



The Island Fiddler

The Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Fiddlers Society



Vol. 14, Issue 3

September 2016

Golden Summer of Fiddling!



Jesse Francis (left) presents Jim MacDougall (right) with the Golden Fiddle Award at the Atlantic Fiddlers' Jamboree on August 13. Each year the Jamboree recognizes someone who has made a significant contribution to the Acadian fiddling community.



Acadian of the Year - Albert Arsenault (left) receiving his award from Alcide Bernard (right), president of L'Exposition agricole et le Festival acadien de la région Évangéline. Albert is a dedicated volunteer and talented performer.



Zakk Cormier, Anastasia DesRoches and Joel Chiasson perform at the Mont Carmel Concert Series. The Series had a remarkable summer!



Pepeto Pinto warms up in the tuning room before his performance at Rollo Bay. Pep was one of the highlights of a musically diverse lineup at the festival.

The Island Fiddler

View and print all issues of
The Island Fiddler in colour
online at www.peifiddlers.com

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Fiddle and/or Accompaniment (+) Teachers

Argyle Shore	Roy Johnstone (+)(Skype)	Fiddle	675-2541
Bear River	Sam Arseneau (+)	Fiddle	327-7262
Caledonia	Amy Swenson	Fiddle	962-2273
Charlottetown	Aaron Crane (+)	Fiddle	388-1040
	Cynthia MacLeod	Fiddle	940-1825
	Gary Chipman (+)	Fiddle	213-4978
	Kathryn Dau-Schmidt	Fiddle	672-2711
Cumberland	Kendra MacGillivray (+)	Fiddle	367-5606
	Ward MacDonald (+)	Fiddle	201-1758
Fortune	Matthew Reid	Fiddle	566-2894
	Courtney Hogan	Fiddle	675-3593
Richmond	Mark Haines (+)	Fiddle	687-1404
Rollo Bay	MacKinnon Family	Fiddle	854-2245
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	Anastasia DesRoches	Fiddle	854-3116

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Brittany Banks	902-314-7676
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Jaime Bell	902-962-2846
Jennifer Carson	902-314-6386
Judy MacLean	902-969-4100 or 902-566-5545
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Shirley Burke	902-368-2416
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Tracy Arsenault	902-854-3237

If you wish to be listed as a teacher, contact the editor

Fiddling Related Websites

Anastasia DesRoches	www.anastasiadesroches.com
Atlantic Fiddlers' Jamboree	www.atlanticfiddlersjamboree.com
Bellows and Bows	www.mun.ca/mmap/back_on_track/b_and_b/
Billy MacInnis	www.billymacinnis.homestead.com
Bowing Down Home	www.bowingdownhome.ca
Caledonian Orchestra	www.caledonianorchestra.com
Canadian Grand Masters	www.canadiangrandmasters.ca
Cape Breton Fiddlers	www.capebretonfiddlers.com
CB Fiddle Recordings	www.cbffiddle.com/rx/
Cape Breton Ottawa	www.cbsession.com/
Courtney Hogan	www.courtneyhogan.com
College of Piping	www.collegeofpiping.com
Cynthia MacLeod	www.cynthiamacleod.com
Fiddling Fisherman	www.fiddlingfisherman.com
Glengarry Fiddlers	www.glengarrycelticmusic.com
Gordie MacKeeman	www.gordiemackeeman.com
Ivan and Vivian Hicks	www.ivanhicks.com
Judy MacLean	www.judymacleandance.ca
Ken Perlman	www.kenperlman.com
Kendra MacGillivray	www.kendramacgillivray.com
Learn Tunes by Ear	www.slowplayers.org/SCTLS/learn
Learn Tunes by Video	www.youloop.io
Maritime Fiddlers Assoc.	www.maritimefiddler.ca
Music PEI	www.musicpei.com
PEI Fiddle Camp	www.peifiddlecamp.com
P.E.I. Fiddlers Society	www.peifiddlers.com
Richard Wood	www.rwood.ca
Rollo Bay Fiddle Fest	www.rollobayfiddlefest.ca

Square dancing: the original
social networking.

