



The Island Fiddler

The Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Fiddlers Society



Vol. 5, Issue 2

September 2007

Island Fiddlers Receive Life Memberships

Criteria for Life Membership in The Society is: 1 (a) automatic induction of Society members, who have been members for at least ten (10) years, at age 65; or (b) automatic induction of Society members who have been members for twenty (20) years (cumulative); or (c) induction of Society members who have made exceptional or outstanding contributions to Island Fiddling, by nomination by another member and upon approval of the Executive of The Society. (2) Honorary Life Membership will be open to anyone residing in P.E.I. on the recommendation of a Society member and approval of the Executive of The Society.

Life Memberships were presented at the **QCF Annual Concert** on June 9th, 2007 to: **George Weatherbie, Fr. Andrew MacDonald, Clyde Demone, Marlene Gallant, Gerry Cheverie,**



Dalvay Scott and Buddy Dunn.

Honourary Memberships were presented to **Reggie and Rose Grady**—Rose was one of the first people that Bishop Faber Mac-

Rose and Reg Grady Donald contacted when he was considering the formation of the PEI Fiddlers Society. Originally a Paquet from Souris, Rose was an accomplished player and is still able to put out a tune or two even. Reggie Grady is pretty much a household name wherever a fiddle happens to reside. Reggie has inspected the fiddles of hundreds of Islanders not to mention people all over the Maritimes and the Eastern Seaboard. Reggie and Rose both deserve recognition by the Society for their contributions to Island Fiddling.

Prince County Fiddler Pete Doiron was honoured with a PEIFS Life Membership on June 11, 2007.



Eastern Kings Life Members:
Allan MacDonald, Francis MacDonald,
Jenny McQuaid, Teresa Wilson,
PEIFS President Sheila Fitzpatrick

PEIFS Life Memberships were given to the following members of the Eastern Kings Fiddlers Association at the 31st Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival: **Allan Hector MacDonald** of Bangor and **Francis Mac-**

Donald of Morell have both played the fiddle for many years and were among the founding members of the PEI Fiddlers Society. Allan and Francis continue to play at various venues in PEI and have both made outstanding contributions to Island fiddling.

Honourary Life Memberships were given to the following people at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival for their outstanding contribution to Island fiddling: **Jenny MacQuaid** has her roots and her heart in Eastern. She is an accomplished fiddle player and was a founding member of the Monticello ceilidh where she served as MC for more than 15 years. Jenny was otherwise known as one of the partners in the "Bridgett and Cecily" comedy act that performed in a variety of venues all over the Island during the 80's and early 90's.

Teresa (Mel MacPhee) Wilson knows all the old tunes and has never hesitated to share her knowledge with anyone with an interest to learn. Not only does Teresa play the fiddle but she has accompanied many fiddlers over the years on keyboard and guitar and has also shared her talent for making "mouth music" or "tuning" – a method of singing the fiddle tunes done years ago at the old dances as accompanist to the fiddler.

See Life Memberships, page 2

The Island Fiddler

Acting Editor: Anne M. McPhee 687-1521
Distribution: Patsy Cook 566-2424
Advertising: Blair Myers 569-4518

The Island Fiddler is the quarterly newsletter of the P.E.I. Fiddlers Society.

All editions of *The Island Fiddler* can be found on the internet at <http://www.peifiddlers.com>

The *opinions* expressed herein are not necessarily those of *The Island Fiddler*. *The Island Fiddler* does not assume any responsibility or otherwise with respect to the products or services advertised.

Mail: The Island Fiddler, 135 Kent Street,
P.O. Box 3311, Charlottetown, PE C1A 8W5
Email: annemc1@pei.sympatico.ca

P.E.I. Fiddlers Society
 Established 22 May 1977 * Incorporated 31 March 1983

P.E.I. Fiddlers Society Executive

Sheila MacKenzie, President	838-3334
Ward MacDonald, 1st Vice-President	626-8084
Carolyn Drake, 2nd Vice-President	894-8218
Anne M. McPhee, Secretary	687-1521
Paul Cheverie, Treasurer	566-3551

Prince County Fiddlers

Barry Thompson, President	836-3844
walthompson@gov.pe.ca	

Queens County Fiddlers

Blair Myers, President	569-4518
bssw@pei.sympatico.ca	

Eastern Kings Fiddlers

Anne M. McPhee	687-1521
annemc1@pei.sympatico.ca	

Southern Kings Fiddlers

Amy Swenson	962-2273
gagliano31@hotmail.com	

Acadian Fiddlers

Dorothy Griffin Farish	436-7007
dfarish@isn.net	

Privacy Statement

Information collected is solely for use by
The Prince Edward Island Fiddlers Society.

Life Members (con't) Teresa was one of the founding members of the Monticello ceilidh and was also known as one of the partners in the "Bridgett and Cecily" comedy act. Teresa has kept alive the stories that were told in so many Island kitchens years ago when the fiddler took a break or was no longer able to play.

Bennett Campbell was recognized by the Society for his continuous and dedicated service as Master of Ceremonies to every event held during the entire Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival Weekend over the last 27 years. Bennett has gotten to know hundreds of fiddlers over the years and has consistently offered his encouragement and support for anyone with the courage to take the fiddle on stage and share their talents with others.



Bennett Campbell

George Mel MacPhee is an easily recognized name in the Island fiddle culture. George has played the fiddle all his life and played for many of the Goose River Dances in the past. He never hesitates to take his fiddle out to play for anyone who happens to drop in to his kitchen for a cup of North side tea. George deserves a great deal of credit for the time he took in sharing his talent, knowledge, expertise (and pots and pots of tea) with American musicologist and author Ken Perlman who put so many of our Island tunes to note in "The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island – Celtic and Acadian Tunes in Living Tradition". George Mel has earned this recognition from the PEI Fiddlers Society.



George Mel MacPhee

PEI Fiddlers Society
Annual General Meeting
Saturday October 20, 2007 2:00 pm
 Sobey's Community Room
 (West Royalty - across from Canadian Tire)
 Everyone is Welcome
 Please Plan to Attend

Advertise your goods and services in
The Island Fiddler
 Contact us for rates.

