The Pioneer Times

(News vehicle of the Cloyne and District Historical Society)

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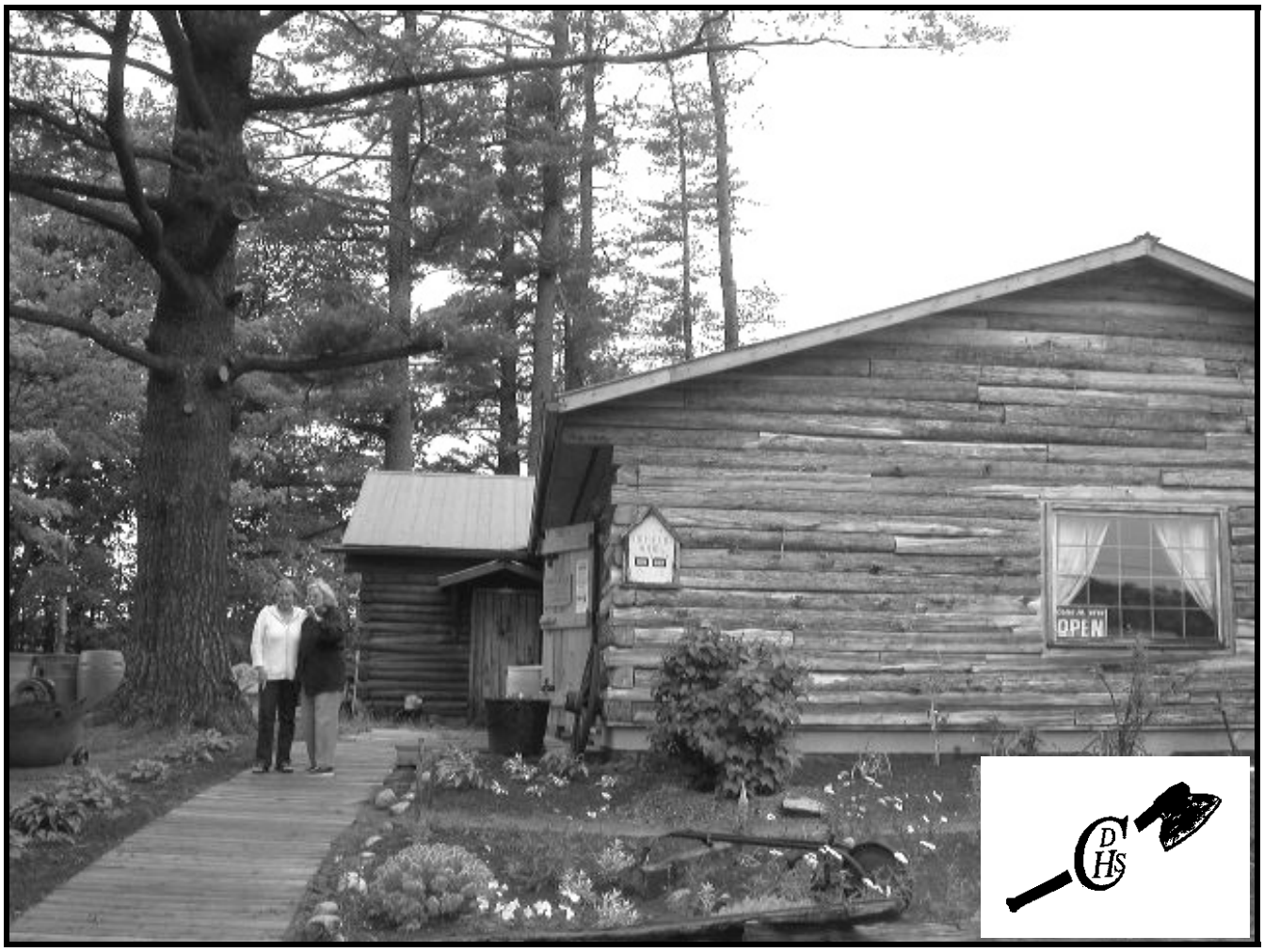

