



Volume 12 - Issue 1

February 2018

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Country Music Centre  
Liverpool, Nova Scotia

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# NOVA SCOTIA COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME NEWSLETTER

## Wilf Carter 1908-1996



Inducted 1997

## Don Messer 1909-1973



Inducted 1998

## Hank Snow 1914-1999



Inducted 1997

**Wilf Carter** was widely known as the father of Canadian country music. He was born December 18, 1904 in Port Hilford, Nova Scotia, where he spent his early childhood. Later, the Carters moved to Canning in the Annapolis Valley where Wilf spent his adolescent years. He headed west in the 1920s. Throughout his career, Wilf Carter was also known as Montana Slim and The Yodeling Cowboy.

Born in Tweedside, New Brunswick, **Don Messer** began playing fiddle at the age of 5, later receiving formal music training in Boston. Upon arriving back in the Maritimes, he had a successful career in radio. His popular bands included The New Brunswick Lumberjacks, Backwoods Breakdown and most notably Don Messer and His Islanders. How many of us have fond memories of The Don Messer Show! He is an honorary member of the NSCMHF.

**Hank Snow** was born in Brooklyn, Queens County, Nova Scotia. World famous, with The Rainbow Ranch Boys, he had a long and successful career in Nashville. The Hank Snow Home Town Museum and the NSCMHF are located in the town of Liverpool. Both Wilf Carter and Hank Snow were the inaugural inductees in the NSCMHF in 1997.

Did you know that Hank Snow and Don Messer share the same birth date? Although Don Messer was five years older, both were born on May 9<sup>th</sup>.



Below is the house (pictures circa 2000) in Port Hilford, Guysborough County, where Wilf Carter was born in 1904. The house was the Baptist parsonage and is just a stone's throw away from the church (below) where Wilf's father was minister.



## NSCMHF Meetings

The Board of Directors meet every month. All NSCMHF members are welcomed and encouraged to attend our meetings. Please contact any of the Directors to find out when and where our next meeting will take place.



## Notice to all members of the NSCMHF

The NSCMHF wishes to thank the membership for your support so that we may continue to maintain, promote, and preserve classic country, bluegrass, and old time fiddle music. We will continue to document the history of these genres of music in Nova Scotia for the enjoyment of all and future country music fans.

In order to help maintain our commitment, *effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, the fee for membership in the NSCMHF will increase to \$10.00 per person for one year, or \$25.00 for a three year membership.*

This is the first increase in the membership fee since the NSCMHF was founded 20 years ago in 1997.

### The benefits of membership include:

- 1) a quarterly NSCMHF newsletter
- 2) FREE admission to the Hank Snow Hometown museum in Liverpool
- 3) \$1.00 off admission to any NSCMHF event, with the exception of the annual (September) Induction Ceremony and dinner

**Please Note:** Membership cards must be shown to receive the admission discount.

We look forward to your continued support at our fundraiser shows.

**To become a member or to renew a membership, please contact Membership Chair, Carol Penney. Phone: 902-644-3135 Email: [rodger.pennev@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rodger.pennev@ns.sympatico.ca) Mail to: Carol Penney, 750 Barss Corner Rd., RR# 1, New Germany, N.S. B0R 1E0**

### *Our Mission Statement*

1. *To establish and maintain a permanent Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.*
2. *To develop and promote public interest in old time fiddling, country and bluegrass music in Nova Scotia.*
3. *The preservation and public display of artifacts and memorabilia of those inducted into the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.*
4. *To encourage nominations for induction into the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.*

## *2018 NSCMHF INDUCTION CEREMONY*

Tickets for the NSCMHF Induction Ceremony, September 15, 2018, will be \$42.00 per person and will be available in early April, 2018. Please contact Floyd Spicer at 902-462-0694 or any of the Board of Directors for ticket availability.

**Thank you for all nominations for induction to the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame 2018.**

**Announcement of 2018 Inductees will be posted in our April newsletter.**



## Inductees' News ...

### Member of the Order of Canada



2014 NSCMHF Inductee Gordon Stobbe was named a Member of the Order of Canada on Dec 29, 2017 by Governor General Julie Payette for his commitment to the preservation of fiddle music as a performer, composer, and teacher.