PEI Fiddlers Society
annual general meeting
will be held Thursday, October 27th
at 6:00 PM at the Old Triangle.

Fiddler **Matthew Reid** accompanies stepdancer **Alice Cheverie** with some fast-paced reels. Alice is a longtime member of The Judy MacLean Dancers and performs regularly at Sunday Night Shenanigans events held at York Community Centre hosted by Judy MacLean.



BEST WISHES TO

Buddy Longaphie who is recovering from heart surgery. Buddy is pictured below (centre) with Lorraine Lynch (left) and Gavin McKenna (right) at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival in July.



Calling All Fiddlers! Researcher Kate Bevan-Baker is seeking Interviews with Island Fiddlers in October

Concordia University PhD candidate and fiddler Kate Bevan-Baker is looking to interview several fiddle players on PEI between October 3-8, 2016. Her doctoral research focuses on Irish fiddling in Canada, particularly Irish fiddling on PEI.

Each interview will last between 45-60 minutes, and Kate is able to meet fiddlers wherever is most convenient for them. She would like to interview a mixture of young and older fiddlers of varying levels of playing. Since her research deals primarily with Irish fiddling, fiddlers with a strong Irish background are encouraged to contact her. Fiddlers without Irish heritage may also contact Kate, especially if you play a large number of Irish tunes!

Interview questions will focus on each fiddler's repertoire and their mode(s) of learning and performing tunes. Your participation would be greatly appreciated!

Kate can be contacted by email or phone at bevanbaker@gmail.com or [514-792-3754](tel:514-792-3754).

Safely Home



Carl Vincent Baird
on Thursday, February 11, 2016



Frank Lechowick

**Morell Fiddlers
by Frank Lechowick**

Well, didn't we all have a grand time under a golden moon at our summer barbecue at Marion Pirsch's old home in Earnscliffe. Special guests included fiddler Gavin McKenna and his wife Helen of

Ontario and PEI and Marion's brother, guitarist and photographer Doug Young. Happily, Sterling Baker came down from Lakeside with two new reels (for the sheet music see pages 6 and 7).

We appeared twice at Judy MacLean's Shenanigans in Little York and also played at a benefit in the Vernon River Parish Hall. We appeared at Riverview Manor in Montague for a variety show under George Johnston's rambunctious direction, where Martin Kenny of St. Teresa's lent his sturdy voice and playing to the occasion and Lorraine (Lanie) Lynch, with us from Boston for the season, stirred the juices with her magical bow.

Our finest architectural setting turned out to be the certified historic site of St. Peter's Bay United Church. It is a snug venue, all brown wood inside, where performers and audience are hardly more than a nose apart.

All along we have been missing our sparkplug, Renie Webster, who is dealing with some health issues. We hope for a speedy recovery and want her to know that she is in our minds and hearts and prayers.



Cathy Campbell

**Prince County Fiddlers
by Cathy Campbell**

In July, the Prince County Fiddlers performed on the outdoor stage at Green Shore as part of Celtic Days for the Summerside Lobster Festival. In August, we participated in the Tyne Valley Parade and we appreciate Cecelia Bell joining us on the piano. It rained off and on, but it didn't stop us from playing!

Also, in August we were invited to perform at the Atlantic Fiddlers' Jamboree at the Mont Carmel Parish Hall. Just before we started to play, organizers announced that our lead fiddler, Jim MacDougall, had been chosen as this year's recipient of the "Golden Fiddle Award." Jesse Francis read a wonderful bio on Jim and shared stories about his contribution to fiddle music through the years. Jim's family was in attendance to witness the award presentation. Special thanks to Ward MacDonald for making it all come together. We are very proud of Jim and his accomplishment. He is a strong presence in our group and we are lucky to have him as our lead fiddler...way to go Jim!!

Our latest performance was at the Summerside Legion. The crowd was wonderful and really appreciated the tunes! We still continue to play at local senior residences as well. Regular Monday night practices will resume on September 12th from 7:30-9:30 at Community Connections.



