

The Barn Dance Opera Journal

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Fall Edition

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Whatever Happened to Our Heroes

by Grant Heywood

When Larry Mercey sings this Gary Fjellgard song of the same title, I think of how many of our traditional country music artists have passed away. You'll notice a few recent ones in this issue of the Journal.

With the recent passing of Johnny Cash and the loss of so many other legendary country performers as well, I just had to reflect my thoughts. I believe it requires front page attention.

In my opinion, Johnny Cash was the equivalent to country music, as Elvis was to rock and roll. Both are inducted in the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Both had worked with the same record producer, Sam Phillips of Sun Records in Memphis Tenn. It just gave me an ominous chill though, when I heard of June Carter Cash's death, then Sam Phillips, and now Johnny Cash. All died within months of each other this year. Johnny's good friend and musical legend in his own right, Waylon Jennings also passed away only last year, and earlier this year we learned of Johnny Paycheck leaving this world.

I only own a couple of Johnny Cash records (including his latest "The Man Comes Around"), but I have to say he had an impact on me when I first heard him from the "get go". I would say he was the most direct, simple, blue collar country singer and poet I have ever heard. Just type in 'Johnny Cash' on the internet, and you'll find out how his immense popularity stretched worldwide.

I had the chance to meet Johnny Cash at a Lulu's Roadhouse performance in Kitchener years ago. I still regret that I was unable to make it out that night. A few years earlier, I was able to meet Roy Orbison when our band opened for him on an Ontario tour. He died from heart

failure a number of years later. Orbison was another artist whose career started with Sun Records producer Sam Phillips, and like Johnny Cash, Roy had a distinctive, identifiable voice that was his alone. Nowadays it's hard to tell one country singer from another. This quote from Johnny Cash pretty much said it all. He said, "Country music used to represent horses, railroads, land, judgment day, family, hard times, whiskey, courtship, marriage, adultery, separatism, war, prison, rambling, damnation, home, salvation, death, pride, humour, piety, rebellion, patriotism, larceny, determination, tragedy, rowdiness, heartbreak, love, mother and God." Johnny's long-time friend Kris Kristofferson once said about Johnny, "He doesn't sound like anybody else. He sounds like the real thing, which is what he is."

Who will carry on the tradition? Well ... George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Little Jimmy Dickens, Merle Haggard, Ray Price and even Kitty Wells (now well into her 80's) are still performing and making good country music. Some say country music has taken a hard left turn over the years, but I do believe some of today's current country artists like Alan Jackson, Vince Gill, Connie Smith, and George

Strait, to name a few, will keep the "real" country music spirit and tradition alive. Our Barn Dance performances as well, are a testament to preserving that tradition.

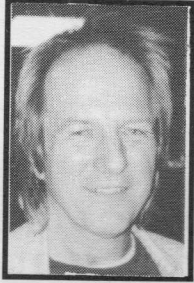
Our musical legends and heroes may fade over time, but their legacy and most notably, their music, will be timeless. And not unlike the spirit of bluegrass music, traditional country music is a gift to be passed on to the next generation. When Johnny Cash worked as a young boy in the cotton fields, his mother gave him similar advice. She said, "God has his hands on you, don't forget the gift."



Taken from johnnycash.com website.

The Editor Speaks

by Grant Heywood



I hope most of you readers don't think this issue of the Barn Dance Journal is a "dead issue", (excuse the pun) but I believe all of these legendary country stars deserve to be recognized and respected. We have lost so many in such a short span of time. They have 'paved the way' so that everyone could enjoy the pleasure of 'real country music' in performance and on radio.

Now, on an 'up note'. We've had a busy

Barn Dance season and still have a few more shows this fall. Personally, I've been quite busy arranging and producing a new Heywood Family CD, slated for a 2004 spring release. I've also been writing some new songs lately, something I haven't done in quite a while. It's great therapy for the mind and soul.

Also, at a recent summer Barn Dance show for the Ontario Ploughman's Association, which took place at Heritage Park in Milton, I met with several folks from Sweden, Germany, England, New Zealand and Australia. They loved our Barn Dance show and recognized many of the songs we played. Which goes to show that music is truly a universal language.

