



LSHS ARCHIVIST

~ NEWSLETTER OF LAKE SCUGOG HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~

Welcome
Spring

**LAKE SCUGOG SETS
NEW ICE-OUT RECORD:
MARCH 5, 2024**



LAKE SCUGOG
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

~
DEDICATED TO THE
HISTORY OF THE LAKE
SCUGOG AREA

~
• ESTABLISHED 1969 •

**Lake Scugog
Historical Society
Board of Directors
2023-2025**

President:.....Marilyn Pearce
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Find LSHS on Facebook,
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[@gmail.com](mailto:lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com)

or by mail at:

LSHS 175 Perry St. Port Perry,
Ont. L9L 1B8



**PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE**

by Marilyn Pearce



As I write this on another beautiful sunny February day, we have just concluded Heritage Week in Ontario held on the third week of Feb. every year. I chose to spend Heritage Day in Lindsay where the Victoria County Museum hosted numerous organizations spreading the word about how important heritage is to their community. Speakers, exhibits, tourism focussed on heritage and historic events to be held were all on full display.

Further to that, this week the Ontario Arts Council released a report that show arts and culture tourism within Ontario has triple the economic impact of non-arts and culture tourism. Topping the list of Arts & Culture activities that tourists visit are Museum/Art Galleries and Historic Sites. It is apparent Port Perry's Main Street attracts tourists and moviemakers as a special place to visit but we also have many more sites of interest to not only tourists but also Scugog residents.

As members of LSHS and the founders of our present Museum Village we must constantly raise awareness about our local heritage and how important it is to our sense of place in this community. Great towns and cities honour their heritage by preserving their built heritage as well as their cultural character. Our children and grandchildren need to be exposed to the idea that our history and heritage are important. It needs to take place everywhere in Scugog.

Within this newsletter you will see our Events for the year as well as our plans to raise the awareness of our cultural heritage. Our Speaker at the AGM this year will be Diane Chin, chair of Architectural Conservancy of Ontario speaking about the economic and environmental benefits of Keep, Fix, Reuse when it comes to heritage buildings. LSHS has noted several "buildings at risk" including The Grain Elevator (Old Mill), the old Cartwright Town Hall, the Rodman Cabin and Lee House at the Museum. It is important to not look at these buildings as liabilities but to see their true potential and not look back with "demolition remorse" if we lose them.

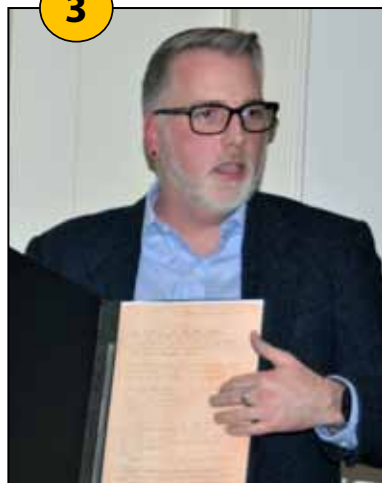
So if you value what our ancestors have built be sure to talk about it, pass on your newsletter, volunteer your time and help us raise awareness about our Heritage. In this year of financial challenges let's make it a priority to preserve, protect and tell the story of Scugog and not give in to short-term thinking – there are no do-overs if we lose our built heritage only regrets.

So bring on 2024 and let's spread the word – Heritage is not only good for business it contributes to the betterment of this community.

Out & About

Christmas Social and “Show & Tell”

The Lake Scugog Historical Society held its popular “Christmas Show & Tell” at Piano Cafe on December 12, 2023. A good crowd turned out for the social evening to see and learn the history of dozens of interesting artifacts on display, from the owners of the treasured family articles.



1. Some of the crowd attending the Christmas Social held at the Piano Cafe on Tuesday, December 12

2. Brenda Manns displays a the 1925 wedding dress from her maternal grandmother Effie Bruce Ploughman, who was married at her family home on Bigelow Street.

3. Jesse Gillis, newest director for the Lake Scugog Historical Society shows deeds from his property in Greenbank.

4. Joan Zamora explains a painting and story about her family’s original farm.

5. Marilyn with an original 1895 plot and street layout plan of the Pine Grove Cemetery. The plan was donated to LSHS by the Brain family.

6. Claudette Brock shows a picture of the steamboat Cora which travelled Lake Scugog to Lindsay with passengers during the early 1900s.



On The Shelf

A Book Review by Bill Minors

The Avro Arrow

FOR THE RECORD – SECOND EDITION

BY PALMIRO CAMPAGNA

On February 20, 1959 – A.V. Roe, at the time the third largest company in Canada behind Canadian Pacific Railway and Alcan laid off 14,000 employees due to the cancellation of the Avro Arrow, in addition a further 11,000 were let go from companies sub-contracted to work on the aircraft.

