

Music Notes for February 2022

Hello everyone, I hope you're all well and staying safe. We are now heading into February and things have just gone back to level 2 in the province. It bodes well for a return to some sense of normalcy. These are trying and divisive times and I thank God every day that music is in my life and that we as a musical community are close knit enough to help each other out and support each other.

I received a phone call from Hall member Randy Vail a short while ago and we talked about many things. This winter has been rough on all of us and Randy and his wife have had a few rough patches as well. But they're strong folk and do their best not to dwell on it. I would ask that everyone keeps Randy and Glenna in their thoughts and prayers and send along a message of support for our wonderful friend, humble person and excellent songwriter. Randy is working on a new album and hopes to have it ready by spring, the title will be "Valley Echos" and will feature more of Randy's signature writing style - simple but well thought out songs about home, family, and life lessons.

I do have some bits of information to impart to you this month in the form of what is happening:

These are exciting times of growth for the hall and we are about to launch our first ever virtual board meeting and selection of inductee's for 2022's gala. The meeting will take place on Sunday February 13th. Minutes and results will be provided as usual at a later date.

We will also be discussing the future of the hall and its Board members, moving forward in the years to come with the focus being on the promotion of the Hall of Fame, the membership, and succession of the executive committee.

Visibility and promotion have always been a top wish on my list of priorities and I know we will get there. I have every confidence in our ability to strengthen and make our province a standout contributor of great musicians and vocalists to the Canadian music tapestry.

I spoke with Hall member Bob Henry and he sent me the following information on the new radio show he is hosting in the K.V. area this is what he had to say:

Oldies 96, is CINB-FM a community radio station with studios and transmitter in Rothesay, NB. It can be heard in the KV Valley and Greater Saint John area on 96.1, it is also available on Bell Fibe at channel 789 in Atlantic Canada or on the Internet at www.oldies96.com

The station has an all-gold format that allows songs that were popular in the 50s to the 70s to be played.

On Sunday night from 7 to 10 they have a program that I have volunteered to host called “Jukebox Country” that plays country songs from the same period.

Long story short, I can play local artists as long as they are doing “cover versions” of songs from before the 80s.

The rule I use – if the song was popular before the 80’s – and you’re a Canadian – I can play it.

In these pandemic times the best way to get CDs to me is by mail.

If there are any questions, please ask bob.henry@oldies96.com.

So from what we discussed if you have cover C.D’s that you would love to get some air play on you can contact Bob and send him the material and he would be more than happy to play the music.

Ivan and Vivian are staying busy with “Fiddle Tune Fridays” on Facebook, and of course the bus tour that they will be going on in April/May to the southern U.S. They will most likely get things going again with house concerts if we can manage to get to a green level soon. You can see all the info on their website.

I would once again ask that if you have information that you would like the membership to know about please contact myself or Brenda Best to make sure we receive it before the newsletter is due out and remember info for the Music Notes column should get to me before the end of the month for publication the following month (i.e. last week of February in time for March’s column).

I am starting to get some bookings for myself as well so hopefully the trend will continue for all of us.

If any one has contacts for clubs, private engagements, or bus tour operators that would be interested please feel free to share this info, I know I would certainly appreciate it and I imagine others would too !

I will close for now and ask you all to stay safe and stay connected. We all need to work together for the future. It is our shared history and legacy.

Reg Gallant
N.B.C.M.H.F. (2009)