

# The Pioneer Times

NEWS VEHICLE OF THE CLOYNE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



What a great photo. This building and men are a mystery to us. Unknown contributor, location and date. The picture is part of the CDHS Archives. If you know where, when and any of the men in the photo we would love to hear from you. *CDHS flickr website*. We now have 737 photos and 259 followers on flickr.

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Cloyne & District Historical Society  
"Preserving the Past for the Future"

## The Pioneer Times

Volume 14, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2016-17

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2002 and 2012 Recipient

## President's Message

This will probably be the shortest report in some time. Six months have passed since I started this position and I'm still in the learning stage. I welcome any comments and suggestions for doing better.

We are looking forward to the Canada 150 celebrations next year and have started making plans. We have submitted a proposal for funding jointly with North Frontenac Township, The Garden Club and Mazinaw Lanark Forestry. There are several components involved in preparing for this, including some paintings of all the provincial floral emblems, trees planted in the park area and the placing of one or two benches. We also hope to have the museum stained before the opening on June 24, 2017.

The Calendar Committee is still looking for members and ideas for a theme for the 2018 calendar.

Thank you to all the wonderful people who work on our committees and to our curator who does so much to make us so successful.

We all owe Ken Hook a big vote of thanks for his work on our Flickr account. It is garnering a lot of interest in our organization.

I'm really looking forward to the coming year as it promises to be an exciting one.

*Shirley Sedore, President* ❧



## "What's in a museum?"

Have you ever thought about what sounds you might hear in our museum? Perhaps not, so let me take you on a little tour. The voices of children chattering eagerly in the school house come to mind. These are the same children who will tell you that no, they don't want to go back to school, but at the moment they are enjoying the books, the old desks, the nibs of the pens, the schoolmarm with no shoes, the aura of a different kind of school.

Female voices drift in from the Pioneer Life section, most of them in amazement at the tiny wedding dress made

by Ila Redshaw Wagar when she was only 17 years old. There also are the porcelain dolls which have their own history, long before they became playmates of children in the early days, one of them in particular who was created in Germany some time before becoming the best friend of Ora Wickware in Cloyne. Perhaps in the silence of the night, they talk to one another, exchanging their stories!

From the south end of the new section, where all the tools are, you can hear the sound of someone cranking the forge which was built by Zach Snider. If you listen very closely, you can almost hear the fire as it would have caught the coals in the forge.

From the front room, there are the sounds of toonies and loonies dropping into the donation jars. The folded-up bills fall so softly that you don't know they're there until it's counting time at the end of the day! Here also is more amazement coming from the folks reading the life story of David Trumble. "What, he was 118 when he died?" And then there are the adult voices patiently explaining to children what a phone used to look like and how it worked, when it was called a "telephone". On the north side of the room, the cause of exclamations will be at the size of the old chain saws, with wonderment at how strong the man must have been who once used those on a daily basis.

These are the sounds of learning - about a lifestyle no longer in existence, about the ways in which small communities have kept themselves alive, through timbering, through mining, through tourism. This is the business of our museum.

The Museum and Archives this summer was a busy place. Including the tours which have brought in groups from the school and from neighbouring towns, we welcomed 1,350 visitors who donated \$1,986, a significantly greater amount than in previous summers. Instead of the long-standing average of donations of \$1 per person, we are now up to nearly \$1.50 per person! Our sales cupboard did well also this summer. Customers purchased \$2,207 worth of our merchandise. As a result of the brisk sales, several items will have to be reordered over the winter.

After a quiet winter's rest, followed by a cleaning and rejuvenation of displays, the doors will be ready to open next spring as we mark Canada's 150th birthday. Then the sounds will be cheering ones, as we all get together to have a celebration!

*Marg Axford, Curator/Archivist* ✂

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## Museum Donation

Just in time for Canada's sesquicentennial next year, Fibre Artist Marion Young recently donated her hand hooked Canadian Coat of Arms to the Cloyne Pioneer Museum and Archives.

