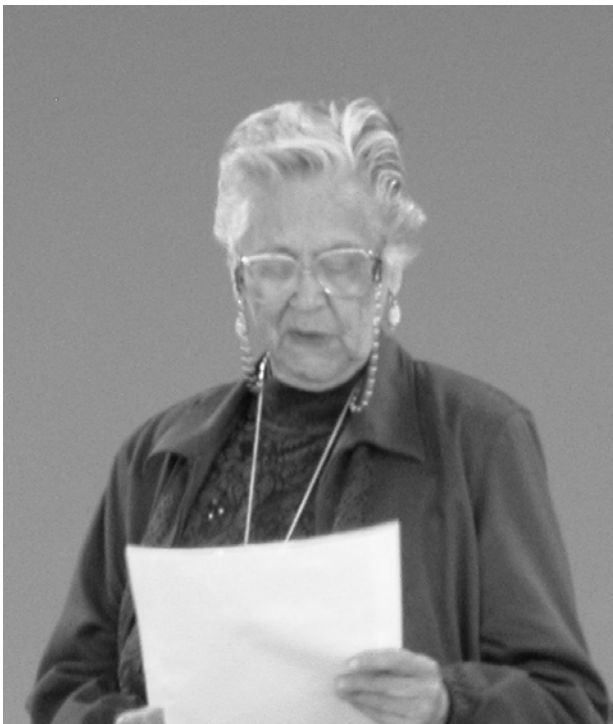


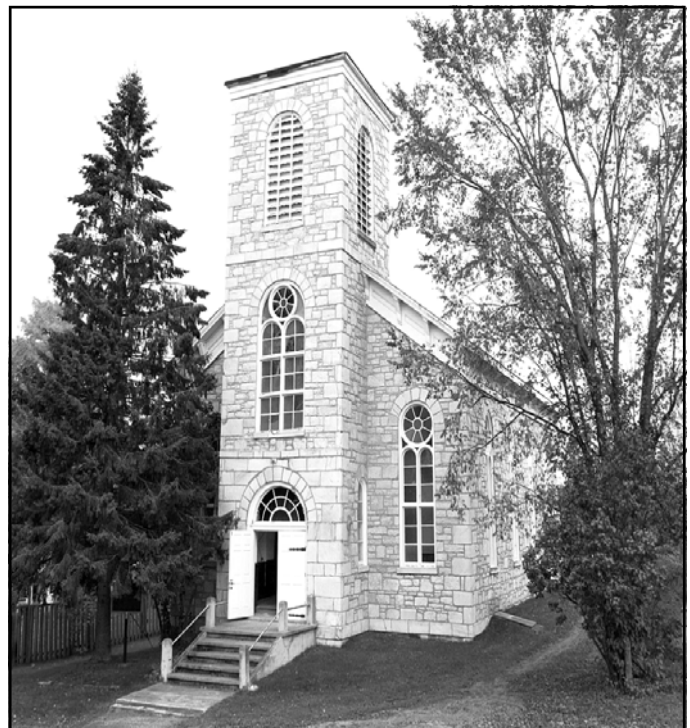
Vignettes of our 2006 Season



Some Cloyne and District Historical Society members gather at Marcella and Ken Neely's house for a BBQ



Nancy Newman, Master Gardener, speaking at the April meeting.



The Old Marble Church at Actinolite, Ontario
-from C&DHS Fall Bus Tour 2006

Researching Your Ancestors

By Carol Morrow

Using the Internet

This issue's genealogical article will be a how-to of an ancestral search using only the Internet. Having said that, you must prepare for your online investigation by gathering all information that you can about your subject from family interviews and pamphlets, documents, old photos and memoirs or stories handed down through the generations. Then record it all in an organized form that makes sense to you (I use the computer and the Family Tree Maker program). Now you are ready for the Internet. [I am assuming you know something about how to surf the Internet.]

Step 1: Google [www.google.com] your subject, just to find out what is out there. Narrow the Google search with quotations around the name and a location in the search box. I tried "John Black" and "Camden Township", and the 3rd hit was an inquiry with some information on the Rootsweb message boards, where I found out who John's 3 sons married & their birth dates, thus giving me 3 more surnames to search (the girls' & one mother's maiden names).

