

August 2023 Issue 7

Hello everyone,

Oh my, where to begin? Here we are heading into August already and it seems as though the summer is racing by.

I am pleased to report that as of the date of this column coming out our Vice-President Bev Gaston and our Executive Director Linda Gaston are both recovering from their health issues at home after falling ill within a week of each other. They send their thanks for all the well wishes as well as the lovely fruit basket and flowers sent to them by the Board of Directors. Here is a note from them:

Hi Friends,

We just received this beautiful bouquet of flowers and yummy fruit basket. Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness.

Thank you also for the smiles it gave us...a lovely surprise.

We are taking one day at a time. Sincerely Linda & Bev



And here is the message that was sent to Linda & Bev from Ivan and Vivian Hicks on our membership's behalf:

Hi Linda & Bev.

From NBCMHF members:

Thank you for the photo. Always nice to know when the "surprise" makes it to the door of the special people intended to receive it.

And yes a little smile goes a long way at a time like this for you folks.

We are all so pleased to know that you are both home and on the mend! Many thoughts and prayers coming your way from the members of NBCMHF

All the best to you, One day at a time.

Ivan & Vivian for NBCMHF

Thank you Ivan & Vivian for sending that message on our behalf! I have also received a message from Ivan detailing some excellent musical events that happened in June/July and some to look forward to in August! Ivan's message along with photos and posters are below:

Vivian and I found the month June went by quickly. Besides all the household chores and outside work (including lawn mowing) there are to do, we kept busy with many musical activities. These included our regular Wednesday practices with our Sussex Avenue Fiddlers and preparing them for upcoming public events (ie: Moncton Highland Games – June 17th, Victoria Park – Aug 8th in Moncton). We also enjoy going to senior homes to entertain the folks there. We managed to do a few "La Country Show" fiddling tunes for Rogers TV, which are now being presented on TV.

Within the month of June we took in two very interesting and well-presented end-of-the-year fiddling recitals. On June 4th, Stacey Read, who teaches in the Sackville area, held her recital at the Music Barn. Then on June 10th, Samantha Robichaud Corkum, a teacher in the Riverview area, held her fiddling recital at St. Paul's United Church. Both of these programs were well attended and the students gave a great display of their skills and what they have learned. Stacey

and Samantha are to be commended for their time and efforts in keeping fiddling alive and especially their work with the younger generation.

We attended another event in Shediac. This was a benefit program for Russell Sawler, a great banjo picker from the Moncton area who is having health issues. Ray Legere, one of our NB Country Music Hall of Famers, had much to do with organizing this program. There were a number of bluegrass bands and artists from throughout New Brunswick and other Maritime provinces who provided some of the best in bluegrass music. Besides Ray and his Acoustic Horizon band, another band, Third Harmony, featuring Natasha Richard and her father Gerry from the Moncton area presented some spectacular sounds and harmonies. Another NB Country Music Hall of Famer, Eddie Poirier and his band were guests at this event.

Preparations for the upcoming 40th Anniversary New Brunswick Country Music Hall of Fame Gala on October 14th are moving along at a good pace. Tickets for the Gala have been selling very fast. If you are planning to attend and have not bought your ticket yet, there are very few left. Contact Sandra Reed for tickets at 506-472-0355. Keep in mind the Gala banquet, induction ceremonies, the evening concert featuring Hall of Fame members and the late night jam all take place at the Fredericton Inn this year, which is also the new home of the Hall of Fame. Also, during the week leading up to the Gala, there will be a free Live Music Series featuring Hall of Fame members at different locations in the Fredericton area.

From the middle to the end of June, Vivian and I travelled to New York State for ten days or so to do some visiting. While there, we joined one of the state fiddling groups, the Oswego Valley Fiddlers, for a concert they did at the North American Fiddlers Hall of Fame located in Osceola, NY. This proved to be very successful and enjoyable with good weather and a great audience.

July is usually one of the months of the year when musicians are busy doing concerts, festivals and lots of parties. We managed to do our share of a number of events including Canada Day festivities in Sussex, organized by Hall of Famer, Gary Morris. We particularly enjoyed an afternoon of jamming in the Richibucto area with Hall of Famer and great accordionist, Roger Lanteigne and his piano accompanist Manon (Bathurst) along with Bob Robichaud, a Moncton guitarist:

We spent a weekend in Dartmouth, NS, taking in the Maritime Fiddle Festival (75th Anniversary). This is the longest running fiddling contest in Canada! Gordon Stobbe of "Up Home Tonight" fame and JJ Guy, a fiddler from Saskatchewan, were guest performers as well as judges along with Memramcook's Adam Leblanc. This was a weekend of some great fiddling, entertainment and socializing.

