

The Pioneer Times

(News vehicle of the Cloyne and District Historical Society)



Cloyne and District Historical Society

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Preserving the Past for the Future

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From the Editor

Karyl Steinpatz

Wow! In its usual good time, as always happens whether we think it's going to or not, spring has arrived—and with it our incredibly busy time of year.

Under the tender ministrations of its dedicated volunteers, soon the Pioneer Museum will be opened up and aired out after its winter hibernation, to be gussied up in anticipation of the hordes of tourists and hopefully local folk who will visit. Its doors will be flung open to the public on June 24th when we will celebrate the beginning of the season with a barbecue and a guest speaker of note, an event to which the immediate world is invited!

Carol and I, your two-person Communications Committee of note, took a bit of a strike break over the winter but now we are back in full harness. We have completed the 2006 Pioneer Museum brochure which has lots of changes because, as the Pioneer Museum and the Cloyne and District Historical Society grow, so the brochure and newsletter change to reflect that growth and change.

The centrefold of this newsletter is once again a marvelous, eclectic montage of photos telling tales of life in the semi-olden days. By 'semi' I mean they are not *that* olden because I remember a lot of them ... if you get my drift. These photos come from many sources, including our increasingly excellent archives. Please do keep those photos (with people and place names identified) coming in, folks, so we can continue to build this wonderful pictorial history of our area.

In the last issue of *The Pioneer Times*, November 2005, we began printing interviews done with older residents who remember, or have been told by *their* parents and grandparents, absolutely super tales of life as it was in familiar spots so many years ago—before the advent of many modern things—like tractors

Continued next page

President's Message

Marg Axford

Stories to Share?

One of the keys to producing a good newsletter is to offer to its readers the most relevant information possible. To that end, because we all like a good story, I am suggesting that we develop a spot—perhaps even this column's space!—where we offer stories which our members and general readers have given us. These could be bits of family history, stories about why you or your ancestors decided to move to this area, pieces of information about the past of the village or area in which you now live, or used to live before you moved elsewhere. Perhaps you have a recollection about an incident that happened years ago which you think others would find interesting. Perhaps the story of why you moved elsewhere should be noted. It might be part of a trend that occurred "x" number of years ago, but that has never been explored or documented.

The list of possible topics is almost endless. All memories have something worthwhile to contribute to the data bank of the past. As an example, let's say that you worked as a young person at one of the lodges in the area. You might have only been there for a summer, maybe two, but in that time you accumulated information about the lodge, its owners, its guests, the other people who were employed there. The lodge itself may not exist anymore. Which lake was it on? What did it look like? What was your job? Who else worked there? Were there fun times? This is all relevant information if we are to build up a snapshot of what the area was like at any particular point in time.

By now, you are probably saying to yourself, "Sure, I have stories, but I can't write them down!!" Well, you probably can, but if you are having serious doubts about that, we can help. You could give us the information in any way you are comfortable with. It could be a point form list. It could be answers to a series

of questions. It could be a full-blown story. It could even be a telephone interview. One way or another, we will take your information and present it in a subsequent edition of this newsletter.

To contact us, you can use the postal system: Cloyne and District Historical Society, Box 228, Cloyne, ON K0H 1K0,

or email: <pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca>

or the phone: 613-336-2203

or hand-delivery to any member of the Historical Society.

By the time of the next issue of The Pioneer Times, which will be November, we hope to have a mittful of YOUR stories to share with our readers! □



From the Editor, continued

and refrigerators for instance. This fascinating series will be continued in each newsletter; we welcome any reminiscences you might have or be able to glean from your older relatives.

In each issue of the newsletter, we put a lot of emphasis on genealogy—research of family histories being such a huge part of any Historical Society's life. To this end, Carol Morrow writes her genealogy articles which include, among other tips, her easy-to-follow instructions on how to access excellent on-line sites. Read her article on page 10 and try out some of the suggestions.

The fundraising committee has arranged a busy busy busy and very entertaining season for all of us, as you will note on page 11. So do attend as many events as you can, and throughout the next few months watch for articles your Communications Committee will publish in local newspapers chronicling them all.

Such fun and information and displays will be waiting for us all at the museum and environs this summer! See you there. □

Financial Report

Ian Brumell, Treasurer

It gives me great pleasure to announce that during the year 2005 the Cloyne and District Historical Society turned an important corner in its development. Amazingly, in only six years, the Society has emerged from debt and ended last year with a very respectable bank balance of close to \$3,700.