I often tell people with men of a certain age, there are two words that you can say which will guarantee a 15-minute tirade often consisting of some foul language. Those words are Avro Arrow. A certain mythology has built up around the cancellation. We often here of “conspiracy theories” in the modern media, but this one has been around since 1959.

In his book AVRO ARROW; FOR THE RECORD the author has done an incredible amount of research into why the project was cancelled. He has brought out a new edition as a lot of new information has become available due to information being de-classified. It was recently published by Dundurn Publishing (\$29.99).

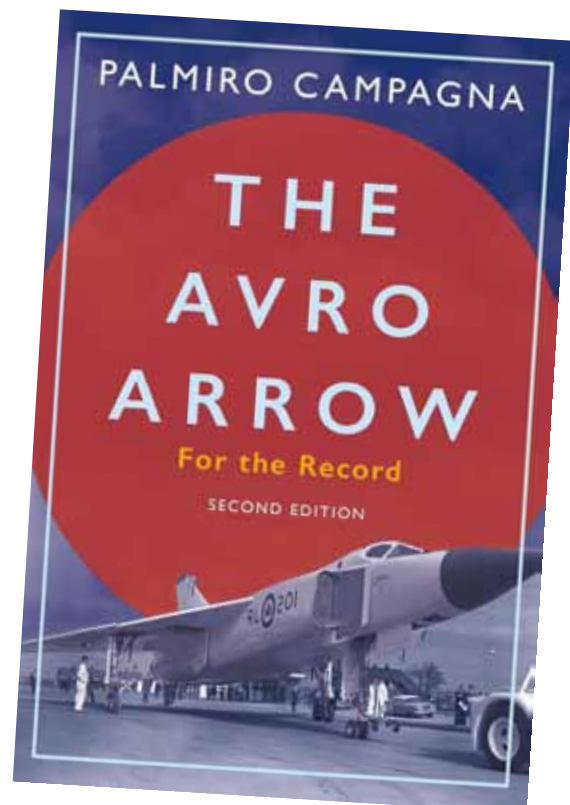
One of the myths he has shattered was that it was cancelled due to cost. Although it was expensive, as all new weapons systems are, that was not why it was cancelled, although the government tried to use that excuse.

The aircraft was developed to counter a threat. What was that threat? - Russian aircraft carrying nuclear weapons. However at the time the military were starting to feel that the real threat was ICBMs or Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles. No matter how good an aircraft is, it is useless against a missile. Many in the military, particularly the US military felt that the Avro Arrow would be obsolete by the time it was operational. Turns out they were wrong, the CIA had grossly over-estimated the number of Russian missiles.

After cancelling the Arrow, we bought the BOWMARC anti-missile system, which was literally obsolete by the time it was delivered. Several were established on Canadian soil and were scrapped two years later

The author goes into the machinations behind the cancellations, including why the existing aircraft were scrapped. If you want to know the true story behind this story, I recommend you read this book.

NOTE: Palmiro Campagna, the author, will be the guest speaker at the Historical Society meeting on Tuesday, June 11th at 7.00 pm. at Scugog Library Rotary Room.





Jesse at his booth at the recent Lake Scugog Historical Society Antique Show, held in February 2024.

Introducing Jesse Gillis, Lake Scugog Historical Society's newest board member

Hello

My name is Jesse and I'm am your newest member of the Historical Society Executive Board.

I moved to the area in 2020 and currently reside in the community of Greenbank with my partner.

Growing up in a small town I appreciated the space and looked forward to slowing things down which was a nice change from Newmarket.

Since grade school I have been captivated with history and the ability to find artifacts within your own back yard. I fondly remember when my father would take me out on numerous bottle digging "expeditions" where I would return home and promptly spread out my treasures on the kitchen table.

As we moved into the area I uncovered a rich history and a long standing commitment to its preservation. As I believe you are what you make your community, I hoped to be a part of this elaborate tapestry for many years to come.



2024 Tentative Schedule

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

Speakers: Rotary Room - Scugog Memorial Library
Doors Open: 6:30 pm - Speaker at 7 p.m.

