



The Island Fiddler

The Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Fiddlers Society



Vol. 8, Issue 2

September 2010

A Summer to Remember



Festival of Small Halls at the Kings Playhouse in Georgetown



Tim Chaisson plays to the delight of a large crowd at the Dundas Plowing Match Hall for the Father's Day Grand Finale.



Students and instructors jam outdoors at PEI Fiddle Camp



Donnell and Erin Leahy at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival



Mike Hall (left) played at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival and is seen here at the Atlantic Fiddlers Jamboree



Howie MacDonald (right) as seen at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival

The Island Fiddler

To view all editions of
The Island Fiddler in colour
online at www.peifiddlers.com

Editor:	Anne M. McPhee	687-1521
Asst Editor:	Ward MacDonald	626-8084
Distribution:	Lorraine McMillan	894-1128
Advertising:	Blair Myers	569-4518

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

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: annemcphée@pei.sympatico.ca

P.E.I. Fiddlers Society

Established 22 May 1977 * Incorporated 31 March 1983

P.E.I. Fiddlers Society Executive

Ward MacDonald, President	626-8084
Anne M. McPhee, 1st Vice-President	687-1521
Ray Brow, 2nd Vice-President	652-2225
Paul Cheverie, Treasurer	566-3551

Prince County Fiddlers

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

Queens County Fiddlers

Aaron Crane, President	388-1040
injury27@live.com	

Eastern Kings Fiddlers

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

Southern Kings Fiddlers

Amy Swenson	962-2273
gagliano31@hotmail.com	

Acadian Fiddlers

Dorothy Griffin Farish	432-9692
dfarish1@eastlink.ca	

Privacy Statement

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



Ward MacDonald

From the President

By Ward MacDonald

Growing, growing, growing...as you read through this newsletter you will discover stories and pictures of a summer full of growth in the fiddling communities of Prince Edward Island. Our largest fiddling festivals continue to grow their formats and attendance, the Festival of Small Halls provided new venues and performance opportunities for fiddlers, PEI Fiddle Camp was a wonderful experience and success, and a few new fiddle recordings have cropped up as well.

My compliments to Anne for doing a superb job squeezing it all into one special 16-page edition!

In the spirit of growing, we're going to try a new location and format for our AGM this year. I would like to personally invite all members to attend a meeting, potluck, and ceilidh on October 23 beginning at 3pm (your spouses and families are welcome to attend the potluck and ceilidh beginning at 4:30pm). We would love to get everyone together for the first time in many years. I promise the meeting will be short, and I hope that all of you will be able to attend.



PEI Fiddlers Society Annual General Meeting Saturday, October 23, 2010

Benevolent Irish Society
582 North River Road, Charlottetown

1:00pm – Trip to Scotland Meeting

(Mandatory for all travelers!)

3:00pm – PEI Fiddlers Society AGM

(All are welcome)

4:30pm – Potluck Supper followed by music
(Bring your instruments!)

Fiddle and/or Accompaniment Teachers

Abram-Village	Anastasia DesRoches	Fiddle	854-3116
	Louise Arsenault	Fiddle	854-2830
Argyle Shore	Roy Johnstone	Fiddle	675-2541
Caledonia	Amy Swenson	Fiddle	962-2273
Charlottetown	College of Piping	Fid.	877-224-7473
	Kathryn Dau-Schmidt	Fiddle	672-2711
	Kendra MacGillivray	Fiddle	367-5606
	Ward MacDonald	Fiddle	626-8084
	Aaron Crane	Fiddle	388-1040
Cumberland	Courtney Hogan	Fiddle	675-3593
Fortune	Mark Haines	Fiddle	687-1404
Wheatley River	Cynthia MacLeod	Fiddle	940-1825
Montague	Sheila Fitzpatrick	Fiddle	838-3334
Mount Stewart	Gary Chipman	Fiddle	676-2599
Richmond	MacKinnon Family	Fiddle	854-2245
Rollo Bay	Kathryn Dau-Schmidt	Fiddle	672-2711
Souris	J.J. Chaisson	Fiddle	687-2261
Summerside	College of Piping	Fiddle	436-5377

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 566-5545
Marlys Hamilton-MacLean	887-3385 or 887-2873
Samantha MacKinnon	892-0805
Susan and Libbe Hubley	836-3887
Shirley Burke	368-2416
Tracy Arsenault	854-3237
Pierrette Arsenault	854-2091