Hope to see you at the next Barn Dance. Grant Heywood,
5584 Deborah Glaister Line, R. R. #2,
Wellesley, Ont. N0B 2T0
Phone: (519) 656-2552
E-mail: heywoods@golden.net



Barn Dance Museum

by David Wall,

Museum Committee Chairman

A big thank you goes out to all who helped with the preparation and Grand Opening of our Barn Dance Museum on July 19. Our local MLA Helen Johns, Reeve Doug Layton, Trilium representative Bill McGrath and Chamber of Commerce President Pauline Atton brought greetings before the ribbon cutting. There were over 190 people who signed the guest book on July 19. The live music was much appreciated by the audience. The only complaint was that it should have lasted longer. Hopefully fans will attend our shows to hear more. Those who toured our museum seemed very favourably impressed. The local press did an excellent job of covering the event.

New items donated to our museum include a guitar and stage costume used by the famed Howard Sisters. Lynn Russwurm has donated a collection of 195 records released by artists who performed on the Barn Dance through the years. Ron Coulthard has offered a 1962 Fender 1000 Steel Guitar on a long term loan to our museum. We are in the process of ordering display cabinets to house the valuable instruments and cataloguing these recent items.

The number of visitors to both the Barn Dance and North Huron Museums for this season is well over eleven hundred, making this the best season ever.

Thanks to the North Huron Museum, our museum can be toured Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (except holidays) from September to June. Group tour appointments can be arranged at other times by calling (519) 357-2160.

The Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment Museum

P.O. Box 68

Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0

Phone (519) 357-2160

(or leave a message)

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<http://www.barndance.ca>

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and Lynn Russwurm.

Grant Heywood, Martha Heywood, Bruce Hodgson and Earl Heywood seen here after Bruce's debut performance at the most recent Blyth Campout Jamboree. Bruce is from Delhi, Ont. and is a great traditional country singer in the truest sense and style, not unlike the late, great Hank Snow.

THE 2003 BARN DANCE SCHEDULE

* **OCTOBER 12 - Warton Show.** Propeller Club, Warton. Show only. Phone (519) 357-2160.

* **OCTOBER 19 - The Tradition Continues.** Show only. Held at the Town Hall Heritage Theatre, Main Street, Wingham. Sponsored jointly by the Heritage Theatre and Barn Dance Historical Society. Call (519) 357-4082 for more details.

IN MEMORIAM

DORIS WEBSTER, of the Howard sisters singing group who appeared on the original CKNX Barn Dance, passed away suddenly in Sarnia, at age 82, only weeks after receiving the Barn Dance Pioneer Award recently at the Grand Bend Country Playhouse Theatre. She is survived by husband Don, and sister Laura Jean. Predeceased by two other sisters (also married to Websters) Marie and Isabel, and another sister Margaret.



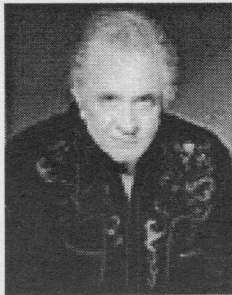
JUNE CARTER CASH

(June 23, 1929 - May 15, 2003)

Valerie June Carter was part of the famous Carter Family. June met Johnny Cash at the Grand Ole Opry, and the Carters began touring with Cash in 1961. The couple married in 1968; it was her third marriage. June had one child from each marriage: singer Carlene Carter by Carl Smith, Rosey Nix by Rip Nix and John Carter Cash by Johnny. June and Johnny recorded together scoring more than half a dozen country hits and winning two Grammy's for the duets of Jackson and If I Were a Carpenter. June also won a Grammy for her "Press On" album in 1999 and recently completed an album called Wildwood Flower.

June likely could have achieved greater success in any of several entertainment fields: singing, writing, acting. Instead, she told the press in 1999, "I decided I'd allow him to be Moses and I'd be Moses' brother Aaron, picking his arms up and padding along behind him." "I stayed in submission to my husband, and he allowed me to do anything I wanted to. I felt like I was lucky to have that kind of romance.