Step 2: Go to the Mormon site [www.familysearch.org] and "Search" your subject by name. If you have a subject with a common name, put in an approx. date to narrow the search. The surname Black is a good example. At this site you can search Ancestral Files that have been collected by the LDS library, the US 1880 census, both the British & Canadian 1881 censuses, International Indexes, their Pedigree Resource files, and the US Social Security Indexes. I typed in "Elizabeth Black" and found her "b. 1796 Ireland" in the 1881 census living with her married daughter and her Piper family in Camden East, Addington, Ontario. This gave me the names & dates of her Piper grandchildren. [I didn't search John Black on this site because I already knew he died by 1851.] You can also search those maiden names from Step 1. Sometimes you have to check the "use exact spelling" box. Now you are ready to check out the 1901 and 1911 census for the next generation.

Step 3: Search the 1901/ 1911 census site [<http://automatedgenealogy.com/index.html>]. This site lets you search by name, surname, and location. Once you have a match you can link to a transcription of the census information where you will see your subject's family with birth dates, where they were counted and who all their neighbours were. Checking out the 1901 census, type "Piper" in the search box and a list of 300+ comes up; check the "list by location" link and a "W. Henry Piper" shows up; click on him and the census page (pg 6 D-8) appears showing a Henry & Gladys Piper living in Camden, Addington Co. This is, in fact, Ann (nee Black) Piper's son and his wife Gladys Teskey. [Ann and her husband Noble are deceased by this time.] If we try this for Ann's brother James Alexander who was longer lived (1832-1909), upon typing in "Black" in the search box we come up with almost 3000 Blacks – too many to deal with. In the Filter box, enter "James" and his year of birth (I always ask for a 5-year window) to narrow the search. This gives us 3 Jameses, one at Kennebec, Addington Co, the suspected location – probably our subject. Click on his link and we find James (on pg 4 H-2) as the father in his son Henry's household. Henry married Margaret "Maggie" McCausland, and their oldest child "Mary" Olive b 1900 shows up. If you want to find out if they had any more children, back up to the opening page of Automated Genealogy and search the 1911 census. This one you have to ask for the province first, then enter the name. On pg 6-16, up pops Henry (Maggie is named "May" because the transcriber had a hard time reading the bad handwriting of the original census taker?), and their 3 children born to date (Mary is called "Olive" here). James is no longer there [we know he died in 1909]. Now we are ready to take a side trip.

Step 4: Check out the original 1901 [http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/020122_e.html] census on the National Archives site, because we aren't sure when the Blacks came to Canada; the year of immigration was posed in 1901. "Search the database"; check the province and enter the location; scroll down to H-2; chose page 4 (last box); check "without plug-in". You will have to manipulate the image with the arrows & the zoom, but there are the Blacks, household #31. Scroll across to see if James tells us when he immigrated. Nope. "Born in Ontario, of Scottish descent". (Umm - so he's not owning up to this Irish connection, like so many of the Scots-Irish.) We know that Ann, his older sister was born in 1829 in Ireland, so we can presume that they immigrated between 1829 – 1832. Close enough. Noting the page from the automated census index makes the original easier to find. Did you see that William Black was their neighbour?

Step 5: Check out the maps [<http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/SearchMapframes.php>] at the Digital County Atlas site. Select your county, (you can't choose this township but most you can), search the people list at the bottom of the page. J. Black shows up on page 28; if you click GO on the record column, there he is on Conc 5 lot 24, just south of Centerville west of Camden Lake (west of the Camden East Rd today). You can find Noble Piper's land there also. The maps (c1878) are pretty neat and you can see the actual location of your pioneer's homestead – and who his neighbours were.

Step 6: Find out where these people were buried. Check out the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid (OCFA) at [<http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/>]. Click “search” and type in your subject's name & suspected county. The Pipers are there, buried in Centerville United Cemetery; James & Mary are in St Luke's Anglican in Camden East. Henry doesn't show up but Margaret does & some of their children in Harlow United. So with the cemetery index, you can search by name and location. Keep in mind that not all cemeteries have been transcribed, especially in the large centres, and you will have to contact the county or local historical society to find out what cemeteries have been done, and perhaps purchase their transcriptions or find a volunteer to do a quick search for you. Another website to take a look at is Field of Stones where you can “visit” your relatives' final resting place in almost every county (except L&A) in Ontario from home – if someone has photographed their stone & donated to the site. This is a great program and if you get the chance, go grave-hopping with your camera and email your pictures off to Janet Jones at this site [<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~clifford/>]. Let's get some L&A pioneers on there!

