

The Pioneer Times

(News vehicle of the Cloyne and District Historical Society)



Cloyne and District Historical Society

Box 228

Cloyne, ON K0H 1K0

Tel: 1 (613) 336-2203

Fax: 1 (613) 374-2170

E-Mail: pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca



Preserving the Past for the Future

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The Pioneer Times

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Editors and Production Committee

Karyl Steinpatz
steinpat@kingston.jkl.net

Carol Morrow
ncmorrow@sympatico.ca

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President

[Vacant]

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Margaret Axford

Secretary

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Ian Brumell

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*Carol Lessard, Frank Matacheskie,
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From the Editor

Karyl Steinpatz

You Are Right! This newsletter really is heftier than its predecessors. The C&DHS is growing and *The Pioneer Times* is following suit. Carol and I have increased the number of pages to 16 in order to include all information and articles. Your contributions are so welcome and we thank all who give us articles and tidbits. Keep 'em coming!

As well, we've made a few changes to the look and content of the newsletter. Readers will notice the new cover photo which better reflects the up-to-date mien of the museum. The other was fine for a few issues but we've decided to let the covergirls (Mary Jane Turner and me) fade away gracefully. Notice also the change in the pictorial centrefold which is devoted to a montage of this summer's events.

We are determined to impress upon our readers the importance of recording family histories for posterity, and to this end Carol has written a comprehensive article detailing a method of researching your family tree. The Society is beginning to accumulate an impressive store of local histories and we will welcome yours with open arms. Any Board member will be delighted to accept your contributions. The genealogical archives are housed in the Pioneer Museum.

More faces from the olden days (my olden days in any case) are appearing at the monthly meetings now, bringing their knowledge of the area with them, which is wonderful.

Interviews with area elders are gathering steam. Some members have done a lot in this direction already, but I've procrastinated. However, I am now getting started (with help). In this issue, Margaret Axford has written a marvelous story about one of her interviews.

Changes have taken place in your Board of Directors. Check out the masthead to the left of this note for those particulars.

President's Message

Margaret Axford

So What Is Going On?

In spite of a public surge in interest in subjects of a historical nature, our governments are turning their financial backs on the heritage community. At the federal level, the current government has just made significant cuts to funding for museums, in particular to MAP, which is the Museums Assistance Program, a self-explanatory title. Another program within the federal Heritage Department, called "Cultural Spaces Canada", has already been cut. In 2002, when the Cloyne and District Historical Society applied to CSC for funding to help build the museum addition, this was a 3 year national program with a budget of \$80 million, an inadequate figure given the number of applications. When our application was rejected, 18 months after submission, we were told that while we were eligible for funding, our proposal was judged "not to be sufficiently high priority to receive a contribution". You can make your own judgement as to what that implies, but the terms "backbencher" and "backwater" sprang to my mind. So now a sister program, MAP, is about to disappear as well. I guess if too many groups clamour for a piece of the pie, it's easier to cut the program than to develop a budget and a funding formula which are fair for everyone. As for the government's contention that cuts were made only where "waste" was found, that is nonsense. The museum community is not one that is known for its flagrant misuse of public funds!

And at the provincial level, in case you are thinking that being miserly to heritage programs is just a Conservative tactic, the Ontario government, of any political stripe, hasn't increased funding since the early 1980s. The budget for the CMOG program (Community Museums Operating Grant) is a mere \$2.7 million, which subsidizes fewer than 200 museums across Ontario. We do not have access to this fund, as we can't meet the standards re-

quired. However, we do get provincial funding designated for smaller museums through the Heritage Organizational and Development Grant, which is also much too small. Our portion for the last 2 years (we haven't heard yet about this year's application) has been \$1,200 a year, exactly the amount of our annual insurance bill.

On a more positive note, we are much better off than some groups, and for that we are extremely grateful. Careful husbandry of our money and a very supportive community have been huge factors for us. This past summer, we became the benefactors of a sizable amount from the estate of Isobel Stewart. Please check out the treasurer's report for further details. This bequest will mean that we should have operating capital for a considerable period of time. In light of this, you may be asking why I am raving about low levels of funding for museums and historical societies. Because money also means being committed to the cause espoused by the group! Do governments not care about the work which everyone is doing to preserve our people's history? One wonders.