WE REMEMBER - THE MAN IN BLACK



JOHNNY CASH (February 26, 1932 - September 12, 2003) - Cash is the father of four daughters - Rosanne, Tara, Cindy and Kathleen, and a son John Carter Cash, all of whom have performed with him at one time or another. Cash started his career and settled in Memphis, Tenn. He was signed to Sun Records in 1954, by the same man that discovered Elvis, Sam Phillips. In 1957, Cash was regarded as a top recording artist in both the pop and the country and western field. In the mid-sixties, his popularity diminished for a time because of drug and alcohol abuse problems. In the late sixties, however, he discovered the Bible and in 1968 he married June Carter, who helped him overcome his drug addiction. In his autobiography, Cash said, "What June did for me was post signs along the way, lift me when I was weak, encourage me when I was discouraged, and love me when I was alone and felt unlovable. She is the greatest woman I have ever known. Nobody else, except my mother comes close."

His career then soared again, as he was exposed to a wider audience with his live appearances in New York and London, his own television show, The Johnny Cash Show, and his Johnny Cash at Folsom Prison album. Cash went on to record more than 1,500 songs. His hits include "A Boy Named Sue", "Ring of Fire", "Don't Take Your Guns to Town", "Folsom Prison Blues", "I Walk the Line" and "Sunday Morning Coming Down". His autobiography "Man In Black" appeared in 1975, and has sold around 1.5 million copies. Cash is an 11 time Grammy winner and 6 time winner of Country Music Association awards. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame, Songwriters Hall of Fame, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He had success as a solo artist, as part of a duet (with June), as leader of a trio, and as part of the award winning Highway-

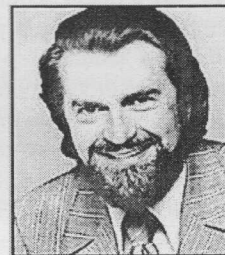
men quartet. His most recent Grammy came this year, when he received the award for best male country vocal performance for "Give My Love To Rose". Cash was nominated for awards in seven categories for last month's MTV Video Music Awards, but he was unable to attend the ceremony because he was hospitalized with an unspecified stomach ailment. He received the award for best cinematography for the video of his cover of "Hurt", a Nine Inch Nails song.

In 1996, President Clinton presented Cash with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Kennedy Centre. Clinton said at the time, "From the heartland of America, Johnny Cash sang for the people who are the heart of America." Around 1996 - 1997, Cash disclosed that he suffered from autonomic neuropathy, a disease of the nervous system, which made him more susceptible to pneumonia. As well as being a diabetic, Cash was in and out of the hospital many times, until his recent death at age 71.

men quartet.

men quartet.

men quartet.



SAM PHILLIPS (January 5, 1923 - July 30, 2003) - Remembered as the premier record producer of southern gospel, soul, blues and rockabilly. Owner of Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee, and legendary producer of Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, B. B. King, Howlin' Wolf and numerous others.

See page 5 for more In Memoriam.

Selinger's

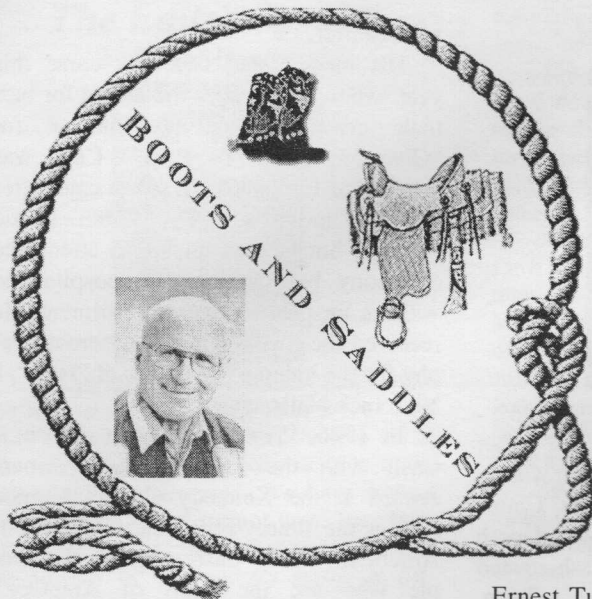
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by Lynn Russwurm

A few years back I did an article in the Journal on Fred Roden and in it I raised the question of whatever happened to Fred. Since that time I've had some of my questions answered. If you would remember, Fred was a highly influential figure on the Toronto music scene as a promoter, disc jockey and record store operator. He was a talent scout for songwriters (he introduced me to my first publisher). Publishers would stop at Fred's store on Queen Street East, on a regular basis to see if he had a line on any new songs. In those days, good songwriters were few and far between, as were good publishers. Today artists are encouraged to write their own songs, so the publishers don't have to go out and find songs for their artists, and most artists do write their own songs or at least try to, sometimes to their own detriment.

