



January 2001 Newsletter

HERITAGE DINNER MEETING

Circle your calendar for Monday, February 19, 2001, HERITAGE DAY. The annual Heritage Dinner Meeting will be held at Christ Anglican Church Hall, Long Sault, beginning with the usual social half-hour at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., and this will be catered by the Anglican Church Women. Please reserve your spot by calling Rita Canough at 537-2388 by February 14, 2001. Why not pick up your phone and give Rita a call now. Circle your calendar and remember the date for this annual event. Invite a neighbour or friend to celebrate the history and heritage of our community and the "Lost Villages".

GUEST SPEAKER: The guest speaker for the Heritage Day Dinner will be Glen Cunningham, speaking on the "Granny Hoople Story". Many of you have heard of Mary Whitmore Hoople, locally known as Granny Hoople, the Medicine Maid, and her life among the natives of western Pennsylvania. Should you wish to read about the subject before the meeting, the following books, written by Elizabeth L. Hoople, will provide the details. **THE HOOPLES OF HOOPLE'S CREEK** was published in 1967 by Ryerson Press, Toronto, and **MEDICINE MAID** was published in 1977 by Mika Publishing Co.

In 1977, while living in Streetsville, Ontario, Elizabeth Hoople wrote the following words in the Foreword to **MEDICINE MAID**.

"This is a true story which begins in Pennsylvania in 1779. Most of the people in it were real people and are called by their own names. However, there are exceptions. For instance, the first name of one of Mary's brothers is still a mystery. The historians called him only "the boy in the sugar bush". For the purpose of this book we have named him Jake.

In the course of over ten years of research no less than seven written versions of the Whitmore massacre were unearthed. These contain minor contradictions which

had to be resolved and there were gaps in the records which had to be filled by a mixture of imagination and careful study of authoritative books, such as David Zeisberger's History of Northern Indians.

All the places mentioned in the story were visited. Reference libraries in Albany, Buffalo, Geneseo Landing, Detroit and Toronto yielded valuable material. It is amazing how much can be found and reconstructed after nearly two hundred years.

In Jerseytown, Pennsylvania, they will show the visitors the site of the Whitmore cabin and the spring where Mary went for water. In the museum at Geneseo, New York, is a rustic highchair that was made for Sarah Whitmore Jones' first baby. In the Fort George Museum at Niagara, Ontario, is preserved a beaded purse given to John Whitmore by his Indian mother. In the Three Counties Museum in Cornwall, Ontario, is a little porcelain bowl that Mary used to carry salve in her saddle-bags when she rode out to doctor the sick. The house that Mary and Henry built is still standing on the second Concession of Osnabruck near the village of Long Sault, Ontario, and Henry's and Mary's tombstones are to be seen at Upper Canada Village."

EVENING OF CHRISTIAN MUSIC, -SANDTOWN CHURCH, FEBRUARY 11, 2001

Celebrate "Heritage Month" with an evening at the Sandtown Church, Lost Villages Museum

On Sunday, February 11, 2000, at 7:00 p.m., an evening of "Contemporary Christian Music" will be held at the Sandtown Advent Christian Church at the Lost Villages Museum. Music and song will be presented by "Surrounded", a group which consists of Michael Prieur, Lisa Prieur, Dick and Heather Hamil, Bill Britton, and Richard Boyer. This group has been together for about one year, playing at church functions and concerts in Eastern Ontario. Very soon, they plan to develop a compact disc of their contemporary Christian music. "Surrounded", the name chosen for this group, comes from one of the songs which Michael Prieur composed. All songs are original, composed by either Michael or Heather.

So as to avoid having to turn people away at the door, tickets will be made available to those who wish to attend. These are on a "first-come-first-serve" basis, and they may be picked up from Jim Brownell, or reserved by calling Jim at 534-2423. Tickets are free, however a freewill offering will be taken on the evening of the concert. A donation will be given to "Surrounded", so that they may continue

their musical ministry.