- 1** **April 9: SPEAKER SERIES - 6:30 p.m.**
Speaker Amanda Kiezebrink - History of Falconry
- 2** **May 14: LSHS Ann. General Meeting - Business 6 p.m.**
Location to be announced.
7:00 p.m. Speaker, Diane Chin, Pres. of Architectural Conservancy, Ontario. "Keep, Fix, Reuse" the economic benefits of preserving our build heritage.
- 3** **June 8: PRINCE ALBERT HALL Open House**
Exhibit & Talk on history of the hall - 1:00 p.m.
- Launch of new Prince Albert & Area brochure
- 4** **June 11: SPEAKER SERIES - 6:30 p.m.**
Scugog Library Rotary Room
Speaker Palmiro Campagna "The Avro Arrow"
- 5** **June 17-21 - Summer Archivist Newsletter**
- 6** **August 18: Blackstock Methodist Cemetery Walk**
Followed by talk & exhibit at the church - 1:00 p.m.
- Launch of new Blackstock Driving Tour brochure
- 7** **Sept. 17: SPEAKER SERIES - 6:30 p.m.**
Scugog Library Rotary Room. Speaker TBA
- 8** **Oct. 19-20: FALL ANTIQUE SHOW**
Scugog Community Centre
- 9** **Nov. 1-10 - Fall Archivist Newsletter**
- 10** **Nov. 19: SPEAKER SERIES - 6:30 p.m.**
Scugog Library Rotary Room.
Speaker: Ted Barris - Canadians in the Battle of Britain
- 11** **Dec. 10 - Christmas Social & Show & Tell**

Print & Save for future reference.

REMEMBERING BETHEL CEMETERY

The Bethel Cemetery in Cartwright Township is a well-hidden, old, half acre cemetery, located on the Shirley Road, Lot 1, Conc. 3.

As early as 1857, there was a Bible Christian Connexion Church at the same location, which served the Shirley and Purple Hill area as well as the surrounding families of both Reach and Cartwright Townships. It was a frame structure, about 30 by 40 feet, with an L-shaped drive shed attached, so that the building formed a U.

In 1883, with the union of the Methodist churches, Bethel became a Methodist Church, part of the Prince Albert circuit. In 1926, with the union of churches, Bethel closed and the Cartwright congregation was moved to the Blackstock United Church. It continued to be a site for local events and local groups as well as a Sunday School.

Over the years, it was in a good financial position and very active, holding church suppers, plays, concerts, several anniversary celebrations and was able to make improvements and additions to the church and its furnishings.

The church became run down and was sold in 1957 by the United Church of Canada, in order to help raise funds for a new church closer to Oshawa. The cemetery was transferred to the Township in 1964.

In 1973 a group of local citizens decided to erect a cairn, but it seems that it was never actually done.

Although the cemetery was an early burial ground for many local families, there are only three



Charles Hambley
Dec. 8, 1865 Aged 52 years

remaining stones, all for the Hambley family.

Most people could never remember there ever being many monuments. One known burial is for a Graham child.

Some of the early local families supporting the church from Reach Township were Coates, Buchanan, Jackson and Lambe. From Cartwright Township were Vance, Byers, Saunders and Darcy. Later families include Werry, Down, Hambly, Trick, Morris, Martyn, Moore, and Graham.

John Hambley (1796-1857) and his wife, Julia (1796-1850), came from Cornwall, England to Canada in 1840, with four children; Mary Ann (1817-1889), Susanne (1819-?), William and Jennifer (1832-1877).

Susanne and her cousin and husband, Charles Hambly, and William and his wife Margaret lived in the Purple Hill area.

Charles Hambly and two of his sons, one named William are buried in the Bethel Cemetery. Also buried here is George Henry Hambly, probably a grandson of William and Margaret.

One of the Hambly married into the longtime resident Cartwright family of McLaughlin.

Transcriptions of this cemetery can be purchased at:

Cartwright Township – Ontario Ancestors
<https://ogs.on.ca/>

Sources: Cartwright Revisited and Shirley Women's Institute Tweedsmuir History, 1983



by
Robyn
Pegg

Around Our Archives



FOR MORE than one hundred years, the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada has prepared girls, from ages 5-17, to meet the challenges that they face in their lives head-on.

~

Beginning in England in the early 1900s, Guiding was a response to the fact that girls were not allowed in Boy Scouts. British Army General Robert Baden-Powell, who had recently returned from the South African Wars, wrote a series of articles on scouting – a movement that was aimed at reconnecting urban children with the outdoors and teaching them the importance of good citizenship.

As soon as these articles were published in an English boys' magazine, boys started practicing scouting on their own, and by 1908, the Boy Scouts were officially formed. By 1909, Scouting had become extremely popular, and girls began to copy them.

A group of young girls even pleaded with Robert Baden-Powell to let them join the Scouts. Due to the fact that girls at the time were expected to be ladylike, Baden-Powell agreed to help them, but said the group would be called Girl Guides.

He then asked his sister Agnes to help him with a girls' organization and create program ideas and badges for them. As a result of her work, she became the first President of the Girl Guides.

As part of the British Empire, Canada had adopted the movement by 1910 – quickly spreading to all Provinces. The programming allows girls to develop life and career skills in age-appropriate groups where they participate in a number of standard activities to earn badges.

These groups are: Sparks (ages 5-6), Embers/Brownies (ages 7-8), Guides (ages 9-11), Pathfinders (ages 12-14), and Rangers (ages 15-17). By 1917, the value of Guiding was recognized by the Canadian Government as the Constitution of the Canadian Girl Guides Association was approved by an Act of Parliament.

