



January 2024

Issue 12



Hello everyone,

And a very happy new year to you all! Another year has gone by and when folks say, "time sure has flown by" I sure know what they mean and it is not an exaggeration.

Before we jump into the column I want to take a moment to appologize for the delay in getting this column to you and to thank you all for your patience. My son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter were visiting us from Ontario and so I delayed the column to spend as much time as possible with them while they were here. Thank you all for your indulgence and understanding.

As I sit down to write this first column of 2024, I am trying to put my thoughts together into a coherent and clear message for you all to think about. What is it we are trying to accomplish when we try to deliver a message to a larger group of people? In my case I guess it is to simply let folks know that I care about their concerns and feelings, and while I may not be able to fix things for them, I want them to know I am in their corner and I will try to the best of my abilities to be a comfort and a help even though I may be going through things of my own.

As many of you know the New Brunswick Country Music Hall Of Fame is near and dear to my heart and I want badly for it to achieve even greater successes in the future. Therefore when we were suddenly left without a successor to our esteemed President Ivan Hicks (who is retiring this year) with the sudden passing of incoming President Bev Gaston I decided to accept the daunting task of following in Ivan's footsteps and become the Hall's new President.

The Hall of Fame follows a form of succession with the first Vice-President taking over as President and second Vice-President moving into the first position and so on. The way it was to happen was that Bev Gaston as first Vice-President would become President. Soon after Gerry Taylor, also a Vice-President, passed away, and the position became available and I stepped up as a Vice-President. Then the unthinkable happened and we lost Bev as well. This left me in the succession to become the next President should I accept and after some soul searching I decided to accept. We now have a new first Vice-President in Dwane Drost and a new second Vice-President in Gary Morris and we have a truly amazing board of Directors.

You may be thinking "where are you going with this Reg" and I will tell you simply that I want you all as members to have as much transparency from the Executive team as possible, in the event that anyone may have reservations as we move into the future. I care about all of you as do Ivan and Vivian and I want to be your President if you will have me. Should you have any concerns about me or my agenda please feel free to contact me and we can chat about it.

Now having said all of this I will also say that I cannot do this alone, that is why we have a great Board of Directors and volunteers, so if you have a skill set that would assist us in moving the Hall forward we want to hear from you.

I saw a video recently of an Amish barn moving event (maybe you have seen it or something similar), it involved some 300 Amish men who moved a barn by hand a few thousand yards down the road to another field. The take away from this video was that many hands lighten the load; even the seemingly impossible or overwhelming load.

This is my challenge to you for 2024:

1. Support the Hall and Board of Directors by being engaged
2. Promote the Hall whenever and wherever the opportunity arises
3. Take part in our fundraising efforts
4. Visit with friends and colleagues at the Hall of Fame if you are in town and
5. Most importantly be proud of the Hall and your accomplishments in it

With your help we will move into the future with a clear and strong mandate to bring this part of our provincial culture forward for generations to come.

Now, I know that New Years Eve was celebrated successfully by many musicians and here is a photo of newly inducted Hall member Joyce Boone with one of New Brunswick's hardest working musicians and an ambassador of Country Music in NB Rik Reese at the Fredericton Inn New Years party hosted by Hall of Famer Brent Buchanan.



Over 400 guests had a great time and I am sure many also visited the Hall of Fame located just around the corner from the main ballroom.

I can tell you that many of our Hall of Famers were engaged in New Years activities but the pictures have been slow coming in.

Below is a message forwarded by Ivan from John Lester at Classic Country Sunday:

From: Classic Country Sunday - John Lester

Once again looking forward to this week's edition of Classic Country Sunday! The music will run just like it does every Sunday afternoon from 2 PM to 6 PM Eastern via the internet on the "Your Kawartha Oldies" station, which is now officially known as "The Fantastic Kawartha Time Machine". Now that Christmas is sneaking up on us at a fast rate we'll include some great Christmas tunes as well. I just wish I had more seasonal material from some of our more "local" artists.

This week's show has a great lineup of Canadian artists including: Brett Kissel, Rip Sanders, The Carlton Showband, Reg Benoit, Tommy Hunter, Wolfe Milestone, Scott Woods, James Ryce, Clarence Deveaux, Marie Johnston, Linda Evans, Ivan Hicks, Bob McQuaid, Darlene Brooks, Gary Peters, Leo Stock, Jennifer Mitchell, Kiley Jo Masson, Louise Wright, Rick Amair, Chuck Simms, Bonita Mercer, Jennifer Brant, Steve & Spike Pitocco, The Northern Suns, Gary Hooper, Mary Rowan, Anne Murray, The Walters Family, and maybe more!

