

The Barn Dance Opera Journal

Official Publication of:
The Barn Dance Historical Society Inc.
and Entertainment Museum

Barn Dance Website: <http://www.barndance.ca>

Vol. 28 2001

Winter Edition

1

Johnny Brent - 1921 - 2001

Barn Dance Ambassador, Manager and Emcee

I was just about to visit Johnny Brent for an informal interview at the Wingham Hospital, when I was suddenly told of his passing away just hours before. I've known others in the entertainment field, who like Johnny had a real 'presence of character' and were enthusiastic, energetic and just all around likeable. It's hard to believe when they are no longer around, but on the other hand, it is equally as easy to remember them because they were well-known public figures.

Johnny loved people, and he loved the Barn Dance as much as being a part of it. It

was Johnny Brent who coined the phrase, "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance". I, personally will always remember his zest for living and entertaining. Johnny was a real showman and in my mind was "Mr. Barn Dance". Here is a transcript excerpt about Johnny, compiled by my father, Earl Heywood, and David Wall from a soon to be published book chronicling the history of Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance.

Johnny Brent was born October 24, 1921 in the village of Bamberg, Ont., Waterloo County. He came from a family

of ten including his mother, father, four boys and four girls. The family moved to Waterloo, Ont. when Johnny was six months old. He got his education at St. Louis School in Waterloo, St. Jerome's College in Kitchener, and Kitchener Collegiate and Vocational School, graduating with a degree in Commercial Administration.

Johnny participated in football, basketball, baseball and boxing. He played Junior 'B' to Senior 'A' hockey, and in 1970 he became an executive member of the Ontario Hockey Asso-

ciation.

Johnny remembered 'The Depression' in the early '30's and learned much from it. He took many part-time jobs such as delivering newspapers, caddying at a golf club, exercising race horses, teaching riding and doing other odd jobs wherever available.

Johnny Brent's career in the entertainment field started at an early age. His coming from a musical family enabled him to help form a Country and Western Group known as "The Wyoming Hillbillies". He fronted the band as emcee and vocalist. The group ranged in age from ten to fourteen years of age. They gained prominence by entertaining for parties, business corporations, church socials, dances and other events.

His entertainment career took a big step forward when the owner of Radio Station CKCR (now CHYM) in Kitchener offered Johnny a position as an announcer in 1938. He took a six month training course without pay, and at seventeen Johnny hit the broadcasting airwaves.

It was 1940 when "Doc" Cruickshank hired Johnny as the "Voice of Community Service" for CKNX radio in Wingham. He soon became the "Morning Man" at 6:30 a.m., for nineteen years. As well as other programming duties he soon took a shine to "The CKNX Barn Dance" which "Doc" presented live from the studios every Saturday night. Talented local musicians and vocalists were featured and it wasn't long before "Doc" turned over complete responsibility of the program to

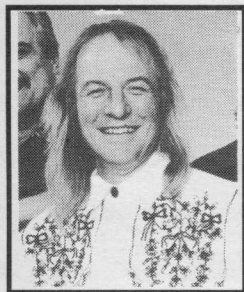


JOHNNY BRENT

Continued on Page 4

The Editor Speaks

by Grant Heywood



Well it seems like winter has been around forever and it's still not over yet. During my first winter vacation to Florida, I remember asking a lady from Tennessee if she'd like to live year-round in such a nice sunny climate. She replied to me in a warm southern drawl, "I personally like a variety of weather." Obviously, she's never spent a winter here in Canada.

This is officially the first year of the new millennium and it's during these winter months that the Barn Dance Historical Society reflects on the past year and starts to prepare for the shows and events of the new season. I have handed the musical director duties to steel player, Doug Dietrich, member of the Millennium Cowboys and his own group Sunrise. Doug is an excellent musician and has some great talent and ideas for the 2001 Barn Dance shows.

To kick off the new Barn Dance season, a Barn Dance show (no dance) called "THE TRADITION CONTINUES" will be presented at the Wingham Heritage Theatre, Sunday, March 18th at 2:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to hear some exceptional new, young entertainers showcase their talent, with traditional country flavour, backed by some of the best from the Barn Dance musicians. Some of the original pioneers from the Barn Dance will be on hand, as well as our own M.C. and radio personality, Jim Swan.

Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance will carry on the tradition of providing great country music shows as well as honouring the pioneers who were instrumental in building and paving the way for others to continue. Sadly, we will all miss two more pioneers who passed on just recently this past January. Johnny Brent, original M.C. and host of many, if not most of the original CKNX Barn Dance shows. As well, Victor Pasowisty, fiddle player extraordinaire, member of the Barn Dance Band, and personal friend, will most certainly leave shoes that will be hard to fill. They will be remembered and honoured for their contribution of smiles, fine music, and memories.

To find out about what's happening with the Barn Dance and / or Barn Dance Museum,

check out our website at www.barndance.ca or look for upcoming information contained in The Barn Dance Opera Journal. We welcome your comments.

Grant Heywood,
Deborah Glaister Line,
R. R. #2,
Wellesley, Ont. N0B 2T0
Phone: (519) 656-2552
Fax: (519) 656-9970
E-mail: www.heywoods@golden.net



IN THE STUDIO

Winter is the time of year when most musicians either hibernate, or if they can afford to, take a mortgage out on that old Martin or Gibson guitar and lay down tracks in the recording studio. Here is a partial list of musicians associated with the Barn Dance who expect to have a new tape or CD out this year.

Singer Randy Satchell is just wrapping up the mix at Jay Riehl's studio, for his second release of traditional and country classics.

Al Widmeyer is in the midst of recording at Uncle Gerry's Place. His new disc will include dobro standards, as well as some original honky tonk and classic country.

Carol Johnston and brother Wayne Schultz are hoping to follow up last year's release, with some more old time and classic country favourites.

The Heywood Family 'Three Generations' including the Heywood Twins, will be in the studio soon to record some country gospel, some of Earl's unrecorded original cowboy songs, as well as others.

'Little Johnny Heaman' and his wife Geneva will be recording their very first CD / tape later this year, and it will be a testament to 'real country music'.

I haven't spoken to him recently, but no doubt fiddle player, Randy Morrison will be working on a new release for this year as well.

The Barn Dance Volume 3, is currently being compiled, with vintage live cuts from the old Barn Dance days as well as some new live material and studio tracks. This is a monumental task to put this together, and requires good ears, and a lot of time and patience. We will certainly let you know when it become available.

The Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment Museum

P.O. Box 68
Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0
Phone (519) 357-2160

(or leave a message)

BARN DANCE WEBSITE:
<http://www.barndance.ca>

Earl Heywood

Founder, Honorary President, Advisor

Board of Directors 2000:

President: Wayne Otterbein
1st Vice-President: Grant Heywood
2nd Vice-President: Carol Johnston
Secretary: Ron Coulthard
Treasurer: Gord Baxter
Past President: Leonard Love

Directors:

Bill Simmermaker, John Heaman,
Dave Hedley, James Christman,
Shirley Russwurm, Verna Steffler.

Improper Etiquette

It is bad manners to
break your bread,
and roll in your soup.



Barn Dance Pioneer recipient, **HANK BEDDARD**, Grammy Award winner, **WALTER OSTANEK**, and the Barn Dance Historical Society president, **WAYNE OTTERBEIN**, are all smiles after a successful sell-out Barn Dance show in Forest, Ontario last year.

IN MEMORIAM

Barn Dance Band loses one of the Best. We remember Canadian Fiddle Champion - Victor Pasowisty.

BRENT, John Francis - at Wingham and District Hospital, Wingham, on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2001, Johnny Brent, of Wroxeter, 26 years (1941 to 1967) as a radio and television personality with CKNX in Wingham and one of the original pioneers and Master of Ceremonies of the CKNX Barn Dance, has passed away, in his 80th year.

Beloved husband of Roberta Brent (nee Harron) of Wroxeter, treasured father, friend and inspiration of Greg of British Columbia, Terry of California, Nancy and her husband Dave Jacobs of Toronto, Robin and his wife Janet of Kingston, Barbara and her husband Roger Keith of the Dominican Republic, Heather and her husband Steve Giovanelli of Mississauga and John Jr. and Tracey Kaljas of Kitchener; sadly missed and forever loved by his grandchildren, Jacob, Michele, Adam, Amber, Lauren, Jonathan, Sarah, Jade, Justin, Jordan and Carina. Also survived by his sisters, Lorraine (Mrs. Howard Walz), Jean Murchison and Betty Rueffer, all of Kitchener.