The name was changed to its current one, the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada, in 1961.

~

In the Township of Scugog, guiding has played an important role in the community for years as it ultimately provides a safe all-girl environment that encourages individuals to challenge themselves, find their voice, meet friends, have fun, and make a difference in the world.

In May of 2023, the Lake Scugog Historical Society was lucky to receive a donation of 43 Guiding items. Donated by Jan Byers, these items include pamphlets, numerous badges, a jacket, hat, belt, pennant and a flag – some of which are pictured here.



By examining all the Girl Guide items in our archives, it is clear that the activities offered by Girl Guides gives girls the opportunity to explore the arts, sciences, outdoor challenges and global awareness. Moreover, the programming is constantly evolving to reflect the needs and interests of contemporary girls and women. As a result, it has helped generations of girls become confident, courageous and resourceful leaders as these enriching experiences stay with them for life.

Out & About



ANTIQU SHOW

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!**

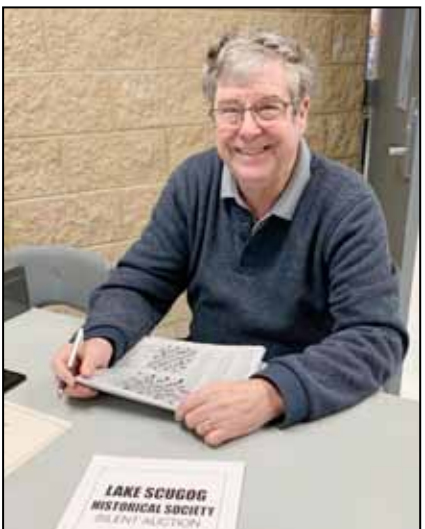
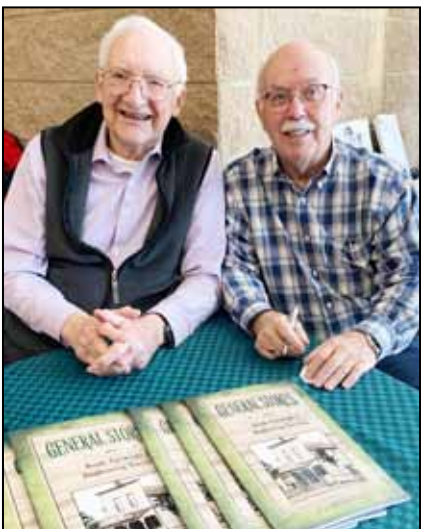
On a beautiful Feb. 3 & 4th weekend the LSHS hosted the 26th Annual Antique Show & Sale and what a weekend it was! Record-breaking crowds of over 1300 admissions.

Peter & Paul selling books and recording new historical information – the launch of the new book “General Stores of Reach, Cartwright & Neighbouring Townships” sold out – we have ordered more.

More than \$700 was raised at the Silent Auction organized by one of our newest members Jesse Gillis. And to cap it all off over \$8000 deposited to our account from the weekend which funds all our programs.

Thanks to the more than 30 volunteers who helped out not only with admissions but with help at our Café run by Janis. Special thanks to Mrs. Field’s Bakery and the local butter-tart maker – they were the talk of the show.

Next Show is scheduled for **Oct. 19 & 20th**. If you would like to help out let us know.



It takes dozens of volunteers to pull off the Antique Show, and shown here are a few of the many Lake Scugog Historical Society volunteers who helped out at the Antique Show in February 2024. From left, Susan and Robyn Pegg; Paul Arculus and Peter Hvidsten; and Bill Minors

ONE ROOM SCHOOLS OF SCUGOG TOWNSHIP



By
Bill Holtby

In an article in the January 29, 1870 edition of the Ontario observer there were 23 schools in the Township of Reach which at that time included Port Perry, Scugog Island, and Sonya which was north of the town line. Port Perry High School also drew students from as far away as East Whitby.

Many of the original schools built during the 1870's have now been closed, demolished and in a few cases renovated for other uses. In this new series about Scugog's early schools we are always looking for early school photos of both classes and the schools themselves.

Prospect School (SS#2) was located at the very south end of Scugog Township just west of Highway 12 on what is referred to in the 1867 Belden atlas as the Jas. Vernon property. Recognize anyone in this 1933 photo – I did! My dad, my uncle, and my neighbours.



Back Row: Harold Gray, Unknown, Bruce Holtby, Paul Martyn, Mrs. Roach, Marion Conlin, Kathlene Wiles, Alex Diamond, George Manderson.

Middle Row: Lois Wiles, Helen Conlin, Buster Stevens, Ernie Gilroy, Lloyd Smith, Jim Manderson, Orland Wiles, Byron Holtby.

Front Row: John Sutherland, Beth Diamond, Stewart Wiles, Ron Vernon, Ivan Gray, Jim Sutherland.

