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The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

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Cover picture: Water Colour painting of McCracken's Landing by Richard F. Choate (Lakefield Chamber of Commerce) Thanks to Dennis Carter-Edwards. See stories, pages 12-15.



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring has sprung and with it comes new happenings at the archives! Most notably, TVA has welcomed a new staff member, Heather Aiton-Landry, who has been hired on as an Archival Assistant. You can read more about Heather in this issue of the Gazette – or better yet, pop in and say “hi”!

Also in this issue of the Gazette... Cataloguing of the Examiner Collection continues apace thanks to a troop of dedicated volunteers. On any given day there are several people out in our annex, up to their elbows in negatives, clippings and microfilm reels. I got a chance to chat with a few of them the other day and have shared some of that discussion with you (see story inside). Of course, if you are interested in joining this dynamic team, or helping out at the archives in other ways, please get in touch. We'd love you have you on board!

And speaking of helping out – while you're doing your spring cleaning, keep us in mind: We will have a table again this year at the Giant Gilmour Street Garage Sale on Saturday, May 25th and we're looking for donations of old household items to sell. So why not take this chance to dig through that corner of the basement or garage that you've been neglecting and donate to a good cause? Please bring items by the archives at 567 Carnegie Ave., or call 705-745-4404 for a pick up.

We have lots of events coming up over the next few months, not the least of which are our summer tours and Cemetery Pageant (see full schedule on back page). In May, we have a musical treat – Peterborough's New Horizons Bands will be celebrating their 10th anniversary on Friday, May 25th, 7:30pm with a benefit concert called “Down Memory Lane”. Proceeds will go to the TVA. Tickets are \$10. For more information or to buy tickets online, go to www.trentvalleyarchives.com or give us a call at 705-745-4404.

Along with new beginnings come endings and for me that means the end of my tenure as president of the board as of our April AGM. I have thoroughly enjoyed this past year but need to take a step back to focus on completing my degree in the coming year. But you haven't seen the last of me – I will continue to handle the website and newsletter and hope to keep in touch with all the new friends I've made. Thank you for a great year!

Of course, if you'd like to keep up-to-date on all our latest news and events you can visit our webpage where you will also find links to our e-newsletter, our facebook page and our twitter feed. Not the facebook type? Not to worry: we always love to see your faces the old fashioned way - in person. So don't be a stranger!

Cheers,

Pauline Harder

Peterborough's First Glider Club, 1931-1932

Elwood Jones

Among the pioneers of Peterborough aviation, we need to add the group of about fifteen budding pilots who formed the Peterborough Glider Club in October 1931. The history of that club can be traced through its first fifteen months because the minutes and secretarial correspondence has been deposited recently at the Trent Valley Archives. Kenneth Gadd was the secretary who kept the impressive set of minutes. Historians and archivists prefer minutes that record what happened at the meetings. In this case, we have a record of what happened between meetings.

Aspects of the history are missing. We do not know if the meetings continued after the end of this record. There seems to be no link with later glider clubs in the area.

The core group that founded the glider club had been taking aviation night classes for two years, but in the absence of a third course, they turned to organizing a glider club. For president, they recruited James H. Johnson, a CGE draftsman who had been a pilot in the Great War (now known as World War I).

The other founding members of the club included Fraser Watson, the vice-president; Kenneth Gadd, the secretary; A. J. Stephenson, treasurer; Les Munden; Bob Avery. Later key members were Bob Grose, Dick Clayton, R. Curry, G. Schwab, Al Stevens and Jack Wyllie. Other names that show up in the minutes include J. R. Jackson, Jack Lee and Messrs. Harding, Young, O'Keefe and Crawford.

A. J. Stephenson was the son of Fred Stephenson who worked for Western Clock; the family moved to 169 Hunter Street East, only half a block from Westclox. Fraser Watson had a long career at Westclox, but in 1932 his father, a painter, had a workshop on Water Street, next to St. John's Church. They lived on Chambers Street, which gave them good connection with the Examiner whose offices backed on to Chambers Street and whose stable was on this short street that runs from Hunter to Brock. Les Munden and his father worked for Auburn Woollens (then part of Canadian Woollens) and they lived on Murray Street. R. Curry lived with his widowed mother at 285 Armour Road. Bob Grose's father was a machinist. Ken Gadd, who worked in the office at Quaker Oats, was the son of Charles J. Gadd, a CGE machinist, and the family lived at 467 King Street. Al Stevens lived on Cross Street, and his father, Charles, was a postman, and a brother worked at Westclox.

According to the minutes, "We have a few members of the club who have a good knowledge of mechanics, some of designing and drafting and we all have a fair knowledge of gliders and gliding."

The group was quite young. When discussing insurance, it was noted that half the members were "not yet of age," or under 21. Those who drove cars included Stevens, Harding, Watson, Schwab, and Gadd. Stevens often "wheeled" a car supplied by other members. I was surprised that Gadd used "wheeled" to mean "drove" as the word as a verb is usually identified with bicycles.

The other key person in this story is Smith Milburn (d 1956) who owned the field on Chemong Road, just south of the Lindsay turn, that was used as the glider field. When researching Peterborough's early airfields, Milburn's field

was used from 1945 to the late 1950s. The earliest fields had been off Bensfort Road and three miles out Lansdowne (about where Peterborough Chrysler is located). The current airfield was being developed by Harry Oakman by the 1960s. Senator J. J. Duffus made efforts to assemble land for a major airport west of the city. However, I had found no references of an airfield in Peterborough in the years after the Lansdowne airfield which had been the site of a deadly air crash in 1931.

The club met nearly weekly from October 1931 to February 1932, meeting at the homes of different members. At the early meetings they shared information about gliders and the formation of glider clubs, notably from the year book of a British gliding club, and from information that they received from companies making gliders and from members of other gliding clubs, especially ones in Oshawa and one in Amisk, Alberta. They had an initiation fee of two dollars, and wanted members to pay one dollar a month, or twenty-five cents a week if that was easier.

They soon discussed where they could construct and house a glider. One suggestion was that Mr. Ackerman would allow them to use his workshop on the "old flying field" for a small rent. Mr. Crawford volunteered the use of the space under his cottage for storage of the glider during the winter. Later, Smith Milburn offered the use of his barn, and then his field, for the storage of the glider. This led to suggestions to build a hangar using cheap lumber.

By the third meeting they had information on gliders and gliding obtained from Waco Airplanes, in Troy, Ohio and from Mead Gliders in Chicago, Illinois. They also had information about a Rhon glider. As well, they obtained a brief pamphlet from the Aeronautics Branch of the U. S. Department of Commerce entitled "Glider and Gliding" and released July 1, 1930.

According to the pamphlet, the art of gliding developed after 1890, and by 1900 the Wright brothers were building and flying gliders as they worked on designing airplanes. A glider camp was established in Rhon, Germany by 1912. There were three kinds of gliders, all without engines: primary, secondary and soaring plane. The Peterborough club was happy to begin at the primary level, with a glider that would glide eight feet and lose one foot of altitude.

They considered a Rhon Ranger, but the opinion was unanimous in favour of a Waco Glider that the Galt Glider Club had for sale for \$225. Fraser Watson, who was going on a trip to London, suggested that he could take J. H. Johnson to look at the glider. The members agreed to pay ten dollars each so the glider could be paid on time. Getting a ready-made glider was superior to getting one that had to be assembled. Watson and Johnson went to Galt on November 14, and returned with the glider, a trailer and landing wheel. They agreed to recruit four more members to meet the cost of the glider.

The glider was moved to South Central School, at Rubidge and Sherbrooke, with the consent of J. J. Dutton and A. M. Moon. The club met at the school and assessed the repairs that would be necessary before the glider could be used. The Galt club was asked to supply a decent rudder. The

cost of the glider was rising. Mayor Roland Denne gave permission to move the glider to the Manufacturers Building at the Exhibition grounds. Some thought it would be better to go to Milburn's Field, but most wanted to practice rigging the glider indoors rather than in the open field.

The club asked for more time to pay for the glider. Dope for sealing the canvas was \$2.50 a gallon, but Fraser Watson donated the first gallon. The doping was done at the school. The club had permission to use the Examiner barn on Chambers Street, but the glider remained at the school through December.

Watson and Gadd at Milburn's farm, the home of the Peterborough Gliding Club, January 1932. The lady is a daughter of Milburn. (TVA, Gadd fonds)



As Milburn was receptive to moving the glider to his field, on December 20 seven members of the club took the glider there by trailer towed by Fraser Watson. Milburn allowed the club to put the glider in one of his barns. The following weekend, the glider was moved out to the field and nine members spent the whole afternoon assembling it. The rudder arrived, but was the wrong size. Eleven members went to Milburn's on New Year's Day. In blizzard conditions they adjusted the rudder, tightened the control wires and cables, inspected the glider and took pictures. Milburn plowed a laneway to the glider, and the next day more pictures were taken. The following day, January 3, there was no wind and the members could not get enough speed to get the controls to respond. Watson went to

Peterborough and got more rope and a new Chevrolet automobile. Now the glider was towed across and back over the field. Watson and Johnson were in the glider when it left the ground in short hops, and then on landing, the right aileron tip was damaged.

While waiting for the glider to be airworthy, members discussed getting an old car for towing that could be left at the field. Members could move rocks from near Chemong Road and use them to fill holes in the runway. It was also thought that the glider could be moved to Lake Chemong when ice and road conditions were favourable. Later in January, several members repaired the glider and received practice in using the controls. On January 30, the wind was strong, and several members went to the field. Watson got the first try at the controls and when his time was almost up the glider left the ground. The glider landed on the nose

causing damage to the nose, to the controls and to the seat. The glider was held in place while the gale continued to blow.

For most of the year, Watson, Grose and Avery spent weekends repairing the glider. Each time they took the glider to the field they found new damage.

Optimism reached a peak in June, and the Examiner for June 29 carried a report on the club and on its imminent plans to fly. At that

point, Fraser Watson was arguing that the local topography was satisfactory for gliding, but the glider needed a shock cord for landing. By August, the club was committed to keeping the glider in first-class condition. However, members were reluctant to pay fees if they were never getting off the ground. Without funds, the repair team could not get the plane airworthy.

There are no minutes after December. Without a functioning glider and short of funds, the club probably folded. The excellent minute book is well-worth reading. The story unfolded against the backdrop of the Great Depression and members could not afford to give the necessary financial support. It would be nice to compare this experience with later glider clubs in the area.

Quaker Oats Office Staff, 1932

The following picture was apparently taken by Gadd Photographers. We have no information about the photographer, but was undoubtedly related to Ken Gadd. This is a fascinating picture on several levels. We have identified most of the people by going to the city directories for Peterborough in the 1930s.

Many of the names were familiar to me. Fred G. Ash built the house at 11 Charles Street that was my home in the 1970s. Alex. I. Butcher lived on Engleburn. He had lived in the gate house but then built a very nice bungalow behind the large hole that was evidently part of the old Rogers Raceway. When I was working on the history of the Hunter Street bridge in the late 1980s, he showed me the photos related to the building of the Hunter Street bridge and then donated them, at my urging, to the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives (as it was then).

It is such a delight to see a great photo was clear identification. Ken Gadd was clearly a very systematic guy, and we all appreciate that. If you know stories about these people, you might wish to share them. Ejones55@cogeco.ca

Illustration: Ken Gadd, secretary of the Peterborough Glider Club, is shown second from the left in the top row of this photo of the office staff at Quaker Oats, 1932. (Trent Valley Archives, Gadd fonds)

Others in the picture:

Top row: Mike Crough; Ken Gadd; Alex. I. Butcher; E. Vernon Morphet; Wm. J. Brooks; Ernest E. Brumwell; J. Antonin LeBlanc; Wm. H. Young, Jr.; Ernest J. Wolff

Second row: George E. Nicholls; Arthur E. Pitchford; Lorne B. Cunningham; Fred G. Ash; W. Alex. Donnelly; Lewis H. Ingram; Jack E. Sullivan; E. Walker Jones; Wm. Eric Vincent; Harold C. Throop; Jack Gordon Wallace

Front row: Helen Hollingsworth; Bertha Pickering; Chrissy Forrest; Lil Murdoch; Mary Grady; Lillian H. Elliott; Agnes Dixon; Eva McIlmoyl; Lola Leach; Mae Warner; Lila O'Keefe; Zelda Northey; Agnes Grant



Hazelbrae Barnardo Home Memorial

The first Ontario British Home Children Day was celebrated on 27 September 2011. The Hazelbrae Barnardo Group, headed by Ivy Sucee, worked with researchers based in Ottawa, and have identified nearly 10,000 names of Barnardo children who came through Peterborough, Ontario. The large black granite monument is on the lawn of the Queen Alexandra School, which Barnardo children living at Hazelbrae attended after 1892. Hazelbrae was on the other side of Barnardo Avenue, and the front entrance was from George Street, next to Sadleir House. This site is marked by a green plaque. The former Grace Sunday School was next to the school grounds; when it was demolished in 1932 the grounds became part of the school yard. In the grounds when demolished in 1932. The Barnardo home,

The monument features the names arranged by the year of arrival. For 1883 to 1887 there were boys and girls, and

each was recorded separately, and then alphabetically. The boys, after 1887, went to a receiving house in Toronto on Sherbourne Street. Barnardos, later, also had a receiving station in Manitoba, that received boys and girls.

It was not easy to compile the list of names. The research team, headed by James Sayers with the Ottawa based BIFHGO deserves much of the credit. This list is probably as good as we are going to get, for it has been compiled from original documents and carefully interpreted. Still everyone realizes that errors are possible even with the best possible resources.

Photo by Ron Briegel.



We plan to publish the entire list as it appears on the monument. We will also publish amendments, if any are discovered. In the first instalment which appeared in the February 2012 issue of the Heritage Gazette we printed the names of those who arrived between 1883 and 1885. We now continue with the names for 1886 to 1889.

Special thanks to James Sayers and to Ivy Sucee, and their researchers for assembling this super data base of Barnardo child immigrants.

ABRAHAM	—	14	M	1886	GIBBS	G H	16	M	1886
ACLAND	A S	14	M	1886	GILDERSLEEVE	L	12	M	1886
ALLCORN	W	17	M	1886	GIRDLER	G	11	M	1886
ANDERSON	J	11	M	1886	GODFREY	C	11	M	1886
BAILEY	W G	13	M	1886	GORSE	William	18	M	1886
BALL	R	14	M	1886	GRAVELY	Herbert	17	M	1886
BARRETT	A	13	M	1886	GREEN	James	18	M	1886
BALMENT	A	12	M	1886	GROGGAN	G	14	M	1886
BENDER	Elizabeth	17	F	1886	GROOM	John	17	M	1886
BENNETT	A	14	M	1886	GUNTON	Arthur	18	M	1886
BIRCH	William	14	M	1886	HAMOND	Frederick	13	M	1886
BOSWELL	John	16	M	1886	HARBOUR	H G	15	M	1886
BOLT	R I	13	M	1886	HARRIS	Charles	13	M	1886
BRACE	A	17	M	1886	HARRIS	—	14	M	1886
BRIGGS	R	15	M	1886	HELB	Edward	15	M	1886
BROWN	L	15	M	1886	HERBERT	Harry	19	M	1886
BROWN	John	14	M	1886	HEWITT	Lewis	16	M	1886
BURFORD	F	15	M	1886	HILDGARD	—	11	M	1886
BURGESS	E W	15	M	1886	HILL	John	16	M	1886
BURNS	T	18	M	1886	HOCKLEY	John	16	M	1886
BUTLER	G	20	M	1886	HOCKLEY	James	12	M	1886
CA_NK	T	14	M	1886	HOLDFORD	Hy	12	M	1886
CAMBRIDGE	—	13	M	1886	HOLLIFIELD	George	15	M	1886
CAREL	Thomas	—	M	1886	HOLMES	Arthur	17	M	1886
CARLEY	James	14	M	1886	HOOPER	Francis	15	M	1886
CARTY	William	—	M	1886	HOOPER	George	11	M	1886
CHAPPELL	A E	14	M	1886	HOUND	John	13	M	1886
CHUGG	Fred	12	M	1886	HOWE	W D	12	M	1886
CLAREN	John	13	M	1886	HOWELL	Harry	12	M	1886
CLAYTON	—	13	M	1886	HOWLEY	Albert	13	M	1886
CLIVE	B	16	M	1886	HURDLE	Charles	11	M	1886
COBB	—	13	M	1886	IACHBOLD	G	12	M	1886
COCHRANE	Albert	12	M	1886	JARDINE	William	12	M	1886
COLE	_ P	14	M	1886	JEFFRIES	D	17	M	1886
COLLARD	Patrick	14	M	1886	JENKINS	F	15	M	1886
COLLINS	S	19	M	1886	JENNINGS	H	11	M	1886
COLLINS	_ H	16	M	1886	JIGGENS	—	11	M	1886
CONNELL	—	13	M	1886	JOHNSON	Rd	16	M	1886
COWLAND	Charles	12	M	1886	JONES	A F	14	M	1886
COWLEY	—	—	M	1886	JONES	John	12	M	1886
CRAFORD	C	13	M	1886	KELLY	John	16	M	1886
DARE	George	13	M	1886	KELLY	Samuel	14	M	1886
DAVIS	James	12	M	1886	KEMBLE	—	18	M	1886
DEAN	James	17	M	1886	KENNY	—	14	M	1886
DONELLY	Hugh	19	M	1886	KNIGHT	Hy	13	M	1886
DREW	William	16	M	1886	KNOWLES	—	12	M	1886
DRURY	William	16	M	1886	LAW	John	15	M	1886
EGAN	Peter	16	M	1886	LAWRENCE	Charles	13	M	1886
ELLIS	William	11	M	1886	LAY	John	13	M	1886
ELSON	George	16	M	1886	LEE	—	10	M	1886
EVAN	James	17	M	1886	LEGG	William	11	M	1886
EYRE	John	13	M	1886	LINDOP	Robert	12	M	1886
FARRINGTON	Charles	11	M	1886	LUCY	Patrick	16	M	1886
FIRNING	John	14	M	1886	LYNCH	Peter	20	M	1886
FLYNN	—	12	M	1886	MANCARROW	—	19	M	1886
FORDER	—	12	M	1886	MARCH	Walter	16	M	1886
FOX	Christoph	11	M	1886	MAYNARD	A	11	M	1886
GATCH	Ernest	12	M	1886	MCGIVERRING	E	11	M	1886
				MCGRATH	Denis	13	M	1886	