A key figure in East Coast folk music since moving to Nova Scotia in 1977, Gordon Stobbe became a household name in the 1980s as the affable host of ATV's (now CTV) weekly TV kitchen party, *Up Home Tonight*. The show was an early platform for performers like the Rankin Family, the Barra MacNeils, Ashley MacIsaac and Natalie MacMaster.

A multi-instrumentalist who also turns his hands to the mandolin, guitar and clawhammer banjo, Stobbe has been a featured player in bands like Ontario's Dixie Flyers, Nova Scotia's Ladies Choice Bluegrass Band and the Mighty Oak String Band, as well as accompanying John Gracie, Razzmatazz for Kids and Bible Hill's Cindy Church (NSCMHF Inductee). Besides recording his own music and collaborating with traditional and old-time musicians across Canada, Stobbe has also authored and published 23 fiddle books and produced instructional CDs and a DVD. An instructor for 30 years at Musicstop's Canadian Conservatory of Music (later the Long & McQuade Music Education Centre), Stobbe has been spending more time in recent years in the Canadian North, mentoring First Nations and Inuit students from the Yukon to Nunavut, and in northern Manitoba.

(Source: The Chronicle Herald)



*Chet Brown still recording at 82!*



This recording is a selection of songs that I've enjoyed performing for many years. The Good Lord continues to give me the ability to do what I love. On this musical journey since age 11, I have cherished so many fellow musicians and friends over the years. I want to say thanks to each and everyone of you for your support. God bless you all, Chet Brown (Inducted 2006)



*Robert Bouchard releases new CD*



2014 NSCMHF Inductee Robert Bouchard was recently back in the studio to record his new CD entitled 'That's What I Live For'. The project was completed in August 2017 at Lakewind Studios in Point Aconi, Cape Breton. All but one of the musicians on the recording are Cape Breton talents. Nashville musician Mike Johnson completes the sound throughout the CD with his great steel guitar work. Robert has penned most of the songs on this CD - to rave reviews. Robert, who has been compared to the great Merle Haggard, also included three of his most requested Haggard tunes. Check out Robert's website [www.robertbouchard.net](http://www.robertbouchard.net)



George Longard (Inducted 2015) keeps busy in his studio in Oxford. George records his weekly show, The George Longard Country Music Hour, for CFTA-107.9 FM Tantramar Community Radio, airing each Sunday at 10 am. His show also runs four times weekly on the Edinburgh Country Music Radio (ECMR) in Scotland. Country recording artists working with George such as

Carl James, Harry Hanes, Bev Cheverie, and Peter Trenhom have had music released on the Diamond Back Label and are played all over the world. You can contact George Longard Productions at [georgelongard@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:georgelongard@ns.aliantzinc.ca)



Editor's Note

I hope you enjoy the first edition of the NSCMHF newsletter for 2018. As a recent retiree, my time is now filled with all things music! The NSCMHF Board of Directors, newsletter editor, organizing / hosting St. Anthony's Classic Country Show, and increased involvement with the Maritime Fiddle Festival all help to keep me busy... who has time for work?

I encourage inductees and members to send along articles for possible publication in future newsletters. I would love to hear your suggestions.

As always, it is my pleasure to provide you with the news from the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.

*Yours in Music,  
Bev Cheverie*

bevcheverie  
@yahoo.com

For information on a variety of monthly shows please go to:  
<http://www.jerrysnews.com>

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Region 5- Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth Counties	- Jim MacCrae
Region 6- Kings, Annapolis & Digby Counties	- vacant



MISSION STATEMENT  
THE NOVA SCOTIA COUNTRY MUSIC  
HALL OF FAME

- To establish and maintain a permanent Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.
- To develop and promote public interest in old time fiddling, and country and bluegrass music in Nova Scotia.
- The preservation and the public display of artifacts and memorabilia of those inducted into the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame.
- To encourage nominations for induction into the Nova Scotia Country Music Hall of Fame

OBJECTIVES OF THE NOVA SCOTIA COUNTRY  
MUSIC HALL OF FAME

- To recognize the contributions of Nova Scotians in the development of country music.
- To honor Nova Scotians and others who have made a positive contribution to country music through the development and the construction of a museum/archive facility for the storage and display of memorabilia, documentation of achievements and recognition of accomplishments.

*New or renewed members please contact Carol Penney by phone  
@ 902-644-3135 or email [rodger.penney@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rodger.penney@ns.sympatico.ca) or  
mail to 750 Barss Corner Rd., RR#1 New Germany, N.S. B0R 1E0*



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