Fiddle and/or Accompaniment Teachers

Abram Village	Louise Arsenault	Fiddle	854-2830
Argyle Shore	Roy Johnstone	Fiddle	675-2541
Caledonia	Amy Swenson	Fiddle	962-2273
Charlottetown	Kathryn Dau-Schmidt	Fiddle	672-2711
	Kendra MacGillivray	Fiddle	367-5606
	Ward MacDonald	Fiddle	626-8084
	Jennifer Lalecheur	Fiddle	566-5430
Cumberland	Courtney Hogan	Fiddle	675-3593
Fortune	Mark Haines	Fiddle+	687-1404
Harrington	Cynthia MacLeod	Fiddle	672-2555
Kensington	Cathy Campbell	Fiddle	836-3887
Montague	Mark Haines	Fiddle+	687-1404
Mount Stewart	Gary Chipman	Fiddle+	676-2599
Richmond	MacKinnon Family	Fiddle	854-2245
Rollo Bay	Kathryn Dau-Schmidt	Fiddle	672-2711
Summerside	Anastasia DesRoches	Fiddle	854-3116

Step Dancing Teachers

College of Piping	436-5377 or 877-224-7473
Jaime Bell	962-2846
Jocelyne Arsenault	854-2721
Judy MacLean	969-4100 or 902-566-5545
Monique Pendergast	367-9218
Susan and Libbe Hubley	836-3887
Shirley Burke	368-2416
Tracy Arsenault	854-3237

If you wish to be listed as a teacher, contact the editor.
687-1521 or annemc1@pei.sympatico.ca

Fiddling Related Websites

Anastasia DesRoches	www.anastasiadesroches.com
Billy MacInnis	www.billymacinnis.homestead.com
Canadian Grand Masters	canadiangrandmasters.ca
Cape Breton Fiddlers	www.sfcelticmusic.com
Cape Breton Live	www.capebretonlive.com
Chuck & Albert	www.chuckandalbert.com
CJFX Radio	www.989xfm.supremeserver11.com
Courtney Hogan	www.courtneyhogan.ca/home.html
College of Piping	www.collegeofpiping.com
Cynthia MacLeod	www.cynthiamacleod.com
Ivan and Vivian Hicks	www.ivanhicks.com
Ken Perlman	www.kenperlman.com
Maritime Fiddlers Assoc.	www.MaritimeFiddler.ca
Nathan Condon	www.nathancondon.com
Ocean 100	www.ocean100.com
P.E.I. Fiddlers Society	www.peifiddlers.com
P.E.I. Music Awards	www.peiawards.com
Queens Co. Fiddlers	www.queenscountyfiddlers.com
Richard Wood	www.peisland.com/richardwood
Rollo Bay Fiddle Fest	www.rollobayfiddlefest.ca
Roy Johnstone	www.royjohnstone.com
Tim Chaisson	www.timothychaisson.com
Tune Transcriptions	www.fiddlecase.com
Waldron Leard Photos	www.flickr.com/photos/skywriter55

In God's Hands - Frank Malachi MacPhee 1917-2007

The passing of Frank Mel MacPhee of Kingsclear, NB occurred on August 12th, 2007. Born in Monticello, PEI, Frank is survived by three brothers; Joe (Norma) NS, John (Mary) ON, George (Gladys) of Monticello, PEI and four sisters all of PEI; Emmalena (Leverett) Crossman of Monticello, Teresa Wilson of Goose River, Gloria McInnis of Montague, and Mary Warren of Goose River.

New CD Releases

The Chaisson Family "Generations" 14 sets performed by Chaisson family members Peter, Steven, Melanie, Kenny, Timothy, JJ, Koady and Elmer Deagle to the accompaniment of Kevin Chaisson and Darla (Chaisson) MacPhee on piano.

Chrissy Crowley one of Cape Breton's new generation of fiddlers lives in the beautiful Margaree area of Cape Breton Island.

Cynthia MacLeod "Hot off the Floor" her third CD in as many years – arguably her best effort yet.

Courtney Hogan "Red Headed Fiddler" with lots of old traditional tunes.

Fiddle Doo and Potluck

The date of the next Fiddle Doo & Pot Luck is October 20th at The New London Complex from 2:00—7:00 p.m. We hope to have a group of fiddlers from New Brunswick including fiddle champion Winston Crawford. There will be lots of group and individual fiddling. Everyone is welcome. Let's have a good turnout of Island fiddlers & accompanists. Bring your musical instruments. We also need lots of people to listen so bring your friends and neighbours for a great afternoon of music and fun. No charge. A small donation at the door, only if you wish, will be appreciated to help cover costs for the venue.

More info call Mary Smith 902-963-2356

**Peter Mallard
CARPENTRY LTD.**

185 MacCallum Road, Marshfield
Charlottetown, RR#3
PEI, C1A-7J7

• NO JOB TOO LARGE OR SMALL •

Ph: 629-1232 Cell: 628-7464

Specializing In
Finish & Custom
Mill Work &
Cabinet Making

- Roofs
- Patios
- Suspended Ceilings
- Residential & Commercial

Murley's Flooring Services

John Murley - Installer

**Hardwood, Laminate, Ceramic,
Vinyl & Carpet Installations**

**195 Mason Rd
Stratford, PE**

**Tel: 902-569-2458
Cell: 902 626-9508**



Anne M. McPhee

Eastern Kings Fiddlers Report

By Anne M. McPhee

Summer was a long time coming this year and it seems it no sooner got here and it was over. Still and all, it's been a busy season for fiddle music in Eastern Kings. The Goose River dances never slowed down all summer with big crowds and lively dance music from Peter Chaisson on fiddle, Bonnie Campbell on piano, Alton MacKenzie on spoons and Urban MacAdam on guitar and vocals.

