

The Pioneer Times

(News vehicle of the Cloyne and District Historical Society)



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Cloyne & District Historical Society

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Bridge over the Skootamatta River
Photo: Historical Society Archives



Preserving the Past for the Future

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The Pioneer Times

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Chairman's Message

by Carolyn McCulloch

Looking back is sometimes as gratifying as looking forward. Reminiscences of the past season leave me smiling. I think of Eileen Flieler purchasing a mannequin for the Museum, and having to carry it down the street to her car. A huge crowd gathered to view Brooke Johnson's documentary *Massanoga*, and we discovered that it had been promoted as Brooke Shield's narrative. Rob Leverty, Executive Director of the Ontario Historical Society, visited our Pioneer Cemetery, and was completely mesmerized. Trudy Deacon designed and produced posters that encouraged visitors to help us track early families. (We had hoped to collect a few names, but ended up with pages.) Marg Axford wrote her own script, dressed as a turn-of-the-century reader of *The Napanee Beaver* and embarked on a new acting career. We were able support two members to acquire further knowledge of photography preservation and archiving. A carful travelled to hear "the other" Flora MacDonald speak at the Hastings County Historical Society. A busload of Orland French's friends arrived from Eastminster United Church in Belleville to see our Museum. Folks from Flinton celebrated the oldest village in the community by assembling a remarkable display. There is something new around every corner in



Rob Leverty, Carolyn McCulloch, Eileen Flieler
Cloyne Pioneer Cemetery, May 2010
Photo by Gordon McCulloch

Massanoga: Video Review

By Carol Morrow

A new video *Massanoga* has been produced by Brooke Johnson, grand-daughter of Wallace Johnston who was the manager of the Sawyer-Stoll lumber camp at Massanoga, north of Mazinaw Lake. She introduced it at the Society's summer opening ceremony last June when members and the public were treated to a preview before the DVD went on sale. It was produced from a collection of 35mm film, live photos and family history that Brooke was able to transform into this interesting presentation.

Apart from being an important historical piece about the Mazinaw area, there are many reasons why the video is interesting. It contains recent conversations with old-timers who worked on site during the 40s until it closed in the early 1970s. They explain the daily operations and workings of the machinery so that the un-initiated can clearly grasp an understanding of how logging was / is done. It is fun to see people we recognize reminiscing about their old glory days. Sawyer-Stoll was clearly a good company to work for: the camp was well organized, the management was well-liked and respected, and the company operated efficiently.

The film blends live colour footage and old black/white photos, with well-scripted narration linking the two aspects of the story's delivery. Such interplay of elements actually draws the viewer into the story, as do the community old-timers who tell their yarns and experiences. How the Johnston family, Swedish immigrants, circuitously ended up in the Cloyne area is interesting and cleverly woven into the fabric of the story. Lively musical moments throughout the film by a local group also provide relevance to the production.

In reality, viewing it at the Hall did not do justice to the film, as the building lacks the acoustics for good listening of the narration. The video shows very well in a HD, wide-screen environment – it was actually quite awesome on second viewing.

Just in time for Christmas, this video would make an excellent family gift, something to fit snugly into that stocking hanging by the tree. Speaking on behalf of the Historical Society, I commend Brooke Johnson on her entry into the film world and sincerely thank her for bringing another piece of local Ontario history to the fore-front.

Copies of the DVD are still available for \$20 through the historical society. Call (613) 336-6858 or email [pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca] for a (gift) copy.

Museum Notes

1. Several new artifacts came to us over the summer.

- a Marquardt family history, entitled *Up Home: A History of the Marquards at Denbigh*. Written and donated by Richard Marquardt of Ottawa. This is very professionally done and a fascinating read.

- a Camp Mazinaw paddle, donated by Donald Smith, an avid camper who is now an author and historian, living in Calgary.

- curling tongs, used in the late 1800s and belonging at one time to Tressa Dafoe. Donated by Joy Nowell.

- portraits of James Freeburn and Mary Moles, and John Andrews M.D. and Janet Reavie. Donated by Carol Lessard, representing the Freeburn family.

- a railway spike, donated by Ryan Nowell.

- a Trepanier family history, donated by Mildred Trepanier

2. This summer we acquired two new bookcases, built to measure by Murray Lessard. These provide us with an excellent spot to display our growing collection of resource books and materials.