This candlelight evening of Christian music, during "Heritage Month", will be an event to enjoy. Call and book your tickets early.

HERITAGE COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

On Monday, December 11, 2000, a large gathering of historical society members and "friends" gathered at the South Stormont Seniors' Support Centre to honour three South Stormont citizens with Heritage Community Recognition Awards. After a delicious buffet dinner, awards and pins were presented to Winnifred Murdock, Donald Alguire and Timothy Gault, for their work in heritage conservation and preservation in the community. South Stormont reeve, Jim Bancroft, presented the award to Winnie Murdock for her work in "Cultural Heritage". Being a charter member of the society, Winnie has served on the executive of the society for many years, and she has been instrumental in keeping the recorded history of our organization. Her scrapbooks are outstanding. As well, she has been dedicated to the membership records, and keeps a close eye on memberships from near and far. Donnie, a relatively new member of the society since the early 1990s, has been instrumental in having the museum site develop to its present status, and he has been the "eyes and ears" to everything at Ault Park. Never a day goes by without Donnie visiting Ault Park. In fact, he is sometimes there on two or three occasions during the day. Tim Gault, having become our newest member on December 11, 2000, received recognition for his work in "natural" history. For three years, Tim has personally tended the grass and shrubs around the Ontario Heritage Foundation's plaque in the "closed" Lakeview Park. Using his own lawnmower and gas, Tim has created a manicured site to showcase the provincial plaque, the plaque to the "Lost Village" of Moulinette, and the Moulinette cairn. Tim's efforts have been noticed, for the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, in the summer of 2000, replaced a dilapidated fence with a row of glacial boulders. Knowing of Tim's interest in the society, we were encouraged by his eagerness to join. We look forward to his help and support. The Lost Villages Historical Society salutes Winnie, Donnie and Tim, and wishes them good health and happiness in the future, as they work to promote the society.

The members of the society were encouraged by the attendance of a large number of dignitaries at the dinner/presentation. As mentioned, Jim Bancroft, the new reeve for South Stormont, was in attendance, as was his wife, Amy. Heine Bruining, the deputy-reeve for the township, and the new Warden for the United

Counties of Stormont Dundas and Glengarry, along with his wife, Anne, attended, too. We are proud to have Heine and Anne as members of the Lost Villages Historical Society. Mr. Barry Brownlee, a new member of Council for the Township of South Stormont, was in attendance, as was Mrs. Betty de Haan, Clerk/Administrator for the township.

Mr. John Cleary, Member of Provincial Parliament for Stormont, Dundas and Charlottenburg, and his wife, Elizabeth, attended, and John presented provincial certificates and pins to the award recipients. We thank John for his continued support for history and heritage in the community.

As well, we were pleased to have representatives from the Cornwall Township Historical Society in attendance. Lloyd and Audrey McPhee, and Mrs. Glennis Alguire represented the township's historical society to the east. We thank them for their attendance. Mrs. Dale Duncan, president of the Cornwall Township Historical Society, sent her regrets, as she was in New Westminster, British Columbia, awaiting the birth of her grand-daughter.

This was the fourth year for the presentation of Heritage Community Recognition Awards in the township. We encourage the "new" council to continue to support those who volunteer in history and heritage conservation and preservation.

THANK YOU FROM SOUTH STORMONT MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

The following letter was received by Jim Brownell from Carson Elliott, St. Lawrence Stepping Stones 2000 Coordinator, on behalf of the South Stormont Millennium Committee:

"It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter to the members of the Lost Villages Historical Society to thank the society for their participation in Fall Festival 2000. The local display of war artifacts was an outstanding display at Fall Festival 2000, and those responsible are congratulated. The success of Fall Festival 2000 was due greatly to your participation.