In 2005 we had a net profit of about \$6,500, the greatest sources of income having been free-will donations at the museum and elsewhere, fundraising events and special events, sales of our annual Heritage Calendar, the Patron program - both individual and corporate - and Government contributions. For all the aforementioned we are very grateful.

The audited financial statements are available to anyone interested. We welcome discussion on finances and any other topics related to the Historical Society and the museum. Just call or better yet, come see us at the museum.

There will be some minor construction expenses this spring and summer in order to put the finishing touches on the museum.

Rising from relative obscurity, the Cloyne and District Historical Society has quickly become a valuable and important organization in our area, in no small part due to the hard work of dedicated volunteers, our on-going Patron program, diligent and worthwhile fundraising efforts, Government grants and recognition by our local Municipalities which see the value in "Preserving the Past for the Future" (our motto).

All the best for the summer season. 

Pot Luck Lunch

At Marcella and Ken Neely's
Head Road, 1st house on left from hwy

Monday July 17, 12 noon
Bring a dish, bring a chair
Bring a bathing suit

C&DHS members welcome

News Flash !!!

Eileen Flieler

We are pleased to report that at long last the Heritage Quilt top is now assembled.

Once the final border is sewn on, it will be ready to be quilted. It is our hope that it will be hanging in the museum when we open for the season.

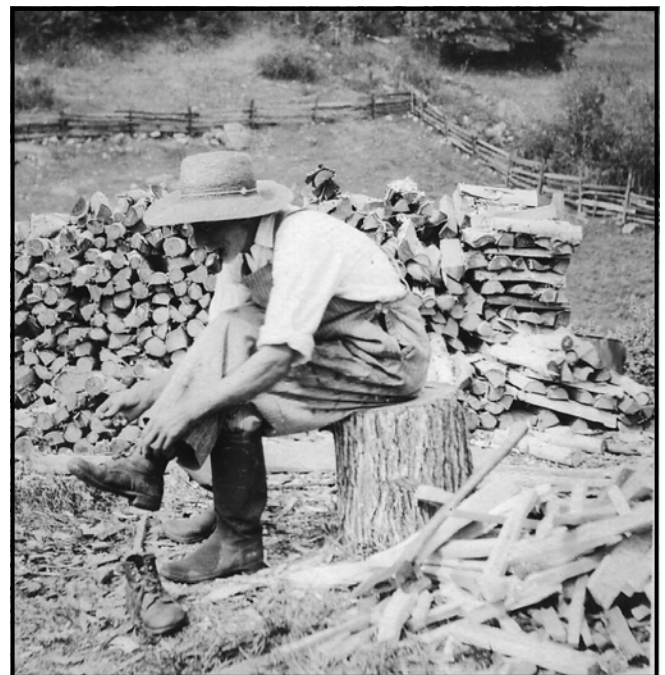
Thanks so much to everyone who bought the blocks, those who sold blocks and especially to Sonja Alcock who embroidered all the names on the blocks, and to Georgina Hughes who has to kindly offered to do the quilting.