MCINTOSH	_ C	16	M	1886	WARNER	N	18	M	1886
MCLAREN	_	11	M	1886	WATT	_	17	M	1886
METCALFE	William	18	M	1886	WATTS	_	11	M	1886
MILLER	H W	21	M	1886	WESCOTT	Mary	16	F	1886
MINNS	H E	16	M	1886	WHEELER	Walter	16	M	1886
MOSS	John	13	M	1886	WHITBREAD	R	12	M	1886
MULLIT	_	14	M	1886	WHYBROW	W	13	M	1886
MURPHY	John	17	M	1886	WILLIAMS	A	12	M	1886
NEWTON	William	15	M	1886	WILLIAMSON	_	17	M	1886
NOBBS	James	12	M	1886	WOOD	F J	11	M	1886
OWEN	Archibald	18	M	1886	WOODCOCK	Arthur	12	M	1886
PALMER	I	15	M	1886	WOODGATE	A J	13	M	1886
PARKER	Arthur	16	M	1886	WORLEY	_	11	M	1886
PARRY	John	17	M	1886	WRAY	A	18	M	1886
PARRY	David	19	M	1886	WRIGHT	H	17	M	1886
PEASNALL	William	17	M	1886	YATES	Thomas	11	M	1886
PELL	William	18	M	1886					
PERRY	Ernest	14	M	1886	BALDWIN	Nellie		F	1887
POULSON	_	13	M	1886	BARNABY	Alice		F	1887
POULSON	P	14	M	1886	BISWELL	Frances		F	1887
PURROTT	_	15	M	1886	BROBIN	Fanny Jane		F	1887
RAWLINSON	L	12	M	1886	BROWN	Alice Eliza		F	1887
RAYNES	James	16	M	1886		Elizabeth			
REARDON	William	18	M	1886	CASSEL	Herbert		F	1887
REGAN	Peter	14	M	1886	CHARMAN	Eliza Rosina		F	1887
REX	Samuel	12	M	1886	CLEMENTS	Ada		F	1887
RIXON	Charles	13	M	1886	CRAFFORD	Florence		F	1887
ROACH	William	14	M	1886	CRAFFORD	Olive		F	1887
ROBINSON	D	13	M	1886	CROUCHER	Lydia		F	1887
ROSE	Herbert	10	M	1886	DAVIES	Emma		F	1887
ROSE	Charles	15	M	1886	DAVIS	Mary		F	1887
ROSE	_	11	M	1886	EASEY	Amy		F	1887
SAVAGE	A	11	M	1886	EMENY	Jane		F	1887
SAYER	C W	13	M	1886	FARLEY	Edward	M		1887
SHEPHERD	Charles	14	M	1886	FRYER	Rachel		F	1887
SHEPHERD	James	11	M	1886	FRYER	Sarah		F	1887
SILVESTER	A	15	M	1886	GARBUTT	Ellen		F	1887
SLATER	M	a	M	1886	GRATTON	Hannah		F	1887
SLAWSON	T	14	M	1886	GUERARD	Emily		F	1887
SMITH	William	16	M	1886	HARRISON	Emma		F	1887
SMITH	I W	19	M	1886	HODGKINS	Louisa		F	1887
SMITH	Henry	13	M	1886	JOHNSON	Maria		F	1887
SMITH	William	13	M	1886	JOIST	Charlotte C		F	1887
SMTH	Charles	23	M	1886	JORDAN	Annie		F	1887
SPARROW	W	11	M	1886	KELSEY	Amy		F	1887
STEER	_ S	11	M	1886	KING	Emily		F	1887
STEVENS	David	11	M	1886	LEE	Emily		F	1887
STEPHENSON	Charles	17	M	1886	LEE	Louisa		F	1887
SULLIVAN	Hy	16	M	1886	LEGGETT	Sarah Anne		F	1887
SULLIVAN	Patrick	18	M	1886	LETTEN	Jessie		F	1887
SUMMERS	P	13	M	1886	LETTEN	James	M		1887
TAYLOR	D	18	M	1886	LLOYD	Emma		F	1887
TAYLOR	A	11	M	1886	MATTHEWS	Harriett		F	1887
THOMPSON	W	18	M	1886	OLDHAM	Bertha Kate		F	1887
TOLSON	T	18	M	1886	PAGE	Ada Frances		F	1887
TOMKINS	_ _	11	M	1886	SHERWIN	Hannah		F	1887
TURNBULL	R	14	M	1886	SIMPSON	Elizabeth		F	1887
VENABLES	H	12	M	1886	SPACKMAN	Owenia		F	1887
WAITE	G	21	M	1886	STENT	Ada		F	1887

STUBBS	Selina	F	1887	NICKSON	Sarah	14	F	1888	
SUMMERS	Florence	F	1887	NOBBS	Ada B.	12	F	1888	
WHITE	Edith	F	1887	OSBORNE	Grace A.	22	F	1888	
WOOD	Minnie	F	1887	PARKER	Annie E.	14	F	1888	
				PARKER	Clara	6	F	1888	
ANDERSON	Eleanor J.	10	F	1888	PEGRAM	Emma	11	F	1888
ANDERSON	Mary A.	6	F	1888	PEGRAM	Esther	14	F	1888
BALDWIN	Ada E.	10	F	1888	PITCHER	Louisa	15	F	1888
BARTLEY	Clara	13	F	1888	PRIOR	Alice	17	F	1888
BARTLEY	Martha	10	F	1888	RICHARDS	Isabella R.	13	F	1888
BLAKE	Jane	9	F	1888	RODDICK	Jane C.	8	F	1888
BLOOR	Alice B.	14	F	1888	RODDICK	Margaret L.	13	F	1888
BLOOR	Ellen R.	12	F	1888	RONDEAU	Kate	13	F	1888
BOLTON	Alice	12	F	1888	ROWLAND	Emma E.	10	F	1888
BOLTON	Edith	14	F	1888	ROWLAND	Kate H.	12	F	1888
BRIMSON	Annie	12	F	1888	SEMPER	Elisa	12	F	1888
BROWN	Mary Ann	17	F	1888	SHERWOOD	Eva	18	F	1888
BUTLER	Ruth	11	F	1888	SIMMONS	Susan	12	F	1888
CAMPBELL	Mary	12	F	1888	SLINGSBY	Clara S.	17	F	1888
CLEMENTS	Elizabeth	14	F	1888	SMITH	Caroline	9	F	1888
COOK	Emily	13	F	1888	SMITH	Ellen	14	F	1888
CURTIS	Amy	12	F	1888	STEVENS	Joyce	15	F	1888
CURTIS	Annie P. E.	15	F	1888	SWAIN	Mary A.	11	F	1888
EVANS	Jane M.	12	F	1888	TERRY	Sophia	17	F	1888
EWING	Selina	12	F	1888	TIBBLE	Frances	18	F	1888
FARRELL	Mary	11	F	1888	VERRALL	Kate	16	F	1888
FENN	Edith	12	F	1888	VERRALL	Louisa E.	18	F	1888
FISHER	Jane	14	F	1888	WARRIOR	Annie	15	F	1888
FOSTER	Elizabeth L.	12	F	1888	WARRIOR	Lucy	18	F	1888
FOSTER	Florence	8	F	1888	WEBB	Alice	18	F	1888
FOSTER	Mary A.	10	F	1888	WEBB	Emma	14	F	1888
FRANCIS	Annie	15	F	1888	WEBB	Henrietta	10	F	1888
GARDNER	Caroline A.	13	F	1888	WELLS	Ursula M. J.	11	F	1888
GARNER	Martha A.	15	F	1888	WHITE	Grace E.	20	F	1888
GLANVILLE	Harriet J.	12	F	1888	WILDEN	Charlotte E.	18	F	1888
GOLD	Mary Ann	16	F	1888	WITHAM	Sarah	11	F	1888
GOODRAM	Rose Ann	15	F	1888					
HAINES	Mary Ann	17	F	1888	ADAMS	Olive	10	F	1889
HARDING	Alice	7	F	1888	ADDY	Gertrude	12	F	1889
HARDING	Rose	11	F	1888	ATKINS	Florence	11	F	1889
HEAD	Ada M.	12	F	1888	BAKER	Sarah	10	F	1889
HOWARD	Susan	12	F	1888	BARNETT	Rosa	14	F	1889
JELFS	Amy A.	13	F	1888	BEAVER	Alice	15	F	1889
LAVIN	Charlotte	12	F	1888	BIGGS	Daisy	6	F	1889
LAWRENCE	Maria	12	F	1888	BIGGS	Minnie	8	F	1889
LEE	Mary Ann	15	F	1888	BIRCH	Caroline	12	F	1889
LUCAS	Eliza	13	F	1888	BIRCH	Elizabeth	11	F	1889
LUCAS	Winifred	12	F	1888	BLAKE	Louisa	12	F	1889
LUXFORD	Sarah	16	F	1888	BOORMAN	Ada T.	12	F	1889
MALLEN	Sarah	15	F	1888	BRANSBY	Isabella	12	F	1889
MANN	Jane A.	18	F	1888	BRIDLE	Annie	14	F	1889
McMILLAN	Laura	15	F	1888	BROOKS	Catherine	13	F	1889
MEEN	Florence	12	F	1888	BRYAN	Jane	19	F	1889
MINGLES	Madelaine	15	F	1888	BURGESS	Clara	12	F	1889
MORRISH	Annie	16	F	1888	BURNHAM	Gertrude	9	F	1889
MORRISH	Emily	15	F	1888	CLARE	Florence	13	F	1889
NASH	Ellen	14	F	1888	COHEN	Florence	15	F	1889
NASH	Jane	9	F	1888	COXHEAD	Fanny	11	F	1889
NICKSON	Jessie	11	F	1888	DEWIN	Ellen	20	F	1889

DIXON	Louisa	12	F	1889	PERRY	Ellen	11	F	1889
DOBSON	Kate	11	F	1889	PHILLIPS	Eliza	12	F	1889
DRURY	Catherine	13	F	1889	PICKERING	Bertha	10	F	1889
DRURY	Elizabeth		F	1889	POTTS	Phyllis	11	F	1889
FARTHING	Mary E.	13	F	1889	PRENTICE	Marian	11	F	1889
FARTHING	Sarah J.	14	F	1889	REYNOLDS	Mary	13	F	1889
FOX	Emmie	7	F	1889	ROBINSON	Sophia	16	F	1889
FRAQUELLI	Alice	11	F	1889	SAWYER	Ethel E.	11	F	1889
FRAQUELLI	Rosina	13	F	1889	SHEEN	Agnes	12	F	1889
FRESHWATER	Annie	12	F	1889	SHERBROOK	Hannah	18	F	1889
FRYER	Annie	13	F	1889	SHERWIN	Catherine	11	F	1889
FRYER	Emily	15	F	1889	SLADE	Harriet	16	F	1889
FUNGE	Julia	10	F	1889	SMITH	Annie	11	F	1889
GALLAGHER	Agnes	15	F	1889	SMITH	Florence	a	F	1889
GALLAGHER	Cecilia	13	F	1889	SMITH	Martha	a	F	1889
GRAINGER	Maud	7	F	1889	SMITH	Nellie	10	F	1889
GREAVE	Emma	12	F	1889	SNUSHER	Henrietta	11	F	1889
GRINNELL	Alice	12	F	1889	STEVENS	Alice	14	F	1889
HOLDER	Alice	9	F	1889	STEVENS	Ellen	8	F	1889
HOLDER	Amelia	11	F	1889	STEVENS	Rose	11	F	1889
HUBBARD	Annie	10	F	1889	STUBBINGS	Alice	12	F	1889
HUTCHINGS	Adelaide	10	F	1889	SUMMERFIELD	Emily	13	F	1889
HUYTON	Annie	14	F	1889	TAYLOR	Alice	12	F	1889
JACOBS	Nelly L.	13	F	1889	TAYLOR	Annie	12	F	1889
JONES	Amy G.	10	F	1889	TERRY	Elizabeth R.	15	F	1889
JOYCE	Sarah	9	F	1889	TRIBECK	Ruth Rose	8	F	1889
KEEN	Eliza	17	F	1889	TRICKER	Caroline	11	F	1889
KING	Elizabeth	12	F	1889	TURNER	Ada	12	F	1889
KING	Lydia	9	F	1889	WAKELING	Phoebe	17	F	1889
LAW	Florence A.	12	F	1889	WEBB	Ruth M.	12	F	1889
LAW	Gertrude	6	F	1889	WELLER	Martha	14	F	1889
LEDINGHAM	Miss	a	F	1889	WHEELER	Sarah	11	F	1889
LEWIS	Emma J.	13	F	1889	WHITNELL	Margaret	12	F	1889
LOCK	Fanny	11	F	1889	WILLIAMS	Eliza	13	F	1889
LODGE	Beatrice	12	F	1889	WINDUS	Ann	12	F	1889
LYNCH	Florence	11	F	1889	WINTERSON	Mary A.	11	F	1889
MAEL	Elizabeth	12	F	1889	WRIGHT	Kate E.	12	F	1889
MARSH	Lily	12	F	1889					
MAYS	Catherine	10	F	1889					
McINLEY	Mrs.	a	F	1889					
MILLS	Mary E.	11	F	1889					
MUIRHEAD	Frances	10	F	1889					
MUTCH	Ada G.	10	F	1889					
NEED	Rose	16	F	1889					
OXLADE	Edith	12	F	1889					
OXLADE	Louisa	13	F	1889					
PALMER	Margaret	11	F	1889					
PATON	Matilda	14	F	1889					
PAYNE	Georgina	12	F	1889					

Editor's note:

John Sayer has noted that some errors are possible on these lists because names could be entered incorrectly on ship lists. As he says, "On my list I have put the correct name in brackets beside the incorrect name, and if it is in question, which several are, I put a question mark. Possible mistakes could be PEEK for PECK or HALLANDAL when registered in England but HALLENDALE over here. So far, we have had no complaints. You have an excellent magazine. John"

PEP: Peterborough Examiner Project

The Peterborough Examiner archives were presented to Trent Valley Archives in December. The collection was both large compared to others we have had, and diverse in terms of media and change over time. The first part was solved by equipping our annex, a project that was two years in the making, so that we could house the archives adequately. This entailed getting electricity, shelving, archival quality boxes, protectors for photos and negatives, and upgraded reels for the microfilm.

The second part was solved by developing a superb team of thirty volunteers working under my leadership. About thirty people have attended the briefing about the Examiner collection, and the discussion of archival



Bill Hope, one of the volunteers on the Peterborough Examiner project in the spacious TVA annex.

principles that apply. Volunteers were able to choose the part of the collection in which to work. The microfilms (series A) have been checked and placed on new reels for about 800 of the 1,000 reels. Our volunteers are Betty Wells and Patricia Noble, with some assistance from Owen Rubio and his friend Mike. At mid-April, they had logged sixty hours.

The thousands of photographs have been placed in four series, to match the practice of the Examiner. Callie Stacey has been the lead volunteer on the single column photos (series B1), while Maureen Prince has been handling the larger photos (series B2). Marie Doyle and Bill Hope have been doing yeoman service on the mixed bag of photos that are in Series B3. Nancy Davies and Mary McGillis had helped. Dianne Tedford is cataloguing the file photos, a mixture of photos and negatives, which we have placed in Series B4. Ron Briegel has scanned several hundred of the items in B4 and this has given us a good start on assessing what might be possible when we go ahead on this project. To date, the photograph volunteers have logged about seventy hours.

Elwood Jones, Archivist

Series C1, that features negatives from the 1950s and 1960s, has developed a team approach towards the estimated 13,000 negatives. Colum Diamond has been marvelous and is the captain of this team. He has logged over 45 hours on this project at TVA, but he has also been developing a database to go with the first 1,000 negatives. Others working in this series include Bob Lipsett, Eleanor Darling, Barb Diceman, Bev Morgan, Pat Allan and Mary MacPherson. Altogether, not counting Colum, these volunteers have logged at least 35 hours.

One of the most daunting series is C2, which consists of an estimated half million negatives, mostly 35 mm, which have been organized in daily envelopes. This has taken Sharon Barry at least 25 hours to shelve the boxes in a rough chronological order. We have been pursuing a double approach to protecting these negatives, and she has begun the task of putting the negatives into negative protectors.

We have had a solid cadre of people working on boxes of newspaper clippings that had been sorted by the Examiner staff into subjects in two series, Biography and Events. Nine volunteers have thus far logged about 130 hours, and have made an impressive dent. Greg Conchelas, Doreen Lasenby, Betty Drain, Arlen Moyer, Caryl Miller, Al Brunger, Paul Lumsden, Dennis Carter-Edwards and Mary Lavery have all found interesting stories amid the tedium of flattening newsclippings and placing them in file folders. Keeping ahead of them in the supply of file folders has been challenging. Owen Rubio put together the boxes that they are using, and we will soon need to order some more boxes.

We are already finding some treasures in this fantastic collection. Dennis Carter-Edwards is sharing a great example in this issue of the Gazette, which was the spur for our cover and a reprint of an article on McCracken's Landing. Some of the photos in Series B4 capture historical elements that were probably used for Saturday features in years gone by. A couple of historical photos relate to the Peterborough Examiner, itself. I wrote a column for the Examiner about volume 1, number 1 of the Daily Examiner, 30 May 1885. The weekly edition that began as the Despatch in 1847 and was renamed the Weekly Examiner in 1856 continued even after the daily began, and we will be looking to see what was actually microfilmed. There are rich files of photos on Robertson Davies, Winston Churchill, and most of the royal family. There are countless wire photos capturing the sports heroes and world figures of the 1970s and 1980s.

We are really grateful for all our volunteers tied to this project and we hope they will continue to mine the collection for its riches. We are still some distance from providing a finding aid, but we are making great progress, only because of the volunteers. A hearty thanks to all of them.

Cataloguing of Examiner Collection Continues Apace: Volunteers Make the Difference

Pauline Harder

On a gorgeous spring day at the archives, volunteers Arlene Moyer, Bob Lipsett, Paul Lumsden and Betty Wells are hard at work in the Trent Valley Archives annex cataloguing the Examiner Collection. Acquired by TVA in the fall of 2011, the



Examiner Collection spans more than 150 years of material consisting of 180 cubic feet of microfilm, reference files, negatives, newspapers, newsclippings and more. The enormous task of cataloguing these resources has been taken up by dozens of volunteers like Arlene, Bob, Paul and Betty, who responded to the TVA's call for help.

The mood in the annex is friendly but focussed. Sitting surrounded by boxes upon boxes of negatives, clippings and microfilm, it is hard not to be constantly aware of the magnitude of the challenge ahead. "Look around you," says Arlene, gesturing to the overcrowded shelves. "You don't have time to read everything. Something catches your eye and you take a quick look but you stop too much and you could be here all day."

Volunteer Arlene Moyer

Nonetheless, sometimes the pull is irresistible: "Some of the files are interesting – there's one on the Serpent Mounds in the initial discovery stages. I could have spent the whole day here just reading that file," admits Arlene to the knowing looks of the other volunteers. "I had a summer job cutting those mounds when they had the original display set up," joins in Paul.

Paul's friend Bob nods as he raises another negative up to the light. A newcomer to Peterborough, Bob is learning a lot about Peterborough from his first volunteer experience here. Recently retired from running the MBA program at Abu Dhabi University in the United Arab Emirates, Bob was persuaded by his old friend that Peterborough would be the perfect place to settle down. Sorting through negatives from the fifties, he finds some old photos of the Liftlocks. "You know the liftlocks haven't changed," he observes, "but the boats... these look like old Greavettes and those type of very, very expensive wooden boats they used to have. There are a lot of neat photos of that."

Meanwhile, Betty Wells is hard at work replacing brittle and broken microfilm reels. "I found the microfilm from the year I was born," she laughs, barely looking up from the task at hand. "I didn't have time to look at it but at least now I know where it is."