It is reputed that Fred rode the rails with Wilf Carter in the 30's, however that's not substantiated. In any event he took Wilf on an annual cross Canada tour in the early fifties when no one else would take a chance on Wilf. Now Fred was his own man and wouldn't take any nonsense from people if he felt he wasn't being treated right. I was at the Waterloo Arena, I believe in 1952 at one of these tours. The local musicians union had a bylaw that a local stand-in band had to be hired for the show, and somebody neglected to tell Fred about it, and there they were refusing to let the show go on until Fred paid this stand-in band. The show started about an hour late, when Fred was finally persuaded to pay these

musicians. Fred came up to the microphone and explained the situation to the audience and said that when these musicians play their set "I hope you boo the hell out of them". Fred was a displaced Englishman and when he got mad the old English accent came out pretty strong and it sounded pretty funny to hear this Cockney Cowboy at that time.

In addition to the Wilf Carter tours Fred brought in the top Nashville stars of the day such as Hank Williams, Carl Smith, Hank Snow and

Ernest Tubb to the Mutual Street Arena. He brought in a package show to the CNE coliseum, starring Webb Pierce along with T. Texas Tyler, Ferlin Husky and Jean Shepard. In his store he carried records that you couldn't find anywhere else, he went to the US and bought out the stock of some of the smaller record companies and record stores that were going out of business. He would do a booming business at the store through the week then blow it all on the weekend putting on jamborees so the young local aspiring artists would have a place to perform. He had a big back room at the store where there was a never ending jamboree going on as all these performers would hang out there. On any given day you could find people like George Pasher, Al Bruno and The French Trio, Clint Curtiss, King Ganam, The Colorado Kids or even an unknown Stompin' Tom Connors. I was there a few times myself. Fred was married onstage at the Mutual

Street Arena with Ernest Tubb as his best man. Though the marriage only lasted a short number of years, it produced a daughter Karen and a grandson. When Karen was killed by a dump truck, less than a year after the boy was born and barely out of her teens, Fred lost much of his enthusiasm for life.

Fred had moved his store to Bathurst

Street, just a bit north of the 401, back in the fifties and then added a western wear store to the record store. Eventually he closed the record store because his eyesight was failing and he couldn't read labels any more. In the 70's he sold out the western wear store and that is when he just seemed to disappear.

Recently I made contact with a man who had worked with Fred off and on throughout the years, and I was able to piece some of the things together. This man (who wishes to remain anonymous) apparently knew where Fred had gone. He ended up in Sudbury, where eventually he went into a nursing home. Fred's friend took a tape recorder to the nursing home and did what was to become the last taped interview with Fred Roden. I've heard the tapes but some of the background noises in the home were very disruptive, and made the interview very disjointed. Fred's memory had deteriorated and he had difficulty remembering names but he talked and reminisced about the old days, such as the time he had Webb Pierce in Toronto for some shows, and had to have somebody sleep in Webb's car to guard it overnight while it was parked in the alley behind Fred's store. This is when Webb had the customized car with over a thousand silver dollars sewn into the upholstery, with six shooters and steer horns mounted on the front grill. Later the car was bought by Hank Williams, Jr. Or the time he beat Gene Autry and Tex Ritter in a cigarette rolling contest in which he won \$10.00, and getting money from Gene was no mean feat in itself.

Fred was a transplanted Englishman

Continued on Page 5



CNE COLISEUM - January 1, 1954 - left to right - Johnny Sisika, Julie ??, Fred Roden, T. Texas Tyler, Laura Russwurm and Lynn Russwurm.

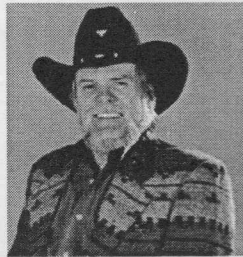
Continued from Page 4

and some how he ended up in the Canadian Army in World War 2 as a sergeant, stationed at Camp Borden, Ontario. After the war when he decided to open a record shop, a toss of a coin decided between Vancouver and Toronto, and Toronto won. He didn't care for how entertainers dressed in later days and at one point he said, "I didn't get rich, but I had a lot of fun and made many people happy."

