

An Official Publication of:
**The Barn Dance Historical Society
and Entertainment Museum**
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 23 1999

Fall Edition

1

Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance Don Messer's Jubilee - Similar Beginnings



by Grant Heywood & Barbara Martin

Both above musical troupes have a lot in common. They're both Canadian. They both originated in the 1930's, and were broadcast over radio and later on television. Don Messer first started at radio as Don Messer and The Islanders. Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance also began on radio, originally as The C.K.N.X. Barn Dance.

Both had resident M.C.'s Messer had Don Tremaine and the Barn Dance had Johnny Brent. And strangely enough, the Travelling Barn Dance theme was "Down Yonder", whereas Messer's signature tune was "The Barn Dance" song. What a coincidence. Messer's music was of the "down east" variety, but the Travelling Barn Dance was a little more western. Both have a long Canadian musical heritage.

While Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance has garnered a large following and revival once again at many

shows over the past several years, it has only been recently that a travelling tribute to Don Messer's Jubilee has hit the concert road.

The following is a trip down memory lane, with a list of information regarding the upcoming Don Messer's Memories Show.

Some Dates of Interest:

1930's - Messer was on radio out of PEI and was called Don Messer and the Islanders. Messer, Neilson and Chamberlain who were the original members were all from N.B.

1940's - Messer entertained the troops waiting in all military bases being shipped overseas.

1945 - CBC broadcast overseas for the first time and the first show that was aired that was not a news broadcast was the Messer show.

1945 - "The Barn Dance" song was written for the inaugural radio broadcast which Messer adapted to the 4 lines that

we know today.

1958 - Messer started the TV show and added the Buchta Dancers for visual effect.

1963 - Messer added Vic Mullen to add rhythm to the music. Vic was the only member who had a separate contract.

1966 - Added Johnny Forest, the Scottish singer (who never really caught on).

1969 - Bill Langstroth handed Messer his pink slip when Messer came to start recording the first show of the season. - a complete surprise to Messer.

There were three marches on Parliament Hill in protest over the removal of the show. It was debated on the floor of the commons, but CBC would not relent.

1969 - Messer moved the show to Hamilton.

1970 - Messer died in the early 1970's (I think it was 1972, as my reference book has gone missing). Marg, Charlie and Messer died within 3 years of one

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The Editor Speaks

by Grant Heywood

This past summer a lot of our board members attended and played at various festivals around Ontario, where traditional country and bluegrass ruled supreme.

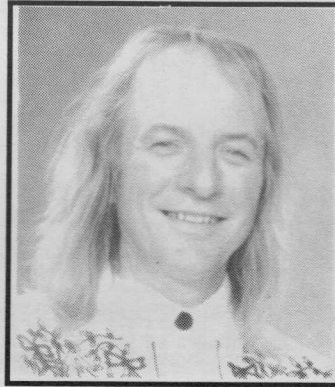
First Vice President, Maryanne Cunningham, reported of lineups for traditional country shows out of Owen Sound, where she also performed.

Director, Al Widmeyer, toured the bluegrass circuit with his wife Sue, in their motorhome. Al says the festivals were full of fans. He even got to jam with his dobro, on stage with legends such as Josh Graves.

Fiddle player, Randy Morrison, played to a capacity concert crowd in Kincardine on July 15. Churning out all the fiddle classics, Randy was accompanied by Al Widmeyer on guitar, dobro and vocals, Charlie Steinhoff on bass, Shelburne pianist, Phyllis McDowell, and myself, Grant Heywood, on drums.

I also attended and performed at the 11th Annual Dowling Country Music Festival near Sudbury. The packed crowds were treated to bluegrass, new country, and lots of traditional country and old time fiddling.

I know lots of other musicians were busy over the summer as well as many other folks and friends taking in various



country music events.

Sometimes people tell me they're not hearing the kind of country music they like on radio. If you're not getting musical satisfaction from radio, the I suggest attending country shows like the ones I just mentioned.