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

Fiddling Related Websites

Anastasia DesRoches	www.anastasiadesroches.com
Billy MacInnis	www.billymacinnis.homestead.com
Caledonian Orchestra	www.caledonianorchestra.com
Canadian Grand Masters	www.canadiangrandmasters.ca
Cape Breton Fiddlers	www.capebretonfiddlers.com
Cape Breton Ottawa	http://web.ripnet.com/~bmacgi/
Chuck & Albert	www.chuckandalbert.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
Judy MacLean	www.judymacleandance.ca
Ken Perlman	www.kenperlman.com
Learn Tunes by Ear	www.slowplayers.org/SCTLS/learn
Maritime Fiddlers Assoc.	www.MaritimeFiddler.ca
Music PEI	www.musicpei.com
PEI Fiddle Camp	www.peifiddlecamp.com
PEI Fiddlers Society	www.peifiddlers.com
Queens County Fiddlers	www.queenscountyfiddlers.com
Richard Wood	www.peisland.com/richardwood
Rollo Bay Fiddle Fest	www.rollobayfiddlefest.ca
Roy Johnstone	www.royjohnstone.com
Marlys Hamilton-MacLean	www.somersetsteppers.ca
Tim Chaisson	www.timothychaisson.com
Vishten	www.vishten.net
Waldrons Photos	www.flickr.com/photos/shywriter55/sets

PEI Fiddlers Society Trip of a Lifetime Destination: **Scotland** Marlene MacDonald



Marlene MacDonald

What a fantastic summer! The weather has been great; shows, concerts and festivals from Munn's Road, to Abram Village, to Pooles

Corner and Brackley Beach and places in between have been very entertaining, and my family even had a family reunion. My Mom is the oldest of 18 so there was quite a brood of us to get together and celebrate!

But now just like the students going back to school and people going back to work after vacation it is time for our Scotland group to get down to serious work. Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 23 at 1:00 pm at the Benevolent Irish Society on North River Road in Charlottetown. Ward and I have a number of items on the Agenda including deposit deadline and policy, election of Treasurer and Secretary, calendar of goals and time lines, dates for continuing meetings and the development of a number of sub-committees including: travel and logistics, sponsorship, fundraising, etc. We will be looking for ideas, suggestions and input from all in attendance. So it is essential that everyone who is traveling to Scotland attend this meeting on the 23rd. Hope you all enjoy the rest of the summer and have an opportunity to attend the last of the summer shows, concerts and festivals that display the talents of many of our Island artists!



Reasonable Bow Rehairing & Violin Repairs

Bridges, sound posts & pegs adjusted or replaced,
gluing problems fixed

Private Fiddle Lessons for all ages

Amy Swenson, MA
Member, Strathgartney Orchestra,
Southern Kings Fiddlers and Queens County Fiddlers
902-962-2273 gagliano31@hotmail.com



Carolyn Drake

Queens County Fiddlers Report by Carolyn Drake

It's time to take a deep breath and relax at the end of another wonderful season of music.

The summer of 2010 kicked off in fine style for the Queens County Fiddlers as we hit the road on June 30 to perform for a large crowd of residents, staff and family members at the recently renovated and expanded Gillis Lodge in Eldon. This was our first visit there and thanks to the welcome we received, we hope it won't be our last.

A few weeks later a small but enthusiastic group of fiddlers and accompanists made the trip up to Burton to play at the weekly Thursday night ceilidh at the Burton Hall. Special thanks to Lorraine MacMillan who did a great job filling in at the last minute as our piano player. It's always a large time at that little country hall, and the ceilidhs are well worth attending.

A few days later, we turned our cars in the other direction to head east for the annual Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival, where we performed on Sunday afternoon. In addition to enjoying the tremendous music onstage, in the tuning room and in the dance hall, some members also took part in workshops.



Fiona MacCorquodale

Another entertaining July event was the launch of Fiona MacCorquodale's new CD, *Eleven*, at the BIS Hall on July 25. This young QCF member, who is only 12, did a bang-up job on her first CD, with the help and encouragement of her teacher, Aaron

Crane, who is also president of the Queens County Fiddlers. Many members took time out of their busy summer schedules to attend the launch and enjoy Fiona and Aaron's music, as well as the performances of several special guests. Aaron and Fiona also played Tuesday nights at the Chapel Ceilidh in St. Andrew's, which Aaron has hosted for the past several years, and performed on a float in the Gold Cup Parade

The final concert for the group this summer happened on Aug. 21 at the Indian River Festival, part of the annual ceilidh held at the historic St. Mary's Church. Also on the bill were the Prince County Fiddlers and several other solo performers.

With so much going on, the group continued to meet regularly at its summer home – Andrews of Stratford. Our thanks go out to the management of this facility for continuing to welcome us there every Wednesday evening and to the residents and their family members who are faithful audience members. It's always much more fun to have someone to play for.

Many members and former members provided entertainment at all kinds of ceilidhs this summer, including Courtney Hogan, Cynthia MacLeod, Ward MacDonald and Sheila FitzPatrick. Paul Cheverie was also a guest fiddler at Sunday Night Shenanigans throughout the summer, providing the music for his daughter, Alice, and other step dancers.

Several members were hard at work this summer improving their fiddling by attending fiddle camps around the region. Clancy Began and Blair Myers were among those who attended the first ever week-long P.E.I. Fiddle Camp at Augustine Cove in June – both reported having a great time and learning a lot – and Katie Sonier, Fiona MacCorquodale and Linda Moran spent separate weeks at the Gaelic College in St. Anne's, Cape Breton.