It still rankles me that the CCMA hasn't given Fred the accolades he deserves. There are too many people in the organization that don't know about the stature of this man who gave so much and received so little.

Fred Roden passed away quietly with no fanfare in the Sudbury nursing home sometime in 1992.

IN MEMORIAM



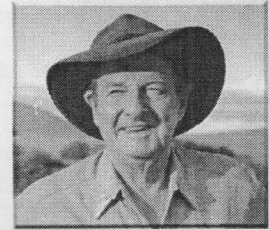
JOHNNY PAYCHECK - (born: Donald Eugene Lytle) - May 31, 1938 to February 18, 2003.

In his early years, Paycheck backed such country legends as Porter Wagoner, Faron Young, Ray Price (for whom he penned the hit "Touch My Heart"), and, most notable, George Jones. In fact, a debate still rages today that Jones copped the young Paycheck's vocal styling on his way to forming his own peerless style. Johnny signed on as the full time bassist and harmony vocalist with George Jones in 1960.

In 1964 Donald Lytle became Johnny Paycheck, a stylized honky-tonker with a rebellious attitude and country-billy sound. Steel guitarist, Lloyd Green was an essential piece of the early Paycheck sound. Johnny was no slouch either, as he could play practically everything from guitar and fiddle, to steel guitar and bass.

Known for his big hit in the 80's, "Take This Job and Shove It" and movie of the same name, he also had hits with "A-11", "Slide Off of Your Satin Sheets", and "Old Violin" to name a few. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1996. A bit of a rebel-rouser, Paycheck did time in prison on an attempted murder charge that some say he was set up for. Johnny Paycheck died in a nursing home from emphysema complications.

See page 3 for more In Memoriam.



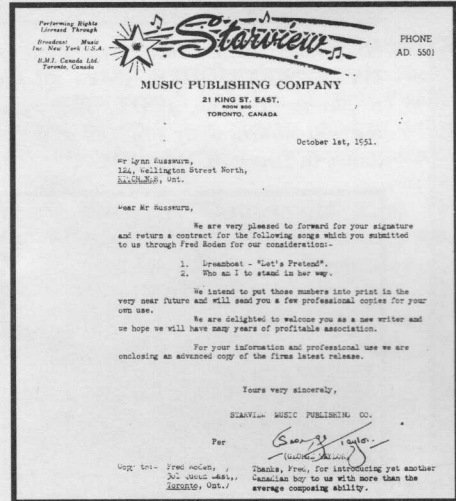
Australian Cowboy Singer Slim Dusty Dies

SLIM DUSTY - (David Gordon Kirkpatrick) - 1927 to 2003.

Australian country music singer, Slim Dusty, whose cowboy songs captured the laid back culture of the Outback died at his home after a long battle with cancer. At age 10, he wrote his first song, "The Way the Cowboy Dies". The singer / Songwriter, who performed with just a guitar and his trademark cowboy hat, signed his first recording contract in 1946. In 1958 his career really took off with the hit "A Pub With No Beer", about a stockman (cowboy) who travels hundreds of miles to an Outback bar only to find it has run out of beer.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard said, "Dusty has created a distinctive Australian brand of country music. We'll always remember that special style, epitomized really by "A Pub With No Beer". Dusty went on to be one of the most prolific and biggest selling recording artists in Australia, with 105 albums and a total of 5 million in sales. He performed dozens of concerts across the nation each year, often playing with his family. In 2000 Dusty performed for his largest audience, playing the Australian ballad "Waltzing Matilda" at the closing ceremony of the Sydney Olympics.

Dusty was recording his 106th album when he died. He is survived by wife Joy McKean, daughter Anne Kirkpatrick and son David Kirkpatrick.



Copy of the letter received by Lynn, dated Oct. 1, 1915, from Starview Music.