This week's Feature Artist will be a great friend from the Trenton area, Darlene Brooks, and the "My Favourite 4" feature comes from a list sent in by Jerry Axton who lives just outside Bridgewater Nova Scotia. You'll also hear fiddle tunes, a touch of bluegrass, the "Old Country Church" gospel segment, some instrumentals, and some music that will definitely get you in the mood for A Country Christmas.

Listeners will also enjoy country classics by such legends as Jeannie Seely, Mel Tillis, Lynn Anderson, Lorrie Morgan, Mac Wiseman, Jim & Jessie McReynolds, Patti Page, Hank Snow, Ava Barber, Dolly Parton, Mel Tillis, Loretta Lynn, Ernest Tubb & Red Foley, Jean Shepard, Charley Pride, The Stattler Brothers, Dottie, Vestal Goodman, Tammy Wynette, Boxcar Willie, Roy Clark, Ricky Skaggs and a whole lot more.

I hope you can tune in today, Sunday December 10, 2023 from 2 to 6 PM Eastern by going to the web site www.yourkawarthaoldies.com. Once you land on the home page simply look for "Click here to listen"... or you can click on this link [https://onlineradiobox.com/ca/yourkawarthaoldies/...](https://onlineradiobox.com/ca/yourkawarthaoldies/)

Remember also... just because you might not be near your home computer on Sunday afternoon, the station is mobile. That means you can listen on your smartphone or other smart device. If you happen to be "on the go" you don't necessarily have to leave Classic Country Sunday at home - you can take it with you!



Ivan and several other notable artists are featured on this show, be sure to visit the site and give them a listen. Also sent in by Ivan is the following poster on a jam session being held on January 14 at the Old Triangle in Moncton:

Gary Morris and Crossroads will be appearing on January 6 from 4 to 7pm at Poley Mountain and again on February 17th!



There will also be a Pure Country show at the Heritage Center in Marysville on January 20. The Pure Country Show Band are joined by Jason Cleghorn and Yvonne Lloyd, tickets are 15\$ and the doors open at 6pm with the show starting at 7pm:

**TICKETS
\$15**

**DOORS OPEN
AT 6:00 PM
SHOW STARTS
AT 7:00 PM**



FEATURING



JASON CLEGHORN



YVONNE LLOYD

WITH THE PURE COUNTRY SHOW BAND

Marysville Heritage Center

Saturday, January 20, 2024

 <p>Moxon's COUNTRY PUMPKIN</p> <p>Farm Fresh Produce Bakery</p>	 <p>EAST COAST WHEELS</p>	 <p>DOUBLE DOOR ENTERPRISES LTD Specialists</p>	<p>Fredericton Home hardware building centre Home Hardware Building Centre 286 Main Street Fredericton North 403-458-9940 <small>Locally owned. Genuinely Canadian.</small></p>
 <p>Alan Stivell REALTOR® 506.327.5006</p>	 <p>HALEY'S ASSET RECOVERY SERVICES LTD. FREDERICTON N.B. 506-260-3889</p>	 <p>enviROTHERM INSULATORS</p>	 <p>city concrete 457-9494 Westry@harder.com</p> <p>Bear Bros. Builders 478-7937</p>
 <p>WILLIAMS REAL ESTATE</p>	 <p>SEWELLS PAVING www.sewells.com 453-PAVE</p>	 <p>A.L. Gullison Ltd. "We're Builders"</p>	 <p>Leachmans Plumbing & Heating Plumbing Done Right.</p>
 <p>Charlie's Tire</p>	 <p>FRONT GATE FINANCIAL GROUP</p>	 <p>Desjardins Insurance Kevin Burke 455-3276</p>	 <p>FREDERICTON'S CLASSIC TRAILER SALES</p>
 <p>CORRECTIVE FOOT CARE</p>	 <p>PORTER'S DINER Home of the BOTTOMLESS Fries</p>		

REG GALLANT & ANNA THIBODEAU

APPEARING AT:

Minto Seniors Hall
 Friday Jan 26th, 2024
 8:00pm - 11:00pm
 Come dance the night away!!!