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the Examiner Collection, please contact us at admin@trentvalleyarchives.com or 705-745-4404. You can learn more about our numerous volunteer opportunities at TVA on our website at www.trentvalleyarchives.com.

McCracken and Richard Choate and The Peterborough Examiner archives

Dennis Carter-Edwards

The recent acquisition by the Trent Valley Archives of the Peterborough Examiner's extensive collection of original papers, photos, negatives, clipping files, microfilm reels and correspondence opens up a new and significant window on the history of this region. The cataloguing of this massive collection will take countless hours by the staff and many volunteers who have signed on to work on this archival treasure. As one of the volunteers, I was working on the clipping files and randomly selected the box with the McC's envelopes. The work involves taking out the newspaper clippings stuffed into envelopes, unfolding them, preparing an inventory and putting them into proper archival folders. While working through the envelopes, I came across the McCracken file which

contained an intriguing article by a R.F. Choate. Choate had prepared a two part series on the McCracken's of McCracken's Landing, including a reference to the Choate supply store that was located there. The article was written in an engaging style and I enjoyed perusing the material. After finishing for the day, I put the files away and closed the box.

The next morning, I attended a planning meeting at the Chamber of Commerce building in Lakefield for the upcoming 125th commemoration of the opening of the Buckhorn, Burleigh and Lovesick locks. I noticed a well-executed watercolour on the counter of a lake scene with a storefront, dock and steamer out on the lake. Intrigued by the image, I checked closer and there in the corner was the

signature R.F. Choate. Upon inquiry of the Chamber manager, I was told the painting had simply arrived one day the note by mail. On the back was a brief notation, "....." The painting was in fact, a view of McCracken's Landing with the Choate supply store prominently shown.

The serendipity of historical research is hard to explain



but I doubt the painting would have had any meaning to me

if I hadn't worked on the clippings. Elwood Jones directed me to the Choates family papers at the Trent University Archives where I discovered that apart from being a very polished newspaper man, Dick Choate was an excellent painter and had an exhibition some 50 examples of his work exhibited at the Mellors Gallery in Toronto. Titled,

"Kawartha Moods an Exhibition of Water Colour Drawings by Richard F. Choate" the collection included views of St. John's Church in Peterborough, Perry's Creek, Burleigh and Stony Lake from Boschink.

The Choate story is a fascinating one and certainly deserving of further research to piece together the life of this noted Peterborough area figure and perhaps his other artistic accomplishments. This was all brought about by a single afternoon working on the Peterborough Examiner collection at the Trent Valley Archives. One can only imagine the other treasures waiting to be discovered as the collection is catalogued and made available for research.

Ed. Note: The picture that intrigued Dennis, seen here, is in colour on the current cover, and we have printed the stories that linked to that picture.

The McCrackens of McCracken's Landing Latch-String Out From Sgt.-Major's Day

Richard F. Choate
Peterborough Examiner, 21 March 1951

Bob McCracken, of McCracken's Landing, Stony [sic] Lake, was a personality – and something more. He was an institution.

Son of Hamilton ("Hammie") McCracken, he was the third of his line to own and occupy the Dummer shore demesne.

"William Robert" he was baptismally and officially. But as is commonly the case, the rigid nomenclature of Church and State claimed scant attention to the pulsing immediacies of real life. "Bob" he remained, or sometimes more intimately in the local idiom, "Red Bob." So he was known to the circle of his friends – a circle that constantly widened through the years of the Landing's transition, a period in which a stony, tangled path through the cedars to the water's edge became a gate-way through which

poured summer sojourners from all parts of the continent.

It was thus that the rugged personalities of the McCrackens took on increasingly an institutional aspect. Through the years, the McCracken latchstring was always out to the necessitous visitor who came to seek homegrown food supplies; a meal; or shelter; or a boat, or even directional guidance in the days when district maps were all but unknown.

In the early 1830s when Sergt.-Major William McCracken, the first of the family line, came to North Dummer the resurveys necessary in the placing of new settlers were just being completed. William McCracken was a native of Londonderry, Ireland. His wife, the former Susan Thompson, was born at Newry, Ireland. Service of 21 years in India with the British Army had won for the husband a grant of land in Canada.

After the customary six weeks' trip on a sailing vessel, the McCrackens arrived at Cobourg from Liverpool in 1832. Stout hearts and sound physiques were necessary for the undertaking of the wilderness journey of upwards of 50 miles to Stony Lake over the crudest of trail-roads and make-shift bridges. Such roads as there were to North Dummer had been cut rather hastily to permit the influx in 1831 of English immigrants, some of them pensioners, in accordance with the plans of Captain Rubidge. Provision for the settlement had admittedly been inadequate and a good many of the newcomers, as well as some of a party from Scotland who arrived in 1832, are said to have left. Some of the pensioners were accused of shiftlessness and Dummer settlement affairs about this time gave rise to cleavages of opinion.

William McCracken's army service grant gave him possession of a property fronting on Stony Lake and stretching about a mile on each side of the site of the present Landing.

Descriptions of the Stony Lake of the 1830s, most of them fragmentary, have been passed along in brief written records but mainly in oral tradition. Mrs. Susanna Moodie writes in "Roughing It in the Bush" of her first glimpse of Stony Lake proper after a canoe trip on Clear Lake in 1835.

"Oh what a magnificent scene of wild and lonely grandeur burst upon us as we swept around the little peninsula and the whole majesty of Stony Lake broke upon us at once, another lake of the Thousand Islands in miniature, and in the heart of the wilderness."

Off retold have been the stories of how people of the time could pass afoot, in places over fallen trees, from McCracken's Landing to Juniper Island. It was even said that cattle could walk across. Looking at the present expanse of water, through which steamers have plied for years, the observer of today may find acceptance of the earlier stores a rather heavy strain on his credulity. Nevertheless, a little examination of the basic terrain confirms the measurable correctness of the traditional description.

Drowned Land

Stony Lake water levels fluctuated violently in the earlier years before public controlling works and reservoirs were established. Doubtless in the drier seasons of the year recession of the water made possible the land passage from some points on the Dummer shore to what was later Sheriff Hall's Island or Juniper.

Rocky shoals of varying shapes abound in the area close about and to the east of little "Emerald Isle" (once Gemmell's), which even in recent years have poked their heads well above the water surface. One such has been known as the "Chocolate Drop." In the area of what was called the "third Line

Creek" (near the Sheriff Hall island) stumps and broken tree trunks tell the story of 'drowned lands.' In the relatively recent past (let us say the early part of the last century) the channels thereabout doubtless were alternately dry and flooded, according to the season. The fluctuations of that time, however, tell us little about the vast recession after the glacial age.

In the drowned lands and "duck ponds" on the Dummer side of Boshink Narrows we find similar conditions. Hence we are driven to no hypothesis of a miraculous parting of the waters as in the Red Sea crossing, to explain the legends of the cows walking over a land bridge without benefit of waders.

Surveyors' records throw interesting light on the helpful social services rendered by the McCrackens who had come to live on a rocky frontier at a time when frontiers were rolling back rapidly. The founding of a family home with a stable way of life was of inestimable benefit in the hinterland of a sparsely-settled township. (Dummer in 1835 had only 693 people).

Especially helpful to an understanding of the life and times of the pioneers are the field notes of Thomas Dennehy, a public land surveyor, made in 1840 and 1843, which passed into the possession of the late John Pierce, who with his son, Mr. John G. Pierce, the present Peterborough surveyor, contributed so notably to the work of their profession in both Western and Eastern Canada (especially in the Ontario-Manitoba boundary survey).

Surveyor's Log Book

Dennehy's "log-book tells of visits to the Dummer shore area with a Mr. Legallais in the early '40s, accompanied by Patrick Young of Young's Point. On November 12, 1840, he called at Gilchrist's Bay, a few miles from McCracken's, where the present writer's grandfather, Thomas Choate,[sic] has been engaged in 1837

with a force of some 25 or 30 men in blasting out the Indian River channel to increase the flow of water to the mills he had been building at Warsaw.

Dennehy records that when he took the levels there the "water was low in Stony Lake in consequence of the Buckhorn dam being about finished." But he adds, "the water is commencing to rise again to its wonted level and it must be remembered that Young's dam (at Young's Point) which they are raising and is nearly finished will raise the level of Stony Lake to be at least two feet higher than White Lake; hence 11 cubic feet of water will flow constantly with considerable velocity."

On May 21, 1843, while Dennehy was paddling up Clear Lake with Patrick Young, they found that their canoe was leaking hazardously, and was low in the eater. They determined to go on to McCracken's (Lot 20, Con. 3, Dummer). The shore home, as usual, was equal to the emergency, for as Dennehy adds, "Got gum from him (McCracken) and fixed our canoe; was ready about five o'clock evening to go; it looked like rain, so we stopped there that night; it rained." The incident illustrates the variety of the demands made upon the hospitality and resourcefulness of the McCrackens and of the friendly services given to travelers whether they came by land or by water in quest of a haven from the elements.

In the morning Dennehy continues, he "got off a skiff at McCracken's and went to Peninsula Falls" (Burleigh). There he examined the sites for bridges. Through heavy rain he went back McCracken's where he lodged again overnight. The next morning the lake was rough and "we had enough to do to get across in our little canoe." Proceeding to Boschink, the surveyor pushed up into Burleigh, visiting the Eel's and Jack's Creek areas before returning to Peterborough.

Times of Bob McCracken

Five of the children of Sergt.-Major McCracken, the first of the McCrackens of Dummer, were born in India. The

sixth, Hamilton, who inherited the shore farm, was born in Chatham Barracks, Liverpool. His wife was Margaret Little.

*Richard F. Choate
Peterborough Examiner, 28 March 1951*

The father died in June 1852 and the son, February 19, 1866.

When the family first came to Dummer, mail was addressed to them at Port Hope. To obtain it there a three-day round trip was entailed. Such a long journey however, could scarcely have been necessary since the post office had been in operation at Peterborough in 1826 and a full time postmaster was appointed there in 1829 with carrier service from Cobourg. A post office was established in 1842 by Thomas Choate in the general store he had been conducting at nearby Warsaw, theretofore Dummer Mills. Ort Hope at that time was bidding for what was known as the 'backwoods trade,' which however, it could not hold against Peterborough and district competition.

Hamilton McCracken had a family of four: William, Robert who inherited the farm, Jennie, Susan and Joseph. William Robert married Euphemia Small. They had three daughters: Mabel (Mrs. John Freeman) who died in Peterborough in December last; Margaret (Mrs. William Brotherstone) who lives on Armour road and Lily (Mrs. Earnest Carveth) deceased.

At the Spring

No survey of the life and times of Bob McCracken would be complete without a reference to the old McCracken's spring near the lakeshore. From the roughly stone in pool among the cedars ran the never-failing supply of clear, cold water. In quest of pails of water came the canoe flotilla each summer evening. Usually in the lead as the canoes converged on the Landing was the venerable, white-bearded Sheriff Hall. The strong, steady paddle stroke of his eighties was the envy of the lustiest youngster. At the spring gathered people of all sorts and conditions to drink from the old tin cup and discuss affairs of State, or swap stores or merely talk of the weather and the fishing.

The years just before the turn of the century brought with them a sudden and striking change of phase – indeed, a new order – in the way of life at the Landing. In 1897 John Morgan, proprietor of the Morgan House, Warsaw, brother of Pawie Morgan of the Morgan House, Peterborough, which occupied the present site of the Examiner office, purchased from Bob McCracken, an acre of land on which he build [sic] the Victoria House (now the Wantasa Inn). At the same time Arthur F. Choate of

Warsaw acquired the land across the road, opening there the Supply Store which was carried on by the family about 50 years. A few hundred yards along the shore, the cottage of the late Sam Hunter, Toronto cartoonist, was built in the same year on land also bought from Mr. McCracken. From the first year the Victoria House enjoyed a liberal patronage of both Canadian and United States people. Fishing guides were in brisk demand. Steamer traffic was heavy. In the McCracken days the Mary Ellen (P.P. Young) and the Cruiser (Capt. W. Reynolds, Senior) and smaller vessels were on the Lakefield run. Later came the Empress (Reynolds, Junior); the Manita, the Islinda and the Stony Lake (Young); and the sidewheeler Sunbeam (White and Grylis).

About this time some of the features of earlier life on the lake were vanishing. The old Jones granite quarry on Eagle Mount, from which stone was shipped for many important structures was no longer operating.

Riverdrivers

For a few years longer log drivers were still being towed down the lake. An evening paddle from the Landing wharf, which was first an I and later an L and a T, [sic] gave a glimpse of color in Kawartha life that has since departed. Riverdrivers on their floating bunkhouse were always receptive and accommodating, saying in their own Chesterfieldian manner, "I don't mind if I do," if a pail of Calcutt's lager, fresh from the hotel "kag" appeared suddenly in the twilight. The interchange of courtesies was vastly rewarding to the visiting canoeists, for they were certain to be regaled with a spread of port and beans, and man's size servings of pies, cakes and coffee. He who has sampled the real provender of the shanty and the drive will look askance at the stories of "rattlesnake pork" and blackstrap molasses as the sole winter-long diet. Such stores, he suspects, belong to the apocryphal, to be taken with more grains of salt than cling to the side of "long clear."

Amid the bustle of the new era, Bob McCracken still carried on in his old unhurried fashion. Each morning and evening he set forth by canoe from his boathouse where the hotel tearoom now stands, on his round of cottages which included those of Lieut. Col. E.B. Edwards; Judge Rogers; Sheriff Hall;

E.H.D. Hall (father of Basil Hall); R.J. Colville; C.B. Routley (father of Herbert Routley); Mrs. A.L. Davis, daughter of Senator George A. Cox (whose cottage with its stone tower was open all year round); J.D. Collins (father of Fred Collins); William Lech, Sr. (grandfather of Keith and Cyril Lech); Clarence Bell; T.E. Bradburn (father of Lieut-Col. Frank Bradburn); Mr. Rogers of Shota in the Juniper area; while on Eagle Mount were John Sawers, George Cochrane, John Jones, the Griffens of Lakefield, and H. Sutherland (Inglestane); on big Otter, the Coles; on Little Otter John Nugent; and on his island nearby H.M. East, father of Dr. Harold East.

To these and many others, bob McCracken purveyed milk, eggs, vegetables and ice or fresh-killed poultry and lamb (the present "Millionaire foot" of which there was then a plethora) all home produced. Thought he braved all kinds of whether [sic] he never could swim. A horn appraised the cottagers of his approach. With an easy and seemingly all but effortless paddle stroke he propelled his canoe in and out among the islands. With similar economy of effort (gliding side to side) he would scale the steep rocky hills, or clear of stones such fields as were tillable. Parts of the farm were suitable only for pasture, other parts were well wooded.

Indeed it is here, in the personal direct contact of the indigene with the nexus of natural causality that true economy (not abstract economics) may begin. For as a percipient writer has remarked; "the husbandman is in effect the living link between human society and the larger society of organic nature, between civilization and the soil by which it lives."

The old way of life at Stony Lake and the other Kawartha lakes was nearing its close about the time bob McCracken sold his property to the late Bob Hamilton and retired to a home at Hamblin's Corner, North Dummer, in the early years of the century. The hotel was carried on for a time by his son-in-law and daughter, John and Mabel Freeman; and for another period by "Dad" Picken, hearty Englishman of the inn-keeper type, who red vests shone forth resplendently. Later came the Stricklands (Jack and Cholmondeley) and the present widely popular Mr. and Mrs. Cherry.

Peterborough Examiner history: two photographs



The huge photographic collection in the Peterborough Examiner fonds at the Trent Valley Archives contains thousands of excellent photographs and negatives. Generally the collection dates from the 1950s to about 2000, but we have found some earlier items including two items related to the Examiner's history which were in the same envelope. Evidently, these had been brought to the Examiner possibly to use in one of their flashback features.

The first is a copy negative and shows eleven members of the Examiner staff in 1947, attending the first employee party held at the Kawartha Golf and Country Club. The names of the people are: front row, l to r, Fred Scates, Maurice Dunkley, John Wyllie, Pete McLean and Robert Pearse; back room, l to r, John Anderson, Harry Theobald, Fred (Josh) Craig, George Johnson, Albert Stanley and Stroyan Leith.

By checking with a street directory, it was possible to determine the following information. I have included date of death for those buried in Little

Lake Cemetery.

Frederick C. Scates (d. 1970), linotype operator, lived at 581 with his parents Charles and Edith Scates.

Maurice Dunkley (d. 1955), linotype operator, lived with his wife, Mary, at 525 Romaine.

John O'Hare Wyllie (d. 1952, operator, lived at 227 McDonnell Street; his widow lived at 369 Hunter Street West.

Harold Henry (Pete) McLean (d. 1975), pressman, lived at 135 James Street.

Robert N. Pearse, composer, lived with his wife at 594 Harvey.

John Anderson (d. 1968?), linotype operator, and his wife, Clara, lived at 195 Sherbrooke Street.



T. Harold (Harry) Theobald, reporter and writer, lived at 517 Albert Street with his parents John E. and Agnes.

Fred (Josh) Craig, writer and sports editor, was featured in an article in the Heritage Gazette in 2003; he died in 1945, and so the dating of the picture may be wrong.

George J. Johnson, linotype operator, and his wife, Kate, lived at 650 Armour Road.

Albert Stanley (d. 1966), plastic engraver, lived at 584 Patterson, with his parents Thomas W. (a clerk with the Trent Valley Canal) and Patricia.

Stroyan Leith (d. 1974), composer, lived with his wife Agnes at 617 Gilmour.

Also in the envelope was view of Hunter Street just west of Queen Street. After the mid-1960s, this was the site of the pressroom at the Peterborough Examiner. In 1926, at the date of this picture, the site was dominated by a barn-like building that was Henry Sarginson's Garage. As the photo notes he was a service centre for Reo, Hudson and Essex cars. At that date, Brewer Motors was at the corner of Queen, the building shown to the left. The neighbor to the west was the Munro Hotel at this time. The hotel had a long history at the corner of Water and Hunter. The building may have been used as an apartment building for some years before the Examiner acquired the property and built their new building in the mid-1960s. CHEX Radio, owned by the Examiner, began in the former Munro Hotel in 1942. By 1940, the Sarginson property was the used car facility for Howson motors; their main showroom was on Water Street.

This is a very intriguing photo, printed on postcard stock. It has been frayed over the years, and there is a long tear that was repaired by someone at the Examiner. But it captures a time and place and will reward careful study and research.

Peterborough Daily Examiner's first issue 30 May 1885

Elwood Jones

The Peterborough Examiner published its first issue as a daily paper on Saturday, May 30, 1885. This was not the first daily newspaper in Peterborough as the Peterborough Daily Review was setting the standard locally, and soon a third daily, the Peterborough Daily Times, would enter the field. But the recent donation of the Peterborough Examiner archives to the Trent Valley Archives contained the original bound copies of volume 1 of the newspaper. The archives contains over 1,000 reels of microfilm, hundreds of photographs, over half a million negatives and countless news clippings. About twenty volunteers are working, following archival principles, to bring some order to the collection so that we may create finding aids. This is a fantastic collection that will allow people to rediscover their links with a community history dating from 1847.

James J. Sheehy (1863-1940) was the new city editor. Sheehy was a dry goods merchant, and later became a New York City policeman, but also he must have been a keen observer.

