

# The Barn Dance Opera Country Music Journal

**Vol. 19 1998**

**Fall Edition**

**Price \$1.95**

## The CKNX Barn Dance 1998 - A Retrospect

*by Lynn Russwurm*

Saturday night, Sept. 19th saw the wrap-up of the '98 Barn Dance season. I'd like to reminisce about some of the highlights and the low points that have now passed into history. We had some exceptional talent and some very interesting guests, some from out of the past and some new talent that was introduced to our Barn Dance audiences.

The first outing was our special Campout weekend at the Blyth complex, which was successful enough to the point that it will likely become an annual event, we'll have more on that later. Many people contributed to the weekend, it was all volunteer work, in conjunction with the Blyth Theatre who contributed Eric Coates to reprise the role of Johnny Brent which he had done so well in "Barn Dance Live" at the Blyth Theatre. He also introduced Jim Swan as the new MC for the rest of the season, and Jim has proven to be an excellent MC, carrying on in the tradition which was so well established by

Johnny Brent throughout the years. And the Sunday morning gospel sing was a great favourite with the campers and was very well attended. Kudos go out to June Therrien who chaired the committee responsible for this event and this committee worked very hard to get it off the ground.

I'm not going to go through every Barn Dance item by item, but I just want to touch on some of our special moments. To me the highlight of the season was the appearance of Jean and Les Dowell, The Colorado Kids at the St. Clements Barn Dance. They were one of my favourite acts with the Barn Dance in 1947, when I was a teen-ager, still at home on the farm near Carlsruhe. I remember how disappointed I was when they suddenly disappeared from the Barn Dance with no explanation. When I located them earlier this year in Hamilton and arranged to do some things with them, I was very excited at the prospect; and I was certainly rewarded by the way the cast and audience



**Pictured -** Katie Roth, with Bill Simmermaker on bass.

responded to them. Now in their seventies, they were introduced to the audience by Johnny Brent who came out of retirement for this special moment. This was the first time Johnny saw them in 51 years, and he said he would hire them again today as he did in 1947.

Two exceptional talents we've uncovered are 12-year-old Janet Turner from London who blew everyone away with her rendition of "Blue". This young lady is truly a talent to watch. We had more comments on her performance than for anything else since we resurrected the Barn Dance.

The other one was Mary Anne Cunningham from Hanover who belts out a traditional country song with the very best. Her voice is very reminiscent of Connie Smith at the height of her career. With the right breaks Mary Anne

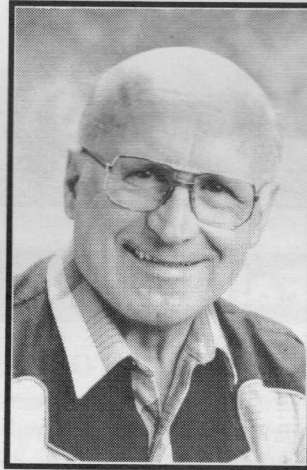
*(continued on page 3)*



**Pictured (l to r) -** Victor Pasowisty, Grant Heywood, Sharon Strong, Lance Russwurm, Ron Coulthard, Mike Slauenwhite, Lisa Strong, and Lynn Russwurm.

## The Editor Speaks

by Lynn Russwurm



society and not put in a little niche called the "Friendship Club". It will give you, the membership a more positive role to play and possibly more of you will become interested in the day-to-day business that goes on, after all there's a lot more to it than just the Barn Dance. It's a very rewarding experience and the society as a whole can take great pride in what's been accomplished in just a few short years. We would like some input from our membership at large on this, and we need to hear from you now, not after the change is made.

A problem area is still in the keeping up of the membership rolls. With several changes in the membership chairman, things seem to have gotten confused, however, we're working on this and hope to have it back on track in the near future.

One of the highlights of the summer was the presentation of Mel Lavigne's fiddle, the one used to win the first contest in Shelburne, to our society by May Lavigne. May surprised Earl during the Pioneer Award presentation to May on Mel's behalf, by handing the fiddle over in return, just great. We still need the donation, or loan of artifacts, such as stage clothes worn by artists, instruments, bandstands, the list goes on and on of personal items from the artists families. Where better could the treasures of personal property be, than in the museum to be enjoyed by generations to come.