Better yet, bring your friends to a Barn Dance show. You can hear great music by a lot of people you already know and you can purchase tapes and C.D.s that you might not hear on radio.

Tradition and good times are timeless. See you at the next Barn Dance in the year 2000.

Information and opinions regarding the newsletter can be sent to:

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Wellesley, Ontario N0B 2T0
Phone or Fax: (519) 656-2552

The Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment

Museum

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Earl Heywood

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The President's Report

by Wayne Otterbein

Summer is over for another year, and fall is beginning. The directors of The Barn Dance Historical Society have been very busy tending to the business at hand. Believe me there is a lot of business to tend to every month.

June Therrien has retired as membership chairman, to put her energy into other committees of our society. I would like to thank June for doing an exceptional job for the last four years. I would like to announce Mr. and Mrs. John Heaman have volunteered to become our new membership chair people for the membership committee.

I challenge out members to become more involved in our organization by volunteering some of their time to one of our committees. Talk to one of the directors and discuss how and where you might help.

This newsletter will be available September 22, 1999 at Celebration Square, probably our last show this year. I'd like to draw our readers attention to Sunday, October 3, 1999 and our Fiddle Convention at the Wingham Legion. There is more information in another article of this newsletter.

The Barn Dance Historical Society is very much alive and well and with your continued support, will remain this way.

Hope to talk to you soon.

IN MEMORIAM

BRUCE ERIC RYAN - Passed away suddenly at Alexandra and Marine General Hospital, Goderich, on Sunday, April 11, 1999 in his 77th year. A native of the Goderich area, he was a songwriter and musician, the husband of Phyllis Monk. He played a prominent role in the MONK FAMILY group under the name MELODY MIXERS. The Monk Family group were one of the first groups to play on the CKNX Barn Dance in the early 1940's. Interment was held at Maitland Cemetery, Goderich, Ontario.

ARDYSS CAROLINE JOHNSTON, born December 22, 1919, in Huron Township, Ontario, the beloved wife of the late Clark Johnston, passed away at the London Health Sciences Centre, London on Friday, August 13, 1999. Predeceased in 1989 by her husband Clarke Johnston, "The Singing Irishman", she was the mother of two daughters, Linda Rutherford or Fisherman's Cove, and Janette and John De Medeiros of London, and one sister, Gertrude Tiffin of Wingham. Also 7 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Interment in Brandon Cemetery, East Wawanosh Township, near Belgrave.

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.

Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance Don Messer's Jubilee - Similar Beginnings

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another. Marg was on stage when she excused herself, went back stage, and died.

1985 - Bill Grey wrote a play about the Messer gang that toured across Canada.

1995 - I put a "Memories of the Don Messer Jubilee" on stage with cast members that could still perform. The Memories show is a close to the original TV show as possible whereas the 1985 play was about the show.

It is interesting to note that no one to date has ever done a TV special about Messer and/or the gang. Langstroth did a revival called the "Jubilee Years" which combined the "Jubilee Singers" show with the Messer show from saved footage.

CBC saved very little of the Messer footage. Yet this man was responsible for uniting this country from coast to coast - kept our heritage alive, single handily revived step dancing and was responsible for launching careers of many of our well known artists. He was noted for providing

a quality product that was consistent week after week and kept to a format that the audience appreciated.

Misconceptions:

Anne Murray was never a part of the Messer show nor was she a guest. She was on the Jubilee Singers show that replaced Messer in the summer months for two years before CBC cancelled Messer. They then moved the Jubilee Singers to take the Messer spot which lasted 2 seasons before it was cancelled.

About the "Memories Show" -

- it is as close to the original as humanly possible.
- the instrumental music is spot on.
- the singers do not attempt to imitate, but to present the songs in the same manner so that it evokes the memory of the person.
- the Christmas show will have 45% seasonal music and 55% regular jigs and reels as Messer would do for a December show.
- singers and dancers will do the seasonal

music and the dancers will be in costumes to represent the time of the year.

