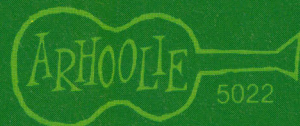


THE Armstrong Twins

Floyd & Lloyd



JUST COUNTRY BOYS



ARMSTRONG TWINS

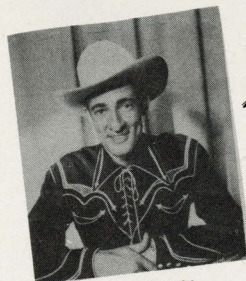
Just Country Boys

Close harmony singing is a strong tradition in Country music, and many of its greatest exponents have been family groups who started out singing together at home. Some of the great duet teams of the 1930s were the Monroe Brothers, the Dixon Brothers, the Blue Sky Boys (the Bolick Brothers), and the Delmore Brothers; and in more recent years the duet style has been extended by Johnny & Jack (the Anglin Brothers), the Louvin Brothers, Jim and Jesse McReynolds and the Everly Brothers, just to mention a few. Floyd and Lloyd, The Armstrong Twins however are the only twins in this field. Not only are they great singers and players but in 1951 and 1952 they won trophies as the most handsome male twins at the Twin Convention in Huntington Beach, California.

Floyd and Lloyd were born January 24, 1930 in DeWitt, Arkansas, just when the Great Depression was beginning to be felt. In 1933 the family moved to Little Rock. Their mother, Lois Armstrong, played piano, zither, and ukelele, and she taught the boys how to sing harmony. In 1935 Floyd and Lloyd began to sing on children's programs over radio station KARK, and by the time the twins were eight years old they were singing regularly every Saturday at the Boys' Club. A few years later their sister Pasty joined them and they had a regular program over KLRA. They worked all around Little Rock, at dances, in school houses, theatres, on the streets, in church, wherever people were willing and eager to listen to them.

In 1947 the Armstrong Twins moved to Los Angeles. There, at the age of seventeen, they got their own program over radio station KXLA in Pasadena, and every Saturday night they appeared at the 97th Street Corral in Bellgarden. Those post-World War II years were a remarkable boom period for Country music, especially on the West Coast. During the Depression of the 1930s and the terrible drought of the Dust Bowl, thousands upon thousands of people from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas had come west hoping to find a better life in the "Garden of Eden." War-related industries, shipyards, and agriculture offered a decent living and a lot of folks were willing and able to support the kind of music they were used to back home. Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys, the Maddox Brothers and Rose, Spade Cooley, and many others became very popular in California, and small record labels sprang up to accommodate the great thirst for "Okie

HERE'S CLIFFIE STONE'S DINNER-BELL ROUND-UP GANG... FROM KXLA 11:30 TO 12:30 NOON



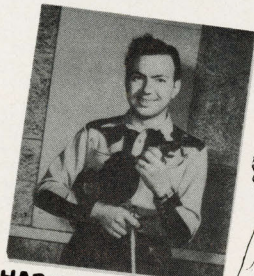
EDDIE KIRK
NOT ONLY A GOOD-LOOKER AND SWEET-SINGER, BUT A HIGH-FLYER. HE OWNS HIS OWN PLANE.



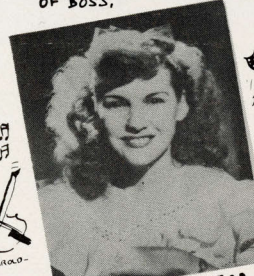
CLIFFIE STONE
ORIGINATOR OF "DINNER-BELL ROUND-UP." PREFERS BEING JUST ONE OF THE GANG INSTEAD OF BOSS.



MERLE TRAVIS
KENTUCKY BOY NOTED FOR HIS DIFFERENT STYLE OF GUITAR PICKING AND OLD TIME SONGS.



HAROLD HENSLEY
FROM WHITETOP VIRGINIA, AND A FINE FIDDLER.