The Monticello ceilidhs started up again the first of July and went all summer. Guest fiddlers included Francis MacCormack, Allan MacDonald, Francis MacDonald, The MacKinnon Family of Richmond, JJ and Timothy Chaisson and others. A mystery guest regularly appeared, dressed in some outlandish costume, putting the place in an uproar with the laughter. It was eventually revealed to be none other than Jenny McQuaid – acting up as usual. There were lots of good times in the log hall this summer. The ceilidhs will continue through the fall with Urban MacAdam as MC while Gene joins his family in Ottawa. Good luck Gene.

The Rollo Bay ceilidhs started up in June and the crowds only grew week after week. By the middle of August, organizer Peter Chaisson was shaking his head wondering where they were all coming from. "Used to be everyone came for their holidays in July, now it's August." The regulars are more than happy to show the visitors how to do the square dances so everyone has a good time.

Tim Chaisson entertained visitors and locals



Tim Chaisson on fiddle, mom Karen and aunt Doreen Stepdancing at St. Peter's Courthouse Theatre

To view Waldron Leard's collection of photos taken at the Monticello and Rollo Bay Ceilidhs and the Fiddle Festival go to www.peifiddlers.com, click on The Chapters, go to Eastern Kings Fiddlers and follow the links.

Fiddle lessons with Kathryn Dau Schmidt

in Rollo Bay and Charlottetown

Classes will begin Wednesdays in Charlottetown on September 19th and

Mondays in Rollo Bay on October 15th

For more information please phone 672-2711

in a weekly performance at the Courthouse Theatre and Museum in St. Peter's Bay, displaying his versatility on fiddle, guitar, vocals, mandolin and piano as well as storytelling and stepdancing and had visitors asking for more. The quaint, intimate setting and his accompanist, Tian Wigmore on guitar, allowed Tim to shine and gave the audience an opportunity to participate in the show when Tim showed everyone how to do a couple of steps demonstrating a shuffle shuffle step step move. Calling mom Karen and aunt Doreen to the stage for an impromptu demonstration seemed to fit right into the program. It was a wonderful evening.

The Tim Chaisson band with cousin JJ, Tian Wigmore and drummer Patrick Allen played once at week at the Guild this summer. The show demonstrated the evolution of fiddle music from learning in the kitchen at the knee of grandfather Joe Pete Chaisson to fiddle/rock and Tim's vocals. Anyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

Sheila (MacKenzie) Fitzpatrick was on the go all summer organizing and promoting events at the Georgetown Theatre and the Close to the Ground series with Fiddlers Sons and Cynthia MacLeod and special guests at Kaylee Hall in Pooles Corner. She also had her finger in the Celtic Music by the Sea series held in late August at the Court House Theatre and Museum in St. Peter's Bay hosting such entertainers as Cape Breton fiddler Andrea Beaton, our own Chad Mooney and friends and the unique sound of western PEI musicians Jesse Francis on fiddle and vocals, Iain MacInnes on uilleann pipes and whistle and Grady Poe on guitar.

Meanwhile, Elmer Deagle has been on the road all summer with the group Vishten, playing for quite awhile in France - quite an opportunity for an Eastern Kings boy. You go Elmer.

One of the highlights of the summer was the early release of The Chaisson Family's new CD "Generations". 150 copies went like hotcakes. There are 14 cuts on the CD performed by Chaisson family members Peter, Steven, Melanie, Kenny, Timothy, JJ, Koady and Elmer Deagle to the accompaniment of Kevin Chaisson and Darla (Chaisson) MacPhee on piano. Proceeds from the sale of this CD will be used to support the ongoing fiddle lessons in Rollo Bay. More CD's are on the way and plans for a CD release party are in the works. Watch for press releases later this fall.

All and all a busy and productive season for everyone involved in fiddle in Eastern Kings with more to come. Stay tuned and we'll see you soon.

31st Annual Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival

The Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival lived up to its reputation after over 30 years in the running. While Arrowsmith fans fought the rain, the mud, the cramped quarters and a limited view of the entertainers, devoted fiddle fans donned their rain gear and sported colourful umbrellas to take in the crème de la crème of Maritime fiddle music in the peaceful, green rolling hills of Rollo Bay, PEI. The cloud cover and the warm rain seemed to enhance the sound coming from the stage giving it a warm, rich tone. The quality of the performances was not in the least bit dimmed by the clouds.

From start to finish the festival was an event to be remembered. The Thursday night Rollo Bay ceilidh played before a packed house with all the anticipation of the weekend ahead. A sample of what was to come became evident when the young people began to appear on stage. Crowd pleaser, 8 year old Winsloe, PEI resident Liam McGlashon, stole the show with his lively repertoire and irresistible charm.

The fiddle workshops delivered by Anastasia Des-Roches and Ward MacDonald were as diverse as the fiddlers who taught them. Anastasia brought a collection of Acadian tunes written by well known fiddlers from Abrams Village and shared the techniques used in the Evangeline region. Ward focused on learning tunes "by ear", a method commonly used in the past when not much written music was to be found and most tunes were learned by listening to other fiddlers or from the radio.

The youth concert Friday night was a real thrill. MC Bennett Campbell was seen pacing the parking lot at 7:25 when Tim Chaisson arrived. "Finally a fiddler" he said. And the show began, on time at 7:30, and what a show it was. A real treat to see and hear was young Evangeline fiddler Karine Gallant, back from a two year stint in Quebec and some workshops in Sweden. She more than capably demonstrated some of the techniques she learned in her travels. Massachusetts resident Emily Brashour was back this year and played a Jerry Holland tune she learned at the fiddle festival last year and dedicated it to Jerry.

Young Chrissy Crawley from Margaree, Cape Breton wowed the audience with some tunes from her newly released, self named CD. Talk about talent!! Mabou resident Allan Cameron showed off the progress he has made in one short year. The last half of the show was just a delight with Tim and JJ Chaisson accompanying each other, passing the fiddles and the guitars back and forth to each other with Kevin Chaisson accompanying on piano most of the time. The versatility of these young, seasoned entertainers is truly amazing and a joy to behold.

