



Price: \$2.00 (tax incl.)

# The Barn Dance Opera Journal



Official Publication of:  
The Barn Dance Historical Society Inc.



A Not For Profit Organization

Barn Dance Website: [www.thebardance.ca](http://www.thebardance.ca)

**Vol. 98 2018**

**Fall Edition**

**1**

## THE BARN DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT MUSEUM HISTORY HAS VALUE

By Grant Heywood



*Host, John Marshall of CKNX Radio am920 had a special on air guest drop by recently. 94 year old, Martha Heywood, Barn Dance Matriarch and wife of entertainer, & founder of The Barn Dance Historical Society, Earl Heywood, was delighted to be a part of John Marshall's radio show. Martha was escorted by her granddaughter, Kathy Cook, to visit CKNX radio where Earl worked for many years. John chatted with Martha and played some songs from Earl and the Heywood Family.*

I remember the day that my father, Earl Heywood, came up with a vision to restore Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance, by having quilt draws at fairs, and putting on concerts to help finance the loftier goal of establishing a home for a Barn Dance Museum. This took courage, character, tenacity and above all a strong desire to recognize the past musical history of the CKNX Barn Dance in Wingham, while continuing to promote younger talent on the Barn Dance stage. I know there were some that thought this was just a fantasy, but both my mom and dad spent years cultivating believers and donors into ultimately making this a reality.

CKNX 920 AM Radio was founded by 'Doc' Cruickshank in 1926 in Wingham, Ont., and eventually Wingham became known as the Radio and Television Town of Canada. It basically put Wingham on the map. 'Doc' started broadcasting the Saturday night CKNX Barn Dance over radio in 1937. He first started using local talent, but the Barn Dance soon became a magnet for professional musicians and entertainers and soon went on the road. According to the Canadian Encyclopedia of Music (U of T), the CKNX

Barn Dance was recognized as the longest lived radio show of its kind in the history of Canadian Broadcasting. Pretty impressive for a small town in Ontario.

Many famous musicians and award winning entertainers appeared on the Barn Dance stage. Tommy Hunter, Gordon Lightfoot, Gordie Tapp, Al Cherny, Earl Heywood, Ernie King, The Mercey Bros., Marie Bottrell, Walter Ostanek, Paul Weber, Terry Sumsion, Joe Firth, Maurice Bolyer, Jimmy Phair, Eleanor & Graham Townsend, and so many more. Even well-known American Nashville entertainers were guests on the popular CKNX Barn Dance stage including, the father of bluegrass, Bill Monroe, Lulu Belle & Scotty, Doc & Chickie Williams, Mac Wiseman, Wilma Lee & Stony Cooper, George Hamilton IV, and others. A young Shania Twain was even on the CKNX television show 'Good Time Country'. Canada's Largest Travelling Barn Dance has a long and illustrious pedigree that is unmatched only by the U.S.A.

While my mom & dad worked feverishly to garner interest in the Barn Dance and eventually a museum, a production paying tribute to the famous CKNX Barn Dance was

being presented at the Blyth Festival Theatre in 1996. It was so successful that it had an encore performance in 1997. A documentary in 1996, of about the Barn Dance was presented on CBC's 'Country Canada'. It was around this time that the *not for profit*, Barn Dance Historical Society was

*Continued on Page 3*

## The Editor Speaks

by Grant Heywood



It seems likely every season brings a surprise, and this summer was no exception. The first part of summer was relatively pleasant but soon became very hot and dry, only to be followed by heat, humidity, and rain....and lots of it. Mother Nature certainly hasn't been herself and I'm sure climate change is a major factor.

I was fortunate enough to have played some outdoor concerts this year when the weather was being very cooperative. Getting to perform with Toronto band Whiskey Jack at the beginning of August in Killbear Prov. Park as well as Mikisew and Restoule was a nice getaway from the norm. Playing some outdoor jams also made for a good time, especially when it's with musical friends you don't get to see that often.

With the unbearable heat this summer I curtailed my efforts of any home renovations and stuck to outdoor yard work, and mainly in the morning before the sun got too hot. We have a fairly large pond on our property about 13 ft. deep at one end rising to about 4 ft. at the other end. With leaves and sludge at the bottom of the pond decomposing, it led to continuous algae blooms that cov-

ered much of the pond. The aerator fountain was having a hard time keeping up although the turtles and frogs loved having cover to hide or sit on.

There is a slow running spring as well as water run off that feeds our pond. It was interesting when we first had the pond dug. As it filled up, it wasn't long before frogs, water bugs, crawfish, salamanders and muskrats showed up. Over time I defeated the muskrat issue by lining the embankment with field rocks from an adjacent farm. I had introduced bass into the pond several years ago and they multiplied and became a nice size. Just when I thought I could fish them out of the pond to put on the BBQ, a freezing cold winter took its toll and they all went belly up in the spring. That's because I didn't have a bubbler in over the winter to provide the needed oxygen. Oh well, the pond is a still a beautiful water feature on our property and it's very soothing to hear the fountain at night when roasting marshmallows by the campfire.