3. Staff worked on replacing old display labels with clean, sturdier, factually correct ones. Next summer, we will continue to label items which currently are without explanations.

4. The Archives continue to grow. We have received funding for one of this summer's staff, Daryn Boland, to work after school on archiving. It is a slow process, and will never be "complete", as we are constantly receiving new documents and photos. If there are any volunteers who would like to learn the process, or who would like to help in any capacity with the Archives, please let us know!

5. A new "school marm" reigns over her lone pupil in the museum schoolhouse! She is an attractive replacement for the former teacher, whose role has now changed and who now occupies a post in the kitchen near the wood stove. Perhaps she married last spring and was thus unable to continue her teaching duties!

If you haven't been in for a visit recently, count on setting a day aside next summer to check out what's new and what's old, or perhaps what's old but refurbished. We will look forward to seeing you then.



A Family Christmas Gift *by Carol Morrow*

Many people are curious about their roots, where their family came from and what kind of ancestors they had. Were they important, were they wealthy, or famous; were there any war heroes, politicians, or famous doctors; or are there any pirates or scoundrels hiding in the proverbial family closet? Did one of your ancestors take part in a significant historical event, or invent something important, or perform a great accomplishment? At one time or another someone in your family **WILL** want to know. It may not be you but it may be your children, grandchildren, or some cousin etc.

How many of you would love to have the history of your family? Well now is the time for all of you who are interested or who know of someone who might be, to do something about it. Christmas is on its way, and it brings times of gifts. What better gift than to create a family chart or family tree, even a family photo album for your loved ones! Another idea is to create a calendar where you devote each month to a particular individual with a write-up memorializing that person and how he/ she is related. After the year is over, it can be kept as a family keepsake by the recipient.

You can add things like what kind of work they did, where they lived, did they move? Where to? Did they have a farm or own a factory? Add photos in the book, add obituaries, marriage certificates, their children, who they married. Include little stories about them if you can gather them. Talk to other family members or friends to see if they know something.

Once you have all your info, what you can do with that will not cost much. Get a binder, pick up some plastic page protectors, and some photo paper for your photos; also computer paper, perhaps some labels and get to work. I like to “frame” my pictures with matching or contrasting coloured paper, even using a decorative page as a background mat. Then I write up my blurb and print it out on the clear full sheet labels you can get at Staples. These can be cropped to size and adhered on a blank space on the page, or adhered to a coloured card and placed beside your subject. Once you are done, gift wrap your family tree book/ calendar (whatever) and voila! you have a Christmas Gift all ready to give. Christmas is all about giving and with a little creativity and inspiration, you can create something to cherish for a lifetime.

There are companies that sell Tree Charts in various forms. They can be ordered and you fill in the squares with the names, etc. Googling “Family Tree Charts” will result in dozens of choices. You just have to decide how detailed, how many generations you want to cover, or what shape you want.

You can even order custom-made books of an event, upload your photos and caption online, and in a few weeks you will get your order. (It may be late for Christmas this year now, but an idea for a birthday later.)

There are several online services that do this. Just pick a memorable event that happened in your family that you think should be remembered, supply a little narration or captions, select the pictures you want to document this, and send it all to the online book service of your choice.

What better way to celebrate the Christmas season than with a family-oriented gift that stands the test of time. Family and Giving are the hallmarks of Christmas time. May yours be Bountiful in all the special ways.

**Coming up is our
“Old Fashioned Christmas”
family get-together on Saturday,
December 11th at 1:00 pm. Please join
us at the Barrie Township Hall
for Christmas entertainment,
a sing-song, and a visit from the
Jolly Man in Red!**

Pioneer Museum Patron Program

by Marcella Neely

Proudly we have added thirteen first time Pioneer Museum supporters to our roster this year. Thank you for your contributions and congratulations to those of you who continue to recruit for us.

The museum is all the better for the generous donations. How gratifying is it to keep charitable donations in our own community?

Some physical changes are needed at the Pioneer Museum so we continue to solicit financial donations. Please let us know of someone new moves into the area or if previous residents, living elsewhere, may be interested in the roots of Cloyne and District. These are the folks who want to support the museum that houses parts of their heritage. We would like to invite them on board. We are still struggling to reach our target of 100 Pioneer Museum patrons.



Photo: Eileen Flieler

Dick and Wilma Dodds, Pioneer Museum, Cloyne, June 2007. Displaying Wilma's mother's handmade wedding gown and veil which Wilma donated to the Museum; also a picture of her mother wearing the gown and her marriage certificate.

