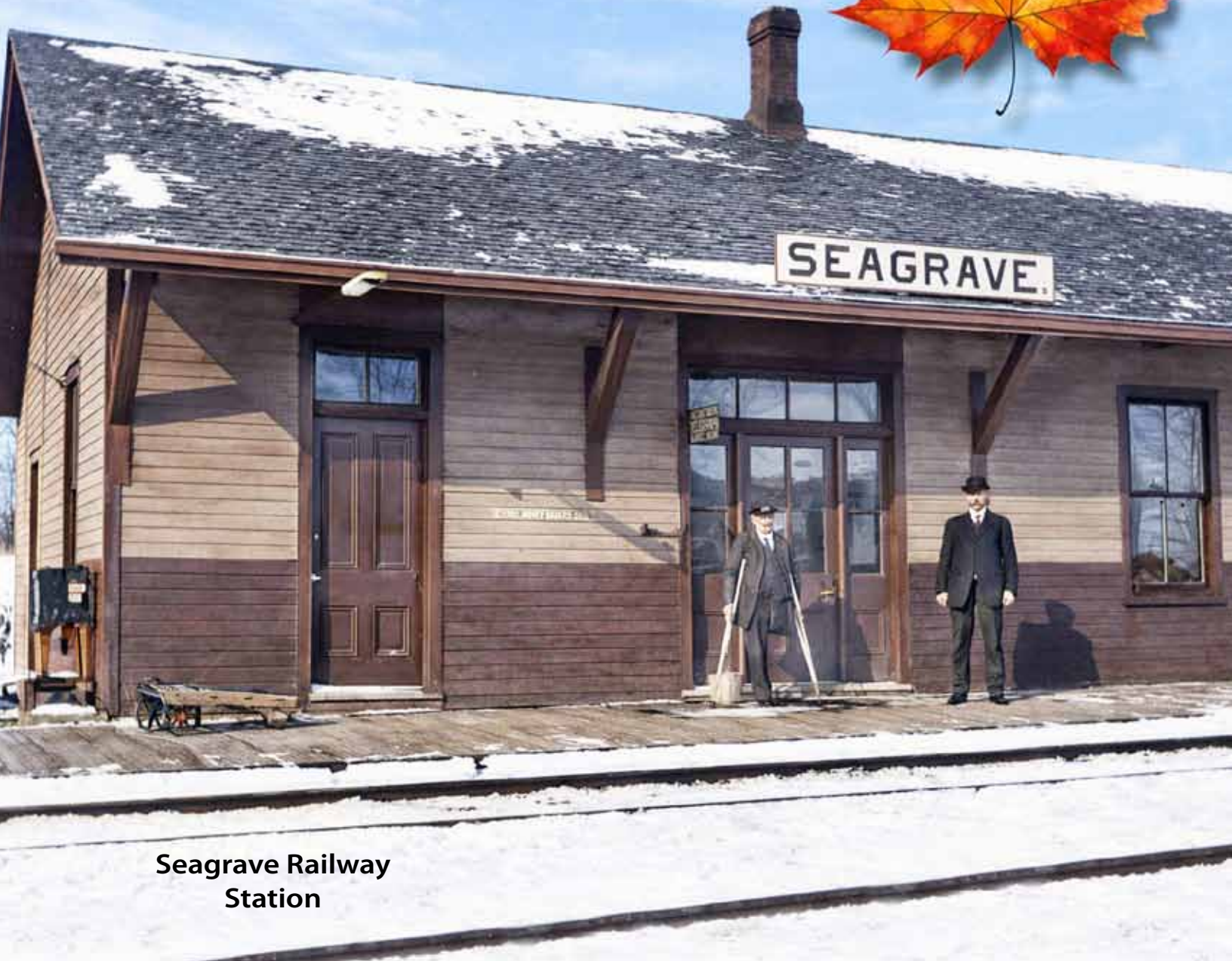


L.S.H.S.

ARCHIVIST

~ NEWSLETTER OF LAKE SCUGOG HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~



Seagrave Railway
Station



LAKE SCUGOG
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

~
DEDICATED TO THE
HISTORY OF THE LAKE
SCUGOG AREA

~
• ESTABLISHED 1969 •

Lake Scugog Historical Society

Board of Directors

2025-2027

President:..... Marilyn Pearce
Vice-President: ... Sarah Parry
Past President: Paul Arculus
Secretary:..... Bill Minors
Treasurer:..... Janis Carter
Director:..... Peter Hvidsten
Director:..... Bill Holtby
Director:..... Jesse Gillis
Director:..... Justice Colwell
Director:..... Jack Gunter

Find LSHS on Facebook, or at:
lakescugoghistoricalsociety.com
or by mail at:
LSHS 175 Perry St. Port Perry,
Ont. L9L 1B8



lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com



Message from the President

by Marilyn Pearce

As one of the longest, snowiest winters in our history moves on in our calendars and the joy of Spring renewal follows, the plans for the Lake Scugog Historical Society's programs are well underway.

As you read through this newsletter you will find stories of the community of Seagrave, new contributors to our newsletter, new events including the Heritage Fair in April and a new slate of speakers for the Speaker Series that kicks off on April 21st.

This past week I had an opportunity to attend a Tourism Symposium hosted by Central Counties and Durham Region Tourism and with over 200 participants learned about how best to market your events and products to visitors. The one message that became very clear was that heritage sites and stories are important aspects of Tourism marketing.

Recently the historical societies of North Durham formed a partnership to share not only our historical records but also help each other promote our events. Last year with the help of Durham Region and Central Counties Tourism we were able to produce our first North Durham tour.