In matter of fact, the Lost Villages Historical Society, and its members, are congratulated for their hard work and dedication throughout the entire year. Your assistance to the St. Lawrence Stepping Stones 2000 Committee was greatly appreciated.

Thank you and best wishes in your future endeavours to preserve the heritage of

South Stormont and the Lost Villages."

The Lost Villages Historical Society salutes Carson Elliott and the South Stormont Millennium Committee for a job "WELL DONE" in 2000. St. Lawrence Stepping Stones 2000 events put South Stormont on the map, and the Lost Villages Historical Society and museum were front and centre in many activities throughout the year. Thank you to all members and "friends" who helped the society to continue our profile in the community. With the opening of our schoolhouse, S.S.#11, Roxborough Township, and the Sandtown Church, we had a very busy summer in historical society "millennium" activities. To Carson Elliott, member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, a "THUMBS UP" to you!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS!

The air was crisp and the moon was bright on the evening of December 3, 2000, and an overflow crowd descended on the Sandtown Church at the Lost Villages Museum. The candles and lamps were lit, and the organ and harpsichord tuned and ready for the "Christmas Carol Service" at 7:00 p.m. Bill, Rosemary, Felicity and Emily Brown provided a most memorable evening of song, poetry and remembrances, as the capacity crowd reflected on the true meaning of Christmas. Who will ever forget the beautiful strains of "Silent Night"? Perhaps you had a special carol which continues to provide memories of this special evening. The Sandtown Church was the "perfect" setting for those wishing to get into the Christmas "spirit" in 2000, and we thank the Brown family for providing such an inspirational evening. It is the wish of the society to continue this tradition at Christmas, so circle your calendar for Sunday, December 2, 2001.

We appreciate the generosity of the Brown family in providing for this special evening, and we thank all those who so generously gave to the collection. As well, we thank all those who assisted in providing the reception in the log house, following the carol service. The decorations in both the church and log house were prepared by Jim Brownell, and Rita Canough, Lenora Salmon, Mavis Nixon, Peggy Barkley, Rosemary Rutley, Joan McEwan, Winnie Murdock, and Barbara Bell prepared the "treats" for the reception. We thank Catherine Brownell for her donation of the Christmas tree, an item which will be tucked away for next year's event. The life-like tree was appreciated, as a real tree would be risky at such a public function. We thank Donnie Alguire for providing the wood for the woodstove and fireplace, and for providing some time to keep an eye on both heating sources. The woodstove provided for a cosy church for the service. The

stove was stoked with wood since 8:00 a.m., under the instructions of Betty Neville, the contributor of the church. She has many memories of life at this church, with the woodstove having to be lit several hours before the church service.

STEEPLE PLACED ON SANDTOWN CHURCH

Thanks to the efforts of Alex MacGillvray, Bill MacGillvray, and Donnie Alguire, the Sandtown Advent Christian Church at the Lost Villages Museum now has a steeple and bell over the front entrance. Although the original church had never had a steeple, Alex MacGillvray felt it necessary to have one on the church, and he set about to have it made. Through the efforts and support of Alex MacGillvray and his son, Bill, the steeple was constructed in Alex's back year in Long Sault. After a month of skillful work, the steeple was ready for its move to the museum site, and this was done in late November. On Monday, November 27, 2000, all was ready for its placement on the roof of the church. This task was performed by Mickey Flegg, an operator for Pole-Line Construction of Long Sault. Prior to its erection, an iron cross, custom made by John Bies of Long Sault, was affixed to the top of the steeple, and a bell, found in Lanark, Ontario, and donated by Donnie Alguire, was placed in its position under the metal clad steeple roof.

With the original wooden cross in poor condition and removed from the church's exterior, it is now easy to locate the museum's church, the Sandtown Advent Christian Church. We thank those who were responsible for having the steeple in place for our "Christmas Carol Service" on December 3, 2000. The bell rang our good tidings on that moon-lit evening.