Predeceased by his brothers, Lou, Leo, Alfred and by his sister, Mae.

At the request of Johnny, there will be no visitation. Cremation. A memorial service to celebrate his life took place at the Wingham Town Hall Heritage Theatre, on Sat., Feb. 10, 2001 at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of remembrance may be made to The Barn Dance Historical Society Inc., through the Eagleson Funeral Home, 234 Palmerston St., Southampton, Ont. N0H 2L0. (1-800-858-9544).

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.

PASOWISTY, Victor Mark - Peacefully, at K-W Health Centre of Grand River Hospital, on Wednesday January 24, 2001, age 70 years, of New Hamburg.

Victor had a number of musical achievements. He was a Canadian Olde Tyme Fiddling Champion, popular guest artist on Canadian radio and TV shows had recorded seven best selling albums, was a full time music instructor for 32 years and belonged to the Barn Dance Association. Victor devoted his life to his family and music.

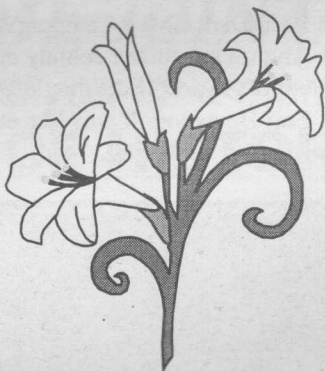
Loving husband of Lorraine (nee Miski); beloved father of Kevin (Victoria) of Bowmanville, Michael (Vicky) of Chicago, James (Rose) of Brantford, Debra Low of Oshawa, Michele Bell of Kitchener and Lisa James

(Derrick) of Courtice; loving grandfather of 10 grandchildren; survived by a brother, Gus (Vivian) of Sault Ste Marie and sister, Lucille Baraniuk of Lindsay and Bernice (Bob) Heenan of Stouffville.

Predeceased by his first wife, Frances in 1977; parents, William and Margaret Pasowisty and a brother, Ronald.

Mr. Pasowisty's family received friends at the Edward R. Good Funeral Home, 171 King St. S., Waterloo on Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. The funeral mass was held on Monday, January 29, 2001 at 1 p.m. from Holy Family RC Church, New Hamburg, with Rev. Labado officiating.

Memorial contributions to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy.



Fellow fiddler, **Doug McNaughton**, and **Vic Pasowisty**, caught live at a Barn Dance performance of a traditional fiddle favourite, "Maple Sugar".



A picture of **Vic Pasowisty**, backstage at a Barn Dance Show in Milton last summer. Always ready to go, always professional, always a friend, and always remembered. Your fellow musicians and friends of the Barn Dance will miss you a lot.

Continued from Page 1

Johnny Brent. Johnny consulted with "Doc" about taking the Barn Dance show to the outlying communities and broadcast the performance live to radio. The Barn Dance show and dance that emanated from so many different municipalities, soon became a regular feature on CKNX Radio for the next 26 years.

As its popularity grew, so did the calibre of entertainers to be embraced by professional talent from east to west coasts of Canada, plus artists from the Grand Ole Opry, in Nashville, Tenn., including Bill Munroe and the Bluegrass Boys, Wilma Lee & Stoney Cooper, Max Wiseman and others. Many former regular performers on the Barn Dance who have left their mark in the music field include: The Mercey Brothers, Maurice Bolyer, Ward Allen, Earl Heywood, Al Cherny, Gordie Tapp, Tommy Hunter, Gordon Lightfoot, Graham Townsend, The Ranch Boys, Slim Boucher & The Golden Prairie Cowboys, and many others who contributed to the success of "Canada's Largest Barn Dance" and made Johnny's job of emcee / manager such a labour of love.

Johnny was a part of CKNX Television, when it came about, and was on such shows as Focus, M'Lady, CKNX Sports, Circle 8 Ranch and Special Events. As well as a referee for hockey

games, he booked talent for celebrations in many communities, and was also emcee for many fall fairs, fiddle and step dancing programs in Western Ontario. He was chairman of Wingham's 75th Birthday Celebration, a representative for the C.N.I.B., a vice-president of the Young Progressive Conservatives, and a member of the Kinsmen Club and other organizations, not to mention an executive member of the Barn Dance Historical Foundation.