She created her 29" by 43" work in 1976. She hand dyed the wool, and confessed that getting the colour of the lion was a little tricky. "Otherwise, it was not too challenging" she stated.

The art spent its early life in the office of her husband, Ken Young. When he retired in 1983 he brought it with him to their new home on Pringle Lake.



Marion's creations not only commemorate the history of rural Canada, but some of its cityscapes as well. Old cloth-

ing, tartans and her own dyed woolens are the foundations of her work. She has taught Rug Hooking at Durham and Loyalist Colleges and has held workshops in Tweed and Denbigh. Marion held informal classes on rug hooking after DropIn at the Lions Hall in Northbrook, for many years. Her contemporary pieces are alive with motion and celebrate the exciting landscape of our area.

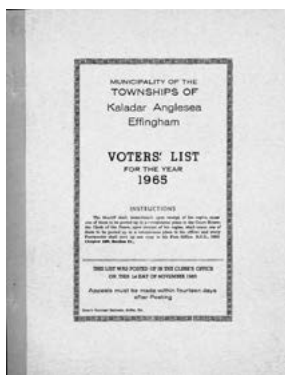
Be sure to see the much-appreciated piece at the Museum next spring.



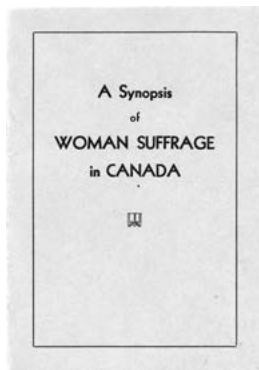
## New Page Added to Website "CDHS Items of Interest"

The Cloyne and District Historical Society (CDHS) has thousands of items of interest in the Pioneer Museum and Archives in Cloyne. Our YouTube Channel hosts videos of interest that are too large to be hosted on Flickr. Our Flickr site is a depository for historical documents, photos and videos numbering in the 100's of items and is fully searchable. Flickr is limited when displaying large online items such as multi-page pdfs. On the new website page you will find large files that can be downloaded for personal, non-commercial use. Permission for commercial use can be obtained by contacting [pioneerinfo@mazinaw.on.ca](mailto:pioneerinfo@mazinaw.on.ca)

Township Voter's List 1965. This 29 page voter list from the Townships of Kaladar, Anglesea and Effingham in 1965 was contributed by the late Ellery Thompson. It not only lists the voter's names but also the Lots and Concessions, Post Offices, and qualifiers.



Woman Suffrage in Canada by Hilda Ridley. This obscure 28 page document describes the struggles women had in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Flora MacDonald Denison's (former owner of the Bon Echo Inn) role begins on page 13. Unknown date of document.



## Our Book Store

The Museum has been tucked in for the winter but with Christmas just around the corner you might want to visit our online bookstore. We have available for purchase a selection of books, both fiction and non-fiction, depicting life of bygone days in this area. Attractive articles and souvenirs are available as well.

We ship by the most economical means. However, the charges may vary depending on the destination.

The Oxen & The Axe.....	18.00
This Was Yesterday.....	18.00
Bon Echo: The Denison Years .....	16.95
The Sunset of Bon Echo - set of 6 .....	30.00
The Well Worn Steps of Time .....	4.00
Away Back in Clarendon and Miller .....	20.00
Lennox & Addington County Atlas.....	15.00
Whiskey and Wickedness .....	24.95
The Mazinaw Experience .....	24.95
400 Years of Log Fences.....	12.00
50th Anniversary of the Lennox and Addington County General Hospital.....	25.00

### Miscellaneous

Massanoga DVD .....	20.00
Note cards .....	5.00
2017 Calendar.....	15.00
Generations Art Print.....	35.00
The Builder, The Whitmanite, the Conservationist Bon Echo by M. Axford DVD.....	25.00
Audio Historic Driving Tour of North Frontenac and Addington Highlands .....	10.00



## Victorian Doll Carriage

St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Flinton had a Yard Sale, and look what showed up. We would love to know who owned the little doll carriage that now lives at the museum. It lost its front wheels along the way, is made from wicker and canvas, and is from the Victorian era.