The Barn Dance Historical Society is facing somewhat of a dilemma recently since Wingham/North Huron council decided to close the North Huron Museum in Wingham. The Barn Dance Museum is part of that building. It is unfortunate that there was no consultation with the Barn Dance Historical Society in this matter. You will find an open letter to the Reeve and Council of the Twp. of North Huron in this issue explaining our position. Personally, I am very

## The Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment Museum

P.O. Box 68

Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0

Phone (519) 530-8000

(or leave a message)

**BARN DANCE WEBSITE:**

[www.thebardance.ca](http://www.thebardance.ca)

Earl Heywood

Founder and Honourary President

Executive Board:

President: Ruth Baxter

1st Vice President: David Wall

2nd Vice President: Richard Holm

Secretary: Ron Coulthard

Treasurer: Gord Baxter

Directors:

Betty Beer Van Roy, Carol Shaw,

Grant Heywood, Doug Dietrich,

Bill Simmermaker, Ron Shaw,

Ted Weishar, and Doreen Armbruster.

frustrated with this development. Wingham has hardly ever recognized its own history, with CKNX and the Barn Dance being an integral part of Wingham's colourful past, and present.

Don't forget we have one more Barn Dance show this year at Hepworth on Sunday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you at the next Barn Dance.

Comments? Please contact:

Grant Heywood

5584 Deborah Glaister Line,

R. R. #2, Wellesley, Ontario N0B 2T0

Phone: (519) 656-2552

E-mail: [heywoods@xplornet.ca](mailto:heywoods@xplornet.ca)

or send a message on facebook.

### 2018/2019 COMING EVENTS

Date	Event Name	Place
Sun., Nov. 18 2018	Barn Dance Show - 2:00 p.m.	Shallow Lake Legion Auditorium, Hepworth, ON
Sun., March 31 2019	Barn Dance Show - 2:00 p.m.	Listowel Agricultural Hall, Listowel, ON
Sun., April 14, 2019	Barn Dance Show - 2:00 p.m.	Cargill & District Community Centre, Cargill, ON



*Continued from Page 1*

founded. The original Barn Dance Museum was housed in the old Wingham Armouries at first, but the Barn Dance Historical Society was able to establish a more permanent home in the same building as the North Huron Museum in the old Post Office building on Main St. in Wingham.

The Barn Dance Historical Society has supported countless Barn Dance performances while promoting local and established talent. The Blyth Barn Dance Campout Jamboree is now in its 23d year, with a fan base that comes from across Canada and the U.S. The Blyth Barn Dance Campout Jamboree has raised funds to assist many local service organizations, charities, and community groups, locally (*Please read the letter of intent incl. in this issue*)

The Barn Dance Museum is a testament to greater things that became a part of Wingham's core and continues to this day. CKNX put Wingham on the map, and the Barn Dance was effectively the instrument that helped make it happen. The Barn Dance Museum in Wingham has officially shut down, along with the North Huron Museum. Unfortunately, there was no dialogue in even keeping the Barn Dance Historical Society in the loop about this. The Barn Dance Museum is a part of Wingham's history. It means something to a lot of people beyond Wingham. My dad never had any help from the town council of Wingham when trying to realize his dream of the Barn Dance and museum. That is a sad fact and I hope it can be turned around.

As I have always said. You cannot move ahead into the future if you refuse to recognize your past. It would be the right thing to do, if the new council of North Huron would acknowledge this lack of foresight and extend a helping hand of hope. Please don't turn your back on your own history. It still has value.



**DAVID CARSON**  
FARMS & AUCTION SERVICES LTD.

5531 Perth Line 86, R.R. #3  
Listowel, Ontario, Canada  
N4W 3G8

Telephone: 519-291-2049

Fax: 519-291-5065

Email: [info@davidcarson.on.ca](mailto:info@davidcarson.on.ca)

## BARN DANCE JOURNAL

### ADVERTISING PRICES

Business Card Size - \$25.00 plus HST

1/4 Page - \$75.00 plus HST

1/2 page - \$150.00 plus HST

Full Page (inside) - \$275.00 plus HST

Full Page (back cover) - \$300.00 plus HST

All prices are per issue.

E-mail - [webmaster@thebardance.ca](mailto:webmaster@thebardance.ca)

Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
to Michael T. Wall on  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>

# Who Remembers This?

*By Grant Heywood*

*As the years go by, we start to take things for granted. This is a column for the Barn Dance Journal where I reminisce about paraphernalia, or for lack of a better word, **stuff**. From days gone by.*

When I was a kid growing up in Wingham, we had moved to a newer house on Catherine St. Right across the street at Catherine & Diagonal Rd. was Finnegan's Grocery Store and gas station. It was a smaller establishment, and we always used to buy candy there. This was around the early 1960's era, and I remember standing at the counter and seeing all the candy neatly displayed in open boxes on the shelf.