In 2026 we are looking to co-operate on a Railway project that showcases the history of how railways not only influenced the building of Canada but how smaller railways influenced the economies of many towns and villages throughout Durham Region.

Looking back at a very successful year for the Society I want to thank all those who volunteered to help with our events, our newsletters, our fundraisers, and donating to our Archives.

Last year we received an original Frise cartoon from a lady in Orangeville, we launched our heritage quilt book with help from many local families, we received new gifts to our archives including a great collection from Lloyd Trewin of Cartwright, we signed up new members reaching a membership of 170, new donors contributed funds to ensure we are financially able to exist and last but not least the Executive Board for their dedication to keeping everything running smoothly.

In December, LSHS Board member Amanda Kiezebrink resigned and we want to thank her for her service in the short time she was with us. Amanda and her family continue to volunteer at our events. If you would like to join the Executive Board let us know as we would like to recruit someone from the Prince Albert and southern Reach Township area.

Now it's onward to 2026. I am looking forward to the new stories, events, the challenges and the friendships on this journey. Hoping you will join as we continue to preserve and protect Scugog's heritage.



IN MEMORIAM



1927

2026

Harold Forder

Harold passed away on Feb. 12, 2026 in his 99th year. Born in Blackstock, Harold spent his entire life in Scugog Township, where his deep connection to the land and farming shaped the person he became. Harold is survived by his loving wife of 77 years, Norma Forder. Together, they built a beautiful life and family,

Harold's tireless spirit led him to become a well-known Port Perry businessman. He owned and operated a butcher shop before establishing PineRidge Packers in Blackstock.

A devoted family man and farmer at heart, Harold dedicated his life to both his work and his loved ones.



1949

2025

Paula Lishman

Well-known local artist, entrepreneur and generous community member best described former Cartwright resident Paula Lishman. Paula and her husband Bill were internationally well-known for their creativity. Paula was named Canada's "Woman Entrepreneur of the Year in 1995".

Locally she employed over 600 local residents from her small factory in the former Blackstock school. Her unique knit-fur creations highlighted her passion for supporting First Nation trappers. Scugog will miss her creative flair and her willingness in contributing to so many community groups.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2026



Tentative Schedule

Please Note: Some events, dates and locations could change. Coming Events calendar will be updated in future newsletters.

**Note: All Speaker Series Meetings will be held in the Rotary Room - Scugog Memorial Library
Doors Open: 6:30 pm - Speaker at 7 p.m.**

- 1 April 11 - Heritage Fair (new event)**
Archive Awareness Week
Library Rotary room 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- 2 April 21 - Speaker Series**
Library Rotary Room: 6:30 pm
Speaker: Uxbridge author Dr. Vi Tu Banh
Topic: "Elephants & Dragons"
- 3 April 22 - LSHS Archival Committee Meeting**
Library Meeting Room 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- 4 May 19 - LSHS Annual General Meeting**
Speaker: Eric Conroy - "Saving Keewatin"
Library Rotary Room - 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 5 May 20 - LSHS Archival Committee Meeting**
Library Meeting Room 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- 6 June 16 - Speaker Series**
Speaker: Joan Kingston - British Home Children
Library Rotary Room - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- 7 June 17 - LSHS Archival Committee Meeting**
Library Meeting Room 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- 8 September 15 - Speaker Series**
Robert Henderson - Adventures in the Himalayas
Library Rotary Room - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- 9 September 16 - LSHS Archival Committee Meeting**
Library Meeting Room 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- 10 September 18 - Oct. 4 - Cultural Days**
Historical Walking Tour

Print & Save for future reference.



MINORS REVIEW

A Book Review by Bill Minors

THE GALES OF NOVEMBER THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE EDMUND FITZGERALD

BY JOHN U. BACON LIVERIGHT PUBLISHING (\$47.00)

Although there have been literally hundreds of shipwrecks on the Great Lakes over the years, ask any Canadian to name one, it will almost certainly be the Edmund Fitzgerald. I am sure we can thank Gordon Lightfoot for that. Who can forget the lyrics;

"The legend lives on from the Chippewa on down
Of the big lake they call Gitche Gumee

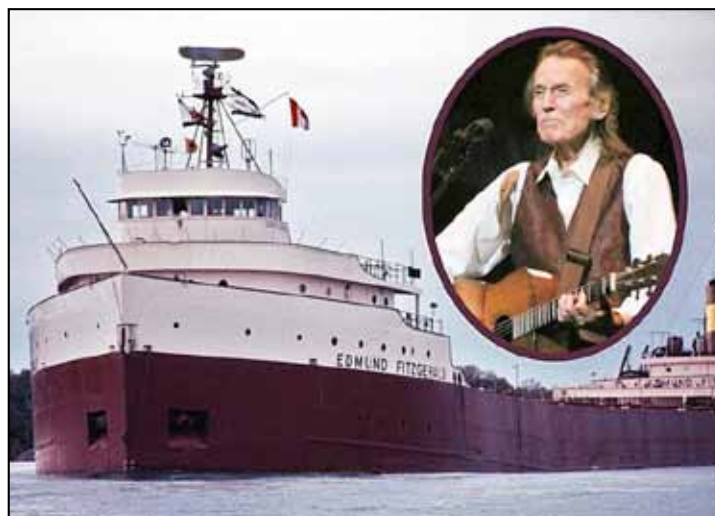
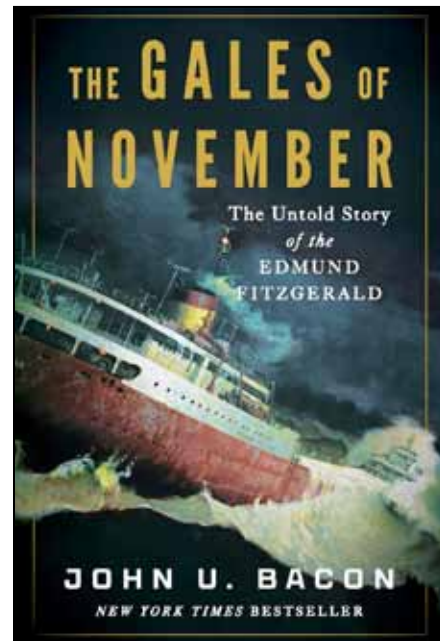
Superior, they said never gives up her dead, when the
gales of November come early."