My singing partner Anna Thibodeau and I will be at the Minto Seniors Hall on Friday January 26, from 8 to 11pm

The New Brunswick Country Showcase will be having a concert on Saturday evening January 27 at the playhouse in Fredericton and will feature 5 or 6 Hall of Famers! See poster below for more details:

NB COUNTRY SHOWCASE
An Evening of Country Music to Remember

JOAN KENNEDY
JOYCE BOONE
NOEL NASON
NATALIE THIBODEAU
MARTY HALL
DAN O'BRIEN
SAM JOHNSTON

FROSTival

\$29
 Plus Taxes

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
www.theplayhouse.ca

FREDERICTON PLAYHOUSE
SATURDAY : JANUARY 27 : 7:30PM

DOWNTOWN FREDERICTON **COVEY BASICS** **Fredericton PURE COUNTRY-103.5** **Country Pumpkin** **TRC TOM** **CARSTAR** **Neilson's HEATING & VENTILATION** **New Brunswick BRUNSWICK CANADA** **A.L. Gallison**

The Bob Burgess show in Sussex will be on January 28. See poster below:

**BOB BURGESS
& Friends
COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW**

**Sunday – January 28 – 2:00 pm
All Seasons Inn Banquet Room**

Tickets \$15.00 at the door

Guests Include

**Tessa Brame – Susan Layton
Don Baker – Laydan Long**

The Band

**Bob Burgess – Drums and Vocals
Mike Hanlon – Bass Guitar
Phil Bustard – Guitar
Crystal Jones – Fiddle
Steve Lyons – Guitar and Vocals**

50/50 Draw – Canteen

Proceeds going to Waterford Youth Center.



There are many scheduled events for January (weather permitting) and these are just a few that I know of so be sure to send in your information on what's happening in your area and we will get it in for you! I am collecting information now for February's column so if you have an event or milestone that you wish to share with the Hall members send it along!

The Board of Directors meeting will be held on January 14 (weather permitting) following the Inductee Selection Committee's meeting to choose the 2024 Inductees! We've got a busy schedule coming up as we start to plan next year's Gala to be held at the Fredericton Motor Inn in October of 2024, more details to follow!

A big congratulations to Hall of Fame member Ray Legere on receiving the IBMA Award. Ray wrote:

Thanks to IBMA and Amy Beth Hale for taking the challenge of getting this to me. In Bluegrass music, these are the awards you endeavour to receive. I appreciate being asked to take part on this recording and excited that we won. Thank you to Special Consensus, Alison Brown of Compass Records, and all the cast involved. I guess you can't go wrong with a Lightfoot tune eh?



There is a new feature on the Hall of Fame website to help members post items for sale such as CDs, memorabilia, merchandise, and musical instruments for sale as well! Something you may want to take advantage of and maybe find something for you to buy.

I would like to remind everyone about the New Brunswick Country Music podcast hosted by Brent Buchanan and myself where we talk about all things country in New Brunswick and interview upcoming as well as established musicians who are making things happen around the province! Check out the link at the Hall of Fame website or the Pure Country Radio station website!

I am including a new section in the column called “Who is making waves in Country Music” and this month we feature our first artist who is not in the Hall of Fame but I am sure will be someday. So...

Who is making waves in Country Music?

That artist is Aaron Currie, chicken picker extraordinaire from Sussex and currently in Nashville. Aaron was taught guitar and bass by his father Randy Currie another well-known Sussex musician and he took to it like a duck takes to water mastering the instrument in short order. Aaron then started to appear on recordings and at concerts soon after. I am honoured to have had this young man on my CD and his playing really brought a new country feel to a few of my songs.

Now Aaron is currently touring with Wynonna Judd after a stint with Josh Turner and several others! We will be hearing lots from him in the future for sure! Congrats Aaron and keep on pickin!



As always I want to end with reminding everyone to support our monthly 50/50 draw, the money raised helps the Hall of Fame with programs and projects and the pots keep getting bigger.

Congrats to last month's winner: Garold Hanscombe!



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

Well folks I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and wish you all the best for 2024! Keep sending me your events, milestones and anything you want to share with your fellow Hall members. Be sure to stay tuned into the column, I've got lots of exciting things to share in the coming months!



Keep it country!
Reg Gallant
Vice-President (current) // President (incoming)
NBCMHF (2009)