In 1968, Johnny left CKNX and accepted a position as sales representative with Canadian Breweries. By 1970 he worked in real estate until his retirement in 1995. Johnny said, "I've had a full and busy life, but probably would do it all over again."

Johnny Brent received an award from the Barn Dance Hall of Fame Historical Foundation, on Sunday, Sept. 18, 1994, as the first celebrity to be so honoured in recognition of his creation of the title, "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance." Johnny was respected and loved by many, and that feeling was mutual, especially when his wife, Roberta, family and friends turned out last year, at the annual Barn Dance May Campout Weekend in Blyth, Ont. to see Johnny receive the "Pioneer Award" from his long time friend, Earl Heywood. It was like one big happy family gathering, and Johnny

loved his family.

As long as the Barn Dance is alive, you'll always hear this intro: "From coast to coast. People like old time music most. It's time for another (CKNX) Saturday night Barn Dance.", and the memory of Johnny Brent will always carry on with every show.

(See obituary reprinted on Page 3)



★
★ The Barn Dance
★ Historical Society
★ is proud to showcase young
★ and accomplished artists in
★ the live stage presentation
★

THE TRADITION CONTINUES

Sunday, March 18, 2001
at 2:00 p.m.

Heritage Theatre, Town Hall,
Wingham, in partnership
with the
Wingham Heritage Theatre

Jim Swan, Master of Ceremonies

featuring

JOHN LANDRY, see awards
at www.jlandry.com

STACEY LEE, of Lace,
nominated for a Juno

MANDI CRADDOCK, vocalist
JAMIE GORDON, vocalist/guitarist

THE HEYWOOD TWINS, vocalists

BLACK MAGIC, step dancers
DANIEL & IAN, 10 & 13 year
old fiddlers.

Back-up and introductions
by the Barn Dance Band regulars,
such as Larry Mercey, Earl Heywood,
and Ernie King.

Contact:

Wingham Heritage Theatre
Box Office for tickets.
(519) 357-4082



Johnny times two. Johnny Brent (right) and Barn Dance entertainer, Johnny Heaman (left) get together after the "Pioneer Tribute Award" ceremony for Johnny Brent as last years May Campout in Blyth, Ontario.

D & D

Solid Oak & Pine Mennonite Furniture
Kitchen, Dining Room & Bedroom

Two locations to serve you
HEIDELBERG AND ST. CLEMENTS
Phone (519) 699-6221
Fax (519) 699-4962

Hours: Weekdays 9 to 6; Sat. 9 to 5; Sun. & Holidays 10 to 4

What's New With The Barn Dance

by Grant Heywood

The Barn Dance Hall of Fame / Entertainment Museum, is currently upstairs in the Wingham armouries, just behind the Heritage Theatre. With a spring and fall Barn Dance show booked at the Heritage Theatre, it makes a perfect opportunity for ticket holders to take in the museum attraction, just before the performance. The museum is already bulging at the seams with instruments, pictures, awards, posters, stage costumes and artists profiles. Plans are to hopefully expand the museum facilities at the present location or somewhere in the core area of Wingham. Recent funding from a 'Trillium Foundation' grant has made a big difference in showcasing the many talented performers association with the Barn Dance, CKNX, and all over Southwestern Ontario.

We are currently in the process of putting a new Barn Dance CD / cassette recording together. It will likely include some live performances from recent Barn Dance shows, vintage nostalgic performances from Barn Dance days gone by, and

hopefully some new studio songs from some of the new upcoming Barn Dance talent roster. Video footage of condensed show compilations is being considered for product sale sometime in the near future as well. We'll keep you posted when these items become available.

Our web-master, Dave Hedley, has been upgrading and improving our Barn Dance website, which is now www.barndance.ca. Dave loves feedback, so let him know what's on your mind via E-mail on the website. You'll find lots of Barn Dance information and links to artist sites as well.

This year, the Barn Dance will be including a lot of new, up and coming, younger talent along with a lot of the original Barn Dance performers you have come to know over many years. Keeping within the Barn Dance traditional country music style, we'll be introducing award winning vocalists, fresh new fiddle talent, and energetic step dancers along with our top notch Barn Dance musicians. I know we're all looking forward to entertaining you in the Barn Dance country tradition.