We still need more letters to the editor, whether it be to criticize what we've done, or to compliment. Actually what we would like most, is constructive ideas that we can incorporate into the

**The Barn Dance  
Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 68  
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Phone (519) 357-3021

**Earl Heywood**  
Founder, Honourary President, Advisor

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Al Widmeyer, Earl Heywood,  
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society, believe me, your ideas will be appreciated and considered.

Once again any input for the newsletter should be sent to: -

**Lynn Russwurm,**  
P. O. Box 63, Elmira, Ontario  
N3B 2Z5  
Phone (519) 669-2386

**HELP! HELP! HELP!**  
Volunteers Needed. If you can find the time to volunteer to help out at our functions such as Barn Dances, Fiddlers Convention or behind the scenes with various committees, please get in touch with us. Phone (519) 357-3021.

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It's hard to believe that Summer is over, the leaves are turning red and gold, winter's just around the corner. This season's complement of Barn Dances is over and to say the least, it's been an interesting season. Our main focus in the coming months will be to restructure the museum and try to get it into a spot where it will be more visible, after all our mandate is to preserve the memories of the pioneers and builders who have gone before. We are looking at ways of putting the museum on wheels, possibly a bus or a tractor trailer that can be moved to places where the country music people are. Wouldn't it be great to have it set up at our Barn Dances, or Fall Fairs, Fiddle contests, Bluegrass Festivals, etc. Another priority will be looking ahead to the year 2000 and planning appropriate steps to greet that milestone.

An omission in the review of the Campout in the Summer issue, we forgot to list Les Riley among the people who contributed to the Jamboree and Sunday Morning Gospel Sing. Les was there both days, pickin' and grinnin', sorry, Les. Also in Bill Oja's Fiddle Column we had Russ McDowell listed as Les McDowell. Winner of the breakfast in Elmira was Randy Morrison, who gave us all the correct names in the photo taken at Graham Townsend's Birthday Bash. Thanks, Randy. Now all that remains is to come up with a suitable date with Randy.

We still need more members for our association, we'll only be as strong as our membership support will allow us to be, and to that end I would like to challenge all our members to recruit at least one new member, and that would double our strength, think about it.

We are also planning to eliminate the name "Friendship Club" and instead have everyone as a member of the Barn Dance Historical Society. At the beginning of the organization it was necessary to have the Friendship Club, but at this later date the feeling is that it's an unnecessary adjunct to our society. It's also confusing, people have come up to us after reading our literature and would say "What is the Friendship Club?, I don't understand this". This way everybody will be an integral part of the

## How Well Do You Know Your Barn Dance?

Once again we have a winner in the summer issue contest. The only correct answer we had was submitted by Lloyd Otterbein or Zurich, Ont., who identified the subject as Dusty DeNyke. As such, Lloyd was the winner of first prize of a Barn Dance CD, Vol. 2 and a souvenir calendar.

Dusty Denyke was a member of Earl Heywood's band in 1949, playing lead guitar and I believe doubling on bass at times. Dusty was a master of stringed instruments and his technical knowledge of the guitar was incredible. In the early 50's, he was running a guitar school out of the Paul Berg Music Centre in Kitchener. At that time he also had his own radio program over CJOY in Guelph with his Sunset Riders, featuring duets with his wife Meleata Rose.

Dusty moved around quite a bit and at various times should be found

in places such as Thunder Bay and I believe he was in Peterborough at the time of his death.

And now we come to this issue's Mystery Artist. These girls were featured on the Barn Dance in the 50's for a number of years singing their duets as "Rusty & Dusty". Again first prize will be a Barn Dance CD, Vol. 2 and a souvenir 1977 Barn Dance Calendar (with all those great pictures, 2nd prize is a Barn Dance Cassette, Vol. 2 and a calendar. So far we haven't been able to give away a second prize, so come on and give us some input. I'm sure many of you could identify some of these people, please take the time to drop us a line, we'd like to hear from you.