The paper used the same typeface as the weekly which continued to publish for some time. The Examiner was a Liberal paper in politics, and one of the motivations for starting the daily was undoubtedly related to politics. John Carnegie, owner of the Conservative paper, the Daily Review had won the 1882 provincial election. In the 1886 and 1890 provincial election James Stratton, publisher and owner of the Examiner would win the seat for the Liberals by defeating Carnegie, who had also been the MPP for Peterborough West in the first provincial parliament after Confederation. Although the riding had been won by Liberals Thomas Fairbairn and George A. Cox, the riding seemed to be a Conservative stronghold until Stratton won five consecutive elections by increasing victory margins.

The big story was the North-West Rebellion, Louis Riel's second rebellion. Soldiers from Peterborough had gone with the Midland Regiment, and some locals were already in the Prince Albert area. Captain Edward Brown, from Douro, died at Batoche just days before the launch of the daily and his death was received by telegraph a few days later. The first issue of the daily carried a story of Big Bear fighting a Winnipeg-based battalion at Fort Pitt. Some stories related details of the massacre at Frog Lake and to the capture of Gabriel Dumont and Michael Dumais in Minnesota. There were several short notes related to the rebellion and a short story on a Montreal chaplain who had just returned from Regina. The Lindsay Post had bragged that Lindsay boys were heroes at Batoche; the Examiner admired "their pluck" but said "that Peterborough boys would have been there if possible and would have done the thing a shade neater." A small item noted that Christopher Robinson, Q. C. would be the prosecutor in the anticipated trial of Louis Riel; French-Canadians in New York state were building a defense fund for Riel.

There was a letter from G.H.K. which had been sent to R. W. Muncaster, a prominent Peterborough watchmaker and jeweler. This was written from Batoche's Crossing in the North West Territories (now Saskatchewan) on May 17. He laughed at the differing coverage of the march to the North West that appeared in Conservative papers as opposed to Liberal ones; the former stressed the ease of the trip, while

the latter lamented the hardships. Tom Billings, the cook in their battalion tried some Indian dishes with no success. G. H. K. walked the battlefield at Batoche and saw the rifle pits and the burial spot of those who died, including Captain Edward Brown who had died the week before. The watch that he bought at Muncaster's was the best in the battalion.

There were interesting local stories that remain fascinating. There was an obituary for Peregrine Maitland Grover (1817-1885) who had built the house on Rubidge Street now known as the Masonic Lodge. The house was sold to Robert and Charlotte Nicholls when Grover moved to Norwood, which was built on property owned by the Grovers. Grover was the MP for Peterborough East, 1867-1874. The paper also noted the death of Charles P. Mulvany, whose still valuable history of Peterborough, both city and county, was only published that year.

A. Clegg had installed twenty Heaps' Dry Earth Closets in some of Peterborough's finest homes. On a related story, E. C. Hill, who formerly operated a local music hall, complained that people were "tumbling all sort of filth stealthily" on his vacant lot at Brock and Donegal. The editor noted that the town had provided a garbage ground south-east of the town. It would be useful to know the location of this "repository of refuse."

Sgt. Dixon had acquired equipment for the Signal Corps attached to the 57th Battalion. Thanks to local donations, he acquired "two powerful Lemaire field glasses, sighted for eleven miles" and three small nickel-plated reading lamps. Major R. W. Bell had ordered the local militia companies to parade on Tuesday, June 2, at 7 p.m. There would be "a march out and light infantry drill, with firing of blank ammunition."

The boot and shoe merchants announced that for the summer months they were closing their businesses early, at 7 p.m. each night except Saturday nights, and the nights before public holidays. Eight shoe and boot merchants signed their agreement: Johnston Carey; Joseph Griffin; Foot & McWhinnie; J. McAleer; Robert Neill; J. W. Miller; R. Stetson & Son; and J. H. Ames. Peterborough was a walking city in 1885, and the wear and tear on shoes was significant.

The Lansdowne Roller Rink, managed by Ed. Brown, was open and the fire brigade band was featured on this Saturday night. General admission was \$1.50 per month for women, and one dollar for men. For forenoon, afternoon and evening skating, admission ranged from ten cents to 25 cents, with men generally paying more.

The Parlor Roller Rink had just received a large shipment of roller skates from the Union Hardware Skate Company in Torrington, Connecticut. Kingan Hardware on Hunter street at Chambers street was selling the newest fashion of "sidewalk skates" for \$1.25 to \$1.50 per pair.

The Ontario Lacrosse team passed through Peterborough en route to a championship match in Montreal. W. A. Sanderson was looking for local lacrosse members who had not yet renewed their membership for the coming season.

T. Hooper and son, Otonabee and Monaghan Dairies, promised "to deliver pure fresh milk to any part of the town of Peterborough or the village of Ashburnham at five cents

per quart." People were asked to leave their orders at Long

The Northumberland Paper Co.
LIMITED.
Take notice that the annual meeting of the shareholders of the above-named company will be held at the office of the company, 100 King Street West, Toronto, on Friday, the 10th day of May, 1912, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing directors and auditors, and for the purpose of receiving and considering the accounts and reports of the directors and auditors for the year ended on the 31st day of December, 1911.

WALL PAPER.
A Large Assortment.
25 per Cent Reduction!

ALBUMS :: ALBUMS!
50 per Cent Reduction.
At ROUTLEY'S

British Empire
MUTUAL LIFE
Assurance Company.
OF LONDON, ENGLAND.
ESTABLISHED IN 1847.
Head Office for Canada, Montreal.
Assets over \$5,000,000.00.
Invested in Canada, over \$800,000.
Policies entirely free of any conditions as to residence or occupation. **LOWEST RATES.**
This Company never contested a claim since it was established in 1847.

1876 - 1885.
Herrings & Codfish!
A CLOSE PRICE.
A CAR LOAD OF SALT
Just arrived at Butler's, cheaper than ever.

NEW TEAS!
The Very Best, Arrived To-day, extra value.

General Groceries, a big lot of Crockery and Glass-ware, the Cheapest in Town.

CHAS. BUTLER.
ALLAN LINE
Royal Mail Steamships
Liverpool, Londonderry, Glasgow.
Storage and Intermediate Rates
Grainy Reduced.

NOVELTIES!
McFADDEN'S
FURNITURE WARE ROOMS.
Painted & Dressed Window Shades—all colors.
Willow Ware, in Rockers, EASY CHAIRS, Work Tables, Centre Tables.
Fine Lines of Bedroom Furniture in Mahogany, Walnut, Ash and Elm.
Latest Designs and Lowest Prices.
Carpet Laying and Curtain Hanging done on the Shortest Notice.
Hunter St., Nearly Opposite the Oriental Hotel.

JOHN BRADEN.
Cash Paid for Eggs and Butter.
Goods. We invite your inspection.

"THE PANTRY"
IS NOW OPEN, AND FULLY STOCKED WITH
CHOICE, FRESH GROCERIES
Which are offered at low prices as is consistent with Reliable Goods. We invite your inspection.

JOHN BRADEN.
Cash Paid for Eggs and Butter.
Goods. We invite your inspection.

Dominion Express Co.
Also Agent for Dominion Express Company.
Order your goods to be shipped by this Company, and you will get the best service and lowest rates.
C.P.R. and compare these East and West charges and quick delivery.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
Ontario and Quebec Division.
Trains arrive at Peterborough, as follows:
From the West:
11:45 a.m. - Mail from Chicago, Detroit, St. Thomas, Galt and Toronto.
4:30 p.m. - Mixed from Toronto and Intermediate Stations.
From the East:
5:30 a.m. - Express from Montreal, Ottawa and Perth.
7:01 a.m. - Mixed from Montreal, Ottawa, Smith's Falls and Perth.
11:11 p.m. - Express from Peterborough, as follows:
TO THE WEST:
11:40 a.m. - Mail for Perth, Smith's Falls, Ottawa and Montreal.
4:45 p.m. - Mixed for Montreal and Toronto.
11:11 p.m. - Express for Perth, Smith's Falls, Ottawa and Montreal.
TO THE EAST:
5:30 a.m. - Express for Toronto, Galt, St. Thomas, Detroit and Chicago.
7:01 a.m. - Mixed for Local Stations, West to Toronto.
4:45 p.m. - Mail for Toronto, and Intermediate Stations.

This is a sample of the advertisements clumped into a couple of columns on the right hand side of the page. Notice the John Braden ad was painted on the side to fit the space. The CPR had a visual image. The ads were meant to inform.

Brothers' confectionary store. After years of being Peterborough's leading confectioners, the Longs sold their business to Hooper.

During the month of May, the town clerk registered 16 births, five marriages and seven deaths.

Two men escorting girl-friends from church were attacked by two acquaintances throwing stones. The Examiner and one escort treated this attack as a practical joke by jealous rivals. The other headed to Munro's Hotel, at Water and Hunter, to "organize a body of Boulton's scouts, to avenge this attempt..." The Examiner wondered how the latter would feel when the prank was explained.

The F. H. Robbins' Circus was in town on Thursday, May 28, "and every school boy turned out as usual to see the elephant." The crowd lined George Street between Brock and Charlotte. It is not clear where the circus tent was pitched. There were about 250 spectators in the afternoon, and 500 in the evening. The Examiner attributed the poor turnout to the farmers being busy with seeding. Between the performances, at about 5 p.m., there was a fire caused by a fire cracker in Dick Tierney's livery stables. Within two minutes the fire engine was on "English's bridge" (which spanned Jackson's creek on Charlotte Street) but the circus men already had the fire under control. It appears likely that the circus performed on the market square at the corner of George and Charlotte, on the market square where the second Market Hall was built in 1889.

Two interesting excursions were featured. The Sons of England were hosting a Dominion Day excursion from Toronto to Peterborough's Central Park, Drill Shed and separate school. The day would feature non-stop band music played by the fire brigade band and a host of visiting bands. The day would highlight all things English, including prizes, games and a May pole dance. The Peterborough Masons were organizing an excursion to Toronto for St. John the Baptist Day, June 24. The two-day trip along the Midland railway line would cost \$1.75. The occasion would feature the laying of the cornerstone for a Masonic hall in Riverside.

The young people at Murray Street Baptist Church had a Friday night entertainment that featured vocal music and two essays. Nellie Gilmour gave a concise and complete discussion of newspapers. Ed. Duff spoke on "Total Abstinence in the Abstract", "though the subject is a dry one in a bibulistic sense, [it] elicited a lively discussion."

There were stories complimenting local manufacturing. Hall's Biscuits were so popular a large shipment was headed to the Ottawa Valley. At a Sturgeon Point canoe meet, there were compliments for canoes crafted at the Ontario Canoe Company and at W. English's factory. "There were some very handsome boats among the lot, particularly an over-decked "Juniper" cedar rib canoe from the Ontario Canoe Coy's shops at Peterborough. It was a beautiful specimen of the admirable work turned out under the superintendence of the president and manager, Mr. J. Z. Rogers."

The Bradburn Opera House was promoting a "magnificent musical treat." The Mendelssohn Quintette Club featured four instrumentalists and Madam Cora Glese, vocalist. The plan of the hall was on view at McClelland's jewelry store at the corner of Hunter and George. Tickets were fifty cents; reservations, seventy-five.

This single issue was a useful panoramic snapshot of a moment in time. Multiply that by 50,000 or more newspapers.

CGE and the 3.7" Anti-Aircraft Gun: The Leadership of Ian F. McRae, CGE Works Manager

Stephen Guthrie

In 2011, Bob McRae offered some interesting materials to the Trent Valley Archives. In the first instance we received the 1895 bird's eye view map of Peterborough and a framed photo montage of the brass works at the CGE. As well, there was a beautiful two-volume scrapbook chronicling events at the CGE. The scrapbook belonged to Ian McRae as Works Manager of Canadian General Electric Peterborough Works from the mid 1940's to the mid 1960's. There are several other documents in this small archives that relate to awards and achievements in his life.

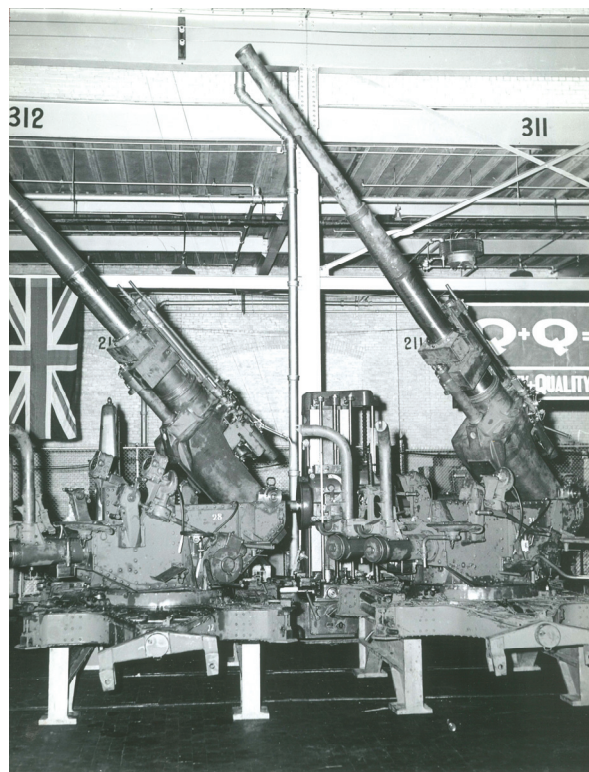


Ian McRae in the 'Corner Office' of the Works Manager at CGE. The only thing that reveals the photo was taken during wartime are the two (hopefully) dummy 3.7" shells standing beside his desk and the filing cabinet. The shells were not made in Peterborough but the brass forgings the case was made from originated at the Dominion Arsenal in Lindsay. (TVA McRae fonds)

McRae started work at CGE in 1925 as an apprentice in the Test Department. By January 1937 he was Assistant Works Manager and took over as Manager in March 1941 when previous Manager Carl Salmonsén was transferred to a GE plant in the US. McRae took over the Peterborough Works during a time of rapid expansion during the Second World War. Factories gearing up for military producing created a huge demand for the electrical generating equipment made by CGE. At the same time, the company bid for, and won, a number of contracts to build military equipment including aircraft instruments and landing gear for the air force, ships control systems and searchlights for the navy and artillery guns for the army.

From the start of the war in 1939, there was a huge demand for modern anti-aircraft guns. The standard British heavy weapon was the 3.7" gun designed and built by Vickers-Armstrong. It was capable of firing ten 28 pound shells a minute to a height of 32,000 feet. To get the gun ready, four outrigger legs were dropped to the ground and

the two 2-wheeled dollies were moved out of the way. The 3.7 was typically deployed in groups all receiving target information electrically from a central predictor. This was an early analogue computer that calculated the target's speed, altitude and direction. Soldiers were seated on the gun carriage in front of a set of dials that displayed the target information. Then, using a set of hand cranks, they rotated and elevated the gun in response to the data displayed. Other members of the gun detachment loaded and fired the gun.



3.7" guns under construction in the GENELCO building. The completed gun weighed 9,318 kilograms so heavy cranes were needed to move the guns along the line as more parts were added. Notice the patriotic décor, with the Union Jack and productivity poster in the background. (TVA, McRae fonds)

Realizing they could not produce the number of guns needed to defend their island country from enemy bombers and to issue to its forces in the field, Britain turned to Canada to see if the 3.7 inch heavy anti-aircraft gun could be built in this country. It could and it was. The basic forging for the barrel was produced by Dominion Steel in Montreal. Final finishing was done at Westinghouse Canada in Hamilton. The completed barrel was then sent to Canadian General Electric in Peterborough where the carriage was built and final assembly was completed. By war's end, over 3 thousand complete guns were shipped as well as 5

thousand spare barrels. The Canadian government made capital available for industries to upgrade their facilities in order to complete war work and at CGE the money flowed through a Crown Industry called GENELCO. The funding enabled the company to double its factory floor space by building a new wing that stretched from the original plant all the way west to Monaghan Road. It was here that the 3.7" gun was in production when Ian McRae took over.

In *Standards of the Highest: from Edison to GE Canada*, the company history, the authors described Ian McRae.

"Mac" to anyone comfortable with using the familiar term, Ian McRae was a warm and caring man, naturally empathetic to the needs and feelings of others, and wise in the ways of leadership. For the thoughtful way in which he applied these talents to the practice of senior management, he was rewarded with loyalty, and legendary status during his career. It was said of Ian McRae that he welcomed hearing occasional reports of problems in 'the shop' because such reports provided a rationale for him to set aside the business at hand and go to the factory with rolled-up sleeves, there to consult with the fitters and mechanics regarding the problem and its solution'

As works manager, McRae was often to be seen escorting wartime visitors around GENELCO. These included politicians, soldiers, company executives and celebrities. 3.7" gun production was often featured in publicity photos taken at the time. Perhaps while ships steering or degaussing gear were equally important to the war effort, they don't clearly indicate the importance of military production as a gigantic anti-aircraft gun.



CGE and GENELCO staff in front of a billboard promoting the Third Victory Loan, October 1942. Each loan had a slogan ('Nothing Matters Now But Victory') and symbol (a dagger). Communities that exceeded its Victory Loan goal were presented with a dagger (officially the Fairbairn-Sykes Commando Dagger) for display before being issued to troops overseas. (TVA, McRae fonds)

McRae's tenure at Works Manager coincided with a number of wartime Victory Loan campaigns. To help finance the war effort, the federal government encouraged private citizens to loan it money through the purchase of Victory Bonds. A 30-million dollar advertising campaign was launched to promote the sale of bonds that included radio and newspaper ads, posters, billboards and concerts

and public appearances by celebrities. The McRae Collection includes photos and newspaper clippings of Victory Loan events that took place at CGE. During the 3rd Victory Loan ("Nothing Matters now but Victory"), a concert was given in Building 26 at CGE in October of 1942. It featured soprano Jean Dickenson, and two stars of CBC Radio's 'The Happy Gang' radio program, singer Eddie Allen and pianist Kathleen Stokes.



Performers at the 3rd Victory Loan Rally and Show at CGE are shown here posed in front of a 3.7" gun. Standing from left is W. Barnacal, Superintendent of GENELCO, 'Happy Gang' vocalist Eddie Allen, and Ian McRae. Seated in front are 'Happy Gang' organist Kathleen Stokes and soprano Jean Dickenson. (TVA, McRae fonds)



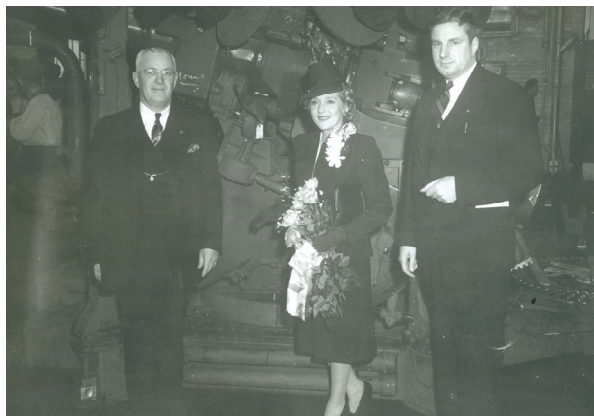
The McRae Collection also includes two autographed photos of Dickenson. Originally from Montreal, she was a performer of operatic concerts in the US and had a regular spot on the NBC radio program American Album of Familiar Music where she was known as the "Nightingale of the Airwaves". This photo is inscribed "To Mr. and Mrs. McRae. With every good wish and thanks for making my first trip to Peterboro so very lovely. Sincerely your frind Jean Dickenson 1942"

Canadian-born Hollywood legend Mary Pickford got a tour of CGE and GENELCO from Ian McRae on May 26, 1943. According to the "Peterborough Examiner" she spoke to a crowd of 4000 employees about the importance of the work they were doing.