DATES OF THE SHOW:

Tues., Nov. 23 - Owen Sound Roxy Theatre, 2 and 7 p.m. (in support of Summit Retirement community);

Wed., Nov. 24 - Orillia Opera House, 2 p.m.;

Thurs., Nov. 25 - Lindsay Academy Theatre, 2 and 7 p.m. (in support of United Appeal);

Fri., Nov. 26 - Kingston Grand Theatre, 2 and 7 p.m.;

Mon., Nov. 29 - St. Catharines Brock University Theatre, 7 p.m.;

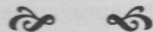
Tues., Nov. 30, Wed., Dec. 1 and Thurs., Dec. 2 - Brantford Sanderson Center, shows at 2 p.m. each day;

Fri., Dec. 3 - London Sanders Secondary School, 7 p.m.

Please Note: This years 1999 performance includes Messer's role as played by Fergus native and fiddle champ, Scott Woods, his mother Carolyn on piano, Tom Leadbetter sings the "Charlie" songs, and original banjo player and fiddle champ, Vic Mullen, is also on the show.

NEWS, NOTES 'N EVENTS

Canadian Recording Artist and entertainer, Ronnie Prophet, presently based in Nashville, Tennessee, royally entertained a group of Canadian Snowbirds on what was called the SNOWBIRD EXTRAVAGANZA. This was a Mature Lifestyle Show of the year for Canadians. It was a 2 day trip Sept. 14 and 15, which included a visit to the Entertainment Capitol of the Midwest and the Branson Video Theatre. Everyone was entertained along the way by Gloria Anne Prophet and her husband, Ronnie, a group of Celtic Fiddlers, Cape Breton's own Tom Leadbeater, soprano singer Suzanne Brown and Canada's Three Tenors.

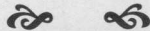


Dickie Dean, outstanding Canadian Magician, recently toured the province of Newfoundland for the first time. Dickie and his charming wife Marg have covered every province in Canada presenting their fabulous colourful dove act produced from thin air, and much, much more. No matter whether it's a kid's show, or a show for adults, they are indeed highly skilled in giving the best that can be had in the field of magic. anyone interested can drop a line to Dickie Dean, 983 Farnham Court, London, Ontario N6K 1R5, phone (519) 473-3990.



Michael T. Wall, the Singing Newfoundlander, and his two daughters have been playing a series

of shows every third Wednesday at the Holland Landing Jamboree. Michael recently became the first Newfoundlander to sing the praises of his homeland atop the CN Tower in Toronto. He and his two daughters will be appearing at Canada's Annual Ole Tyme Fiddle Concert, and the Hayloft Hoedown Talent Search for Talent shindig at the Royal Canadian Legion Auditorium in Wingham, on Sunday afternoon, October 3, 1999. Be sure to join the crowd and see them perform.



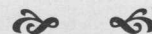
Let us not forget Morris Township, located in Huron County, just south of Wingham, held their 140th Anniversary event in Belgrave, back in August of 1996. It was good thinking on the part of those who organized a tribute to the Disney's for their Parade Theme. Back in July of this year, the town of Goderich, played host to the Disneys by staging a similar parade. We heard it drew several thousand people. If you did not already know, the famous Walt Disney's father was born in Morris Township and went to school there. the Founder of the Barn Dance Hall of Fame Project and Museum has thoroughly researched the grass roots of Walt Disney's parents, and a show case is in the making to become a permanent exhibit of our museum.



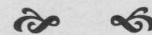
Our Barn Dance musical director, Al Widmeyer, is organizing tunes for his first solo CD this fall. Al will be incorporating the talents of many

current Barn Dance musicians. The C.D. will be recorded in Kitchener, at Uncle Gerry's Studio, where some great country has been recorded over the last couple of years.

Besides dobro, and acoustic pickin' on the instrumentals, Al will be singing some of his own songs, as well as a few classic country cuts.



Barn Dance fiddle player, Victor Pasowisty will be appearing solo at the Buckhorn Ontario Pumpkinfest, October 9, 10 and 11 from noon until 5:00 p.m.



