

September 2024 Issue 20

Hello everyone,

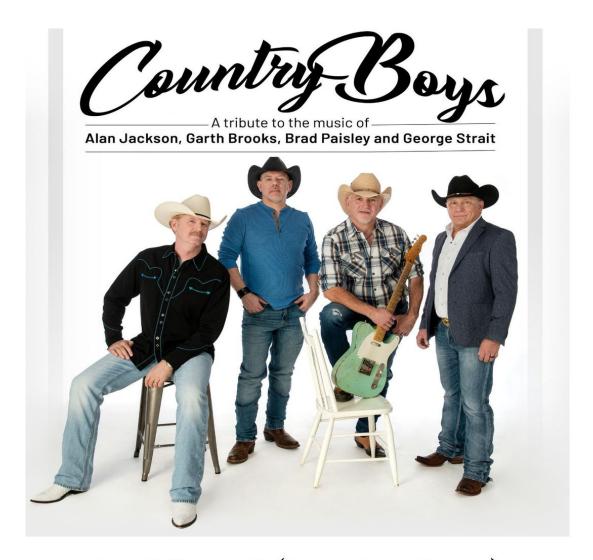
It's hard to believe it's September already with summer winding down and autumn creeping up on us. Before we jump into the column I want to take a moment to apologise for the delay in sending out the column; my son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter have been visiting from Ontario for the past two weeks and I've been spending as much time as possible with them. These visits are wonderful but never long enough!

During their visit we took a lovely trip to the Hopewell Rocks. It was great to get there again; the last time my wife and I were there was over 40 years ago and boy there are some amazing changes there! This province has been called the "Picture Province" and judging by the amount of photos being taken there (many by us!) I can see why!

My good friend and fellow Hall member Gary Hooper put out an album a few years back called 'She Is My Rock' dedicated to his wife Muriel and on the front cover is a picture that was taken at Hopewell Rocks and our visit reminded me of that album. Gary sent me a copy to listen to a few years back and it is a wonderful collection of 10 songs that showcase his vocals and the deep bond and love for his wife. At heart Gary is an old softy and a hopeless romantic don't ever change my friend!

August 28 saw a return of the Saint John Exhibition festivities with a concert by the New Brunswick Country Music Hall of Fame. The concert was hosted by the Irving Field House; and featured Gary and Tammy Morris, Ivan Hicks, Allison Inch, Derek Knowles, Tim Wallace, Dave McNeill, Joyce Boone, Claudette Norman, Elva Greer, Dwane Drost, Reg Gallant and Vince Barlow. It was a fine evening of music and memories!

Beginning on September 7 is a series of concerts featuring four New Brunswick country music veterans, Daniel Goguen, Scott and Gerald Delahunty, and Marc Babin, who will be honouring the music of George Strait, Alan Jackson, Brad Paisley and Garth Brooks! See info on poster below:



SEPT. 7: NEGUAC, NB (RICHARD DENYS THEATRE)

OCT. 4: RIVERVIEW, NB (RIVERVIEW ARTS CENTRE)

OCT. 12: ABRAM VILLAGE, PEI (COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL)

(TICKET INFORMATION COMING SOON)

On Sunday September 8 I will be hosting a country music show at the Lorneville Community Center just outside of Saint John. This show will feature Hall member C.J. 'The New Brunswick Possum' Gallant, along with Hall of Fame Fiddler Allison Inch, Minto Wall of Fame vocalist Anna Thibodeau, and myself from 2pm until 5pm., please see information on the poster below:



We have a great concert coming up on September 14 in Woodstock at the McCain Theatre by my friend and World Champion Elvis Impersonator Thane Dunn and his wife Nashville recording artist Melly Dunn. These two are sure to impress you with their faithful tributes to the King of Rock n Roll and the Queens of Country Music, see poster below for full details:



2024 Hall of Fame Inductee Rik Reese is keeping busy this month! Here is a list of some of the shows he will be doing in September:



Hall member Brenda Best was featured in an article in Lazie Indie magazine, I'm not able to include the whole interview but here are some photos and an excerpt:



Brenda Best: (laugh with disbelief).. No, I sure didn't. Words cannot describe how honored I feel to be amongst the greatest musicians and singers of New Brunswick Canada. Being inducted to The Hall of Fame shows how much an artists' contribution to the music industry has made an impact with all the years they dedicated and devoted themselves to their craft. The event itself was a celebration I will never forget. I was surrounded by Hall of Famers and friends & family members and my amazing husband of now 27 years. He is my rock. It also makes me proud to share this Induction with my siblings and my mother, the matriarch of the family who created the environment and exposed her kids at an early age to good music. She was a musician herself, and she played a lot of LPs and 45s in every genre. It went from Johnny Rivers to The Mills Brothers to Ann Murray to The Beatles and Patsy Cline.

KSHIP: I think many people like me had you only penned for doing country, but my goodness you are all up in the Gospel genre of things. Did you always go between both genres, that's kind of what I have done throughout my career, I personally think it's a refreshing balance amongst the two.