"It's the plain, honest-to-goodness job that you folks are doing right here – the job of sticking to the job of turning out the fighting equipment that the United Nations MUST have for VICTORY. Your job is a mighty important one: for battles depend on it; Victory depends on it; the lives of brave men and women and children in bombed cities depend on it. That's why I'm glad to be here with you to-day."



Hollywood legend Mary Pickford visited CGE and GENELCO on May 26, 1943. She spoke to a lunch hour crowd of 4000 workers, urging them to keep up the good work of producing war materials. Here she is escorted by Ian Mcrae past part of the crowd that came to see her. (TVA, McRae fonds)



W.Barnacal, Mary Pickford and Ian McRae in the now obligatory photo with the 3.7 in the background. Pickford had retired as an actress by this time but was still recognized as a Hollywood movie producer. (TVA, McRae fonds)



In April 1944, a number of executives from General Electric head office in the USA were given a tour of CGE and GENELCO. Here, company president Gerrard Swope tries out the traversing cranks on a 3.7" gun. (TVA, McRae fonds)

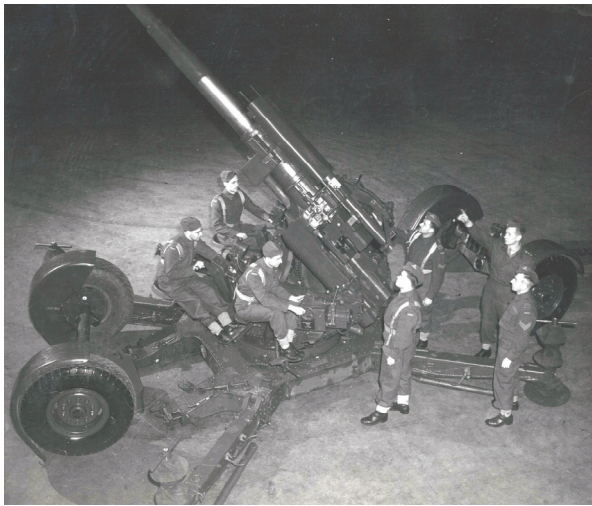
Visitors of a more professional variety toured the works on April 6, 1944 when Ian McRae welcomed Gerrard Swope, President of General Electric. No doubt due to his connection with the works, he got a closer look at what the plant was turning out, including the 3.7" gun, than most visitors would get. A photograph shows Swope seated on the trainer's seat on the gun.



This April 26 1944 photo shows a GENELCO produced gun in front of the Peterborough Armoury. The soldiers are identified (l-r) as Sgt. Brady, W., L.Bdr. Ball, G., L.Sgt. Hopgood, F., Bdr. Watson, F., L.Bdr. Watson, J., Bdr. Dixon, R.E., Gnr. Heard, C.TSM Martin, O.J., Bdr. Taylor, R. Their ranks identify them as Royal Canadian Artillery troops. The closest RCA unit at this time was the 4th Anti-tank Battery in Lindsay. These men may have come from there or perhaps they are a detachment stationed at the

Works who had something to do with final acceptance or testing of the guns? (TVA, McRae fonds)

These guns were emplaced in many places across Canada at naval bases, fortresses and even the aluminum plant at Arvida in Quebec. No one knew if the Germans or Japanese had aircraft that could reach North America but early in the war, no-one was taking any chances. Many were sent to England as part of the 'roof over Britain' anti-aircraft system of guns, searchlights and radar. The Canadian Army fielded one regiment of guns, the 2nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, RCA, that served in the UK and later in North West Europe. In Britain, they took part in action against the robot V-1 buzz bombs in mid 1944 but in Europe, most of the firing was done at ground targets as the air threat had almost disappeared.



A 3.7" gun deployed and manned. This photo could have been taken in the plant or in the armoury. The detachment members seated on either side of the gun controlled its elevation and traverse using the hand cranks. The third seated member would set the fuse to detonate at the appropriate height. The other soldiers would load and fire the weapon. The captain is no doubt pointing on direction of the photographer as command and control of the guns was done remotely.

At the end of the war, McRae was responsible for the conversion of the Peterborough Works from military to civilian production. He is credited with successful entry of CGE into the nuclear power business in 1955. Ian McRae

ended his career with CGE as Chairman of the Board of Directors.



A 3.7" gun of the 2nd HAA Regiment RCA in action against German troops holding out in Dunkirk, France in early 1945. This is possibly a British-built gun as the hand cranks are of an earlier pattern than GENELCO-built guns. (Library and Archives Canada PA-177591)

Useful references

Hogg, Ian; *British and American Artillery of World War Two*, Arms and Armour Press, London, 1978

Knight, Doug, *The 3.7" Anti-Aircraft Gun in Canadian Service*, Service Publications, Ottawa, 2011

McLaren, Stewart; [Standards of the Highest: from Edison to GE Canada Peterborough 1891-1991](#), The Centennial Committee, GE Canada, Peterborough, 1991

Opening of Murray Street Baptist Church, 1912

Ray Johnson

It was Sunday, 25 May 1912. The Murray Street Baptist congregation had looked forward to this day for several years. The congregation had outgrown its second building (now occupied by the Brock Mission) on the same street, but closer to Aylmer Street, which it had occupied for more than 27 years. That building had been built by the Bible Christians, a Methodist denomination, whose members had been absorbed into the George Street Methodist Church. In December 1884 the Baptists moved in and soon outgrew this facility, even though they had given birth to a daughter

clergyman, Harry G. Webber - farmer, Porter S. White - grocer, and Thomas J. Wilson.

That same year, 1910, the property of Benjamin Yelland, blacksmith, at 175 Murray Street was purchased at a cost of just under \$10,000. Demolition of the blacksmith shop took place, but a yellow brick house at the back of the property was preserved. Later it became the home of the church's caretaker, before being torn down in the 1950s to be replaced by the present parking lot.



church (Park Street Baptist) in the south end of the Town of Peterborough in 1895, and also had built an addition onto the front of the building that provided a new ground-level entrance. Still it was filled to capacity. So there was great rejoicing that the new and larger edifice was ready to open. The Rev. John R. Webb had become pastor of the Murray Street Church in 1907. In November 1909 a committee was appointed to see if sufficient funds could be raised from the membership to undertake the construction of a new building. The committee reported favourably at the church's annual meeting two months later, and a building committee was formed. Mr. T. Frank Matthews, of the George Matthews Meat Packing Co., was appointed as chairman. Others on the Building Committee were William Aldridge, George Cochrane, Samuel Cottingham, John P. Cunningham - music store owner, Thomas Diston, Vincent Eastwood - bank manager, Robert E. Harding, James Montgomery, Gilbert A. Pringle, Charles B. Routley - paint store owner, William D. Scott - physician, Harry H. Tewsley, Rev. John R. Webb -

This is a picture of Murray Street Baptist Church while under construction in 1912. This gives some indication of the risks when building tall buildings, Notice the shape of the trusses and the wooden fenestration in the window openings, prepared for the stained glass windows. (Canadian Baptist Archives. Thanks to Ray Johnson)

The architectural firm of Burke, Horwood and White of Toronto was hired to prepare building plans, with Mr. F. Bartlett, a local architect, assisting. The plans show that originally the sanctuary was to be located on the east side of the property, but for some unknown reason, the plan was reversed with the sanctuary being built on the west side. The architectural style of the limestone building is a blend of early 20th century Arts and Crafts and 16th century Gothic. The major contractors were local builders, the McIntyre Brothers. Many years later when he was approaching 100 years of age, Malcolm McIntyre told the Examiner that the building of the Murray Street Church was the highlight of his career as it was a spectacular accomplishment considering

the huge oak beams that had to be lifted into place using only manpower and horsepower.

On 29 June 1911, construction had progressed far enough for the cornerstone to be laid. A famous English Baptist preacher, the Rev. John Clifford, was visiting North America as President of the Baptist World Alliance which was meeting in Philadelphia. Rev. Mr. Webb invited him to come to Peterborough to lay the new church's cornerstone. A large crowd assembled at the north-east corner of the building for this ceremony, after which the new People's Chimes of St. John's Anglican Church rang out with the hymn "The Church's One Foundation".

The sanctuary was built to accommodate 500 people on the main floor, 100 in the balcony and 40 in the choir loft. It was furnished with a new three-manual pipe organ, and two stained-glass windows, made by the Robert McCausland Company of Toronto. These windows were memorials to the Rev. John Gilmour, the first pastor, his son John Walker Gilmour, and a granddaughter Ellen Gilmour, and to Mr. James Stratton, the father of Mr. J. R. Stratton, M.P. for Peterborough West.

The total cost of the building, including the Sunday School hall, was \$49,105. Including the cost of the land and the new pipe organ, the total cost of the building project was \$62,073. With two World Wars and the Great Depression intervening, it was not until 1946 during the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the congregation that the mortgage was paid off.

Special opening services were held on Sunday mornings and evenings on May 26th, June 2nd and June 9th. The preacher on the first Sunday was the Rev. Dr. Joseph Leeming Gilmour of Toronto's McMaster University, who

was the grandson of the church's founding pastor, the Rev. John Gilmour. On June 2nd the Rev. Dr. O. C. S. Wallace of Baltimore, Maryland, was the speaker, and on the third Sunday the preacher was the Rev. Dr. Thomas Trotter of Toronto. Special music at these services was provided by church organist Mr. George Schneider, choir leader Mrs. Emma Miller, and soloists Miss Clara Kidd, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Asa Huycke and a Mr. Pollard.

The church will be holding a Celebration Sunday on 27 May 2012, with a service at 10:30 a.m., followed by a banquet at 1:00 p.m. Guest preacher will be the Rev. Peter Holmes, minister of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, Toronto. (There is a connection between Murray St. Church and Yorkminster Park Church. When Canada Packers Ltd. was established in 1927, T. Frank Matthews became president of the new company and moved to Toronto where he served as chairman of the Building Committee that was in charge of constructing Yorkminster Baptist Church (now named Yorkminster Park) at Yonge and Heath Streets.)

One hundred years later Murray Street Baptist Church remains at its downtown location in Peterborough. It is an active congregation with many programs as well as regular services each Sunday. It has an Outreach program in the community called "Murray Missions" that provides meals, clothing, computer access, and personal help to needy citizens. The church is also looking forward to the redevelopment of the former Y.M.C.A. property next door. A new parking lot and new landscaping is proposed for the east side lawn of the church. A partnership with a team of developers is being considered for the near future as well.

Jackson Park, 1937

Doris E. Hoskins (nee Emberson)

...
When I was around 7 years old, my two sisters and I were sent to a day camp at Jackson Park. We were served breakfast on arriving by bus. I remember the scrambled eggs (very yellow) and after breakfast we all got a spoonful of cod liver oil and malt extract. It was like coffee and I loved it. Years later I gave my daughter some daily.

There were several buildings. I remember a dining hall where we had breakfast, a change building where we put on bathing suits. The building was divided by a partition, girls in one side, boys in the other. A hole was carved in the partition with a pen knife by the boys so they could spy on the girls changing into bathing suits. There was a building where we were sent for afternoon naps on cots on a wide screened veranda. There might have been a maintenance building to store equipment and used by the staff. The buildings were green with white trim. The nap building is gone I think.

There were counselors and I remember two in particular. One was Mary MacPherson, daughter of Dr MacPherson and later became Mrs Haig Kelly. Another was Doug Burrows. I believe his father became Mayor of Peterborough.

We would be taken to a part of Jackson Park creek that had a dam. Attempts at teaching us to swim were made in about two feet of water. We learned to float anyway.

I remember going in a group of about 12 girls for a walk. We were going around Artificial Lake when two hobos who stayed in a Hobo camp in or near the park by the train tracks chased us. Three of us ran south and the others north. The Hobos chased us three but we were soon back to the camp building and the Hobos returned to their camp. Maybe they just didn't want us near their territory?

There was a registered nurse in attendance. She travelled on the bus with us. She was picked up at Fitzpatrick's [Fitzpatrick 7 Geraghty] store at Charlotte and Park streets and let out there at days end. She wore a navy cape with red lining over her uniform that I admired. I don't know when registered nurses quit wearing the capes.

Near the end of our stay about six of us were taken to Nicholls Hospital to have our tonsils and adenoids removed. I was in a metal crib with high sides to spend the night. We were in a row and half the ward was curtained off. On the other side were men patients. I heard moaning in the night! I needed a bathroom but no one answered the bell. I climbed over the side of the rail in my skimpy gown and went looking for a bathroom. I never saw a soul in the hall. I found a bathroom. Just below the seat was a big black spider sitting in its web. I still have an aversion to spiders but that toilet was a welcome sight. On the way back to my bed, a friendly janitor caught me and lowered the rail so I could get back in bed.

Breakfast was a little bowl of tough yellow jello, cream of wheat cereal and ginger ale. My throat was sore but I was hungry.

The last day at camp, there was a windup party with cake and ice cream, games and races. A boy whose last name was Bowes went in the races and won although he had his tonsils out a few days earlier caused concern.

The bus stopped for children at Park and Romaine whose names were Chase and Daniels and there was a boy named Ernie. Our stop was George and Dublin streets so we had a nice tour of Peterborough. This was in 1936 or 1937.

These memories have stayed with me all these years. Back then, times were extremely hard. I still call myself a "Depression Baby" as I was born in 1931.

I'm a great granddaughter of John Whittington, the ancestor of all the Whittingtons in the Peterborough area.

Notes:

In 1937, Frank and Vergie Emberson lived at 164 ½ Dublin. Her father was a plumber and owned his house. They lived on the north side of Dublin, just west of George. Joseph and Ada Chase lived at 87 Park Street South, just north of Romaine and near the CNR tracks. There were several Daniels, but perhaps the most likely family is that of Alfred A. and Dorothy Daniel; the father worked for CGE and the family lived in their house at 244 Antrim. Dr Angus McPherson lived at 483 Water Street and had his office at 134 Murray, at the corner of Water; this may be the same building. The family of Charles A. and Edna Bowes lived at 127 Rubidge Street.

Arthur B. Burrows, a life insurance agent in 1937, lived then at 795 George. He briefly served as mayor during 1954, when Mayor Norm Graham was dying; Burrows, an alderman from 1949 to 1956, was elected by City Council to replace Alderman John A. Dewart who stepped down as acting mayor because he had announced his intention to run for mayor. See Ed Arnold, *Mayors of Peterborough 1900-2000* (1999) 47.

The letter is found at Trent Valley Archives, fonds 346 Edward Smith letter from Doris E. Hoskins. He received the letter in response to a column he wrote which was published in May 2007 on a bungalow near Jackson Park.

Anne Langton: the Fenelon Years

On May 24, 1837, Anne Langton, her parents and aunt, sailed for New York City on the packet ship *Independence*. After they arrived in New York, the family took a leisurely trip towards their destination, the Kawartha Lakes, arriving in mid-August. They stopped en route to shop on Broadway, toured scenic towns along the Hudson River, and visited with other genteel families. They brought with them supplies and furnishings that would allow them to live a comfortable life, relative to most of their neighbours, at their new home, Blythe, built for them by Anne's brother John on the north arm of Sturgeon Lake, south of Fenelon Falls.

Anne Langton was a well-educated gentlewoman whose artistic and literary accomplishments have provided residents and cottagers in the Kawartha Lakes, researchers, art enthusiasts, and readers of early Canadian history with an unparalleled record of early settlement on Sturgeon Lake. Anne's letters home to her older brother William described every facet of Anne's experience in the 'backwoods', and frequently included postcard-like sketches illustrating her surroundings.

A student of Swiss and Italian masters, Anne's sketches and paintings from this period vividly portray the landscapes that settlers created as they chopped farms from the forest. Her sketches reflect the rugged countryside, stumps, cabins and camps she knew. It is the privilege of the City of Kawartha Lakes to possess a significant collection of Langton's work that defines a pivotal period in the history and environment of the Kawarthas. Predating photography by a generation, Langton's art provides almost the entire visual record of this era, and its value to the historical researcher rivals its interest to art enthusiasts.

In 2012, the 175th year since her emigration, Anne Langton's legacy will be celebrated in and around Fenelon Falls through a series of artistic, literary, social and recreational activities, to which the public is invited. Langton's artwork will be featured in an exhibition curated by Barbara Williams at the Fenelon Falls Museum's newly-created Langton Gallery between May and October. Williams,

Langton authority and editor of the revised edition of *A Gentlewoman In Upper Canada*, will share her knowledge about Anne Langton at different venues throughout the year. Aspiring artists in the community are also invited to learn to paint in Langton's style at a free workshop with Len Harfield on Friday, April 27th.

Despite the difficulties of their new lives, the genteel settlers of the upper Kawartha Lakes formed a close group of friends that gathered frequently to play games like cards, chess, and backgammon; and discuss politics, business and the old world. Anne enjoyed leisurely activities in the backwoods. In addition to the time she spent painting and sketching, she frequently went exploring, and was taken by boat on exploratory trips to destinations such as Balsam Lake.

Numerous troubles made living on Sturgeon Lake far from the comfortable life that the Langtons had once enjoyed in England. One of the privations that most bothered Anne was the cold. She complained repeatedly about the inhospitable conditions in Blythe. Built with unseasoned (green) timber, the house was draughty once the timber shrank. Even though the Langtons burnt as much firewood as two large trees per day, it was common in the winter for their home to be below the freezing point. ...

Join the Anne Langton 175 Committee in celebrating the rich legacy of this early gentlewoman, artist and pioneer settler this year. Visit the Fenelon Falls Museum's British Empire afternoon teas, enjoy an old-fashioned Strawberry Social on July 1st, come to Family History Day – A Day in the Life of Anne Langton, or enrol students in pioneer summer school. You can also obtain your own commemorative Anne Langton souvenir when you mail a letter at the Fenelon Falls Post Office: Canada Post will cancel your mail, upon request only, with a decorative stamp canceller commemorating the 175-year legacy of Anne Langton in Fenelon Falls. For more information about these and other events and activities, contact the Fenelon Museum at 705-887-1044 or go to www.maryboro.ca.

Telling Tales: Celebrating Your Special Stories

Bridgenorth Community Centre, 5 and 6 May 2012, 9 to 5

Come either day

\$60 per day, light lunch included

The Trent Valley Archives is hosting two all-day workshops, 9 to 5, on Saturday, May 5 and on Sunday, May 6, at the Bridgenorth Community Centre, adjacent to the Bridgenorth Library. Telling Tales: Celebrating Your Special Stories" is meant to help people identify the stories that they have loved and to find ways to write those stories. Brooke Broadbent, an Ottawa-based writer, will be the instructor and coach, and will be assisted by Elwood Jones and others at Trent Valley Archives. Brooke will share from his wealth of experience.

