

Boots, Beats, Life

Weekly NEWSLETTER

October 13, 2025

Gruene Hall: Dancing Through 147 Years of Texas History



Weekly Roundup!

Your guide to the best country music, partner and line dance, and country venues in Saint Louis and across the U.S.

Featured Venue of the Week



Gruene Hall, New Braunfels, TX

This summer, I finally got to visit Gruene Hall, Texas' oldest and most famous dance hall, which made the trip extra special because it was built in 1878 and is a living piece of Texas history. Stepping inside, you can feel the history and music filled past of this iconic venue, and the experience was more than I could have hoped for.

Why Go?

Gruene Hall is a living piece of Texas history where authentic honky-tonk charm meets warm, communal energy. It's an easy stop for dancers and music lovers who want a genuine, unpretentious afternoon or evening of two-stepping and people-watching.

What to Expect

- Dance styles: Classic two-step and casual partner dancing; room for swing and spontaneous floor play.
- Music: Live local and touring country acts; intimate daytime sound checks feel personal and immediate.
- Dance Floor: Original weathered wooden plank floor with picnic-style tables up front and a modest stage; great for smooth turns and traditional steps.

- Crowd Vibe: Mixed crowd of locals and tourists, families picnicking, cornhole groups, and friendly regulars—relaxed and social.

My favorite moment

Catching the band's sound check and slipping into a few two-steps on that storied floor felt like stepping into a time capsule while a cool breeze through the open windows, giant fans humming, and the music warming the room. Recording a short clip of our two-stepping made the afternoon a lasting memory I keep pulling out of my visual diary.

Insider tips

- Visit during the day for a relaxed vibe and easier parking; sound checks can turn into surprise dance sessions.
- Bring breathable clothing and cowboy or dance-friendly shoes—the hall stays comfortable with open windows and fans but Texas heat can be fierce outside.
- Snap exterior photos across from Cotton Eyed Joe's and stroll the covered walkway by the Gruene General Store for classic shots.
- Buy a small souvenir at the hall—the cap I picked up is an easy keepsake that captures the visit.
- If you want more action, time a visit for an evening set, but don't discount afternoons for intimate music and dancing.

Read the full Texas Dance Trip recap and see photos → BootsBeatsLife.com or on Facebook at **Friends of Country Music and Dance Halls**

Country Music Spotlight

Artist of the Week: Brit Taylor

Brity Taylor's single "All For Sale" is gaining momentum with strong streaming growth and buzz on country tastemaker playlists, marking her as a rising national act to watch; The song blends traditional country storytelling with a modern melodic hook that's connecting with listeners. Check out her latest track: "***All For Sale***" →

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Brity+Taylor+All+For+Sale

Local Artist/Group of the Week: Jordan Isakson

Jordan Isakson's "Dive Bar and Honky Tonk" was chosen for its authentic honky-tonk songwriting and growing traction as part of his Dive Bar & Honky Tonk EP, showcasing a classic-meets-modern country sound that's resonating with regional audiences. Check out their latest song: "***Dive Bar and Honky Tonk***" → https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=B_fR58M_fLM&si=W4qXsEABHs7GvWHA

Upcoming Events

Where to Dance This Week:

- Monday
 - *Laced Up Studio* – St. Louis, MO | Line Dance classes | 5:45-7:15 pm and/or 7:30-9:30 pm |
 - *Town Hall at Newtown* – St. Charles, MO | *Sassy Slide Line Dancing* – St. Louis, MO | 6:00 pm |
 - *Lumiere of Chesterfield* – Chesterfield, MO | 6:00-7:30 pm
 - *Collinsville VFW* – Collinsville, IL | Line dance lessons and open dance | *Stompin' Boots Line Dance* | 6:00-9:00 pm
- Tuesday
 - *Laced Up Studio* – St. Louis, MO | Line dance classes | 6:00-8:00 pm |

- *High Ridge Elks Lodge #3455* – High Ridge, IL | Line Dance Lessons & open dance | 7:00-9:30 pm