This has been a great fundraiser and would not have been a success without the help of all our members. We are sure that future visitors to the museum will enjoy it for many years. 

~~~~~

From the editorial committee: Eileen has been all too modest in her report. Truth to tell, she has been tireless in her co-ordination of this project and pushing it through to completion.

### WAY TO GO, EILEEN !!



Thanks to Marilyn and Doug Tocher, who identified this person as Garnet William Martin who lived on Hwy 506.

## Museum Product List

Carol Morrow

Besides the special events which the Historical Society schedules to raise funds, 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

*Away Back in Clarendon and Miller*, a history of that area by Charlie Armstrong

Coffee Mugs: featuring C&DHS logo

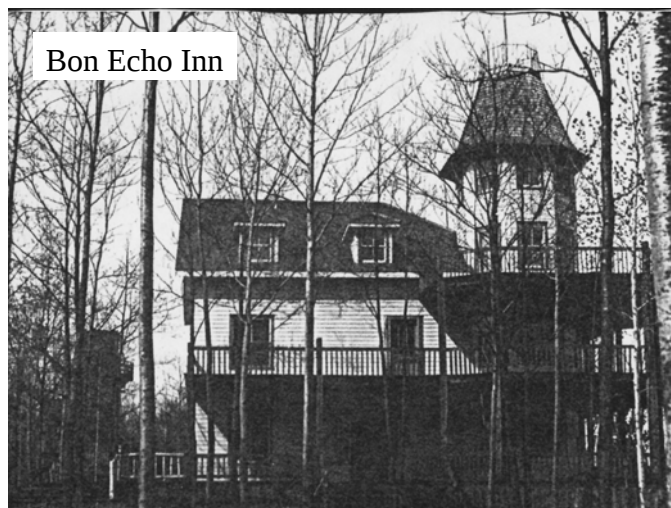
2007 Calendar: featuring area scenes of yesteryear, with descriptions

Note Cards w/ envelopes: from original pen & ink drawings by Carla Miedema

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

Note Cards: from original paintings by Carol Brown; choice of 3 scenes

To purchase any of these products, contact us at [pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca](mailto:pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca) or visit our website: [www.pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/pioneer/](http://www.pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/pioneer/)



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### **Memo Regarding Tax Receipts**

When charitable donation receipts don't add up to a significant tax reduction, the Canada Revenue Agency allows receipts to be kept up to five years and to be used on the return of either spouse.

### **Genealogical Reminder**

To save a whole lot of time, be sure to "Bookmark" those important genealogy websites to your computer.

## Photo Memories



Yanch House, Flinton. Who are these people?



Springer House, Head Road



Barbara Ann Scott Visits Lumbermen's Picnic



Dance Hall, Salmond's Resort



Cabin at MacGregor's Resort



Emily Lucas with team of oxen, Kaladar

## Photo Memories



Duck Hunting at Salmond's Resort



Hermitage Inn, Mazinaw



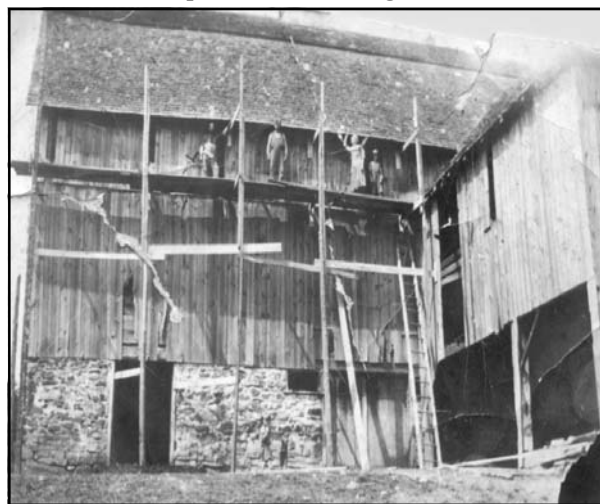
Mazinaw Boys Camp



Whip-Poor-Will Lodge, Mazinaw 1945



Brown's Cabins by Air



Barn Repairs

~~ **From Museum Archives** ~~

“Remember the Days”  
*As written by Ada Levere*

The characters that filled each week of my life as a child made a lasting impression. These are the things we never forget. My dad and mother lived on a small farm on what is now called the Old Road to Harlowe. We had about 14 head of cattle, around 40 sheep and quite a few chickens.

There was a little cheese factory right in sight of our house where the milk was delivered and made into big patts of cheese. These loads were taken to Kaladar Station. I remember getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning to go with my dad and then when we got unloaded we started home and stopped along the mountains. My dad would make a fire, boil some water in a pail for tea and we had our lunch which consisted of new cheese, my mother's homemade bread and good old home made butter and buttermilk right from the churn.

Hay had to be cut to feed the animals and everyone helped including my brother Mert and Mary. Mary's mother passed on in that terrible influenza in 1918 and Mary came to live with my mother and family. We all used to help rake behind the loads of hay so we could go to the picnic that was held in the Cloyne Pine Grove, where a delicious dinner and supper was served by the ladies. Mrs. Will Head and Mrs. Dave Spicer, Mrs. George Bishop, Mrs. Annie Cuddy, Mrs. Gerty Wise, Mrs. Ethel Deline, Mrs. Hester Bishop, Mrs. Oris Cole, Mrs. Levi Snider, Mrs. William Head, Mrs. Ed Cummings, Mrs. Jane Cummings, Mrs. Tan Meeks, Mrs. Kate Meeks, (and ) Mrs. Lavinia Snider were all on the preparations committee.

My dad and mother used to shear our sheep as soon as warm weather started. Mother washed the wool and let it dry and then put it in bags until fall. Mary, Mert and I helped to pick the wool. My mother carded the wool, spun it into yarn with her spinning wheel and knitted socks for us. We never knew what it was to buy store socks. All winter we wore socks knitted from this wool and rubbers.

Every Christmas and on other occasions, we had concerts and at Christmas, a beautiful, real evergreen Christmas tree. We always had around 30 children at the school and a very nice girl as our teacher, Miss Lora Keegan, for

over 7 years. We had no radio, TV or victrola so all our enjoyments were sleigh rides and skating and surprise parties. My dad used to hook up the horses on the long bob sleigh and pick up anyone who wanted to go. We put hay on the sleigh and quilts for everyone to keep warm. One night I remember we had 22 people. The surprise party was at the Cole/ Cummings house, now owned by Jim Meeks Sr. The Perry brothers supplied the music particularly Byron Perry. Cake and other good things to eat were taken along by the women.