Preserving the Past for the Future

Volume 3 #1 April 2005

The Pioneer Times
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From the Editor

Karyl Steinpatz

Busily thinking about it, I've come to the conclusion that often people just don't realize how complicated a job it is to keep an organization functioning smoothly. It isn't that people don't care, it's just that if one isn't in a position of responsibility, such as running a program or chairing an event, the tremendous amount of planning and work that goes into that programming and chairing just is not noticed. Take for instance our Historical Society and our Pioneer Museum. They hum right along because many people work so hard to keep us humming. But does everyone know who these workers are? Who, for instance, are the members of the fundraising committee which raises the cash to buy the artifacts and pay the expenses on the museum? Keep turning these pages, read carefully, and you will find out. If you're not already involved in a program, well hey! Your offer to help will be gladly accepted.

Spring is here! Today I saw a small herd of seven deer leap the moat circling the edge of the lake and mince their way across the ice to what must be their summer playground on the other side. Then what to my wondering eyes should appear but an otter surfacing with a fish in its mouth. The first heron of the year cranked its way by overhead. Robins landed on our now snow-free lawn. And my bedroom window is wide open every night so I won't miss the first call of our returning loons.

The arrival of spring means that work will soon be starting on the setting-up of displays in the interior of the Pioneer Museum; the minor construction jobs still in abeyance will be in full swing and C&DHS members will be doffing parkas and wielding shovels as the temperature rises and the earth thaws enough for gardening to begin on the museum grounds.

Another great summer of fun and activities awaits us and I can't wait for it to start. See y'all there!

Karyl

Tidbits From the Board

Members and Board have turned their thoughts in recent months toward the publishing field. Three possible projects are enticing: the re-working and republishing of the 1978 book, *Unto These Hills*, the re-issuing of *The Oxen and the Axe* (4th edition), and a sequel to *The Oxen and the Axe*.

We have had many enquiries about the availability of *Unto These Hills*, and have decided to investigate the possibility of reworking it, adding some new material and upgrading the photos which were in the first edition. Modern technology offers a great opportunity to improve the quality of photos, and it seems a shame not to take advantage of that.

The fourth edition of *The Oxen and the Axe* is nearly sold out, with only about 100 copies remaining. As we have been selling up to 50 copies a year for the last couple of years, with no signs of a slow-down, it's time to do another edition. This has to be a Canadian best seller!

As we collect more stories and photos about the past, we will need a destination, other than archives, to circulate this information. The obvious answer is a "Part Two" for *The Oxen and the Axe*, so that too is under consideration.

If you have any thoughts about any of these projects, or have experience with publishing, or would like to contribute in any way, please call one of us, or send us an e-mail. We would be happy to have your input!

A display in honour of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War Two is being contemplated for this coming summer in the museum. Many members have artifacts which they will loan for such an exhibit. If you have anything you would like to loan or donate, please let us know.

As we prepare for another museum season, thought turn to the success of 2004, and hopes for a repeat are strong. Now if we could just get visitors out without all the rain of last summer, we would have a winning formula!

Members of the Historical Society are highly highly recommending a visit to "The Smiling Wilderness" restaurant in Napanee, after their visit there for lunch in February. Excellent food, good service and interesting surroundings. Be sure to visit their gift and antique shop upstairs. Worth the drive!! □

Genealogy Tip

Almost every pioneer family in Ontario must have a connection somewhere in their tree to a United Empire Loyalist who moved into the province or married into a family already here. There are some wonderful web-sites for studying this fascinating aspect of Canadian history. Enter "United Empire Loyalists" in Google and you will get nearly 28,000 hits with information anywhere from how to apply for your UEL Society membership to the muster rolls of every member of the colonial militia. Beware of sites put up there by our 'neighbours' to the south; you will not get the full unbiased story. □

The Mildred Both Home

The Ruttan Place, Glastonbury Road, Northbrook

Pioneer Museum Patron Quest

Marcella Neely

The motto of the Cloyne and District Historical Society is well known: "preserving the past for the future". It is, therefore, no surprise that the founders dedicated themselves to building the Pioneer Museum and filling it with local artifacts, history and genealogy. Volunteers have worked hard over the years to maintain and enlarge this heritage landmark.

