



November 2002 Newsletter

NOVEMBER MEETING AT THE FORBES MEMORIAL READING ROOM

The November meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society will be held at the Forbes Memorial Reading Room, Lost Villages Museum, on Monday, November 18, 2002, at 7:30 p.m. Please circle this date on your calendar, and plan to attend. Perhaps you may wish to invite a family member or friend. The Executive thanks the many members who attended at the October meeting. It was an outstanding display of support, and this interest and enthusiasm is appreciated. This is YOUR way to support the aims and objectives of the Lost Villages Historical Society.

GUEST SPEAKER: The guest speaker for the September meeting will be Tom Todd, writer and illustrator of "Hooked on Nature, The Wanderings and Wonderings of an Amateur Naturalist". Tom's book is an outstanding guide to local nature, a journal along the trails and boardwalks of the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary and The Hoople Creek Wildlife Area.

2002 BIKE-A-THON A HUGE SUCCESS

The 2002 Bike-a-thon, sponsored by the Lost Villages Historical Society and Longue Sault Public School, was a huge success, thanks to the promotion and generosity of the school community. The Bike-a-thon was held on Thursday, October 17, 2002, and approximately 250 students and parents took part in the event. \$3,725.00 was collected, and half the proceeds were donated to further the work of the Lost Villages Historical Society. Students and parents walked, biked or roller-bladed from Longue Sault Public School to the museum site, and back.

While at the museum, participants were encouraged to browse around the buildings, and a hot-dog lunch was hosted by the members of the Lost Villages Historical Society. We extend thanks to the following members of the society who guided in the buildings and who cooked at the barbecue: Jane Craig, Rosemary

Rutley, Joan McEwan, Bev Kennedy, Bill Gallinger, Isabel Hunter, Sally Murdock, Dale Duncan, Don Welch, Ann Bruining, Alan Rafuse, Donnie Alguire and Jim Brownell.

Prize incentives were provided for this event, and the following students were winners: Brennan Chisholm, a grade 5 student, won \$150.00, -to be applied to the purchase of a bicycle. Brenda Saaltink's grade three class was the winner of a luncheon, hosted by the Lost Villages Historical Society. The following students, top collectors in each class, will be treated to a limousine ride and lunch at Eastside Mario's, courtesy of the Lost Villages Historical Society and Eastside Mario's, Cornwall: Jacob Campbell, JKA; Sarah Gellately, JKB; David Gellately, Grade 1; Hannah Quinlan, Grade 2; Ryan Lamarche, Grade 3; Samantha Burtenshaw, Grade 4; Emily Deschamps, Grade 4/5; Tyler Brownell, Grade 5; Hilary McQuaid, Grade 6; Mindy Derouchie, Grade 7/8.

"LOST VILLAGES, FOUND COMMUNITIES: A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE LOST VILLAGES OF THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY"

For those who attended the October meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society, a most interesting project was unveiled by Anne-Marie Shields, the guest speaker for the evening. Anne-Marie has plans to publish a book, titled "Lost Villages, Found Communities: A Pictorial History of the Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence Seaway". Anne-Marie left us with the following details about this most ambitious project, which she hopes to launch on July 1, 2004, -the 50th anniversary of commencement of the Hydro and Seaway projects of the 1950s..

Introduction

As a recent resident of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry counties and artist, I have found the history, the architecture and the natural beauty of the region a source of inspiration -particularly, the history of the Seaway communities, the people and their homes. My love for trees, animals and old architecture have guided my painting interest -be it old buildings, houses, portraits, flowers or nature. Thus, I have decided to write and illustrate a book on the homes of the Seaway as a means to tell the story of the riverside communities and its people.

My Program of Work: Its Aesthetic and cultural Value The United Empire Loyalist pioneers who settled along the St. Lawrence River, from Cornwall to Iroquois, 200 years ago, played a significant role in the building of Canada. The impact of the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project on these

shore communities has greatly contributed to their recent history. These histories are told by the people who witnessed and who were affected by the 1954 to 1958 move. These histories are also told by the architecture of the homes which were either left behind (as documented in local archives) , moved, and/or built on new sites in newly founded communities. While there is quite a bit of information on the technical aspects of the Seaway, as well as the relocated villages, there is limited information on the cultural heritage and the architecture of the homes.