WINNERS OF THE ANNUAL DRAW

The annual Barn Dance quilt draw, was held at the studio of CKNX Radio 920 AM, live on the air, during noon hour, Wednesday, November 22, 2000. Along with Earl Heywood, Bonnie Holliday and her assistant of the radio staff drew the winning tickets.

The winner of the 'old fashioned' quilt, was Marie Schiestel of Caledonia, Ontario. This year there was also a draw on a solid silver belt buckle, engraved with the Barn Dance logo, valued at \$350.00. Winner of the belt buckle was Al Solomon of Kitchener, Ontario.

The board of directors for the Barn Dance Historical Society take this opportunity to congratulate the winners and thank those who supported this fund raising effort. Also a very special thank you to the group of ladies who do the quilting in Bluevale, Ontario. Another quilt is already being made for the current year 2001. It will be a queen sized double wedding ring quilt.

COME JOIN US!!

We need you as a member of

THE BARN DANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and ENTERTAINMENT MUSEUM

P. O. Box 68, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0 Phone: (519) 357-2160

Membership is still only \$20.00 per year.

As a member you will receive:

- A personalized MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE and CARD.
- The right to VOTE at our annual meetings.
- Advance notice of SPECIAL EVENTS.
- A one year subscription to our quarterly JOURNAL.
- The opportunity to PARTICIPATE by sitting on Committees.
- Special membership only rates at some of our events.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone No. _____



**Yes, I want to become a member of
THE BARN DANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND ENTERTAINMENT MUSEUM**

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

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

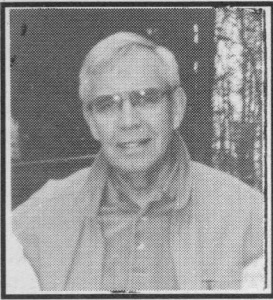
- \$ 20.00 - 1 year
 \$ 40.00 - 2 years
 \$100.00 - 5 years

DUAL MEMBERSHIP

- \$ 30.00 - 1 year
 \$ 60.00 - 2 years
 \$150.00 - 5 years

Just Fiddling Around . . .

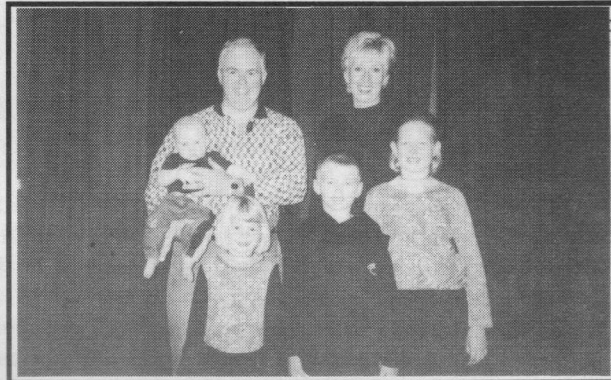
with Bill Oja



Taking a breather at the Canadian Fiddle Championships in Shelburne are two of the country's top fiddlers, **MATTHEW JOHNSON** of Stratford, and **SCOTT WOODS** of Elmira.



LYNN RUSSWURM attends the Ramblin' Lou Family Band concert in Tonawanda, N.Y. **LOU AND JOANNIE SCHRIVER** also won the WXRL Buffalo-Lancaster, radio station that features *Old Time Country* music.



Teeswater's step dancing family, the **BALLAGH'S** always pick up their fair share of trophies at contests throught Ontario. Seen here are **MATTHEW**, 8 months, **PAIGE**, 5, **MICHAEL**, 9, **DEVAN**, 9, **JANICE**, 37, and **GARY**, who's age has been long forgotten.



Fiddler **RANDY MORRISON**, and his wife **PENNY** greet hot U.S. bluegrass group, **THE LARRY STEPHENSON BAND** at the Central Canadian Bluegrass Awards held at the Deerhurst Lodge in Huntsville.