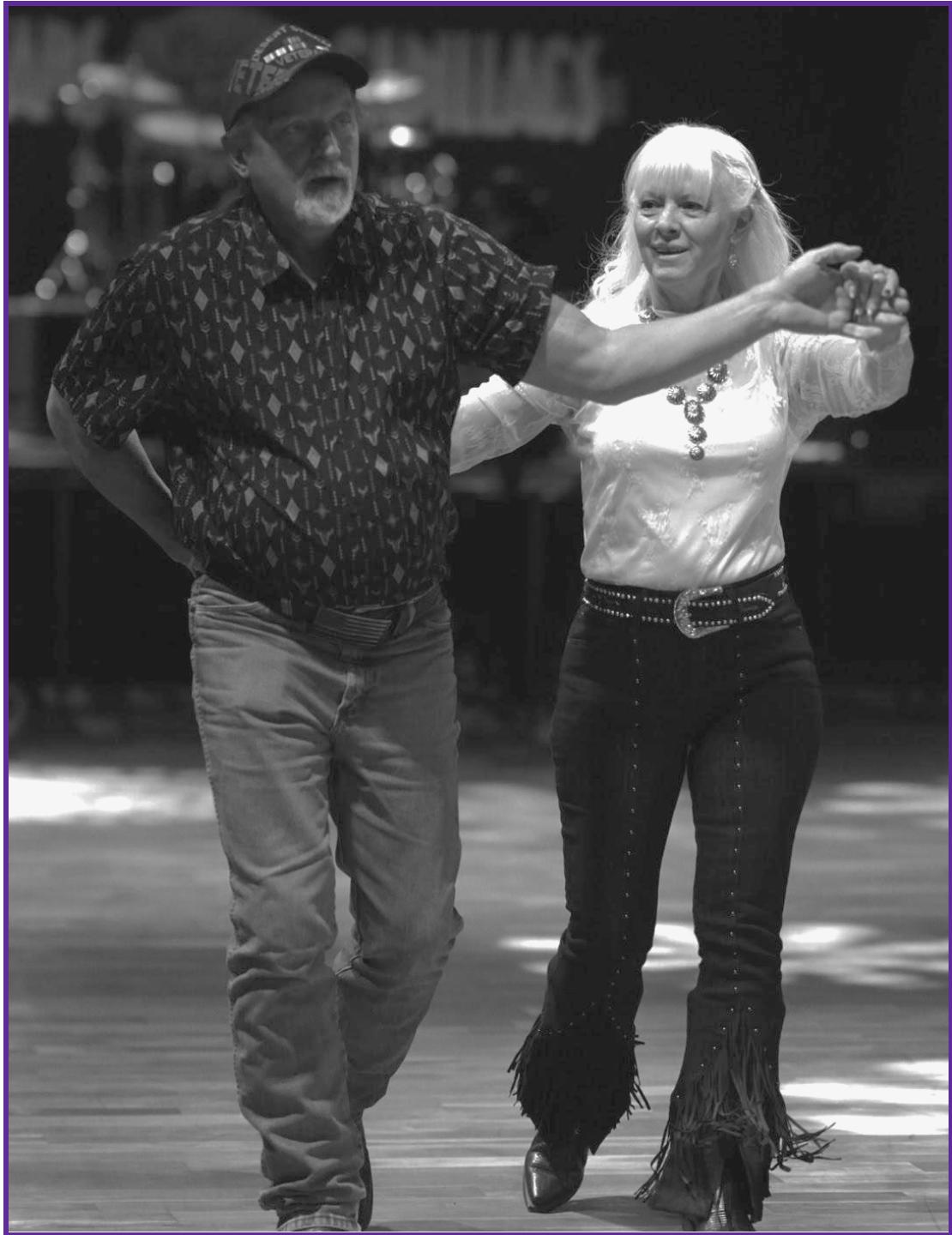
Where to Dance This Week Continued

- *MK Ranch Bar & Grill* – Warrenton, MO | Line Dancing with Krissy Schulze | 6:00-9:00 pm
- *Brookdale Farms* – Eureka, MO | 6:30-9:00 pm |
- *Silver Creek Sports & Social* – Belleville, IL | Little Cactus Line Dancing | 7:00-9:00 pm|
- *The Outfield Sports Bar and Grill* – Marthasville, MO | Line dance lessons & open dance | 6:00-9:00 pm
- Wednesday
 - *Diamond Music Hall* – St Peters, MO | DJ Fish Productions
 - *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Couple' Dance Lessons and Open Dance | 6:00-11:30 pm |
 - *Laced Up Studio* – St. Louis, MO | Line Dance Classes | 6:15-8:15 pm |
 - *Silver Creek Sports Bar & Social* – Belleville, IL | Stompin' Boots Line Dance | 6:00-9:00 pm
- Thursday
 - *Swansea Improvement Assoc.* – Swansea, IL | Stopmin' Boots | 6:00-9:00 pm
 - *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | MabeeFitness Line Dancing and Open Dance | 6:00-11:30 pm
 - *The Marquee at New Town* – St. Charles, MO | Line Dancing with Mona | 6:00-10:00 pm
 - *Laced Up Studio* – St. Louis, MO | Line dance class | 7:00-9:00 pm
- Friday
 - *Diamond Music Hall* – St Peters, MO | Line Dance St. Louis | DJ Fish Productions | 6:30-11:59 pm
 - *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Live Band - Crowley's Ridge Band | 6:00-11:30 pm
 - *54 Country* – Kingdom City, MO | Open Dance with DJ Kevin | 6:00-11:45 pm
 - *VFW 1234 Vandalia* – Collinsville, IL | Line Dance with Stompin' Boots Line Dance | 7:00-10:30 pm
 - *Honky Tonk STL* – Saint Louis, MO | Live Band - Next of Kin | 9:00 pm - 1:00 am

- Saturday
 - *Stovall's Grove* – Wildwood, MO | Live Band - Hill Williams Band | 6:00-11:30 pm
 - *54 Country* – Kingdom City, MO | Live Band | 7:30 pm-closing
 - *Just Dancing Studio* – Manchester, MO | WCS Workshop and open dance | PRO Kris Swearingen | 6:00 - 11:45 PM
 - *Helen Fitzgerald's* – Sunset Hills, MO | Country Artist Ethan Carl | 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
