

The Pioneer Times

NEWS VEHICLE OF THE CLOYNE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



LtoR: The Cloyne and District Historical Society President Shirley Sedore, The Land O' Lakes Garden Club Co-Chair Lynn Osborne, Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc.'s Matt Mertins, with the help of his daughters, Sophia (age 4) and Quinn (6 months) and North Frontenac Township Mayor Ron Higgins cut the ribbon on the Canada 150 joint project – *Benny's Lake Heritage Park*. Photo: Craig Bakay, Frontenac News

■ IN THIS ISSUE

Volume 15, #2 Fall/Winter 2017-18

FALL REPORTS

President's Message	2
Museum Report	2-3
Financial Summary Fall 2017.....	4

FEATURES

Poem – Pines By Benny's Lake by Eileen Flieler	5
Canada 150 Celebration Photo Album	6-9
Glenn Davison, Stories of Flinton.....	10-11

FILLING IN THE BLANKS

Museum Donation – Gilmour Hammer	3
CDHS Website	4-5

WE LOSE FRIENDS

EVENTS

CDHS Events December to June	12
------------------------------------	----



© November 2017
Cloyne & District Historical Society
"Preserving the Past for the Future"

The Pioneer Times

Volume 15, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2017-2018

Communications Committee

Marcella Neely – Chair – mneelyatlake@gmail.com

Carolyn McCulloch – cargomcculloch@gmail.com

Michele Burgess

Elinor Duncan

Cathy Hook – Newsletter Editor

The Pioneer Times is produced semi-annually by the Cloyne and District Historical Society. It is distributed in printed form and by email. Products, services and positions of advertisers, correspondents and contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Historical Society.

Cloyne and District Historical Society

Box 228

Cloyne, ON K0H 1K0

Tel: (613) 336-6858

Website: www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca

Email: pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca

flickr contact: kenhook@45degreeslatitude.com

CDHS Board

President

Shirley Sedore

Vice President

Warren Anderson

Secretary

D'thea Webster

Treasurer

Ian Brumell

Directors-at-large

Glenn Davison, J.J. (Red) Emond,

Eileen Flieler, Catherine Grant,

Carolyn McCulloch

Curator/Archivist

Margaret Axford

The Cloyne and District Historical Society is a
Registered Charitable Organization,
organization number 89756 8217



Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

An agency of the Government of Ontario.
Relevé du gouvernement de l'Ontario.

2002 and 2012 Recipient

President's Message

This has been an exciting year for the Historical Society and the Pioneer Museum. The opening of the museum for the summer took place on June 24th and since this was also Canada's 150th birthday year there was a great crowd. We also officially opened the park project which was the effort of our organization, the Land O'Lakes Garden Club, Mazinaw-Lanark Forest Inc. and North Frontenac Township.

The entertainment was also special as we had an indigenous smudging ceremony and Mohawk drummers and singers. Bon Echo Rocks Choir, Tunes and Tea Ukulele Group and The Pickled Chicken String Band provided music and song much of it with a Canadian theme. Martine Buissart sang a French-Canadian song, *Evangeline*, which was very poignant. Catering was provided by the Conservationists of Frontenac Addington.

This was the start of our best year yet for visitors to the museum and the park. Several people had questions about the signage in the park which showed that the educational component is being successful.

There have been some wonderful speakers at our monthly meetings such as Pat Vlasick recounting the tragic fire that affected her great-grandparents in 1895, and Ernest Doughty on the 50 year history of the Lennox and Addington County General Hospital. We look forward to many interesting guests in the coming year.

I hope to see many of you at our Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 4 at the Harlowe Hall. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Shirley Sedore, President ❀



Museum Report

Is it really all in the numbers? At first glance, that might be true. Certainly, this summer's numbers were excellent. Over the 11 weeks of the summer, plus the visit by the Trappers' Council in April, we saw 1,724 visitors, accepted \$2,205. 61 in donations and sold \$1,705. 25 in merchandise. It truly was an exceptional summer for visitors!

Underneath the numbers are the supporting details. Some of you may remember a cold, wet spring that hung on, persistently, well into July. Perhaps you grumbled about having to welcome guests under less than perfect weather conditions. Nothing like a pair of dogs tearing through the house in hot pursuit of a grandchild, all of them not just wet, but wet and dirty, to make you feel prejudiced against July!

There is another side to that story, of course. The grandparents who were able to get out of the house before disaster struck brought their guests to the museum. July was a very busy month!

The question of the summer, “What’s a microburst?”, proved that visitors do read, and in fact read the signs outside the museum that describe what the park used to be like before and after the storm of 2002. There were many complimentary comments about the changes to the park. From people with young children walking slowly to older people walking slowly to picnickers and those taking a moment to rest in the middle of a long drive, all strengthened the initial dream of those who designed the park precisely for those sorts of activities.

