



## September 2002 Newsletter

# THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society will be held at the Forbes Memorial Reading Room at the Lost Villages Museum on Monday, September 16, 2002, at 8:00 p.m. After our summer break from meetings, it is hoped that a large gathering of members and friends will attend. Mark this date on your calendar now, and plan to attend. Your presence and support is appreciated. Please remember to bring a flashlight. Although extra lighting will be in place, it may be worthwhile to have an extra light as you return to your car.

**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.

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## FLEA MARKET/BOOK SALE/BAKE SALE

Our summer "Flea Markets/Book Sales/Bake Sales" have been a big success. The money raised will certainly assist our society in its work to profile history and heritage at the Lost Villages Museum. We express appreciation to all those who baked goodies for the bake sales, donated books to the book sales, or who supported and encouraged others to support the flea markets. A final tally on finances will be given at our September meeting.

The events were coordinated by Vale Brownell, Jane Craig and Rita Canough, with many others assisting throughout the events. We thank you all for your support and generosity. Keep up the good work!

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## SUMMER TOURS

Our society's summer bus tours have been "sold-out" events, and we thank all those who have supported and promoted this most important fund-raising activity.

We have heard outstanding reports concerning Mary Lynn Alguire's stories and tales, and participants have been most appreciative of the barbecues, held at the conclusion of the bus tours. Most of the participants have been from out-of-own, with phone numbers showing many from the Brockville, Ottawa, Hawkesbury, and West Montreal areas. With little paid advertising this year, the news about our tours has spread far and wide.

Due to the extensive waiting list, and the popularity of the tours, an eighth tour has been planned for Sunday, October 20th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the museum site.

Already, we have had strong interest in this autumn tour. If you haven't had the opportunity to participate, this would be a fine time to join us. The tour (four hours) and barbecue costs \$15.00 per person. The tours of September 20th, and October 6, 2002, are booked solid.

## LAST CALL FOR YOUR RENEWAL!

As in the last newsletter, some may find a "Happy Face" beside this newsletter item. If you have a "Happy Face", then it is time to renew your membership. As already mentioned, we value our members, and we encourage you to renew it now. Membership fees may be mailed to the address shown on this newsletter, or you may drop off your dues at the Lost Villages Museum, -open 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, until September 30, 2002. For those who have renewed memberships since the last newsletter, our thanks for your continued support. The fees are as follows: Individual-\$5.00; Family-\$8.00; and Sustaining-\$35.00.

At our September meeting, it is anticipated that the membership fees will be increased. This was discussed at a recent executive meeting, and, due to the cost of postage and printing, we must keep pace with the cost of production.

A "Happy Face" indicates that we are happy to have you renew and continue as a member!

Our members will be profiled in the October issue of the Lost Villages Newsletter.

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## ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED!

On Friday, August 9, 2002, over one hundred members and "friends" of the Lost Villages Historical Society gathered at a "Wine and Cheese Party" in the Forbes Memorial Reading Room. This event was organized so that our society could celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the Lost Villages Historical Society, and the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Lost Villages Museum at Ault Park. The event was convened by Jane Craig and Vale Brownell, and the Forbes Memorial Reading Room was the ideal place to stage the event. A beautifully decorated table was centred in the room, under the brass chandelier from Mille Roches United Church. The wine table was stocked with various brands of wine.

At 7:30 p.m., a short ceremony was held to dedicate the two rooms at the Forbes Memorial Reading Room. A plaque was unveiled on the main floor of the Reading Room by Jean Pilon, Doreen Amelotte and Eileen Beaudette, first cousins of Fran Laflamme. The room was named the "Fran Laflamme Memorial Resource Centre". Mike Bouitillier, Operation Manager at Ontario Power Generation's Saunders Dam at Cornwall; and Linda Halliday, Ontario Power Generation Public Relations and a member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, unveiled a plaque to name the basement activity centre the "Ontario Hydro/Ontario Power Generation Room". It was Ontario Power Generation that launched our fund-raising campaign to have the Forbes Memorial Reading Room moved to the museum site, and it was fitting to have this room dedicated in honour of this generosity. As well as having Ontario Power Generation clearly stated on the plaque, we felt that the former name of "Ontario Hydro" should be clearly displayed. Our museum is the product of Ontario Hydro's work in the mid-1950s.

To all those who came out to support this historic event, our hats are off to you. After 25 years of preserving the memory of the "Lost Villages", and 10 years of showcasing them at the Lost Villages Museum, it was time to "toast" the success of our organization. \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBER TAKES PEN IN HAND...

Another member of the Lost Villages Historical Society has taken pen in hand and chronicled life in one of the communities affected by the Hydro and Seaway projects of the 1950s. Kay Keyes, a resident of Morrisburg, has published "I Remember, Sights & Sounds of My Childhood in Old Morrisburg". Kay has done a remarkable job at chronicling the life and times of her former neighbours in "Old Morrisburg". We congratulate Kay on her success, and we encourage her to keep on writing. Kay concludes her book with, "Yes, I remember.....and will

remember more,.....and, perhaps, will record more..... We hope that Kay does just that. Publications, such as I Remember, are valuable resources for future generations. Thanks, Kay, and congratulations! Kay's books are stocked at the Lost Villages Museum, and we are grateful for Kay's generosity to the society. By the way, Glenn and Kay Keyes are still actively involved with the mural projects of South Dundas. On Saturday, September 7, 2002, they were in Brinston, Ontario, as another mural was unveiled in South Dundas. The history of this municipality is being told in visual form, -beautiful murals. Have you seen the murals at Iroquois? Take a drive to the Iroquois Lock, and you cannot miss them. While there, take in an afternoon tea or luncheon at the Lockmaster's House. Browse through the many displays in the Interpretive Centre. A delightful place, overlooking the Seaway. You just might see a ship passing through the lock. I did!!