Financial Report

Update to November, 2010

Ian Brumell

The financial record for the Cloyne and District Historical Society this year has been very positive and it is hoped that prudent Board management of our finances will bode well for the future.

Summer sales and donations were about the same as usual with the number of visitors to the museum being still around 1000. Over the years, we have found that donations average very close to one dollar per recorded visitor with donations at the museum generally around \$1000 for the summer. Special events account for additional donation dollars, such as the bake sale and yard sale, bus tours and group visits to our museum.

This summer we had two different government grants which are always a blessing since this summer they again allowed us to pay two students. We hired separately a third student to carry on the work of archiving our various collections. This past summer we hired both Daryn Bolland and Ryan Gagne for a second year and Cassandra Raymo. They did a great job and completed successfully any tasks given them.

The grants we gratefully accepted came from the Young Canada Works (YCW) Programme through the Canadian Museums Association and from an Employment Ontario programme called Summer Jobs Service (SJS) which is a salary supplement. In total, our historical society received just over \$9,000 from these various funders. We look forward to further association with these funders again next summer.

Going into the fall and winter slow period, we will continue to consume some funds with Daryn still working part time on the archiving project. We hope to receive further funding from YCW this fall to carry him to the end of the year.

Currently, [November, 2010] our bank balance is around \$3,650. Our reserve fund is close to \$25,500, invested with Raymond James Limited in Kingston. They have been very helpful with advice and concern about our funds and, with the financial markets being fairly good lately, our reserve fund has done quite well. A complete 2010 year end financial report will be published in the spring edition of The Pioneer Times.

I would encourage anyone with questions about our finances not to hesitate to contact us at any time, via email to <pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca>.

Interview with Verna Andrew

By Victoria Peeling

Verna Irene Wood was born at home, in Northbrook, on March 15th, 1931. Her parents' names were Arch and Clara Wood. Her father wanted her to be named after one of the local school teachers whose name was Verna. Verna was nicknamed "Verna Chick," and she's still reminded of that nickname to this day. When she was younger, she dreamed of becoming a schoolteacher. However, her parents didn't have the money to put her through school but she was still able to go out into the world and get a decent job. Verna worked in Toronto for about a year and a half, until her mother wrote her a letter asking her to come home and help her cook at the Art Donnelly lumber camp near their home. While she was in Toronto, Verna worked in a greeting card factory but soon got a better job at a plastic factory. Her job was to sit on a stool beside a conveyor belt and sort plastic items such as barrettes and combs.

Verna jumped around, living from place to place. After she was married, she spent 2 to 3 years in Welland, Ontario, with her husband William Andrew until the plant he worked at closed. They had ten children together, six boys and four girls, many of who still live and work in the Flinton/Northbrook area today.

Later, she decided to move back to this beautiful area, into a nice home in Flinton to be exact. After living there for quite some time, Verna decided to change homes once again. She left Flinton after her husband died, but her big move wasn't very far away. She's been living in the Northbrook Seniors Apartments for several years now.

It was after Verna returned to the Flinton area, that she learned about the Soldiers Comfort Club, along with various other clubs she chose to take part in herself. Local women started up the Soldiers Comfort Club while World War II was going on. The Soldiers Comfort Club got together to make and send out care packages to the soldiers that were serving over seas. The packages included things like cigarettes, gum, toothpaste and other sundries. After the war was over the Soldiers Comfort Club had a big party for all the returning veterans, treating them with a lovely dinner and a special engraved pen. When the war had ended in 1945, the club members decided to change their name to the Flinton Community Club, and with multiple grants and the money they had raised, they put it all together to fund building the library in Flinton. The community club still goes on today, and most of the profit they make goes toward the three churches in Flinton.

Verna also worked for Land o' Lakes Community Services for 10 years. During her time there, her responsibility was to work with senior citizens to help them live at home as long as possible without moving into a nursing home. The programs that Verna supervised to accomplish this were the diners club, transportation services, and arranging for help with house keeping and yard work.

Verna belongs to the Flinton recreation club, which started in 1977. She still remains a member today. She was the Secretary for five years, and then she became President for four years. After she moved from Flinton to Northbrook, she remained a member of the club, although another person has taken her place as President. Verna also became a member of the Golden Sunset Club, where she's been involved for approximately 25 years, and is currently President. The members of the Golden Sunset Club hold meetings and pot luck dinners once a month. They have Euchre tournaments every couple of months, as well as being involved with the local Santa Claus parade every year. Including being very committed to these clubs, Verna is also involved with the Legion which holds meetings once a month.