The museum collects and exhibits information from Griffith in the north to Ompah in the east, Flinton in the west to Kaladar in the south. The genealogy files continue to grow, and more and more people are searching through them. Some folks whose ancestors settled here make a specific trip back searching for their roots. How gratifying it would be for them if we could satisfy each and every such search. If we could count on funding from patrons, our volunteers would be free to gather genealogy and continue to interview elderly residents for history. We could purchase suitable museum-grade fixtures and showcases, and provide education for someone to lead us in preservation and effective display of artifacts.

We have launched the patron solicitation program and are currently distributing kits of information and applications. We can issue a charitable receipt to be used for income taxes, thus hoping that folks add the "Pioneer Museum" to their list of charitable recipients. In recent years, the museum has drawn many tourists to our area making it of interest to businesses to keep it a focal point.

For only twenty-five dollars a year, you can become a patron, giving you a window decal to display in auto, home or business; your name will appear on a plaque in the museum; and you will have access to all newsletters, meetings and events of the CDHS. We need larger donations wherever possible and will issue a charitable receipt for any amount over ten dollars. It is important for us all to continue contacting and encouraging potential patrons. Information kits for distribution are available at meetings, or call Marcella at 336-9670.

Spring Raffle Basket

Lots of goodies were donated by historical society members for our Spring Raffle Basket on display in the BOM in Northbrook during February and March. The lucky winner of the March 26th draw was Joan Hertendy of Plevna. Congratulations, Joan. Way to go !!

Aprons

Anonymous

The principle use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a holder for removing hot pans from the oven; it was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those old aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids; and when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, it was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees. When unexpected company drove up the road, in was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out on the porch and waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields for dinner.

It will be a long time before anyone invents something that will replace that old-time apron that served so many purposes.

Report of the Fundraising Committee

Margaret Axford

The past year was an extraordinary one for this small group of dedicated people. In total, including specific events and museum sales, over $6,000 in revenue was realized! How was this money used? Over half of that figure went to substantially reduce the debt incurred by our 2003 museum addition, with the remainder being used to offset expenses. By this time next year, we hope to have that debt completely eliminated.

Buoyed by the success of 2004, the committee has planned the following schedule of events for this year:

- An Easter Bake Sale, March 26
- 2006 Heritage Calendars, to go on sale on June 25
- the Museum Opening event, on Saturday, June 25, with a BBQ beginning at 11am
- a reprise of both the Blueberry Brunch and the Lumbermen's Picnic, together on Sunday, August 7
- the third Heritage Bus Tour to historic Flinton and environs on October 1
- the Thanksgiving Bake Sale on October 8
- Toonie Christmas Party on December 10

Be sure to take note of these activities, and look for additional details in local advertising. You can always find more information about anything happening by sending an email to <pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca> or by calling John Bolton, Carol Morrow, Eileen Flieler, Lucy Matacheski, or Margaret Axford. We hope that we can count on your continuing support!

A fund raising committee is not just a group of, in this case, 5 people; by virtue of the small group, it is necessary to call on all members of the organization to contribute in whatever way they can. As well, spouses very often find themselves pressed into duty as "BBQ-ers", dishwashers, butter tart makers, "gophers", and any other job that needs a pair of hands! We thank them profusely for their support! □

Pot Luck Lunch

Monday, July 18, Noon

Marcella and Ken Neely invite C&DHS members, their spouses and any houseguests of the moment to a Pot Luck Lunch at their home, 1075 Head Road.

To take the place of an Historical Society meeting, in July we'll keep in touch by having a simple and fun get-together courtesy of the Neelys. No business. Just fun.