My question about this photo was the teacher, Mrs. Roach related to the NHL HOF goalie John Ross Roach known as the Port Perry "Woodpecker" as well as "Little Napoleon" when he played for the Leafs?

1870 SCHOOL SECTIONS, AGGREGATE ATTENDANCE AND AMOUNT OF APPORTIONMENT.

SCHOOL SECTION	ATTENDANCE	APPORTION
1. Chalk Lake	1694	\$13.78
2. Jas. Vernon's	2326	\$18.96
3. Cedar Creek	3436	\$28.35
4. East Settlement	2017	\$16.41
5. Utica	8267	\$67.18
6. Manchester	6165	\$66.38
7. Prince Albert	8397	\$68.28
8. Port Perry	22420	\$181.70
9. Purdy's	2678	\$21.80
10. Epsom	4478	\$36.40
11. Barber's	3196	\$26.40
12. Greenbank	5559	\$45.15
13. Shaw's	2462	\$20.02
14. Sonya	1664	\$43.53
15. Saintfield	5463	\$44.38
16. Victoria Corners	3511	\$28.97
17. Nonquon	1870	\$15.05
18. Campbell's	1053	\$8.57
19. Spring's	3485	\$28.70
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	92120	\$750.00



The first frame school at Greenbank. It was built west of the present village, and moved east, to its present location in 1865.

School Section #12, Greenbank S.S. #1 goes to Chalk Lake.

DO YOU HAVE A PHOTO?

Chalk Lake and Utica schools were closed in 1964 and students shifted to Epsom. A few of the old one room school-houses have been re-purposed. Most have been 'demolished'. Lake Scugog Historical Society would like info from alumni and their descendants.

**DON'T THROW IT OUT!
DONATE IT TO US!**

Each edition of our upcoming newsletters will feature early pictures of the area schools. If you have old photos of schools please let us record copies of them for our archives.

SPORTS *Scugog* HISTORY



By
Leanne
Ashbridge

Sports Hall of Fame Induction Night

Plans are underway for the Annual Induction Ceremony of the Scugog Sports Hall of Fame to be held on Thursday April 25, Scugog Community Centre beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Inductees for 2024 are: Georgia Brock: Figure Skating & Tennis; Mike Haigh: Arm Wrestling; the Greenbank Gamblers: 1986 & 1988 Provincial Champions.



Mike Haigh

As part of our ceremony SHOF recognizes and celebrates those sports clubs and associations that have reached milestone anniversaries. This year we celebrate and recognize the following anniversaries:



Georgia Brock

25th Anniversary-Blackstock Minor Hockey

Although it is acknowledged that hockey has been played in Blackstock for much more than 25 years, 2024 marks the anniversary of the formalization of Blackstock Minor Hockey where they adopted an official logo and operated with a formal Board of Directors.

60th Anniversary-Greenbank Minor Ball

It took some research to actually identify an inaugural year for Greenbank Minor Ball. Again, it is acknowledged that ball was played in Greenbank for many years prior to 1964. It was in 1964 however that Greenbank entered minor aged teams into the Port Perry & District Minor Softball League and was affiliated with the Ontario Amateur Softball Association.

75th Anniversary-Blackstock Curling Club

We helped the Blackstock Curling Club celebrate 60 years in 2009. At that time there was talk of the club disbanding. It is our great pleasure to see that the club has been revived and is now celebrating 75 years.

All clubs with special anniversaries are included on an Anniversary plaque that is displayed at the Scugog arena.

Thanks to the Lake Scugog Historical Society for their continued sponsorship of our Special Anniversary category.

Lost & Found Mysteries Solved

In the Fall 2023 issue of the LSHS Archivist newsletter, I described some of the artifacts from the Scugog Sports Hall of Fame that needed further information to finish their stories.

I have been lucky enough to gather additional information on two of those mystery items.

The players in the picture of the Doupe's Store Prince Albert hockey team have all been identified with the exception of one player and it has been determined that it was a Port Perry Minor Hockey house league team in 1969 and the photo was taken at the Port Perry arena on Water St.

NEWMAN CUP CHAMPS 1951-52

The biggest surprise was the donation of a picture of the 1951/52 team that won the Newman Cup Championship.



The team picture was presented to me by Bev Brown at the annual Historical Society Christmas gathering.

The picture included all the team player names including Bev's father, Don Carnegie and his brother Gord Carnegie.



Based on her story of the auction of her father's possessions it is believed that the "mystery" jacket may have belonged to her father, and was likely donated to the Hall of Fame by Don Cochrane who was the auctioneer at her father's sale.

LSHS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

In 2021, LSHS reported in the Spring newsletter that the number of members was declining and we needed to increase our membership or programs might be cancelled. For the past two years the community has responded and we can report a membership of 130 for 2023.