In Verna's younger years, she enjoyed reading, played softball and loved playing outside in the winter. Today, she still loves walking outside in the winter as well as reading, bead work, knitting, and crocheting. She spends time looking after flowers at the seniors' Apartment building where she lives and has a large garden behind the building. Verna does a lot of canning, including relish, corn relish, mustard relish and chili sauce. She gives most of this canning to her family for Christmas. She also makes homemade jams that are sold at Craft Sales run by the clubs she belongs to.

Verna is the perfect person to talk to about the Flinton/Northbrook area, as she knows a large amount of information about the people, the clubs, activities, and more. For a senior of her age, and being so involved with her surrounding communities, she shows everyone that she's doing very well at living life, and makes sure she never misses an important thing.

Victoria Jayne Peeling of Flinton is a graduate of North Addington Education Centre in Cloyne. She is currently studying journalism at university. This article was her first effort at writing up an interview which she had done. Thanks, Victoria.



Board Briefs

1. The long-simmering saga of the Viking Lodge move to Cloyne has finally been put to rest. Regretfully, the Board voted to reject the offer of Bob and Lori Cuddy for the building to be moved to a spot beside the museum. The addition on site of this building would have added much to our current display of both indoor and outdoor artifacts, as it is a beautiful, 1840s log structure. However, the actual relocation was fraught with difficulties for us: we have no one willing to take on the management of this project; the building would have required a new roof, new foundation, one new wall, and the dismantling of power and telephone service; other smaller problems were also present.

Our understanding is that the Cuddys will preserve this heritage building themselves, thus ensuring that it will not be lost.

2. Those of you who pass by the museum from time to time will have noticed a change to the exterior. A federal grant obtained through the Land o' Lakes Tourist Association has resulted in a new wheelchair accessible entrance. Along with this enhancement will be new policies and procedures around the issue of accessibility, such as procedures instructing staff on how to administer the new policies. Some changes to displays will be needed inside the museum to ensure that those in a wheelchair are able to move freely. All of this is due to the provincial government requirement for accessibility by January, 2012.

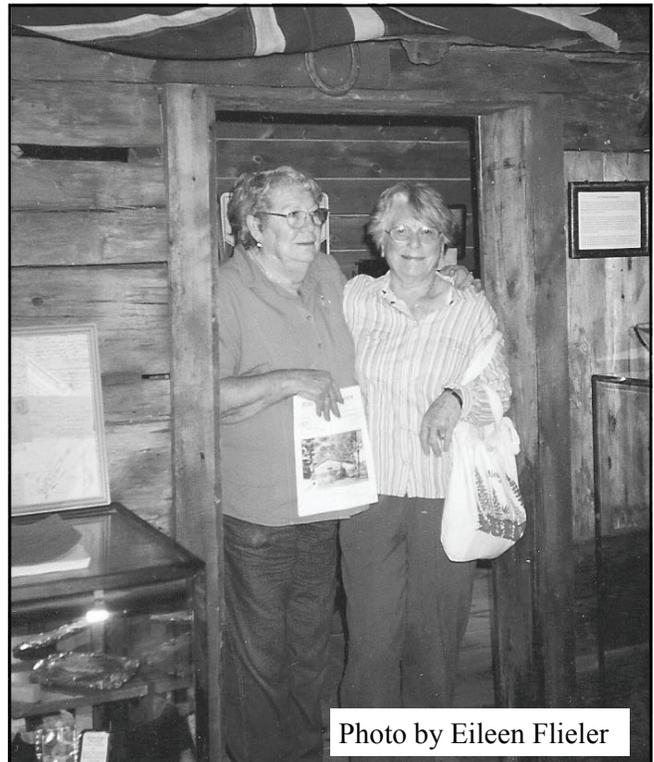
3. The Board has worked hard to obtain speakers and programs of interest for our monthly meetings. Look for detailed information in "Northern Happenings" in The Frontenac News each month.

4. The Annual General Meeting will be held in its new time slot in March. Anyone interested in a Board position should contact Carolyn or Eileen. Board meetings are held once a month and usually last for one or one and a half hours. It's a worthwhile position - there's always something of interest going on!