# WWII Is war ever really over?

by Marcella Neely

Neil Freeburn, a local lad, enlisted in the Canadian Army in May, 1940 then sat out much of the war waiting for a call to action. His parents and siblings fretted over his safety, but he fretted over wasting his time not doing what he had signed up to do. In letters home he talks about monotonous days of drills and marches and promises of action within three months. This promise surfaces regularly every three months. The best guess, according to his letters, is that he missed out on action for almost four years. To a young man this must have been a sentence equivalent to hard labour. His last letter home was dated January 19, 1944 and his parents received notice of him missing in action as of January 30, 1944. It is not known whether he finally received his longed for call to action, was taken prisoner or any number of probabilities. We can only imagine the heartache of his parents. It is said that they stopped locking their doors from the day they received the MIA letter 'till their death. The constant hope was that he might walk through the door at any moment. They never saw

him again and never received any reports as to his whereabouts or possible death. They passed away in 1956, one month apart. One of his letters to his brother dated January 14, 1943 places him in Italy and his name is inscribed on the War Memorial in the Cassino War Cemetery in Italy. It might be assumed that he was in Italy from January



Neil Freeburn: MIA, World War II

1943 to January 1944 but a later letter dated April, 1943 is written in England and tells of a very quiet year and about being housebound as his company was the "Duty Company" at that time. In 2001, 57 years after he was declared missing in action, his sister, Marjorie Reavie of Northbrook, received a call from Veteran's Affairs Canada notifying her that they had just received three items belonging to Neil. The items had been sent from Russia to England to Canada. Veteran's Affairs have no additional information and no other personal belongings. The family, to this day, is not certain of the circumstances of these items finding their way to Russia. There was no death notice no grave. Neil is commemorated at the library in his hometown of Flinton, Ontario.

Neil Freeburn was awarded five medals including: Italy Star Defence Medal (1939-1945) and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (1939-1945). These medals are described in detail at

[www.vac-acc.gc.ca](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca).

CANADIAN LEGION  
WAR SERVICES  
England  
23-11-4019

Dear Bros & Family,  
I received my books and tobacco and was sure glad to get it. I was glad to know that you were all well.  
How is the old town I suppose it is really dead now. I haven't heard about a dance around there in so long that I don't know when the last one was.  
I don't think it will be very long until times will be better there for they say there is 87000 Canadian soldiers in England so that should make more work for those at home.  
Gerry is still carrying on with the game so I don't know if any of us will ever be there to work or not ha ha

CANADIAN LEGION  
WAR SERVICES  
19

The Grubbs are sure going to throw with the Italians so they may do it all. ha ha  
Bilby Pringle is here at the table with me and I have to listen to him and can hardly write. He is talking about the times that him and head has had hunting.  
How are the folks at home getting along I suppose they will soon be at the ice again and also the cordwood. I hope I don't have to do that to soon after I go back ha ha.  
How are the children getting along in school? Tell that Jack that they owe me two letters or are they too busy to write.

CANADIAN LEGION  
WAR SERVICES  
19

I'll guess I will close as there is no news that would be very interesting to you.  
Try and write more next time.  
Bye Bye.  
Bro Phil.  
P.O. Neil Freeburn C5066  
Hast. & Prince Edward Regt.  
Noted Field Unit  
No 1 Cdn Inf Bde  
Base Post Office Canada

Gratefully acknowledged information for Neil Freeburn from his aunt Carol Lessard's mementos and the Tweed News, Vol.115 No 14, April 4, 2001.



# Maud Miller's Mazinaw

by Carolyn McCulloch

Cloyne & District Historical Society member Shirley Grant's property on the Mazinaw has been in her family for 100 years. This summer the anniversary was well celebrated by family, friends and neighbours on the lake.