Michael Pendergast and past PEI Fiddlers president Nathan Condon performing at Festival of Small Halls in June.



Prince County Fiddlers performing in the Tyne Valley Parade in August, accompanied by Cecilia Bell on the piano.

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Amy Swenson

Southern Kings Fiddlers by Amy Swenson

We continued our practices every other Monday evening all summer and welcomed back some "summer players" who liven up our group every year. The SK fiddlers played at Sturgeon Ceilidh on July 31st, at the Murray Harbour Farm and Craft Market on August 27th, and at Old Farm Day in Orwell Corner on September 3rd. Isabelle and Eliza Blaquiére stepdanced for us at Sturgeon and also played all our tunes along with us that night. Now aged 9 and 11, they are enthusiastic young players! They have been busking at the Murray Harbour Farm and Craft Market along with violin player Nicholas Matheson. Catch some music and great produce and crafts at the newly renovated Murray Harbour Community Centre every Saturday from 9am to 12pm through October 29th, and the Christmas Craft Show 9am to 2pm on Saturday, Dec. 3rd - coffee and treats are always available!

At our last practice, we welcomed back Bernard Farrell, who has recovered well from his unfortunate accident with a horse and also Lorna Sutherland who was very happy to be able to return to play with us in a lull with her battle with cancer. We have missed her enthusiasm and spunk and hope to see her again soon.

Eastern Kings lost a pioneer lady fiddler on August 31st. Kay Munroe MacKenzie celebrated her 97th birthday in July and was playing her fiddle up until then. She came from a musical family near Montague and taught herself to play at age 10. She became a lively player who accompanied her father Murdoch to local dances and began to play when he took a break, soon becoming in demand as a fiddler herself. We are talking the 1930s and early 1940s here, when very few women played at dances or in public. She retained her love of music all her life and even in the past couple of years when her memory for other things was getting hazy, she could recall her favorite tunes and loved playing and being entertained. Rest in peace, dear Kay.

Our practices will continue on alternate Monday evenings between 7pm and 9pm starting September 12. We are at the Rural Development Centre on Brooke Street off Main in Montague. Visitors are always welcome, and you can call me at 962-2273 to confirm practice dates or if you have any questions. Enjoy the Fall!



The Southern Kings Fiddlers and friends enjoyed entertaining at Old Farm Day September 3rd at Orwell Corner. Photo above shows some of the fiddlers, from left, Marie MacIntyre, Bernard Farrell, Lorraine Lynch, & Gavin McKenna, accompanied by Urban Chaisson and Leslie Stewart. Other fiddlers present were Amy Swenson, Ethyl MacQuarrie, Paul Demeulenare, Wayne Maclean and Louis Stewart.

Safely Home



Catherine "Kay" MacKenzie (nee Munroe)
on August 31, 2016

Kay MacKenzie was a pioneer lady fiddler born in 1919. She played at dances in Eastern PEI in the 1930s and 40s and enjoyed playing all her life.

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LAKESIDE REEL

STERLING BAKER

transcribed by Frank Lechowick

5

10

14



(Left) Kristyn Visser, longtime member of The Judy MacLean Dancers and fiddler Megan Cunningham Pollard - taken by Pix ByLorne for the Buzz in early summer at York, Sunday Night Shenanigans (she was accompanied by Johnny Ross on keys). (Above) Richard Wood and Courtney Hogan-Chandler share a tune at the Emerald Ceilidh in August.

FRANK'S REEL/HORNPIPE

STERLING BAKER

transcribed by Frank Lechowick

5

9

13



(Above) members of the Queens County Fiddlers perform for the residents of Beach Grove Home in June. (Right) Tony Smith enjoys some tunes following the Queens County Fiddlers' practice in Charlottetown.



Dorothy Griffin-Farish

Acadian News by Dorothy Griffin-Farish

Greetings and Bonjour Everyone! Wasn't this a great summer for music on P.E.I.?

