

LA WEEKLY

Sat., May 22

[Joe's Great American Bar & Grill](#)

4311 W. Magnolia Blvd.; Burbank CA



The Ventures are the standard bearers of twang, that quintessential electric guitar sound found in everything from country to surf and from punk to spaghetti westerns. The Rock and Roll Hall of Famers have sold 100 million instrumental records worldwide over the last fifty years and hits include "Walk Don't Run," "Slaughter On Tenth Avenue," and "Hawaii Five-O." Originally the band's bassist, Nokie Edwards became lead guitarist in 1962. Revered by George Harrison and John Fogerty (among many others), Edwards is a thrilling, aggressive player who used a fuzz tone when Jimi was still Jimmy and an electric 12-string before the Byrds had wings. Backing Edwards up tonight, as well as playing their own mini-set of Ventures' rarities, is Venturesmania!, a tribute band of hotshots featuring another fret monster, Deke Dickerson. Dickerson and his group the Ecco-Fonics open the show with over-the-speed-limit rockabilly, honky tonk, and Western swing. His most recent album King Of The Whole Wide World is an all-American feast, finding Deke dabbling in doo-wop and bluegrass and mastering whatever he touches.

-- Michael Simmons