Katie was also the recipient of this year's Queens County Fiddlers Scholarship to attend the college.



Katie Sonier, 2010 recipient of the Queens County Fiddlers Scholarship to attend the Gaelic College in St. Anne's, Cape Breton.

Once we are back to our practice schedule in the fall, the group will again be making monthly visits to seniors' homes. And everyone is looking forward to spending some time this fall working on new sets for performances down the road.

On a final note, members who have been with the group for the past several years were saddened to hear of the passing of Kenneth Stewart on Aug. 15 at the age of 97. He was a longtime member of the Queens County Fiddlers, as he and his wife, Elvira, faithfully attended practice — Kenneth to play and Elvira to sit back and enjoy the music. Kenneth, who was a Life Member of the P.E.I. Fiddlers Society, also played with the Queens County Fiddlers on its CD, *Forty Fiddles Flat Out*, when he was more than 90 years old.





Amy Swenson

Southern Kings Fiddlers Report by Amy Swenson

I was very lucky to get to one day of the First annual PEI Fiddle Camp held at Camp Abegweit In June. It was a chance to meet many musicians, especially from the western part of the Island and also many who had travelled up from the States. The workshops offered a great opportunity to learn new tunes and styles and to try new instruments or step dancing. Everyone I spoke to was having a fine time and hoped to come again. Next year it would be wonderful to spend a whole week there at camp. Hopefully this will grow to become a much anticipated annual Island event.

Early summer was a busy time for the Southern Kings County fiddlers as we prepared to play at Rollo Bay. We again focused mostly on locally written tunes including a set of three written by the prolific Island composer Emmett Hughes, formerly of Dromore. We also enjoyed learning a march by the late Bill MacDonald of East Royalty which was given to us by Maurice O'Shea. Some of our group played at the Sturgeon Ceilidh on July 2nd and at Rollo Bay for the Sunday evening concert we had 24 performers on stage, aged 9 to 90! It was great fun and we especially want to thank our hard working accompanists Beth Knox on keyboard, Mel Giddings on guitar and George Johnston on mandolin.

We were busy preparing for a performance at St. Mary's Church for the Indian River Festival Island Ceilidh on August 21st. We played Halle's Waltz, recently written by our President Urban Chaisson, and the Pinette River Jig which was literally dreamed up by George Docherty last year. We also plan to play again soon at the Gillis Lodge so that Emmett can hear how we are doing with his tunes. Emmett himself is practicing every day on old tunes and new as he recovers from a stroke he had last year.

He celebrated his 89th birthday in June. I am now enjoying a marvelous video Emmett gave me of himself playing many of his own compositions at the age of 72. No wonder he won so many fiddle contests years ago!

The fall season will be busy too as we settle in to our regular practices on alternate Monday evenings from 7 to 9 pm at the Active Communities Centre on Main St. in Montague. Anyone is welcome to drop by to listen or to play along with us.



Southern Kings Fiddlers - youngest member Merlin M'Cloud (left) age 9 and oldest member Ambrose Caissie (right) aged 90 with Marie MacIntyre (centre) play at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival.

Safely Home



Joseph Gerald (Jerry) MacDonald
May 12, 2010 of Charlottetown
Age 80 years

Kenneth M. Stewart
PEI Fiddlers Society Life Member
August 15, 2010 of Brackley Beach
Age 97 years



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



Island Painting and Decorating Ltd.



- INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR PAINTING
- WALLPAPER HANGING AND VINYL WALL COVERING
- WALL REPAIRS AND SEAM FILLING OF NEW GYPROC

ALLISON DRAKE

TEL: 892-6677
CEL: 628-7066
FAX: 628-2284

5 WESTHAVEN CRESCENT
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.
CANADA C1E 1L6



Anne M. McPhee

Eastern Kings Fiddlers Report by Anne M. McPhee

There is no question that 2010 was a "Summer to Remember". The quantity and the quality of fiddle events all across the Island just seems to be growing and getting better and better each year. This is evident in the number of people turning out to support these events all while so many other activities, like the Cavendish Beach Country Music Festival and Live! With Regis and Kelly in PEI, are drawing big crowds as well. One week this summer there were 28 Ceilidhs and 33 Concerts listed in the newspaper all featuring one or more Island Fiddler! And that was just for one week. Week after week, Island Fiddlers were called upon to play sometimes two, three or four times a day at various locations across the Island!

A few of those fiddle events stand out and the organizers must be congratulated. The success of the Festival of Small Halls was unprecedented, astounding the volunteers at the Community Halls that hosted a concert, the members of the audience from across the Island and from away - as well as the performers. While the organizers knew they had a good thing going, in some cases the response from the audience was truly overwhelming and certainly gratifying. No one will want to miss this event next year.



Festival of Small Halls van outside Fortune Hall.

The first ever PEI Fiddle Camp is another event that stands out as well. It's like getting a year's worth of daily lessons under your belt in just one week! All from a variety of instructors with participants of all ages and levels of ability plus the fun and the food in a camp setting. Well, it is an experience you'll reap huge benefits from year after year and you will never forget it.