We thank John Bies, a true "friend" of the Lost Villages Museum, for his consideration and care in having a cross erected on the Sandtown Church. As well, we thank Donnie for the bell. Thanks to Alex and Bill for their contribution of time in having the steeple constructed.

WILLIAMSBURG HERITAGE SOCIETY

You will recall that Isobel Williams, President of the Williamsburg Heritage Society, was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society. She told us of the society's plan to preserve and protect the history and heritage of the Doctor Locke era in Williamsburg, Ontario. On that

evening, the society became a member of the Williamsburg Heritage Society, and the following letter, dated October 20, 2000, and written by Isobel Williams, was received by Jim Brownell.

"The members of the Board of Directors of the Williamsburg Heritage Society join me in expressing our sincere appreciation for your generous donation.

It will, indeed, help us achieve our goal to preserve and protect the Heritage of the Dr. Locke era in the village of Williamsburg.

The Society is in the process of becoming incorporated and registered as a non profit charitable organization. When we receive this designation, the enclosed receipt will be replaced with an official tax receipt.

We welcome you as a member of the Williamsburg Heritage Society and are most grateful for your interest and support.

It was a pleasure to be able to speak at your meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society. I am very impressed with the wonderful progress you have made with your project. Congratulations.

Thank you for inviting me to the meeting of the Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism Board. It was very informative and I'm sure that, in the future, it will be a very helpful partner."

The society is a member of the Williamsburg Heritage Society, and we continue to encourage this group with their plans for Williamsburg. The longer we can keep "history buffs" in our area during the tourist season the better it is for all of us. Let's continue to encourage one another in the field of history and heritage conservation and preservation.

New members are always welcome in the Williamsburg Heritage Society, and memberships may be obtained by writing to the Williamsburg Heritage Society, Box 212, Williamsburg, Ontario. K0C 2H0

IN MEMORIUM

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of Bernard (Bernie) Windle, on Tuesday, December 19, 2000. Bernie and Kay have been long-time members of the Lost Villages Historical Society, and have been keen supporters of the activities of the society. Although confined to his home, due to frail health for

some months, Bernie was always keenly interested in sharing his knowledge of his beloved community of Mille Roches. Besides being a proud member of our society, Bernie was a member of Knights of Columbus Council #10320, Our Lady of Grace/St. Pius X, and he was an honorary member of Branch #569, Royal Canadian Legion, Long Sault. Bernie was very active in many community groups in his former village of Mille Roches, and he was actively involved in the formation and community life of his "new" town of Long Sault. We shall always remember Bernie's enthusiasm for life, and his dedication to family, children and community. Our sympathy to Kay, his children, Brenda, Wendy and Noel, and their families. Bernie's sister, Sister Verna Windle, Religious Hospitaller of St. Joseph, and a resident of Amhearstview, Ontario, is a member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, and we extend our condolences and prayers to Sister Windle.

As well, we extend our sympathy and prayers to Madeleine and Ranald MacDonald, members of the Lost Villages Historical Society, on the passing of Madeleine's brother, Jean Paul Touchette, on Monday, December 18, 2000. Jean Paul, or J.P. as he was affectionately called, was Alexandria's longest serving mayor, and he had his early roots and education in the "Lost Village" of Mille Roches. Jean Paul was known, too, as "the singing mayor", for he loved to sing at public functions and in church choirs. His son-in-law, Larry Martin, in an eulogy at J.P.'s funeral stated, "And those of us who knew the "singing" J.P. can never again hear Panus Angelicus, Ave Maria, or Amazing Grace, without hearing it in that rich, clear tenor that God so graciously bestowed upon our friend." Although Jean Paul served the community of Alexandria for many years, he is remembered for his community service to the "new" town of Long Sault, as it was being created in the mid-1950s. J.P. served his community well then, and he will be missed by many. To Madeleine, Ranald and family, and to all the Touchette families, sincere sympathy from the members of the Lost Villages Historical Society.