Shirley Grant celebrating her family's 100 years on the Mazinaw with friends. *Photo: Ken Hook*

Shirley's mother, Maud Miller, grew up with very little. Maud's mother was widowed at an early age and the insurance to support her four children lapsed. Maud left school at age 13 (it was legal to leave at 14) and went to work at Christie's Biscuits in Toronto where she climbed the ranks to become the bookkeeper. At that time women did not vote, and were required to work a 54 hour week. She brought home the broken cookies to help support her siblings.

Her dream was born when her Unitarian Minister, Dr. Robert Hutchens, shared stories of the magnificent granite rock near his cabin on Lake Mazinaw in the wilderness of Eastern Ontario. A curious woman, Maud was determined to see it.



Maud Miller

In 1913 at around the age of 30, Maud boarded a train in Toronto's Union station with some other single women friends and started off on a very remarkable journey. The women packed and carried all of their bedding, provisions, and cooking utensils into a rail car and left Toronto's Union Station on an adventure that would change her life.

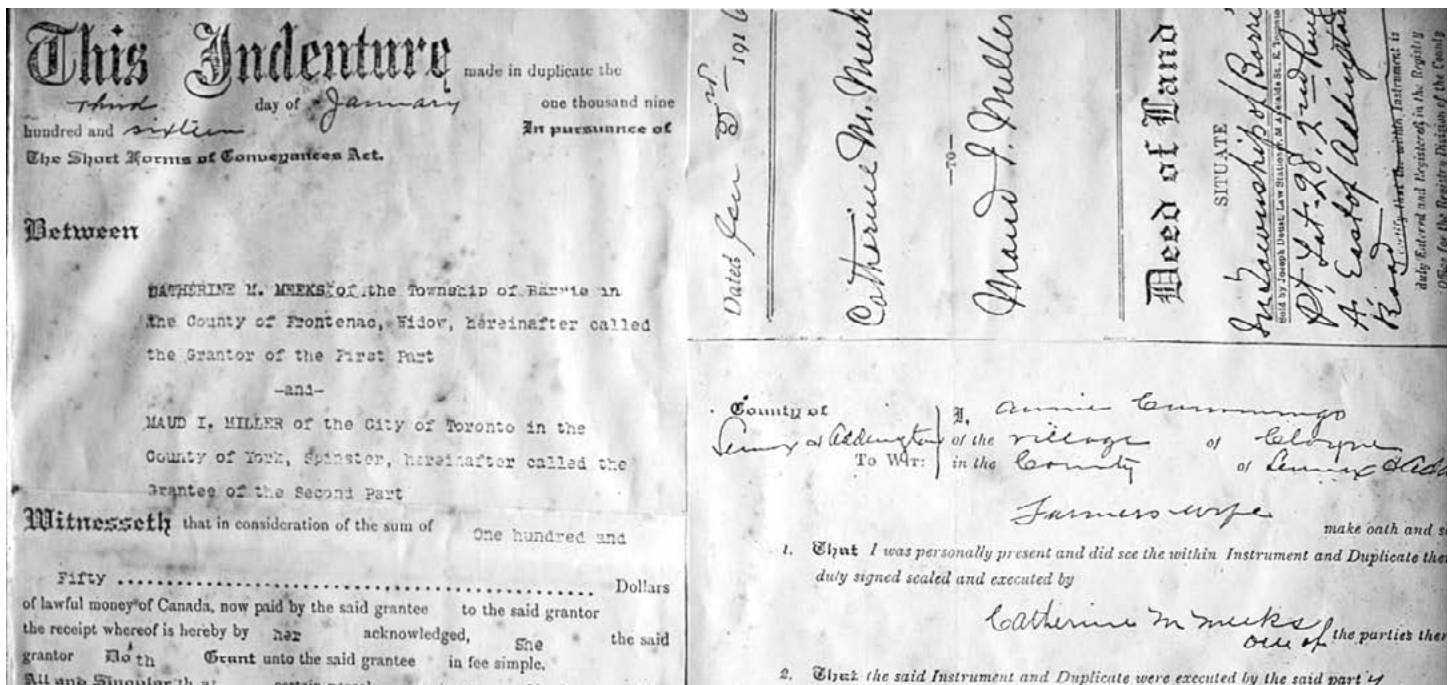
The Ontario and Quebec Railway was running at this time, and would have taken them to the hub in Peterborough and then on to Kaladar. There was a telephone line from Kaladar to Bon Echo Inn and perhaps that is how the trip of 20 miles to the north was arranged. They boarded a wagon that took them up the Addington Road, and then travelled by foot to the launch (where Smart's Marina is now located).