This book presents the definitive account of the disaster, drawing on more than 100 interviews with the families, friends and former crewmates of those lost. Bacon explores the vital role Great Lakes shipping played in America's economic boom, the uncommon lives the sailors led, the sinking's most likely causes, and the heart-breaking aftermath for those left behind, 'the wives, and the sons and the daughters' as Gordon Lightfoot sang in his unforgettable ballad.

At 75 feet wide and 729 feet long, the Fitzgerald was at the time of her launch the largest ship on the lakes, and she repeatedly broke her own records for the largest loads, the fastest runs and the biggest hauls throughout her career. But on November 10, 1975 she sank with the loss of all 29 men on board.

This book is a fascinating exploration of this disaster. There are also several interesting chapters on Lightfoot's creation of the song and the effect it had on some of those left behind. Lightfoot claimed the song was "his greatest achievement"

Highly recommended
Bill Minors



Gordon Lightfoot with an image of the Edmund Fitzgerald.



Driving south on Simcoe St. from Seagrave, it is easy to miss a small group of Bethel Cemetery grave markers set well back from the west side of the road. Like the cemetery itself, many of the names on these memorials have been forgotten with the passage of time. However, these early settlers made an important contribution to our local history and deserve recognition. With that in mind, here is a brief look at the Snyders of Seagrave.

BACKGROUND:

The Snyders' Canadian roots run deep. The family first arrived in this country in 1780, after their home and property in New York were seized by the Americans. Jacob Snyder (b. 1780) was wounded multiple times at the Battle of Lundy's Lane in 1814, and a pistol from that battle remained in the family's possession until at least 1930.

Jacob is known to have lived in Clarke Township for a short time before moving to Pickering, and in 1861 he was enumerated at age 81 with his grandson Salem's family in Seagrave. There is no grave marker for Jacob at Bethel Cemetery, although he may well have been buried there.

EARLY YEARS:

Salem Snyder was born in May 1828 to Jacob Snyder and Sarah Jane Haines. He grew up in Pickering Township and purchased his first property at Audley in 1846 at the age of 18, selling it three years later.

By 1852 Salem was working as a road builder in Reach Township. Because commuting to his home in Pickering was not practical, Salem stayed in the Seagrave area during this period. He also married a local Seagrave resident named Emmaline Mark.

Emmaline was the daughter of John Mark Sr., whose farm was located at Concession 12, Lot 24. Although Salem was listed as a Seagrave householder in 1853 (at Lot 23) and 1854 (at Lot 24), he maintained his Pickering residence until at least 1857. Emmaline must have moved from Seagrave to Pickering as well, since her first two children (Salem Jr. in 1855 and Elizabeth Ann



in 1857 were born there. However, by 1859 the family had departed Pickering permanently and were living in Seagrave.

~

Another old Ontario family, the McVeighs, had also moved to Reach in the latter half of the 1840s and were located at Lot 23, adjacent to the Mark property. The McVeighs were also former Pickering residents and were well known to the Snyders; Salem would purchase numerous parcels of land from them between 1859 and 1871. Some McVeigh family members are also buried at Bethel.

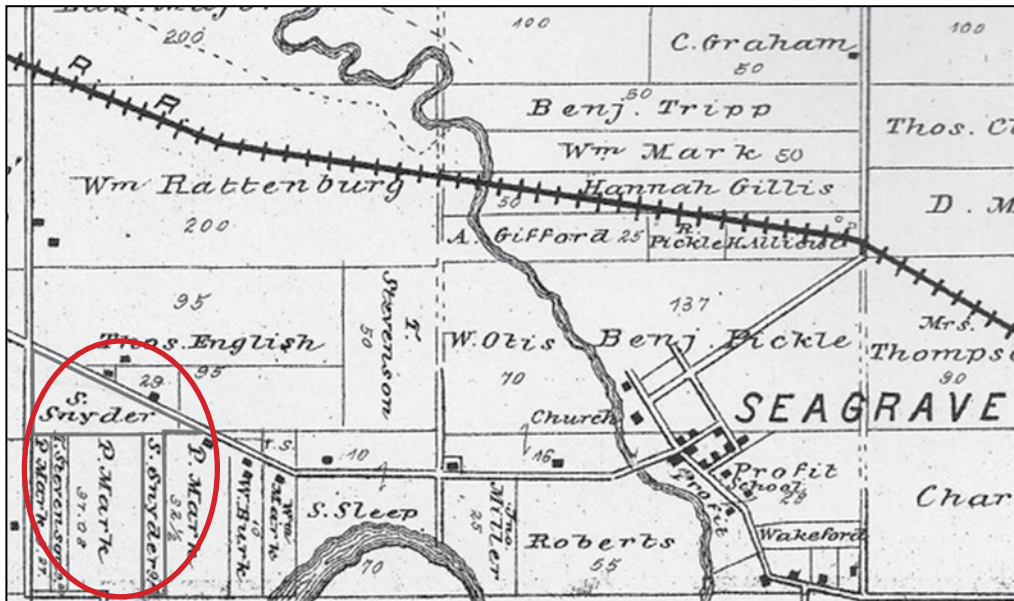
When Emmaline's father, John Mark Senior, died in 1857 he left his property to his seven children in equal measure. The beneficiaries then agreed to divide the land into equal portions and in 1870, each child gained title to 1/7th of John's property at Lot 24. The map below indicates the land owned by Salem along Concession 12 in 1877 (lot numbers are shown on the right side of the map). John Mark Senior, his wife Mary Ann and numerous other Mark family members are also buried at Bethel.