Bring your favourite pot luck dish for sharing, your bathing suit, your lawn chair and your beverage of preference.

Tea and coffee will be supplied by your kind and considerate hostess, Marcella.

Parking and outhouse facilities on the premises.

Thank you Marcella and Ken.
See you there!

The Editor

Continued from page 6

report, we are in the throes of producing this newsletter which we plan to have available at the April meeting.

For the next few months our work is cut out for us with the production of the calendar, designing of all necessary flyers and other advertising, recording events in written and photo form and writing articles for various news media and our own archives.

Carol Morrow and I hope to see everyone at the various exciting events this season. You'll recognize us by the pens and paper in our hands and the cameras slung over our shoulders. □

2005 membership fees are now due.

Please contact Eleanor Nowell (336-2695) or Eleanor St. Amand (336-8258) or pay at the next meeting.

Financial Report

Ian Brumell, Treasurer

Last fall we reported that our line of credit (LOC) was our major stumbling block to financial independence. It is my great pleasure to report that in the last 6 months our LOC has been paid down from a little over $8600 in September to a little over $3600 currently. If all goes well, the LOC should be paid off by the end of the current year, 2005.

This is and has been an amazing accomplishment. It was made possible by expanded sales of gift items and books as well as increases in grants. There have also been decreases in some expenses and a major increase in donations at the museum. However, perhaps the major reason for our excellent financial situation is that we have overcome the heavy burden of construction expenses incurred in 2003.

Our current bank balance (March/05) going into a new spring and summer season, is $2650. This puts us in good stead for some minor construction expenses to finish the exterior of the museum and to complete the trim and other minor completions on the interior. Our net income for 2004 was approximately $5050.

We look forward to a further grant from HRDC for our summer student. This of course is one of the major sources of funding that we receive and is very much appreciated. The two local municipalities, Addington Highlands and North Frontenac, have also been forthcoming with major contributions. These are very much appreciated.

The fundraising committee has done an outstanding job in 2004. Their efforts have also added significantly to our financial successes.

It is my fervent hope that a year from now, we will have a similar bank balance to what we have currently, but with no debts. This thought should make us all happy. □

Communications Committee Report

Karyl Steinpatz

As you see, this spring issue of *The Pioneer Times* is being published in April instead of March. In April we have much more news to impart since the fundraising committee has had time to plan the season's line-up of events, and committee Chairs to consolidate plans and write reports. Take a look at the report from the fundraising committee on page 5 where you will see spring, summer and fall events all listed. ***Then***, take a moment to contact a member of the fundraising committee and offer to lend a hand – they'll be very grateful.

Two reports we are accustomed to reading are missing from this issue. Since construction of the addition to the museum is practically finished, construction reports have come to an end. Also the Design Committee has completed its initial work inside the museum (although redesign is always ongoing) and has been unofficially disbanded.

After the October 2004 issue deadline, the Communications Committee covered the last three events of the 2004 season: the Heritage Bus Tour, the Toonie Christmas Party, and the members' Christmas Luncheon. Articles on all three were sent to and published by The Frontenac News, as was our February article containing information on upcoming events and the new patron program.

During the winter we attended two workshops in Kingston.

So far this spring, noses to the grindstone, we have finished a new museum brochure which will soon be in print, and designed a business card which will be available to members when attending workshops and meetings and for distribution at the museum. We are collecting photos and information for the 2006 Heritage Calendar which is always a work-in-progress and needs to be in print by June, attending fundraising committee meetings and formulating policy on the production and distribution of flyers for all events. We also attend patron committee meetings in order to assist that committee with advertising. As I write this

Continued on page 5

□

Museum Product List

Carol Morrow

Besides the special events which the Historical Society schedules to raise funds for our big building project, we have products for sale at the Pioneer Museum, some of which are listed below.