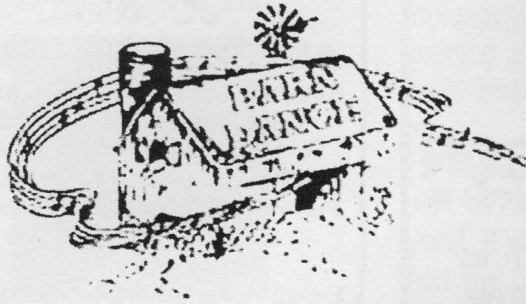
There were candy wax lips, wax cigars with a sweet liquid inside, sponge toffee, chocolate chunks, black balls, koo koo bars, (long flat taffy bar that looked like neopolitan ice cream), ju jube owls, Jaw Breakers gumballs, Popeye candy cigarettes, and so much more. Sometimes we'd just go in to look at the candy, and if we had enough pop bottles, (we'd get 2cents apiece for each bottle) we'd buy candy. Even soda pop was cool back then. Kist was a well-known brand and then something new showed up one day.....Suncrest pop. The black cherry pop was the best. Cream Soda and Lime Rickey were popular then too. Canada Dry came out with a really sweet red pop called Tahiti Treat. Every kid on the street had to try one.

Mr. Finnigan would always serve us kids, and sometimes he'd get a little disgruntled

when kids would stand there with 5 cents in their hand and a glazed look in their eyes, not knowing what to buy. If you just had a few cents, you'd most often put it in the gumball machine and try to win a silver ball. If you got one, you'd win a free coloured rabbits foot on a key chain. Chocolate bars back then cost a dime, and it was always a treat to buy a Milky Way, Virginia, or a Lowney's Cherry Blossom, as 10 cents was a lot of money for a kid in those days.

A lot of chocolate bars from that era have been discontinued. But one of my favourites was Molly-O chocolate bars made by McCormicks out of London, Ont. I can still see the green writing on the yellow wrapper. Most of all, I remember biting into one. The heavenly taste of caramel mixed with coconut and covered by chocolate was to die for. So chewy. Around the early 1970's the Molly-O chocolate bar was discontinued. I thought I might find it at the Sugar Mt. Candy Store in K/W, since they specialize in nostalgic candy, but no luck.

There are times when I think of a Molly-O bar so much, that I can almost smell and taste it. Now that we have the internet, I see there is an online recipe for making your own Molly-O chocolate bar. But it just wouldn't be the same. It's like getting a craving for Bisset's ice cream. You remember Bissets don't you? ... Ah but that's for another time.



# Barn Dance Historical Society

P.O. Box 68,  
Wingham, Ontario N0G 2W0  
Phone: 519-530-8000  
website: [www.thebardance.ca](http://www.thebardance.ca)

Open Letter to the Reeve and Council, Township of North Huron  
Box 90  
Wingham, ON N0G 2W0

We read with interest, the article by Denny Scott in *The Citizen* last week (August 23) regarding "Museum decision will have to wait for new Council".

When we spoke last with Melissa Scott, Pool Supervisor, she noted that the Barn Dance Historical Society and Museum would be kept in the loop regarding any decisions on the museum property. To date, that has not occurred, so we were surprised to see the article in *The Citizen* as no dialogue has taken place with the Barn Dance Historical Society.

Last March, we submitted some facts to Council on the Barn Dance Historical Society Museum and the Annual Jamboree/Campout held in Blyth through Pat Newson, former Facilities Manager.

The sole reason in holding the Annual Jamboree/Campout in Blyth each year is to support the Barn Dance Historical Society Museum in Wingham. Without the museum, we have no real reason to continue with this event.

The Barn Dance Historical Society has paid the Township of North Huron approximately \$4,350 in rent for the museum each year. This was waived by council in 2018 due to the closure of the building. In addition, our event generates annual revenue for the Municipality of approximately \$14,500 in facility charges.

The Barn Dance Historical Society also donates to various Blyth Community Groups including the Blyth Arena Complex, Campgrounds, Blyth Lions and Blyth Festival Theatre, Huron Pioneer Threshers, Legion and others. To date, we have donated \$27,700 to these groups through our event.

Other economic spinoff of our event includes partnering with the Blyth Lions which is a major fundraiser for the club and media advertising through Blyth Printing, The Citizen, CKNX and others, not to mention the increased tourism for Blyth and the County. We have people attend our event from British Columbia and Newfoundland.

We are asking Council for assistance to be included with any museum deliberation and decisions. Both the Municipal Museum and the Barn Dance Historical Society Museum complement each other. We invite you to take a look at some pictures of the Barn Dance Museum at [www.thebardance.ca](http://www.thebardance.ca) Click on "Museum" in the header.

