

# Cumberland Singers Perform Concert in Wentworth

By Hope Bridgewater

The publicity poster for a May 2018 music concert read: "The Cumberland Singers present Magic Moments 11. Classic Country & Rock Songs, Wentworth Recreation Centre. Adults - \$10, Children Under 12 - \$5. Proceeds to Nova Scotia SPCA, L.A. Animal Shelter (Amherst), and Marilyn & Friends Feral Cat Program. Please join us for this evening of oldies music and support these organizations in their efforts to help abandoned and abused animals." In the actual performance, the Cumberland Singers gave a splendid, spirited, and expert musical concert. In brief, a great event for a good cause.

Jocelyn Morris, coordinator and director, sent me the following report about this 2018 May concert as a fund raising event: "This is the second concert the Cumberland Singers have presented to help animals that are abandoned, abused or homeless. All members of the Cumberland Singers donate their time and talents to the various charitable/non-profit organizations we stage our shows for. Everyone in our group loves animals and we are pleased to bring a small bit of aid and comfort to these precious creatures that have been cast aside to fend for themselves. A 100% of the proceeds from this concert will go to their care, being split equally among the Nova Scotia SPCA, the L.A. Animal Shelter (Amherst) and Marilyn & Friends Feral Cat Program." It is worth noting that the musicians also volunteer free of charge their travel expenses and several members come from far away as Antigonish and Halifax.



The Cumberland Singers performed a wonderful concert at the Wentworth Recreation Centre to raise funds for animal shelters. (Rick Clarke Photo)

The majority of the Cumberland Singers are descended from Ellsworth and Edith Patriquin who were parents of 12 children. Two of their daughters, Pearl (Patriquin) Crowley and Jean (Patriquin) Mooring in 1982 began raising funds for good causes until 1991 and eight years later in 1999, Jocelyn Morris, daughter of Pearl Crowley, named and organized The Cumberland Singers containing family members to raise funds for charity events and non-profit organizations in Wentworth, Nova Scotia and elsewhere. In 2018, the majority of musicians in the May, 2018 concert were descendants of the Patriquin family and also there were three other dedicated friends performing with them.

Performing talented singers and musicians were as follows: Jocelyn Morris (singer, show coordinator), Nick Morris (singer, drummer, sound technician), Ashley Baker (singer, rhythm guitar), Steve Simpson (drummer, sound technician), Amy Morris (singer, sound technician), Sharon Miller (singer), Larry Patriquin (singer), David Patriquin (singer), Shane Lyons (bass guitar), Angela Trenholm (singer and piano), Wayne Reid (singer, lead guitar), Roger Patriquin (choir), Laurene DeCoste (choir), Erica DeCoste (choir), Ron Rushton (choir), Sherri Rushton (choir), Colton Rushton (choir). At this specific concert, the two young sons of Ashley Baker, Mitchell and Max, also joined the choir.


During the recess between the two sets, Marilyn Williams thanked the Cumberland Singers for supporting animal shelters. Prizes from door admission tickets and the raffle table tickets were given out. Jocelyn Morris announced that \$2,449.00 was raised by admission sales, the raffle table and individual donations and

was to be equally shared by the three animal shelters previously mentioned.

Volunteer workers from both the Recreation Centre staff and the Cumberland Singers were a part of the successful concert: Jeannette Murray at the entrance gave out tickets for the concert fees paid, Sharon Miller and Rick Clarke at the raffle table gave out tickets for money spent there, and Shirley Patriquin at the bake table with donated food earned funds for the event. Laurel Adams, William Adams, and Gary Jollymore worked the canteen with only those profits going to the Recreation Centre.



Pearl Crowley sings "Edelweiss," backed by her niece, Sharon Miller and her daughter, Jocelyn Miller with Ashley Baker in background. (Rick Clarke Photo)



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*Children are their pride and joy  
Makes no difference girl or boy  
Like diamonds that are in the rough  
They keep a family strong and tough*

*Like steel in a fiery hearth  
They love you from your very birth  
Though sometimes they can forget  
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*Most of all though  
Dads are truly great  
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