Entries to:

**CONTEST,**  
**C/O Lynn Russwurm,**  
**Box 63,**  
**Elmira, Ontario N3B 2Z5**

I'm going to put a restriction on entries, family members of mystery artists will not be eligible, I think this is only fair to the membership at large.



### Barn Dance / 1998 - Retrospect

(continued from page 1)

could also go places. We've proven how much great talent is out there that only needs a venue like the Barn Dance for a stepping stone and isn't that what the Barn Dance always was, a stepping stone to greater things; just look at the Mercey Brothers, Al Cherny, Ward Allen, Jack Kingston, who are among the all-time greats in Canada.

Then who could forget the great performances given by young Matthew Johnson this season, Matthew certainly has the potential of becoming one of the greatest we've ever seen in this country and beyond. Or the return of Sharon Strong with an introduction to Lisa Strong, who made her debut on the Barn Dance. And how about the musicianship in the back-up bands such as Al Widmeyer who goes from one instrument to another and displays great expertise on all of them, or the twin fiddles of Victor Pasowisty and Mike Slauenwhite of the Barn Dance Band. Front runners in the

Canadian country music industry just a few years ago were Larry Mercey and Paul Weber, they both did guest spots on some of the shows this season. On the last Barn Dance of the season in Howick, we had the McMichael Sisters with their step dance act, and it made the rest of us feel tired just watching them.

There have been glowing write-ups in some of our most prestigious country music magazines, such as Country Music News out of Ottawa, RPM Magazine, which is the voice of the music industry in Canada, and our Barn Dance album has been picked up by Columbia House for distribution.

On the down side, crowds were a bit smaller than last year, however we ran into a few bad situations, such as in St. Clements/St. Jacobs. The St. Jacobs show was booked as a private event for the Fireman's Convention, but about 3 weeks before the date they decided to throw it open to the public, which drew many people away from the St. Clements show the week before. Basically the crowd split

up between two shows that should have been at one. One thing we found out this season is that many people have been attending 3 or 4 shows and some probably even more, so it's evident that we've built up quite a following, let's face it, where can you get that amount of entertainment in a \$12.00 package, it just doesn't happen anymore.

These recollections of this season are mine off the top of my head and I've probably missed some that deserved mention, my apologies for any I've left out.

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# The Howard Sisters

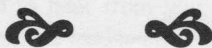
"The Five Maids of Song" as Johnny Brent called them on the Barn Dance were 5 sisters, Marie, Jean, Isabel, Laura and Doris Howard. Of course all their last names changed through marriage, however 3 of them had the same married name as they married 3 brothers.

Going back to the beginning, the girls were brought up in the small community of Bright's Cove, near Sarnia, where they all eventually settle down. They found out early that their voices blended well in harmony and started entertaining in public. During the war years they could be found entertaining service personnel throughout Western Ontario. They started their professional career in radio over CHOK in Sarnia, where they often performed with the Rhythm Rangers. From there, they moved to Casey Clarke's Jamboree on CKLW-TV in Windsor. The girls tell of some of their experiences such as the time they were on Casey Clarke's show and in those days TV was "live". They were sitting on bales of straw, singing a sacred song. The straw caught fire, the cameras took head shots while stage hands were throwing pails of water on their feet and legs and putting the fire out with a fire extinguisher. Afterwards one of the girls remarked "The Lord was really sparking us", another one said "Just a little too much".

In the early 50's the Howard Sisters joined the cast of the CKNX Barn Dance, travelling from Sarnia every Saturday night. They were a highly popular act, with their flashy wardrobe and pleasant personalities. Into the sixties, and Jean and Laura dropped out of the group, Doris' daughter Kathy stepped in and then it was the 4 Howard Sisters. This is when they went full swing into the entertainment world. They made a trip to Nashville where they cut a record for Columbia, "I'm Tired of Your Lies", which they had written, backed by "Bluenose". They hit the road extensively to promote the record

all over the U.S. and Canada. They guested on Holiday Ranch CBC-TV, and the Tommy Hunter Show, performed on shows with Hank Snow, Eddy Arnold, Kitty Wells, and a myriad of country greats. Appearing with Webb Pierce at Cleary Auditorium in Detroit, at that time puffy skirts were in style. Isabel's elastic band in her crinoline let go and the crinoline came down around her ankles, she just stepped out of it, tucked it under her arm and the girls sang on. After a tumultuous ovation, when they stepped off stage Webb Pierce asked them to go out with his show as back-up singers, they never knew for sure if it was the crinoline or their singing that he wanted.