Congratulations to Zita Gallant from Mont Carmel on recently receiving a Governor General's Award from The Right Hon. David Lloyd Johnston for her contribution to Canadian Society. Zita is a tireless worker for her church and community. She and her husband Edmond do a great deal to ensure the success of the Mont Carmel Summer Concerts and they participate in many other Acadian and musical events.

Have you heard about the group *Imagine!?* This group formed over a year ago and consists of Paula Doyle-Arsenault, Marie Arsenault, and Alice Bérubé. Alice, who hails from Manitoba but now calls P.E.I. home, is a lively and talented fiddler, Paula is group pianist and also sings, and Marie plays guitar and does vocals. Both Paula and Marie live in the Evangeline region and Alice lives in Summerside. Both Marie and Paula have previously played with other groups.

Nearly 100 musicians and dancers performed in the A2 to 2" benefit show for Fort McMurray which was held on June 11th at the Acadian Musical Village. Some of the entertainers included Kendall Paugh and Krysten Cameron, Kaylee and Britney Arsenault, 112 Accords, the trio of Jonathan, Louise and Shane Arsenault, *Imagine!*, the band Kavorka (Yves Arsenault, Stéphane Bouchard and Marcel Arsenault), Gary Gallant and friends, Debbie Montgomery and friends, and the Dawson Arsenault, Tianna Gallant and Gilbert Arsenault trio.

Besides the Acadian Musical Village dinner theatre, this summer visitors to the Musical Village at Abram-Village were entertained by traditional and modern music by four world-calibre musicians - all Islanders: Louise Arsenault, Hélène Bergeron, Caroline Bernard and Rémi Arsenault.

The Mont Carmel Summer Concert Series organized by La Coopérative de développement culturel et patrimonial de Mont-Carmel ran each Sunday evening from July 3rd to August 28th. Entertainers included Pepeto Pinto, Louise, Hélène and Rémi Arsenault, Jeannita Bernard, Jessica Gallant, Chiquésa, step dancers Alex Arsenault, Lydia Arsenault, Alexander Mitchell, Maria and Emily Arsenault, Isabelle and Danielle Saunders, Jocelyne Arsenault, Lisa Bernard, pianist Max Keenlyside,



Kendra MacGillivray delights the summer crowd in Mont Carmel.

Christina Martin from Nova Scotia, Anastasia DesRoches, Zakk Cormier, Joël Chiasson, Jill Chandler, Bésac Arthur, Peggy Clinton and the Ross Family, Simon Daniel, Ian Foster, Kendra MacGillivray, Albert and Mona Arsenault, The Marrieds from Ontario, Cynthia MacLeod, Monique Poirier and François Émond, Les Swingirls, Dylan Menzie, Peter Arsenault and family, Allan Gallant, Ian Sherwood, Christine Melanson, Maxim Cormier, Marcel Caissie, J.J. Chaisson, the Steppettes (Danika Richard, Isabelle Richards, Emily Arsenault, Katherine Arsenault, Keera Gallant, Jorja Rae Thompson, Gabrielle Gallant and Madelaine Richards), *Imagine!*, George Belliveau, Keith Mullins, Louise Arsenault and the Joe Narcisse Family, and Gary Gallant.



Gary Gallant, Albert Arsenault, Peter Arsenault, and Hélène Bergeron performing at The Mont Carmel Summer Concert Series.



Cape Breton's Maxime Cormier and New Brunswick's Christine Melanson were featured at the Atlantic Fiddlers' Jamboree and the Mont Carmel Summer Concert Series in August.



(Above) JJ Chaisson and Jake Charron performing in the Golden Fiddle Concert at the Atlantic Fiddlers' Jamboree in August.

(Below) Mairi Rankin and Allie Roberts of The Outside Track performing at Rollo Bay in July .

If the old tunes won't come to mind, may they at least come to the fingers.



(Above) The Chaisson Clan and a few friends take the stage in Rollo Bay (Below, centre) Luka Hall busking outside The Guild in Charlottetown. (Below, right) two students from New Brunswick performing during the student concert of the Rollo Bay Music Camp.