JUDY HAYDEN
SINGS, MAKES COFFEE, TAKES CARE OF THE MAIL, AND RINGS THE DINNER BELL.



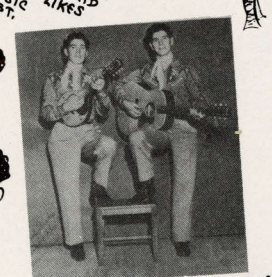
BILLY LIEBERT
STUDIED MUSIC AS A KID IN DETROIT, BUT LIKES COUNTRY MUSIC THE BEST.



TENNESSEE ERNIE
IS REALLY FROM TENNESSEE HIS REAL NAME IS ERNIE FORD.



HERMAN THE HERMIT.
OLDEST IN AGE, BUT YOUNG IN REAL.



ARMSTRONG TWINS
ARKANSAS BOYS WHO SING FROM THE HEART. LLOYD PLAYS MANDOLIN, FLOYD, GUITAR

music" as it was often called in those days.

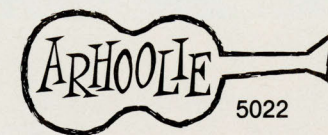
Soon after arriving in California the Armstrong Twins also made their first records (heard on Old Timey LP 118), and by 1950 they joined Cliffie Stone's popular "Dinner-Bell Round Up" heard on KXLA every day at noon, and also appeared on his Saturday night TV show on KTLA Channel 13. In 1952 Floyd and Lloyd moved to Odessa, Texas, where they were heard over stations KECK and KOSA and had a daily television program over KMID-TV sponsored by the Pioneer Furniture Company. The Twins worked with Johnny Horton's show and made appearances on the "Louisiana Hayride." In the late 1950s the twins went back to the West Coast and were regulars on the "Town Hall Party."

Today the Armstrong Twins make Little Rock their home, and after several years of working non-musical jobs to make a living, they are ready to travel again and bring their music and songs to audiences around the country. They have recently appeared at the Fan

Fair in Nashville, Tenn., at the National Folk Festivals in Washington, D.C. and the Frontier Folklife Festival in St. Louis.

On this album the Armstrong Twins got together with two very fine players from Little Rock — Zane Beck on dobro guitar who gives the group an old time Roy Acuff sound and Monte Avery on bass. The songs range from originals by the Armstrongs like "Thank You For Setting Me Free" and "Wall Around My Heart" to their versions of old traditional songs like "On The Banks Of The Ohio" with a lot of their favorites in between. Many of these songs are probably familiar to you but they receive a new lease on life through these remarkable close harmony renditions by the Armstrong Twins who take great pride in retaining an older pure country sound. If you have enjoyed this album of the latest recordings by the Twins, may I suggest you order Old Timey LP 118 with their original records made between 1947 and 1952.

(Chris Strachwitz 1980)



EIGHT THIRTY BLUES
GREAT SPECKLED BIRD
I WANT TO BE LOVED
THANK YOU FOR SETTING ME FREE
STUCK UP BLUES
THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE
GREENBACK DOLLAR

I REAP MY HARVEST IN HEAVEN
WHY NOT CONFESS
OLD THREE ROOM SHACK
WALL AROUND MY HEART
SILVER HAired DADDY
ON THE BANKS OF THE OHIO
BEAUTIFUL BROWN EYES

Lloyd Armstrong — mandolin & vocal
Floyd Armstrong — guitar & vocal
Zane Beck — dobro
Monte Avery — bass

Recorded in Little Rock, Ark. 1979
Produced by the Armstrong Twins & Chris Strachwitz

Cover Photo by Joe Pfeffer
Cover by Wayne Pope
For an album of the original records made by the Armstrong Twins between 1947 and 1952 please note Old Timey LP #118 available from Arhoolie Records.
© 1980 by Arhoolie Records Inc.

For our extensive catalogs of Country, Blues, Folk, Jazz, & Ethnic albums please send \$1.00 to cover postage to:
ARHOOLIE RECORDS
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530