Books:
The Oxen and the Axe, by Gene Brown and Nadine Brumell
The Mazinaw Experience, by John Campbell
Bon Echo: The Denison Years, by Mary Savigny
Well-Worn Steps of Time, a book of poetry
Way Back in Clarendon and Miller, a history of that area

On consignment: pine card/jewelry boxes, two sizes, decorated and beautifully hand crafted by David Savigny

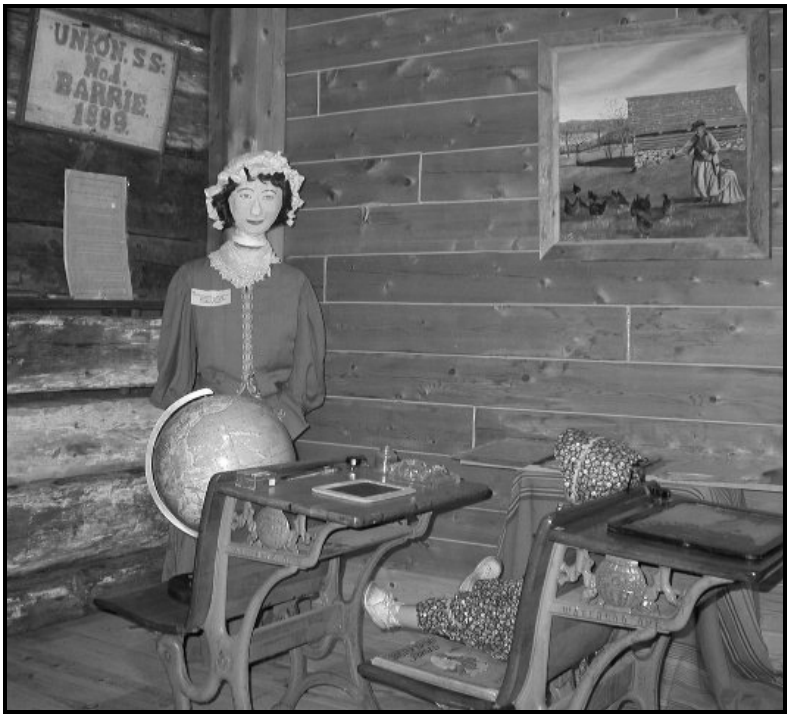
Coffee Mugs: featuring C&DHS logo

2006 Calendar: featuring area scenes of yesteryear, with descriptions

Note Cards w/ envelopes: 8-card pack, or singles

Framed Prints: from the original painting by Carol Brown, donated last year and on view in the Museum.

To purchase any of these products, contact us at pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca or visit our website: www.pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/pioneer/



VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK
A History of Times Past

Prior to 1884, Dunham's Corners had been named Kaladar, but when the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed through the southern part of Kaladar Township, the station was named Kaladar, and Northbrook was given the following names, in succession, Beaverbrook, Springbrook and finally Northbrook. Up to this time, activity centred about a half a mile east of Northbrook at Glastonbury, which was home to Carscallen's Mills on Beaver Creek.

A school had been built at Glastonbury that served both Northbrook and Glastonbury but burned down and was then rebuilt in Northbrook. At the turn of the century, Northbrook, with an approximate population of 25, consisted of the Church (now United), the Carscallen Store, both general stores, McKim's pleasure sleigh sales and residence, the Shier House Hotel, and the Wm. Atkins residence. From 1910 until the early 1930s there was little noticeable change in Northbrook save that Caspar Thompson and wife Lula bought the Carscallen General Store that, with renovations, became relatively modern and by their push and zeal gave impetus to more building in the village.

With the building of 41 Highway, village growth was accelerated up to the present time. There is now a light aircraft airport, a Legion Hall, two churches (United and Pentecostal), Northey's and Wannamaker's General stores, two grocery stores (Jackson's and Shotton's), Savigny Electric Appliances Sales, three garages and service stations (Hawley's, Shotton's and Lemke's), Bolton's Northbrook Hotel, Shotton's restaurant and coffee bar and motel, Richard's restaurant and coffee bar, head office and service of the Kaladar-Northern Telephone system, (Ellery Thompson owner and director), Northey's contractors, (building and plumbing supplies), Sower's live-bait farm, Blaney's Land O'Lakes builders and supplies, Morley's conveyancing, Clerk of the Peace, Lloyd's Insurance, Drabick's Barber Shop and Kennel, practicing Doctor Kenneth B. Sutherland and the modern grade elementary school. The largest segment of the population of Northbrook, approximately 300, are new arrivals unconnected with the past.