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### THANK YOU!

The following note was received from Kenneth Ferguson, Family Life Chairman at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Cornwall. "On behalf of the Family Life Committee and the Music and Worship Committee at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Cornwall, I would like to thank you for the use of Ault Park on Sunday, June 23rd. Once again, we were blessed with beautiful weather this year, and our outdoor service and annual congregational picnic went very well. The service was put together by the Music and Worship Committee, under the leadership of Dorothy Forrester. Included total lay participation. Once again, thank you and keep up the good work. The village looks great." President Jim Brownell had the opportunity to attend this celebration, and it was truly a morning of celebration and participation. The Lost Villages Historical Society was proud, indeed, to host the congregation from St. John's. We hope that they continue to use Ault Park. Participants also had the opportunity to see the growth of the "Millennium Tree", planted at their worship service and picnic in 1999. This spruce tree has never looked back, since its roots were placed in the ground beside the MacLeod Log House. This is a result of the "TLC" given to it by Rev. Rennie. Often, he attended at the park, to give the thirsty tree some water. Its roots are well anchored now!

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Another "thank you" was received from Anne-Marie L. Shields, artist, following her visit and display during Canada Day festivities at the museum site on July 1, 2002. Anne-Marie will be attending our October meeting of the society, when she will showcase her latest project, a pictorial history of the Lost Villages. This is a

fantastic project, and Anne-Marie has been captivated by the stories from the "Lost Villages". "I thank you most sincerely for your invitation to show my work at the Lost Villages Church museum on July 1st and your warm welcome. I enjoyed the celebration and the great sense of community. Many people so freely offered their very touching and personal experiences, -I am indeed honoured to be part of it."

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## BITS AND PIECES

We are grateful for the generosity extended by Wayne Morgan and family, for the donation of historic artifacts from the Fetterly/Morgan homestead, Aultsville, Ontario. Following the death of Wayne's mother, Ruby (Fetterly) Morgan, the Morgan family donated a beautiful settee set to the Forbes Memorial Reading Room. As well, we received a cradle, books, and tools from the estate. These artifacts were from the Aultsville homes of Frank and Emma (Swerdfeger) Fetterly, and John and Agnes Morgan. Of special interest was a hand-carved scissors, crafted by George A. Beckstead, Aultsville. The "Summer Day Camp" sponsored by the Lost Villages Historical Society, concluded on August 26th. Twenty-two children took part in the "Day Camp", and many fun and educational activities were held, during this four-week program. Alison Brownell, a third-year student at the University of Ottawa, coordinated the program, and she was assisted by student volunteers, Jessica Carriere, Farran Crosby, Kasia Kowalski, Natasha Paquette and Martinne Pilon. Many fine comments were received from participants and parents, and we hope that this continues to be a summer feature at the Lost Villages Museum. With very little advertising, the spaces were quickly filled for the "Day Camp".

COGECO Television has spent considerable time at the Lost Villages Museum, preparing footage for a program on the museum site. Michelle Gatien, Producer from COGECO, and Carl Richards, Morning Host on Cornwall's "Blaze 101.9", arrived on Wednesday, August 7, 2002, to begin production work. Being captivated by the story, both Michelle and Carl took in one of our Sunday tours. They were impressed. As well, they attended the "Wine and Cheese" celebration on August 9, 2002. The weekend of August 24-27, 2002, was the busiest ever experienced at the Lost Villages Museum. On Saturday, August 24, 2002, we hosted the members of the Brockville Museum, with a visit to the museum, a summer barbecue, and a bus tour through the Seaway Valley. They were impressed, and organizer Lee Clow has already contacted the society for a return

visit in 2003. On Sunday, August 25th, we hosted our fourth "Summer Bus Tour".

As with the first three, it was a "sold-out" tour! On Monday, August 26, 2002, over thirty bicyclists from "The Harbour Club" Belleville, Ontario, arrived at the museum site, with bicycles in tow. After enjoying coffee, juice and muffins, they were off to explore the waterfront of South Stormont, along the St. Lawrence Bike Path. They returned to Ault park at 1:00 p.m. for a barbecue, and an escorted tour of the museum site concluded their visit. On Tuesday, August 27, 2002, over fifty participants on the CANUSA TOUR, from Stanstead, Quebec, visited the museum site for a tour. Following lunch, Jim Brownell guided the participants on a bus tour through "The Lands of the Lost Villages".

#### IN MEMORIAM

Sympathy is extended to Alex McGillivray and Family, on the passing of Alex's sister, Margaret "Peggy" Crawford, Hamilton, Ontario, on August 25, 2002. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.