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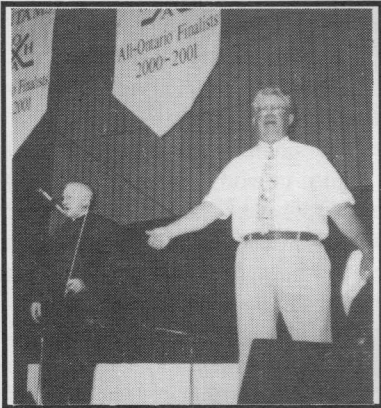
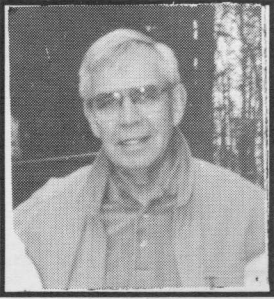
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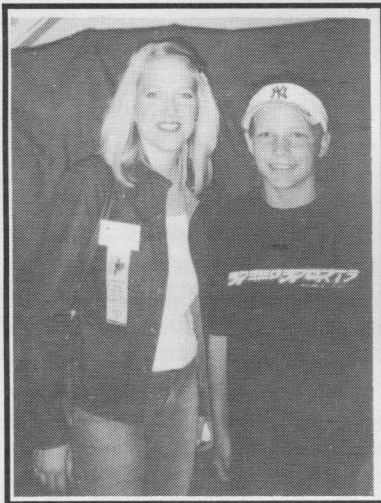
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Just Fiddling Around . . .

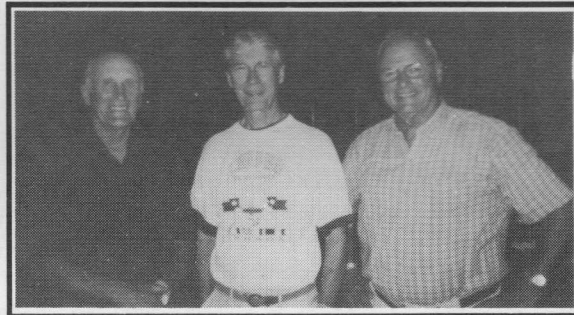
with Bill Oja



Douro Fiddle and Stepdance Contest - Fiddler **FATHER HEFERNAN** and **ART JAMIESON** lead the sing-along.



Canadian Grand Masters, **JOCELYN BOURGE**, of New Brunswick and judge this year says hello to 11 year old fiddling sensation, **LYNDON COULOS**, of Round Lake Centre, Ontario.



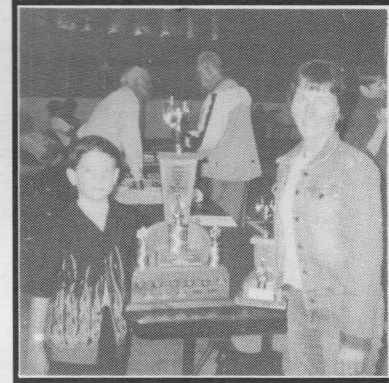
Sturgeon Falls Fiddle and Stepdance Contest - out of province guests included senior fiddlers **BRUCE ARMITAGE** of Quebec, **KEITH WILSON** of British Columbia and **AL MacVICAR**, of Nova Scotia. Al is also this year's President of the Maritime Fiddlers Association.



Sturgeon Falls Contest - Making it all happen again this year are club directors **CHARLIE LANG** and **BOB RONLAND** with house fiddler **DANIEL SCHRYER** and stepdance judge **CINDY DAGENAIS**.



Tavistock Fiddle and Stepdance Contest - **BOB PLANTE** of Blind River holds his first place Seniors Fiddle Trophy. **MARY ANN HUITEMA** is the contest director with event piano accompanist **CAROLYN WOODS** of Fergus.



Huron Fiddle and Stepdance - **KYLE WEYMOUTH** shows off his trophy to his mom, **JUDY**. Judy runs the 400 student Judy's School of Stepdance in Stratford.



Canadian Grand Masters - Luthier / Fiddle maker **LOU GURRAH** displays his handiwork to **JOHN** ____, fiddler from Saskatchewan and fiddle judge **CHUCK JOYCE** of London.

COUNTRY CALENDAR



by Doreen Brown

(Toronto and surrounding area)

* **Old Tyme Jamborees** at the Shelburne Legion Branch 220. Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14. All musicians, singers, dancers welcome. Hot meal available. Acoustic instruments only.

* **Bolton & District Old Time Fiddle Assoc.**, Albion Bolton Community Centre, Highway 50, Bolton. 2nd Wednesday of each month, 6:30 to 11:00 p.m.