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

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Congratulations to "The First Lady of The Barn Dance"

In our summer edition of the Barn Dance Opera Journal and at the 2nd Annual Camper's Jamboree at Blyth, Ontario, Cora Robertson (Phair), "First Lady of the Barn Dance", was honoured with a Pioneer Award.

She was the piano player from the early days of CKNX Radio. Cora also undertook another endeavour at CKNX Radio. "Doc" Cruickshank, manager, and owner, of the radio station was promoting the younger talent on a half-hour radio program - "The Kiddies Studio Party", which aired every Saturday morning. Yes, Cora was the piano player and coach for all the school children appearing on the show. The many children, of which I was one, looked forward to being on radio on each and every program. I was invited to sing on the show when our school class took their turn to present the program. Our reward was a token for a treat at the Brunswick Hotel, next door to the Radio Station.

I still remember the first song my sister and I sang on CKNX Radio. It was a wartime song entitled "The Modern

Cannon Ball". However, let's not forget, what a blessing it was. "Doc" Cruickshank, manager and owner of CKNX Radio, was giving young talent the opportunity to see if the potential was there for those who desired to advance themselves further.

Thanks to Cora Robertson for taking us all under her wing, one at a time, program after program, and providing us with the experience, and at the same time, enjoyment for the listening audience at home.

This was an experience I shall never forget. Thanks, Cora for the memories, and your many years of dedication. You are most deserving of The Barn Dance Pioneer Award. Along with all the others who appeared on the Kiddies Studio Party, our sincere CONGRATULATIONS to the "First Lady" of "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance."

Yours truly,
Joyce (Sanderson) Steurnal
Wingham, Ontario
N0G 2W0

DON GRESHAM

Country Music from Down Under



Australian singer / songwriter, Don Gresham is getting rave reviews regarding his latest C.D. "Fifty Years In The World of Country Music".

It includes Australian flavoured country tunes such as The Aussie Boy, Little Koala, The Beacon in The Night, Hot Dog Bullfrog, Sugar Sweet Country and 20 others.

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Jimmie Rodgers
Victor Pasowisty - Forget-Me-Nots
You ng Mathew Johnson

LYNN RUSSWURM

Box 63, Elmira, Ont. N3B 2Z5



"First Lady of the Barn Dance" Cora Robertson receives the Pioneer Award from Earl Heywood as her grandchildren look on.

FROM THE STAGE

WAYNE OTTERBEIN,
Show Manager

This show season has been a quiet one. The Campout Jamboree and the Plowing Match shows being the only shows performed this year.

I would like to remind our readers if you know any organization who would like to hold a Barn Dance, please contact The Barn Dance Historical Society, Box 68, Wingham.

The Barn Dance is looking forward to a very busy 2000 and hope to have some dates finalized next report.



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- Barn Dance Logo T-Shirts (black only)
- Sizes M, L, XL \$15.00 each
- Souvenir Hats \$12.00 each

Please include \$2.00 per item for mailing or pick up at Ernie King Music.



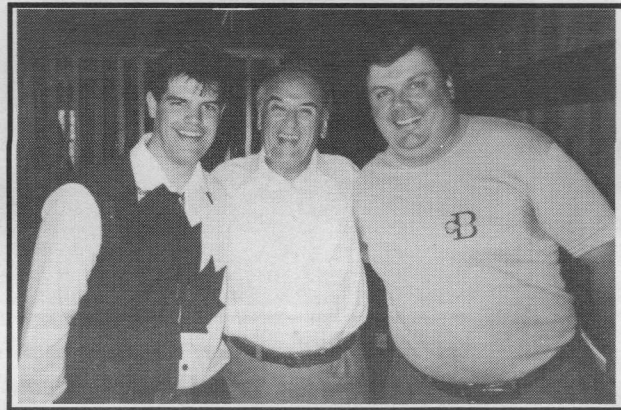
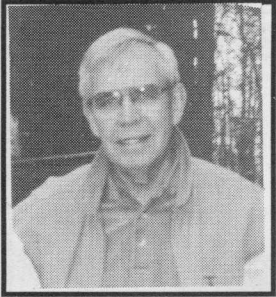
AL WIDMEYER, centre, demonstrates his dobro technique at a guitar workshop during the Barn Dance Campout Jamboree in Blyth this past May. From left to right - **LES RILEY**, seated out front, **LLOYD OTTERBEIN**, seated rear, **RAY SCHARM**, behind, **JIM OTTERBEIN** and **GARY WHITEHEAD**, with cap on.