In my recollection, Mr. Neil Benny was the first cheesemaker, then Mr. Rob Jackson. There was a little grocery store in one part of the factory.

There was a beautiful spring at the foot of the steep hill. It was the clearest most delicious water I have tasted. Back on the steep hill near the spring were two Indian potholes. Our well at the farm used to go dry every year until the fall rains came. We used to carry water from the spring.

We had the Orange Hall on our property in later years and there was a dance nearly every Friday night. The Perry brothers, Don and Byron, often supplied the music.

There was a large creek ran through the marsh on our property. Near the creek bank there were beautiful wild flowers. My mother called them Meadow Queen. They were a lovely red shade.

There were also large clumps of bushes almost as tall as trees. These were high bush cranberries and the berries hung in thick, red clusters in the fall. We had a large garden and around the garden were artichokes. My dad used to love them. We always tapped trees every year, about 300 at the most. So we had plenty of maple syrup. There were plenty of wild strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, and long thimble or blackberries. So we had lots of fruit. We also grew our own white beans. This meant it didn't cost so much for groceries. We really needed to buy tea, sugar and flour. A self supporting farm meant a great deal when there wasn't much employment.

I remember when we were little, Dad used to go into the lumber camp at Gilmore in November and didn't come out until the breakup in late March or April. It took him and the others a day to walk out. Now you can drive the same distance in an hour. □

## Patron Committee Report

*Marcella Neely*

One year ago in March, we officially launched the Pioneer Museum Patron Program and what a year it has been! The support and encouragement has made all the effort, endless planning and organizing well worthwhile. We continue to recruit and patrons continue to come on board. Anyone registering after September 2005 is considered paid up for 2006. All others are up for renewal as of March 2006 and will be paid up until March of 2007. The annual fee is \$25.00 but additional donations are encouraged. A charitable donation receipt for income tax purposes will be issued and the semi-annual newsletters will be mailed out.

During 2005 we were able to repay the building expansion loan on the museum, provide much needed liability insurance for the first time, and purchase museum grade supplies which we previously could not afford.

This year we hope to complete some of the interior construction and purchase two fans for those hot humid days.

There has been some confusion in the difference between a member of the Cloyne and District Historical Society and a Pioneer Museum Patron; here is the difference.

The Pioneer Museum is operated by the Cloyne and District Historical Society. We also sponsor historical events, collect artifacts and genealogy, and enjoy the discussion and study of local history. We continue to hold fund raising events to help cover expenses.

Pioneer Museum Patrons are welcome to all/any activities and meetings of the C&DHS. Patrons' only commitment is a \$25.00 annual financial contribution to the museum.

Many C&DHS members are also patrons, and the support is appreciated.

As members of the C&DHS we are expected to attend meetings, sit on committees, support activities, participate in decision making, and make suggestions. We collectively attempt to be the eyes and ears of local history to preserve the past for future generations.

## Have You

*A Poem written by Gene Brown*

Have you seen the mighty giants  
Lying on the forest floor  
Lying where the axemen left them  
In the logging days of yore  
Vine entwined and fern encrusted  
No more they'll rear their lofty heads  
To watch the wild geese passing  
There they lie, unused and dead.

Have you seen the yellow flicker  
Or heard a mare's low whicker  
To her foal, awakening to the dawn  
Heard a waterfall's wild roaring  
Or watched an eagle soaring  
High above the cliffs across the pond.

Have you walked knee deep in clover  
Heard the whistle of a plover  
As you went to pick wild berries in a pail  
Felt the sun upon your shoulder  
As you perched upon a boulder  
Or curled your toes around a cedar rail.

Have you seen a deer go flashing by  
Heard a loon's wild haunting cry  
Or heard a partridge drumming on a log.  
Have you smelled the spring's first flowers  
Or been caught in sudden showers  
Or heard the frogs first peeping  
From the bog.

I have heard and seen and wondered  
If the land that we have plundered  
Will be always there for others  
As it has been for me  
In days gone by.