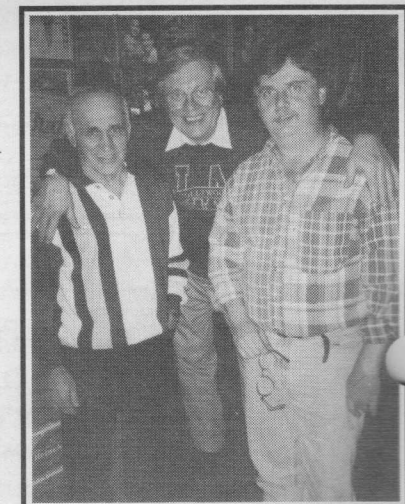


Up and coming fiddler **COLIN CUMMINGHAM** of St. Catharines uses Niagara's top guitarist as accompanist at the annual Welland Fair Fiddle Contest.



IVAN AND VIVIEN HICKS of Riverview, N.B. just finished a 3 month tour of Canada to sold out crowds. Story is that the Hicks and their full band just may be touring Ontario this spring. Don't miss them!!

In Nashville playing steel guitar at the famous Tootsie's Lounge **MARTY CHAMBERS** is surprised by visitors **EDDIE LEGERE**, singer from St. Catharines, and Grammy winner **WALTER OS-TANEK**. Mart is the son of long time country singer, **SUZIE CHAMBERS**.



COUNTRY CALENDAR



by Doreen Brown

(Toronto and surrounding area)

* **Gibson's Place**, 498 Horner Ave., Toronto, (416) 259-5708, features Norma Gale with Roy Penny, Brian Barron and Mark Mathews, every Sunday 6 to 10 p.m.

* **Maryhill Jamboree**, at Maryhill



DOREEN BROWN was in Beaumont, Texas recently, and received the "Best of Texas 2000 Horizon Award". She has been invited to appear on the "Nashville Night In Texas" in the fall. Her recording of 'Waltz Across Texas' has been No. 1 on 14 playlisted Texas radio stations, including regular rotation on the Wrangler Gen Program. Doreen's original title tune, 'Should I Cross The Line' is also getting international play.

Knights of Columbus, January to April inclusive, guest each month and other musicians are welcome. For information (519) 843-3173.

* **Ole Tyme Jamboree**, Shelburne Legion - Feb. 11, March 11, April 8 and May 13. Hot meals available. All singers, musicians, dancers and visitors welcome. Acoustic instruments only. Starts at 1:00 p.m.

* **Josie and The Boys**, (formerly Jenny and Josie) are featured at the Silverthorn Legion Br. 57, 351 Silverthorn Ave. (downstairs) March 4 for a benefit for the Heart & Lung Patients Support Services of Ontario, Country Music Jamboree, 3 to 11 p.m. Come out and have a good time and dance to the backup band, along with some of Canada's greatest country and western musicians. All welcome. For tickets or info, call 1-877-656-5479 or 1-877-457-4239, also (905) 576-6947. The same organization also features the same band at the Moose Lodge, Br. 392, 3753 Lakeshore Blvd. West at Brown's Line, Etobicoke on March 31 from 7 p.m. to 1

a.m. All proceeds to above organization. Thank you for your support.

* **Roger Young** with Gentle Country is featured at Warminster Legion, the 3rd Friday of the month from 8 to 12 p.m.

* **Come out to the Jubilee Hall** Lake St. Oshawa, the second Saturday at 8 p.m., by the Lions Club, featuring down east music.

* **Oprey Toronto, RCL**, Silverthorn and Rogers Rd., Toronto, recently celebrated it's 52nd show with a full house. All musicians and visitors welcome. Every Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m.

* **Appearances** by Doreen Brown - at the Erin Legion on Feb. 24; at the Heritage Theatre, Lindsay, TBA.

326 Josephine St., Wingham (519) 357-2811



Ernie King
Music (1993) Ltd.

"The Complete Music Source
for the Amateur or Professional"

70 Courthouse Sq., Goderich (519) 524-4689

An Invitation to the

4th Annual Jamboree Weekend Campout

May 25, 26, & 27, 2001

Blyth Arena Complex

Presented by the Barn Dance Historical Society & Entertainment Museum.

CAMPSITES AVAILABLE -

\$10.00 per night (non-members) - \$15.00 per night (members)

For information call 1-800-467-6410.

MAY 25, 2001

7 p.m. - Open Jamboree on Stage - Free

8:30 p.m. - Blue Grass Show - Free

MAY 26, 2001

Throughout the day there will be **Song-writer Workshops**, along with dobro, fiddle and acoustic guitar workshops.

8 a.m. - Musical Flea Market (anything pertaining to music) Rent a table: \$10 per table. Dobro, fiddle & acoustic guitar workshops.