If you are personally acquainted with either your MP, or your MPP, you might find an opportunity to talk about their woeful support for the heritage community. I would be interested in hearing about any responses which you receive.

And that's my rant for today! □

Old Settlers' Recipe

Cure for

A cold in the head:

"Pare very thin the yellow rind of an orange, roll it up inside out, and thrust a roll into each nostril". [Ed Note: Picture this!]



Financial Report

Ian Brumell, Treasurer

The financial condition of the Cloyne and District Historical Society continues to be very healthy and positive. Labour Day marked the completion of the summer traffic through the Museum. As of the end of August, we had realized a net income of just over \$1,700. This represented a decrease in profit from the year before which was around \$2,000 for the same period. This decrease can be directly attributed to a general downturn in tourist traffic. It is estimated that the number of tourists from the US is down 42% from the previous year. Fewer folks on the road this summer and the very warm weather we had in July were the major factors contributing to fewer visitors, donations and sales at the museum.

However, the Patron programme, various fundraising ventures—including our 4th Edition Heritage Calendar, the Heritage Bus Tour, the Blueberry Brunch and other events—were continued this summer season and made the organization a very financially viable group in the Land O'Lakes area.

The Cloyne and District Historical Society has become the beneficiary of part of the Estate of the late Isobel Stewart. This wonderful lady who has been such an inspiration to our community had the foresight to believe that the endeavours of the Cloyne and District Historical Society were worthy of her philanthropy. Her bequest will provide a yearly endowment to the Society of close to \$3,000, in perpetuity. We all are somewhat overwhelmed and honoured by her bequest. Thank you Isobel!

We are most grateful for the ongoing financial support of the municipalities of Addington Highlands and North Frontenac, for the donation made to us this by the Tweed Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and for the generous donations from our patrons.

Currently, our bank balance is around \$5,600 with no bills outstanding. We do expect additional Government grants of around \$2,000 to be received before year end.

In all, even given the obstacles caused by decreased tourist traffic, this has been another in a string of stellar years for the Cloyne and District Historical Society. Thanks to everyone who has assisted and helped us become a very respected community organization.

If you are interested, complete financial accounting is available to all members. An email request to the Society is all that is needed for us to send one out.



Toonie Christmas Party

December 9, 1-4 pm

Barrie/Cloyne Hall

Bring the Family for an Old-Fashioned Sing-Song, Sweet Treats, a Visit from Santa, and Entertainment

Admission: One Toonie Each

Order of the Eastern Star Contributes

Karyl Steinpatz

At the season's opening of the Pioneer Museum in Cloyne on Saturday, June 24, Faye O'Brien, Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star (Tweed Chapter) presented the Cloyne and District Historical Society with a cheque for \$600 to assist in the purchase of local artifacts.

She explained that each year the Worthy Matron chooses a local charitable organization to support and this year, because of its dedication to the collection and display of local artifacts, and its ever-increasing store of knowledge on the genealogy of area families, her choice was the C&DHS. In May, the Tweed Chapter held a fabulous dinner and dance, and the cheque presented Saturday was a portion of the proceeds from that event.

The contribution was accepted with grateful thanks by Margaret Axford, President of the Cloyne and District Historical Society.



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 or visit our website: www.pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/pioneer/



Chittick's Cabin and Dog Team, Loon Lake

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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.

Genealogy Reminder

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

Patron Committee Report

Marcella Neely

As we close 2006 and prepare for our 2007 campaign it is vital to acknowledge the importance of the support of museum patrons. Throughout this newsletter are lists and reports of museum upgrades, activities, purchases and projects that testify to the value of patron contributions. Along with grants, and fundraising by the Historical society, we were also able to employ an additional student staff person for the Pioneer Museum during the summer.

Museum patrons proudly invest in our community and witness the results of their contributions first hand. We all regularly donate to worthy charities but, more than the tax-deductible receipt, the museum stands as a constant reminder of what we are capable of. With continued support future generations will have a source for history, genealogy and artifact collections from our region. We can only imagine the warmth they will experience with the discovery of information on their own ancestors.

The 2006 patron roster boasts 74 generous supporters. As costs increase and expenses are ongoing, we urge everyone who has an interest in our community to climb on board the patron train and invite neighbours and acquaintances to do likewise. We only require an annual patron fee of \$25. Apart from that, donations of any amount are most welcome. Charitable donations receipts are issued for all amounts over \$10.