~~~~~

Only members enjoy the privilege of making or seconding motions and voting at meetings. Both members and patrons receive a semi-annual newsletter.

Our work at and for the museum is totally voluntary, allowing 100% of donations to be used for maintenance, upkeep, supplies and upgrades. Our campaign for additional patrons is ongoing. Anyone wishing to help us recruit, please call Marcella at 336-9670. ☐

Research Your Ancestors Overcoming Pitfalls

Carol Morrow

If you are setting out to trace your family tree, then you are about to embark on a process that will probably take the rest of your lifetime and can be highly addictive. Hopefully your first efforts will be encouraging and you will reach the middle of the maze without hitting too many brick walls !

Don't start from scratch, but build on what your own family can tell you. Dig up all the previous research, old pictures, family notes and records you can find in various households. Ask your relatives for the names of any ancestors and relatives, their relationships to each other, their dates of birth, marriage and death, where they lived and what jobs they did. Some of this will later prove to be inaccurate but at least it will point in the right direction.

Get organized right off the bat. Set up a system that will work for you, either manual or on the computer. Collate the information those relatives and family records gave you; draw up a "tree" so you have a visual image of the relationships – even if it doesn't go back very far. Right away, keep track of your sources to prove where you got information and to avoid repeating your work.

Organize your research trips and take relevant notes and records with you. Phone ahead to reserve equipment such as a fiche reader if you think you will need one. What could be worse than driving 300 miles from home to work in a library with one machine and it is reserved for the two days you need it ! Take advantage of the knowledge of the staff and ask for direction in their library or archives. Forget about where the bathroom is; finding the personal histories that might relate to your own search is much more important. Take some bagged food and work over lunch while "other" people are stuffing themselves at Timmy's and those all-important binders are lying idle.

As you squint in the half-light at the microfilmed census records, remember: your ancestors could have lied (those hallowed ancestors did lie) about their age to the census taker; sometimes they couldn't remember when they were born, or never even knew the exact date, just that it was the "winter of the ice storm, whatever year that was" and the census taker was left to sort that out. Also, the facts were taken orally and the census taker just wrote down what he heard, bad pronunciation or broken English aside. Besides, those census takers were often bad spellers,

and certainly many of them were terrible writers, so the spelling of a name could be recorded differently than what you know. The penmanship is often illegible, the films are smudged, the penciled names and dates have faded – and your ancestors are on a record that has been lost !

Often children—especially of large families—were "farmed out" to relatives on both sides of the family, or neighbours, when their parents both died fairly young. Often they were raised under the foster family's surname although no formal change of name or adoption took place. So, pay attention to the events in the life of your subject; locate his relatives and you may find him with them; take a look at the neighbours on the census and he may be living, or working there.

Names are a weird thing. They can be spelled different ways even in the short life of your subject depending on who is doing the recording as mentioned before. Most people didn't care so much a hundred years ago about spelling. Nicknames can throw a clinker into your search too. For example "Sandy Neal" may appear on the census page, and you will come across a tombstone for "Alexander Neill", and they are the same person ! I once found that Nettie = Janet, and I always thought it was Annette. Sometimes, you have to be creative about this name thing, as you must be open-minded generally in all facets of genealogy. One confusing example was Gertrude, the baby in a large family of girls whose parents both died when she was only age 4. I found her on the 1911 Census living with her grandfather as "Gertie, age 14"; I also found her on the same census living with her aunt's family in a neighbouring township as "Trudie, age 15". Supposedly, the two townships were recorded on the same date by different census takers. Gertrude normally lived with her grandpa who wasn't sure exactly what year she was born; she must have been visiting her aunt for a few days. Anyway, she got counted twice, under different nicknames.