As 2024 approaches approximately 80 (62%) of our members have renewed. We have a new business partner in Adawegamig (Justice Colwell) and a new life member – Leanne Ashbridge.

Please consider supporting our programs by renewing your membership for 2024 as these fees fund our Speaker Series, our newsletter, our historical walks, and our operating costs.

Through your support in 2023 and hopefully 2024 we are expanding our Speaker Series as well as creating an on-line platform for the archival donations we have received - stay tuned.

Thank You!

Thank you for your support in 2023 and if you have any questions about the status of your membership please email lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com or call 905-985-9250. **Renew Now for 2024 – Deadline March 31, 2024.**

- Receive three yearly newsletter delivered by email or traditional Canada Post mail. (members preference)
- Free admission to Speaker Series.
- Email reminders of upcoming events.
- Discounts of 10% on book purchases of Society publications.

Please fill out this form and continue to support the Lake Scugog Historical Society as we preserve, protect and tell the stories of our heritage.



Lake Scugog Historical Society

Founded in 1969

c/o 175 Perry Street, Port Perry, Ontario L9L 1B8

President – Marilyn Pearce Secretary – Bill Minors Treasurer – Janis Carter

Membership

New Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____

Individual: \$15.00 Family: \$25.00

Life Membership: \$300.00 (tax receipt)

Corporate / Business / Organization: \$50.00

E-Transfer: lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com or

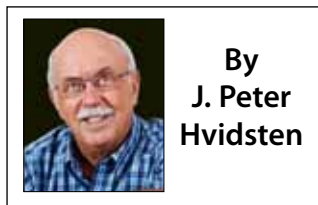
*By cheque payable to Lake Scugog Historical Society
c/o Books Galore - 175 Perry Street,
Port Perry, Ont. L9L 1B8*



Old Boys Reunion

Reunions are nothing new. Families have reunions; schools have reunions; churches, fraternities and lodges all have reunions.

In fact Port Perry High School has held numbers reunions over the past century, with possibly the largest taking place in 1987 when more than 3,900 former students and teachers, from as far away as Norway and Australia travelled home to enjoy a three-day reunion in their former hometown.



By
J. Peter
Hvidsten

During the recent Lake Scugog Historical Society's very successful Antique Show, a vendor approached president Marilyn, with a tray full of small buttons, decorated with red, white and blue ribbons. The buttons came from an Uxbridge reunion, with the simple message, "Uxbridge Old Boys - 1902".

The question became - "Who are the "Old Boys"?"

It seems that Old Boys reunions were not all that uncommon. Hundreds of towns and cities across Canada and the USA held these events beginning in the early 1900s, and in fact there are still Old Boys reunions to this day. Although referred to as Old Boys, these large community celebrations also included women.

The first of these events held locally was scheduled for April 1903. An association called the "Port Perry, Reach and Scugog Old Boys' Association" was formed in Toronto, by former residents of the town.

In announcing the formation of an Old Boys Association, all former residents of the town were invited to participate by taking out a membership, for the fee of fifty cents.

Col. Norman F. Paterson, a former well-known and respected resident and Port Perry lawyer was chosen as its president. Others former Port Perryites on the committee were John Spence, secretary, local businessman Joshua Wright, and two prominent physicians, Dr. Andrew Harrington and Dr. George Clemens.

Initial plans called for a monster excursion from Toronto to Port Perry on Monday, August 3, 1903. Association secretary Spence travelled to Port Perry, to speak with Reeve Edward Purdy and the Board of Trade, both of whom he found to be enthusiastic.

Plans got underway, starting with a large parade, a regatta on Lake Scugog, sporting events, garden parties, banquets and concerts, dancing and invitations for anyone with a craft, being a row boat, canoe or sailing ship, to decorate them with flags and bunting.

They Are Coming Home

Reunion Festival
PORT PERRY
REACH &
SCUGOG
Old Boys

PORT PERRY
August 3, 1903

The Biggest Day in the Town's
History.

A Gala Day of Welcome and
Rejoicing

Grand Parade of "Old
Boys" on arrival of Special
train from Toronto,
headed by Port Perry
and Toronto Bands. Reception
at Park.

Afternoon Attractions at Exhibition
Grounds.

Band Tournament - Contest between
Epsom, Greenbank, Enfield and Layton
Bands.

Daring Feats in Mid-Air by
Professional Acrobatic Artists in front
of Grand Stand, giving the most Refined
and Marvellous Performance
ever given in the County. These
people seldom exhibit outside of the
large cities.

Athletic Sports—open to all.

Baseball - Toronto vs.
Port Perry.

Toronto and Peterboro
Bands are expected.

Dancing in the Pavilion in
the Afternoon—Toronto
Orchestra.

Grand Promenade Band Concert
EXHIBITION BUILDING in the
EVENING.

James Fax, Comic Vocalist.
Local and Foreign Talent.

