



## October 2003 Newsletter

### 1. OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society will be held on Monday, October 20, 2003, in the Forbes Memorial Reading Room, Lost Villages Museum, beginning at 7:30 p.m. All members and friends are welcome to attend. The executive appreciates the large number of members and friends who attended the September meeting. Those who work to further the aims and objectives of the historical society appreciate your support.

Program: We are delighted to have Gregory Charles Pollard, author of "Missing", as our guest speaker. This is the story of Lance Corporal George G. Pollard, murdered at the hands of German soldiers under the command of Major-General Kurt Meyer of the 25th Panzer Grenadier Regiment. Gregory Pollard's book was published in 2003, and there are connections with the "Lost Villages". We look forward to his presentation.

Information taken from the back cover of "Missing":

"Gregory Pollard was born and raised in Cornwall, Ontario. He lives with his wife Nicole and their two teenagers, Shawn and Chantal.

Lance Corporal George Pollard was his father Leslie's brother. As a young boy, he grew up in the shadow of Uncle George, a man he never met. His grandmother, Nanny, would remind him, time and again, how much he resembled George in many ways. As a young boy, he visited Nanny often and on many weekends he slept over. She would always sing "Danny Boy" as she tucked him in for the night, but could never finish the song without crying. This song had been George's favourite, and he would sing it to her all the time. To this day, when Greg hears "Danny Boy", he starts to cry. Many times throughout Greg's life, she would tell him how much he resembled George, but I don't think she had any idea at the time how this would affect him.

Around the end of January, 1987, after falling and breaking a hip, Nanny was admitted to the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Cornwall, Ontario. She developed pneumonia and was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit. Once, when Greg was at her bedside, she opened her eyes and looked at him and said, "Hi Georgie". Not knowing what to say, Greg ran out of the room and started to cry. After he composed himself, he went back into the room and told her, "Nanny, it's not Georgie, it's Greg." She just looked at him and smiled. A couple of hours later, she died, and Greg is grateful he was there for her. Maybe thinking that he was George brought her some peace in her last hours.

Nanny always told Greg never to forget George and what had happened to him. He finally decided to record what he knows about his life."

On October 20, 2003, at the Forbes Memorial Reading Room, we will hear about George Pollard's life, as told through his letters and his nephew's stories.

## BITS AND PIECES

-Thank you to Vale Brownell for providing two centrepieces for table decorations at the recent gathering of the National Association of Canadian Clubs, hosted by the Morrisburg and District Canadian Club. Seventy-eight members and two members from Chicago participated in the Annual General Meeting, and the Lost Villages Historical Society was invited to promote our organization, through table centrepieces, at the gala dinner on Saturday, September 20, 2003. We thank Vale for her work in having these centrepieces created.

-Have you seen the most recent mural, unveiled by the South Dundas Mural Committee? If not, take a drive to Williamsburg, Ontario, and view the east side of the Williamsburg Oddfellows Hall. The mural is the 13th mural in the series, and it was completed by John Ellenberger of Pembroke. Mr. Ellenberger also completed the Veterans' Memorial Mural on the Legion building in Iroquois. The mural depicts Dundas agriculture, with the Loyalists clearing the land at the left, to a typical pre-war farm on the right. Two more murals will soon be unveiled in Morrisburg, -on both sides of the Giant Tiger store. Watch for the unveiling, and plan to attend. Why not take a mural tour! Audio cassettes and CDs are available through the Lost Villages Historical Society. These are being sold on behalf of the Mural Committee, and we are grateful to Glen Keyes, a member of the Mural Committee and our historical society, for providing them for sale at our museum's store. A great way to learn about the history of South Dundas.

-The 13th Annual "Apples and Art" Studio and Heritage Tour was a huge success, thanks to the following volunteers from the Lost Villages Historical Society. We thank Rita Canough, Lenora Salmon, Vale Brownell, Jane Craig, Tim Gault and Alan Rafuse for their work at this annual event. The following artists were delighted to have our museum site as the venue for displaying and selling their art. The artists were Teen Dancause, Micheline Tanguay, Gilles Givogues, Anne-Marie L. Shields, Joan Bingley McGillis, Pat Campbell, and Joan Julien. We were delighted to host Anne-Marie L. Shields, a member of our historical society. She displayed and discussed her "work in progress...", a book which she hopes to publish in 2004. Members who attended the September meeting of the society were briefed on this project by Anne-Marie.

-For a second year, the Lost Villages Historical Society participated in "Doors Open Ontario", a program sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Once again, we were proud to showcase our museum site, especially the Fran Laflamme Memorial Resource Centre, in the Forbes Memorial Reading Room. This resource centre has received much attention in recent months, by patrons wishing to research. We are proud to have this resource in our community, and the "pioneers" of the Lost Villages Historical Society would be delighted to know that our archival collection is now under one roof. We are grateful for the work done by Alan Rafuse, during the past two years. He has been our volunteer curator, and he has done an outstanding job. Much work is still required, especially with the detailed cataloguing and recording of information on the computer. More on this later!