Without the Barn Dance Historical Society Museum, the Jamboree/Campout held in Blyth each may is in jeopardy.

The Barn Dance Historical Society is open to suggestions from council and/or any citizen where we might relocate and maintain our history and the Annual Jamboree/Campout in Blyth.

Ruth Baxter  
President  
On behalf of the Board of Directors

David Wall  
Museum Chairman

c.c. Dwayne Evans, CAO, Township of North Huron

**"CANADA'S LARGEST TRAVELLING BARN DANCE"**



# RON COULTHARD, THE SONGS OF RON COULTHARD, CD REVIEW

BY GRANT HEYWOOD

For as long as Ron Coulthard has been playing music, he is practically a household name in the Stratford/St. Marys area. Ron was the steel gr. player/guitar player for many years with the Circle 8 Ranch Boys on CKNX television. Before that he was a member of the Country Cousins. Besides playing organ in the church and many other gigs, Ron was also a member of the Barn Dance Band and continues as the musical director and musician with the Blyth Barn Dance Gospel Show. Maybe that's why it took Ron so long to finally complete his first cd of original music.

It was some 20 years ago that Ron began recording this cd at 'The Swamp' studio in Gadshill, operated by Jay Riehl. Good things come to those who wait, someone once said, and now the wait is over. This 20 song cd features all original songs by Ron, with Ron on vocals as well as good friend Lee Pickel. The cd opens with *Waltz of the Rio Grande*, and features the twin fiddles of Victor Pasowisty and Mike Slauenwhite. The tongue in cheek, *If You're Gonna Play It Country*, is a bouncy number featuring Ron on some nice honky tonk type piano. *In Memory of Once Upon A Time* is a nice song that seems to fit Lee Pickel's vocal style.

*Let Me Speak To Alice*, is somewhat of an interestingly funny long distance phone conversation that made me chuckle. *Long Gone*, features Ron on his Gretsch guitar, and piano, and is definitely in the Ron Coulthard style. A well arranged cowboy song, *One More Trail*, is sung by Lee Pickell. Lee also sings on another fine tune by Ron called *All My Tomorrows*. The song, *Perfect Stranger*, sung by Ron, is one that Ernie King likely would've have put his stamp on for sure. *I'm Gonna Go Down Swinging*, is a



jumpy little tune featuring some great electric guitar by Ron.

The sentimental song, *The Blue Skies and Green Fields of Home*, is undoubtedly a story about living and working on the Coulthard Family farm. *Let's Sing One Song*, is another song about reminiscing and has a gospel feel to it along with a recitation by Ron. (recitations in songs are unheard of these days) The cd winds up with a wonderful instrumental called *Adele's Wildwood Rose*. Ron says it was a song written for Jay Riehl's late grandma. This song gets full treatment with twin fiddles, and Ron on piano, guitar, banjo and steel guitar. It's an upbeat song that could've been included on a Bob Wills record.

Ron may have spent a long time getting this cd done, but Ron is a meticulous sort of guy that likes things just the way he hears it. It's safe to say that Ron is versatile in many ways. He not only plays piano, electric guitar, banjo, steel guitar, organ, mandolin, and who knows what else....but he also sang on this recording and does a pretty good job at singing as well. Ron may be 'old school' in his approach to writing and performing these tunes, which have a traditional country sound, but that's the era that Ron is comfortable with, and it shows. The unmistak-

able sound of Ron playing his old Gretsch guitar is reminiscent of the stylings of Chet Atkins and Merle Travis. Ron has been a friend of mine for many years and I have always marveled at his knowledge and musical ability.

Musicians on this recording include: Guest vocalist - Lee Pickell, Vocals - Ron Coulthard, as well as Steel gr, Resonator gr., Gtr., Banjo, Keyboards, and Mandolin. Bass gr. - Royce Riehl, Drums - Grant Heywood, Harmonica - Steve Adair, Background vocals - Jay Riehl, Royce Riehl, Grant Heywood. Recorded at, 'The Swamp' in Gadshill by Jay Riehl. Produced and mixed by Jay Riehl, at 'The Coop' Studio, Nashville, Tennessee. The cd is dedicated to Nelson & Olive Coulthard (Coulthard Family Orchestra)

For information about this cd, contact :  
rcoulthard@quadro.net

Or.....talk to Ron at a live performance.

## 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 ~ (519) 530-8000

E-mail: webmaster@thebardance.ca

*Musicians Insight Series:*

# THE BARN DANCE BAND, THE INSTRUMENTS THEY PLAY, AND EARLY INFLUENCES

*This is a two part series about the Barn Dance Band members and their respective instruments. Myself, and the band members often get asked by the audience, fans, and other musicians about what instruments and equipment they use onstage. Hopefully, this profile will give others some insight into the 'what & why' about their instrument choices as well as they're early influences.*

Part 1. – The Barn Dance Band Frontline: Steel Guitar, Fiddle, & Guitar.