Step 7: Check out Family Trees at Rootsweb [<http://www.rootsweb.com/>]. Click on the 2nd hit and cruise around. Looks like some McCauslands have been ancestor hunting. It's always good to see what the other guy said about your ancestor too, so we checked the 3rd hit and found a list of Henry Smith's siblings. Nobel Piper shows up too in a small way. Rootsweb is a powerful tool for following some family trees a long way; but it should be used with discretion. People out there are putting up information on the site that may be inaccurate or incomplete, so like the guy says, use the site as “a framework to build upon”.

Step 8: Check out the Marriages site [<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~maryc/ontmarr.htm>]. You can select by year and then county.

*Addington #010889-01 – “Jacob MILLER, 27, farmer, Kennebec, same, s/o William H. MILLER & Martha CARLETON, married Margaret **BLACK**, 21, Kennebec, same, d/o James BLACK & Hannah BELL, witr: Jane LAWLESS of Grafton & Flora MAURISSETTE of Flinton, 27 March 1901 at Flinton.”
(This is Margaret Marsula Black, their youngest.)*

Step 9: Chances are you don't live in the county now where your ancestors pioneered; if you do, you are so lucky! But you will want to learn something about their choice of location. If you want to learn about history of L&A county, check out [<http://www.ihorizons.net/lacounty/history.htm>]. I just Googled “Lennox & Addington” and this was the 4th hit of 71,700. It has some good information. Almost every county or location has a website of some kind; some are better than others genealogically. Some good ones are Elgin County, Norfolk, Lanark, Grey, York just to name a few I have checked out; what you are looking for is settlement or pioneer history. You want to find an official county site as opposed to a commercial site. The L&A Historical Society site is located at [<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onlennox/online.html>]. There are quite a few lists you can search online. Visit [<http://www.waynecook.com/alennox-addington.html>] for the Historical Plaques of L& A County; they contain some history. A list of books relating to the history of the county and environs is at [<http://www.angelfire.com/journal/loyalgen/bookprice.html>]; you can order these books online.

Step 10: No research is complete without checking out the Message Boards at Ancestry.com and Genealogy.com. They can be accessed by surname or by location. The L&A County Board at Ancestry is really busy and the L&A County Museum replies to a lot of queries – the first time I have ever seen this (very helpful). Leave your own query on the boards; you will be surprised what help you can get through them; sometimes the wait is worth it. Make special note of the email addresses of others researching your same family. Contact them, for you may find a connection leading more people to add to your collection.

Step 11: Do your subject's surname search to find out the origin of the name and perhaps you will find an image of a family crest. A couple of sites are [<http://www.allfamilycrests.com/>] and [<http://www.houseofnames.com/>]. You should be able to re-work the dialogue to suit your family's circum-

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Step 12: Now it's time to learn about the county/parish/townland/village from which your ancestor originated. Ireland is great for their county sites. I have yet to see a scarcity of information on any county or diocese. Usually you get a history of the area, a geographical summary, a good map and you can slip your family into the narrative with the occasional surname reference. Maybe your ancestors were some of the warring tribes who played a part in the fabric of the area. Many Scottish locations are well represented on the Internet, as well as England. There is no lack of information you can use as background to your family history. To locate these sites, use Google.

Step 13: No Internet journey would be complete without stopping off at [<http://www.ourroots.ca/e>]. This site contains whole transcriptions of local histories from all across Canada; just enter your surname or location in the search box, and check out the hits that pop up. There is a bit of a learning curve in manipulating this site because of the huge amount of information it contains. I entered "Camden" in the search box and got a history of "The Camden Colony" which was the early name given to the whole Newburgh/Napanee and area settlement; the genealogy shows many connections among early UEL and other immigrant settlers aft 1783.

Step 14: Try to connect up with some online newspapers; use Google to search these. They can be invaluable for local obituaries and general news of the area. Another site for finding obituaries (which are really mini biographies) is at Ontario Daily Times [<http://obits.rootsweb.com>] where you enter your surname and find out if and when your subject died within the last few years. Then you need to find someone to look up the obit for you. Volunteers can be found on Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) at [<http://www.raogk.org/listing.htm>]. Rarely do these people fail to send you what you ask for. Another service for getting volunteered obits is at Jan's Site [<http://www.ontarioobits.com/>] – this is an Ontario only service.

Step 15: For anyone with ancestors or relatives who died in one of the world wars, there is a wonderful site for viewing their official certificate and actually going to the cemetery where they were buried. Search The Commonwealth War Graves Commission site at [<http://www.cwgc.org/>] to find information on your lost soldier. See poignant photos of some beautifully kept military cemeteries across Europe, Great Britain and Canada.