LLOYD OTTERBEIN and **LES RILEY** on the left, listen to **ERNIE KING**, right, talk shop about guitars and dobros, during the Barn Dance Campout Jamboree in Blyth this past May.

Just Fiddling Around ...

with Bill Oja



Almost a thousand seniors attended festivities at Milton's Farm Museum and enjoyed over two hours of music and humour at the highest level. Left to Right - Country Singer **KILEY JOE MASSON**, Scottish comedian **BILLY MEEK** (remember Billy from the Pig & Whistle TV Show), and the singing priest as M.C., Father **MARK CURTIS**.



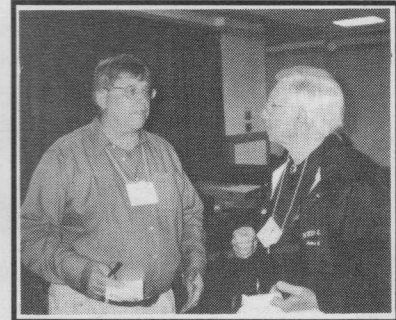
Two of the Sturgeon Falls Contest's fiddle judges entertain after the trophies were handed out. (L) **BRIAN HEBERT** of Pembroke and **LOUIS SCHRYER** of Chapeau, Quebec.



At July's Fiddlers of the World in Halifax, N.S., two of Canada's finest fiddlers try out a couple of new instruments. On the left is Quebec's great **YVON CULLERIER**, and Alberta's famous son, **CALVIN VOLLRATH**.



At the River Valley Bluegrass Festival, London's Foxtail entertains, left to right, **NORA GALLOWAY**, **GEOFF KEYMER**, **RONNIE D. WEST** and **GORD DE VRIES** on the dobro.



Fiddlers of the World organizer **IVAN HICKS** goes over some last minute details with New Brunswick Fiddle Legend, **NED LANDRY**.



At the Bobcaygeon Fiddle Contest, house fiddler, **DANIEL SCHRYER** congratulates half time entertainment star **CINDY THOMPSON** of Midland on a fabulous show.



The 49th Annual Shelburne Canadian Open Fiddle Championship saw three young fiddle masters capture the Open Category. **LOUIS SCHRYER** (c) won the title for the seventh time. Runners up were **SCOTT WOODS** and **SHANE COOK**.

COUNTRY CALENDAR

(Toronto and surrounding area)

by Doreen Brown

* **October 1 & 2** - BRAVE STRANGERS will be performing at the Army & Navy Club, 765 Third St., Lakeview, Mississauga.

* **October 3** - Music Lovers are invited to attend CANADA'S OLDE TYME FIDDLERS CONVENTION, Sunday, Oct. 3 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Victoria St. W., Wingham, Ont. Fiddle workshop, fiddle contest, and Hayloft Hoedown talent show. Bring your musical instruments. Sponsored by the Barn Dance Historical Society. For info call (519) 357-2355 or (519) 357-2811.

* **MULTI DATES** - Cabot Cove in the Rosetown Inn, 226 Queen St., Brampton, tel. (905) 451-6000, presents the following: Oct. 14-16 - Oliver and Leyte; Oct. 22-23 - Roy Payne; Oct. 28-30 - Jenny and Josie; Nov. 4-6 - Gary Gale; Nov. 11-13 - TBA; Nov. 18-20 - Roy Payne; Nov. 25-27 - Jenny and Josie; Dec. 9-11 - Roy Payne; Dec. 16-18 - Jenny and Josie; Dec. 30-31 - Jenny and Josie.