**Doug Dietrich: Steel guitar, dobro.**

Doug Dietrich currently plays a 2008 Carter double neck steel guitar with a mahogany finish front board and a blonde finish on top. The metal necks have 10 strings each and are tuned to E9th and C6th. There are 9 foot pedals and 6 knee levers including a vertical (pushes up). Doug also has a 1998 Bermuda Blue Carter with the same set up. The Carter steel guitars were bought from good friend, Al Brisco who runs Steel Guitars of Canada. The Carter guitars were made in Mesquite, Texas but are no longer being made since the owner, John Fabian, and designer Bud Carter are no longer alive.

Doug was privileged to work with those two gentlemen for Carter at the International Steel Guitar Show in St. Louis for 5 years. Before Carters, Doug played Sho-Bud steels and his first steel guitar was made by his father, which is in the Barn Dance Museum. Besides a Goodrich L120 Volume pedal, Doug has a Goodrich Matchbro that simulates a dobro guitar sound, and a Bosstone fuzz/distortion effects box. The steel tone bar is a BJS 7/8 inch bar. Doug uses assorted makes of plastic thumb picks but prefers the Dunlop metal finger picks. Favourite strings are D'Addario NY XL for both the E9 and C6 tunings.

The amp Doug uses is a 42 pound Peavey Nashville 112, with 80 watts and a 12" speaker. He also has an Evans SE200 amplifier. The seat is a Steelers Choice Pro-1 Sidekick seat with storage and built-in power. Doug is the proud owner of an Ernie King #10 limited series dobro originally made for Lloyd Ottobain.

Major steel guitar influences were Buddy Emmons, particularly his work with Ray Price. Tom Brumley with Buck Owens, and Johnny Hughey with Conway Twitty and Vince Gill, were also influences. Doug's favourite was likely Lloyd Green, because of his many instrumental albums and backup work for so many vocalists. If there is one steel album that is a favourite it would have to be an early Lloyd Green record called 'The Hit Sounds'. Doug used to spend hours trying to figure out what he was playing. As for current steel guitar heroes, Paul Franklin and Mike Johnson come to mind, but there are just so many great ones to choose from.

**Bill Norris: Fiddle.**

Bill Norris uses a Fender FV-3 Semi-Acoustic (4string) electric hollow body fiddle that is un-modified. Bill prefers this fiddle as it is easier to handle, and has volume and tone controls on-board. As for strings, Bill uses the hard to find Dr. Thomastic, precision steel strings. He uses a Peavey Nashville 112, 80 watt amplifier with a 12" speaker. Bill isn't much into using effects pedals and goes direct into the amplifier for a clean, natural sound.

As for influences, it was fiddler, Tommy Jackson that gained favour with Bill in the early years. Tommy was a session fiddle player from Nashville who essentially established the country fiddle sound for Ray Price, George Jones, Hank Williams, as well as many other artists early recordings. If you ever saw Ray Price live in the 1960's, his fiddle player would emulate Tommy Jackson's style. Tommy was also a solo recording artist of square dance tunes, some which were originals.

From as early as his teenage years, Bill's favourite country singer has been Faron Young. Bill said it is hard to pick just one favourite influential album, but he narrowed it down to Faron Young's 20 Greatest Hits. Bill is always aware of a lot of newer up and coming fiddle players and listens to them all. Bill is an 'old school' player with lots of experience, and as he says... 'You asked for my favourite, and you got it'.

**Fred Lewis: Guitar mandolin and more**

**guitars.**

As the youngest member of the Barn Dance Band, Fred Lewis, has amassed a collection of guitars to rival any guitar music store. Fred mainly uses a 1997 California series fat Fender Telecaster that he bought new at the Tillsonburg Organ Centre. This Fender Telecaster has a Seymour Duncan Seth Lover pickup in the neck position, and a Seymour Duncan vintage stack pickup in the bridge position. The guitar features a Callaham bridge and heavy knurled control knobs. Fred didn't say, but I believe he uses a Blueridge acoustic guitar mostly for on-stage performances. I think Fred also uses D'Addario lights or extra lights as his guitar string preference.

Fred's main amplifier is a 22 watt, 1969 Fender Deluxe reverb, with an Eminence 'Swamp Thang' speaker. He prefers this amp and speaker configuration, as it can cut through a mix without having to turn the amp up too loud. He generally runs the amp between 2 and 3 for volume, bass around 7, treble on 2 and reverb around 3. Fred has a lot of amps too, some custom made.

Sometimes Fred's pedalboard features a new effect, but he likes to keep it basic. He runs a Creation Audio Clean Boost, Catalinbread Topanga Reverb, Wampler Faux Echo, Voodoo Lab Sparkle Drive, Wampler Ego Compressor, and an Ernie Ball Volume pedal (modified to Goodrich specs). Fred also uses a wireless receiver between his amp and guitar.