We extend condolences to Nancy and David Hill, members of the society, on the passing of Nancy's uncle, Archie Eastman, on Friday, January 4, 2001. Archie had his roots in the "Lost Village" of Mille Roches, the son of Archibald and Jennie (McDonald) Eastman.

THE CRAFTER'Z MARKET

For over one month, the Lost Villages Historical Society has been profiled at The Crafter'z Market, operated by Gerry Zeran, on County Road #36, about one kilometre east of Long Sault. The rental of a sales spot in this crafter's market has

been most profitable for our organization, and it has helped us to continue a profile in the community, during the off-season for the museum site and store. We had almost \$400.00 in sales during this short period of time, and the exposure has been invaluable.

Although the society's booth had been rented for a three month period, the market is now closed for the month of January, as Gerry is building a second floor to the market. Business has boomed at this location, and a waiting list has been established for vendors. This is wonderful news. Our booth will be back in business in early February, and our products will be on display and for sale. We have requested a larger space for display purposes, and this will allow us the opportunity to sell our T-shirts and sweat-shirts as well. Should you know of someone interested in purchasing our videos, books, T-shirts, etc., send them to The Crafter'z Market.

As well, we thank Gerry Zeran and staff for hosting our "Country Christmas" on December 3, 2000. Gerry opened up more of his display space, and we did show the video, "Tales of the Lost Villages, Then and Now". Thank you to all those who assisted at this Sunday event. A successful day, and Gerry and staff were pleased.

BITS AND PIECES!

Dale Duncan, president of the Cornwall Township Historical Society, and a member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, became a grandmother for the first time on Monday, December 18, 2000. Her daughter, Allison, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Nicole Heather Wylie, in New Westminster, British Columbia. What a beautiful Christmas gift to Grandma Dale and the Wylie family.

Jim Brownell, president of the Lost Villages Historical Society, was appointed to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission by Premier Mike Harris in early December. Jim was also appointed, for a three year term, to the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry County Library Board. As well, Jim retired from the teaching profession for the Upper Canada District School Board on December 22, 2000.

We congratulate Heine Bruining, member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, on his victory as Deputy-Reeve for the Township of South Stormont on Monday, November 13, 2000. As well, we congratulate him, and wish him the best of success, in his inauguration as Warden for the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, on Monday, December 18, 2000. All the best in a very hectic year, Heine!

"In Search of the Lost Villages", an eight week Encore Seniors' Program at St. Lawrence College, concluded on Monday, November 27, 2000. Jim Brownell organized and presented this eight week program, with class lectures, guest speakers, and tours in the community. It was a most successful program, and Jim has been invited to organize a Canadian history course in the Encore program in February and March, 2001.

Jim Brownell will present the slide show, "Tales of the Lost Villages, Then and Now", at the 19th annual GENE-O-RAMA banquet, being held on Saturday, March 31, 2001 at the Wedgewoods Dining Lounge, Best Western Macies Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario. This presentation will conclude this annual event, sponsored by the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society.

The Lost Villages Historical Society received an attractive plaque from the Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism Board of Directors, indicating that the Lost Villages Museum is a proud member of the organization. This plaque will displayed prominently in our store in the 2001 tourist season. This plaque was presented to the president on Tuesday, December 19, 2000, when Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism held its annual Christmas dinner meeting.

The Cornwall and Seaway Valley Tourism office has produced an attractive brochure for use at trade and tourism shows throughout the region. The brochure is for bus tour operators, and outlines the product which our organization has to offer, -museum and bus tours. A copy of the brochure will be available at the next meeting of the historical society.