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Carolyn Drake

Queens County Fiddlers by Carolyn Drake

Back to school, back to routines and back to fiddling! That's what September is all about, and this year is no different for the Queens County Fiddlers as we gathered again on September 7th at The Mount in Charlottetown for our first practice of the fall season – which was also a casual performance for the residents of this seniors facility.

It was great to see everyone again, especially since we enjoyed one of our longest summer breaks in recent years, taking some time off after the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival.

Speaking of Rollo Bay, this year's festival was fantastic! Hats off to JJ, Tim and all the Chaisson cousins who did an excellent job of taking over the annual event and bringing lots of fresh ideas. The local talent was terrific, as always, and the addition of Cape Breton fiddlers, such as Ashley MacIsaac, Andrea Beaton and Mairi Rankin, just made it even better. The group kicked off the Sunday afternoon concert under the great leadership of Aaron Crane and with Jennifer Garrity on keyboard.

When it comes to fiddling, there's no such thing as "the lazy, crazy days of summer," because it seems everyone wants to play, perform, get to fiddle camps, practise and listen as much as possible. That was certainly true for our QCF members this year as we were on the go both here

on the Island and off-Island.

It would take too long to mention everyone's summer, but here are a couple of highlights. Aaron was possibly the busiest of all of us this summer as he was back at The Guild as a cast member of "Anne & Gilbert – The Musical" and part of the cast in "Stan Rogers: A Matter of Heart", also at The Guild. Our youngest member, Luka Hall, spent lots of time at The Guild this summer, too, as he was busy displaying his fiddling skills as the theatre's official busker. Jenna Cyr and Aaron performed at the Indian River Festival, and Aaron was on hand to play for the festival's annual fundraiser in September.

We're all looking forward to getting back into the group's music groove this fall with some new tunes and possibly a big, new project. Stay tuned. Our practices have resumed for the fall season on Wednesday evenings at Queen Charlotte Intermediate School on North River Road.



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Weekly Events Forecast Fall 2016

For a complete list of 2016 Festivals, Events & Ceilidhs on PEI, visit www.tourismpei.com/pei-festivals-and-events, www.ceilidhs.ca, www.buzzon.com or check local listings