* **Nashville and Renfro Valley** - Nov. 7, 8, 9 & 10 Country Music Trip via coach. Service of a tour escort. For information call Rod Salisbury (519) 927-9138 or Lesley Kinch (905) 458-7836.

* **Port Hope Jamboree** - Oct. 10, 11, 12 & 13. Contact Jack Reid (905) 372-2139.

* **Crossroad Country Music Bar** - 1544 Danforth Ave., Toronto (416) 406-4017, has country music each weekend.

* **6th Annual Bluegrass Music Cruise** - Voyager of the Seas, Feb. 22 to 29, 2004. Artists line-up: Larry Stephenson Band, Rhonda Vincent and The Rage Nothin' Fancy, The Chapmans, Seldom Scene, Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek, Mark Newton.

BOOKING THE BARN DANCE

If you are interested in more information about booking the Barn Dance Musical Production, please write to:

Barn Dance Bookings,
P. O. Box 68,
Wingham, Ont. N0G 2W0;
or call

Wayne Otterbein,
(home) (519) 235-4783,
or (bus.) (519) 235-0559

Itinerary - Miami - at sea - Belize, Cost Maya, Cozumel, Grand Cayman, at sea, Miami. For reservations call 1-888-711-7447 or (615) 356-0702.

* **Oprey Orillia** with Chuck Moore, Home of Canada's Country Music. Shows are Oct. 18 - Tribute to Hank Williams Sr; Nov. 22 and Dec. 13. For information call (705) 325-2233.

* **Country Troubadours** - play dates: Oct. 5 Bognor Jamboree, pot luck, 2 to 7; Oct. 15 Meaford Jamboree 2 to 7; Oct. 19 Underwood Jamboree, great supper, 2 to 7; Oct. 25 Club 86 dance on Hwy. 86; Nov. 8 - 1226 Woodford Jamboree, pot luck, 2 to 7; Nov. 9 Bognor Jamboree, 2 to 7, pot luck; Nov. 15 Durham Legion dance 9 to 1; Nov. 16 Meaford Legion Jamboree, 2 to 7; Nov. 30 Woodford Jamboree, pot luck, 2 to 7; Dec. 6 Club 86 Dance, on Hwy. 86; Dec. 7 Bognor Jamboree; Dec. 20 Durham Legion Dance, 9 to 1; Dec. 21 Meaford Jamboree at the Legion, 2 to 7; Dec. 31 New Year's Eve at the Meeting Place in Warton. Jan. 1 New Year's Day at Bognor, lots of music and good food.

* **Appearances by Doreen Brown** - Oct. 18, Oprey Orillia, Tribute to Hank Williams Sr at the Sundial Restaurant and Galaxy Lounge, Travelodge Hotel, 600 Sundial Drive, Orillia. Mapleleaf Country Jubilee by Chef Adams at the RCL Oshawa, Oct. date TBA. There will no longer be any shows at the Newmarket Legion (Maple Leaf Jamboree). Bond Head Old Tyme Fiddle Club, Oct. 28 & Nov. 24. Holland Landing Jamboree, Oct. 16, Nov. 21; Dec. 1 & 8. Sandy's Place, Weston; Nov. 23 Orillia Legion Jamboree with Tex Howard. Dec. 13 Oprey Orillia Christmas Show.

* **Eastern Passage** - 30 Melanie Drive, Unit 4, Brampton, (Torbram and Steeles) (905) 789-0857, has country music on the weekends.

* **Ozzie's Country Music Store** - on the Danforth has closed its doors and many country music artists / fans will miss the Saturday afternoon jams and availability of wonderful country music. All the best to you Ozzie with thanks for wonderful years at your store.

* **Reader's Interest** - Dale's Country Roadhouse, 9281 Hwy. 26, Collingwood, has also closed.

* **Moose Lodge** - Hwy. 27 & Brown's Line has country music every Sunday afternoon from 4 to 8 with Norma Gale and friends and has guests. A great afternoon of fun.

* **For Country Music Line-up** - of country music, contact Joe Tucker and Second Wind, country music band at (905) 855-3351.

* **The Dynes Country Tavern** - live country entertainment every weekend. 337 Beach Blvd., Hamilton. (905) 549-2588.

Lots of Good Wishes for a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year. Continuing the Tradition of "Let's Keep It Country".