An afternoon jam outdoors at the PEI Fiddle Camp

The Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival was a great success with three days of concerts filled with top quality music from across the Island, the Maritimes and from afar. As usual, the Friday evening Youth concert did not disappoint with outstanding performances from local youth as well as those who travelled a long way to be there.

cont on page 7



Zoe Darrow of Massachusetts;
Liam McGlashon of Ontario and
Kurt Chaisson's daughter of Rollo
Bay on stage at the youth concert.

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
Based at The Jack Blanchard Memorial Centre
3 Pond St, Charlottetown and teaching at other locations
We do Benefits and Concerts

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**

cont from page 6

Another highlight was the performance by Donnell Leahy and his sister Erin following the Friday evening youth concert. While quite comfortable playing the Cape Breton style of music along with his wife Natalie MacMaster, Donnell grew up in a large musical family with some Irish leanings as well as influence from the fiddle music of rural Eastern Ontario where he grew up. Throw in some classical music and you have a unique, energetic style of music that will totally amaze. Jaw dropping, astonishing, impeccable perfection and at such speeds that is beyond belief! The crowd packed into the Rollo Bay Ceilidh Barn was mesmerized through the entire concert. Erin was just a wizard at the piano - her fingers flew across those keys and never missed a beat to her brother's shenanigans - bouncing from one spot to another on the stage - at lightening speed. What a performance!



Donnell and Erin Leahy perform at the Friday night concert at the Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival.

Ideal weather, good crowds and excellent performances by the likes of Howie MacDonald, Richard Wood, Mike Hall, Andrea Beaton, Shelly Campbell, Allan Dewar, Chrissy Crowley, J.J. Chaisson, Timothy Chaisson, Elmer Deagle, Fiddlers Sons, Judy MacLean Dancers, The Deagle Sisters,

Ward MacDonald, Queens County Fiddlers, Colette Cheverie, Celtic Ladies, numerous members of the Chaisson family and many, many more - well, what more can you ask for. It was a perfect weekend. 🐾



Elmer Deagle *J.J. Chaisson*



Celtic Ladies



Andrea Beaton



The Rollo Bay Kitchen Group



Rollo Bay Beginners Fiddle Students



Chrissy Crowley

**Drop in and see pharmacist Paul Jenkins.
Show your Fiddler's Society Membership Card to obtain
a gift & special prescription benefits.**



Phonsie Chaisson Awarded PEI Fiddlers Society Life Membership

Born in Rollo Bay in 1929, the third youngest of seven children, Phonsie Chaisson started playing the fiddle with his brother Johnny Joe Lem when he was 10 years of age. By 1948 he was playing for the dances in and around Morell where he met and eventually married Marie Ranahan in 1955. In 1951 he enlisted in the army and served in Korea and Germany and from coast to coast in Canada. His final posting was in Winnipeg in 1961 where he lives to this day.

Throughout the years, Phonsie has returned to Prince Edward Island every summer, first to play with his brother Johnny and eventually to play at all the ceilidhs in the area, almost every night of the week. His wife was quite ill and he missed a year or two on the Island but she is feeling better this summer and Phonsie has exploded back on the fiddling scene once again. He says it has done her a world of good to be here. It seems it's been good for Phonsie too.

There is so much joy in his lively playing style. There is no question about where Phonsie picked up his fiddling abilities – he has a strong Eastern Kings -



Phonsie Chaisson delighted the residents and staff at Colville Manor in Souris with his lively fiddle music.

Cape Breton style with a burst of speed more commonly heard among the younger Chaisson fiddlers. He says his brother Johnny always told him he “played too fast”.

Phonsie plays his fiddle on a regular basis at the Legion and the seniors homes in and around Winnipeg. He managed to find a couple of Nova Scotia guitar players to accompany him and he is frequently called upon to “play some of that old time fiddling” as well as the waltzes and a bit of modern dance. And yet, come summertime, the pull of the Island is strong and Phonsie is always eager to return to his roots and hit the ceilidh trail. As Phonsie says, “You can take an Island Fiddler off the Island but you can't take the Island out of the Fiddler”.

Phonsie Chaisson, certainly does deserve to be recognized for his outstanding contribution to Prince Edward Island fiddling, for staying true to the Island style and for promoting a love of Island fiddling away from the home.



Phonsie Chaisson (centre) accepts an Honourary Life Membership award from PEI Fiddlers Society President **Ward MacDonald** and Vice President **Anne McPhee**.