The important thing in sharing stories about local history and families is to start. The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley often publishes stories that have begun in family lore, and such stories need to be preserved whenever possible. They make us special.

"Writing is a skill that can be learned," says author Brooke Broadbent. Learning to write well is like learning to ride a bike. It gets easier with practice. "For most of us writing presents challenges," he adds. "And re-writing is almost always required." He will share more of his thoughts about writing on May 4th and 5th, when he will be leading a workshop called "Telling Tales" in conjunction with the Trent Valley Archives. It's a one-day course, offered on both the Saturday and the Sunday.

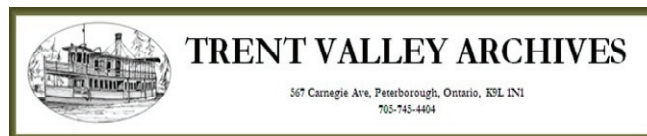
"The workshop is about celebrating special stories of our families and ourselves," adds Broadbent. Many people have collected information and they yearn to record their tales and tell them to others.

Broadbent's ancestors settled in the Peterborough area over 150 years ago and when he dug into his roots he discovered that his great-great grandfather, Joseph Garrett died in the Peterborough County Jail in 1894. With research results gathered at the Trent Valley Archives and other Peterborough area resources he pieced together several family stories for his recent book, *Moonrakers at Peace and War*.

Broadbent adds, "In the past artists learned from imitating the masters. Writers can do the same." In the workshop he will point out techniques used by Charles Dickens, John Steinbeck and others. Participants will have opportunities to imitate these by drafting parts of their family tales or personal memoirs during the workshop.

Participants will be bringing along objects like pictures, articles of clothing and other mementos to the workshop so that they can use them in their stories. Also for those who are facing brick walls in their research, the course will offer tested research methods. After the course Broadbent will provide written feedback for up to a month to those who email him drafts of their writing.

To register or have your questions answered about "Telling Tales" call the TVA at 705.745.4404. The registration fee of \$60 will be discounted to \$50 for those who register and pay by April 1.



TELLING TALES: CELEBRATING YOUR SPECIAL STORIES

Join us for a Writing Workshop

With author & writing coach

BROOKE BROADBENT

Assisted by other writers

Learn to write the stories or memoirs you've been yearning to

Sat or Sun, May 5th / 6th, 2012,

9am -5 pm

Bridgenorth Library

A New Face at TVA

TVA is delighted to announce that Heather Aiton-Landry will be joining our organization in the role of full-time Assistant Archivist, as of March 27th, 2012. Heather is charged with keeping the daily operations running smoothly, with growing our archival collection, and with being the go-to person for all your archival conundrums - that along with running our events and tours, organizing our volunteers, promoting the archives, and just about everything in between (whew!). We are so fortunate that Heather is not only backed by a dedicated troop of active volunteers, but also by the educational know-how and practical experience needed to pull all of this off.



Heather Aiton-Landry is now the Archival assistant at Trent Valley Archives. She can be reached at hdaiton@trentvalleyarchives.com and 705-745-4404. She is quite excited about her new position. She has already discovered that Trent Valley Archives is more complex than anyone would imagine. She wouldn't have it any other way.

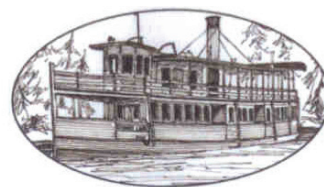
Heather comes to the archives with a B.A. in History from Mount Allison University, and an M.A. in Public History from the University of Waterloo, not to mention a Diploma in Costume Studies from Dalhousie (which has been put to good use in the past making our ghost walk capes that make our guides so recognizable on the streets of Peterborough). On top of these credentials, Heather brings to the archives experience from her time as archivist/curator at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 52 in Peterborough, and

as the interim archivist for the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Heather is looking forward to digging into the files and really getting to know the archives but has a head start from her many years as an active volunteer at the archives. Over the years Heather has been involved on more than one board and committee, leading Ghost Walks, helping to process archival collections, not to mention feeding Diane's cats and playing archivist in her absence.

According to Heather the thing she is looking forward to most in her new role is researching your queries, since it satisfies her love of sleuthing. Asked about the importance of archives in general and TVA in specific, Heather observed: "I suppose I could say something about how people need to know their history to put the present in context, and to know where they're going, etc., but that could be said about any archives or museum. TVA is different because it's an archives that reaches out to the community - not just by giving tours, but by holding workshops to help people to find out about their own past and that of their communities. Inaccessible history is pointless."

Heather has hit the ground running (and phoning and emailing and filing...) but still has time to say "hi" to all of you. So please feel free to drop in over the coming weeks and meet our new Assistant Archivist. And why not stop and do some research while you're in the neighbourhood? Asked what she would like to say to members and the public in general, her reply is half greeting, half challenge: "Your stories are here. Come find them."



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We bring history alive in dozens of ways.

New Horizons Band Concert **Down Memory Lane**

A trip through musical history with Peterborough's New Horizons Band

Friday, May 25th, 7:30pm

Calvary Church, 1421 Lansdowne St. W.

Tickets \$10

Music for Everyone...

Join us Friday, May 25th for a night of music and fun. Peterborough's New Horizon Bands will be celebrating their 10th anniversary with a show featuring four of their ensembles playing music that ranges across the ages, from classical to contemporary, from Mozart to Abba, the night is sure to have something for everyone.

The New Horizons Bands program was conceived by Dr. Roy Ernst, then a professor at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester University. He believed that anybody can learn to play a musical instrument. The first New Horizons Band was formed in Rochester New York in 1991 and today there are more than 100 similar programs in the United States, Canada, Australia and Ireland. The program aims to provide instruction to adults wishing to learn how to play wind or percussion instruments. It is also for individuals who might have played in high school but put it aside for many years.

10th Anniversary...

The concert in May will mark the 10th anniversary of the New Horizon Bands' Peterborough Chapter which was started by Peter Ford in the spring of 2002 with 52 new members. Peterborough NHB currently has over 150 members, making it one of the fastest growing and largest of all New Horizons organizations. NHB Peterborough consists of four concert bands: Pine, Oak, Odyssey, as well as a Green Band for those wishing to learn to play. They also enjoy the music from at least fifteen small ensemble groups including flute, clarinet, French horn, brass, trombone, saxophone, percussion and conch seashell choirs, the Dynamics, FUNdamentals and Swing Set.

A good cause...

The New Horizon Bands uses their concerts as opportunities to raise funds for local organizations, and the concert in May will be raising funds for the Trent Valley Archives. Come on out and bring your friends to hear some great live music and to support the Trent Valley Archives.

Buy tickets online, or contact us at 705-745-4404, admin@trentvalleyarchives for more information. Why not take a group with you?

Events at Trent Valley Archives

There are a number of events planned for the next few months and we think they will be of special interest to the members of the Trent Valley Archives and their friends and families.

Peterboro Suite Ballet

The events season began with the recent Trent Valley Archives' Annual General Meeting. On the last Thursday in April, Elwood Jones gave the backstory for the remarkable Peterborough Suite Ballet. He then showed the DVD of the premiere performance, which was held last August in Petoskey, Michigan. Elwood would be pleased to talk to any group that is interested in knowing more or in viewing the DVD.

Telling Tales

"A Quiet Night in August" c. 1988, a lovely song from Dan Berggren, Adirondack songster, has the line "Stories keep the kingdom well". This perfectly describes the two writing workshops being hosted by Trent Valley Archives (TVA) in May 2012. Taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity will surely encourage you to write your family stories.

For many delving into family history, their job isn't finished until they've shared their tales with family members, especially with their children. TVA is offering a one-day workshop to help tell family tales. It will be held, Saturday, May 5th or Sunday, May 6th or both, from 9am – 4 pm. Brooke Broadbent, who recently wrote *Moonrakers at Peace and War* will lead the sessions. His book was inspired by ancestors in Duoro, Otonabee, Peterborough, Cavan and Port Hope.

Ruth Kuchinad, someone who has signed up for the course says: "She wants to bring her story of a 1972 significant boat trip up the coast of North America on the 40 ft. yawl 'L'Acadie' to light". She will bring photos and the ship's log to help her form the story. These will remind her of the experience and help her put the trip's exciting events to paper.

If you'd like to join Ruth and others, please register at Trent Valley Archives, in person at 567 Carnegie Ave., Peterborough, by calling 705-745-4404, or by using the web site, www.trentvalleyarchives.com under the PayPal button. Cost is \$60 per day, or if you pay by April 1st, \$50 per day. The price includes a light lunch.

Lakefield Walkabout

Trent Valley Archives will have a presence in downtown Lakefield as the village celebrates the Victoria Day weekend, Saturday, 19 May 2012. Catharine Parr Traill will be on hand along with others. We will be promoting upcoming events and promoting the excellent and wide-ranging work done by the Trent Valley Archives.

Down Memory Lane

We have never been feted with a fundraiser before and we are delighted. The New Horizons Band is taking us down memory lane. That was the inspiration for a special happening in late April. Mike Melnik featured archives and memory as the theme for the Greatest Hit of the Day, a regular feature of KRUZ radio. Rick Meridew rose to the challenge of finding the great hits to feature. Elwood thought almost anything from Paul Simon's Graceland album would have suited, and he especially liked "Under African Skies." Archives is a misused word for people in the music business, and so it was surprising that we could even think of doing such a promotion. Thanks to Mike Melnik, Catherine Hanaran, and all the people at Kruz.

We also would like to thank the Peterborough New Horizons band for honouring us in this way, and special thanks to Guy Thompson for his initiative and energy on this project.

The tickets are only \$10, and the band is performing in one of the best spaces in town for great acoustics and comfortable seating. Trent Valley Archives will have a table in the foyer, so drop by and say hi. Get tickets for the whole gang, just by talking to a member of the TVA Board of Directors, visiting Trent Valley Archives or going to the web. What a great way to support two great organizations.

Gilmour Street Lawn Sale

We are collecting things to sell at the legendary lawn sale. Last year we were the guests of Dale and Bernice Standen just two doors from Monaghan, and we expect to be there again. If you can help with any aspect of the sale, it would be most gratefully received. Give a call to Heather and volunteer your services or your nice stuff.

Lansdowne Place Mall

We will have a stand at the Lansdowne Place Mall on the hallway leading to and from the food court. This is mainly an event for making contact with the general public, but we will be selling tickets to some of our upcoming events and will promote and sell copies of the *Heritage Gazette* and our favourite publications. We will be there on Saturday and Sunday, 2 and 3 June 2012, as long as the mall is open. In the autumn, we will be at Lansdowne Place again, 6 and 7 October. See you both times.

Scandals and Scoundrels Pub Crawl

We are planning to do our famed Scandals and Scoundrels Pub Crawl every Friday night in June. Bruce Fitzpatrick coached our team of ten guides and we are promising all the outrageousness and remarkable stories linked to the town's pubs in an era when the wets and the dries vied for supremacy. We also run the Pub Crawl on any Friday the 13th; this year that is in July.

Heroes and Rails Bicycle Tours

Much of our history was tied to railways and waterways, both easily accessible from the trailways. Learn about some of the important and unusual moments of local history while getting good fresh air and fine company. These will be held each Sunday through June.

Little Lake Cemetery Tours

The Trent Valley Archives has done dozens of cemetery tours over the past ten years. We are always looking for special twists and themes as we tour through one of North America's most beautiful cemeteries in a most spectacular setting. The cemetery itself is remarkable as Ontario's first private, incorporated cemetery. Tour themes will be announced, but we expect these tours to be Sundays in

West Side Story

Peterborough had its west side, too. This tour contrasts the changing landscape and the families that lived in the houses between Park Street and Monaghan, on old Elm Street and the upscale Weller Street, and the former estate of Senator George A. Cox. The tour will be done on two Sundays in August, with Elwood Jones as the leader.

Downtown Ghost Tours

Every Friday in August, our costumed leaders take tours on the creepy side of town, beginning at Confederation Park, 9 pm.

Catharine Parr Traill's Peterborough

This special bus tour features lunch and tour at Hutchison House and visits to places that were known to Catharine Parr Traill and her husband, Thomas, during the 1830s. This has been arranged to mark the 180th anniversary of the arrival of the Traills in the summer of 1832. They stayed in town for a month while waiting for a land sale, and so were introduced to much of what characterized their Canadian experience and their lasting memories. This tour is being led by Elwood Jones and Ruth Kuchinad. Space is limited to 40, and the tour is only on Wednesday, 29 August. Cost \$75, which includes the bus, lunch and a souvenir publication.

Open House at Trent Valley Archives

We will be celebrating the official opening of the Peterborough Examiner archives, and some of the other collections that have arrived recently. We are also planning workshops and special events to coincide with our annual birthday party.

Hallowe'en Ghost Tours

We are famous for knowing how to celebrate Hallowe'en, and our costumed leaders take to the streets again, nearly every night, 25 to 30 October. We recommend getting reservations as these tours fill up very quickly.

Little Lake Cemetery Pageant

Some of the denizens of Little Lake Cemetery dress in their finest for the annual visit of the Trent Valley Archives. We are especially grateful to the Peterborough Theatre Guild and to some very fine actors who make this a most memorable event. Come and see them stretch their bones. Two nights only, 26 and 27 October.

It's All About the Music!

In co-operation with Peterborough's Showplace, Darling Insurance and the Five Counties Children's Centre, Trent Valley Archives shares the local history of music from the early Irish influence, the big bands and the rock and roll era. We are featuring some of the finest local performers in this great celebration of our music history. Parts of the story have been researched in previous walking tours in which we supplied audio performances via MP3 players. Now experience live music in an original event without precedent at Showplace. This will be one night only, 2 November.

There may be other events, as well. We especially urge you to register in advance for any events that are limited to only one or two days. This is our most venturesome line-up events as we again seek ways to bring history alive. Nobody does that better than the Trent Valley Archives. For details look on the webpage, www.trentvalleyarchives.com or visit the Trent Valley Archives or keep this list handy. For details and breaking news, join facebook or twitter, visit the webpage, or call us, 705-745-4404.

Member Profile: Audrey Armstrong

Bringing the past to life



It's safe to say that TVA member Audrey Armstrong has the genealogy bug: "My parents passed away and as is often the case, my sister and I decided we should record everything we've got (which was precious little) on my father's and my mother's side. Then my sister passed away too, so I looked at what she had done - we could only go back to my great-grandfather - and I thought there has got to be more," recounts Audrey.

"So I started investigating and thanks to TVA and Ancestry.com, the doors just swung open," she explains. "It's been incredible. We started by simply wanting to record this information because no one else was going to do it, then suddenly I got interested."

Audrey has been working at her family genealogy project for more than three years now, and has more than 10 books of photos, documents, letters, family mementos and more to show for it.

"One of my Dutch relatives has said it's a shame because we know names and dates, we know who begot whom and who married whom but we don't know anything about those people," says Audrey. "I wanted to put the meat on the bones." And she has.

Some of that "meat" includes uncovering the true identity of her great-grandmother's illegitimate daughter, and the revelation that one of her ancestors committed suicide after the death of her "favourite son". Audrey located the news story for the latter on Ancestry and points to a copy of it she has in her album. "It's a real tragedy and drama," she observes, "and it was just a name before."

While Audrey has no local connections, she likes to come to the archives to do her research through Ancestry online. "I'm still sort of figuring it out but I'm catching on. It can be frustrating at times," admits Audrey. "I couldn't find any record of my grandparents' visit to Canada in 1911, for example, because their names had been transcribed incorrectly in the census," she says, referring to one of the puzzles she's had to solve. After some digging she found her grandmother, who had been listed as "Army Borter" instead of "Amy Porter". "You really are doing detective work," she explains.

"You could sit and do it yourself at home," says Audrey, "but I need some help sometimes deciphering things or when I come across something and I don't know what it means. So I like to come in to the archives. And besides," she smiles, "it's a lot more fun."

News, Views and Reviews

Ed Arnold

Ed Arnold has just retired after a quarter century as the managing editor of the Peterborough Examiner. During those years he was the author of 11 books that related to the history of Peterborough, notably through his books on hockey, and the ones on George Street and Hunter Street. On top of this, he has facilitated the preservation of the archives of the Peterborough Examiner. The collection is described in the February 2012 *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*, pages 30-32. This is one of the three largest archival collections at the Trent Valley Archives but probably the most representative collection in any local archives, because newspapers touch on lives everywhere. We have had a gauge of the importance of the collection, for when we announced we were recruiting volunteers to get the collection prepared for use by researchers and the general public the reaction was unparalleled to anything we have seen in the last 20 years. We currently have 25 volunteers, but expect it could be closer to 40 or 50 over the next few weeks. The excitement is warranted. The photographic elements will do for the modern period what the Roy Studio collection does for the first years of the twentieth century. The papers present terrific opportunities for exploring urban policies on planning, transportation, policing, etc. The coverage of lacrosse and hockey is outstanding.

The Peterborough Historical Society awarded the Charlotte Nicholls Award to Ed Arnold. It was a fitting tribute.

He has received other fitting tributes, and most notably he has been declared to be a legend in Canada's daily newspaper history. He says, maybe not a legend. However, it is apt. He worked in the shadow of another legend, the late Robertson Davies, who spent a quarter century at the Examiner before becoming the Master of Massey Colleg in Toronto. Ed was often asked why the paper was not as good as it used to be when Davies was there. Robertson Davies reassured him that when he was gone, his successors would face a similar question.

The War of 1812

The Peterborough Historical Society earlier this week held a War of 1812 symposium featuring four distinguished speakers with different perspectives on the War of 1812. Dennis Carter-Edwards, the PHS president, chaired the proceedings held in the Peterborough Public Library auditorium. This was an appropriate way to mark the 200th anniversary of the start of a war that has cast long shadows on our history.

Bob Garcia, an historian with Parks Canada, spoke about national efforts to commemorate the War of 1812. He focused, in particular, on Fort Wellington.

I was invited to respond to what was presented and place it in the wider context.

Enid Mallory spoke about Captain James Fitzgibbon, who was the author of a biography of Fitzgibbon some years ago and the new *Captain Fitz: Fitzgibbon, Green Tiger and the War of 1812* (2011). Her well-illustrated presentation included some superb archival photos as well as photos of many of the sites commemorating the War of 1812, especially in the Niagara area and along the St. Lawrence. Hers was a good story well told. She had shots of monuments at Queenston Heights, Stoney Creek, Beaver Dams, and Chrysler's Farm. She even had a picture of the White House when it was not so white after being burned by the British. This was a response to American actions in destroying York and Newark, now Toronto and Niagara-on-the-lake. Her book on Fitzgibbon is partly aimed at young people, and she found some young people who played roles in the war. Her best example was Billy Green, who stole a password from Americans at the battle of Stoney Creek.

Her main interest was, of course, Captain Fitzgibbon. Interestingly, Fitzgibbon's post-war experience had local significance. He was sent to Peterborough in 1826 to smooth differences between Catholics and Protestants. His son, Charles, married Agnes Moodie, a daughter Dunbar and Susanna Moodie.