5. The 2011 H.S. calendar was printed in June and proved to be so popular that it has now sold out! Congratulations to the team of Dave Deacon, John Bolton, Eileen Flieler, Yvonne Marshall and Carolyn McCulloch for producing such a successful edition.

6. Six CDHS members attended the annual dinner of the Hastings County Historical Society in Belleville in early November. Guest speaker was former M.P. Flora McDonald, who spoke about her 11 trips to Afghanistan to assist the residents in an area in the north of the country close to the mountains. Ms. McDonald's passion about the people captivated her attentive audience.

7. The Board is grateful to Derek Maschke of Maschke Funeral Home in Northbrook for arranging for the repair of the Rena Pollard Cole tombstone in the Harlowe Cemetery. Many thanks, Derek!



Fobert Sisters, Cloyne Pioneer Museum, August 2007. Monica Jones and her sister Mary Downes in front of the log school house from the O'Donnell Road. Mary and Monica went to school there.

War and Canada's Native Population

by Marg Axford

As a nation, each November we remember the sacrifices which our soldiers have made in all of the too many wars and conflicts in which they have been involved. Over time, the faces of soldiers have changed; now they are both male and female and are much more ethnically diverse. What we don't often consider however is the fact that very large numbers of Canada's native population played an important role in WWI and WWII.

The number of natives who volunteered is quite staggering. According to Duncan Campbell Scott, both an early Canadian poet and a civil servant of the day working in the Department of Indian Affairs, one in three volunteers in WWI was native. Scott is quoted in an article at [www.grandriver.ca/HeritageDay/Shaver.pdf], commenting on the numbers who had enlisted:

I have pleasure in drawing attention to the fact that the participation of Great Britain in the war has occasioned expressions of loyalty from the Indians, and the offer of contributions from their funds toward the general expenses of the war or to the Patriotic Fund. Some bands have also offered the services of their warriors if they should be needed.

To be offered both money and men must have seemed extraordinary to those trying to find enough recruits and then to equip them as well. In addition, the particular abilities and skills which they brought to the conflicts were many, including scouting, marksmanship and perhaps most important, loyalty to the Crown.

This same article mentions that members of the Iroquois Six Nations of the Grand River reserve near Brantford, Ontario donated hundreds of dollars to help war orphans in Britain. The Grand River volunteers were members of the 114th Canadian Infantry Battalion, and were joined by "50 Mohawks from Kahnawake in Quebec and several Mohawks from Akwasasne." These Mohawk recruits become more important in this story as they take on a "local" connection. The Library and Archives Canada website has several sections devoted to Aboriginal veterans, listing names, home areas, ranks and battalions.

The number of native participants in WWI is estimated to be about 4,000, but probably does not include the Metis, the Inuit or any non-status natives. Nor is there any record of enlistments from the Territories or from Newfoundland and Labrador, as that province was not yet in the confederation.

There are at least two interesting local connections to this account. One of the first natives to die in the war was a man named Private Angus LaForce, a Mohawk from Akwasasne, who died on either April 22, 1915 or October 21, 1916. Was he any relation to Annie LaForce, wife of Johnny Bey Sr? Both Johnny and Annie are known to have been Mohawks from the same reserve near Montreal. The Library and Archives Canada website, in its "Soldiers of the First World War, Aboriginal Veterans" section, lists several other soldiers named LaForce. Were any of these men related to Annie? Right now, we don't know the answer to that question either. More research is needed!

This then brings us to the second connection, John Napoleon Bey, son of Annie and Johnny. According to his biography in *The Oxen and The Axe (2nd Revised Edition, 2008)* John enrolled in WWI in January 1916 at the age of 19, a member of the 146th Battalion. His attestation papers were signed on January 24, 1916, in Flinton. Interestingly, the 146th was also the battalion of John Babcock, who died in Feb 2010 at the age of 109, the last remaining Canadian veteran of WWI. Perhaps he and John Bey knew one another. A photograph appearing on the CBC website at the time of Babcock's death appears to be of members of his regiment. Is John Napoleon Bey in that photo? We will never know.

When WWII broke out, John Bey, at that time 44, re-enlisted. He came home from that war as well, and lived until 1984. He is buried with his father and mother in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Flinton.