After the rains on Saturday, the sun was a joy to behold on Sunday and much thanks was given at the standing room only church service held in the ceilidh barn. And the people came from near and far; young and old, to the 31st Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival. It was like the sun kept drawing them out. There were those who had never been before and have vowed to return; those who hadn't been for a number of years and can't believe what they have been missing; and those who have never missed in over 30 years. Everyone came for the music. And music they got in spades.

Well known Cape Breton fiddler Shelly Campbell and New Brunswick fiddler Kim Matheson played superbly to the delight of listeners. Jessie Francis played in a group with Ian McInnis and Grady Poe to the enjoyment of anyone who had the opportunity to hear them. Summerside native, Ellen MacPhee was back on the Island from her travels to attend the fiddle festival and thrilled everyone with her piping abilities.

Most notable were the number of piano players available to assist with accompaniment. Along with the ever willing Kevin Chaisson there was Cape Bretoner Alan Dewar and New Brunswick native Jeff Matheson. Richard Wood played piano to Brenda Stubbert and Brenda played for Richard. What a performance!

Meanwhile, over in the tuning room there was no shortage of music or listeners both Saturday and Sunday. Ward MacDonald and Bonnie Campbell accompanied a variety of fiddlers on piano.

Continued on page 11



Proud Supporter of Island Talent



Shop outside the box.

OPEN: MON - WED 9:00AM-5:30PM, THURS & FRI 9:00AM-9:00PM, SATURDAY 9:00AM-5:30PM

DOWNTOWN CHARLOTTETOWN • OVER 90 SHOPS • INFO 894-9505 **More online at WWW.CONFEDCOURTMALL.COM**

Queens County Fiddlers Report

By Carolyn Drake

June and July were busy months for the Queens County Fiddlers as members prepared for their own annual spring concert, as well as for the annual Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival. The group's concert was at the Carrefour Theatre on June 9, and under the direction of Sheila Fitzpatrick with Ward MacDonald as master of ceremonies, the audience was treated to a wonderful night of music, including J.J. Chaisson with Kevin Chaisson, on piano, Acadian fiddler Anastasia DesRoches, fiddler Courtney Hogan, step dancer Kristyn Visser, step dancer Emma Stetson and an exciting trio of Jesse Francis on fiddle, Iain MacInnes on small pipes and Grady Poe on guitar.

The group was also pleased to welcome three performers from the College of Piping in Summerside who were preparing to compete in the World Pipe Band Championships in Scotland this summer. A portion of the money raised from the concert was donated to the college's fundraising efforts for the trip.

In addition to the music, the Queens County Fiddlers again honoured several people at the concert with life memberships to the P.E.I. Fiddlers Society. They are pictured here (from left); George Weatherbie, Reg and Mary "Rose" Grady, Father Andrew MacDonald, Clyde Demone, and Marlene Gallant. Dalvay Scott and Gerry



Cheverie were also honoured. George Weatherbie, Reg & Rose Grady, Fr. Andrew MacDonald, Clyde Demone, Marlene Gallant, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Caroline Drake

Several members of the group also played at a celebration in June to mark Father Charlie Cheverie's 50th anniversary of his ordination.

Then it was off to Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival where members enjoyed the usual great music this event offers. Although it was damp and rainy on Saturday, the sky had turned to blue on Sunday afternoon when everyone arrived to play, making for a wonderful afternoon of music.

After Rollo Bay, members took their usual summer break from practicing to enjoy time with family and friends and to play a few tunes now and then.

Here's a brief look at what some members have been up to. If I've left anyone out, let me know and we'll mention you in the next newsletter: — Matthew Reid will compete in the finals of the P.E.I. Mutual Insurance Company and the P.E.I. Association of Exhibitions 2007 Youth Talent Competition, hosted by the Evangeline Area Agricultural Exhibition and Acadian Festival in Abram Village Friday, Aug. 31, 2 p.m. This event brings together the winners of five regional competitions hosted this summer. The Island winner will compete in the Canadian Youth Talent Competition in November 2007 during the annual conference of the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions. Watch this next newsletter to find out how he did. In addition, Matthew performed at a number of ceilidhs throughout the summer with Aaron Crane, who is his fiddling teacher.

— Kristyn Visser has been performing most of the summer at ceilidhs being put on by Cynthia MacLeod and Courtney Hogan, both Queens County Fiddlers. Bethany MacLeod has also been performing at these ceilidhs, as well as with Keltic Kids.

— In addition, Kristyn has had an extremely successful summer of soccer. She was a member of the provincial under-13 girls team, as well as a member of the under-14 premiere team from Winsloe-West Royalty, which finished second at the provincial championships.

— Courtney Hogan represented P.E.I. at the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Championship in Ontario late in August. Watch this space in our next edition for an update of how she got along.

— Amanda Holm was this year's recipient of the annual Queens County Fiddlers scholarship to the Gaelic College in Cape Breton. She was able to attend the classes there for a week in July.

— Linda Moran also was pleased to spend two weeks as a student at the college this summer.

QCF Report cont on Page 11

The *Judy MacLean*

Private School Of Dance

Dance with the best, dance with us

Tel: (902)566-5545 Cell: (902)969-4100

Web: judymacleandance.ca

Email: judymacleandance@eastlink.ca

Member of the Canadian Dance Teachers association (CDTA)

We do Concerts - Ceilidh & Benefits





Prince County Fiddlers

By Barry Thompson

The Prince County Fiddlers continue to meet and practice Monday evenings 7:00-9:30. Since our last report we have enjoyed performing at the Clinton view Lodge and Wedgewood Manor.

Barry Thompson

During the past six months we have been pleased to welcome back Anastasia DesRoches, Kathy Campbell, Mary Smith, Theresa Marleau, Fred Maynard, Mike Ramsay and our newest and youngest member at 13 years of age, Meaghan Mckeown. Meaghan lives in Chesterville, Ontario and spends the summers at Kildare PEI. Meaghan is a Great grand niece of the late west prince fiddler Frank O'Conner. Meaghan has been taking private lessons for three years and plays very well.