Michael Eamon, an historian at Trent University, spoke about the new exhibit that he has prepared for the Canadian War Museum. *Faces of 1812: Visages de 1812* will open at the Canadian War Museum on 12 June. This exhibit will feature portraits from the Library and Archives of Canada. The exhibit is more diverse in its visual elements, and also very wide-ranging geographically. His was a strong reminder that the War of 1812 in North America was fought in the context of world-wide fighting that most importantly included the Napoleonic Wars in Europe.

Eamon commented on the fantastic collections at the Library and Archives of Canada, and the diversity of materials that he was able to use in preparing an exhibit for the Canadian War Museum. He drew on his experience as an archivist, an historian and museum professional.

His sample of highlights for the forthcoming exhibit included one of a young George III. The spectacular 1897 painting of Sir Isaac Brock based on a sketch with the family in Guernsey (and which Enid Mallory had shown) set

directions for some of Michael's observations. No one was painting the battles or the heroes; these were done later, and some of the most evocative images of the War of 1812 were executed nearly 100 years later. They were more about how to remember the war than about the war itself. He showed a beautiful portrait of Sir George Prevost, who was more concerned with protecting Quebec City, whereas Brock thought the Niagara was a more likely target for the invaders. Michael's exhibit will put Brock and Prevost at opposite ends of the room with them facing each other. The work of C. W. Jeffreys probably affected how Canadians of the twentieth-century remembered the war, and his painting of Brock meeting Tecumseh has a compelling quality still. There was a nice portrait of the Most Rev. Alexander Macdonell (1762-1840). He talked about the McGillivray brothers of North West Company fame, and of Captain Francis Spillsbury RN who spent part of the war as a PoW. After the war, Spillsbury failed in an effort to establish a town on Rice Lake, but his name is on a Peterborough street because of the next generation of the family.

There were a couple of interesting paintings relating to the Shannon and the Chesapeake, one showing British sailors boarding the American vessel, the Chesapeake. He also talked about the origins of the name Brockville, a compromise acceptable to the feuding families of Jones and Buell. He also showed a painting of Laura Secord meeting Captain Fitzgibbon.

Michael Eamon was struck by importance of what we choose to remember or forget.

While providing some information on what Parks Canada is doing to commemorate the War of 1812, Bob Garcia's impressive illustrated talk focused on Fort Wellington, and the importance of the St. Lawrence, which Enid Mallory had just called the "401 of 1812." Fort Wellington, near Prescott, was the main river port between Montreal and Kingston, and the base from which Canadians, civilian and military, attacked Ogdensburg, New York, on the other side of the river. Garcia also showed an impressive 1815 map found in a Scottish archives that covered the St. Lawrence from Lachine to Kingston. The original was like a mural, but the existence of the map showed how seriously the British tackled the issues related to the security of the line of communication, the St. Lawrence corridor. Garcia also talked about efforts to preserve what is left of a wreck sunk in Browns' Bay, apparently recovered from Mallorytown. Parks Canada has done some impressive construction to provide a good home for the wreck and also to build an interpretation centre at Fort Wellington.

Bob Garcia felt that commemorating such elements of our past help us more clearly define what is distinctive, how our culture developed, and how we define ourselves.

American historians have pursued several interesting questions. The biggest question was "who won?" Donald Hickey, an American historian with Canadian roots, judges outcomes against war aims. Americans did not settle

maritime rights or land hunger by the war. The Americans lost. Canadians wanted to keep their land, and the British wanted opportunities to fight Napoleon without having their hands tied in America. Both won. In a mean twist, the big losers were the First Nations on both sides of the border.

A second question is why the myth of an undefended border has survived, when we know that Americans continued to attack Canada later. Maybe it is about what we choose to remember.

Thirdly, a major interpretive thread spins around the idea that in some way the War of 1812 was the second American Revolution. Americans were frustrated that the British tried to keep Americans from trading with France, a perpetual foe for over 120 years. Some Americans felt that it was necessary to assert who had won the American Revolution. Many Canadians, sons of Loyalists as Enid Mallory observed, wanted to finish what their fathers had left undone.

It is possible to see this story blended with political theories and rhetoric. Was the war, for example, about American belief in the superiority of republicanism over monarchy? Some Americans believed the war would be won easily because so many Americans had taken up land in Canada in the preceding fifteen years. While there was little evidence of Americans joining the invaders, we do have the instructive story of Joseph Willcocks. Willcocks had fought hard for changes in Canadian politics that permitted more local independence, free of British Colonial Office interference. In 1812, his supporters controlled about half the legislative seats. Willcocks recruited the support of Six Nations warriors. Then he despaired of any hope for change

unless the Americans won. He became a major in the American army, the Canadian Volunteers, and played a significant role in the burning of Newark. He died before the gates of Fort Erie, still supporting the Americans. Willcocks and his followers became symbols of traitors, and the cause of political reform was unthinkable for a generation.

While Peterborough did not exist in 1812, all the speakers pointed to ways in which the War of 1812 had direct impact in our region. Warriors from the Hiawatha reserve fought in battles as early as 1812. Contemporary returns in 1815 suggest that of about 450 to 460 Indians that participated in the war, 70 were from the Rice Lake bands.

The Trent Canal (now the Trent Severn Waterway) was partly promoted as a way to avoid some of the embarrassments of the War of 1812. The canal would allow ships to move from Lake Ontario into the Georgian Bay to defend other places, defending places where Americans were attacking. During the War of 1812, both Kingston and Toronto (known then as York) were targets for American attacks by water and by land.

Veterans of the Napoleonic Wars were settled in the Peterborough area where it was expected that their naval and military expertise would be readily available. The descendants of Brock and Spilsbury, for example, settled locally. McDonnell Street was named for the nephew of Bishop Macdonell, who had been a key player in the 1825 settling of the Peter Robinson settlers from Ireland.

Here, as elsewhere, the War of 1812 affected much of our subsequent history.

PHS Awards

The annual awards at the Peterborough Historical Society were presented at the Empress Gardens on 18 April 2012. In addition to the award to Ed Arnold, those at Trent Valley Archives will be delighted to know of other winners.

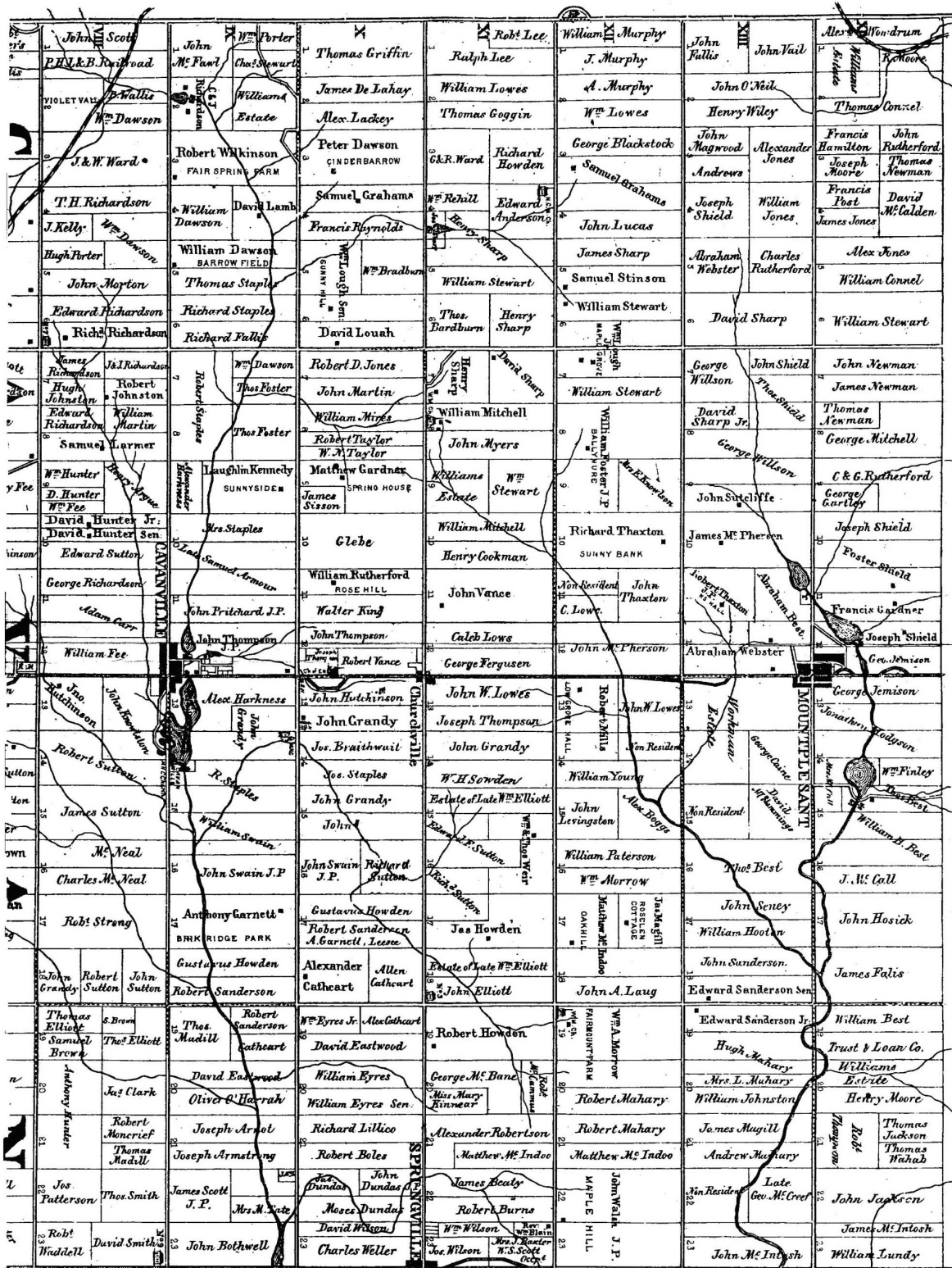
Ken Brown was awarded the F. H. Dobbin award for the outstanding historical research and writing in his delightfully produced book on the Canadian Canoe Company. His book was the highlight of the local history scene, although it was a banner year for history books and memoirs including one honouring Tom Symons. This book was the result of years of labour and research and it is always a delight to see such projects end so successfully.

Gordon Young, a long-time supporter of the Trent Valley Archives, has received the J. Hampden Burnham award. Burnham was Peterborough's leading intellectual from the 1890s to the 1920s and his eclectic interests often showed up in the newspapers and books. Gordon Young is also eclectic in his interests, and has a strong bent towards things mechanical. He has been on PACAC (Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee) for several years and has developed a reputation for making work for others. He has a penchant for stories with twists and ironies. Gordon has shown a great fondness for honouring victims of tragedies, and over more than ten years fought for recognition for the victims of the Quaker Oats fire of December 1916. Actually, his fight is continuing as he hopes to honour the firefighters at Quaker. Gordon is a tireless fighter for heritage causes, and this award seems to recognize that.

The Samuel Armour Award was given to Karen Taylor and her education committee at the Canadian Canoe Museum. This recognizes a very active engagement with school children of all ages.

This Green and Pleasant Land

The Cavan Millbrook Historical Society has reprinted the classic history of Cavan Township, *This Green and Pleasant Land*. This edition takes the form of two CD disks, and will be of great value to those who wish to view the illustrations and print in the flexible manner that allows you to see things bigger. I was immediately struck, for example, at how easy it was to print the maps with names of occupants in a larger format or focused on a farm. We have printed the north half of Cavan as it appeared in the 1861 map by Tremaine, one of Canada's foremost map-makers of the period. The hard copy is quite expensive because the title is out of print, so this will fill a neat void. We are selling this version at \$20, and we know it will be prized by anyone with Cavan roots in their family tree. It is easy to search names when working with a digital format.



North Cavan, 1861 Detail of the Map of the County of Durham, Upper Canada published by George Fennimore, Toronto 1861 - courtesy Ontario Archives

Charlie

Beryl Young, *Charlie: a Home Child's Life in Canada* (Vancouver, Ronsdale Press, 2012, 2nd ed.) Pp. 111, illustrations, ISBN 978-1-55380-140-5

Stan McLean, of the Fenner Foundation, drew our attention to a delightful new book on a Barnardo boy. Beryl Young, a Vancouver based author, has written the story of Charlie Harvie (1897-1961) who was her father. She had learned that he was a Barnardo home child when aged 20 she was visiting England. He had not told her because he thought she would tell everybody in the block. On reflection, she realized he was right. She would have been so proud that from a limiting background he had accomplished so much. His father died when he was 13, and the family of five children was in for tough sledding. Their mother sent his two sisters and a younger brother to two English orphanages, but because Charlie was older he was sent to Barnardo's because they accepted older children. Charlie sailed to Canada, a 13 day trip, on the S.S. Sicilian in 1911, arriving in Halifax 10 March. This was a year before the Titanic sailed.

Charlie's first Canadian home was not a happy one, but the Barnardo inspector had him moved to another farm, which he really enjoyed. Charlie served in the Great War. He joined the Mounties, and then after a five-year return to England, he rejoined the Mounties, and had a great career with the RCMP. His young brother, Arthur, had become a farmer in Alberta. Charlie's last posting was in Victoria, and he retired there. "It had been a fine life." That was Beryl Young's conclusion.

Samuel Strickland

Stan McLean has been very interested in the life of Sam Strickland (1804-1867), one of the founders of Lakefield. Strickland's father died when he was 14, and so when Strickland came to Canada, aged 21, in 1825, he was in some ways the forerunner of generations of English orphans who would emigrate to Canada and mostly find a better life than was likely in the British Isles. They were given opportunities that would otherwise have eluded them.

This is an interesting perspective. The story of the Stricklands is generally that of a well-to-do family. Two of his sisters, Catharine Parr Traill and Susannah Moodie followed him to this part of Ontario.

Strickland purchased 100 acres from the Canada Company in 1829, but then two years later bought nearly 400 acres on the "small Broken Fronts on the River." He planned to settle the land. He and two friends, Rowlandson and Copping, came to the land in 1831 each carrying an axe and eighty pounds in provisions and blankets. Strickland was soon training young immigrants to be gentlemen farmers. Most learned that was unlikely, but many achieved success in other fields.

By 1833, James Thompson had built a mill and a bridge for the nascent community. John Nelson settled the Smith side of what became Lakefield by the 1850s, and his two sons, Joe and Sam Nelson, were quite active and industrious. The village grew slowly, and twenty years later Christ Church North Douro was built of stone. Samuel Strickland lies buried in the cemetery adjoining Christ Church.

New accessions at the Trent Valley Archives

We have received many very interesting archival donations since the start of the year. The Lee papers contain material related to air raid wardens in World War II. Mrs Kenneth Gadd donated papers of her late husband that related to the Peterborough Gliding Club in the early 1930s; this was really surprising. We received a trunk of papers that turned out to contain family papers of Bruce Fitzgerald, who mainly farmed near Selwyn, but had as a youngster worked in the family carriage works at Water and Brock in Peterborough. He soon shifted to automobiles, the Studebaker, and so represents a transition that must have been quite common.

Mr and Mrs Milburn Jones have donated their collection of scrapbooks and memorabilia relating mostly to theatrical and musical productions in Peterborough and Toronto from the 1940s to the 2000s. I was surprised to see programs for recitals presented at St. John's Anglican Church by pupils of Fred. G. Mann, 1942 to 1945, described as the 19th to the 22nd annual recitals. Milburn Jones participated in 1942 and 1943. Other names that I recognized included: John Biddle, Stewart Brown, Victor Coleman, Gladys Lewis, Doreen Groombridge (now Landry, who just turned 90), Trevor Hawkins, Ron McGill, and Miss M. Cocks (the late Marianne MacKenzie).

We have received more copies of the Haliburton Echo, and are now getting a free subscription to the Lakefield Herald.

We have also received many books, and some photographs. Keith Kincaid sent us a copy of his book on the Kincaid family; we had an article on the Kincaids in the last issue of the *Gazette*.

In addition to the army of volunteers working on the Peterborough Examiner archives, Sean Morgan is making great progress with the Olive Doran collection. This is undoubtedly our best genealogical collection, and it is loaded with information and pictures of many families from Douro and from Ennismore.

Several of our archival fonds need to be processed, and we are hoping to make more finding aids available on our webpage.

However, it is satisfying to see the number and quality of collections that continue to come to the Trent Valley Archives. Thanks to all who have thought of us, including many that have not been noted in the *Gazette*.


Farewell to Diane Robnik

Thanks for the memories. Here are a few fond memories of Diane Robnik's tenure as Assistant Archivist at Trent Valley Archives. The development of the research and the special delivery systems for "It's all about the music!" was remarkable. In November, we will be going the next step as we take the idea to Showplace stage. The poster about TVA's street theatre was designed by Louis Taylor and had its premiere in this gathering of travel professionals. The success of our pub crawl led to an award from the Peterborough Historical Society, and the principals in the local pubs joined our tour leaders, Bruce Fitzpatrick and Diane for this memento. The fourth picture shows Diane at the CHEX-TV station as Teresa Kazuba was about to draw the prizes for our first lottery. Recently, TVA acquired the Examiner archives. I think these were favourite memories for Diane, too.

It's all about the music!

Think you know how the music scene in Peterborough got its start? The Historic Red Dog Tavern is pleased to sponsor the first-ever history of music walking tour, "It's All About the Music!" to begin in June. Join your host, Bruce Fitzpatrick, as we present a digital music experience showcasing our vast musical talent from the Irish in 1825 to the 1990s. Learn how Peterborough has its roots firmly planted in Irish, classical, big-band, country, rock and roll, folk and even metal. Discover musical venues such as the Brock Ballroom, the former Bradburn Opera House and the Legendary Red Dog. Your tour begins at the former Paramount Theatre (soon to become The Venue) located at 286 George St. @ 7pm. Tickets are \$20. Get your tickets at the Historic Red Dog, 189 Hunter Street, West.

Start time - 7pm:
June 20, 27 • July 11, 18 • Aug 15, 22



567 Carnegie Ave,
Peterborough, ON
K9L 1N1

phone: 705-745-4404





Diane Robnik is leaving Trent Valley Archives, but will continue to be helpful in different ways. Diane has accepted a position at the Thunder Bay Historical Society Museum, starting May 1.

It has been tough for us to say goodbye. Diane has been at TVA for over nine years, and has seen some remarkable changes over that time.

We had a full house at the Parkhill on Hunter as we said farewell. The gift of a framed picture of the actors who were in the Little Lake Cemetery Pageant was the main gift. The also received some books. A bound copy of *The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* for 2003 and 2004 was special because it took us back to the first year of so of Diane's career with us. As Elwood Jones observed, we saw her first publication (an article on Hallowe'en that was picked up by the *Peterborough Examiner* as well), first tours, reports on ghastly deaths, and other reminders of what seemed special to Diane. She also received a copy of Richard Gwyn's biography of Sir John A.

Macdonald. Elwood promised to get copies of the *Lonely Arranger*, an excellent book on archivists who have to do everything because they are the only paid employee.

Diane will keep in touch with us, and will also do some volunteer work for us. Our members are spread across the country, but there are ways to be helpful; just ask.

Best wishes from everybody on the Board, and our committees, and our various events. Thunder Bay doesn't know how lucky it is.