The girls finally decided to pack it in, they had always enjoyed their singing, and now it had become too much of a business, they had to hire a manager, book far in advance and the joy and fun went out of it, so they put away the guitar and stage clothes and never sang again professionally. It had become a "job" and the girls didn't want that. Thankfully, we have a record of these talented girls, their recording of "I'm Tired of Your Lies" on the Barn Dance album and we have "Pine Tree, Pine Over Me" with Earl Heywood on Volume 2.



## GRAHAM TOWNSEND TRIBUTE

You need to set aside October 24 and 25, to attend this ground breaking event being held at the 1,800 seat Orangeville Agricultural Complex. Graham is considered by many as the world's greatest old tyme fiddler, and on this special day will be the first inductee into the Canadian Fiddlers and Step Dancers Hall of Fame.

The RV Park will be open for campers, RV parking is \$25.00 for the weekend. Saturday night fiddle jamboree starts at 7:00 p.m., followed by an old fashioned barn dance at 9:00. Sunday events start at noon and continue until 6:00 p.m. and include the Graham Townsend Tribute and the Hall of Fame Induction.

Prices for Saturday night jamboree and barn dance is \$5.00 advance, or \$7.50 at the door. Sunday events are pegged at \$10.00 advance, \$12.50 at the door.

For tickets and information, call: (519) 940-3225 or (519) 941-4963.

## The President's Report / From The Stage

by Wayne Otterbein

A year has passed already. I've said before that time goes fast when you're having fun. FUN!! Yes, this past year was work but very enjoyable fun work. The reason it was fun work is because of the backing I had from all musicians, entertainers, guests, board members, members of the society and the people who sponsored our Barn Dances.

I dare not forget the country music fans. Without you, the fans - country music lovers who will go anywhere there is our type of music to listen and dance to. The Barn Dance would be nothing if it weren't for you, the FANS.

I am now looking for bookings for "99". The International Plowing Match is being held in Huron County at Dashwood in 1999. The Barn Dance will be doing two shows on Wednesday, Sept. 22, 1999. Be sure to mark that on your calendar.

If anyone out there would like to sponsor a Barn Dance, let us know about it. Phone (519) 565-2102.

Hope to see you soon.

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**FROM THE 1998  
MUSIC DIRECTOR**

*by Ron Coulthard*

We've now finished our Barn Dance schedule for this year; we hope that you got to at least one of our shows and that you enjoyed the performance. Our Barn Dance Committee, Wayne Otterbein, Hugh Elder and I tried our best to put together a top lineup of regular and guest performers, and to present professional and entertaining shows. We would welcome any comments or suggestions you might like to pass on to us. Obviously, we'd like to make next year's shows better still in any way possible.

As Music Director, over the season I made several hundred phone calls, put several thousand kilometers on my old Buick, and drank a lot of late night coffee in various donut shops around the area, after meetings, rehearsals and performances. I also got to work with many very talented musicians and singers, and to learn a number of new songs, some simple, some not so simple, that were performed on the shows.

My sincere thanks to the musicians in the two bands - the Country Versatiles and the Barn Dance Band - for their co-operation in putting the shows together, and in learning the material to back up our guest performers. I'd also like to thank those guests for travelling long distances in many cases to attend our rehearsals, and for patiently "hurrying up and waiting" when our last minute run throughs

before the shows just couldn't be kept on schedule. The Barn Dances are fairly complicated productions and there are always a few unforeseen problems that have to be worked through. Thanks also to the "behind the scenes" people - our Board members and other volunteers who manned our souvenir booth, sold programs, paid the performers, and looked after a hundred other details. The folks who worked the longest hours, and it's not easy work, on the actual show days, have to be the crew from Wayne Greve Sound and Lights. Thanks Wayne, for all your effort in make us look and sound good!