<p>Bernadette's Flowers — Where great designs start —</p> <p>Bunbury Mall Stratford</p>  <p>We Deliver 566 4000 Toll Free 1 877 766 1898</p> <p>Bernadette & Gloria Praught Every day is special!</p>	<p>Every day is a special day, At Bernadette's Flowers</p> <p>Arrangements</p> <p>For all occasions</p> <p>Great Friendly Service We Deliver Island wide</p>
--	---

<p>Sign Craft Signs</p> <p>COMPLETE SIGN SERVICE 18 PARK STREET CHARLOTTETOWN P.E.I.</p>



Barry Thompson

Prince County Fiddlers Report By Barry Thompson

The Prince County Fiddlers continued to meet, practice and perform over the summer months. We performed at the Summerside Lobster Carnival Parade sponsored by the City Of Summerside. We were fortunate in having the weather cooperate. On July 19 we performed with the Lady Slipper Step Dancers at the Trinity United Church. The concert was in aid of the Friends of Kenya Mission 2010. The group members are assisting in establishing a school in that country. The Church proved to be a great venue to perform and in addition raised some much needed funds to help with this worthy cause. On August 1st we performed for the residents of the Wedgewood Manor in Summerside.

Our annual Concert was held Saturday August 14th in Kensington. I am pleased to report that from all comments received, it was a great success. The show consisted of lots of group numbers as well as some vocals, piano and accordion Solos. The Junior Prince County Fiddlers and the Ladies Slipper Dancers under the direction of Libbie Hubley and Cathy Campbell were also able to showcase their talent. Jason Campbell,



Jackie Biggar, Jimmy MacDougall and Mary Smith also performed Solo and Duet crowd pleasing fiddle tunes.

It was with great pleasure that the Prince County Fiddlers played at the Indian River Festival Island Ceilidh in the majestic St. Mary's Church to a standing room only crowd of over 800 people. Nathan

Mary Smith plays a Condon solo accompanied by Barry Thompson. Nathan earned a standing ovation for his lively rendition of the Orange Blossom Special.

Other Island groups participating in the event included the Queens County Fiddlers, the Southern Kings Fiddlers and Cathy Campbell's Junior Prince County Fiddlers. Collette Cheverie rounded things out with her amazing vocal talent and the evening ended with a closing number with all fiddlers. 🌿




Indian River Festival Island Ceilidh was held in St. Mary's Church to a standing room only crowd.




Prince County Fiddlers take a bow after their annual Concert in the Community Gardens in Kensington.

"Collision Repair at its Finest"

BILL Koughan
Auto Body Ltd.

 Dave Koughan
Owner / Manager

Phone: 569-3851
Fax: 569-3120
Rte. 257, Donagh Rd.



TK Fire Equipment Ltd.

Toll Free: 1-888-222-9155
24 Emergency 628-9332 or 626-6901

368-3016
16 Walker Drive



PEI Fiddle Camp A Recipe for Success

The first PEI Fiddle Camp was, by all accounts, a huge success. A terrific line up of all-star performers and instructors; participants of all ages from across the Maritimes and the Eastern United States; and a bilingual setting were the first ingredients. Total immersion into various styles of fiddle, piping, accompaniment and dance; jam sessions, dances, concerts and loads of fun with new friends were the next key ingredients. Set all this under the blue skies and star filled nights of Prince Edward Island's beautiful south shore at Augustine Cove's Camp Abeqweit, and you have a recipe for success.



With something for everyone, the week flows by with a comprehensive, well organized schedule of daily activities set out by Camp Director Ward MacDonald. There are even some sessions with Dr. Ellen MacPhee, the camp chiropractor and piping instructor, to help work out the kinks from all that intensive playing.

"You are playing at your best, you are learning at your best, and you are surrounded by a community of like-minded individuals. Great friends, great music, and great memories are natural." peifiddlecamp.com

With this type of all day playing and learning, tunes are soon flying off your instrument with less and less effort and more and more expertise. It is an experience not to be missed. Next year's PEI Fiddle Camp will run from June 19 - 25, 2011. Don't miss it!



George Fowler (left) - a Maine fiddle instructor chats with Camp Director **Ward MacDonald**.



PEI's **Richard Wood** took time out of his busy schedule to teach at the PEI Fiddle Camp.



PEI Fiddle Camp participants and instructors hold an afternoon jam session outdoors under blue skies along PEI's south shore.



Fiddlers, pipers, singers, dancers and accompanists on guitar, accordion and even a dulcimer at all levels of abilities and expertise and all ages came together to learn and play at PEI's first ever Fiddle Camp at Augustine Cove's Camp Abeqweit.



Overlooking the Northumberland Strait where you can see the Confederation Bridge from Camp Abeqweit's sandy beach, rough cabin-style lodging which includes a comfy mattress, lights, and electrical outlets is provided while all meals are served in the camp's newly renovated Lodge.



**Dorothy
Griffin-Farish**

Acadian News by Dorothy Griffin-Farish

Bonjour Everyone! The summer of 2010 has been jam-packed with musical events in the Evangeline region. Here are just some of them.

On July 10th Norman and Paula Arsenault and Orrin and Marie Livingstone provided music for an elderhostel group at the Centre Goeland.

On July 22nd Norman and Paula Arsenault, Amand Arsenault, Leona Cheney and Dorothy Griffin-Farish entertained a group of seniors at Park Hill Place in Summerside.