Salem died in 1910 on the family farm and was buried at Bethel with Emmaline, who died in 1917.

Salem and Emmaline's children

The couple's eldest child, Salem Mark Snyder (1855-

*Snyder family portrait taken at W.A. Leonard's studio in Port Perry.
Standing, left to right: Jacob, Salem Jr., Alonzo. Seated: Salem Sr., Editha, Emmaline, Elizabeth Ann. From the author's collection.*



Statement showing the receipts and expenditures of the Municipality of the United Townships of

REACH & SCUGOG,

For the year ending 31st December, 1913.

EXPENDITURE.

Amount paid Councilors for extra sitting for 1913	1 5 0
Amount paid Timothy Craig	2 10 0
" " Abel H. Ewers	3 10 0
" " Peter Shoughton	3 10 0
" " Thomas Harton	3 0 0
" " School Section, No. 1, 23	0 0
" " Robert Wells, for Roads	2 15 0
" " John Young	2 15 0
" " Selma Taylor	3 0 0
" " Thomas Janssen, do.	0 12 6
" " A. McArthur, do.	2 10 0
" " for Printing	6 12 0
" " Hugh Seabro, Stationary	0 2 0
" " Carriage of do.	0 4 1-0
" " Books, Manuals	1 2 6
" " Paper & Postage	0 15 0
" " H. Daniels balance } on Town Hall, \$109 14c int. }	7 17 3
Amount paid for Furniture	3 5 4
" " for Insurance	3 5 0
" " " " " " " "	2 6 8
" " Snow Poles	2 19 0
" " " " " " " "	0 6 3
" " Wm. Pearson sundry } services,	17 10 0
Amount paid County Treasurer	175 9 0
" " Provisional do.	52 2 81-2
" " Constable & Witnesses	2 13 10
" " Magistrate Fees	2 4 8
" " Constable, "	1 0 0
" " Full Clerks	0 10 0
" " Auditors	1 0 0
" " Collector	17 7 8
" " Assessors	18 0 0
" " Treasury Commission	4 1 0
" " Town Clerk & Treasurer	23 0 0
Balance in Treas. hand, Dec. 31 1912	51 6 11-2

433 2 41-2

1935) married Sarah Melissa Thorn. The couple lived in Victoria County for a short time before moving to Huntsville, where Salem Jr. established a successful blacksmithing and carriage-making business.

Elizabeth Ann (1857-1941) outlived her first two husbands. She married Thomas Hayward in 1873, then Albert S. Groat in 1886, and finally Richard Horrel (aka Oral) Frise. Markers for Thomas Hayward, Albert Groat and some of their children can be found at Bethel.

Jacob (1860-1936) married Christina McMillan of nearby Wick. Jacob spent some time with his brother in Huntsville before moving to Toronto and working as head carpenter at the Scarborough Beach Amusement Park. Christina was the daughter of Dougald McMillan and Christina Mitchell of Wick. Jacob is buried at Groveside Cemetery in Brooklin, although there is no marker at the site.

Editha (1865-1894) married Duncan Joseph McDonald of Mara. Apparently neither family was very pleased with the marriage, due to religious differences. When Editha died at a young age of scarlet fever she



The author's mother in front of Alonzo's Port Perry home, c1970. If anyone can identify the address (most likely Cochrane St.), please contact the author at gvkitson@gmail.com

was buried with her parents at Bethel; her given name is etched on the side of their grave marker, but her last name is not even mentioned. The year of death etched on Editha's marker is also incorrect.

Alonzo (1869-1946) married local woman Clarinda Mary Ann, the daughter of Rev. George Kenney. The family moved from Seagrave to Toronto in March 1917, where Emmaline died later that year.

The move was marked by a farewell gathering the night before the Snyders' departure, attended by 80 people. The family's service to the local church and their son Dorian's military service were noted as outstanding examples of their contributions to society.

After the family's relocation Alonzo rented out the farm for a time; the first tenants were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Eagleson. However, by 1931 Alonzo and Clarinda had returned to Reach Township and a 1933 newspaper report indicated that weekly prayer meetings were being held in Seagrave at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. A. Snyder and Mr. and Mrs. John Mark.

A 1940 voter's list indicated that Alonzo and Clarinda were now in Port Perry, and his death registration indicated that he was living on Cochrane St. when he died on November 1st, 1946. That document also showed that Alonzo had been working as a farmer until his retirement in 1940. He and Clarinda are buried at Pinegrove Cemetery in Prince Albert.

By Vaughan Kitson

Mr. Kitson is a member of the Lake Scugog Historical Society and long-time Pickering resident, now living in Hampton. Salem Snyder is Mr. Kitson's great-great-grandfather.



Out & About



Refreshment booth volunteers, from left, Janis Carter, Bev Brown, student helpers Evelyn Pike and Milissa Yestal, and Isabel Arculus



Silent Auction table



Veronica Green speaking with customers.

ANTIQUE SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS

The LSHS Antique & Nostalgia Show held in February welcomed nearly 1,100 visitors on a very cold weekend. Several new vendors joined with returning dealers filling the hall with character and charm.

Special thanks go to the many dedicated members who volunteered as well as the 12 generous donors to the silent auction and of course the bidders.