A special thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, Jim Swan, from AM 1410 in London. He was featured for many years on CKNX radio and TV, and Jim did a super job on the Barn Dance shows. (Also thanks to Blyth Festival actor Eric Coates for playing "Johnny Brent circa 1950" on our first show in Blyth back in May.)

A great many folks wanted to be guests on the shows; unfortunately we could only feature so many performers, so we just couldn't use them all. It was often difficult to keep our shows from running over our 90 minute format; sometimes we had so much talent that we just couldn't squeeze it all in! Anyway, if you didn't get on a show in 1998, please contact us again next year!

Once again, we hope you enjoyed our shows, and we sincerely appreciate the support you gave us this season. Many thanks!!

**LETTER to the EDITOR**

*(NOTE: Letters may be condensed or edited for better readability or to preserve space).*

Dear Lynn: -

Kindly thank Earl Heywood for mentioning my song writing in the Summer edition, for artists to write to me for material. I would like to point out that the postal code was not included. (ED. It will be with your address at the end of this letter).

In years past I was editor and president of many fan clubs including one for Earl (along with Eve Lyons). This was one of the reasons for being inducted into the New Brunswick Country Music Hall of Fame on June 30, 1984. At that time I was editor and president for the Russ Wheeler Fan Club, the journal was called "The Wagon Wheel". It delighted me to read that Roy Thompson once operated a restaurant in Kitchener, called "The Wagon Wheel".

Your contest "How Well Do You Know Your Barn Dance" is a welcome part of your newsletter. This type of thing draws memberships and keeps people re-subscribing. Should you wish to enlarge in this area, I could perhaps help out with a submission of the words to one of my songs with a request for anyone wishing the music to send a stamped self-addressed envelope. I have 700 poems printed in a hard cover book, entitled "Sunbeams, Dewdrops & Petals". Also I've designed crossword puzzles, etc., that may interest your readers.

In any case, I sure wish you every success with your journal.

Sincerely,  
Geraldine Copeland,  
Chipman, R. R. #3,  
Queen's County, NB  
E0E 1C0

*(NOTE: Letters to the Editor should be addressed to Lynn Russwurm.)*

**FIDDLE MUSIC PETITION  
CIRCULATING**

We've just received word of a petition being circulated across Canada urging CBC to add fiddle music to their programming. It's long been an enigma as to why fiddle music is being ignored by the CBC whose mandate is to provide programming of a Canadian nature to the masses.

Canadian fiddle music is a unique blend that derives its' beginnings from many sources and has evolved into a form that's all its' own and uniquely Canadian. It's a tremendously popular music, as evinced by the hundreds of Jamborees and fiddle contests that draw thousands of people and yet CBC by and large ignores it. Why??

At one point fiddle music was alive and well on CBC-TV, with such shows as Don Messer's Jubilee, Country Hoedown, etc. Don Messer's Show was probably the most watched and popular show on the air until the people who play God at the CBC decided it was too backwoods-like and cancelled it. There was such an outcry from the public that the show was eventually re-mounted by CHCH-TV in Hamilton and syndicated. The show lasted until the death of Don Messer.

Several years ago I tried, unsuccessfully to have Canada Post issue a series of postage stamps of our great fiddlers such as Don Messer, Ward Allen and Al Cherny, however, it was turned down in favour of stamps honouring the Chinese New Year, famous monsters, etc. Their mandate is to select themes that are uniquely Canadian and when you give them one they choose to ignore it.

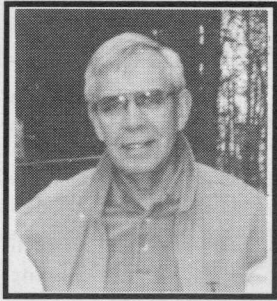
There are hundreds of fiddle clubs across Canada, and an abundance of recorded fiddle music by some of the greatest fiddlers of all time and CBC should be required to carry at least some of it. There is a petition being circulated across Canada, and at this point nearly 5,000 names have been collected to request fiddle music on CBC-radio.

