

# Treasures from Our Archives

## *Fifteen Years Ago*

*Bulletin* 25.1 (Spring 1991). Two articles graced this issue: “We Didn’t Explode in Calgary!,” President Gregg Brunskill’s retrospective on the 1990 AGM, was accompanied by W.A.S. Sarjeant’s photo montage from the event; Neil V. Rosenberg’s “Maurice Ruddick: In Memory” included Mr. Ruddick’s song “Spring Hill Disaster.” The issue’s other song was Howard Card’s “The Woodsman Marrs.” A review of The Shanty Crew’s *Stand To Yer Ground*, and lots of news items, completed the issue.

## *Ten Years Ago*

*Bulletin* 30.1 (March 1996). This issue focussed on individuals, some passed on, some still with us. It featured two articles on Stanley Triggs, by George W. Lyon and Phil Thomas, and Triggs’ song “The Wreck of the *Green Cove*.” Two songs by Wade Hemsworth, “My Mother is the Ocean Sea” and “Montréal,” accompanied an interview with Wade by GWL and John Leeder. Martin Rossander reminisced on his friend Chuck Irwin in “Bring some more music!,” Olaf Sveen profiled Gaby Haas, “Canada’s Mr. Polka,” and an obituary of Kenneth S. Goldstein was contributed by Edith Fowke. Two Métis songs, “Marie Rouvin” and “La Montagne Tortue,” and Wendy Robbins’ “Come Sit With Me” completed the issue’s complement of songs. “The Centrefold” column on magazines was there, and the reviews were

of books *Encyclopedia of Canadian Rock, Pop and Folk Music* (Rick Jackson), *Off the Record: An Oral History of Popular Music* (Joe Smith) and *Stompin’ Tom: Before the Fame* (Tom Connors) and recordings *The Songs of Wade Hemsworth*, Danielle Martineau’s *Autrement* and David Wilkie’s *Cowboy Celtic*.

## *Five Years Ago*

*Bulletin* 35.1 (Spring 2001). This was the first issue under Lorne Brown’s editorship, and included an extensive interview by Lorne with Neil Rosenberg, and Lynn Whidden’s article “Cowboys and Indians: Putting the Indian into Cowboy Music.” An obituary of Kenneth Peacock, by Anna Kearney Guigne, appeared, and Herbert Halpert was remembered in two pieces, by Jamie Moreira and Ed Cray. The Prairie Higglers’ song “The Saskatoon Skier’s Lament,” “The O’Halloran Road” by an unidentified author, and the tune “Bill Oja Hornpipe” made up the music content. Two columns by Lorne Brown, “A Mari Usque...” and “The Back Page,” made their first appearance, and president Leslie Hall contributed a column.

These issues (and all back issues, either in original form or as photocopies) are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2. For pricing, see the Mail Order Service catalogue or website ([www.yorku.ca/cstm](http://www.yorku.ca/cstm) and follow the links), or contact [john.leeder@nucleus.com](mailto:john.leeder@nucleus.com). Cumulative Tables of Contents of all issues since 1982 are available on the website as well. [JL]

# Reviews

## *Recordings*

**Mac Beattie. *This Ottawa Valley of Mine*.** P04-01-06. Mac Beattie Music, 7 Old Orchard Lane, Arnprior, Ont. K7S 3T5; <[p.beattie@sympatico.ca](mailto:p.beattie@sympatico.ca)>.

Last September Jean and I explored the Opeongo Line, the old Ottawa valley colonization road that is a breathtaking monument to bureaucratic stupidity (unfortunately Toronto-based) and the incredible bravery and resourcefulness of our early pioneers from Scotland, Ireland, Germany and Poland. It was a wonderful trip: beautiful scenery, ghost towns, old log structures – some still in use, some falling down – hills, winding roads where seldom was heard a discouraging word, or any words at all, since this is a sparsely-populated area, and friendly people, when

we actually saw some. It got me all enthused again about my Ottawa Valley roots. My mother spoke Ottawa Valley talk, and I was a teenager before I realized that “wash” did not have an ‘r’ in it, and that there was a ‘t’ at the end of “kept.” It’s an area where you can still sense the presence of Mac Beattie, the voice of the Ottawa Valley.

Mac Beattie (1912-1982) was born in the Ottawa Valley and had two great loves in his life: music and hockey. He was the first entertainer to be inducted into the Ottawa Valley Country Hall of Fame, a worthy honour for one who wrote so many songs about his beloved valley: sentimental songs, funny songs, sad songs, songs that touched the hearts of his