(Extract from reminiscences by Wilfrid Laurier Lessard) □

John MacDonald, Ardoch
1921—2005

In October 2003, John McDonald spoke to members and guests of the Cloyne and District Historical Society who were on their first annual Heritage Bus Tour. John stood against the old Ardoch general store/post office and talked about the area where he had lived most of his life. His good humour and his generous contribution were appreciated by all. A great story teller, John would preface his comments with a statement that he didn't really know very much, and launch into another terrific glimpse into life in Ardoch and environs in years gone by.

John died this January. Another link with the past is gone. We express out sympathies to his family and friends, and thank you for sharing him with us on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning 2 years ago. □

Genealogy
The Scope of the Research
Carol Morrow

When researching your family tree, do you include only information that relates to your direct line? Or, do you include relatives of people that married into your line as well? The answer is a personal decision every genealogist must make depending on purpose. If you are doing strictly a kinship report or tracing your ancestors backward to the founding father, then all you need is the direct line, entering limited information on their siblings. Some family historians collect everything they can—and there are reasons for it.

Researching the siblings and cousins of your line is called lateral genealogy, going in a sideways direction, instead of the normal up and down movement. Remember, adding individuals is easier than getting rid of them (isn't that the truth). My advice is to keep two databases, one for your immediate family, and another one to collect extraneous information that is connected loosely or distantly, in some way to the main line you are trying to build upon. This way you will not be overwhelmed by one main database that grows exponentially beyond your control. You can always access it to extract information which may turn out to be useful to your direct line.

You never know when you will come up against a brick wall in your own line. The large mass of information you collected on remote relations may provide some clue to break through that brick wall. Just recently we have discovered a whole new branch of our Kelly family. We knew that our gr-gr-grandfather William had an older sister Caroline. By shifting over to her, we recently discovered she had married twice and have been able to follow her daughter's line down to the present. We are in communication with living descendants who want to attend this summer's family reunion. We can hardly wait to meet them. Lateral research then can act as a catalyst to bring new life to your family tree.

Another reason for pursuing lateral lines is to contact their living descendants who may have family histories or photos which mention or involve your own people. There is nothing like an old photo to bring your ancestor to life. You can read when he was born, died, where he lived, and married so-and-so, but once you see that face then you <u>know</u> him, you feel a connection with him. In my Hedges Tree I jump-shifted to my grandfather's uncle, and found a descendant in that line who sent me photos of William and Margaret, my gr-gr grandparents. Never underestimate the value of being a chronic genealogy name collector.

You should not restrict your research to tracking down names, birthdates and marriages. When my name searching reaches a dry spell, I use the Internet to learn some history about the life and times of my ancestors, conditions they may have endured on their travels, and some settlement history of wherever they located. In researching the settlement of Fort St. John BC, I was able to locate the cemetery where my grandfather was buried. Although it was in an old pioneer cemetery there and the wooden crosses are now gone, a volunteer from the community sent me a wonderful newspaper article in which an old-timer in an interview remembered several early names buried there, including William Hedges, my mother's father. This small scrap of information gleaned from a historical study of a northern community thousands of miles away, brought the life and death of this man I never knew full circle – birth, marriage, death, burial. Check out "Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness:[http://www.raogk.org/index.html; could these people be of help to you? I have received many pieces of information including obituaries from these generous strangers.

In lateral research, the mass of people you collected will likely no longer be important after you solved your brick wall. If you dabble in genealogy, sticking to your direct line is probably the route you should follow. If you think someday to write a genealogical history of an area or family with many connections, then you should not restrict the scope of investigation.