As for his favourite influential country album, it's always a hard choice and Fred says it would have to be the George Jones classic 'Cold Hard Truth', with 'Livin' Lovin' Losin' a tribute to the Louvin' Brothers as a close runner up. When it comes to tone and playing, Pete Anderson, former Dwight Yoakam guitarist, had a major influence on Fred's guitar playing and tone. Fred is a huge fan of the Bakersfield west coast telecaster style. The solo that made Fred want to play guitar is from the George Jones song, 'The One I Loved Back Then', (the Corvette song)

*Next issue will feature Part 2. The Barn Dance Band: Rhythm Section & Backline – Al*



## COUNTRY CALENDAR



by Doreen Brown

(Toronto and surrounding area)

\* **Appearances by Silver Wings, Linda Wells, Derek Pilgrim and Roy Penney as follows** - Oct 14: Cavens Alley 585 Lakeshore, Mississauga, ON. Oct 21: Royal Canadian Legion 582 Hensall Circle, Mississauga, ON. Oct 27: Army Navy Air Force 765 Third St., Mississauga, ON. Oct 28: Cavens Alley, 585 Lakeshore, Mississauga, ON. Nov 10: Royal Canadian Legion Br 11, 9 Dawes Road, Toronto, ON. Nov 24: Army Navy Air Force, 765 Third St., Mississauga, ON. Nov 25: Cavens Alley 585 Lakeshore, Mississauga, ON. Dec 9: Cavens alley, 585 Lakeshore, Mississauga, ON. Dec 22: Army Navy Air Force 765 Third St., Mississauga, ON. Dec 29: Royal Canadian Legion Br 11, 9 Dawes Road, Toronto, ON. Dec 30: Cavens alley 585 Lakeshore, Mississauga, ON. Dec 31: New Years, Royal Canadian Legion Br 11, 9 Dawes Road, Toronto, ON.

\* **October 20** - Moose Lodge, 3753 Lakeshore Blvd. W., Et bicoke MSW LGP, presents an oldies dance, free parking. The Oshawa Whitby Fiddle Club has now moved to Kingside Park, Wilson Road and Dean. Doors open at 6 p.m. Call 905-727-6646 for more info. Dates as follows: Oct 3, Nov 7 and Dec 5.

\* **Appearances for Hurricane Mike Thompson** - Pedal steel, harmonica, dobro. Call 416-854-5010 for more info or email hurricaneemikethompson@hotmail.com.

\* **Second Sunday of the month** - Don Celis has a jam at the Army Navy Air Force in Orillia, ON.

\* **Crystal Gage** - For upcoming appearances visit the website www.crystalgage.com.

\* **October 28** - Annual Fall Dance 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Unifor Hall, 126 Beale St. Woodstock, ON. Dixon Co. Band call 519-476-0017 or go online at dixonband.com.

\* **For upcoming shows Purple Hill Country** - Call 519-461-0538 or email purplehillcountryhall@gmail.com or visit their website at www.purplehillcountryhall.com.

\* **Nov 3** - Michael T. Wall's 80th birthday party, from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Singing Newfoundland, living legend, celebrates with guest stars galore and "special surprise guest". Birthday cake in shape of Newfoundland at Freezer Land Newfoundland store. Enter from

Dixie Road, north of Advance Road. Call 905-791-4983. Come out and enjoy this special event and many well known artists will be arriving for a fun filled event.

\* **Appearances for Jessica Wedden** - Young fiddler, trick fiddling and step dancing. Visit her website at www.jessicawedden.ca, email info@jessicawedden.ca, or call 613-770-6340.

\* **New cd release by October by Michael T. Wall** - Namely island of Newfoundland, 16 songs, titled "Sinking of the Titanic", which sank near Cape Race, just off the coast of Newfoundland in 1912.

\* **Nov 18** - Just plain country, old time country show and dance at 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. at Peterborough Naval Club 24, Whitlaw Street. Tickets \$10.00 per person. Call Joan Jones 705-742-9771. Featuring Art Lajambe, Dave Chown, Sheila Northey, Bumper Jack Man Rooy Hastinhs, Ray Jones, etc. Proceeds to Christmas hamper fund and other community projects. Sandwiches will be sold at the bar.

\* **Appearances by Doreen Brown** - Oct 11: Thornton Fiddle Club at 7 p.m. Oct 16: 7 p.m. REC Centre in Alliston, ON. (Previously Rosemont) Oct 18: Holland Landing. Oct 24: REC Centre at 1:30 p.m. Sr's jam. Bring your instruments for a fun afternoon.