A One-Hour Performance
by Acrobatic Stars in an
entire change of Thrilling
Acts.

The building will be brilliantly
illuminated by Electric
light.

For further particulars
of the Program read the Blue
and Green Posters.

Admission to Grounds, 25c
Admission to Concert, 25c

Port Perry Star ad July 27, 1903.

A special train was secured for the day, leaving Toronto at 8:30 in the morning, and travelling through Whitby to Port Perry. The return trip from Port Perry to Toronto was scheduled to leave at 11:30 that night.

Monday, August 3rd arrived and a "merry, eager crowd" boarded the special train at Union Station in Toronto. It took seven coaches, drawn by two engines to transport the excited and enthusiastic passengers. A day earlier it was reported that 23 trains left Toronto filled to capacity, all heading to Port Perry.

The train arrived at the Port Perry station, about 11 a.m., and passengers were greeted by a large crowd of villagers, and former residents who had arrived the previous day. After some time spent hugging and shaking hands with old friends at the station, a procession formed. The excited participants, led by three bands from Port Perry, Epsom and Greenbank, paraded along Queen St. to the town hall for the opening ceremonies.

During the afternoon, attractions were held at the Exhibition (Fair) Grounds, where there was daring feats of acrobatic artists, dancing in the Pavilion, band concert and sporting events.

After a long day of activities, weary but jubilant guests made their way back to the station, where the train awaited to take the guests back to their homes in Toronto and beyond.

While no exact count was provided as to the number of people who took part in the festivities, officials of the Old Boys Association simply commented, "The results exceeded all expectations".

A second "Old Boys Reunion" was held in Port Perry on June 3, 1914, which was the birthday of King George V.

Once again large numbers travelled by an excursion train from Toronto to Port Perry to take part in the celebrations. Cost of the return fare was \$1.50.

Of the most anticipated events were motorcycle races, music by the 48th Highlanders Band, and entertainment by Eugene Lockhart, a Canadian charter actor, playwright, singer and lyricist who appeared in over 300 films, and received an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor in 1938.

Following the celebration it was decided that the large evergreen arches, which spanned the street should be discontinued for future events. There was fear that although the arches were spectacular, and a big part of the street features, that in this new era of automobiles and motorcycles, the arches impeded the view making them extremely dangerous.

This was the last time evergreen arches were used in Port Perry. A newspaper article in 1925 confirms the practice, stating, "The arrival of the automobile did away with this (Port Perry's) time honoured setting. The arches disappeared, and the decorative romance was ended."

Port Perry Old Boys' Re-Union
WEDNESDAY
JUNE 3

Motor Cycle Races
3 Big Events
 Speed Fiends that go a mile a minute.
 Canada's Best Riders to compete, sanction C.M.A.

48th Highlanders Band
 will furnish choice music during the day, also put on a grand Concert in the evening, assisted by

Eugene Lockhart
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Baseball Tournament
 1st prize \$40, second \$20.
 Also lots of other sports and attractions.

Be One of the Crowd.
Don't Miss It.

For further particulars address the Secretary
 R. B. SMALLMAN, Chairman.
 S. GRAHAM, Treasurer.
 J. E. MORRISH, Secretary.

Port Perry Star ad May 27, 1914.

The town of Uxbridge celebrated their Old Boys Reunion in 1902. The main street was decorated with this elaborate archway, which welcomed all townsfolk, former residents and members of the local lodges and fraternities.



Left: Two of the Old Boys Association buttons with red, blue and white ribbons were handed out to all those attending.

The above ribbons were provided by Brian & Ann Fairbrass, of Begin Again Antiques, Port Perry.



The Barnardo Kids

The Barnardo's Homes organization sent approximately 30,000 children to Canada between 1882 and 1939. Typically, young boys and girls, most of whom were age 8 to 16, who were taken first to receiving homes established in Ontario. From there, boys were apprenticed as farm labourers and girls as domestic servants.

The Fosters of Greenbank



The year 1919 was a tragic year for the family of my grandfather, Reg Foster Sr., living in the east end of London, England. Both parents died within six weeks of each other, leaving six children, ranging in age from 2 to 14, without parents.

Early attempts to care for the children by their grandparents and many aunts and uncles failed. The three middle children, Reg, 11, Minnie, 9 and Stan, 6, were placed by the family in Dr. Barnardo's Homes where they remained until 1922. Now 14, 12 and 9, they were sent overseas on the steamship, Minnedosa, to indentured work in Canada, landing in Quebec and then on to their first destination by train.

Reg and Stan were sent to work on farms near Greenbank. There, they experienced neglect, poverty and discrimination at the hands of their employers. Home Boys slept in barns and attics and were denied foods like meat and sugar. They were hungry much of the time and their clothing was often the used clothing of their adult employer.