During the summer months there have been a number of concerts held at the Parish Centre in Mont Carmel. Just a few of the entertainers include Cynthia MacLeod, Paulette Arsenault, Kelly Richard, Darlene Gallant, Ruth Gallant, Paula Arsenault, Tracy Arsenault, Nicholas Arsenault, Debbie Montgomery, Paul D. Gallant. A number of plays have also been produced and shown at this venue during the summer.

The 23rd Annual Atlantic Fiddlers Jamboree took place from July 30th to August 1st at Centre Expo in Abram Village. On Friday night, July 30th, after the official opening by Festival Chairperson Collette Aucoin and words from visiting dignitaries, a lively 'jam' took place starting at 8:30 p.m. and going until nearly midnight - and I mean lively! The Friday Night Jammers plus a group of young fiddlers and their leader from Maine, several keyboard players, several guitar players, a couple of accordion players, and numerous step dancers with flying feet made up the 'jam', which was very much enjoyed by the audience. On Saturday an all day concert took place, as well as a number of workshops on step dancing and fiddling. These workshops were as follows: Advanced step dancing with Pierre Chartrand; Group dancing with Pierre Chartrand; Fiddling with Wendy Maclsaac; Piano accompaniment with Kevin Chaisson; Wild From The Heart Step Dancing with Colette Aucoin. Sunday featured a Musical Brunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with



Ivan Hicks

Peter Arsenault, Gary Gallant and H el ene Bergeron playing for the first hour and Orrin & Marie Livingstone, along with Jocelyne Arsenault and Paula Arsenault playing for the second hour. This was followed by a concert from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. A list of this year's entertainers and performers include Ivan Hicks and his wife Vivian, also Melissa Gallant, from New Brunswick;



Wendy Maclsaac

Mike Hall and Wendy Maclsaac from Nova Scotia; the Pineland Fiddlers from the United States; Pierre Chartrand and his son Alexis from Quebec, along with Island entertainers Eddie and Peter Arsenault, Anastasia DesRoches, J.J. Chaisson, Peter and Kevin Chaisson, Keelin Wedge, Samantha Gallant, Brandon Arsenault, Pascal Miousse, Chris Gauthier, Karine Gallant, R emi Arsenault, Roger Arsenault, Colette Aucoin, and the Friday Night Jammers, led by Marie Livingstone. The Golden Fiddle Award for 2010 was awarded to the late Kim Vincent, who had a great influence on traditional music on Prince Edward Island.

The group Vishten performed at Harmony House Theatre on Wednesday, August 11th. Also on August 11th fiddler Eddy Arsenault, his brother Amand, Fred Arsenault, Leona Cheney and Dorothy Griffin-Farish performed at Andrew's Lodge in Summerside.

On August 13th the group Gabelle, which include Helene Bergeron, Louise Arsenault, Caroline Bernard and Anastasia DesRoches, featured an evening of fiddling, stepdancing and stories about Acadian life. Before the 7:30 p.m. show a pre-concert talk was given by Acadian historian Georges Arsenault.

Since August 15th is of special significance to Acadians, concerts and festivities during this time are numerous in the Evangeline. A special Mass followed by a musical concert was held at the St. Philip & St. James Church, Egmont Bay to celebrate P ere Eloi Arsenault's 40th anniversary as a priest.

Mention should be made here about TSN coming to Abram-Village. This community won the online vote for The Sports Network's Kraft Celebration Tour and will receive \$25,000.00, which will be a great help in rebuilding the Evangeline Recreation Centre which was burned to the ground in a fire on April 11th. Georgetown was a close second. The community of Abram-Village's original submission for the Kraft Celebration Tour was written by Nick Arsenault in, of all places, a washroom stall at Credit Union Place in Summerside. Congrats. Nick! The Friday Night Jammers continue to meet each week for an evening of lively music, welcoming new talent along with old favorites. It is always delightful to see visitors from other parts of Canada and the United States at these venues and how they enjoy the lively music.

As indicated earlier, music was everywhere in the Evangeline area this summer. I have included just some of the festivities and events.

Till next time, Cheers!



A Tribute to Kim Vincent 1954-2009



2010 Golden Fiddle Award Recipient, **Kim Vincent**

Kim Vincent was regarded as one of Canada's most talented and respected traditional Irish musicians on fiddle, guitar, and tin whistle. Kim studied music the traditional way, from many of North America's and Ireland's most talented musicians.

He was a member of the group Tailor's Twist, along with such great artists as Lennie Gallant, David Papazian and others, which

was often featured on CBC radio and television and in festivals across the country.

Kim performed and taught traditional music for over three decades. He also performed with and recorded for many artists in Atlantic Canada.

As well as being a musician, Kim was also a graduate of the respected Roberto-Venn School of Luthiery in Pheonix Arizona and spent over 30 years making, restoring, and repairing violins and guitars.

Exploring different media of art, Kim also studied visual arts at the Holland College (School of the Arts) in the late 70's.