Bon Echo Inn was in its heyday in 1913. Imagine the fun it would have been for them to board the boat that the Inn provided for their guests and travel to their final destination, a primitive old hunting cabin south of the rock. The memories of that time and place inspired and changed Maud's life. She was determined to own a piece of Eden on the Mazinaw.

Maud bought that same property from Catherine Meeks, the mother of Oscar Meeks. It is interesting to

notice in the 1916 deed framed on Shirley Grant's wall that women were described only in how they were connected to men. Catherine was described as a "widow" and Maud was labeled a "spinster".

In 1922 Maud married Walter Sachs who arranged for a cottage to be built on the property. Each day a local man paddled from Shabomeka Lake to construct it. The cottage consisted of a single large room, an elaborate stone chimney and fireplace, a mezzanine reached by a birch bark ladder which was great fun to climb and a front veranda. Another one room building was erected



Widow Catherine Meeks sold the property to Spinster Maud Miller in January 1916 for \$150.00

as a kitchen just opposite the back door. An ice house was added at the waterfront. Local workmen would cut ice from the lake and fill it during the winter.

Afterwards still another cottage was constructed where Shirley now vacations. Her children, and many relatives have developed other parts of the property.

As children arrived, a large tent platform was constructed that was big enough for four beds and four orange crates as dressers, and this is where the children slept. Putting up and taking down the tent was quite an event.

In 1928 a three room cottage was built with a spacious screened veranda from lumber supplied from the Alladin Lumber Company. This building was built by Walter Sachs and a neighbour in one day. It still exists and is called "The Alladin".

In 1935 a large cottage was constructed by a Toronto builder and the original cottage was used solely for storage. It survived until 1971 when a winter of particularly heavy snowfalls brought down the roof.



The original cottage, constructed in 1922 by a man who paddled each day from Shabomeka Lake, as painted by Ernest Tebbutt, Shirley Grant's uncle.

Blessed by the sublime beauty of The Mazinaw, and a dream worth following, Maud Miller was able to leave a retreat that fostered good times and memories for 5 generations.

History provided by Shirley Grant. ✨

Additional photos on page 8.





A cooking kitchen with a wood shed on the back was built around 1930. It is used today as a workroom.



Maud's grandson, David Sachs standing in the crib of the original icehouse at the water's edge.



The Alladin, built in 1928 still stands and is used today.



The Alladin's screened in porch, facing Lake Mazinaw.



Bedroom furniture (circa 1882) in main cottage belonged to Maud Miller's mother, Elizabeth Pearson Miller.



Entrance to the family cottages on Lake Mazinaw, now owned by the descendants of Maud Miller.

*Photos: Malcolm McCulloch*





A crowd favourite, The Pickled Chicken String Band entertained at our museum opening and BBQ.