Brenda Best: Yes Kathryn, you and I share a lot of similarities in our genres. I know we are so versatile writing and singing Country and Gospel music. In fact, we met for the first time at The Josie Awards 2023, and both being nominated in the Gospel Music Category. By the way, congratulations on your win! As for me, singing Gospel music is new and I credit Jesus Christ for guiding me there. I recorded only a half a dozen Christian songs so far, and one of them wor, a Holiday Music and Film Award in 2023. It's a song called "Checking Up on Your Behavior" that was inspired by a young guy with Autism, a true story of my encounter with him while hopping for Christmas gifts at the town square in Murfreesboro Tennessee. He approached me in a crowd of people with an important message asking me if I knew Jesus. Then he asked for just one minute of my time. At first, I was hesitant, but I felt it was the right thing to do in giving him my focus. I'm glad I did because everything he asked me is now written in the song. Last year, another one of my Gospel songs was nominated for several awards. It's called "Speak Your Name", a personal favorite of mine because it is a prayer song, one that anybody can sing along and feel connected to The Lord.

KSHIP: You've done the work, the bar scene with live music, concert venues, and you are still trailblazing it. We all know as artists/musicians (which you knock out of the park on guitar as well) sometimes performing can take its toll where you need to kind of pump the brakes. As you have navigated this throughout the years, where do you find your peace within all of this to keep going? How many shows do you currently do a year?

Brenda Best: Thanks for acknowledging my musicianship. I did put in a lot of hours playing guitar in bars. Even before moving to Nashville, I played college pubs and coffee houses in Charlottesville Virginia where I lived for 5 years, then in 1999 I moved to Nashville playing the honky tonk circuit on Broadway for about 4 years straight. Those gigs really wore me out because they are four hours long, and I played a lot of solo gigs for tips. It wore out my voice, so I eventually moved on from that whole circus and I put on the brakes. Though, the experience I got from that is not lost nor regretted in any way because it taught me to be an "entertainer"

I want to remind you all again that the 2024 Induction Gala concert tickets are going fast and if you wait until the last minute you may be disappointed. This is our second year cycle in Fredericton at the home of the Hall of Fame and next year the ceremonies and Gala will be held in Saint John. It will return to Fredericton in 2026-27.



Gala 2024

Hosts/Hôtes: NB Country Music Hall of Fame Board of Directors

October 19 Octobre, 2024 Fredericton Inn - 1315 Regent St., Fredericton NB

Meet & Greet, Banquet & Induction Ceremony - 3:00pm Rencontre sociale, banquet & cérémonie d'intronization

> Concert - 8:00 pm featuring/en vedette Hall of Famers

Late Night Jam - Fredericton Inn - 11:00pm

Inductees/Intronisées Jason Barry Brian Mallery Jocelyn McNeill Rik Reese Phil McGeehan

Church Service with Gospel Music: Sunday, Oct 20th - 10am Venue tba- Fredericton NB

> Free Live Music Series Oct 14-19th Watch our website & Facebook for info. www.nbcmhf.com

\$85

TICKETS Gala Package (includes all events)

Contact Sandra Reed: 506-472-0355 sanreed101@gmail.com (e-transfer available)







The Welcome Jam will kick off the weekend on Friday October 18 and will be hosted again by Hall member Steve Lyons and myself and held at Picaroons. There will also be a songwriters' workshop and circle on Thursday afternoon and evening featuring Hall member Joan Kennedy.

There will be music played throughout the week at various venues in Fredericton and if you can volunteer some time to come and help with this please let is know. You can contact myself or V.P. Dwane Drost and we can sort out the venues and who can appear at them. Please be aware that we will try to accommodate everyone who volunteers but there will only be so many spots available so if you think you would be interested in helping out don't hesitate to let us know, the sooner the better. More details will follow in the October Music Notes as well as on the Hall of Fame website.

Congratulations to B. NEESS

You are the winner of \$75.00 from our August draw. We will be contacting you by email & phone.



Our 50/50 raffle draw is back for the month of September and you can participate through the Hall of Fame website. Please consider buying tickets to help support the Hall with programs and projects and maybe win a few bucks too! The more tickets we sell the larger the pot, so please support your Hall of Fame and pass the word on to friends and family too!



And speaking of tickets we are once again selling tickets on a beautiful Yamaha FG800 acoustic guitar with gig bag, strap, and picks courtesy of Tony's Music Box in Fredericton and Yamaha Canada. The tickets are available through the Hall of Fame and at Hall of Fame concerts; they will also be at the Gala. I will have some at my show on September 8 in Lorneville.

MEW BRUNSWICK COUNTRY HALL OF FAME

Guitar Draw 2024

Yamaha FG-800 Acoustic Guitar, Gig Bag & Strap!

Tickets \$2.00 ea 3 for \$5.00



Sponsored by: Tony's Music Box & Yamaha Canada It's time for our monthly feature...

Who is making waves in Country Music?



Our featured artist this month is a young lady by the name of Ella Campbell.

Ella is from the Fredericton area and got bit by the performing bug pretty early on. With a powerful voice this young lady is becoming very popular with the music scene in New Brunswick and has recently released her first song to radio entitled 'Rollercoaster' which you can listen to here:



https://ellacampbell.bandcamp.com/track/rollercoaster

When I asked Ella at a recent concert we were both part of what she hoped to achieve through her music she answered quite confidently a successful music career and judging by how busy she is I think she will achieve that goal and more!

Another New Brunswick gem and homegrown talent miss Ella Campbell!

Well folks I think I will stop here for now, we will have a final information blitz on the Hall of Fame Gala in October's edition of Music Notes. In the mean time if you have an upcoming event you would like to see in the music notes column or a milestone or even suggestions for future columns send me a note at: regpat.gallant@gmail.com and I will put it in for you!

Until October's column, take care, support local live music, as Aubrey Hanson would say 'Keep on the sunny side' and as always...



Keep it country!

Reg Gallant
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