9 a.m. - Free Coffee and Donuts

10 a.m. - Registration for afternoon Jamboree (anyone who plays or sings)

1 to 4 p.m. - Open Jamboree on Stage - Free

8 p.m. - Show and Dance. Tickets \$12.00 (member \$6.00)

MAY 27, 2001

10 a.m. - Free Gospel Sing

To reserve camping space or order tickets, send cheque payable to "Barn Dance Historical Society"

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



HOWDY FOLKS:

Looking back and reviewing some of our accomplishments of the year 2000 we have now honoured over 40 Barn Dance artists with a Pioneer Award that are now on display in our museum. Many more will receive this honour.

On Sunday, October 15, 2000, Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance appeared on the stage of the Heritage Theatre in Wingham. The highlight of this performance was the unveiling of a special large plaque, and framed photo honouring the founding member of a foundation which became the Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment Museum. These were the people who adapted a plan and spent two years in laying the ground work to create a Centre for the Arts, and Entertainment Museum, and resurrect "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance."

Here are the people who were honoured on this plaque. First the **Advisory Board** - Gerald W. "Bud" Cruickshank, son of "Doc" Cruickshank; Ian Moreland, mayor of the town of Wingham; Johnny Brent, former Barn Dance Manager and Emcee; Bob Carbert, former CKNX, member; Murray Gaunt, long time CKNX employee; H. "Hap" Swatridge, Barn Dance performer; Gary Pietrik, Wingham businessman and musician; Ken Ducharme, former CKNX employee.

Board of Directors - Earl Heywood, president and founder, 40

years on staff of CKNX; Ernie King, 1st vice-president, long time employee of CKNX; Martha Heywood, 2nd vice-president, barn dance regular; Gail Holmes, treasurer, daughter of Barn Dance technician; Elayne Rintoul, director, former CKNX employee; Stephen Pritchard, director of promotions; Sandra Jamieson, director, business association; John Jamieson, director, Optimist Club of Wingham.

The plaque also includes portraits of "Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance", the longest lived radio show of its kind in the history of Canadian Broadcasting established 1937, and The Barn Dance Hall of Fame and W.T. "Doc" Cruickshank Memorial Museum, established April 14, 1996.

Please note other board of directors, as well as those who became supporting members of the Barn Dance Historical Society will be honoured in the same manner.

Under the Blue Marble Plaque is this message:

THE BEGINNING

From the humble beginnings of "Doc" Cruickshank's original call letters, radio station JOKE the Barn Dance became a part of the fabric of Canadian Culture and an integral part of Saturday night for many listeners throughout Southwestern Ontario.

The formation of the Barn Dance Historical Society which began as the Barn Dance Historical Foundation, provides a new spawning ground for the future generation of artists wishing to develop a career in the field of music and entertainment.

The creation of the Barn Dance Hall of Fame is our way of saluting the men and women who are, forever etched in our memories. They are of course the Pioneers worthy of recognition. The Hall of Fame will be an everlasting place of honour

showcasing the achievements of Canadian Talent.

Last, but not least, it is well worth a trip to visit the Barn Dance Hall of Fame, and the W.T. "Doc" Cruickshank Memorial Museum and see the new oak showcases on display located in the Armouries behind the Wingham Town Hall.

Musical Appointments:

Individuals, groups and motor coach tours are all welcome. To make an appointment to visit our museum, contact Earl Heywood, P. O. Box 443, Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0, or phone the museum number (519) 357-2160. Please note the Museum hours are as follows:

During the months of July and August, the museum will be open daily Monday to Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Balance of the year is by appointment only.

Remember,
THE SHOW MUST GOES ON...
So let me hear from you soon.

Earl Heywood
Founder, Hon. President,
Director, Advisor

BARN DANCE SOUVENIRS

Great Christmas Gift Ideas!!

Souvenir Mugs -	\$ 5.00 each
CD - Vol. 1	\$19.00 each
CD - Vol. 2	\$19.00 each
Cassette - Vol. 1	\$10.00 each
Cassette - Vol. 2	\$10.00 each
CD - Vol. 1 & 2	\$30.00 set
Souvenir 1997 Calendar	\$ 5.00 each
Barn Dance Logo T-Shirts (black or white 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.