\* **Scott Woods Old Time Christmas 2018 Tour** - Nov 23 at 7 p.m. at Sault St. Marie, ON in the Royal Canadian Legion, Br 25, call 705-945-8721 for more info. Nov 24: at 7 p.m., Blind River Tentative. Nov 26: at 7 p.m. North Bay Daveidi Club. Call 705-389-2748 for more info. Nov 28: Parry Sound, Mary St. Centre. Call 613-398-1160 for more info. Nov 29: at 7 p.m., Gravenhurst Seniors Activity Centre. Call 705-429-2515 for more info. Nov 30: at 7 p.m. Wasaga Beach REC Plex. Call 519-869-4103 for more info. Dec 4: Camlachie United Church. Call 519-869-4103 for more info. Dec 6: in London, ON, Victory Legion Br 317. Call 519-455-2331 for more info. Dec 8: at 2 p.m., Beamsville, ON, Providence Christian Reformed Church. Call 905-309-5071 for more info. Dec 9: at 2 p.m., Burford, ON, Burford Agricultural Hall. Call 519-449-5649 for more info. Dec 10: Aberfoyle, 7 p.m., Duff's Presbyterian Church. Call 519-763-1163 for more info. Dec 11: at 7 p.m., Fergus, St. Andrews's Presbyterian Church. Call 519-843-3565 for more info. Dec 12: at 7 p.m. Shelburne Grace tipping Hall. Call 519-925-2600 for more info. Dec 19: at 7 p.m., Smith Falls, ON. Westminster Presbyterian Church. Call 613-283-6987 for more info.

\* **Upcoming show for the Barn Dance** - Nov 18 at 2 p.m. at Hepworth Legion Hall, Hepworth, ON.

\* **Every Wednesday** - at 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m., Senior's Club has a jam in Markdale, ON. Behind the TD bank. Bring your musical instruments for an evening of socializer action and fun.

\* **For Upcoming Appearances** - Cadillac Lounge, 1296 Queen St., Toronto, ON. Call 416-876-2751 for more info. Newfoundland, 472 Danforth Road, Toronto, ON. Call 416-267-8406 for more info. Royal Canadian Legion, 456 Hensall Circle, Mississauga, ON. Call 905-277-2902 for more info. For bookings, contact Joe Tucker and Second Wind, country music band with down east style. Call 895-855-3351.

\* **Appearances by Reg Benoit** - Nanners Diner 1587 Highway 48, Kirkfield, ON. From 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Every Saturday night, buffet.

\* **For Bookings** - Contact Dave Whalen, call 416-255-8387 or email starlightband@rogers.com. Bringing the very best in live entertainment, country.

\* **For Country and Bluegrass Music** - Contact George Rout at 905-646-2045.

\* **Dave Whalen and Starlight Band** - Contact Dave Whalen at 416-255-8387 or email starlightband@rogers.com.

\* **George Rout** - Steel guitar player, plays every Saturday morning with a group at the Mahtay Cafe and Lounge in St. Catharines, ON. For more appearances, call 905-646-2045 or email georout@cogeco.ca.

*Wishing all a wonderful fall season and as it may sound a little ahead, a wonderful holiday season. May the New Year 2019 bring good health and happiness to all. Thanking all who support our Barn Dance Historical Society and your continued support in many facets. Contact the Doreen Brown if you have appearances, at dbenterprises@rogers.com.*

## BARN DANCE SOUVENIRS

Souvenir Mugs -	\$ 5.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 1	\$15.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 2	\$15.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 3	\$15.00 ea.
CD - Vol. 1, 2 & 3	\$40.00 set
Cassette - Vol. 1	\$ 6.00 ea.
Cassette - Vol. 2	\$ 6.00 ea.
Cassette - Vol. 3	\$ 6.00 ea.
Souvenir 1997 Calendar	\$ 5.00 ea.
Barn Dance Logo T-Shirts (gold logo on blue only)	
Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$20.00 ea.
NEW Heywood Family Three Generations CD	\$20.00 ea.
NEW Al Cherny CD - "Live / The Lost Recordings"	\$15.00 ea.
NEW Eleanor & Graham Townsend CD "The Talented Townsends"	\$15.00 ea.
(36 unheard recordings)	\$15.00 ea.
Best of The Barn Dance CD	\$15.00 ea.

All purchases include HST.

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

E-mail: webmaster@thebarndance.ca

# BARN DANCE CORNER

by Peter Saros

Grant Heywood's most recent email to me sharing The Barn Dance Museum had been closed rang with all the urgency and intensity of a boxing bell announcing the start of a fight.

Shine the spit bucket and cut the gauze. The Barn Dance is in for another exhausting round of punching above its weight and defending itself against much larger opponents, critics, and cultural change.

Tradition based institutions like The Barn Dance Historical Society and Entertainment Museum have become experts at playing their own version of rope-a-dope with relevancy for years. The challenge remains that of communicating to a wider disinterested population how hugely important a tradition is to its own faithful community of zealous followers.

The importance of the Barn Dance is not measured so much by how many people attend the museum as much as what the Barn Dance means in a broader cultural sense. If the Barn Dance Museum was a pop-up created by some Toronto hipster as an ironic well intentioned nod to tradition and authenticity it would already be down under a slow count to irrelevance.