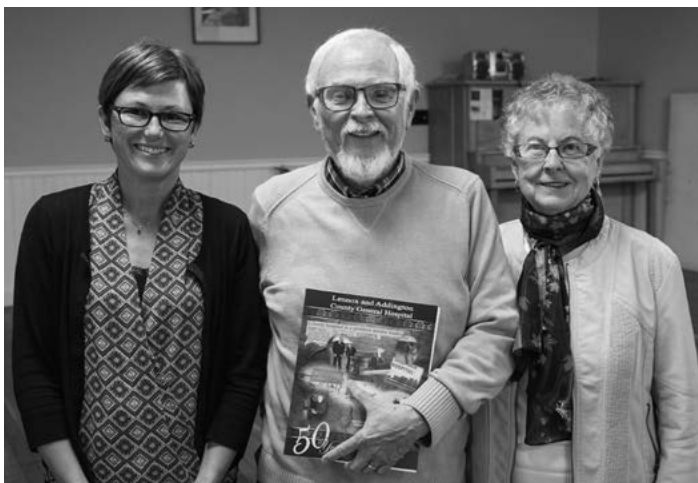
Our Bon Echo display received 6 new photos generously donated by Brian Bain Caldwell.



This summer the garden at the museum was rejuvenated and the Canadian flag now flies proudly overhead.



Thank you to members D'thea Webster and Maureen O'Neil our pot luck luncheon hosts.



October's guest speaker, Ernie Doughty, holds the book he wrote to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the L&A County General Hospital. The book is a fund-raiser for the hospital foundation. LtoR: Michelle Dickerson, Foundation Director, Ernie and his wife Mary.



Gordon McCulloch laid a wreath on behalf of the Historical Society at the Remembrance Day Service in Denbigh on November 13th.

*Photos Ken and Cathy Hook*

## The Rest of the Story – from the Flickr Archives



Ellery Thompson purchased and operated the Kaladar & Northern Telephone System from 1954 until 1970. When telephones went to dial-up in the mid-1960s this switchboard was no longer needed and Ellery (centre with



striped tie) donated it to the Sunshine School - a school for developmentally challenged children located between Napanee and Odessa.

The switchboard was used as a learning tool for the children and when no longer needed it was returned to Ellery who donated it to the Pioneer Museum where it now resides.

An article on the history of the local telephone service entitled "Our own Telephone Girls" can be found on the CDHS website in the April 2009 newsletter.

Ellery Thompson passed away at his home in Northbrook October 17, 2016. He was 87. *Photo CDHS Flickr website, Ellery Thompson album.*



The big chair familiar to anyone heading north on Highway 41 was built in 1989 by Richard and Olive Hook. It was built as a tourist attraction and to entice visitors into their Lazy Days gift shop.

Thousands of people have stopped over the years to photograph the chair or have their photo taken in the chair. The chair was said to be 'the biggest in the East' by many travellers and was featured in several tourist magazines and newspapers.

Olive Hook used a full gallon of primer to paint the chair and another gallon of paint every year to keep it looking fresh. The Lazy Days gift shop featured all kinds of tourist collectibles such as rocks and minerals, toys and t-shirts plus a large assortment of concrete figurines and fountains painted by the Hooks.

When the store closed the chair was sold to Maurice and Rose McFadden and moved to the Cloyne Village Foods (now the Shell Station) where it is still in use.

Richard Hook passed away in Kingston August 19, 2016. He was 83. *Photo CDHS Flickr website, Richard and Olive Hook album.*





## We lose friends

### Elsie Lloyd Snider 1912-2016



Elsie Lloyd Snider, a founder and the last surviving member of the original Pioneer Club, died on July 27, 2016 at 104 years of age. Elsie was one of the early visionaries in our area who collected and preserved the history that is so respected today. Part of the editorial board who published "The Oxen and The

Axe" in 1974, she contributed her own story "When We Were a Couple of Kids" to the book. Without this input, the story of the forgotten settlement of Glastonbury would not be known. The descendant of UE Loyalists, her great -grandfather Elias Lloyd settled in Flinton in the mid 1800s. Elsie was one of 6 siblings. She and her husband Andrew also had 6 children, and most of her family still live in this area.

### Karyl Waldie Sexsmith Steinpatz Inwood 1938-2016



Karyl shall remain in our memories for her enthusiasm, verve and sparkling eyes. She was on the Board of Directors of the Cloyne & District Historical Society for five years, and very involved with the initial formation of the revamped Museum and Historical Society in the early 2000s.

