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RED STEAGALL COWBOY GATHERING & WESTERN SWING FESTIVAL
TO BE HELD OCTOBER 21-23

21st Year to Feature Cowboy Music, Poetry and Rodeo Performances

FORT WORTH, Texas (February 22, 2011) – The 21st annual Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering and Western Swing Festival will ride into the Fort Worth Stockyards National Historic District October 21-23, 2011.

The Gathering will feature countless family-oriented activities where visitors can experience the true west. This authentic western event will have Cowboy poets, western entertainers and an action-packed Ranch Rodeo where teams of ranch hands from 14 famous Texas ranches will compete for the coveted prize of being the best ranch at the rodeo.

“We are so proud to be able to bring the cowboy gathering back for an incredible 21st year,” said Red Steagall, founder of the event. “Our hope is that everyone who attends will be able to experience a piece of the West and go home with a new perspective on true western living.”

The Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering and Western Swing Festival begins with a wagon train leaving Jacksboro, Texas on Sunday, October 16 traveling through Perrin, Mineral Wells, Weatherford and Azle. On Tuesday, October 18 the wagon train will overnight at the First Monday grounds in Weatherford. The public is invited to join the wagon train that night for an evening of cowboy music and poetry. The wagon train will arrive in the Fort Worth Stockyards National Historic District on Thursday, October 1.

The weekend’s activities begin about 1pm on Friday, October 22 with the arrival of 20 authentic chuck wagons. The procession will begin at LaGrave Field and end on East Exchange Avenue in the Fort Worth Stockyards. After arriving, the chuck wagons will make camp and prepare for a true chuck wagon cook-off that is judged on Saturday, October 22.

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The events continue with an authentic Ranch Rodeo where 14 Texas ranches will compete in traditional ranch events including wild cow milking, bronc riding, team roping, team doctoring, calf branding, maverick branding, mutton busting and team sorting. Other featured events include a cowboy trappings and trade show, Ranch Cutting Horse Association National Finals, Craig Cameron horsemanship clinics, cowboy church, cowboy music and poetry; a youth fiddle contest and chuck wagon cook-off, youth cowboy poetry contest, an invitational Tejas Vaquero and Ranchero Visitadores Team Roping and the annual Texas Trail of Fame induction ceremony.

The weekend's entertainment includes musical performances from Dan Roberts, Jean Prescott, the Burson Family, and The Quebe Sisters Band, as well as one of the country's most popular cowboy singers, Don Edwards.

"Don Edwards helped us found this event and has been pleasing crowds since the very beginning," said Red Steagall. "We are thrilled to have so many performers join us year after year, to bring our message and pass on a piece of our history to new audiences."

Additionally, the weekend will feature western swing dances with Red Steagall and the Boys in the Bunkhouse, Leon Rausch and Bobby Flores and showcase cowboy poetry from Red Steagall, Chris Isaacs, Yvonne Hollenbeck, Jay Snider and Oscar Auker.

About Red Steagall

Born in Gainesville, Texas with a passion for the western lifestyle, Red Steagall competed in rodeos as a youth and learned to play the guitar and mandolin. After college, Steagall traveled to California to share western traditions and values with the rest of the world through songs, poems, books, television and movies. Although Red Steagall is best known for his Texas swing dance music, he is also highly respected by Texas cowboys for the lyrical way in which he writes about the western way of life; he was honored as the Poet Laureate of Texas in 2006. A world performer, he has only called one place home – Texas.

Tickets for the Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering - October 21-23, 2011, will be on sale May 1st and can be purchased by calling 1-888-COWTOWN (1-888-269-8696) or by visiting www.cowtowncoliseum.com For more information on the event and a full schedule of events, please visit www.redsteagallcowboygathering.com.

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