Another area where confusion can occur is location. Place names have changed, and you have to find that out, by guess or by gosh. Windsor used to be Sandwich, and Niagara-on-the-Lake was once Newark; other less significant communities have changed or no longer exist. County and township boundary changes create research problems, so that you look in the wrong archives or census for your ancestors. People moved around much more than we give them credit for, so you really do have to find out as much as you can about their lives to find their grave sites or children's birth place(s). ☐

Noteworthy Events for 2006 - Clip and Save!

Saturday, April 15 - Easter Bake Sale, 10 a.m. to 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall. Baking for sale should be brought to the hall by 9:30

Monday, April 17 - General Meeting, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall. Guest Speaker - Nancy Newman, Master Gardener. Her topic: Heritage Gardens

Monday, May 15 - General Meeting, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall. Guest Speaker - Wesley Alkenbrack, who was born near Flinton and will share his memories of the early days.

Saturday, May 20 - Yard Sale, opposite the IGA in Northbrook, 9 am. Sale items welcome.

Monday, June 19 - A field trip to Eganville is being planned.

Saturday, June 24 - Museum Opening/BBQ, 11 am at the Museum, Cloyne. Guest Speaker, 1 pm to 2:30 pm, Barrie Township Hall

Monday, July 17 - Pot Luck Lunch at Marcella and Ken Neely's, Mazinaw Lake/Head Road

Sunday, August 13 - Third Annual Blueberry Brunch, 10 am to 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall

Monday, September 18 - General Meeting, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall. Guest Speakers Beth and Bill Campbell will talk about how to survey cemeteries for the Ontario Genealogical Society.

Saturday, September 30 - Fourth Annual Heritage Bus Tour. Meet at 9:30 at the museum

Saturday, October 7 - Thanksgiving Bake Sale, 10 am to 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall.
Baking for sale should be brought to the hall by 9:30.

Monday, October 16 - Annual General Meeting, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall

Monday, November 20 - General Meeting, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall

Saturday, December 9 - Third Annual Toonie Christmas Party, 1 pm, Barrie Township Hall

Looking for Census Online ?

Check out transcriptions at [<http://automated.genealogy.com/index.html>] for the 1901 and 1911 census. They are cross referenced by name and location, in part alphabetically. The 1911 census has not been entirely transcribed yet, though it is ongoing.

For the 1881 census, go to the Family History (Mormon) web site at [<http://www.familysearch.org>] and enter the surname or narrow the search with the given name as well. Also you can check out The British 1881 census and the US 1880 census at this sight as well as scan through international indexes, pedigree resource files, and the US Death Indexes.

The 1871 Canadian census, the first for the new nation, can be found at the National Archives site:[<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/genealogy/022-500-e.html>]. This contains

several databases. The 1871 federal census gives you a look at head of households, Ontario only. You can narrow the search if you know the county.

There is a 1906 census of the western provinces, since they became united with Canada about that time and their statistics needed to be recorded. So for you with relatives that went west, you might want to check this out at the National Archives site. I think it is a bit cumbersome to handle, as you really need to know the "section" where these people went; the locations were not partitioned off in neat little packages like townships and counties as we are used to in Ontario.

Locating census pre-1867 is more sporadic. It was left up to individual counties or districts in Ontario to take their own census, and not every one did. They are out there but you have to be creative to find them. □

The Cloyne and District Historical Society
Box 228
Cloyne, ON, K0H 1K0

We invite you to show your support for local history by becoming a patron of the Cloyne Pioneer Museum, and/or becoming a member of the Historical Society. For all donations, including Patron fees, charitable receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for amounts of \$10.00 or more. Membership fees are ineligible by law for charitable receipts.

I wish to become a Patron of the Cloyne Pioneer Museum.

The annual fee of \$25 includes 2 newsletters, mailed free of charge, and a window decal.

Enclosing \$25.00 Patron Fee + _____ Donation = Total _____

On patron acknowledgments, my name or my company's name should appear

as _____

I wish to become a member of the Cloyne and District Historical Society

Annual Membership is \$5.00 per person. New _____ Renewal _____.

Membership\$_____

Donation\$_____

Postage\$_____ (Add \$6.00 if you wish newsletters mailed.)

Total\$_____

Name _____

Address _____

Town/City _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail Address _____

For the Year _____