But the Barn Dance Museum is just part of a larger whole, and that whole is in for the long haul. The Barn Dance has been face down on the canvas before. It has always triumphantly risen to its feet. It knows how to scrap and share scarce resources. It takes tremendous pride in exceeding modest expectations. It knows how to call the dance.

Traditional country music faced a similar challenge in the U.S. in 2001 when bean-counters wanted to flip Nashville's WSM AM radio channel from country music to a news-sports-talk format. WSM is the home of the *Grand Ole Opry* and one of the most influential and exceptional radio stations in the history of broadcasting. Thankfully country stars like "Whispering" Bill Anderson, Vince Gill, and Brad Paisley came to its rescue.

Maybe its time The Barn Dance called in favors from the Canadian music scene to make sure we don't let the North Huron Council unknowingly play the heel and kick a venerable institution to the curb and leave it homeless. Maybe with help the Barn Dance will build its own museum and become something larger than we can imagine right now with locks chained on the museum doors. The darkest hour is just before dawn.

The other pages of this journal tell of the towering legacy of the Barn Dance – its past, present, and future – from people who live and breathe the Barn Dance; they are not just a fan base. For them the Barn Dance is an

obsession and a passion. A way of life really. The stories undeniably announce a history and an authority. An undeniable destiny. The Barn Dance is part of rural western Ontario's personality and creative community. The Barn Dance is a living museum.

In writing of the future of WSM and Nashville, writer Craig Havighurst said, "It will be whatever we who cherish make of it."

The show must go on!



## ZACHARY LUCKY EVERYWHERE A MAN CAN BE, CD REVIEW

By Grant Heywood

Once in a while, when you least expect it, an artist comes along that has a gifted sensibility to deliver what they believe. Saskatchewan born, Zachary Lucky has the soul of a troubadour and writes songs that resonate from the heartland. I met the band one evening at the Commercial Hotel in Maryhill the night after they performed at the Mariposa Folk Festival. They were preparing for a cross Canada summer tour and I was fortunate enough to catch them on stage in Maryhill. Paul Weber and I marveled at how quiet they were but also how the songs had great storylines. I learned from Zachary that night, that his dad (like my dad), was also a traditional country music singer, and from Saskatchewan. I was eager to hear the band that night and was not disappointed.

The sparseness of the trio made for an interesting sound with Zachary Lucky on an old Martin acoustic, the steel player on a single neck steel and the stand-up bass player with half a snare drum head attached beside the strings so he could also slap out the rhythm as he played bass. There is something about the music that draws you in like a moth to a flame. The rich vocal harmonies and the somewhat wistful sounding lead vocals have an earthy appeal that is pure Canadian in nature.

There are nine songs on the cd that tell stories that many can relate to. One of my favourite songs is *Sell All You Can*, a sad story about a prairie farmer down on his luck. *Everywhere A Man Can Be*, the title cut, is a well-crafted piece of Canadiana. Another prairie tune *Can't Say Why* comes

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



*Ernie King*  
Music (1993) Ltd.

"The Complete Music Source  
for the Amateur or Professional"

37 West St., Goderich (519) 524-4689  
E-mail: webmaster@thebardance.ca

across sounding as if Zachary were a young raw sounding Gordon Lightfoot. *Come & Gone*, puts you in Jasper, Alberta and I can relate to the lyrics when Zachary sings....'Down at the Legion, we played for 2 or 3.' *Standing In the Rain*, is definitely the most traditional country song on the cd, and Zachary's baritone delivery of *Wild Rose County*, paint a lonesome workingman landscape of being stuck in Alberta.

The poetry of the vocals shine through on every cut. Fiddle, guitar, some banjo, bass gtr. and the ever present lonesome, somewhat 'Jerry Garcia like' steel guitar give each song the emotional flavour it deserves. A dash of drums and keyboard are mixed in to just embellish the songs where it's needed.

The cd is not over produced and the arrangements all work in harmony with the vocals. It fits the folk/roots genre like a glove, and is reminiscent of many a contemporary balladeer. The cd was produced by Aaron Goldstein and engineered & mixed by Kenneth Roy Meehan at Candle Recording in Toronto. Zachary Lucky was nominated in 2017 at the Canadian Folk Music Awards.

It has been said that the young Zachary Lucky is 'old school' in his approach to writing and performing his original songs. He has toured across Canada, New Mexico and Finland, and has recently made Orillia his home base. Just Google Zachary Lucky/YouTube and you will find many performances online. Zachary Lucky is most certainly a Canadian diamond in the rough, who evokes the charm of many folk artists who have come before him. It will be interesting to see if he continues to push the limits of his artistry on his next cd.

To learn more about Zachary Lucky and this cd go to: [zacharylucky.com](http://zacharylucky.com)