We were pleased to welcome a motorcoach group from Jolly Tours to our home from Cornwall, ON who were passing through our area on their way to Newfoundland. The guests enjoyed an evening of fellowship and music with us:

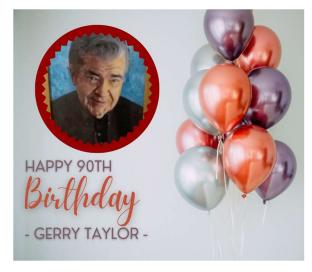


On July 15, the NB Country Music Hall of Fame presented a concert at the McCain Community Theatre, Woodstock NB, to a full house. This show was a wonderful evening of music with some of the best in country, a very happy audience, quality sound by Paul Chilco, and all held together by the emceeing of Brent Buchanan and Jenn Graham and the band lead by Ronnie Day. A big thank you goes out to Vice-President, Bev Gaston and Executive Director, Linda Gaston for organizing this event and to those who helped along the way to make it all happen. If you would like the Hall of Fame to come to your area to do one of these regional concerts, contact Linda Gaston at 506-476-4325.





Hall of Famer, Gerry Taylor, is celebrating a 90th birthday this month (July 19). He was instrumental in assisting founder, Aubrey Hanson, start our Hall of Fame. Over the years he has been a Board member and been involved in many ways in keeping our Hall of Fame alive and active. Happy Birthday Gerry!

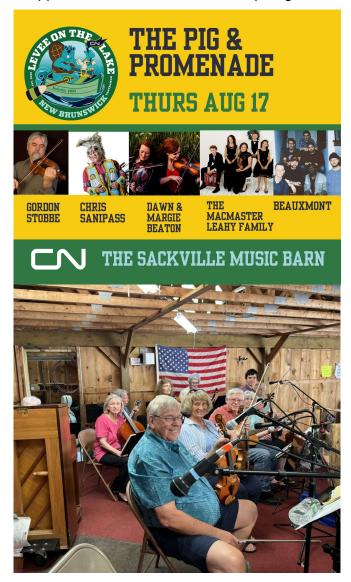


Vivian and I also wish to take this opportunity to wish a special friend of ours and Hall of Famer, Del Wheaton of Sackville a happy 90th birthday (July 23). He has been a lifetime friend and member of all bands we have had over the years – Golden Valley Boys country band, Marshwinds dance band and Maritime Express old time and bluegrass band, and also on many of our recordings.

Coming up on August the 3rd is the Miramichi Folksong Festival, which is Canada's longest running folk festival and will feature many great artists see poster below:



The following event is scheduled for August 17th at the Sackville music barn and promises toe-tappin' fun with an awesome lineup of guests:



I believe I have rambled on too long. However, in August the Miriamichi Folksong Festival is an event you should take in. Also, Levee on the Lake (August 17-20) in Sackville has an interesting program this year including the Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy family and other great guests. The Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Championship is in Truro, NS (August 25-26) at the Cobequid Community Centre – some of the best in Canadian Fiddling.

Thanks Ivan! Ivan and Vivian are as busy as ever and it's always fun to hear about their musical events and travels. Some great shows coming up too, so be sure to mark your calendars! Below is a note from Linda Gaston, Executive Director, with details on the monthly 50/50 draw:

Hi Friends.

The end of the month is approaching and we are asking for your support with our monthly 50/50 draw. Our first winner won approximately \$260. Our Board has a vision for the NBCMHF, two long term goals are:

- 1) Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a NBCMHF museum, and
- 2) Have funds to support emerging country artists in NB.

Please help us get the word out by sharing this message with your friends & family. I'm sure they would be very proud to support the organization that inducted you into the NBCMHF.

I hope all of you are "keeping in the sunnyside" Regards, Linda



https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/nbcmhf

New Brunswick Country Music Hall of Fame 50/50 Cash Raffle! Draw #2

I wanted to make everyone aware of a special treat on July 29, Carroll Baker, Canada's first lady of Country Music, will be having two concerts at the Greenwich legion hall with special guests. I already have my tickets it promises to be a good evening of country music in support of the Carroll Baker Mem'ries Centre



I will be making a guest appearance on Hall member Ron Vautour's "Pure Country Show" in August but here is the poster for his July show on the 29th featuring Hall members Dwane Drost and Ron Vautour:



Also on August 3rd, Allison Inch and myself will be at Magaguadavic place in St.George for a two-hour evening of music all for the price of a donation to the food bank:



Reg Gallant and Allison Inch



7:00 - 9:00 Thursday, Aug 3, 2023

Donations and 50/50 will go to Extra Mural Proceeds from canteen will go to the food bank Magaguadavic Place, 11 J. O. Spinney Dr. St George, NB And August 13th will find us in Harvey Station for the annual Don Messer Hoe-down with Allison Inch, Marge Howe, and myself at the barn! For more details contact the Harvey Days committee or the town office.

Well folks this about wraps it up for August, as always please send in any info you want shared to me and I will get it in a column. This is your newsletter so feel free to use it!

Hope to see you on October 14 & 15 for the Hall of Fame Gala! 'Til then keep it country

Reg Gallant NBCMHF (2009)