NEWS, NOTES 'N EVENTS

40 YEARS AGO THIS FALL

In October 1963, the longest running live country music show on Canadian private radio, the CKNX Barn Dance", was broadcast over the Wingham, Ontario station for the last time. It was a Hallowe'en dance broadcast from the community hall in Formosa, Ontario. At one time or another, such Canadian country stars as fiddler Ward Allen, Tommy Hunter, Earl and Martha Heywood and the Mercey Brothers were part of the show.

MICHAEL T. WALL HONOURED

Congratulations to Michael T. Wall, who was inducted Aug. 31 into "America's Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame", located in Anita, Iowa, USA. Why Anita, Iowa? Bob Everhart, president of the National Traditional Country Music Association says, "Because, it is centrally located, and we didn't want the 'country' music we support, promote and preserve, to be contaminated by the motivations that make Nashville what it is."

Michael donated a guitar, cowboy boots and a belt buckle in the shape of the official flag of Newfoundland and Labrador. Way to go, Michael!!

DOREEN BROWN IN BRANSON

This past summer, columnist and country singer, Doreen Brown had the opportunity to perform live and on radio in Branson, Missouri. While promoting her latest CD. Doreen met up with Moe Bandy and steel guitarist, Marty Chambers. Originally from Paris, Ontario, Marty has been touring with Vern Gosdin, and performing in and around Nashville. He has a new CD release as well. Marty's mom was presented with a Barn Dance Pioneer award just a few years ago.

BARN DANCE SOUVENIRS

Souvenir Mugs -	\$ 5.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 1	\$20.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 2	\$20.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 3	\$20.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 1, 2 & 3	\$50.00 set
Cassette - Vol. 1	\$10.00 ea.
Cassette - Vol. 2	\$10.00 ea.
Cassette - Vol. 3	\$10.00 ea.
Souvenir 1997 Calendar	\$ 5.00 ea.
Barn Dance Logo T-Shirts (black or white only)	
Sizes M, L, XL	\$10.00 ea.
Souvenir Hats	\$10.00 ea.
NEW Al Cherny CD - "Live / The Lost Recordings"	\$20.00 ea.

All purchases include GST.

Please include \$3.00 per item for mailing or pick up at Ernie King Music.



HOWDY FOLKS:

How time slips away. It doesn't seem all that long ago when the CKNX Barn Dance was in it's prime. The mid 40's through to the early 60's were the "heyday" of that era. As a small town radio station, CKNX radio in Wingham attracted some of Canada's best country musicians at that time, and went on to become a major source of entertainment for many years. Nowadays, local talent has a tough enough time getting any kind of radio or TV airplay, let alone concert exposure.

Admittedly, times have changed and so have musical tastes, but I do believe there is room for traditional

country music to be heard. That's really the main reason for reviving Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance as well as providing some nostalgic memories by incorporating Barn Dance original performers. Today, though, many of the Barn Dance entertainers have either retired, or passed on. Oh, there's still a few of us "originals" around to continue the tradition, and we make a point to include one or two at every Barn Dance performance. Even though we have lost many of our original performers, it is (as the front cover story reads) the spirit of the music that will prevail. Personally, I find it heartwarming to see younger talented local artists perform on the Barn Dance stage.

Actually, it was Doc Cruickshank who started the CKNX Barn Dance and we were the young upstarts getting a chance to perform live and on radio. What a thrill!! It was a personal passion of Doc's to have musicians perform on live radio and TV shows, including Circle 8 Ranch and Western Roundup, not to mention 'Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance'. But those "glory days" eventually faded when Doc

sold CKNX radio and television to Blackburn of London. Although Doc was in failing health he asked me to hopefully carry on with the Barn Dance.

With the idea still in my head, it would be many years later before the concept of reviving the Barn Dance, and possibly a museum to honour those pioneer performers, would take shape. Now it's been 10 years since the Barn Dance Historical Society was founded. Through an elected board of directors and the hard work of several volunteers, the Barn Dance shows continue, the Barn Dance Museum has a new expanded location, and our audience keeps growing. We're still providing good traditional country family entertainment of old and new, for young and old for generations to come. I'm sure Doc would be proud of what we have accomplished.

Ever more reason why - - -

THE SHOW MUST GO ON. . .

Earl Heywood, Founder,
Honorary President,
Advisor,
Museum Curator

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