-On September 25, 2003, the Lost Villages Historical Society hosted a Bus Tour and Barbecue, for the Brockville Newcomers Club. We thank George Gowsell, Brian McEwan, and Peter Whiteside, for their work at the barbecue, and Merna Esdale and Sheila Merpaw for serving the guests.

-On September 26, 2003, the annual "Bike-a-thon" was held by the students and staff of Longue Sault Public School. Because of construction work being done to the bike path, students participated in a "walk-a-thon" to the museum site. They worked up good appetites, and they quickly devoured the hotdogs which were prepared and served by members of the historical society. As well members volunteered to act as interpreters in the museum buildings. We thank Tim Gault, Ray Fenton, Alan Rafuse, Sally Murdock, Rita Canough, Lenora Salmon, Sheila Merpaw, Mavis Nixon, Joan McEwan, Paulette Brownell, Alison Eamon, and Jane Craig, for all their hard work. We thank Tim Gault for the photos of the "Bike-a-thon".

-Andrew Nicol was the recipient of the Lost Villages Historical Society Award at the Rothwell-Osnabruck Commencement Exercises, held on Friday, October 10, 2003. Andrew was an Ontario Scholar, having achieved 80% or higher on his best six subjects. As well, he received the Ingleside Foodland Bursary, and the Gold Medal for being one of the top three grade twelve graduates. Andrew was also named to the "Honour's Gold Club" at Rothwell-Osnabruck, having earned honours for four years during his studies at the school, and he received an "Achiever Pin" for having the highest achievement in chemistry at the 4U level. We congratulate Andrew for his outstanding success at Rothwell-Osnabruck.

-In other news from Rothwell-Osnabruck, we are delighted to report that Jessica Bruining, our museum's summer student in 2003, was also named as an Ontario Scholar. She is the daughter of Lost Villages Historical Society members, Heine and Anne Bruining. Jessica received a \$1,000.00 entrance scholarship to Trent University, and also received the Glen Fine Foods Citizenship Award; the Josten's Canada Scholarship; the Royal Canadian Legion Scholarship; the School Council Award; and the Year Book Award. Jessica also received "School Letters", having acquired 30 points through participation in School Clubs and School Teams. The Janice A. Meyer Principal Award was also presented to Jessica for exemplifying the "Lancer Spirit" at Rothwell-Osnabruck. We are very proud of your accomplishments Jessica.

-Lost Villages Historical Society members Reg and Doris Donnelly have every reason to be proud of their granddaughter, Megan McIntyre. Besides being named an Ontario Scholar, Megan walked away with the Governor-General's Medal, the highest academic honour in the province, and presented to the school's Ontario Scholar with the highest average. Megan is studying at Queen's University in a Bachelor of Arts program, majoring in History and Political Science. Besides achieving entrance scholarships to Queen's, Megan received an impressive number of school awards. She received the Independent Order of Oddfellows Scholarship; the Sandford G. Wells & Sons Limited Music Award; the Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve Bursary; the Waldroff Bus Lines Award; and the Wales Masonic Lodge Award. Megan also received an "Achiever Pin" for outstanding work ethic in Co-Op Education; "School Letter" for acquiring 30 points through participation in School Clubs and School Teams; the "Honour's Gold Club" for earning honours in four of her high school years; and the Lieutenant-Governor's Community Volunteer Award.

-The Lost Villages Historical Society congratulates all the graduates of Rothwell-Osnabruck School, and thanks all the educators at this institution who worked so hard to prepare our young citizens for future studies. We are fortunate to have Rothwell-Osnabruck School in our community.

-Paulette Brownell, Corresponding Secretary, wishes to thank all those who have been so patient with regards to newsletter deliveries. Some mistakes have been made regarding renewals and "Happy Faces" on newsletters. These errors have been made through the transition process, -with a number of renewals happening at the time of Winnie's passing. With this newsletter comes the final "Happy Face". If you receive one, then our records indicate that it is time to renew. If we do not receive your renewal before the November newsletter, then your membership will be cancelled. We do not wish this to happen. Take time to send your renewal to the address shown at the top of the newsletter. Memberships are: Individual-\$10.00; Family-\$15.00; and Sustaining (Life)-\$50.00. -Shirley Wells and Alan Rafuse, members of the Lost Villages Historical Society, and Theresa Wheeler, a member of the Cornwall Township Historical Society, were named in the autumn 2003 issue of "Heritage Matters", a publication by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. They were recipients of the 2002 "Heritage Community Recognition" awards. The Township of South Stormont has submitted three nominees to the Foundation for 2003, and we expect to hear a positive reply, shortly.

-The Lost Villages Historical Society extends "Thank You" to the following people for the kind donations received during the month of September. Barbara and Ray Fenton donated a number of artifacts used in and around an early country farm. Hurley Richer donated an antique typewriter, two heaters and a strainer. Alan Forbes and the Forbes family donated a number of Wedgewood dishes belonging to the family. More information on this donation will be published in a future newsletter. Thank you, also, to Alan Forbes for the financial donations, allowing the Lost Villages Historical Society to purchase valuable books at Wanderlust Books, 217 Pitt St., Cornwall. These books were referred to in a previous newsletter, and they relate to early plans for the Hydro and Seaway projects. A "special" thank you to Barbara and Jim Bell for the donation of a vacuum cleaner for use at the Sandtown Church. Much appreciated! Andy MacDonell, of Dwyer Glass, Rosemount Avenue, Cornwall, donated a glass display case to the museum. This case will be used to display the Elliott Pottery, which was recently received from the Donald Stuart estate. Thank you, Andy!

