1-hour feature
 Ohio Public Television & Cleveland Cable - 1994 & 2003
 Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Awards Show's VII & XVI
 Wisconsin Public Television station ID's, 1995

Video:**Steve Meisner:**

Steve Meisner Band - 1989 2-hour live performance
 Polka Thrill on the Hill - 1995 1-hour live performance
 Meisner Magic, a Musical Journey, featuring
 Verne & Steve Meisner - 1995 1-hour feature
 Polka from Cuca - 1994 140-minute feature
 Polka 2000, Old Songs for a New Generation - 1999 1-hour feature
 Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Awards Show's VII & XVI - 1994 & 2003 2-hour feature

Verne Meisner:

50th Birthday Celebration (Vol. 1 & 2) - 1988 2-hour live performance

Production Credits: 9 Audio & 4 Video Recordings, Co Produced: 10 Audio & 2 Video Recordings, Mixing Consultant on 2 Audio Recordings.

Performances in:

Wisconsin (weekly)	Illinois (monthly)
Minnesota (annually)	Michigan (annually)
Ohio (annually)	Pennsylvania (annually)
Maryland (annually)	Arizona (annually)
Las Vegas, NV (annually)	Colorado (annually)
Connecticut (annually)	Branson, MO
Indiana	Washington
Washington, DC	Connecticut
West Virginia	New York
Massachusetts	Florida
Nashville, TN	Missouri
Kansas	Iowa
Wyoming	Montana
Oregon	California
North & South Dakota	Hawaii
Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, & Holland	

Hosted: 3 European tours, (Germany, Switzerland, Austria, & Holland)
 2 Hawaiian Islands tours
 1 Mexican Riviera Cruise
 3 Caribbean Cruises
 Tours to Branson, MO, Las Vegas, NV and many Polka Festivals nationwide.

Average Annual Performances: 225 (2001 = 200)

Awards & Nominations:

- Wisconsin Polka Hall of Fame (Honor Roll Inductee 2005, Band of the Year 1998)
- Ironworld Minnesota Polka Hall of Fame (29th Inductee 2004)
- Maryland Accordion Hall of Fame (Lifetime Achievement Award 2003)
- Maryland Governor's Citation Award - 2003
- Wisconsin Legislature Citation Award - 2003
- Bar Street Journal Awards (Favorite Band 1997)
- Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame
 - Musician of the Year (2 Nominations)
 - Recording of the Year (1997 Nomination)
- Wisconsin Area Music Industry Award (WAMI)
 - (Favorite Polka Artist 1989, 1996 & 2001)
- Wisconsin State Solo & Band Competition (1st place)
- Badger Button Box Competition (1st place 1975 & 1976)
- Whitewater 4th of July Talent Contest (1st place 1967 & 1968)

Notable Original Compositions:

"I Love You" featured on Grammy nominated recording.
 "Meisner Magic" featured in Red Betsy (motion picture sound track), and on TNN's Crook & Chase show.
 1st place accordion championship duet piece. Chosen for the Smithsonian "Deep Polka" release and Cleveland International's "Here Come the Polka Hero's" release. Totals close to 80,000 audio pressings.
 "Tundra Serenade", "Mysterious Stranger", and "Jeffery's Polka" featured in motion picture "Chump Change" sound track.
 "Pickup Polka" featured in short film Pickup Polka.

Chosen by the Wisconsin Arts Board to represent Wisconsin for the Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC (June/July 1998) and again in Madison, WI (August 1998).

Featured performances at the Lawrence Welk Theater in Branson, MO and the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas.

Text Book Features:

- The Illustrated History of Wisconsin Music, by Michael G. Coenthal (c) 1991
- Down Home Dairyland, by James P. Leary and Richard March (c) 1996
- Wisconsin Folklore, by James P. Leary (c) 1998
- The Wisconsin Blue Book 1999-2000 (c) 1999
- Between The Lines, by Anna Marie Lux (c) 2000

Captions:

Steve Meisner wins **"Honor Roll"** induction at the 2005 **Wisconsin Polka Hall of Fame** awards show November 6th.

New CD hot off the press! **Verne & Steve Meisner "LIVE!" The Way It Was Meant to Be**, released March 5th at the **Steve Meisner Jammin Polka Blitz**. It features 16 tracks of Verne and Steve the way you like to hear them with new original songs. Available in the Milwaukee, WI area at Barnes & Nobel book sellers on 76th street, Mayfair Mall, & Brookfield Square - In Hartford, WI at WTKM record shop - In Whitewater, WI at Sugar Bay Gifts - or through your favorite polka record distributor and on line from www.stevemeisner.com.

Steve Meisner was inducted into the **Ironworld Polka Hall of Fame** in Chisholm, MN on June 25th, 2004. This honor will make Steve one of polka music's youngest Hall of Fame inductee's. Verne & Steve Meisner are the only father & son team to be inducted into three halls of fame!

The long awaited release of **"Forever Christmas"** is now a reality. New **"Top 2005 Pick"** at www.christmasreviews.com! This CD features 19 seasonal original and classic selections including the original composition "Tundra Serenade" from the movie Chump Change. Many guest artists shared their talents on this recording.

"Chump Change". The multi-award winning motion picture boasting a host of stars, and featuring Steve Meisner and his original music received international distribution after its purchase by Miramax Films. Miramax Films engineered a high profile DVD release on January 20th, 2004. Available at www.stevemeisner.com. Check www.stevemeisner.com for photo's and stories.

"Meisner Magic", one of Steve's original compositions totals close to 80,000 audio pressings! It's been featured in the motion picture "Red Betsy" and on TNN's Crook & Chase show. Check www.stevemeisner.com for photo's and stories.