My Project

Thus, my project consists of developing and creating a high quality collection of approximately 60 paintings of selected homes of the St. Lawrence Seaway, either drawn in pencil/ink or in watercolour. Indeed, I wish to present the homes through my art, as well as my writing. The paintings of the homes would be accompanied by the history of the people connected to them, as well as the homes historic, social, architectural significance and unique character. I wish to tell the history of the people and their homes, and I hope to highlight the known and less known history of the riverside communities and present a new perspective on the 1954-1958 move.

The paintings would be the object of a community show/event to be held on July 1, 2004 at the Lost Villages Museum in Long Sault. They would also be collated in a book (to be launched on the same day), titled " The Lost Villages, Found Communities: A Pictorial History of the Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence Seaway".

The Objectives

The objectives of the work is to create a collection of sixty paintings of selected homes published in a book to: -honour the families who lost their villages; - celebrate community spirit and courage; -be a testimony of the rich historical and architectural heritage of Eastern Ontario riverside communities; - reserve and rekindle memories; -document some of the contributions of the people who played a significant part of the Canadian heritage; -add a new perspective, highlight facts about the people who were affected by the construction of the Seaway; -tell the history of the people through their homes, their anecdotal stories and from the archives; -illustrate the architectural beauty of the homes; -promote our region within its borders and the world.

The Budget

It is foreseen that the production costs will include research, art work, writing and

printing, according to the time required, expertise or technical support needed. Funding will be sought from a number of sources such as corporations, federal and provincial grants, as well as from private organizations.

Time Line

The development of such a project involves a number of steps which will require considerable time. The necessary time would be spread in the following manner:
research - three months; 60 illustrations and writing - one year; printing and publishing - six months; and launching - July 1, 2004

A "NEW" MEMBER ENCOURAGED TO WRITE

In the summer of 2002, Mrs. Blanche Adams, Ingleside, Ontario, joined the Lost Villages Historical Society. Besides joining the society, Blanche has become one of our most enthusiastic "senior" supporters, attending the meetings quite regularly. At the fall meeting of the Seaway Valley Presbytery of the United Church of Canada, Blanche related some interesting family history and historical facts to the guest speaker, Jim Brownell. He encouraged Blanche to get her thoughts written on paper, and that she did with interest and enthusiasm. At the September meeting of the society, Blanche read her report to those assembled, and Jim promised that it would be printed in a subsequent newsletter. The report follows. As well, Blanche donated two photographs of School Section (S.S. #24A). Township of Cornwall. A winter photograph of school, and a photograph of her class at the school have been donated to our archives. We thank Blanche for this generosity.

Besides the photographs, Blanche also listed the names of the pupils who attended S.S.#24A, from her memory, -the last living teacher of the School. As well, Blanche's penmanship is superb!

Pupils who attended S.S.#24A: Lottie Murphy; Victor Millward; Harold Millward; Wallace Moke, in nursing home; Carl Moke, Edmonton; Earl Moke, deceased; Lyle Moke; Dwight Stewart, deceased; Glenn Stewart; Alfred Stewart, Toronto; Evelyn Stewart, St. Catharines; Doreen Stewart (Hellyer), Long Sault; Gerald Prieur; Harry Prieur; Roderick Antoine, deceased; Serana Antoine; Robert Antoine, deceased; Gwendolyn Legue; Eileen Legue; Luella Cook; Harold Cook; Percy Cook; Max Stewart; George Losey; Kenneth Losey.