On August 11th we presented our annual concert held at Community Gardens Kensington. The concert was well attended by an appreciative audience. We were very fortunate in having as our guests The Long River Players who added variety to the evening. Our friends Marie and Norma - The Arsenault Sisters were nothing short of spectacular in their Step dancing Routine which included a spoon demonstration. Fiddle soloists included Jim MacDougall and Mary Smith. Darlene Harding provided a piano solo and Ronnie Albert sang a vocal number. We also must thank the ever crowd pleasing Ladyslipper Dancers. Kathy Campbell's fiddle students also took part in the program and demonstrated how well they have been progressing since beginning lessons last fall. The fiddle student's performance was appropriately dedicated to the memory of our late members who have passed away since our last annual concert, Edgar Millar and John Gauthier.

Sunday August 12, the group participated in the official opening of the 40th annual Kensington and

Area Harvest Festival. Special thanks to Nathan Condon, Jim MacDougall, Mary Smith, and Darlene Harding for solo numbers and The Lady slipper Dancers and Libby Hubley for doing a super job emceeing both events.

The group will be taking a short break but practice resumes Sept.10th. We are planning for a special occasion in the fall to honor some of our members and welcome our Provincial President, executive and friends from the other chapters.

www.ocean100.com (to listen live)

or 100.3 FM on the radio dial

Every Sunday, Ocean 100 is proud to play 'everything east coast', on **East Coast NOW!**

Sundays at 5pm with host Jon Matthews (5:05 - 6:00 PM)

- Lots of amazing music from PEI and the rest of Atlantic Canada
- The latest east coast music news
- Gig Guide will keep you current on upcoming shows on PEI
- Plus artist interviews!

To get your music considered for airplay, send it to:

East Coast NOW c/o Ocean 100

90 University Ave Suite 320

Charlottetown, PE C1A-4K9

Or email mp3's to jmathews@newcap.ca (less than 5MB)

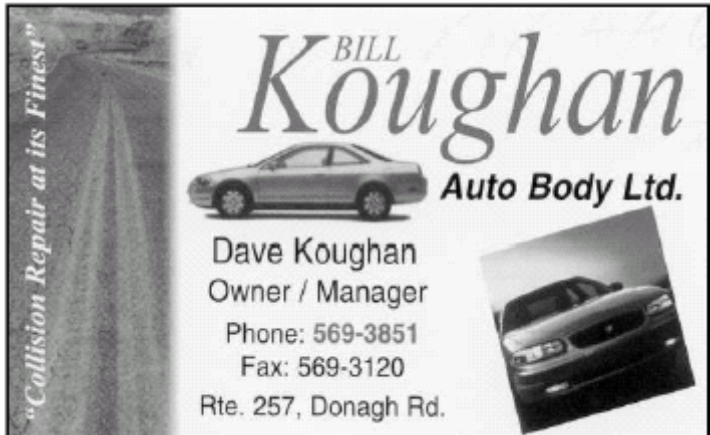


COMPLETE SIGN SERVICE
18 PARK STREET
CHARLOTTETOWN P.E.I.

MCM BRICKLAYERS LTD

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.
 CIA 7N34 (902) 368-3361

Supporting P.E.I. Fiddling



"Collision Repair at its Finest"

BILL Koughan
 Auto Body Ltd.

Dave Koughan
 Owner / Manager
 Phone: 569-3851
 Fax: 569-3120
 Rte. 257, Donagh Rd.

Acadian News by Dorothy Griffin-Farish

Musical performances by young and old were plentiful, joyful and enthusiastic this summer in the Evangeline region, with house parties, the Atlantic Fiddlers Jamboree, dinner theatres, "French Toast"-to name just a few. Here are some of the highlights.

A great many young people in this area are embracing the art of traditional violin playing, as well as step dancing and performing at dinner theatre productions. This is most encouraging! Two groups of young people who are making their mark in the Evangeline region are *Les Musimains* and *Les Tapageuses*.

Les Musimains is a group of five musicians, ranging in age from 12 to 16 years. They are Brandon Arsenault, son of Jules and Tracy Arsenault of Cape Egmont, who plays violin, mandolin and guitar; Cynthia Cormier, daughter of Roger and Yvonne Cormier of St. Gilbert, who plays flute, bodhran and piano; Joshua Derasp, son of Yvon and Linda Derasp of Mont Carmel, who plays violin, harmonica and wooden spoons; Mitchell Richard, son of Pierre and Louise Richard of Abram's Village, who plays guitar; and Natalie LeBlanc, daughter of Phil and Paulette LeBlanc of Abram's Village, who plays piano and sings. *Les Musimains*, under the direction of fiddler Louise Arsenault, are full of life and play their music with great enthusiasm and joy. This musical group is going places!

Les Tapageuses, under the direction of Tracy Arsenault, is composed of six very talented young step-dancers ranging in age between 13 and 15 years who have been dancing for about three years, demonstrating by their performances the joy and richness of their Acadian culture. They are Melissa Arsenault, daughter of David and Cindy Arsenault of Abram's Village; Nicole Arsenault, daughter of Roger and Paulette Arsenault of Abram's Village; Natalie Gallant, daughter of Claude and Darlene Gallant of Abram's Village; Stephanie Gallant, daughter of Colette Arsenault of Wellington and Marcel Gallant of St. Raphaël; Amy Gallant, daughter of Amand and Sandra Gallant of St. Philip; and Krista Gallant, daughter of Mike and Anne Gallant of Wellington. *Les Tapageuses* with their flying feet are a thrill to watch in their performances. This group is also going places!

In fact, both groups have just come back to P.E.I. from the Magdalen Islands where they gave an excellent showing of their talents. On returning they were just in time to perform at the National Acadian Day concert on August 15th in the Mont Carmel Hall. Keep up the good work!