You can write for more information or a copy of the petition to: George Linsey, 458 Ennis Road West, Ennismore, Ontario K0L 1T0, or phone (705) 292-0074, fax (705) 292-8910, E-mail: topbook@peterboro.net.

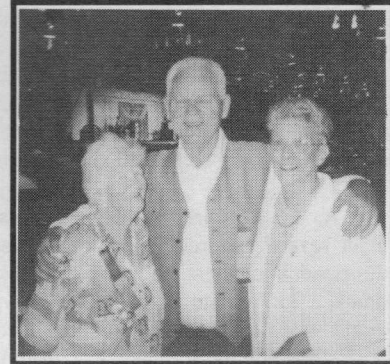
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# Just Fiddling Around . . .

## with Bill Oja



All entry and attendance records were broken at this year's Fiddle & Step-Dance Contest. Entries totalled 273. Taking a breather are left to right: - promoter **GEORGE LINSEY**, judges **IVAN HICKS**, **CALVIN VOLLRATH**, **BRIAN HEBERT**, and contest chairman, and sometime fiddler **JIM HICKEY**.



**VICTOR PASOWISTY** of the Jamboree Reunion Band always finds the good lookin' ones, doesn't he? Following his third place finish in the Shelburne Novelty Class, Vic is being cheered up by **ROMA McMILLAN**, 87 (left) of Ottawa, and long time Shelburne accompanist, **PHYLLIS McDOWELL**, 39.



**SCOTT WOODS**, of Fergus, 1998 Grand Masters Invitational winner is shown here greeted by young champion fiddlers in their own right. **TYLER & LINDSAY BECKETT** of Kemble, Ont., finished second in the novelty class in Shelburne this year.



At the Farm Museum Jamboree near Milton, the very funny **PAUL BROTHERS & SHIRLEY** entertain while **LLOYD BANK & VICTOR PASOWISTY** keep the beat.



A couple of old pros tune up for the 65 & over class at the Douro contest. **ALF LENO** of Collingwood and **WEBB ACHESON** of Maynooth have been nip and tuck for first place at contests all season.

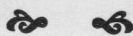


Winner of the oldest competitor at Shelburne this year was **JOHN PARRISH**, 90 of Listowel. Close runners-up in age were **NELSON HILL**, left, and contest co-ordinator & MC **LARRY STACEY** of Stratford.



**THE BOLTON / NOBLETON OLD TIME FIDDLERS** entertain at half-time at this year's Shelburne Canadian Fiddle Championships.

## NEWS, NOTES 'N EVENTS



Janet Turner, who won first place in the Canadian Open Country Music Singing Contest in Simcoe out of 228 competitors in the 12 and under class, also took first place in the Junior Search For Talent last year at the Western Fair in London. Janet made her debut on Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance at St. Jacobs on Aug. 1, 1998. She scored heavily when she wowed the crowd with the hit song "Blue", which filled the auditorium with applause. Well done, Janet.



Grant Heywood and his Desert Dolphins, along with his daughters, Kianna and Janessa were the highlight of the 5th Annual Bluegrass and Traditional Country Music Festival held at Silver Water on Manitoulin Island. The three day weekend event on Aug. 14, 15 and 16th also featured Earl and Martha Heywood on three shows. Norm and Don Matheson who organized the event starred on the shows along with Norm Morell, Ted Culgin, Al Traynor and Bob Fuller. Group bands included Scarlet Fever, Rocky West and Freshwater, The Talbots, Blue Mule and Roy Rumley. This was the 5th year for this event, which turned out to be a fantastic get together.



Penetang was the scene of another Old Time Fiddle Contest on July 10 and 11, 1998. Again the event drew a large crowd and more and more fiddlers seem to be attending year after year.

