

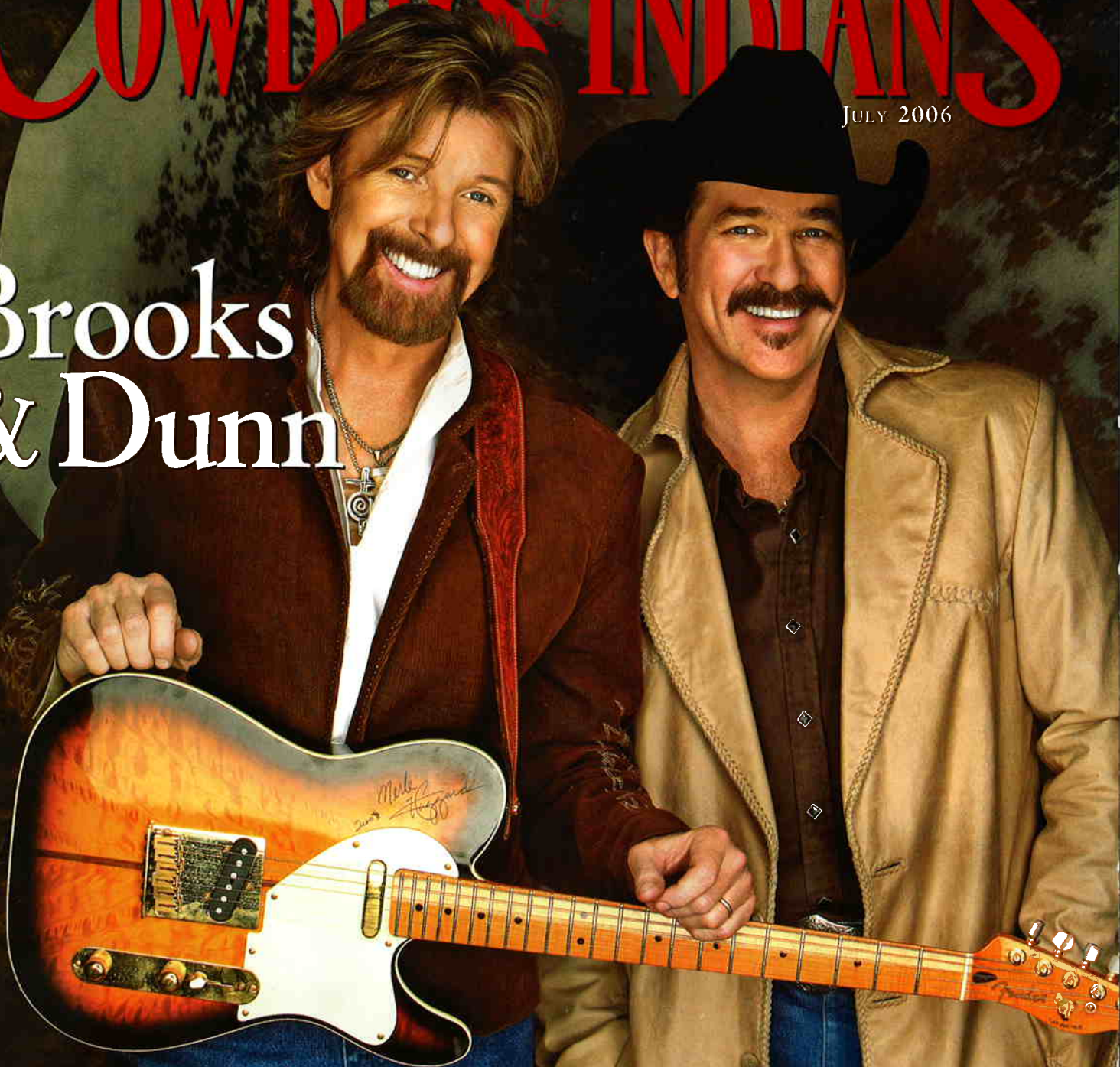
CHEF DEAN FEARING'S FABULOUS 4TH OF JULY BBQ

THE PREMIER MAGAZINE OF THE WEST

# COWBOYS & INDIANS

JULY 2006

## Brooks & Dunn



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Tom McGuane's Mythic West

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Jay Tavaré's New Action-Adventure Film

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Wyoming, Napa, North Dakota, Vail

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## AMERICAN DREAM

Located between Livingston and Yellowstone National Park in Park County, Renaissance Ranch is set amid sweeping vistas and 10,000-foot mountain peaks in Montana's scenic Paradise Valley. Just 30 minutes from Yellowstone, Renaissance Ranch offers perennial recreation and is less than an hour's drive away from snow skiing. This extremely private ranch property consists of 319 acres, including frontage on the legendary Yellowstone River plus a private five-acre spring- and creek-fed pond and a spring- and river-fed creek. The ranch's recently built 6,400-square-foot, six-bedroom home takes advantage of the view of the mountain peaks and private pond. Private jets may land within 15 minutes of the property and commercial flights are 30 minutes away in Bozeman. The ranch with home included is priced at \$15,000,000.

FYI: [www.hallhall.com](http://www.hallhall.com)



## RHINESTONE RETROSPECTIVE

Before special-effects videos and laser light shows were ever dreamed of, performers in the Golden Age of Country music relied on a very low-tech item to add sparkle, flash, and impact to their stage shows: the rhinestone.

From Roy Rogers to Dolly Parton, glittering rhinestone outfits and custom guitars lit up a rodeo arena or a concert hall and made their public personas seem larger than life. Now Nudie the Rodeo Tailor and his vast clientele are fittingly represented at the Fullerton Museum Center's new exhibit, Rhinestones & Twangin' Tones, in Orange County, California. Mac Yasuda, a Country singer who has amassed one of the world's foremost collections of Nudie's designs, loaned the museum his vast collection of rhinestone-encrusted stage suits and dozens of vintage-stringed instruments.

The exhibit is the brainchild of Jim Washburn, a writer and the curator of the memorabilia show. "With Rhinestones, we've tried to create an exhibit that provides an entertaining look at the visual and instrumental elements that made Country music such a uniquely American art," he says. "There must be tens of thousands of rhinestones on these suits, and with the guitars' abalone inlay, the net effect is pretty dazzling."

According to Washburn, Country music is an amalgamation of different musical styles that have evolved over time to create what is called traditional Country music today. "Country music is a melting pot of influence—from Scottish ballads to blues to Hawaiian music to Alpine yodeling—stirred by innovation."



Many cultural styles also influenced Nudie and the creation of his rhinestone suits, Washburn says. "His suits are the ultimate sartorial representation of the American frontier, created by a guy whose notion of the West was formed by the silent Westerns he saw when he was a kid in Russia."

Nudie's idea for putting rhinestones on the suits came from his early design experience while working in America's capital of fashion, New York City. "The rhinestones are on the suits because while chasing the American dream in his youth, Nudie made stripper outfits for burlesque queens in New York City," Washburn says. "Cultural collisions like that are part of what made America great."

The multimedia exhibit sparkles through July 9 at the Fullerton Museum Center, 301 N. Pomona Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832.

FYI: (714) 738-6545