THE LIFE HISTORY OF ETHEL BLANCHE STUBBS

Mother of Blanche (Loucks) Adams

Joseph Stubbs was born in England, and he moved to Ireland during the potato famine. He came to Croil's Island, U.S.A., and he farmed there at the west end. His sons were Samuel, Joseph and William. William was my mother's father. When mother was five years of age, grandpa moved his family to Aultsville. Grandpa rode logs down the Long Sault Rapids. Joseph Stubbs settled in Farran's Point, and he was a monument dealer. His house was moved to Pine Street North, in Ingleside. His monument business was taken over by his son, Charles Stubbs, my great uncle. Samuel Stubbs was the father of Lottie Stubbs and Mrs. Oscar Pitts, my cousins. Lottie's house was moved to Santa Cruz Street in Ingleside. My father, Horatio Loucks, and Ethel Blanche Stubbs were married August 14, 1900. They moved to Morewood, Ontario, where he was the High School principal for twenty-nine years. He passed away in 1929, at the age of 57 years. There were eight children, six who were school teachers. The oldest son, Hugh Horatio Loucks, was also a public school inspector. My father was born west of Williamsburg. He received his secondary education at Morrisburg Collegiate, and his Bachelor of Arts Degree at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. The first Loucks house was built along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River by my great-great-grandfather, William Loucks, a United Empire Loyalist, in 1802. The Loucks house in Upper Canada Village was built by John Loucks, son of William Loucks.

Note: While visiting St. Lawrence Valley Union Cemetery, you may still find many of the old Stubbs monuments, from the business which flourished in the Lost Village of Farran's Point.

WALES MASONIC LODGE EXTENDS THANKS AND CHEQUE

On Saturday, October 12, 2002, the spouses of the members of Wales Masonic Lodge, No. 458, Ingleside, Ontario, attended at the Lost Villages Museum, and toured the facility. Jim Brownell met the group at the Forbes Memorial Reading Room, and gave a brief history of the society, Ault Park, and the development of the museum site. A letter of thanks, and a cheque for \$100.00 was received from the Lodge's Centennial Committee Chairman, Douglas McNaughton. He writes: "I wish to extend the sincere thanks of the members of Wales Masonic Lodge for your efforts on our behalf on October 12th. The many complimentary comments we heard from those who attended your presentation attested to your fine work. As a small token of our appreciation, I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of

\$100.00 for the continuing work of your Society. Sorry you were unable to attend the banquet, but I trust your anniversary celebration went well. Thanks again."

The Lost Villages Historical Society extends thanks and appreciation to Wales Masonic Lodge for their fine contribution.

BITS AND BITES

We apologize for omitting Nancy Rutley's name in the list of volunteers who staffed the Lost Villages Museum during the month of September. Nancy capably assisted our historical society, and we apologize for this omission. **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO VOLUNTEERED!**

THANK YOU FROM ROTHWELL-OSNABRUCK

The following message was received from Janice A. Meyer, Principal of Rothwell-Osnabruck School in Ingleside. "We wish to thank you for the Lost Villages Historical Society Bursary which was presented to our deserving student at our graduation ceremony on October 11, 2002. We are proud of our achievers and the school and community thank you for your contribution. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and contribution to education. Your support and encouragement of our students is greatly valued."

BREDIN ISLAND

It was with interest that we received a most interesting letter from Edward M. Bredin, Q.C., member of the Lost Villages Historical Society. This letter was in response to a "Did You Know?" item which was included in the October newsletter of the society. The item referred to the islands of Lake St. Lawrence, and the numbers which had originally been associated with them. Island No. 5 was referred to as Whitney Island, and this was the information taken directly from the brochure which had been donated to the Lost Villages Museum, during the summer of 2002. A patron to the museum had dropped off the brochure, originally produced by the Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission, dated June 15, 1956. Whitney Island is now Bredin Island, and this does appear in documentation since 1958.

We thank Edward Bredin for his efforts to alert our society to some important family history, and we assure him that Bredin Island is now included in

documentation with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. The information provided in the October newsletter was taken directly from the pre-1958 change to the island's name.

Edward M. Bredin writes:

"On the last page of the October bulletin of the Association there is a paragraph headed "DID YOU KNOW? That paragraph refers to island No. 5 as Whitney Island. The list of numbered islands purports to be based on a document received by the Society recently produced by the Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission dated June 15, 1956. The Society should be aware of correspondence between the Bredin family and "The Canadian Board of Geographical Names".