Some students at the Union School, Peterborough, October 1861

TVA, Corkery Fonds F87, large book

The official register of the Union School, apparently from 1857 to 1861, is in the Trent Valley Archives. About two-thirds of the volume has been recycled as a scrapbook on things Irish, here termed Erinata. The register was intended to register whether students had paid their fees. It is possible that the book was designed to record teacher salaries and confirm they were paid. If so this have would been a great way to confirm who taught in the local union school. Until the new Union School, also known as Central School, opened in 1861, the Central School referred to the former British Wesleyan Methodist Church at the corner of Sheridan and Hunter Street, at the west end of the Hunter Street Bridge.

Donald McFarlane	John Flavell	John Moffatt	Robert McKie
John McFarlane	Thomas Brown	John Lewis	Alex Nethercutt
John Green	Robert Humphries	George Baskerville	Lily Benson
Charles O'Beirne	Thomas K. Orde	Samuel Montgomery	May Darcy
Jonathan Dixon	John Carroll	Francis Dobbin	Leslie Chalmers
Thomas Short	Jonathan Dixon	George Johnson	Lisa Rutherford
Catherine McFarlane	Egerton Walton	William Dumble	Cardine Baskina
Ernest Orde	James Holywell	Henry Eastland	Maggie Watley
Edward Benson	Isabella Skelton	Henry Rubidge	Anne Benson
John Clark	Mary Laskins	Robert Lee	Jonah Chalmers
John McKean	Charlotte Dixon	Thomas McKie	Christine Moffat
Frederick Burnham	Gralea Clark	Joseph White	Louisa Rochfond
John McWilliams	Sophia Ridley	James Lewis	Matilda McFarlane
Francis Hall	Jane Hamilton	John Sawers	(Illeg.) English
Frederick Hall	John Niblock	John Crown	Angelina Clark
Charles Coulter	Alex Niblock	Charles Edwards	Martha Baskerville
Francis Bell	David Rogers	Thomas D'Arcy	Mary McGregor
Frederick Bell	George Burnham	David Mason	Belinda Helm
John Beshier?	Andrew Donovan	Maxwell Hall	Mary Edmonds
Christian? Twohey	Wm. Coulter	Henry McNeil	Alicia Hamilton
William Cummings	George Hazlehurst	Joseph Dixon	Sarah Ridley
Orlando Clark	John Burnham	William Green	May Britton

Kawartha Heritage Conservancy

KHC has launched a "Mapping Special Places on Stoney Lake" project to help map the natural and cultural heritage in and around the Stoney Lake area. The project will utilize an interactive mapping and discussion application that has been developed for us in partnership with Ryerson University and University of British Columbia Okanagan.

We are looking for individuals to become involved and participate in the innovative project to help identify places, features, or things they value in and around the Stoney Lake. It could include natural features such as wetlands, forests, trails, parks, interesting features on the lake, etc. Or it could include cultural features such as built heritage (homes, schools, barns, churches, cemeteries, ruins, engineering structures, monuments etc.) or landscapes.

The project website can be found at: <http://www.kawarthaheritage.org/khcgeolive.asp>. The on-line map can be found at: <http://kawartha.ok.ubc.ca/index.php>

If you would like to participate in this exciting project, please feel free to contact me at 705-743-5599 or at my email address: suresh.vk@kawarthaheritage.org

We will be happy to arrange a group or individual sessions to provide an orientation of the project as well as the the on-line mapping tool and answer any questions there might be.

Suresh V. Kandaswamy, PMP, MA, MEds, BComm

Program Manager, Kawartha Heritage Conservancy

Phone: [705-743-5599](tel:705-743-5599) Office: 116 Hunter Street W Mail: P.O. Box 2338, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 2K6

Check out our website! www.kawarthaheritage.org

A. E. (Ted) Chalmers, A.E. Peterborough City Engineer

Obituary, Peterborough Examiner, 23 May 1957

The Union Jack at the city hall is at half-mast today for city engineer Andrew Edward "Ted" Chalmers, 57, who died in Civic Hospital at 4 a.m. today.

Mr. Chalmers, city engineer since 1946, had been ill for several months after suffer a heart attack last November. Since that time, however, he has worked as advisor and planning engineer while his assistant Jim Hooper assumed most of the administrative responsibilities.

Born in Cobourg, but raised in Toronto, Mr. Chalmers graduated with honors in civil engineering from Queen's University, Kingston in 1923.

He is survived by his wife, the former Jessie M. Jeffery, two sons, Edward Booth Chalmers of Kitchener, and Andrew Jeffrey Chalmers of Peterborough and a daughter, Louise Helen of Peterborough. They live at 4 Conger St.

Also surviving is a sister, Mrs. Maurice Tremayne of Sutton West. His parents were Andrew Chalmers and Mary Blackhall.

Mr. Chalmers came to Peterborough in 1932 as county engineer. He worked in the position until the time of the Second World War, when he joined the Royal Canadian Engineers in the Second Battalion. He served overseas, commanded the Second Road Construction Company in England, and was on the staff of the works directorate group, rear headquarters to the 21st British Army Group.

While in England, he worked largely in airport construction and introduced improved methods in the laying of landing strips.

Prior to coming to Peterborough, Mr. Chalmers worked in various centres in the Niagara district.

While still overseas, Mr. Chalmers was appointed assistant to city engineer Roy H. Parson in 1945. Mr. Parsons who had been city engineer about 36 years, retired shortly after the appointment, and Mr. Chalmers became city engineer in August 1946.

The engineer was a past president of the Canadian Institute for Sewage and Sanitation, a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada and the Society of Professional Engineers, an executive member of the City Engineers' Association for a number of years and a member of the Associate Committee of the National Building Code. He was also a member of the Kinsmen Club.

"His opinion on engineering matters was highly regarded both by the city officials and professional colleagues," said acting city engineer Jim Hooper.

"He was a very clever and competent engineer, and very exacting." Mr. Hooper has worked with Mr. Chalmers seven years. "He preferred the engineering and planning aspects of the work, although administrative duties did not always leave him as much time for that type of work as he would have desired," Mr. Hooper said.

In September 1956, Mr. Chalmers lost the sight of one eye. Later the same year he suffered a heart attack. When he had recovered from this attack, the city asked him to act as an advisor and planner, rather than to take over the heavy responsibility of administration of his department.

While working in this capacity, Mr. Chalmers completed designs for the Parkway. "He had been planning that for years," Mr. Hooper said.

He also designed the layout for the Lock Co. parking lot, prepared layouts of streets and sewers for an area north of Parkhill Road and east of the Otonabee river, which until aerial survey maps were available, was a difficult area to design; he prepared layouts for storm drains in various sections of the city – one of the most important being in the Chemong-Bellevue Sts. Area, which the engineering department hopes to build this year – and planned subdivisions in areas controlled by a subdivision control bylaw which was instrumental in creating. The new trunk sewer now under construction was one of the projects he worked on, and saw reach the stage of construction. The industrial area layout was part of Mr. Chalmers' work. He also initiated the west end drainage scheme, which consulting engineers are now planning in detail.

Mayor John Dewar noticeably shaken by the news of Mr. Chalmers' death, said, "His passing is a great loss to the city. He was one of our most conscientious and painstaking heads of departments, and the planning and engineering he did was of inestimable value to the city of Peterborough.."

"He took his work home with him very much," the mayor said. "The expansion of the city brought many engineering problems."

"He was very self-effacing," he added.

City Clerk E. A. Outram said, "Mr Chalmers was a very pleasant person to work with. He had a very high character, and was a most conscientious municipal employee."

Mr. Chalmers was a member of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, and a former chairman of the church's board of managers. The funeral will be Saturday at 2 p.m. from St. Paul's, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Wasson officiating. Burial will be in Little Lake Cemetery. The body is at the Comstock Funeral Home until 11 a.m. Saturday.

PETERBOROUGH EXAMINER



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PRICE EIGHT CENTS

Labor Surplus Area Claim Figures Below Percentage

From statistics taken from the "Labor Gazette," a government publication, chances are slim that the Peterborough district will be declared a labor surplus area by the Dominion government, based on the area's employment history over the last seven years.

Ross Thatcher, parliamentary secretary to Labor Minister Starr, says the total area covered by the Unemployment Insurance Office in Peterborough would be used in assessing the manpower situation.

Ald. H. L. Garner, chairman of industrial expansion committee of city council, announced Wednesday that appli-

cation would be made to Labor Minister Starr to have Peterborough area declared a labor surplus area.

Under such an arrangement, local industries would be able to take advantage of regulations which came into effect in March of this year, allowing the early write-off of new buildings and machinery used in the manufacture of certain products.

A check of the Labor Gazette, published by the department of labor, by Peterborough MP Walter Pitman, shows the Peterborough record for the last seven years as follows (S for surplus manpower and B for balanced manpower):

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
May	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
June	B	S	S	B	S	S	B	S
July	B	S	S	B	S	S	S	S
August	B	S	B	B	S	S	S	S
September	B	S	B	B	S	S	S	S
October	B	S	B	B	S	S	S	S

The only two months in which Peterborough was classed as a serious, and not moderate manpower surplus area were May and June, 1959, said Mr. Pitman.

To qualify, Peterborough area, which has a labor force of more

than 10,000, must have had 75 per cent (36 months) of the 48 survey months between 1953 and 1960 as surplus manpower periods.

The Peterborough mark is 32, or 66 per cent.

Tenders Called Soon For School Addition

Tenders for a five-room addition to Kawartha Heights School will be called in the first week of May, Everett Wicks, chairman of North Monaghan Area No. 2 school board, told The Examiner today.

Mr. Wicks said three classrooms, a kindergarten and a general purpose room will be added to the four-room school. He said, estimating cost at an

reached at the meeting and details of the new scheduled will also be announced.

Rec. Centres For Jobless



KEITH WILSON
Saw Machine Guns



NORMAN BLODGETT
Sales Representative
—(Roy Studio Photo)

Salary Talks

A special meeting of the board of health will be held next week to discuss salaries of the board's nurses. The

Two City Men Left Cuba On Last Available Plane

Two Peterborough men are still breathing sighs of relief after getting out of Cuba on the last plane scant hours before the country was invaded by anti-Castro forces.

Keith Wilson of 19 Inverlea St., DeLaval's Ontario farm equipment manager, and Norman Blodgett of River Rd. N., a member of the firm's sales and service department, were in Cuba installing dairy equipment. They arrived there Mar. 27 and planned to leave Apr. 17. Fortunately for them, they booked their return flight for Apr. 16—the day before the invasion started.

Only one plane a day left Havana for Miami before the invasion, now no planes are allowed to leave.

Mr. Wilson told The Examiner today that he and Mr. Blodgett were working in San Cristobal, 70 miles west of Havana and there "things seemed quite normal."

When they arrived in Havana Saturday, however, the airport there and at Santiago had been bombed and the militia were setting up machine guns on the rooftops.

"Mind you there are always militiamen in Cuba and had we not been told, we would not have known there had been bombings," Mr. Wilson said.

After the quiet of the country around San Cristobal, there was a feeling of unrest in Havana, though, said Mr. Wilson. "We didn't have too much opportunity to look around and gauge the mood of the people but there were many Cubans at the air-

port waiting to leave the country."

He said there were also several Americans and two Englishmen left behind when the last plane left the Cuban capital.

Mr. Wilson said things will have to settle down quite a bit before he will think of going back.

DeLaval president S. K. Mahood said the invasion of Cuba could affect new business his company hoped to get there. He disclosed, however, that the company had already been paid for "a considerable amount" of equipment that would be shipped to Cuba.

"The invasion will have no effect on these orders," Mr. Mahood said.

Main Street Topics

OVERHEATED PIPES

City firemen checked overheated stove pipes Wednesday, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Brennan, of 73 Parkhill Rd. There was no damage.

SUPREME COURT

Non-jury sittings of the Supreme Court of Ontario will open at Peterborough County court house Monday, May 5 at 2 p.m. Mr. Justice J. L. Wilson of Toronto will preside.

RUBBISH FIRE

Burning rubbish in the back yard of Mr. and Mrs. T. Braithwaite's home at 344 McGill St.

Peterborough and under fire a zone metario Devi Mark K tives of Z meeting t glecting c itself attr

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This was an interesting story that Diane Robnik found when using some of the microfilms that came with the Peterborough Examiner archives. Keith Wilson was with DeLaval, and we have some items relating to him in the DeLaval fonds at the Trent Valley Archives. Norman Blodgett chaired the International Plowing Match competition when it was held in Otonabee Township in 2006. His son, Peter Blodgett, of Darling Insurance is one of the supporters of the Trent Valley Archives, and one of the Three Loonies who have been raising money for Kawartha Food Share for about ten years.

The story has extra interest since it shows the range of businesses based in Peterborough.

The masthead and the extra stories are also fascinating.

Ennismore Continuation School

We have written about the Ennismore Continuation School in earlier issues of the Heritage Gazette. However, we did not have a photo that tied to the years when it operated as a feeder school for local high schools. It allowed students to attain part of their high school education while staying close to home. Then we saw this exciting photo in the Olive Doran fonds, which Sean Morgan has been preparing for researchers to use. It was quite exciting to see this group photo, and many of the names are identified in Olive Doran's notes.



<http://www.heritage2012.com>


**2012 ONTARIO
HERITAGE
CONFERENCE**

ONTARIO HERITAGE CONFERENCE 2012
"Beyond Borders: Heritage Best Practices"
Kingston, Ontario
May 31st to June 3rd
www.heritage2012.com

Presented by the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario
and Community Heritage Ontario
through the Frontenac Heritage Foundation



Boyd lumber picture

This interesting photograph hangs by the door between the archives room and the research room at Trent Valley Archives. The photo is considered to be of Boyd Lumber Company workers at Lakefield. The identifications supplied by the donor are on the back of the photo. The names are, left to right, 1. Andrew Finnie Hamilton; 2 George Alexander Hamilton; 3. Jack Millage (Sandy's father); 4. xxx; 5. Jim Webster. Betty Drain recognized people from her family and was able to confirm some of the identifications. We would both appreciate help in identifying the person second from the right.

Part of the fascination with the picture is imagining how they could pile lumber so high. All comments welcome.
Photo by N. R. Orme, 170 Charlotte Street, Peterborough ON

Heritage Canada Conference

Heritage Canada Foundation's Annual Conference in cooperation with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals (CAHP), the Canadian Forum for Public Research on Heritage (CFPRH), and the Canada Research Chair on Built Heritage.

Be There, Pitch In, and Take Action.

2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention, a landmark agreement that set national benchmarks for heritage management. What better time to reflect on how far we've come as a movement, where we are now, and determine where we need to go. While economic circumstances and government priorities are changing dramatically, built, cultural and natural heritage is being embraced by increasing numbers of Canadians, many of whom do not self-identify as heritage supporters. The National Heritage Summit is an opportunity to take stock, "hit the reset button," and set priorities for putting heritage on the local, provincial and national agenda. To improve our ability to build vibrant communities and protect places that matter, we need to capitalize on our collective strength, and foster stronger working relationships with other sectors and new partners. We must also re-

establish the social and economic relevance of heritage conservation for a new era and the next generation. Accordingly, suggested conference themes emphasize innovative collaborations, compelling strategies, and cutting-edge answers to conservation challenges at all levels.

For more information: conference@heritagecanada.org <http://www.heritagecanada.org/eng/conference.html>

Tel: [613-237-1066](tel:613-237-1066); Fax: [613-237-5987](tel:613-237-5987)

KEN BROWN REQUESTS HELP

Publication of “The Canadian Canoe Company and the early Peterborough canoe factories” last fall has whetted my appetite for investigating and celebrating Peterborough business history. I have undertaken a new book project with the self-explanatory working title “Made in Peterborough.” The plan is to revisit the early manufacturing days of Peterborough, focusing on the period prior to 1920. The book will have profiles, some short and some longer, of such enterprises as the Peter Hamilton Company, BF Ackerman and Sons, JJ Turner, Peterborough Lock Company, Dickson Lumber, Robert Romaine, William Hamilton Company, Calcutt Brewery, various lumber and other mills, furniture and carriage makers....these and. Other businesses that made the things that made Peterborough. There is considerable material related to this in public archives. I know, however, that there is also much tucked away in local family private cupboards and drawers. I am referring to photos of the people (bosses and workers), business premises, business products, and promotional material of all kinds. I would like to find financial statements or other records, postcards, business letterheads and correspondence, calling cards, company flyers or catalogues and advertising, and the products or related containers themselves. My hope is to be able to reference, copy, and photograph material held in private hands to help tell the early Peterborough business manufacturing story as effectively as possible.

If anyone can provide access for me to material they own or otherwise guide me to holdings of others, it would be much appreciated. Contact information is:

Ken Brown

233 Engleburn Ave, Peterborough K9H1S5

705-743-8750 kbrown132@cogeco.ca



1909 Easter Card (Thanks to Bruce Dyer)

Announcements:

Garage Sale Items Wanted: Spring cleaning? TVA is looking for items for its table at the Great Gilmour St. Garage sale. If you have items you would like to donate please call 705-745-4404 or email admin@trentvalleyarchives.com to arrange for drop off / pick up.

***New* Members Only Chat Room:** Hey - genealogical research doesn't have to be lonely... Why work in isolation when you could connect to like-minded people doing research just like you? Ask questions, share solutions... We're all about connections here at TVA - to the living AND the dead. So head to our website at www.trentvalleyarchives.com to join up, sign in and get chatting!

Volunteers Needed: If you are interested in putting your talents to use, there are many, many ways to help out at TVA. Volunteers are always needed to process and organize the fascinating archival donations we regularly receive, like the Examiner Collection, but we also have opportunities in event organization, communications and promotion, volunteer coordination, fundraising and more. Go to www.trentvalleyarchives.com/volunteer to read more about volunteering at TVA or contact us at 705-745-4404 or admin@trentvalleyarchives.com.



Upcoming Events:

For more information about these events or to purchase tickets, please go to www.trentvalleyarchives.com/events or contact us at 705-745-4404 or admin@trentvalleyarchives.com.

Telling Tales Writing Workshop: May 5 & 6: 9am - 5pm at the Bridgenorth Community Centre: The Trent Valley Archives is hosting two all-day workshops, 9am to 5pm, on Saturday, May 5th and on Sunday, May 6th at the Bridgenorth Community Centre, adjacent to the Bridgenorth Library. "Telling Tales: Celebrating Your Special Stories" is meant to help people identify their own stories and to find ways to write those stories. Brooke Broadbent, an Ottawa-based writer, will be the instructor and coach and will be assisted by Elwood Jones and others at Trent Valley Archives.

Lakefield Walkabout: May 19th: details to come

Down Memory Lane: New Horizons Band Concert: Fri., May 25th, 7:30pm, Calvary Church, 1421 Lansdowne St. W. Join us Friday, May 25th for a night of music and fun. Peterborough's New Horizon Bands will be celebrating their 10th anniversary with a show featuring four of their ensembles playing music that ranges across the ages, from classical to contemporary, from Mozart to Abba, the night is sure to have something for everyone.



The Giant Gilmour Street Garage Sale - Items Wanted! Saturday, May 26th, Gilmour St. This will be a fundraising event for TVA. Please contact us if you have items to donate and be sure to mark the day on your calendar!