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#### NOTE OF THANKS FROM RICHMOND HILL

The following letter was received recently from John Yager and Marta Ecsedi of Richmond Hill, Ontario.

"I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to two of your staff. My family and I visited the Lost Villages on July 2, 2003. We were greeted by a delightful person. His name was Alan. He toured us through the Archives, answered our many questions, and gave us a copy of the commemorative booklet created by the community college students. It was very interesting. We had never heard of the "Lost Villages". The stories that Alan told were fascinating! We toured the buildings...very interesting indeed. At the General Store, we met

Jessica and had a lovely chat. As I was looking at the books, she suggested that I read "A Violent End". She told us how it was a fictional novel but based in the era of the inundation...fact mixed with fiction, my favourite type of novel. Jessica's recommendation was a good one. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Our interest in the history of the "Lost Villages" has been peaked. We wish your society continued success. Thanks to Alan and Jessica."

Note: The members of the Lost Villages Historical Society also thank Jessica and Alan. As with all our volunteers at the Lost Villages Museum, they provided the details to a captivated audience. Imparting the knowledge and history of our community is important, and the personal contacts, demonstrated in this letter, will pay huge dividends in the future. The future of our society and museum depends on the help and support of our volunteers and summer students.

We are, indeed, grateful for the volunteer work and organization skills of our new president, Jane Craig. Jane assumed the presidency in May, and she has been a tireless worker since that time. Jim Brownell, past-president, appreciates the leadership which Jane has shown at the helm of the Lost Villages Historical Society, and we all wish her continued success in the future. Jane needs the help of each and every member, both local and distant. As for the newsletters, Jim Brownell will continue to prepare them. This will be a side duty, from his duties at Queen's Park. For those who did not hear, Jim Brownell was elected as member of Provincial Parliament for Stormont, Dundas and Charlottenburgh, on September 2, 2003. Jim follows in his great-great-great-grandfather's footsteps, for John Brownell was elected to the Fifth Parliament of Upper Canada in 1808. He represented "Old Osnabruck" in that Parliament.

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THE LOST VILLAGES HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A  
"MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE" TO HONOUR WINNIFRED MURDOCK (DECEASED  
MAY 2, 2003) DONALD STUART (DECEASED JUNE 27, 2003) DONALD ALGUIRE  
(DECEASED AUGUST 4, 2003) ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2003, 2:00 P.M. SANDTOWN  
ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH LOST VILLAGES MUSUEM RECEPTION TO FOLLOW  
IN THE FORBES MEMORIAL READING ROOM

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness and prayers that we report the passing of two members of the Lost Villages Historical Society. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to family members and friends.

CONSTANCE (CONNIE) APPLGATE

Lost Villages Historical Society member Connie (Rae) Applegate, of Utopia, Ontario, died on Friday, September 19, 2003. Connie was a Registered Nurse, originally from the "Lost Village" of Moulinette. Connie was always proud of her roots, and often visited the Lost Villages Museum, during her visits back to Long Sault. Connie was the beloved wife of Glenn "Bomber" Applegate, and the mother of Greg and Darlene Applegate; Glenda and Paul Astrauskas; Laura and John Stelmachowicz; Drew and Amber Applegate. She was the cherished "Nannie" to Amber, Karen, Clinton, Mason, Emma, Grace, Olivia, Maddie and Benjamin. Connie will be lovingly remembered by her brother Bill and Marion Rae and family of Long Sault.

## DONALD JOSEPH McINTOSH

Lost Villages Historical Society member Donald Joseph McIntosh, of St. Andrews West, Ontario, died on Tuesday, September 30, 2003, at the age of 84 years. He was the retired president of Amazing Waste Disposal, Veteran of W.W.II, and member of Royal Canadian Legion Branch #297. He was the beloved husband of Lucy MacPhee; and previously the late Dolores Lanctot. He was the loved father of Beverlee MacDougall (Hugh), Ottawa; Judy McIntosh, Vancouver; Janet Menzies (Douglas), Houston, Texas; Catherine Hebert (Bob), Hamilton; Donald E. McIntosh (Louise), R.R.#1, Long Sault; Patricia Munro (Ewen), Calgary; Ewen McIntosh at home; and Stephen McIntosh of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He will be sadly missed by 12 grandchildren.

## BERNARD FORSYTHE MacDONALD

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Lost Villages Historical Society members Ranald and Madeleine MacDonald, on the passing of Ranald's brother, Bernard (Bernie) MacDonald, on Sunday, September 14, 2003, at Woodland Villa, Long Sault. Bernie was formerly of Old Mille Roches, the son of the late Ranald and Mary (Forsythe) MacDonald. Since the Hydro and Seaway projects, Bernie had resided in Long Sault.