She was the Editor of the Pioneer Times from its inception in March 2003 to 2007. Her family operated the Whip-Poor-Will Lodge on Mazinaw on a seasonal basis. Because of her connection to the area, she was continually able to unearth valuable historical information.

### Don Patry 1941-2016



This photo of Don was taken in Italy in 2015. *Photo provided by Don's wife Helen Welburn.*

Don lived part of his early life in Flinton and returned after an engineering career to live in our area. He and his wife Helen Welburn were members, regular volunteers, and great friends of The Cloyne & District Historical Society. At our last Christmas event, Don made the beautiful hand crafted door prize. A keen skier, he became ill suddenly in Colorado last winter, and returned to spend his remaining time on the Mazinaw.

### Glenn Watson 1926-2016

We remember Glenn Watson as an extension of the Pioneer Club and later the Historical Society. Watson's Mini-Market was conveniently close to the museum and Glenn was most obliging. We could pick up the museum key, borrow a knife, leave an item to be collected, ask for advice when organizing food for a BBQ or fund raiser and we could count on a fair price and generous discount. He would store our supplies in his fridge or freezer on many occasions and always with a smile. Whenever we fund raised, Glenn always donated and we are once again honoured by his family's generosity in the dedication of "in memory" donations. Our sincere condolences to Jean and Family.

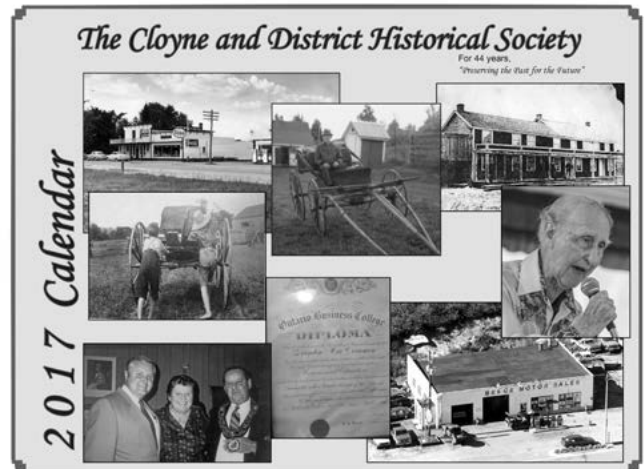
## 2017 Calendar

We still have a few copies of our 2017 Heritage Calendar available. Produced by the CDHS, this calendar features gentlemen of the area.

\$15.00

Our calendars make great stocking stuffers and can be mailed to our purchasers.

To make arrangements for a calendar call Eileen Flieler 613 336-9593 or visit our online book store at [www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca](http://www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca)



*Cover Photo 2017 Calendar*

## Events - 2016/2017

### December

**CDHS Christmas Luncheon**  
**Monday December 5, 11:30AM**  
**Harlowe Hall**

The CDHS celebrates Christmas with a full Christmas Luncheon in the Harlowe Hall at 11/30 for noon. Tickets are \$18.00. Contact Sandra Sparks @ 613 336-0157 to reserve.

### January 2017

**Meeting of the CDHS**  
**Monday January 16, 1PM**  
**Barrie Hall – Cloyne**

Speaker: Brian Miller

### February

**Meeting of the CDHS**  
**Monday February 20, 1PM**  
**Barrie Hall – Cloyne**

Speaker: Glenn Davison

### March

**Annual General Meeting of the CDHS**  
**Monday March 20, 1PM**  
**Barrie Hall – Cloyne**

### April – June

**Meeting of the CDHS**  
**Monday April 17, May 15, June 19 1PM**  
**Barrie Hall – Cloyne**

If you provided an email address with your membership form we will send a reminder prior to meetings and events. You can also check the website prior to meetings for information on Guest speakers.

**Giant Yard Sale**  
**Saturday May 20, 9AM**  
**Barrie Hall – Cloyne**  
Save your gently used items.