Stan, 12, was finally resettled by Barnardo's to employers in Thamesville, Ontario. Around the same time, Greenbank resident, Ryerson Beare, noticed 17 year-old Reg's mistreatment at the hands of his employer and offered him employment, which he gladly accepted. This was a turning point in Reg and Stan's lives as their new employers treated them as one of their own until their indentures ended.

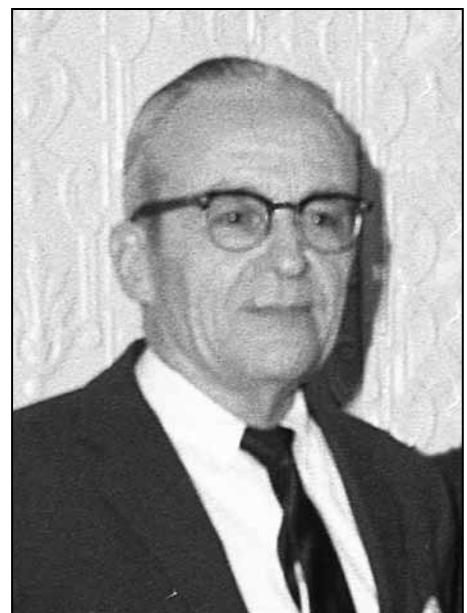
Reg married my grandmother, Velma Rodd, from Greenbank, and sold farm produce, eggs and poultry for a living. When Stan turned 18, he returned to Greenbank to live with Reg and Velma. There he met and married local girl, Ruth Pilkey, and, in 1942, he enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces, serving 4 years overseas during WWII.

Upon Stan's return in 1946, he and Reg formed Foster Bros. Egg and Poultry business, based in Greenbank. They collected and graded eggs from local farmers, raised their own chickens, and sold their produce to customers as far away as Toronto, winning many awards for their poultry at the Royal Winter Fair.

The brothers made their homes and raised their families in



STAN FOSTER



REG FOSTER



Rod Foster in the Foster Bros. egg delivery truck.

Greenbank while running their company. Stan eventually left the business and moved to Whitby where he worked as a Correctional Officer for the Government of Ontario, but, upon retirement in 1987 he returned to Greenbank.

Reg continued with the business but developed a penchant for politics, serving as a Councillor in Scugog Township and on the Central Ontario County District High School Board. A gifted public speaker, Reg was also Grand Master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. Both Reg and Stan participated in the legendary men's Pilot Class at Greenbank United Church.

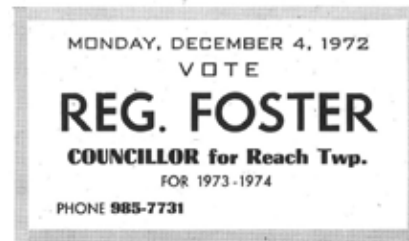
Today, five generations later, their descendants fondly remember their work ethic, their humour and family gatherings with their sister Minnie and her husband, Bill Murray, and their family from Uxbridge.

Reg's sons, Rodd and Doug, lived their entire lives in Greenbank and Stan's daughter, Nancy Dempsey, still lives there. Several grandchildren also still live in Scugog Township with their families, including John Foster, Clay Dempsey, Ryan Ridgway and Heather Murray Roulston.

Overcoming tragedy and humble beginnings through hard work and tenacity, Reg and Stan became a credit to themselves, their families, their community and their country. They were fortunate to have been sent to and settled in Scugog Township – and I hope you agree that Scugog was fortunate to have them as well.



Foster Bros. Christmas greeting Dec. 1957.



Port Perry Star - November 1972



1973 REACH TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Reg Foster served on the final Reach Twp. council before the township became part of the new municipality of Scugog Township on January 1, 1974.

Standing from left: Clerk-Treasurer Victor Malcom, Councillors Reg Foster, Neil Hunter, and Fred Christie.

Seated, Reeve Arthur Catton and Deputy-Reeve Armour McMillan.

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Your Donation is important!

The LSHS Board of Directors would like to thank all our donors in 2023 especially the Brock Family and the 100 Men of Scugog for their help in funding the Museum furnace up-grades. Their assistance allowed us the flexibility to up-date the Scugog Heritage Gallery site and also launch our Heritage Driving Tours program.

Also thanks to Ron & Nancy Compton for their help in funding the final phase of the Scugog Digital Newspaper project.

Every donation is important though – big and small – as it helps us keep our programs like the

Speaker Series and Walking Tours accessible and free. It also sends a message to the Board that we are on the right track.

You can make donations through the Canada Helps website www.canadahelps.org or by E-transfer to lakescugoghistoricalsociety@gmail.com or by cheque payable to LSHS and mailed or dropped off at Books Galore 175 Perry St.

Special thanks to the Brock Family in 2024 as they started the year off with a \$5,000 donation. As original charter founders their commitment to the Historical Society lives on.