As a final reminder, note every information source. Don't plagiarize. The facts cannot be copyrighted but the form, or style, can. This means, transcribe the facts of your research but format or write them up in your own style. Take yourself off to the county museum and archives for these often have booklets containing miscellaneous information such as voters lists, farmers directories, wills, birth/ death/ marriage records, land transfer records. Sometimes the experience alone is worth the visit. Always ask for assistance because sometimes their system of organization can be a mystery.

I have lots more suggestions for research. Contact me by e-mail [ncmorrow@sympatico.ca]. □



Main Street of Denbigh, September 1928



Kaladar Train Station, 1925
Pictured are Roy Spencer & his wife, H.W. Chillick

Annual General Meeting

Karyl Steinpatz

A fine crowd turned out for the AGM of the Cloyne and District Historical Society which was held Monday, October 16, 2006 in the Barrie Township Hall, Cloyne.

Since this is not an election year (Board of Director terms run for two years) little change took place in the slate of officers, although with regret Eleanor St. Amand found it necessary to resign from the Board. Frank Matacheskie volunteered to take her place and was unanimously voted in. Margaret Axford, who has done an absolutely smashing job as President/Chair for the past five years and will be difficult to replace, has resigned her position but will remain on the Board of Directors as Past President. As I write this, the Presidency remains vacant but a series of November meetings should see that resolved. Therefore the slate of executive officers reads as follows: President, (vacant); Past President, Margaret Axford; Secretary, Eileen Flieler; Treasurer, Ian Brumell. Directors: Carol Lessard, Frank Matacheskie, Dorothy Pethick, Karyl Steinpatz. Committee chairs: Margaret Axford, Fundraising; Marcella Neely, Patrons; Karyl Steinpatz, Communications.

Business discussed included: The revamping and reprinting of *The Oxen and the Axe* which will be done over the winter; the forming of a Cemeteries Committee to research the 'old forgotten' and archive the research; the acquisition of various treasures which have been added to the museum displays over the past year.

The Ontario Ministry of Culture has drastically cut grants to museums, which to some smaller museums will mean closure. However, to our great joy, the Pioneer Museum will comfortably survive and thrive because of the prodigious efforts of our fundraising committee, **AND** because the Cloyne and District Historical Society has most gratefully received an endowment from the estate of the late Isobel Stewart which will ensure that the doors of our museum will remain open for the foreseeable future.

Guest speaker at the AGM was Allan Kay, who displayed a cross-section of his treasure trove of lamps and animatedly spoke of their various provenances. Allan told us how to research and find the missing parts of various lamps and how to use (and not use) them. His special lamp is one which belonged to his grandparents. He has not yet been able to trace the provenance of that outstanding piece, but is still researching it.

The AGM ended socially with an excellent feast provided by Carol Lessard. □



Old Settlers' Recipe

Cures for

healing a cut:

“Bind on toasted cheese. Or, pounded grass. Shake it off after twelve hours and if need be, apply fresh .” **or...**

“The oil from the blisters of a fir tree is very healing. It is messy. But if poured in a cut, will heal it without a scar.”

Fire at Bon Echo, 1936: A Memory

Margaret Axford

Etched forever in the mind of Jen Elliott, of Arnprior, is the night in mid September, 1936, when Bon Echo Inn burned. A mere 16 years old, Jen McCulloch, of Toronto, had been working as a chamber maid at the Inn since the first of May. Because she wasn't returning to school. She stayed on to help with the last few guests and the clean-up at the end of the season.

On the night in question, Jen and a few others still working had gone to a dance at Salmond's Resort. Their driver for the evening was Mr. Leavens, who, with his wife, brother and sister-in-law, was running an Inn in 1935-6. As they returned up the road toward Bon Echo, well after midnight, they could see flames which they became convinced were at the Inn. Sure enough, they arrived in time to see the Inn engulfed in flames.

Jen stood and watched with the others, in tears, partly because she had very much enjoyed her summer there, but also because, burning up with everything else, were \$35.00, her last pay, and a brand new outfit for fall which she had purchased at the general store in Cloyne not long before. As she watched the destruction, an elderly man came up to her and pressed a \$5.00 bill into her hand, saying as he did so, "I wish it could be more, Jenny, but that's all I have." One wonders who that kindhearted man was!