The 20th Atlantic Fiddlers Jamboree (Jamboree atlantique des violoneux) took place from Friday, August 3rd, to Sunday August 5th at the Expo Centre, Abram's Village. The official opening took place at 7:30 p.m. August 3rd, followed by a lively music jam. Owen Arsenault, son of Bert and Marsha Arsenault of Wellington, gave some musical renditions during the opening festivities and joined in the music jam.

On Saturday afternoon from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. was the show "Meet the Masters". Special guest violinists were Ivan Hicks of New Brunswick and Carl MacKenzie from Cape Breton. Ivan was accompanied on the piano by his wife Vivian. Each of the special guests demonstrated his particular style of fiddling, which was very much enjoyed by the audience in attendance. Other fiddlers who performed either at this gala event, the Saturday night show, or the "Big Show" on Sunday included Eddy Arsenault, accompanied by his brother Amand; Edward P. Arsenault; Jocelyne Arsenault; Louise Arsenault, accompanied on piano by Hélène Bergeron; Peter Arsenault, accompanied on guitar by Gary Gallant; Karine Gallant, accompanied by Grady Poe; Keelin Wedge, accompanied by Elaine Wedge; Anastasia DesRoches, Melissa Gallant, Marie Livingstone, Peter Chaisson, and J.J. Chaisson. Kevin Chaisson played the piano for many of the violinists, also Lemmie Chaisson accompanied Peter Chaisson on guitar. *Les Musimains* and *Les Tapageuses* also performed at the "Big Show."

Between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Sunday a brunch was held at the Expo Centre with entertainers Jocelyne Arsenault, Marie Livingstone and Edward P. Arsenault on fiddles, accompanied by Orrin Livingstone on guitar and Paula Arsenault on keyboard.

During the "Big Show" a number of presentations were made. Edward P. Arsenault received a life membership to the Fiddlers' Society of Prince Edward Island. (to page 9)

Pater Audio

AUDIO VISUAL SERVICES

355 York Point Road
Cornwall RR 4, C0A 1H0

tel: 902-629-5737

fax: 902-892-0379 pager: 1-557-2754

e-mail: phil@pateraudio.com

Amand Arsenault also received an award from the Fiddlers' Society for his support to the traditional music of the area. Marie Arsenault Livingstone won the prestigious Violon d'or 2007 (Golden Fiddle Award) for her hard work preserving the traditional Acadian style of fiddling. Presenting the award, a colorful painting, was Father Eloi Arsenault. A large, enthusiastic crowd was in attendance for the "Big Show".



PEI Fiddlers Society Life Membership Recipients Edward P. Arsenault and Amand Arsenault with Anne McPhee (centre) and Golden Fiddle Award Recipient Marie Livingstone (right)

During the summer "French Toast" - a show of music, dance, food and fun...Acadian style, featuring *Chiquésa*, an all-female group from the Evangeline Region; fiddler Anastasia DesRoches and accompanied on piano by Mylene Ouelett; the Tracy Arsenault Dancers; and hosts, funny men Chuck and Albert, was featured at the Harbourfront Jubilee Theatre on August 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Le Fricot cabaret show served up a bilingual stew of Acadian music and comedy at the Centre Expo-Festival in Abram's Village during July and August. Two shows, on September 1 and 7, will finish off this year's cabaret. The artistic director was Wayne Robichaud and music director was Ken MacCaull. Performers included fiddler Louise Arsenault (Barachois), bass player Stéphane Bouchard, guitarist-singer Daniel Drouin, singer-pianist Caroline Bernard and singer-guitarist Julie Arsenault. Also during July and August the Acadian Supper Theatre **Une fois d'même**, produced by Le Centre Expo-Festival in Abram's Village presented the comedy *Fou-foyer*.

Les Girls teamed up with *Clack'Azing*, an all-female Acadian group, in a show featuring fiddles, percussive footwork and traditional songs in the Studio Theatre, Confederation Centre, Charlottetown. Dates of the show were August 22 - 25 at 7:30 p.m. *Les Girls* are Louise Arsenault and Hélène Bergeron, members of the former P.E.I. troupe Barachois. The members of *Clack'Azing* - all cousins - have been playing music together since childhood: Samantha Gallant, fiddle; Janelle Richard, guitar; Stephanie Collicut, vocals and bass; Robyn Richard, piano; and Paige Gallant, mandolin and fiddle.

For this time this is it! Kindly e-mail me at dfarish@isn.net with your news from the Acadian community or telephone me at 902-436-7007.

Fiddle Shop Talk

The Sunday afternoon sessions at Brennan's are going very well with many players "from away" joining in and saying how pleased they are that a regular session is being held. The first half is a slow session with some music provided and the second half is by ear and at regular tempo. These will continue once per month starting in October and the Irish dance sessions should also be starting soon. Check the BUZZ for details.



Roy Johnstone

Heading into the fall is a good time to reevaluate your fiddle playing and to plan out some activities that will help you move towards playing better. Self evaluation of your playing is a bit difficult at first but with some practice it will be very rewarding since it allows you to direct your own learning process. For example, consider your bowing; Can you play jigs smoothly with a strong rhythm? The drive and power of the jig comes from the bow arm and getting the lift in your playing will make a big difference in your sound. Practice playing the 6/8 rhythm of a jig; pay attention to the first eight note of each triplet. Playing with as little muscular tension is key and transfer the accent gently through your bow hand. I find that most of the pressure is coming through my index finger to the bow.

For any of the dance styles you can identify an area to work on. Strathspeys, the strong cuts for instance, the hornpipes, a lighter lift to the playing, airs, longer bows with more expression. Each player will have her own areas to work on. Don't choose too many or that will be self defeating. Choose a few areas and work on them daily for a few months and I'm sure you will see improvements.

Some players just concentrate on learning new tunes but this can be problematic if that's all you do. Often the tunes are not appropriate to your level of playing and you end up frustrated or worse: with a physical ailment from the stress. Having a good teacher to guide you can help (check out the list of fiddlers willing to teach) and I know of a few good books. Two that are more traditional are "Fiddle Tunes" by Robin Williamson and "Traditional Scottish fiddling, a player's guide". "Tools for musicianship" by Matt Glazer covers rhythm, advanced ear training, harmony and melodic development and composition (three CD's included).