In an essay by James Dempsey on the Library and Archives Canada website, "Aboriginal Documentary Heritage," Dempsey concludes as follows: "In summary, the contributions of Indians in the war were comparable to those of other Canadians. The major difference was that the Indians were not required or expected to serve, but did so nonetheless with gallantry and valour." It is up to us to ensure that their contributions are recognized and appreciated as much as those of other Canadians."



The Old Hastings Colonization Road Fall Bus Trip

by Carolyn McCulloch

What is better on a colorful fall day, than traveling along an old used-to-be road, in a school bus with folks from the Cloyne and District Historical Society?

We arrived at Actinolite, the most recent name given to this historical little village. When Billa Flint erected a sawmill in Troy in 1853 it attracted over 500 industrious people who worked in flour mills and tanneries. By 1858 it was called Bridgewater, where they expanded and built ploughs, stoves, scythes and edge tools. Eventually, the name was again changed, this time to recognize the soft ore that was mined there and used for insulation.

If there has ever been an idyllic little sleepy town it is Queensborough. It was built and settled earlier than Bridgewater, but with slower growth. The Black River runs through it. If you are a fan of writer Jane Urquhart, her award winning novel "Away" was centered on the activity there in early pioneer times. Queensborough was actually settled by the folks further down the road in Hazzard's Corners, where we stopped to view an early (1857) Methodist Church.

Eldorado was the heart of Madoc Township. In 1866 gold was discovered here. In the rush to find it, the population grew within a few months to over 3,000 people, most of whom slept in the open. This is a story that could be a good Canadian Frontier movie! The junction of the Central Ontario Railway and the Belleville & Canadian-North Hastings Railway was here, and the adjoining land became valuable, not because of the gold, but because of the cordwood needed to supply the steam engines.

In the next village, a local Scot fought over the ownership of Mumby's Mills with the Englishman Mumby. The owner of the hotel called the struggle "the Battle of Bannockburn", a reference to 1314 when the Scots defeated the English. The villagers liked the name, and so it acquired its distinctive name. Bannockburn boasts

the marble quarries where the well-known Tweed sculptor Paul Shier sources his supplies.

After travelling for a short distance on Highway 62, we took the long awaited turn onto the Old Hastings Road. The road was started at the northern end of Madoc Township and extended for 75 miles to the northwest in an attempt to open up the central part of the county with settlers. The road was begun in 1854 as part of a network of colonization roads planned by the government to open the southern fringe of the Precambrian Shield to settlement. Within a year, forty miles of summer road had been built to a point near present day Bancroft. On completion, it was 110 miles long. The free land grants were quickly taken up, but the poor soil prevented the development of a prosperous agricultural settlement. The death of lumbering in the area removed the market for produce and a source of employment, the farmers abandoned the land and the road fell into disuse. By 1925, Surveyor C. F. Alysworth wrote "*The Hastings Road.....is one long, long trail of abandoned farms, adversity, blasted hopes, broken hearts and exhausted ambition.*" In our bus, we tried to navigate a small part of the road, but came upon a serious accident on the one-way path. Thanks to the skillful maneuvering of driver Sandra Freeburn, we were able to resume our trip on the highway. If you travelled with a suitable vehicle you would see the ghost villages of Glanmire, where there is a graveyard and the steps up to what used to be St Margaret's Church, Murphy's Corner, and Umphraville.

In Ormsby, the fully restored Old Schoolhouse Tea Room provided a delightful lunch before we wandered through the 1890 general store, now converted to "The Old Hasting's Gallery". A few of us visited the Old Ormsby Heritage Church, before journeying home. Our historic guided tours of the area continue to be a popular, both in the spring and the fall. Come with us next time. □