We are now accepting 2007 patron fees. Please send your contribution to P.O. Box 228, Cloyne, or hand it to any member of the Cloyne and District Historical Society.



Garnet Martin Family Barn, Fernleigh area

Fundraising Flash

Margaret Axford

For the year 2006, the big winners in the Fundraising field have been the May Yard Sale, and the August Blueberry Brunch. In spite of rain, and, yes, snow, \$750 was the bottom line after the yard sale, and after fingers and toes had been thawed out. Many thanks to Peter and Mary Jane Turner for the use of their front yard and porch again this year.

A steady stream of visitors at the Blueberry Brunch, from 10 a.m to 12:30 p.m, ensured a very healthy profit of \$627, \$200 more than last year. Thanks again this year to Bill Scott, of Scott's Shopping Centre, and to Andy and Donna Anderson, for their generous contributions.

The Bake Sales and the Heritage Bus Tour continue to do well, although the public interest in "slimming" has meant a slight decrease in Bake Sale profits.

One event has been cut from our list this year. The Christmas Craft Show is not being run by the school. The Board is looking at the possibility of the Historical Society running something similar next fall, and would appreciate any input you may have on this question.

One event remains on our calendar this year, and that is the Toonie Christmas Party, being held at Barrie Township Hall on December 9, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This is a family Christmas party, with carol singing, readings, a visit from Santa, and lots of hot cider, hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. We hope to see you there!

Be sure to check out the spring edition of *The Pioneer Times* for a complete listing of 2007 events.

Old Settlers' Recipe

Cure for Drowned dead person:

"Rub the trunk of the body all over with salt. It frequently recovers them that seem dead."

Acquisitions List - 2006

Because of donations of artifacts and the monetary generosity shown by Patrons, members, and interested area families and businesses, the Pioneer Museum has in the past year been able to collect the following:

1. Carpenter's Apron, belonging to William Salmond, donated by his daughter, Pat McCallum. Used at Sawyer-Stoll Lumber Company. Mr. Salmond started at Massanoga in 1939, then moved to Kaladar in 1945. He continued to work there as a millwright until it closed.
2. "Findlay 24" stove, donated by Jackie Wickware Philpps and Sandra Wickware. The stove has been in the Wickware cottage for 70 years.
3. Doll, cradle and photo of Billa Flint, donated by Helen Wilson
4. Child's rocking toy, assorted bottles, a container of "Dance Floor Wax" - Joan and John Flieler
5. Very old Bible, from St. John's Anglican Church, Ardoch
6. Reproductions of WWI war posters - Kay Wright
7. Large kitchen cupboard from Wally Federson, from a cottage on Kashwakamak Lake
8. Various farm implements from Odie and Phyllis Snider. Originally from the Snider farm.
9. Luggage racks, used on the runningboards of 1930s and 40s automobiles - Bruce Phillips
10. Hand painted cup, with the expression, "Think of Me" on it - Ellanora Meeks
11. Various books for the schoolhouse - Shirley Shouldice and Norm and Carol Morrow



Alfred Ross Osborne and Bryce Brown



Billa Flint

In 1858 Elzevir township came into being and Billa Flint was its first reeve, a position which he held for 21 years. In 1859, the village of Flinton was laid out in 98 lots and Billa donated the land for the first school, town hall, church and cemetery. Now, Billa was a teetotaler of grand proportions and no liquor would be served in his village! So the Stewart Hotel had to be built just outside the village limits. The Bridgewater road was built to service his business interests in Actinolite. Discouraged after the Actinolite fire of 1879, he retired to Belleville and died there in 1886.

Vignettes of our 2006 Season



Allan Kay & his antique lamp collection, 2006 October AGM



2006 Season Opening - Guest, Duke of Richmond Robin Derrick, with Marg Axford and Faye O'Brien



Barbeque by the Museum, June Opening 2006
Sheila & Hugh Rose, RJ Vermuelen



Interior of Old Actinolite Church
Heritage Bus Tour 2006



Wesley Alkenbrack gave a fascinating talk of early days in the Flinton area at the May meeting of the C&DHS.



C&DHS receives donation from Eastern Star—Margaret Axford and Faye O'Brien