

JONES, Glenna

Canadians need to possess bigger egos says performer

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Staff Reporter

The Quinte area continues to attract some of Canada's most talented and artistic people. But the problem for at least some of them is what to do when they settle here.

An example is Glenna Jones, whose career as an actress, singer, dancer and choreographer has spanned several decades, since she became one of the original CBC variety show dancers when she was barely 16. After years with the CBC, working with talent such as Wayne and Schuster, she married a producer and continued to land top roles in Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, Jamaica and then several years in Australia, where she did extensive theatre work, returning home to Canada in 1968.

Her present husband, Robert (Bob) also has an extensive and acclaimed background as a baritone singer-performer.

The family's move to the Quinte area took place a little over one year

ago, says Glenna. The reason was to be with their youngest son, Chris, 16, who has been in the professional dance classes of the Quinte Dance Centre for the past two years.

She has been commuting frequently to Toronto because of a retail business she has been running in recent years, but that is now in the process of being sold.

"I'm really not a good business-woman," she has admitted to herself. "I have a lot of experience in dancing and choreography so I would like to do what I know best."

For that reason, she plans to open up teaching facilities in the fall for private pupils — preferably in tap dancing.

Anyone interested may telephone her at 969-1931.

Since moving to this area, her husband has resumed a second career of home renovations which he started in Toronto.

Glenna also comments on the excellent work and reputation of the Quinte Dance Centre. "I wonder if people who live here realize what a high quality and well-known school it

is," she said.

She related how her 16-year-old son was keeping up with 19-year-old dancers during a recent summer session in the United States.

As one of Canada's leading theatre and television performers for many years, Glenna was written up in a large book published in 1980 called Women of Canada, featuring a collection of photos, interviews and biographical material on key women in many occupations and positions at the time.

Now settled on a 100-acre farm west of Tuckers Corners, Glenna says she wants something to do other than looking after a few goats and other assorted animals and a garden plot.

Glenna also has a few comments about Canadian egos. They're not big enough, she is quoted as saying in the Canadian women of Canada article. "Canadian performers are just as talented as any others. I don't like to see Canadians get nervous just because they are working with some top U.S. talent," she says. "They need to have bigger egos."