* **MULTI DATES** - Well known steel player, AL BRISCO will be performing as follows: Oct. 3 - Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame Awards, Ron Maslan Playhouse, Kanata. House Band!; Nov. 4-5 and 8-13, Royal Winter Fair, Toronto with Carl Kees; Nov. 12-13 - Cactus Pete's, Birchmount Rd. and Danforth Rd., Toronto,

with Carl Kees and Co.; Nov. 19-20 - Li'l Big Horn, Hwy. #8 and Main St., Cambridge, with Carl Kees and Co.; Dec. 18 - Armouries, Lindsay, with Warren Sutcliffe, Carl Kees and Blue Steel; Dec. 31 - Janetville Hall, Janetville, with Warren Sutcliffe, Carl Kees and Blue Steel.

* **Oct. 15 - 16** - ROGER WHITTAKER at Living Arts Centre, Toronto, (905) 306-6000.

* **October 21** - IRISH DESCENDANTS, Ford Centre, Yonge St., Toronto, (416) 870-8000.

* **MULTI DATES** - Appearances by DOREEN BROWN - Oct. 4 - Country Music Club of Oshawa; Oct. 16 - Uncle Buddy Country Music Benefit for Heart and Lung Assoc., Workman's Auditorium, 1001 Queen St., Toronto; Oct. 21 - Holland Landing Jamboree; Oct. 23 - 36th edition of Oprey Orillia, Sundial Restaurant, Canadian Country Music; Oct. 26 - Bond Head Fiddle Club; Nov. 3 - Maritime Harvest Dinner and Dance, Moose Lodge, 3735 Lakeshore East, Toronto; Dec. 11 - Oprey Orillia, Christmas Show; Dec. 19 - Maple Leaf Country Jamboree, presented by Chef Adams, Christmas Show, Royal Canadian Legion, 707 Strigley St., Newmarket, with the fine country sounds of Tom Mark and the Maple Leaf Cowboys.

* **Oct. 16** - UNCLE BUDDY presents country music benefit for Heart and Lung Patient Support Services of Ontario at

Workmen's Auditorium, 1001 Queen St. at Ossington, Toronto. All welcome. Special guest Juanita Garron, mother of country music. Admission \$10.00. Show at 7 p.m.

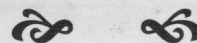
* **Nov. 13** - Maritime Harvest Dinner and Dance. Benefit for Diabetes Association with special guests, featuring the Bay Boys, at Moose Lodge Club, 3735 Lakeshore Blvd., east of Brown's Line, Toronto. \$20.00 per person, dinner and dance. For info call (416) 234-8656.

* **Nov. 12** - Appearances by JOHN PRINCE & A PIECE OF THE ROCK, 9 p.m., Ontario Arts Council Showcase, The Bamboo, 312 Queen St. W., Toronto.

* **December 31** - Celebrate New Year's Eve at Singhampton Community Centre. Sit down meal and dance to the music of FOX FIRE, consisting of Peter Johnston, Danny Poole, Jim King, featuring Rick Johnson.

* Don Messer Jubilee Christmas - Memories of a Don Messer Jubilee Christmas will be on tour the last week of November and the first week of December. Leading this 13-member show are original cast members Sandy Hoyt and Vic Mullen. Featured on fiddle will be 2 time Canadian Champ and 1998 Canadian Grand Masters Champ, Scott Woods. Nov. 23, Roxy Theatre, Owen Sound, 2 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 24, Opera House, Orillia, 2 p.m.; Nov. 25, Academy Theatre, Lindsay, 2 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 26, Grand Theatre, Kingston, 2 and 7 p.m.; Nov. 29, Brock University Theatre, St. Catharines, 7 p.m.; Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 and 2, Sanderson Centre, Brantford, 2 p.m.; Dec. 3, Sanders Secondary School, London, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$23.50 including taxes.

NOTE: This being the last issue of Country Calendar for 1999, very best Season's Greetings and may you enjoy good health and happiness in the year 2000!!