The other enhancement of the exterior of the museum, aside from a new coat of stain, were the “flowers of the provinces” plaques painted by various members of the Land O’ Lakes Garden Club, under the expert leadership of Lynn Osborne. The plaques are down now, resting in the museum and awaiting their turn on the walls next summer, where their brightness will once again draw people inside.

Summertime always brings new donations and new lines of enquiry to the museum. Be sure to make a date to visit early in the 2018 season to see the “names” quilt from the estate of Ruby and Gary Malcolm and the markers’ hammer, with the letter “G” on the end, very possibly from the Gilmour Lumber Company. The most extensive donation came to us from Branch 328 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Northbrook which closed in July. The closure of the local branch will no doubt have a significant impact on the community as time goes on. In the short term however, many many Legion items are now in the museum. Be sure to come to see the plaques, photographs and awards which are a record of and a tribute to the members of our local Legion branch.

Over the winter, some repairs and modifications are being done inside the museum. You will see some activity as you come to pick up the mail, but you will have to wait until spring to satisfy your curiosity! Best wishes for a healthy and happy winter.....

Carol, Wendy, Eileen, Margaret ❀

The Gilmour Hammer

In 1852 Gilmour and Company established a massive saw-mill at the mouth of the Trent River on Lake Ontario. During the river driving days, Gilmour logs from the Moira Watershed (think Pringle and Skootamatta Lakes), travelled along with logs from other companies. Sometimes there were up to three companies driving their logs with the same gang of men. To solve the problem as to what timbers belonged to what company the logs were marked with hammers that were forged by local blacksmiths.

Toolmaker Jim Ashby was in an antique shop in Pontiac Quebec 30 years ago. He recognized one of the hammers used by the Gilmour Company. He showed it to Steve Manders who is currently researching the tramway between Mazinaw and Pringle Lakes. Steve thought the best home for it would be in the Cloyne Pioneer Museum, and Jim agreed.



On July 4 2017, Jim travelled by motorcycle from Ottawa and presented it to Curator Margaret Axford. Be sure to see it on your next visit.

Financial Summary Fall 2017

This summer past saw an increase in cash flow for the Society. Our sales, donations, grants and museum visitors as outlined elsewhere in this newsletter, were the best we've ever had. Our expenses were the largest we've had since the additions to the museum occurred several years ago.

The greatest single expense was the landscaping we undertook in late Spring. We also pressure washed the museum and stained the entire structure.

The expense for the 2018 calendars was more than offset by the advertising they contain. The calendar project has been a wonderful source of fundraising for the Society over the years.

The three students we hired this past summer were paid in total around \$1,500 a week which was covered about 75% by the grants we have been able to attract from the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs programmes. We have also been grateful to the Municipality of North Frontenac for its annual grant.

The Cloyne and District Historical Society Endowment fund held by Napanee District Community Foundation (soon to be renamed The Community Foundation of Lennox and Addington) will swell to close to \$85,000 by year end thanks to the philanthropic nature of some of our members. This summer this Fund earned the Society \$1,983 towards its operational needs, money which was sorely required to bridge the financial gap created yearly by the slowness in receiving our government grant funding. Also, the need to pay out \$2,176 in insurance for the coming year meant that all sources of income were gratefully received.

We have embarked on a project to renovate some of the museum in the form of a replacement window for the front, closing up the south door on the front section of the building and numerous other small items which need 'fixing'. We estimate this work to be around \$2,000 spread over the next several months.

Currently, our bank account is healthy and we expect to go into the new year with a couple of thousand dollars as well as around \$2,600 in the reserve fund at Raymond-James Investments in Kingston.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Board if there are questions or explanations required.

Our email is <pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca>

Ian Brumell, Treasurer ✂



CDHS Website

We encourage you to visit our website often. On the homepage recent and upcoming events, meetings and guest speakers are listed. More information is provided on our *News and Events* page.

We print 200 fall and 300 spring Newsletters (extra in the spring for museum visitors). If you didn't get one we also make them available online at our *Newsletters* page.

Flickr is limited when displaying large online items. On our *Items of Interest 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. The following items have been added since our last fall Newsletter.

Bill Tibble Logging Camp Memories: Bill Tibble worked as a choreboy for T.A. Wilson Lumber Company on Stony Lake (Bon Echo Lake) in the winter of 1944-45. This is a written record done in 2009. Bill passed away in 2014.



Walt Whitman's Influence in Canada by Stanley E. McMullin. This document explains the history of Flora MacDonald Denison's decision to make a shrine to Walt Whitman at Bon Echo.



Fernleigh Lodge Handbook.

During the mid-70s when the Ahr family owned Fernleigh Lodge this handbook was circulated to guests.



Susannah of the Mounties is a children's novel by Canadian author Muriel Denison, first published in 1936. In the book 9-year-old Susannah is sent to Regina, Saskatchewan to spend the summer with her uncle who is a Mountie. In



1939 Twentieth Century-Fox made a movie starring Shirley Temple as Susannah which differed from but was based on Muriel's book.