It was fortunate that the fire occurred in September. Most of the guests and employees had left for home, leaving only a few staff with quarters on the third floor, and a man and his son, the only guests, on the second floor. The staff escaped without injury; the guests weren't quite so lucky. Both father and son encountered heavy smoke when they opened their bedroom doors. "Jump out the window", shouted the son to his father. Underneath each window was coiled a sturdy, knotted rope, to be used as a fire escape. In his panic, however, the father jumped from the window with the end of the rope in his hand. He sustained a broken shoulder and extensive bruising. Jen remembers him, with his son, being sent by stage to the train station in Kaladar, his arm and shoulder in a sling, obviously in pain, wearing another man's coat, and looking altogether miserable. Not the desired outcome for a holiday, by any means!

And so, one of the more historically interesting buildings in our area disappeared from the landscape, leaving behind many questions, some of which will probably never be answered. How the fire started is a major question. The answer, according to many people, is lightning. Was there a storm that night? Why were the Leavens brothers running the Inn, and where was Merrill Denison? Merrill and his wife Muriel Goggin had been operating the Inn since the death of his mother Flora in 1922. By 1929, the Depression was affecting everyone; few could manage the funds necessary to come to Bon Echo for a holiday, and certainly the Denisons would not have been able to afford to hire the staff to keep the Inn operational.

The Leavens brothers had a cottage on the beach at Campbell's Bay, and so would have been familiar with the Inn. They also were in the flying business, operating a flying school north of Toronto. Jen Elliott remembers guests being flown directly to Lake Mazinaw, and being set down at the dock in front of the Inn, probably a decided improvement on the alternative transportation methods of a long slow bumpy ride from Toronto to the Inn. The roads then were certainly not the highways we know today!

Another query revolves around artifacts. Was anything salvaged from the fire? As far as we know, the only artifacts remaining are some tablecloths and table napkins which appeared in Harry Levere's barn in Cloyne and which were sold at auction nearly 20 years ago. Their existence raises another question. Jen confirmed for us that the laundry was done on site at the Inn. Why, then, were these table items off site? Had they alone been sent off to another laundry somewhere and were awaiting delivery to the Inn? Who were the guests? The son might very well still be alive. He could probably shed a great deal of light on that night. Did the office, which according to Jen, was in a separate building, burn as well? She says that the cottages did not, and so perhaps, the office survived as well. Are there records somewhere

which might tell us the names of those unlucky guests?

These are some of the questions which have been raised. Jen Elliott has helped a great deal. Can we find the rest of the answers?

[...from an interview with Jen McCulloch Elliott, of Arnprior, August 18, 2006, conducted by Ian Brumell and Margaret Axford]

A Sequel to the Bon Echo Story

In a chance encounter at the museum the week following this interview, we learned what went on at the Inn between 1929 and 1933. According to Stephen Deakin, 90 years old and currently living in Montreal, the property was leased to Trinity College School in Port Hope. Mr. Deakin was a boarding student at TCS, and in 1929, came to “Camp Mazinaw” as a camper. He was there for two months every summer up to and including 1933, and refers to those days as “the best years” of his life. This conversation cleared up a major question for us. We had heard that there was a camp at this spot, and indeed we have a 2 or 3 minute video of boys swimming at a location which was obviously on the Inn property, and not at the former Camp Mazinaw property. Documents which we have from the more modern Camp Mazinaw indicate that that camp was formed in 1939. What, then, was the camp so clearly running in 1931, the date on this video? Well, now we know - an earlier Camp Mazinaw, operated by Trinity College Schools.

There is much research yet to be done on this. We are hoping that the archives at TCS will be helpful, both in terms of confirmation data and photos, but in the meantime, we have acquired a very valuable piece of history.

And in a final note, while he was a camper here, Mr Deakin won a prize at a horse race at the camp. His prize was a riding crop, engraved with the words, “Camp Mazinaw/

Grand Mazinaw Handicap/1929 CSD”. He had given the crop to his 13-year-old granddaughter, Emma, who, following the family visit to the museum this summer, decided that she would like to donate the crop to us. That fine artifact has now arrived from Calgary. You must be sure to come into the museum next summer, where it will be proudly on display, along with the story of this chapter in the history of Mazinaw Lake.

[...from an interview with Stephen Deakin and the Deakin family, August 2006, conducted by Margaret Axford and Ian Brumell, at Loon Lake Lodge on Skootamatta Lake] □



Bon Echo Inn
Water Tower

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 _____

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For the Year _____