

THE BOOKS

The Trouble With Bernie

Delightful, smoothly written individual stories about 10-year-old Bernie during the 1950s, his family, his school, and his neighborhood. Using excellent dialogue, the stories burst with action, humor and imagination, including joining a club - the Blazing Bandits - taking a bee's nest to school, getting lost on a wilderness trek, heading out on a "penny hike," and exploring a haunted house. Although the stories are realistic, an overtone of kindness flavors the episodes. Bushell knows kids, and writes interesting stories. Delightful black and white sketches also illustrate the story - cartoon-style and humorous.

Evaluation by the Juvenile Book Review Committee
- Juneau Public Libraries

The Trouble With Bernie has been chosen for Alaska's 2005-2006 Battle of the Books Program. The second Bernie Jones book, *Bernie Jones and the Blazing Bandits* was published in October, 2005.

What educators say about the Bernie Jones Assembly:

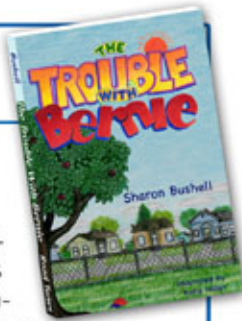
"The Bernie Jones Assembly was an entertaining and stimulating way to make reading and writing come to life for our students. Johnny B. and Sharon thoroughly entertained the entire student body and provided them with an insight into the creative process and the work of an author."

Mark Leal - Principal, Ellen Feickert Elementary
Elk Grove, California

"The entire student body sat still for an entire hour. They were completely spellbound."

Jim Bruggerman - Principal, Irving School
Bozeman, Montana

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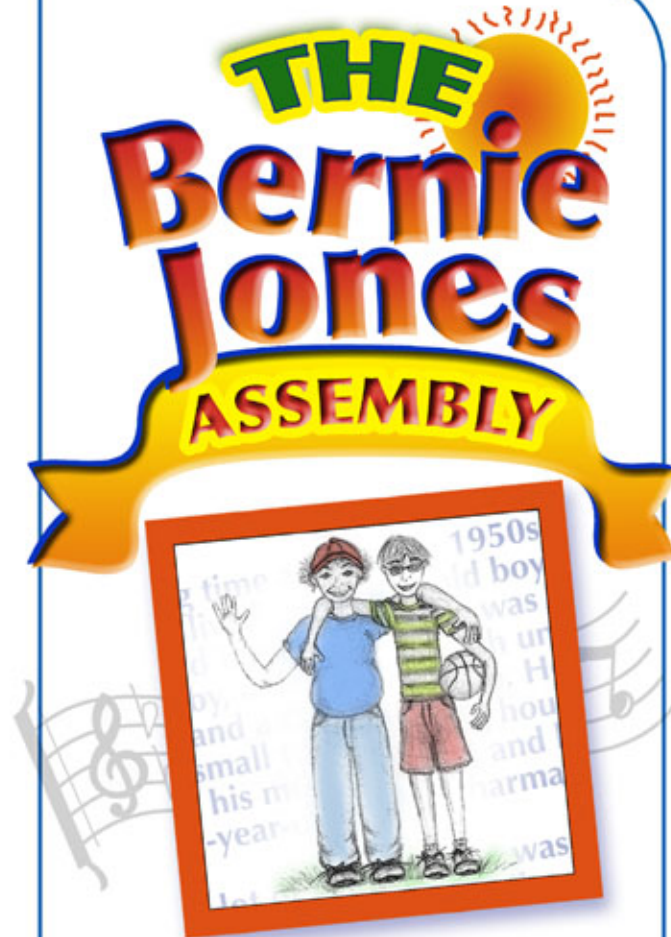


www.BernieJones.com



A School Assembly about **READING & WRITING**

Road Tunes Media
534 Hidden Way
Homer, Alaska 99603



A School Assembly
about
**READING &
WRITING**

with author
Sharon Bushell

and piano man
Johnny B.