This is one area where classical music has its' advantages. The program of learning is structured to take you through a series of exercises and tunes that help to evolve your playing sequentially. If you know of some good books that take a developmental approach to traditional music please e-mail me and I will mention them in the next shoptalk.

Enjoy and till next time keep your bow rosined and the fiddle in tune.

ECMA multi-nominee, performer and recording artist,
Roy Johnstone has a website at: www.royjohnstone.com

Southern Kings Report

By Amy Swenson

It has been a busy summer with the regular ceilidhs at Murray Harbour and Sturgeon, which will continue every two weeks into the fall, and Kilmuir will have one on the first Saturdays of September and October. Twelve of the Donegal Fiddlers from Ontario played at Murray Harbour Aug. 2nd to an enthusiastic crowd. We liked their harmony versions of many familiar tunes and will be receiving some of them in the mail. The harmony for Ashokan Farewell was particularly nice.

It was also a terrific treat having Andrea Beaton and Kimberley Fraser at Eddy Quinn's Close to the Ground concert - we do hope they are invited back next year! (Perhaps they will remember their stepdancing shoes next time...)

Plans are afoot for a benefit concert in November to aid the maintenance of the Anglican Churches in the area. It will take place in late November at the King's Playhouse in Georgetown and I am looking forward to bringing some of my young fiddle students to perform there. The Vernon River Community School, starting in late September, is hoping to have a fiddle class again this year, and is currently searching for a teacher. They are a fun and enthusiastic group of fiddle students - hopefully they will find a teacher soon (any volunteers?). An added perk for the teachers is the great potluck supper at the closing in early December...

The teachers of the string programs in the Charlottetown (and Donough) schools fortunate enough to have

them have informed me that the programs are continuing this year for Grades 4 to 9 and that a new student teacher will be looking to organize a string class at Charlottetown Rural. Jennifer Lalecheur is a music student at Memorial University and a string major, so she will be a great asset to Charlottetown's music scene. She hopes to do some private teaching and will be helping with the program at Stonepark as well. That is the good news. The bad news is that there is a possibility that the long-time string program at Lucy Maud Montgomery may be cancelled after this current school year. The string teachers are hoping to generate community support to save the string program there, and are planning to have a concert in May 2008 to raise funds for the programs and to increase awareness of the value of the string programs in the schools. We should note that although many of the teachers have a classical background, they do enjoy teaching a lot of fiddle music to their students. Good luck to them in their quest to keep ALL the string programs operational!

Fiddle Care The Fingerboard



Peter Dawson

The fingerboard is a part of the violin that also requires regular attention. It is made of ebony, which is a very hard and dense wood, but it will wear down with use. The fingerboard is shaped so that there is a slight dip (called the "scoop") planed in it lengthwise---from the nut to the lower end. This is done to provide additional clearance for the strings and help prevent buzzing.

The fingerboard will gradually develop grooves worn by the strings and hollows where your fingers rest; these have to be planed out, after which the board is scraped and polished to a mirror smoothness. The length of time between planings can be anywhere from one year to several, depending on the density of the wood, the amount you play, and the abrasiveness of your perspiration. Good ebony is becoming very difficult to find, so it is a good idea to go as long as you can between planings. At some point the fingerboard will be too thin to plane anymore and will have to be replaced, but if the instrument you have purchased has a healthy one of good, dense wood, this should not be necessary for many years.

You might also keep in mind that making a proper fingerboard, and with it the neck, is one of the most difficult parts of setting up an instrument, and the one most often done poorly. The shape of the neck and fingerboard can have quite an effect on your perception of the instrument's response and ease of play. Many times the problems one encounters with the sound are actually due to the setup.

Peter Dawson, a well-known luthier, composer, and recording artist in Ottawa, has a website at : www.peterdawson.ca

Violin Repairs & Bow Rehairing

Private Fiddle Lessons

Playable student outfits for sale

$\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ only \$60-\$140

Amy Swenson, Caledonia

962-2273

A & D Backhoeing



Owner Allan MacDonald

Phone/fax: 961-2105

Cell: 393-5727

We'll take care of all your digging, trucking, sewer system, and landscaping needs

Events Forecast

For up-to-date events, visit www.peifiddlers.com

Sundays 8 pm	Monticello Ceilidh	Monticello Log Hall	Rte 16, Monticello	902-687-3368
Sundays start 9 Sep 2-5pm Monthly	Roy Johnstone	Brennan's Pub and Eatery	Charlottetown	902-675-2541
Sun Mon Wed Thu 7:30 pm (til 11 Oct)	Scottish Ceilidh Concert	MacKinnon Homestead	Richmond	902-854-2245
Mondays (til end of Oct)	Ceilidh & Dance,	St. Peter's Bay Circle Club	St. Peter's Bay	902-961-2899
Mondays 7:30 (til 24 Sep)	Long River Players	Murray Centre	Kensington	
Every other Monday (start 10 Sep)	Ceilidh-Kitchen Party	Bingo Country	Charlottetown	902-566-0737
Wednesdays 8 pm	Lorne Valley Square Dance,	Old Lorne Valley School	Lorne Valley	902-687-2584
Wednesdays 8 pm	Ceilidh	Silver Threads	Souris	902-687-2396
Thursdays 8 pm (til 27 Sep)	Close to the Ground Concert	Series, Kaylee Hall	Pooles Corner	902-
Thursdays 7:30 pm (til 27 Sep)	Ceilidh	Women's Institute Hall	Stanley Bridge	902-836-4310
Thursdays 7:30 pm (til late Sep)	Lot "7" Ceilidhs	St. Mark's Hall	Burton, Rte 14	
Fridays 8 pm (til 28 Sep)	Ceilidh at the Irish Hall,	582 North River Rd	Charlottetown	902-892-2367
Fridays 8 pm (til end of Oct)	Ceilidh	Ploughing Match Grounds	Dundas	902-583-2319
Fridays 8 pm (after Nov 1st)	Friday Night Ceilidh	St. Peters Circle Club	St. Peter's Bay	902-961-3421
Fridays 7:30 pm (til 28 Sep)	Mary Smith and Friends,	Stanley Bridge Hall	Stanley Bridge	902-836-3610
Fridays 8 pm	Music, Song and Dance	Benevolent Irish Society	Charlottetown	902-892-2367
Every Other Friday 7:30 pm	Drama Club Ceilidh,	Murray Harbour Hall	Murray Harbour	902-962-2157
Saturdays 9 pm	Goose River Dance	Goose River Hall	Goose River	902-961-2205
First Saturday 8 pm	Ceilidh	Kilmuir Hall	Kilmuir	902-962-2273
Sep 14—16	167th Eastern Kings Exhibition	Eastern Kings Sportsplex	Souris	902-687-2157
Sep 14—16	PEI International Shellfish Festival	Charlottetown Waterfront	Charlottetown	866-955-2003
Sep 15 8 pm	Roy Johnstone/Steve Sharratt	Trailside Café	Mount Stewart	902-676-3130
October 20 2—7 pm	Fiddle Doo and Potluck	New London Complex	New London	902-963-2356