A big "Thank You" to Doe Dube, Manager of Brookdale Centre, for her donation of the "Brookdale Singers" to the Lost Villages Historical Society. Presently, they are on display in the windows of the Mason/Lapierre store. You may recall that these life-like carollers were on display, at Christmas time, in the Brookdale Mall. With the many changes going on at this location at Christmas 2000, Doe felt that she wanted a "home" for them. Thanks, Doe, for your generosity to the Lost Villages Historical Society. Thank you to Josh Eamon and Alison Brownell for transporting the mannequins from the Brookdale location to the museum site.

Thank you to Ross Gellately for assisting, once again, with the storage of the "Lost Villages" plaques. They are now in storage for the third season, and they have withstood the elements very well. We should get many years of roadside display from these signs. Unfortunately, we did not get a plaque displayed for "Woodlands" in the summer of 2000. It is still the society's hope to have the communities of Woodlands, Santa Cruz and Sheek/Sheik Island plaqued. Surely,

we could find some sponsors for these plaques.

We thank the Township of South Stormont for the donation of a Hoover vacuum cleaner. This vacuum was from the former Township of Cornwall, having been used at the township hall at Cornwall Centre. The vacuum is in good shape, and it was put to the test following the December church service. The church is ready for our next function on February 11, 2000.

Our apology to Patricia (McSweeney) Foubert, Mississauga, Ontario, for the misspelling of her name in our newsletters. The correction has been made on the membership list, and we'll watch the next time. Patricia has been most interested in the activities of the society, and we thank her for her generosity.

Our thoughts and words of support are with Kay and Stanley McNairn in 2001. As you know, Stanley is a resident in Woodland Villa, Long Sault. We were delighted to see that the City of Cornwall honoured Stanley, and the McNairn family, with a street in the city. McNairn Drive is now the name of the street behind Stanley's beloved "Pioneer Corner". The city honoured a United Empire Loyalist family.

LITERARY CORNER

The following poem was submitted by Ella Wellburn, a resident of Woodland Villa, Long Sault, and given to Dorothy Gellately for publication With Valentine's Day just around the corner, this should bring a chuckle!

Once upon a time,
A handsome honeybee,
Fell in love with a butterfly,
He met on a maple tree.
He said, "I love you dearly,
I'd like to share your life,
Let's fly away together,
Will you be my wife?"
She looked at him with sorrow,
"Oh, no, no, no," cried she,

For I'm a Monarch's daughter,
And you're just a son of a bee."

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

When next in the Sandtown Church at the Lost Villages Museum, see the large framed photograph of St. David's Anglican Church, Wales, Ontario, photographed by Eric Rice. The following information was gleaned from "Faith of Our Fathers", written by the Right Reverend Robert Jefferson and Leonard L. Johnson.

"The cornerstone of St. David's Church, Wales, was laid with Masonic honours the first week of July, 1888, by District Deputy Grand Master Walkem. It was dedicated on September 25th of the same year and consecrated on February 1st, 1895, by Bishop Hamilton of Niagara, afterwards first Bishop of Ottawa. Here is a description of the dedication service and the church at that time, by a parishioner who was present:

"It was a cold night when St., David's was dedicated. The faces of the congregation looked quietly happy as though a work well worthwhile had been accomplished. They had given freely of their time, labour and their substance.

"Their beautiful new church was a praiseworthy result of their concentrated effort. The walls were white and clean and glaring. The painting had been done by an artist among painter, the late Allan Tinkess of Lunenburg. The windows were of ordinary glass. The lights were old-fashioned chandeliers containing lamps brought down from old St. Peter's. Other things, too, had been brought down from old St. Peter's.

"For instance the bell, which for more than a century has sent forth its appeal on the morning air, summoned us to the House of God.

"The first organ, too, was brought down and installed in the new St. David's. This organ had been unearthed from some loft in Ottawa, by the Rev. Arthur Jarvis, put together by a man from Prescott and used until the purchase of a new pipe organ during the incumbency of the Rev. G. Wright. It was a noble old organ with a sweet tone and at the time of its renovation an organ recital was given by Miss Barrie of Morrisburg." NOTE: To Be Continued...