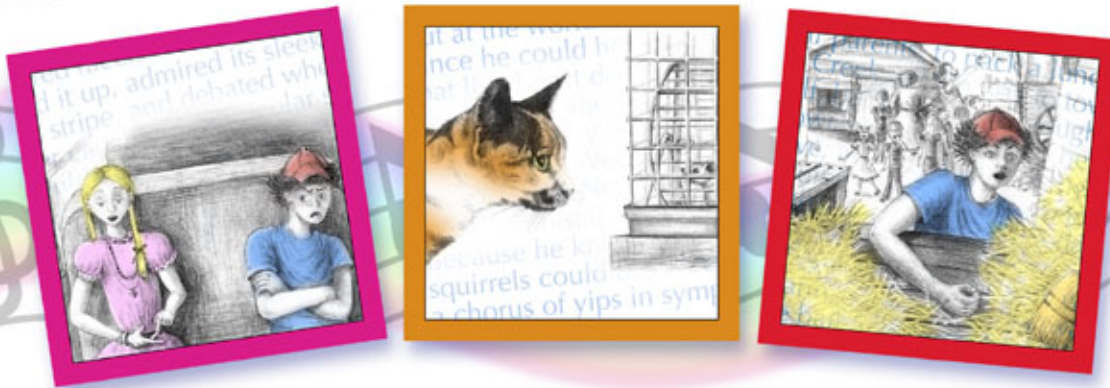
THE ASSEMBLY

Sharon Bushell and Johnny B. have created an exciting combination author-in-the-school/music assembly that students, staff and parents thoroughly enjoy.

IT'S ALL ABOUT READING AND WRITING and aligns directly with many state standards.

The fifty-minute assembly includes a reading/performance from Sharon's middle-reader books, *The Trouble With Bernie* and *Bernie Jones and the Blazing Bandits*, combined with Johnny B's uptempo boogie-woogie and original piano compositions.

The life of ten-year-old Bernie Jones, Sharon's main fictional character, comes alive through story and music.



It is a fun and educational program guaranteed to put a smile on everyone's face.

Combined, Sharon and Johnny B., have over forty years of experience performing and working with school audiences. Sharon has been awarded the Alaska Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities. Johnny B. is a retired teacher with a masters degree in education.

Sharon and Johnny B. can accommodate hundreds of K-6 students in one assembly. Many schools have opted for two back-to-back assemblies allowing for different content to be presented to primary and intermediate ages. The program cost is **affordable** and includes a book signing the following day.

You can find detailed information about booking the assembly at www.BernieJones.com, or by contacting **Road Tunes Media** for any other questions at RoadTunes@gci.net.

We look forward to hearing from you and bringing this quality assembly to your school.

"Couple combines story and song to encourage children to read and write."

The following are excerpts from an article in the **Nevada Appeal** by Peter Thompson March 24, 2005.

"Johnny B." launches a volley of boogie-woogie fireworks from the piano then leaps off the stage like a lemming.

Rows of Empire Elementary School students sitting "criss-cross apple-sauce" are dazzled by the 50-year-old with the purple-ribbon tie and canvas shoes. For the moment, he's done the nearly impossible and has won the full attention of the 100 kindergarten and first-graders gathered for the assembly.

He jumps back on stage and begins to tell the story of 10-year-old Bernie Jones, the literary creation of Johnny B.'s wife, Sharon Bushell.



Sharon Bushell takes the stage to read the story from her book "The Trouble with Bernie" while Johnny B. (John Bushell), embellishes the scenes on piano. "The

whole purpose of the show is to focus on writing, writing, writing and then when that's done, rewriting," says John.

After raising two kids, the Homer, Alaska, couple are spending their empty-nest years touring schools around the country promoting reading and writing.

"There are new standards these kids are going to have to live up to," says John, noting the recent changes in SAT tests that include an essay-writing section.

"The Trouble with Bernie" is the first in a series of five books written by Sharon. The pair have been touring elementary schools across the country since Nov. 11, 2004.

After blowing through a rollicking, ivory-sliding "Great Balls of Fire," John keeps the message clear. "Reading is so important!" he enthuses while encouraging the children to exit the auditorium snapping their fingers to Henry Mancini's "Pink Panther" theme.

"Keep reading!" he says.