Kim brought a true Irish style of music to PEI. From the gentle touch of his fingers across the neck of the fiddle to his seemingly effortless bowing, he purveyed the cuts and accents of the Irish through and through.

Having lived in the Maritimes for most of his life, Kim spent his final few years in Toronto. Kim Vincent has left a lasting impression on generations of Prince Edward Island musicians.



Following the presentation of the 2010 Golden Fiddle Award to the family of the late Kim Vincent at the Atlantic Fiddlers Jamboree, a number of Island musicians, deeply impacted by their association with Kim, joined together to perform a very moving musical tribute.



LITECO
ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTOR

Cory MacGuigan
Manager

14 Walker Drive
Charlottetown, PEI
C1A 8S6
www.liteco.ca

tel: (902) 368-3013
fax: (902) 368-3052
cmacguigan@liteco.ca

An ISO 9001 Company

UNITED JANITORIAL INC.

Complete Cleaning Services

- * Office
- * Commercial
- * Construction
- * Floor Care
- * Windows
- * Carpets

Building Solid Relationships on Quality Service

Island Owned and Operated
- Bonded and Insured -
Free Estimates



Local: **(902)569-1822**

Toll Free: 1-866-486-4526

www.unitedjanitorial.com
email: admin@unitedjanitorial.com




Swinging on the Gate

This is a hornpipe that was played at the Roy Johnstone's last session, known as swinging on the gate or Katherine's Brennan's favourite. Below is a copy of the tune as transcribed by Kim Vincent from a recording by Paddy Reynolds and Andy McGann. The beauty of Kim's transcriptions was not only in the accuracy but in the penmanship.



**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



Festival of Small Halls draws big crowds More events in store

The second edition of the Festival of Small Halls was a resounding hit this past June 11-20, 2010. With more than 100 performances in 27 different halls across the Island the Festival grew substantially from its 2008 inception and was warmly embraced by Islanders and visitors alike.

At each show, whether in the rolling hills of Hunter River at the majestic Harmony House Theatre, or a stone's throw from the mighty Malpeque Bay at a sold-out Grand River Hall, people came from far and wide to take in traditional music, dance and storytelling.

"Once again the Festival brought some of our finest acoustic musicians out to rural communities and combined them with a great selection of talented artists from other regions," says Rob Oakie, Executive Director of Music PEI. "This marriage is sure to continue for many years as a grand Island tradition! Ward MacDonald did a fine job of programming and the rest of the team promoted and organized it well."

Of the 27 shows, 13 were sold out and many more were packed to the rafters. Islanders traveled to new parts of the province to take in the names they knew – exceptional locals like Richard Wood, Cynthia MacLeod, Tim Chaisson, Vishten, and Roy Johnstone.

As mentioned, these shows also brought in some exceptional off-Island talent, friends from away like the charming Newfoundland folk trio, The Once, who played four different Island communities in three nights. Ireland's Oisín McAulay Trio had lots of people talking about their unique folk fiddle sound with flavors from Quebec and other Celtic nations including Brittany and Scotland.



Oisín McAulay Trio from Ireland play at the Dundas Hall

Other great visiting performers included fiddler sisters Dawn and Margie Beaton from Cape Breton, Maine fiddling legend, Frank Ferrel, and rising star, fiddler Louise Vautour of Bathurst, New Brunswick, amongst others.



Dawn and Margie Beaton David Weale & Erskine Smith

There were some exciting new features at the Festival in 2010. Renowned Island raconteurs David Weale and Erskine Smith anchored six intimate evenings of Island storytelling that featured colorful tales and local music. All six shows sold out and a second night of stories and songs was even added in Milton!

Another new feature that hit big this June was the Late Night stage in North Granville. The 'Late, Late show' at the Lupin Valley Barn brought audiences back to the Cowshed barn of the Green Island Getaway for hours of encores following the evening shows. "The Late Night shows were a highlight for me, as they featured artists I'd missed earlier that night playing in other community halls" says Claudette Aucoin of Centre Expo in Abram Village.



Synergy between Newfoundland's Duane Andrews, Cape Breton's Dwayne Côté and PEI's own Roy Johnstone

Small Halls Inc. would like to once again acknowledge and thank the major partners of the 2010 Festival. Gratitude is extended to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, The Province of Prince Edward

Cont on page 15

Cont from page 14

Island, and all other corporate sponsors for making the Festival of Small Halls such a resounding success across PEI. On opening day of the festival, the province announced a three-year funding commitment to the festival. Mark your calendars now, next year's festival is set for June 10-19, 2011!

Small Halls Inc. will be hard at it with other spirited community events throughout the fall and winter. This September 24-26 will mark the first edition of the 'Great Island Ceilidh'. This island-wide, Small Halls event would be an assembly and coordination of 15-25 rural ceilidhs presented during the national Canadian Heritage program "Culture Days". A host

performer will headline each ceilidh and each concert will feature artists/groups who perform at a hall's regular ceilidhs, alongside other emerging talents. The Great Island-wide Ceilidh welcomes all musicians and dancers - whether professional, semi-professional, emerging, developing, or hobbyist - to participate in a nearby community Ceilidh.