Purchases of books over \$600 (The Maps of Scugog was popular) and 5 new memberships including a new Life member also helped make the weekend a huge success.

The next show takes place on October 17th & 18th. Mark the dates down on your calendar as this fundraiser supports the work of the Society.



Some of the antique enthusiasts looking for treasures.



Peter & Sandy Neilly, Meadow Creek Barn



Larry Doble with Veronica and Kim, two of his former students.



LSHS directors Justice Colwell and Jessie Gillis.

**Sunday
April 11**

~

**1pm
to
4pm**



**Scugog
Library**

~

**Rotary
Room**

PRESENTED BY THE LAKE SCUGOG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Heritage fairs are events that usually occur around certain special weeks on the historical education calendar. In Canada, the third week of February kicks off with Family Day in Ontario sometimes called Flag Day or Heritage Day in other provinces. The third week in April in Ontario is celebrated with Archives Awareness week and this is the time we have chosen to present our newest LSHS event.

In partnership with the Scugog Library we invite you to join us on April 11th from 1-4pm at the Scugog Library Rotary Room where 14 historical organizations representing various aspects of our history help us showcase and learn about our heritage. Local historians, historical societies, museums, genealogical groups and other organizations who have a connection to Scugog's history and the history of North Durham will explain what they do to preserve and protect local historical resources.

The Fair opens to the public at 1pm in the Rotary Room at the Library. Admission is free so why not drop by. If you are looking for research on your home, on your family or on the community this is the place to be. All the local historians in one place to help with your questions.

~

On display also will be a new feature created by local historian Paul Arculus. His 5 ft. waterfront diorama outlines the station area of Port Perry in 1895. It features original building photos and 3D reproductions of significant buildings along with the engines that travelled through Palmer Park.

Paul's creation is truly an amazing addition to our 2026 projects that will feature our "Railway Roots" exhibits and tours of North Durham.

HERITAGE FAIR EXHIBITORS

1. Port Perry Grain Elevator restoration group
2. Port Perry Agricultural Society - Save the Fairgrounds Group
3. Cannington Museum
4. Sunderland Museum
4. Manvers Historical Society
5. Beaver River Museum
6. Uxbridge Genealogy group ,
7. Durham Branch of Ontario Genealogy
8. Jury Foundation – Save Camp 30
8. Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario Leaskdale Manse National Historic Site
9. Scugog Municipal Heritage Advisory committee
10. Railways of North Durham group,
11. Scugog Memorial Library
12. Lake Scugog Historical Society displaying project info for: Driving Tours, Book Sales and Archival Information of Scugog Township Churches and Schools.

All groups are actively working together to preserve the great history to be found and discovered in our local area.



Around the ARCHIVES



By
Marilyn Pearce

Lake Scugog Historical Society & Scugog Shores Museum

Our Formative Years

During this past February I spent my cabin-bound time reading and then scanning the minutes and events of the Lake Scugog Historical Society during the 1970's and 1980's. Sometimes in recording a community's history we forget to record our own. What a great story can be told in these documents of the successes and challenges of our organization from our founding in 1969.

The building of our present Museum village with its 11 buildings was truly a legacy of the early historians. Credit to the following families Brock's , Kane's , Roy Walker Smith, the Phair's , the Boyd's, the Redman's, Richardson's, Lee's Arculus's, Sheridan's and many, many more who over those early years spent countless hours volunteering so Scugog would have such a beautiful spot to store our artifacts and documents for future generations.

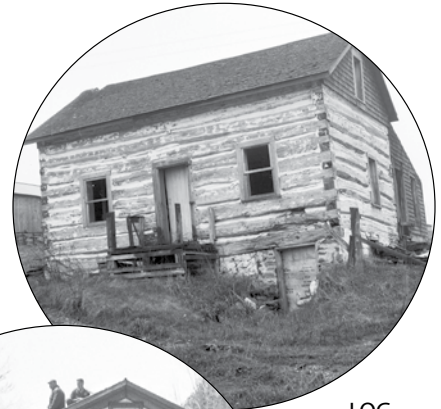
Stories of acquisitions such as securing the schoolhouse for a home then moving buildings such as the Lee House from Greenbank, the Weaver's cabin from Manvers, the Rodman Log cabin from it's Island location, the print shop from the Aldred farm, to the site and then building the Barn, the Beef Ring and the Blacksmith and Harness shops all brought about fond memories of a volunteer-led organization in it's formative years.

What was not as noticeable to most was all the meetings they attended some for both organizations trying to figure out how to manage their collections, offer educational exhibits, and fundraise as well as advocate for saving Town Hall 1873 and the Post Office. It really inspires one to continue to discover and preserve our local history while continuing to support the Heritage Village they built.

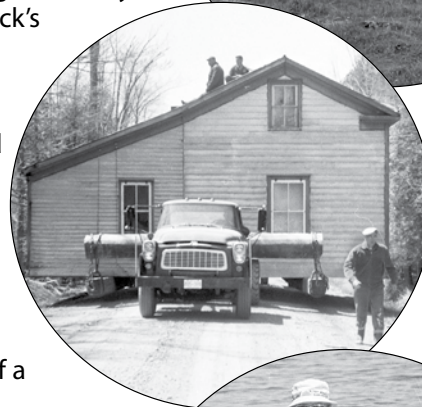
Can you imagine their joy at being able to buy the Pentland Jeweller's cupboards in 1975 for \$2000 and moving them to the schoolhouse to house their collection – or to acquire the Cadmus Church organ to place in the Head Church – or the Cartwright Reeve's Chair when local governments changed in 1973 – or druggist Mike Sheridan building the Pharmacy – Bell Canada donating early phone equipment – or the Port Perry Stars early printing equipment. Piece by piece these volunteers preserved local history and along the way had fun with their choirs, their plays and all the friends they made.