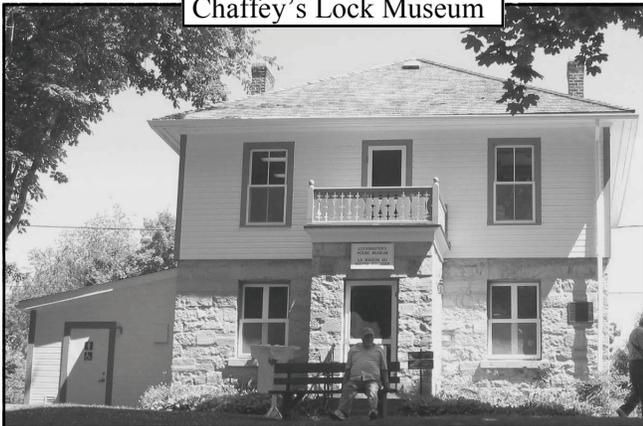


Chaffey's Lock Field Trip

by Carol Morrow

On the third Monday of June, members of the Cloyne and District Historical Society boarded the Big Yellow Bus for their annual outing in place of the regular monthly meeting. This year's destination of choice was Chaffey's Lock on the beautiful Rideau Canal. The route was circuitous, twisting and turning our way along the back roads of 506 & 509 to Maberly, and then south to Westport—Newboro into Chaffey's Lock at the end of a country road barely more than a wagon path, located between Sand Lake and Opinicon Lake. We would see the Locks in operation, enjoy fine dining in the historic Opinicon Inn and get a glimpse of local history at their on-site museum.

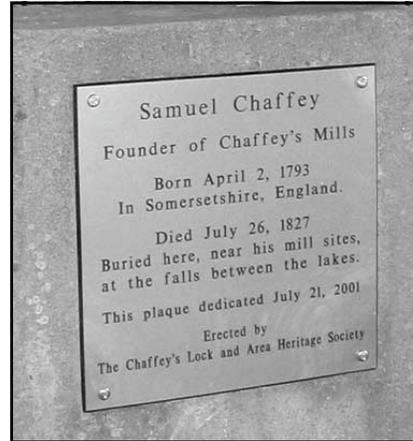
Chaffey's Lock Museum



The Old Lockmaster's House has become the museum for the Chaffey's Lock and Area Historical Society to preserve the building and the history of the village and local area. It is a lovely museum with displays on two storeys, a library of publications about the Rideau among other things, and helpful staff who are pleased to answer questions. The museum is open 9-4 daily in the tourist season, admission being free but hoping for a donation or two. At one time there was a grist mill located in the village along the water.

Within walking distance is the historic Pioneer Cemetery. A prominent plaque there is to Samuel Chaffey, the founder of Chaffey's Mill. The cemetery is also the final resting place of his wife Anne, and many Rideau Canal workers. An epidemic swept through the area during construction time taking the life of many a canal builder. A large Celtic cross stands near the entrance to the cemetery as a testament to the Irish influence in the area..

Fortunately, there was traffic on the Canal that day and we saw the Locks in operation. A tasty lunch was served by the Opinicon Inn staff. This place is



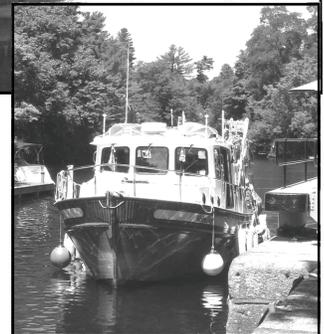
Chaffey's Lock Pioneer Cemetery



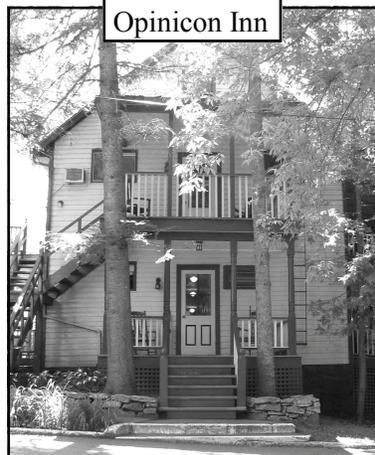
Lock Bridge and Boat Traffic.

All Photos by Carol

one of the oldest summer resorts on the Rideau system, operating from early spring to late fall each year.



Opinicon Inn



After lunch, our members walked off the desserts by wandering around the grounds, searching out the cemetery, browsing through the Museum and getting a good look at the boats and the Lock which is maintained and operated by Parks Canada. For more information on Chaffey's Lock, visit their society website [<http://www.rideau-info.com/>]

Mary Lloyd Johnson

by Margaret Axford

Mary spent her youth as well as the last 20 years of her life in Northbrook and died on October 25, 2010 at Pine Meadow Nursing Home. She was 93 years old. Although she did not attend meetings, Mary had been a supporter of the Cloyne and District Historical Society for many years. Her greatest legacy to us, aside from the stories she told when she visited the museum, was her collection of photographs.

As a photographer, Mary was legendary, as was her mother, from whom she apparently inherited her avid interest. Regretfully, her mother's collection went up in smoke when the Lloyd family home burned in the 1940s. This fact makes us doubly grateful to have been given access to Mary's own collection to preserve and protect. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mary Forbes, Mary's niece, who is making the collection available to us.

