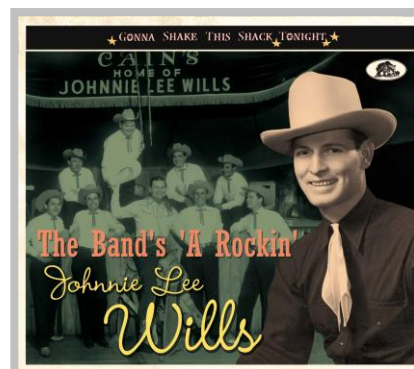


BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



PRODUCTINFO (CD) March 7, 2025

Artist **Johnnie Lee Wills**
Title **The Band's 'A Rockin'
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight**
Label Bear Family Records
Catalog no. BCD17646 Price code: AH
EAN-Code 4000127176462
Format 1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
Genre Hillbilly Boogie, Rock 'n' Roll, Western Swing
No. of tracks 31 approx. 79:00 min.
Release date March 7, 2025



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INFO:

- **Outstanding western swing from Bob Wills' younger brother Johnnie Lee in the long-running 'Gonna Shake This Shack' series on Bear Family Records®.**
- **Recordings for Decca, Bullet Records and RCA Victor from 1941 to 1953, including classics such as *Rag Mop*, *Milk Cow Blues* and *Square Dance Boogie* - some on CD for the first time in years.**
- **Carefully remastered from the best available sources.**
- **Liner notes by our expert Roland Heinrich Rumtreiber in the full-color illustrated booklet.**

Welcome to a new edition of Bear Family's popular series "Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight," this time featuring none other than Johnnie Lee Wills!

Johnnie was the younger brother of Bob Wills, for whom he played tenor banjo during the early years of Bob's success. In 1940 Bob Wills decided to split up the Texas Playboys to meet the ever-growing demand for live appearances nationwide. To keep radio work and dances steady in their home base, Tulsa, Bob entitled Johnnie Lee to remain in Oklahoma and form his own group - Johnnie Lee Wills and All the Boys.

This compilation offers many interesting sides issued on Decca, Bullet Records, and RCA Victor. The Decca and Bullet sides have long been unavailable on CD.

John Lee Wills did not record as much as his brother, but he had two major hits that helped define the genre and spur many cover versions: *Rag Mop* and *Milk Cow Blues*. Johnnie Lee Wills was quintessentially Western Swing and a great band leader, employing quality sidemen.

Deeply rooted in the rhythms and styles of the 1930s, Johnnie kept his arrangements tight, simple, and danceable. Thus, Johnnie Lee Wills and All the Boys were hugely successful with dancers, swinging and rocking Cain's Ballroom in Tulsa until disbanding in 1964! They also remained a radio fixture on KVOO, Tulsa, until 1958.

This collection offers some of the long-neglected Decca and Bullet sides of Johnnie Lee Wills and All the Boys, including his 1950 Bullet release *Rag Mop*, a #2 country hit that also reached the pop top ten. This is high-profile fun for all you jitterbuggers, finger snappers, rockers, and rug cutters: Try hopping to *Boogie Woogie Highball* without losing a drop of your cocktail; try *Square Dance Boogie* - way too hip for all them squares anywhere; try the lofty fiddle rendition of Glenn Miller's classic *In The Mood*; try scatting to *Four Or Five Times*; try the swinging *I'm Leaving (Yes, Indeedy)* - showing where Bill Haley and his Comets drew inspiration from. After all that, get yourself some homebrew and get low down with the risqué *Milk Cow Blues*, *Oo Oooh Daddy*, and *Devil's Blues*.

Rare, hot, and swinging - let's all ball with Johnnie Lee Wills and his Boys: Best on Bear Family Records®!

TRACKLISTING:

CD:

The Band's 'A Rockin' The Thingamajig Blackberry Boogie Coyote Blues A Bad Deal All Around She Took! I Like You Best
Let Me Be Boogie Woogie Highball (Bullit) Hot Check Baby Levee Blues A-L-B-U-Q-U-E-R-Q-U-E Smoke On The Water
Sold Out Doc Four Or Five Times Rag Mop Two Timing Two Step Side Step In The Mood Milk Cow Blues
There Are Just Two I's In Dixie (Two Blue Eyes That Mean The World To Me) Tom Cat Bogie Oo Oooh Daddy Honey In The Horn
Ten Little Bluebirds In My Lapel Silver Dew On The Bluegrass Tonight Southland Swing Bees In My Bonnet Square Dance Boogie
Devil's Blues I'm Leaving (Yes Indeedy)

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BEAR FAMILY RECORDS



ALSO AVAILABLE:

Billy Walker:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
Whirlpool



BCD17521 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 28-page booklet
EAN: 5397102175213

Various Artists:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
From The Vaults Of Decca & Coral Records



BCD17602 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 32-page booklet
EAN: 5397102176029

Bob Wills:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
Ida Red Likes The Boogie



BCD17647 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127176479

Billy Jack Wills:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
Cadillac In Model 'A'



BCD17644 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 4000127176448

Cliffie Stone:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
Barracuda



BCD17560 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 36-page booklet
EAN: 5397102175602

Leon McAuliffe:
Gonna Shake This Shack Tonight
Tulsa Straight Ahead



BCD16987 AH
1-CD (Digipak) with 52-page booklet
EAN: 4000127169877