Sundays 2:00-5:00pm	Weekly Music Sessions	Old Triangle Irish Alehouse	Charlottetown	902-892-5200
Sundays 8:00pm	Kitchen Party	St. Margaret's Parish Hall	St. Margaret's	902-687-2546
Sundays 7:30pm	Sunday Night Ceilidhs	Cymbria Lions Centre	South Rustico	902-963-2793
1 st Sundays 7:00pm	Ceilidh	Olde Dunstaffnage School Centre	Dunstaffnage	902-629-1494
4th Sundays 7:00-9:00pm	Ceilidh/Concert	Bonshaw Community Centre	Bonshaw	902-675-4282
Alt. Sundays 6:30pm to Oct 23	Sturgeon Ceilidhs	St. Paul's Parish Hall	Sturgeon	902-838-3287
2nd Sundays 7:00-9:00pm	Kitchen Party/Ceilidh	Cotton Centre	Stratford	902-569-2732
2 nd Sundays 7:00pm	Ceilidh	Hunter River Lions Club Hall	Hunter River	902-964-2536
3 rd Sundays 1:30pm	Ceilidh	Seniors Active Living Centre, UPEI	Charlottetown	902-628-8388
3 rd Sundays 7:00pm	Ceilidh	Kelly's Cross Church Hall	Kelly's Cross	902-658-2290
1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00pm	Ceilidh/Kitchen Party	Bingo Country, Riverside Dr.	Charlottetown	902-940-6702
2nd & 4th Mondays 7:30pm	Winsloe Ceilidh	Winsloe United Church	Winsloe	902-368-1233
Tuesdays 8:00pm	Georgetown Ceilidh	Kings Playhouse	Georgetown	902-652-2053
Tuesdays 7:30pm to Oct 4	MacKinnon Ceilidhs	MacKinnon Homestead Grounds	Richmond	902-854-3513
Tues & Fri 7:30pm to Oct 4	Leon Gallant's PEI Ceilidh	Stanley Bridge Hall	Stanley Bridge	902-886-2184
3rd Tuesdays 7:00pm	Lions Club Ceilidh	Cotton Centre	Stratford	902-393-2264
Wednesdays 8:00pm	Ceilidh	Silver Threads	Souris	902-687-2396
Wednesdays 7:30pm end Oct	Ceilidh in the City	Murchison Centre, 17 Pius X Ave	Charlottetown	902-569-1133
Thursdays 8:00pm to Sep 29	Close to the Ground	Fiddlers' Sons at Kaylee Hall	Pooles Corner	902-838-4399
Thursdays 7:30pm to Oct 13	Ceilidh	St. Mark's Parish Hall	Burton	902-859-2013
Thursdays 7:00-9:00pm	Schooner Sessions	Old Triangle Irish Alehouse	Charlottetown	902-892-5200
Thursdays 7:30pm to Sep 29	Stanley Bridge Ceilidhs	W.I. Hall, Rte 6 & 224	Stanley Bridge	902-836-4310
Fridays 8:00pm	Ceilidh at the Irish Hall	Irish Cultural Centre	Charlottetown	902-892-2367
Fridays 8:00pm	Ceilidh & Dance	St. Peter's Bay Circle Club	St. Peter's Bay	902-739-3334
2 nd Fridays 9pm-12am	Kitchen Party	Resto-Bar La Trappe	Abram-Village	902-854-3300
Fridays 8:00pm	Ceilidh	Kaylee Hall	Pooles Corner	902-838-4399
Fridays 8:00-11:00pm	Workshop & Jam	Boys & Girls Club	Wellington	902-436-5532
2 nd Fridays 7:30pm from Sep 2	Kitchen Country Ceilidh	Wheatley River Community Hall	Wheatley River	902-964-2586
Saturdays 3:00-6:00pm	Kitchen Party	Summerside Legion	Summerside	902-436-2091
Saturdays 8:00pm	Belfast Ceilidh	Belfast Rec Centre	Belfast	902-659-2554

Upcoming Special Events Fall 2016

Oct 1	Everything Fitz – Ottawa Valley Fiddles and Step – Harmony House – www.harmonyhousetheatre.com
Oct 18	Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy – Confederation Centre – www.confederationcentre.com
Oct 27 6 PM	PEI Fiddlers Society Annual General Meeting — The Old Triangle
Oct 28, 29	Howie MacDonald and Dave MacIsaac – The Old Triangle
Nov 11, 12	Ben Miller, Anita MacDonald, Zakk Cormier, Tyson Chen – The Old Triangle
Nov 24	PEI Military Family Services Virtual Ceilidh – www.peimfrc.ca



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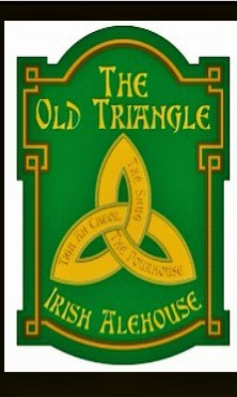
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Fiddle Practices Open to the Public

<p>Eastern Kings Fiddlers Souris 902-687-1521 October to May Mondays 7:00pm Souris Regional School</p> <p>Prince County Fiddlers Summerside, 902-436-0380 Mondays 7:30pm Community Connections</p> <p>Southern Kings Fiddlers Montague 902-962-2273 Alt. Mondays 7:00pm Active Communities</p>	<p>Queens County Fiddlers Charlottetown 902-940-5949 Wednesdays 7:30pm Queen Charlotte School</p> <p>Morell Fiddlers Morell 902-961-2962 Thursdays 7:30pm Morell Pharmacy</p> <p>Acadian Fiddlers Wellington 902-436-5532 Fridays 8:00pm Boys and Girls Club</p>
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What are my benefits of membership?

For \$20 per year, you will receive hard copies of The Island Fiddler by mail. Your contribution will also support the activities of the Society including The Island Fiddler, our website and the promotion of fiddle music across P.E.I..

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