This collection is huge. To date, we have received close to 1,000 photos and slides, with more to come. While a few are of no historical interest, the majority are jam-packed with information. Mary wrote notes everywhere on each of her photos - when and where the photo was taken, who was in it, how those people were related to the incident and perhaps to each other. Her pictures of the homes in Northbrook, for example, tell us where the house is located, who built it and who lives there now. The enormous task which we now have as a Historical Society is to capture all that information and then to decide how best to preserve, store and ultimately to display the collection.



Photo by Mary Jane Turner

A major sorting of the first installment has been completed. Those photos have been catalogued and stored according to topic, such as Branch 328 Royal Canadian Legion, Northbrook, Girl Guides, Anglican Church and Pioneer Club. Eventually the museum will be able to display this collection, perhaps topic by topic, with commentaries.

While Mary has left us, she has given a great deal of herself to this organization, and we will always remember her with fondness and respect..

Rob Leverety:

The status of Ontario Cemeteries

Rob Leverety, the Executive Director of the Ontario Historical Society, was guest speaker at our society May meeting. His presentation focused on what is happening with provincial cemeteries. One main thrust of the OHS is cemetery preservation across the province. Many small or old pioneer cemeteries in Ontario are being left without care-givers when churches close. Unless an organization or local municipality assumes responsibility, in rural areas these cemeteries fall into disrepair, nature takes over and they lie forgotten in some farm field or overgrown along country roadways. In an urban and changing environment, such cemeteries lie in the way of progress and land development. In the wake of this trend, there is a movement to get our cemeteries "approved" against relocation or (horrors) obliteration forever.

If Bill 149, the Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009 had passed, it would have prohibited desecrations. There was tremendous support for Bill 149 from citizens across Ontario. In March 2009, members of the Ontario Legislature from all parties spoke in support at the 2nd reading. Regrettably, this Bill died on the table but the process has begun again with the passing of the first reading of Bill 126 this Nov 2.

Many of these old cemeteries represent the final resting place of myriads of early settlers, and in some cases 2-3 generations of their families who built this province from scratch into what it is today. These are valued pieces of our Ontario heritage. How ironic that today, in our rush for progress and modernization, their resting places are more vulnerable to extinction than ever before. The OHS works to protect them, but they cannot do it alone. Check out their website at [<http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca>]. Let us hope this new Bill passes into law.

Reference Books for Genealogy or Local History Studies

1. Frontenac County: County of 1,000 Lakes
 Away back in Clarendon-Miller
 Back of Sunset, a history of Central Frontenac
 Way Back in Frontenac (Northern Townships) - Census Information from 1860-1900
 Memories, by Eleanor Flieler

2. Lennox and Addington County: The Smiling Wilderness
 Historical Glimpses of Lennox and Addington
 Way Back in Addington (Northern Townships)-Census Information
 from 1860 to 1900
 The Story of Old Hay Bay Church
 Lennox and Addington Atlas

3. Cloyne/Bon Echo: Bon Echo - The Denison Years
 The Mazinaw Experience
 The Oxen and the Axe
 Unto These Hills
 The Art of Bon Echo
 Sunset of Bon Echo

4. Denbigh: This Was Yesterday

5. Flinton: Village on the Skoot

6. Northbrook: When I Was a Boy - The David Trumble Story

7. Ottawa Valley: Eganville, Jewel of the Bonnechere
 Lumber Kings and Shantymen - Logging and Lumbering in the Ottawa Valley
 Heart and Soul- Portraits of Canada's Ottawa Valley

8. Matawatchan: St. Andrews United Church, Matawatchan
 The Carswell Story - 350 Years of Pioneering History
 The Strong Family - 150 Years in Canada
 Matawatchan, A Glimpse into the Past

9. Eastern Ontario: Whiskey and Wickedness
 Historic Sites and Monuments of Kingston and District
 Land Roll Book - Land Agent Records 1865-1893 for South Canonto, Palmerston,
 Clarendon-Miller, Abinger, Denbigh, Hinchinbrooke and Olden Townships
 Where the Heck is Balaheck? - Unusual Place names in Eastern Ontario
 Chalk, Challenge and Change - Stories from Women Teachers in Ontario, 1920-1979

These books can be borrowed from the museum on a sign-out list. Contact Margaret Axford for this.