The Denbigh Grist Mill

From the Archives

About year 1856, The Addington Colonization Road was begun, its main objective being to open the northern part of the county of Lennox and Addington to accommodate a healthy influx of would-be settlers, some European, some United Empire Loyalist descendents.

The Township of Denigh was formed in 1859. Among the immigrants arriving from Germany was one who was a miller by trade.

When sufficient land was cleared to grown wheat, the farmers were introduced to the idea of building a gristmill in the 1870's, soon replaced by a larger mill to take care of the bountiful crops. Prior to the building of a mill, it was necessary to bring such necessities as flour a distance of ninety miles by ox-team on almost impassable corduroy roads.

In 1897, Edward J. Petzold bought the Flour Mill. He also had learned the trade and apprenticeship in Germany. Due to ill health, he was forced to retire and his eldest son, Edward William took over.

The mill was run by waterpower and had two sets of huge stones: one to grind wheat for flour, cornmeal, and buckwheat and rye flour. One day was set aside for hashing, i.e. grinding such grain as oats for livestock.

Early in 1900s, the young owner could see the necessity to do away with the old millstones, replacing them with rollers. The cost was great, both financially and in lack of skilled labour.

In due time, the machinery arrived at Kaladar C. P.R. Station a distance of 40 miles south. So eager were the farmers to do their bit, a contingent of twenty-odd teams of horses undertook the three day journey to haul the machinery to Denbigh (free gratis).

Many repairs and changes were necessary to accommodate the new machinery and soon the milling season was extended from six to ten months, with every available floor space in the mill allotted to individual "grists" as well as any vacant storerooms in the village.

During the peak season of 1914-18, it was a known fact that farmers residing a distance of over 50 miles away would begin their journey to the mill with their grain, lunch for man and beast at midnight, their water-pail and coal-oil lantern, at sundown, hoping to be customer No. 1 at the mill at daylight; also hoping to return home the same day. When too many were of the same mind, it was necessary to make a return trip many days later. Two to four young locals were engaged to handle the ever-increasing business. During the fall and winter season, the mill ran for thirty-six hours continuously, followed by a twelve-hour well-deserved rest.

One or two true stories came to mind as a result of the long day.

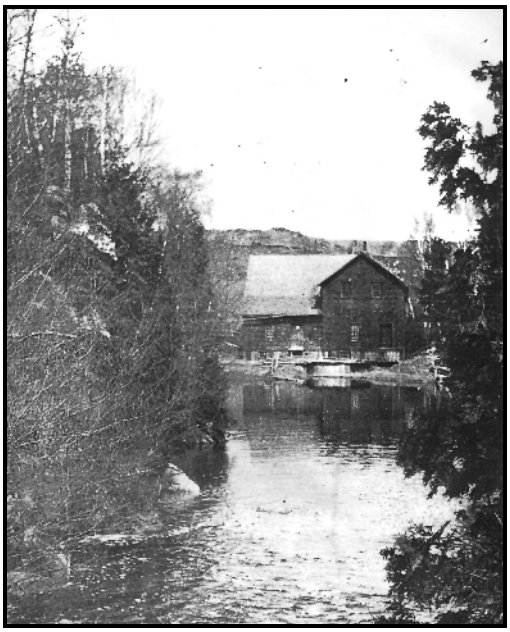
Neighbours dropped in at the mill during the evening, interested in the expansion and to swap stories. One such visitor found the Miller, with lantern in hand, leaning against a post, the hum of the well-cared-for machinery having lulled the over-tired workman into a sound sleep.

Again after an extra-long tedious shift, the miller managed to close down the mill, extinguish some six or eight lamps or lanterns, and walk out the door, leaving it wide open and five hundred dollars in an unlocked cash-box, still intact when he returned the following morning. (One liked to believe it could still happen in 1974.)

A snapshot existed of six teams of horses; sleighs loaded with grain lined up to the mill door each awaiting his turn.

The construction of Highway 41, Napanee to Eganville, in the mid-1930s was the beginning of the end for the Denbigh Grist Mill.