This correspondence took place in 1958 and was therefore after the date the document sent to you by the Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission was produced. In an exchange of correspondence my brother the late James Cameron Bredin, former proprietor of the Cornwall Motor Sales dealership in Cornwall, wrote to the "Canadian Board on Geographical Names" pointing out that former Premier Whitney had lived in Dundas County whereas Island No. 5 had been formed from land owned by the Bredins. The land was acquired by my great grandfather Henry Bredin in 1832. It was the home of his son Lt. Col. J. H. Bredin and of the latter's son James William Bredin. I have not included the long letter written on August 21st 1958 by my brother James Cameron Bredin to the Geographical Board in support of the application to change the name of Island 5 to Bredin Island. I am however enclosing a copy of the letter dated December 5, 1958 from the Secretary of that Board in which it is stated that the name of the island was changed from Whitney Island to Bredin Island at the December meeting of the Board, "...and this name will appear on future maps of the area".

PREFACE THEATRE

As reported in previous newsletters, Preface Theatre, a Toronto based theatre company, has worked with members of the Lost Villages Historical Society in order to produce a workshop theatre production, based on the "Lost Villages" story. Nicole and Mike have been our contacts at this theatre company, and they have travelled to our area to learn more about the Hydro and Seaway stories. They have borrowed the "Lost Villages Study Kit", and they have taken a great interest in the human side of the relocation of communities. They are hoping to hear from members of our historical society, and they have sent us questions and information to help those who may wish to write to them get started. As well they have

included a list of items which they would like to use in the theatre production. As they work on a very tight budget, they would be most grateful for any help from society members. Thanks to Rosemary Rutley, they have already received two great emails about intriguing stories from the area. We hope you have information to share. The following should help you to get started. You may phone, fax, or email your comments to: Preface Theatre, 165 Parkside Drive #3, Toronto, Ontario. M6R 2Y8; phone or fax at (416) 944-8492; email at prefacetheatre@hotmail.com Information Preface Theatre seeks:

- The kind of music people were listening to in the 50's, both local and popular, - specific songs and artists.
- What kind of poetry they were learning in school.
- What kind of instruments people played.
- What people did for recreation.
- What people were reading and watching on TV, (if they had one).
- Who was popular on the radio?
- The kind of music their parents enjoyed, specific songs and artists.
- Pop icons, people they aspired to be, heroes!
- What they thought of as the political climate at the time.
- How they viewed the world around them, (ie. local affairs compared to national and international news and events). How did people see themselves in relation to the rest of Canada and the world.
- What was the weather like, -the seasons?
- How they felt about the changes happening around them, -how did that compare with how their parents, grandparents felt?
- What they dreamed of; what they most wanted out of life; what they did for fun, popular games and past times, places to hang out.
- Ghost stories; pieces of mythology surrounding the area.
- Stories surrounding the move to the new towns; stories about the years leading up to the inundation; how the landscape changed and how they changed.

- Local characters, heroes, villains, eccentrics that people remember.
- Happiest/saddest memories of that time, or a memory they will never forget about the time.
- Any diary or scrap book entries, -poetry, songs, and art.
- How the St. Lawrence Seaway and Inundation has changed their lives.
- Stories/rumours they heard about/during the construction; stories of the first time they were told the project was going to go through; any personal stories they feel they wish to share; any old pictures people are willing to photo or laser copy.

Prop List: wash basin/wash board; fishing gear; long bamboo fishing poles; old fishing rods; old flash light lanterns; memorabilia from the construction/opening of the Seaway; old crates/cartons; old radios; glass milk bottles. pitchers; axes,saws; Our work with Preface Theatre has given the society precious exposure in the Toronto area. With their production, we continue to see positive results from this work, and we hope that you may be able to contribute. Watch for next month's newsletter, -Lost Villages exposure in the Montreal area. Thanks to Rosemary Rutley and her book, "Voices from the Lost Villages", we have made contacts in two great Canadian cities.

IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Cutt, Cramer and Stuart families, in the passing of Carley May (Cramer) Cutt, R.N., member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, on Monday, November 11, 2002, at St. Catharines General Hospital. Our sympathy to Captain Robert "Bob" Cutt; Roberta "Robbyn" (Donovan) Unruh; and grandchildren Ryan Edward and Kimberly May.

Carley was the dear sister of the late Wilda Stuart, and Robert Cramer of Ingleside.
Our sympathy to Donald Stuart