Small Halls Inc, a registered non-profit, is currently seeking submissions of interest from halls and ceilidh venues, island-wide. Application forms for the Great Island Ceilidh can be found at smallhalls.com. Inquiries or questions can be directed to Debbie Atkinson or Steve Horne at 902-892-2308 or info@smallhalls.com.

Island entertainers were seen at a variety of venues across the Island this summer. Just a few of them are shown here (from left to right) Tim Chaisson, Mark Haines, Kevin Chaisson, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Nathan Condon, Dr. Ellen MacPhee, Carolyn Drake, Marlene MacDonald, Gadelle, Judy MacLean Dancers, Brent Chaisson, Jenny McQuaid, Jason Campbell, Francis MacDonald, Chuck and Albert Arsenault, Darla MacPhee, J.J. Chaisson and Alice Cheverie.



Events Forecast

For up-to-date events visit www.peifiddlers.com; www.festivalspei.com/events or check local listings

Sundays 2 - 5 pm	Weekly Music Sessions	Old Triangle Pub, University Ave	Charlottetown	902-675-2541
Sundays 7 - 9:30 pm	Sun Night Shenanigans	York Community Hall	York	902-566-5545
Sundays 8 pm	Ceilidh with JJ Chaisson	Monticello Log Hall	Rte 16 Monticello	902-687-2261
Alt Sundays 6:30 pm thru Oct	Sturgeon Ceilidhs	St. Paul's Parish Hall	Sturgeon	902-962-3918
Second Sunday 7:00 - 9:00 pm	Kitchen Party/Ceilidh	Cotton Centre	Stratford	902-569-2732
Third Sunday 1:30 pm	Ceilidh	Seniors Active Living Centre, UPEI	Charlottetown	902-628-8388
Third Sunday 7 pm	Kellys Cross Ceilidhs	Kellys Cross Church Hall	Kelly's Cross	902-658-2290
Last Sunday of the month 7-9 pm	Ceilidh/Concert	Bonshaw Community Centre	Bonshaw	902-675-4282
Last Sunday of the month 7:30 pm	Ceilidh	Sherwood Hall	Charlottetown	902-628-6566
Mondays 8 pm	Ceilidh & Dance	St. Peter's Bay Circle Club	St Peter's Bay	902-961-2899
Mon & Wed 7:30 pm til Sep 22	Ross Family Ceilidh	Stanley Bridge W.I. Hall	Stanley Bridge	866-298-8244
Mon & Wed 7:30 pm til Sep 22	Brackley Beach Ceilidh	Brackley Beach Community Centre	Brackley Beach	902-940-1825
Alternate Mondays 7:30 pm	Ceilidh Kitchen Party	Bingo Country, Riverside Dr.	Charlottetown	902-940-6702
Wednesdays 8 pm	Square Dance	Old Lorne Valley School	Lorne Valley	902-687-2584
Wednesdays 8 pm	Ceilidh	Silver Threads	Souris	902-687-2396
Thursdays 7:30 til Sep 30	Lot 7 Ceilidh	St. Mark's Hall	Burton	902-859-2504
Thursday 7:30 til Sep 30	Thursday night Ceilidhs	Stanley Bridge W.I. Hall	Stanley Bridge	902-836-4310
First Thursday 7:30 pm	Ceilidh	Kilmuir Hall	Kilmuir	902-838-4768
Fridays 8 pm	Music, Song and Dance	Benevolent Irish Society	Charlottetown	902-892-2367
Fridays 8 pm	Ceilidh & Dance	Dundas Ploughing Match Grounds	Dundas	902-961-2670
Fridays 7:30	Ceilidh	Bites Café	Hampton	902-658-2041
Saturdays 9 pm	Goose River Dance	Goose River Hall	Goose River	902-961-2205

Fiddle Practices Open To The Public

Eastern Kings Fiddlers Rollo Bay 687-2584
Mondays 7:00 Rollo Bay School

Prince County Fiddlers Summerside 836-3844
Mondays 7:30 pm Community Connections

Southern Kings Fiddlers Montague 962-2273
Alternate Mondays 7:00 pm Active Communities

Queens County Fiddlers Charlottetown 569-4592
Wednesdays 7:30 pm Queen Charlotte Intermediate

Morell Fiddle Group Morell 961-2962
Thursdays 7:00 pm Above the Pharmacy

Acadian Fiddlers Wellington 436-5532
Fridays 8:00 pm Boys & Girls Club

PEI FIDDLERS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ Membership \$20 _____

Address _____ Donation \$ _____

City _____ Payable to: PEI Fiddlers Society

Province/State _____ Mail: PEI Fiddlers Society

Postal/Zip Code _____ 135 Kent Street, P.O. Box 3311,

Email _____ Charlottetown, PE C1A 8W5

Quarterly Newsletter; Email Yes No Snail Mail Yes No