

## A Bus for the Hobos!

The Shiner Hobo Band can now travel in high style, thanks to the generosity of "Honorary Hobo" Rita Janak who put new wheels under the venerable band from Shiner with a brand new 25 passenger Ford bus! Quite a handout for the Hobos!

It all started at the February Shiner Hobo Band business meeting (held at Rita Janak's "Gardeners' Retreat" between Shiner and Hallettsville (near Wied, we think). Rita listened to the band discussing the need to replace their 1980 relic transportation, and suggested that she might have a solution.

Soon Band President Larry Krupala and Treasurer Dalton Nollkamper found themselves in Austin with Rita, selecting their new wheels. The Shiner Hobo Band Bus, with freshly painted logo, was on display May 25 as the Hobo Band played for the church picnic at the American Legion in Shiner.

The bus was given in memory of the late Leo Janak, who with wife Rita operated Janak's Nursery between Shiner and Hallettsville.

The Shiner Hobo Band is a Texas Institution, with roots back to the 1930's and a long relationship with the Shiner (Spoetzel) Brewery. Over the years, the band has had several reincarnations, the current version be-

ginning in 1997.

The Shiner Hobo Band now continues to entertain Texans with their music, crazy costumes and antics. Interested musicians can become a member of the Shiner Hobo Band by talking to an officer. There are



*Riding in Style! Shiner Hobo Band Treasurer Dalton Nollkamper accepts the new bus for the Hobos from "Honorary Hobo" Rita Janak, with the historic Shiner (Spoetzel) Brewery providing the backdrop. (Photo credit Myra Lampley, The Shiner Gazette)*

no dues, and you "design" your own hobo costume. And now, thanks to Rita, you can ride in style and comfort!

For information on booking the Shiner Hobo Band call Hank Novak at 361-594-3322.

## Sweet Home is Music City

Sweet Home Community Center is living up to its reputation as "Music City" with the events and dances being held at the Community Center.

June was good, with the Texas Legacy Czech Band June 1, the Mike Stroup & Haymakers June 8, Chris Rybak on June 15, and Almost Patsy Cline on Sunday, June 29 3-7 p.m.

Now comes July! Billy Mata fans, take heart! Billy and band will be at Sweet Home Saturday, July 5 for an 8:30 start.

Then, it's the Sweet Home Chicken and Polka Fest on Sunday, July 13, with five hours of music by Tony Janak and the Dujka Brothers. Better mark it down! See separate article and ad this page.

Then the fun continues with Chris Rybak on Sun July 20. Almost Patsy Cline returns Sun July 27, and Joni Jack does it on Sunday Aug 17.

Yes folks, the good times continue at Sweet Home, where old friends meet new friends! See ads this page and check out the web site at [www.sweethomehall.com](http://www.sweethomehall.com).

Sweet Home is located between Hallettsville and Yoakum, on FM 531, a few miles off Alt. 77. Easy to find; hard to leave. After all, it's Home!

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## Valina &

Valerie Paulina ("Valina") Wijnberg wed Ross Witte in a lovely ceremony Sunday, May 19 at the Liedertafel Hall in Sealy, with a great reception-dinner-party following. It was a great day for the young musician couple, and the large group of relatives and friends attending the event.

Music for the party and dance was by Terry Cavanagh and Catie Offerman, plus the special surprise appearance of Alex Meixner, who happened to be in Texas. Music fans will recognize Terry Cavanagh as the long-time "Oktoberfest style" musician from New Braunfels. Catie Offerman is the 14-year old phenomenal fiddler (musician) from New Braunfels who now plays with Terry, and also Bobby Flores. Alex Meixner is the nationally-known musician who entertains every



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