QCF Report con't from page 6

— Sheila Fitzpatrick, Marlene Gallant and Carolyn Drake performed at the annual step-dancing festival in Port Hood, Cape Breton, in August. After dancing, they were joined on stage by Jana Cheverie for a fiddle set, accompanied on piano by Cape Breton's Andrea Beaton.

— Paul Cheverie and his dad, Gerry, played while Paul's daughter, Alice, step danced at Fr. Charlie Cheverie's 50th anniversary celebration of his ordination at the North Shore Community Centre, June 17. Paul and Alice also teamed up at Tea Hill Provincial Park for Canada Day celebrations on July 1, at the St. Eugene's Knight of Columbus senior's breakfast on July 15 and at one of the Knights' sponsored weekly Sunday evening gatherings/bonfires on the shore at the end of the Queens Point Road in Grand Tracadie.

— Sheila Fitzpatrick has had a busy summer playing in the waterfront music series at Peakes Quay, booking talent and working at the Kings Playhouse in Georgetown and performing in a kitchen party there Monday evenings throughout July and August.

All good things come to an end - even a P.E.I. summer, and that means practice resumes in mid-September at the usual time and place, 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday evenings at St. Pius Hall, Charlottetown. New members are welcome to get involved with the group at any time, but the fall season is a particularly good time as everyone is looking forward to a new season of playing music. For information or to book the Queens County Fiddlers, contact Blair at 569-4518.

Rollo Bay 2007 con't from page 5 The large attendance of Acadian musicians was very noticeable as they played and danced to fiddle and piano in the tuning room and on the big stage. Some of the highlights were Jocelyn Arsenault on fiddle, Natalie Arsenault and Marie Livingstone on piano as well as Anastasia DesRoches. And of course, there was lots of dancing. Even Amand Arsenault, brother to well known Acadian fiddler Eddy Arsenault, was seen playing the guitar and doing a step or two.

One of the many highlights of the Sunday afternoon concert was the presentation of the PEI Fiddlers Society's Life Memberships to Eastern Kings residents who have made a significant contribution to Island fiddling over the years. This year's recipients included long time, accomplished fiddler players Allan MacDonald of Bangor and Francis MacDonald of Morell. Bennett Campbell was honoured for supporting and encouraging Island fiddlers over the past 30 years and for 27 years as MC of the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival. Teresa Wilson and Jenny McQuaid were each awarded for sharing their many talents and skills over the years and George (Mel) MacPhee will be awarded for his outstanding contribution to Island fiddling.

New to the stage as MC this year was Marlene MacDonald who did an outstanding job with the assistance of Doreen Chaisson as entertainment co-ordinator. Both these women worked tirelessly to produce a top notch, steady line-up of the best of the best of fiddlers, dancers, and singers.

It goes without saying that the fiddle festival wouldn't be the success it is today without chief organizer, family patriarch, Peter Chaisson. Kevin Chaisson worked side by side with Peter day in and day out, preparing the grounds for this event. Once again, a job well done to all who participated and assisted in making this the oldest and biggest fiddle event on Prince Edward Island.

Carter MacKenzie's Reel

Kevin Chaisson



Buddy MacMaster School Of Fiddling



Celtic Colours Week
October 8th-12th

A Week long school of fiddling exposing you to ten different Instructors, each instructor having their own unique Cape Breton style.

Registration is \$400.00 plus HST

Howie MacDonald, Andrea Beaton, Colin Grant, Glenn Graham, Troy MacGillivray, Winnie Chafe, David Greenberg, Sandy MacIntyre, Dwayne Cote, and Stan Chapman.

To Register or for more information call us at 787-2708 or visit our website at www.celticmusicite.com



Kevin went to school with Carter MacKenzie and they became good friends. When Carter died of cancer a few years ago, Kevin tried to write a lament for him but the only tune that came to mind was this reel. Kevin decided that since Carter was always so full of life, this must be the tune that was meant for him and not a lament. The tune is now played all over Prince Edward Island and by some players in Cape Breton.

A Picture Says a Thousand Words

The expression on the face of 80 year old Kenny Johnny Ronny MacPhee shows the pure joy he was feeling at the Monticello ceilidh this summer when he just had to get up and do a few steps to the lively fiddle music of first cousin George (Mel) MacPhee.



Fiddle Practices Open To The Public

Prince County Fiddlers Summerside
Mondays 7:30pm - Community Connections, 836-3844
Queens County Fiddlers Parkdale
Wednesdays 7:45 - St. Pius X Hall, 569-4592
Eastern Kings Fiddlers Rollo Bay
Mondays 7:00 - Rollo Bay Consolidated School 687-1521
Acadian Fiddlers Wellington
Fridays 8:00 - Boys & Girls Club 436-5532