The Barn Dance Historical Society presents

The Canadian 4th Annual OLE TIME FIDDLE CONVENTION Sunday, Oct. 3, 1999

at the Canadian Legion, Wingham, Ontario.

**FEATURING: Twin Fiddlin' Favourites -
Mike Slauenwhite & Victor Pasowisty, and
Step Dancers Extraordinaire
SPECIAL GUEST: Michael T. Wall & daughters**

Seminar at 10:00 a.m.

Fiddle Contest at 1:00 p.m.

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HOWDY FOLKS:

HURON SHINES IN '99 ... What a beautiful slogan to help Huron County host the International Plowing Match in Dashwood, September 21st to 25th, the final Match of this century.

Looking back to the beginning of radio, how well I recall my first appearance on the main stage of the International Plowing Match at Port Albert, located north of Goderich, Ontario. That was 1946! World War II had ended so this became known as The Victory Match.

W. T. "Doc" Cruickshank was promoting CKNX Radio as the Ontario Farm Station serving South Western Ontario. For the first time "Doc" engineered a remote live radio broadcast of "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance" as a daily performance from the main stage of the giant tented city. The show was transmitted by telephone lines back to the CKNX radio

transmitter at Wingham. Thousands were tuned in to the 920 spot on the dial, and more than 140,000 people gathered around the main stage through-out the week to get a glimpse of a remote radio broadcast in action.

Those performing on this show were bass player-singer **Don Robertson**, with is wife, **Cora**, on accordion, and the **Ranch Boys** fiddlers **Rossy** and **Archie Mann** along with banjo picker **Freddy Templeman**. Of course, **Johnny Brent** and "**Doc**" **Cruickshank** were the Masters of the show along with featured singers, "**Cactus Mac**", **Earl Heywood**, and the "**Singing Irishman**", **Clarke Johnston**. At the time "Doc" had hired "**The Golden Prairie Cowboys**" as a second group to alternate with the Ranch Boys. Fiddler "**Red Burns**", bass play "**Slim**" **Boucher**, "**Lucky**" **Ambeault** playing guitar and providing comedy, and "**Maurice Bolyer**", the king of the banjo provided music and songs like the "Sons of The Pioneers".

Again, on October 11th to 14th, 1966, Huron County hosted another International Plowing Match at Seaforth, Ontario amid a heavy downfall of rain that labeled the event as "The Mud Match". In spite of it all the crowd remained much the same. That year Massey Ferguson invited me to stage a show in their tent. Martha and I, along with Joe Tiffin and his family, the Singing Irishman, Clarke Johnston, and the Storey Sisters dancers provided the entertainment.

In 1978, September 26th to 30th, Huron County hosted what they called "The Success Match" and a success it was. Brussels, as well as

Wingham, played a role in staging "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance" which was presented in the new Community Centre in Brussels. There were more than 30 artists performing on stage, the largest ever. Above the heads of the performers was a sign which read HURON WELCOME YOU. This year, 1999, marks the fourth time the original Barn Dance, heard on CKNX Radio for so many years, comes alive on the Main Stage where HURON SHINES IN '99 at Dashwood, Sept. 21 to 25.

The legacy of the late W.T. "Doc" Cruickshank and the International Plowing Match have both played a major role in helping us resurrect the history of "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance" It was the longest-lived radio show of its kind in the history of Canadian music and broadcasting. It will hopefully become a major tourist attraction in Huron County.

When the committee in Walkerton was planning to host the International Plowing Match in 1993 our organization was invited to bring a Barn Dance exhibit to their event. Since then others have followed such as Ayr, Selkirk, and Barrie. I was born and raised on a farm in Huron County and ploughed with a team of horses, and even composed one of my songs while ploughing with an old Fordson tractor. To all future Plowing Matches, good luck,

and remember ...

"THE SHOW MUST GO ON".

Earl Heywood

Founder, Hon. Pres., Director, Advisor

COME JOIN US!!

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THE BARN DANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and ENTERTAINMENT MUSEUM

P. O. Box 68, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0 Phone: (519) 357-3021

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Yes, I want to become a member of
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