It is our hope this summer everyone visits the museum and stands outside the historic village that was built to remind us of how lucky we were to have visionaries of the 1970's and 1980's who worked so hard to preserve, protect and inspire us to value our history.

The Museum needs our support it's time to step back in time and remember and if you ever want to read the stories and minutes of the past we would be happy to share.



LOG
CABIN



LEE
HOUSE



CANOE
NONQUON



HEAD
CHURCH

SPORTS *Scugog* HISTORY



FUN ON The Links



By
Leanne
Ashbridge

As spring approaches, golfers are dreaming about sunny days spent on one of the many golf courses in the area.

Last summer, the Scugog Sports Hall of Fame was happy to showcase The Hackers and Friends with an exhibit that displayed photos, trophies and the story of The Hackers and Friends.

In the late 1960s a small group of Port Perry High School classmates got together during the summer months to play golf at local golf courses. After graduation, those guys who had moved away for school, for work or to raise families returned to Scugog at least once a year to join their friends, who still lived in Scugog, for a round of golf. They called themselves The Hackers.

In the early 1980s additional current and previous Scugog friends of the original Hackers wanted to join. Larry McNenly was instrumental in initiating and organizing the first official Hackers and Friends (of Hackers) Annual Golf Tournament first played in the fall of 1988.

Original Hackers Dale Beare, Ray Hillier and Brian Knight continue to play in the annual tournament.

The Hackers and Friends Golf Tournament has taken place every year since 1988 with the exception of 2020. For the past several years this fun event has been held at the Sunnybrae Golf Course on the first Friday after Labour Day. There are usually 40-50 participants who make the annual "pilgrimage" from various parts of the province



The Hackers and Friends

and on a few occasions from as far away as Winnipeg.

It was a pleasure to display the memorabilia of this special tournament that tells the story of strong relationships built in Scugog and exemplifies the significance of Scugog in the lives of those who have grown up here and attended school at Port Perry High School. We are all privileged to live in this special place.

MARK YOU CALENDARS

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Scugog Sports Hall of Fame Induction ceremony scheduled for Thursday April 23, 2026.

~

This year the Hall will welcome the following inductees:

ATHLETE: Rugby players Mike Blakey

TEAMS: 1980-81 and 1981-82 Pee Wee OMHA Champions

BUILDERS: Coaches from S.A Cawker Public School including:

- Paul Koot,
- Phil Ovsenek
- Hannah Ovsenek

A.J. Casson loved old mills

Famous "Group of Seven" artist loved old mills and when he visited Port Perry in 1926 he sketched George Currie's historic grain elevator.



By
J. Peter
Hvidsten

Pencil and charcoal sketch of the Port Perry grain elevator, 1926, by A.J. Casson.

If EVER THERE WAS AN ARGUMENT for saving Port Perry's controversial old grain elevator - the fact that one of Canada's famous "Group of Seven" artists found it compelling enough to sketch, should be a good justification as to the importance of saving this 150 year old landmark structure.

The drawing of the mill, sketched by A.J. Casson while visiting Port Perry in 1926, was discovered in 2012 by Barbara Karthein who was attending a function in Toronto. Barbara immediately recognized the sketch as being Port Perry's old grain elevator. After inquiring about the sketch this famous Canadian artist - the owners agreed to provide a picture of the sketch (above) of the famous artist's work of art. It's described as being a 7 3/4" x 10 1/2" pencil and charcoal drawing, dated 1926.

While researching information about the origins of the Port Perry sketch, it was interesting to discover that A.J. Casson appears to have had a great interest in old mills, having painted at least three small community mills, and possibly more during his career.

Mr. Casson painted beautiful colourful mills in Elora, Washago and other towns during his career. It's unfortunate, he never added colour to his Port Perry sketch - but perhaps he never intended to.

Just why Casson was in town in 1926 is a mystery, but the fact he stood along Water St. and immortalized the shapes and beauty he saw in the building will forever remain in his drawing.



Port Perry elevator in 2005, is very similar to A.J. Casson's sketch drawn in 1926, thirty years before the addition to the north side of the elevator, and the storefronts along the west side.

*Sketch provided courtesy of Suzanne Villeneuve,
Management Assistant, Granite Club
Toronto, Ontario*

TANKS 'N TOWERS

Memories of Port Perry's historic old Water Tanks & Towers

By J. Peter Hvidsten

When it comes to recording the history of Port Perry and area, there are some events which don't rank near as high as, 1. the Great Fires of the 1880s; the Arrival of the Railway, or Steamboat Excursions on Lake Scugog. Nevertheless they are all important parts of our history.

One such story is about Port Perry's water towers or "water tanks" as they were originally called. When the town fathers decided on erecting its first water reservoir, the site chosen was a small piece of land located at the top of the hill (formerly Borelia), on Silver Street, which overlooked downtown Port Perry.

Over a period of the next century, five successive water tanks were constructed on this parcel of land.

FIRST WATER TANK 1904

The first water tank for the town was constructed in 1904 by William Mills, at a cost of \$1,000. This structure consisted of a rectangular, cement block base which supported a large circular wooden tank, secured with iron bands. This type of wooden tank relied on the water pressure to expand the wood and seal it without caulking, although it is unknown if this was the system used locally.

Access to the tower's base interior was provided through a small door, and to the tank by an exterior iron ladder extending from ground level to the roof. The entire structure is estimated to have been about 55 feet high.