Employment with the Department of Highways offered shorter hours of labour, ready cash and more attractive work than taking a chance at farming; consequently the Denbigh Grist Mill was forced to close in 1947. □



President's Message

Marg Axford

"May is Museum Month"

Well, yes, if you are the Royal Ontario Museum, or the Museum of Civilization, or the Lennox and Addington County Museum, or any of the other museums in this province which are open year round. However, if you are the Cloyne Pioneer Museum, or the Hay Bay Church, or Fairfield House, " May is Museum Month" is a wasted enterprise. Every April we receive lovely glossy promotional posters, calendars and other items designed to entice the public to visit their local museum. Ads appear in newspapers; organizations are encouraged to place their special events on a website for the public to browse. All these endeavours are sponsored by the Ontario Museum Association, of which we are a member.

What the OMA doesn't seem to realize is that there isn't much point in advertising a museum which is still in mothballs, and, depending on the weather, may not be warm enough yet inside to even think about remounting displays and bringing fragile items out of storage. Someday, perhaps the Cloyne Pioneer Museum might be in a financial situation where it could be heated and remain open for the entire year. In such a dream world, we would then be able to conduct school tours during the year, host Christmas events, devise special exhibits to bring in winter visitors. Since we currently don't have indoor facilities, and January might be a bit chilly for using the outhouse, we will have to settle for the current system - dreaming enviously when the "May is Museum Month" materials arrive, and then tossing them into the recycle bin.

Meanwhile, what is May for us? It is blackfly month, followed rapidly by mosquitoes and the return of the cottagers and tourists. It is a time when we begin to get busy in preparation for the summer season. There are summer staff to be hired, promotional materials to be devised and executed (at our own expense, not the OMA's), and garden work and more planting to be done. These are all wonderful, hopeful activities, which I wouldn't give up for the world.

So for now, I'll grouse a bit about provincial promotions in which we can't take part, and fantasize about what it would be like to have a museum open year round. But in the long run, after the logical and practical side of my nature kicks in, I'll be very happy and grateful for the facility which is ours - the Cloyne Pioneer Museum. If you've never visited us, please do so this summer. We'll be open unofficially the last week of June, officially June 25, and after that 7 days a week until Labour Day weekend, with weekends after that until Thanksgiving - just not in May! □

To The Pioneers

By Barbara Lester

Who do you figure built this cabin
Way back when in the pioneer days?
What kind of man cut and squared these
timber?
Must have been bigger than men nowadays.
Timber, tall timber,
Hard to the axe and heavy to the hand
Timber, tall timber,
Break a man's body to clear this land.

Who was the woman lived in this cabin?
How did she feel when it started to snow,
Feeling the winter closing 'round her?
Must have been braver than women I
know.
Timber, tall timber,
Hard to the axe and heavy to the hand
Timber, tall timber,
Break a woman's heart to work this land.

Where are the children born in this cabin?
There where the lilacs stand a-row.
Guess there is nobody left of this family,
Guess it all happened a long time ago.

Membership for the Cloyne and District Historical Society
and
Patron Registration for the Pioneer Museum
Box 228, Cloyne, ON K0H 1K0

We invite you to show your support for local history by joining the Historical Society, becoming a patron of the Pioneer Museum, or both!

Annual membership fee $5 from January 1 to December 31

New ☐ Renew ☐ Care to make a donation? ☐

[A charitable donation receipt for Income Tax purposes will be issued for all donations larger than $10.]

Name _____
Address _____
Town/City _____
Postal Code _____
Telephone _____
E-mail Address _____
Membership for year_____ Date _____

Mail Me *The Pioneer Times* Newsletter (please enclose $6/year postage)

Membership $_____
Donation $_____
Postage $_____
Total $_____

****
I would like to become a Patron of the Pioneer Museum. $_____ Donation enclosed
(annual minimum $25)

*** Patrons please complete:
On Patron acknowledgements, I would like my name to appear as
_____