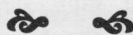
## IN MEMORIAM

**MURIEL GRUMMETT** of Wingham, Ontario, passed away in the University Hospital, London, Ontario on July 16, 1998. She leaves to mourn, two daughters, Jo-Anne, Dianne and her husband, Dan Grummett, who was a member of the CKNX Barn Dance. Funeral arrangements were by McBurney Funeral Home in Wingham. Muriel was a member of the Barn Dance Historical Society and one who dedicated her life to the care and comfort of others.

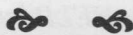
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**KAYE RANKIN**, mother of the Rankin Family recently passed away in Mabou, Nova Scotia. Kaye took much pleasure in administrating the Rankin Family Fan Club. She was responding to correspondence up to three weeks before her death.

Joan and Stan Purves have recorded a cassette album entitled "Memories". Joan sings 6 of her own original songs on side 1, side 2 is comprised of country standards. Back up is done by Stan Purves on fiddle, with Carl Kuhn handling keyboards, guitar, drums and back-up vocals, along with Joan. Cassette is available at Ernie King Music in Wingham.



Guy Lombardo's Royal Canadians, along with the great Patti Page appeared in concert at the Guelph River Run Concert Centre on Sept. 17 and 18, 1998. Remember the Lombardo Brothers Orchestra was formed in 1917 in London, Ont. For many years they were the highlight of every New Year's Eve from the Waldorf Astoria in New York, viewed by millions of TV fans, until Guy Lombardo's death in 1977. The Lombardo Band first played in many dance halls in Southwestern Ontario in the early 1920's at such venues at the Lakeview Casino in Grand Bend, The Stork Club in Port Stanley and the Winter Gardens in London. We should be thankful that the Lombardo Concert Company is continuing to preserve The Sweetest Music This Side of Heaven. You might like to visit the Lombardo Museum in London, Ontario.



**NOTE:** Artists wanting mention in this column, please forward your information to Earl Heywood, Box 443, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0

Clare Rankin is now the administrator for the Rankin Family Fan Club. The Rankins have been members of the Barn Dance Historical Society.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HAROLD JOHN (HAP) SWATRIDGE** (1928 - 1998) - Born in Stratford, Ont., on May 9, 1928, passed away at Braemar Retirement Centre, Turnberry Township on Sunday, Aug. 9, 1998. Surviving members of his family are his wife, Audry and one daughter, Jill, predeceased by one son, Paul. The funeral service was at McBurney Funeral Home in Wingham, interment at the Wingham Cemetery. Hap Swatridge played a big role in "Sing Time" on CKNX, played organ at the Wingham United Church and was a long-time member of the CKNX Barn Dance

## COUNTRY CALENDAR

(Toronto and surrounding area)

by Doreen Brown

\* For an afternoon of fun, join the gang at the Country Music Store, 2889 Danforth Ave., Toronto, every Saturday afternoon. Lots of pickin' and grinnin'.

\* Chef Adams presents the Maple Leaf Country Jamboree, Oct. 4th, 2-6, as well as the first Sunday of every month at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 426, 707 Wrigley St., Newmarket with special guests, every month.

\* Bring your musical instruments and dancing shoes to Country Music Club of Oshawa, Kingside Park, Oshawa, Oct. 12, 26, Nov. 9, 23, Dec. 7 and 21st.

\* Cactus Pete's 462 Birchmount Rd., Toronto, features Lincoln Lariviere Band every Sunday, 3 to 6 p.m., this band will also be at My Sister's Place, Park St., Oshawa on the 9th and 10th. Lincoln will also be at Smithville Oprey, Nashville on Nov. 7 with Betsy Lynn and Aaron Tippin.

\* Jimmy Jacks, 733 Birchmount Rd., Toronto, features Laura Mattson, Oct. 15-17, and Laura will also be at the Corral Restaurant and Tavern from the 20th to 24th in Oshawa.

\* George Grey presents the 3rd Brechin Country Music Jubilee, Friday, Oct. 2, 8 to 12 p.m. with special guest Doreen Brown, featuring Lester White and Area Code 709 at the Brechin Legion, Br. 488, for dancing and a 50/50 draw.