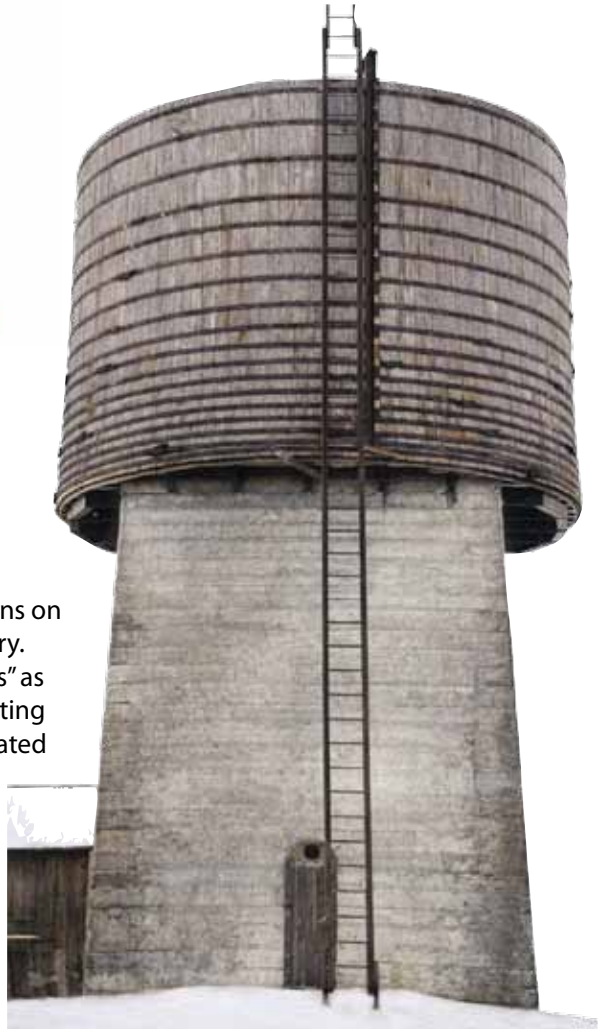
The tower not only provided water to local residents, it also served as a reservoir for fire protection. Prior to its construction, water for fire fighting had only been available from small underground tanks located throughout the town.

NEW TANK IN 1938

Due to the limited durability of wood for holding water, the original tank was dismantled about 30 years after it came into use. In 1938, a replacement tank measuring 20 feet in height and 20 feet in diameter was built on top of the original base structure, using British Columbia fir. Like its predecessor, it was bound with steel hoops and fitted with a conical roof.

THE 1952 WATER TANK

A decade later the town was faced with replacing the structure due to substantial dry rot in the wood. By August 1952, a new 67,000 gallon water tank was assembled on top of the base. Cost of the new tank when completed was \$5,700, and it came with a guaranteed life span of 25 years.



Port Perry's first water tank, built in 1904



Town's first water tank was dismantled in 1962.

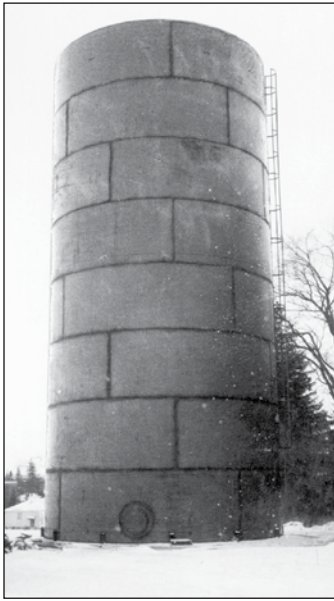
THE 1961 WATER TANK

Despite a 25 year guarantee on the tank, in 1961 the village was confronted with building yet another water tank. Beside the structure, a new tank measuring 65' in high and capable of holding 300,000 gallons of water was constructed. The cost of the new tank was \$35,175.00.

When the new tank was completed, the old wood structure was demolished and removed by Oshawa Crane Service at a cost of \$750.00 .

NEW STEEL TANK 1979

With the growing town requiring more water capacity, Durham Region assembled a new 35 ton, steel tank beside the existing tank in May 1979.



In December 1961, a new 65' water tower was built on the Silver Street site.

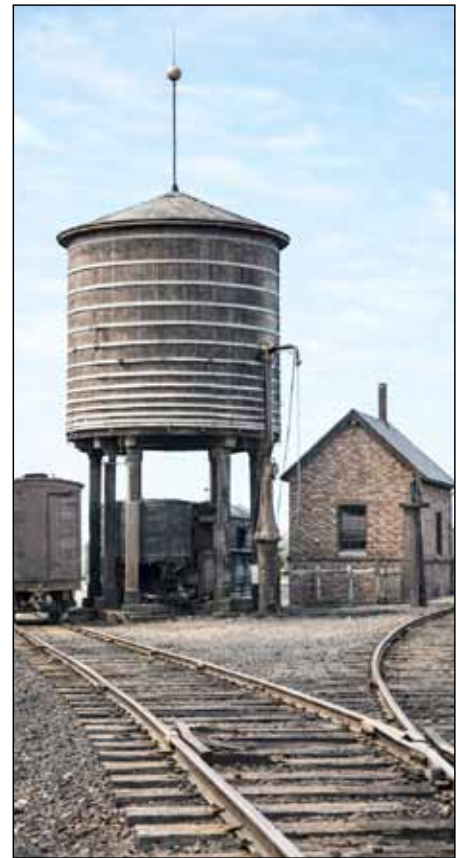
When completed the original tank was hoisted and secured to the top of the new 31' diameter base, which holds 488,99 cubic gallons of water storage.

This tower, now referred to as the Port Perry Water Supply Standpipe, continues to served the community to this day, a credit to Durham Region's ongoing preventative maintenance program.