 - *Defiance Ridge Vineyards* – Defiance, MO | Live Band - Drawl | 1:00 - 4:00 pm
 - *Cedar Lake Cellars* – Wright City, MO | Live Band - Russo & Co | 4:00-7:00 pm
 - *The Outfield Sports Bar & Grill* – Marthasville, MO | Line Dancing Lesson and dance | 8:00 pm
 - *The Main Street HonkyTonk* – Saint Charles, MO | Live band - Whiskey Dixon | 9:00 pm - 1:00 am
 - *The Loading Dock* – Grafton, IL | Live Band - Next Thing Smokin' | 2:00-5:00 pm
 - *VFW Post 1117* – Caseyville, IL | Stompin' Boots Line Dance Benefit | 2:00-6:00 pm
 - *MK Ranch Bar & Grill* – Warrenton, MO | Live band - Sweet Rukus | 8:00-11:00 pm
- Sunday
 - *MK Ranch Bar & Grill* – Warrenton, MO | Country Artist - Kelli Renee Music | 1:00-4:00 pm

Submit your event → events@bootsbeatslife.com

Photo of the Week



Community Corner

A special shoutout to Mona Frame who lights up every dance floor with boundless energy and a warm, get-to-know-you smile; she's the kind of instructor who hasn't met a stranger and makes everyone feel welcome. For the last four years Mona has led lively line-dance nights at Diamond Music Hall in St Peters, building community through dance and tireless volunteer work across the St. Louis region.

Country Dance and Line Dance Instructors

- MabeeFitness Line Dancing with Sami Mabee
- Line Dance St. Louis with Evan VanScoyk, Thomas Poon, Mona Frame
- Little Cactus Line Dancing with Christina
- Line Dancing with Krissy Schulze
- Stompin' Boots Line Dance with Jean Marie Gromacki
- Line Dancing with Krissy Schulze
- Line Dancing with Stacey Schwartz

Want to be featured? Reply to this email or tag @BootsBeatsLife on Instagram.

Thanks for dancing through the week with me! Be sure to stay tuned for more venue reviews, music picks, and dance floor stories.

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<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551905013113>

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