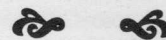
\* The Collingwood Legion features Blue Diamonds the 2nd Sunday of every month. Bring your musical instruments and dancing shoes from 1 to 5 p.m.

\* Join fiddlers, guitar players and singers at the Heritage Olde Tyme Fiddle and Dance Society of Bowmanville, 38 Jackson Ave., Oshawa on Oct. 4, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9. Dancing and snack bar. Phone (905) 436-2564.

\* Oprey Orillia, good old country music by Chuck Moore at the Sundial Restaurant, Galaxy Room on Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19 (tentative).

\* The Rosetown Inn, 226 Queen St. E., Brampton (Cabot Cove) has live country music matinees from 4 to 6, Thursday to Saturday.

\* Palomino Bar and Grille, 619 Evans Ave., Etobicoke has weekend entertainment Thursday to Saturday.



On behalf of the members of the Barn Dance Historical Society, may our deepest sympathy go out to the families of those listed above, who were associated with our Foundation.



#### HOWDY FOLKS:

Music continues to be one of the unifying forces within our society. Let us keep it that way. Through words and music we celebrate our joys and rekindle our heritage. Heritage is the most important factor in our organization, let's keep it alive.

Honouring the artists who pioneered Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance is most important in the preservation of our foundation. Because we have reached more than five hundred members and their families, we were told by the Ontario Registry Office that we are a society and therefore must be named The Barn Dance

Historical Society. As I understand it, we are still at liberty to include the name Foundation under the Barn Dance Historical Society umbrella. Let's give it full credit.

I hope this is clear, as from time to time members are asking that we maintain the heritage of all the names that were first established, for the creation of this membership. I fully agree with their concern, I agree these original names are history and must remain as founded or we lose our heritage. On Sept. 19th at the Barn Dance at the Howick Community Centre, we presented a tribute to the immediate members of the family of the late W.T. "Doc" Cruikshank, who was the founder of the CKNX Barn Dance. He was the first "pioneer" and in his honour we have presented the prestigious Barn Dance Pioneer Award.

Plans for the Barn Dance History Book are now in place. Contributions of material, photos, etc. must be received no later than December 1, 1998. We aim to finalize the preparation of the proposed History Book by the end of January, 1999. Lining up the photographs and proof

reading will also take time. Hopefully by the summer of 1999 we will be closer to the reality of marketing the book as a product to celebrate the millenium year of 2000.

Following is a list of names, of folks we know appeared on some of the Barn Dance shows. Is there anyone who can provide us with any information of the following artists, or a contact we could reach for these details: Lamont Tildon, Harriston Girls Trio, Reta Legge, Emily Collins, Sky-Hi Lee, Captain Cook, Vic Pierce, Al Profit, Ken Goebel, Mauss Sisters, Mary Burkley, Ronnie Hardman, Floyd Sillito, Roy Renwick, Helen Sturgeon, The Brucefield Kid, Glenn Price, Buck Rogers, Clarke Wallace and Lloyd Shoebottom. Please forward any information to:

Earl Heywood  
Box 443

Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0

I'll be looking to hear from you. In the meantime,

**"THE SHOW MUST GO ON".**

Earl Heywood

*You can HELP by joining*

## **The Barn Dance Historical Society's BARN DANCE FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Membership is only \$20.00 per year (*many members have chosen to purchase 2 to 5 year memberships*).

#### *As a member you will receive:*

- A personalized FRIENDSHIP CLUB CERTIFICATE.
- A one year subscription to our quarterly JOURNAL keeping you informed of and providing some enjoyable reading.
- A special invitation to our Barn Dance get togethers, at least once per year.
- The right to VOTE on items concerning the running and structuring of the Foundation.
- The opportunity to PARTICIPATE by sitting on one of our Committees.
- Advance notice of SPECIAL EVENTS.
- The right to PERFORM during our Hoedowns. Members only - *registration on a first come basis.*



YES, I want to become a member of the  
**BARN DANCE FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

P. O. Box 68, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00  
1 Year

\$40.00  
2 Years

\$60.00  
3 Years

\$80.00  
4 Years

\$100.00  
5 Years