RAILWAY WATER TANKS

In addition to the residential water tower in Port Perry over the past 125 years, there were also water towers constructed on early industrial buildings along the lakefront, and at the railway stations, which required water for steam engines.

While there is little information about industrial tanks, over the 60 plus years of rail service to this community, at least two water tanks served the railway.



This Grand Trunk Railway water tank at Port Perry Station was erected in 1907, replacing the original water tank erected during the 1870s. In the background is a grain storage building.



Adventurer Adam Shoalts packs the Library Room for a talk on his book 'Vanished Beyond The Map'.



Remembering
Charles 'Doc' Moon
 A SEAGRAVE PIONEER
 by J. Peter Hvidsten



Charles & Annie Moon, circa 1915

CHARLES WILLIAM MOON was a man who lived his entire life living and working on his farm near Seagrave. He was born on April 14, 1871, at his parents' home near the village, and for most of his life he never strayed far from it.

As a young man, he worked on the family farm, and after finishing his schooling – went on to graduate as a veterinarian, a profession that would shape the greater part of his working years.

For more than 40 years, Doc Moon, as he was best known, served the farmers and residents of the surrounding area until March 1913. After retiring from his veterinary practice, he became a local mail carrier for years.-

Charles married Annie Rosalie Wells on February 7, 1894, near her home in Victoria County. Together they raised six children. In addition to his veterinary business, he also farmed, with Annie and the children helping. Work was simply a part of his life.

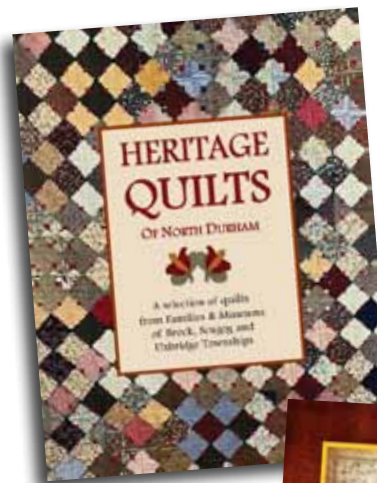
When plans began for a new church in the village in 1906, it was Doc Moon who turned the first sod with a horse and single plow. He was a staunch supporter of the United Church, where he sang in the choir for many years, served on the Board of Stewards.

Charles lived into his 88th year before passing away at his home in Seagrave on January 24, 1959. His funeral was held at McDermott-Panabaker in Port Perry, and he was laid to rest at Pleasant Point Cemetery beside his wife Annie, who had predeceased him in 1954.

NEW BOOKS

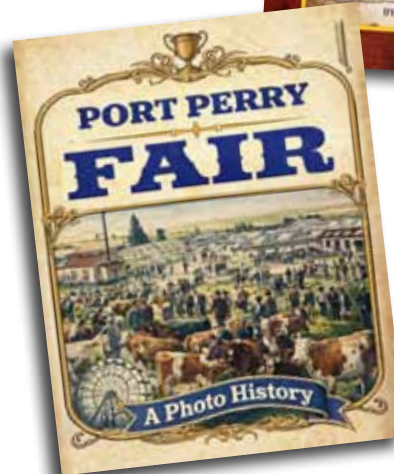
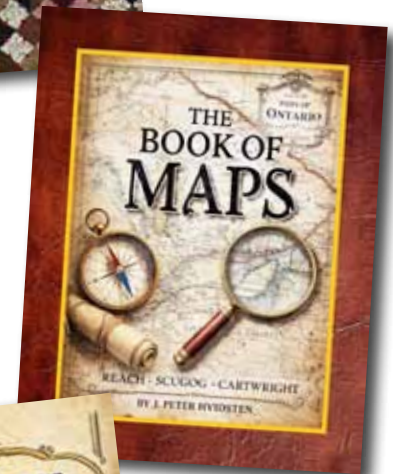
Coming soon to the
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<https://www.scugogheritage.com>



The Heritage Book of Quilts features a selection of beautiful Quilt Designs from families and museums of Brock, Scugog & Uxbridge Twps.

The Book of Maps contains more than 50 maps of Ontario County, Reach and Cartwright Townships from the early 1800s to present.



The Port Perry Fair book features more than 100 photographs of the fair from the mid-1950s to 2011.



by Sarah Parry

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Your Membership is our Future!

This past year, we're proud to announce that our membership continues to grow and we finished 2025 with 170 members including 3 new Life members: R. Ashton, T. Jordan and B. Heard – four new business/corporate sponsors – Port Perry Optical, Scugog Lumber, Applewood Farm Winery and Taylor Forder Insurance Brokers.

Thanks also to the 11 new folks who took out individual or family memberships in 2025 – we appreciate your support. As we enter 2026 we have set a goal of 175 members and we can reach it if the "eligible to renew" join us before the end of March. If you need to check the status of your membership just let us know. Membership is the main contributor to our operating expenses. Looking forward to a strong membership base for 2026!!

As a member, you'll enjoy:

- Exclusive updates on local history discoveries and events
- Opportunities to reserve seats at gatherings and our Speaker Series
- Discounts on select LSHS publications
- The satisfaction of knowing you're helping preserve Scugog's unique heritage

• Have questions about your membership?

• Not sure if you need to renew?

Please reach out to Sarah Parry, Membership Secretary, at membership@lshs@gmail.com.

You can also find more details about membership types, benefits, and renewal options on our website: <https://lakescugoghistoricalsociety.com/about/become-a-member/>

DON'T WAIT!

Renew today and stay part of Scugog Township's living history!



Membership Form

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c/o 175 Perry Street, Port Perry, Ontario L9L 1B8
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Your contributions today help to preserve and protect Scugog's Heritage for future generations.