Bon Echo Inn (brochure)

The original brochure is located in the Queen's Archives. Designed by Howard Denison, 1911. Check with Queen's for permissions.



Simpsons: Flora MacDonald Denison.

This video was produced by the Textile Museum of Canada and outlines the history of Flora MacDonald Denison and her connection with Simpsons. Suffragist and poet, Flora Macdonald, who was a manager at Simpsons went on to start her own successful dressmaking business and support the women's movement.



Harry's Story: A documentary produced by Ken and Cathy Hook. Flinton resident Harry Andringa recalls his childhood during the Nazi occupation of Holland from 1940-1945. Many Dutch families, including Harry's, risked their lives hiding Jews from the Nazis. Getting caught aiding Jews would have meant being sent to a concentration camp or death. Harry tells the story of his little Jewish sister, Sonya, as she hid in the Andringa home surviving close calls from the Nazi soldiers.

There was a premiere showing at the Lions Hall in Northbrook on October 25th with 'standing room only'. After the 36-minute movie Harry answered a few questions and gave special recognition to Gordon Wood of Flinton who landed on Juno Beach as part of the Allied D-Day invasion in Normandy.

The Land O' Lakes Lions donated the Hall for the showing and CDHS members provided refreshments. The Lions had a donation jar during the event with 50% of the proceeds given to the Lions and 50% to the CDHS. *Harry's Story* and outtakes can be seen at <http://www.harrysstory.ca>



Pines By Benny's Lake

Above the lake, upon a knoll
Majestic pines as sentry stand,
Their giant spreading limbs outstretched
Guarding with interlocking hands.

They grew from tiny seedlings
Withstanding lightning, wind and snow,
But sometimes through their branches high
A gentle breeze would blow.

Who knows how many years they stood
Looking o'er the village calm.
Who ever thought that August night
That most would soon be gone.

Now near the silent lake so small
Those once towering pines beside the hall
Their branches all in splinters lie,
Their roots upturned against the sky.

No damage to building on either side
But trees were shattered far and wide.
The villagers, they gazed in awe.
All amazed at what they saw.

So now begins the daunting task.
But, "Where do we start?" was what they asked.
Day after day the saws we heard
Until what was once a grove was cleared.

After many months of sheer dismay
Plans are afoot and we hope someday,
The spot that was once a grove of pines
Will be a park of our design.

Eileen Flieler, 2004

On August 2, 2002 a microburst tore through Cloyne, destroying a grove of 200-year-old white pines that stood next to the museum. Eileen Flieler wrote of the event in this 2004 poem. Eileen read her poem at the Canada 150 celebration and dedication of *Benny's Lake Heritage Park*. She then presented a framed copy to the museum for display.

The poem *Pines By Benny's Lake* is one of approximately 40 poems Eileen has written. Having taught locally for 35 ½ years many are about old schools.



Top: Master of Ceremonies J.J. (Red) Emond welcomed a large crowd to our Sesquicentennial Celebration. Centre: Indigenous Drumming. 2nd from the left is Laura Schwager, a descendant of legendary Mohawk Johnny Bay (Bey). Laura visited the Historical Society a few years ago with her presentation *"How we travelled, my Grandparents and I, in my Home and Native Land"*. Bottom LtoR: Scott Reid, MP for Lanark - Frontenac - Kingston. Mike Bossio, MP for Hastings - Lennox and Addington, seen here with his wife Irene.



Top LtoR: Ron Higgins, Mayor of North Frontenac Township, Henry Hogg, Reeve of Addington Highlands. Middle: Lynn Young introduced "Tunes and Tea" ukulele/guitar ensemble. Bottom LtoR: Martine Buissart beautifully sang the French-Canadian song, *Evangeline*. Lynn Osborne, Co-Chair of the Land O'Lakes Garden Club. Lynn designed the "flowers of the provinces plaques" which adorned the museum walls all summer (see page 9). Many members of the Garden Club helped her paint them (the base coat for the boards themselves as well as the base coating of the flowers). In addition to supervising the painting, Lynn put on most of the finishing touches, including a protective coating, which allows them to be displayed outside.



Top: The Bon Echo Rocks Choir. Inset LtoR: D'thea Webster, choir conductor and Margaret Palimaka, pianist. Middle LtoR: Carol Morrow hand crafted a quilt depicting scenes from across Canada which she presented to the museum for permanent display. COFA members were kept very busy BBQing. Seen here are LtoR Lauder Smith, John Bolton, Fred Perry and Wayne Marsh. Bottom: Favourites at our museum openings "The Pickled Chicken String Band" featuring LtoR: Dave Guest, Joe Grant, Pete Chess, Susan Fraser and Mark Rowe.

Memories of Flinton by Glenn Davison

This text is from Glenn's presentation to the CDHS at our Family Day Meeting, February 2016



As a kid growing up, my life was blessed, always has been. At one time, my father, Earl Davison and my uncle, Doug Davison had four army trucks. Two of them had snowploughs, one was a grader and one was a wrecker. Fortunately I was big enough to go with dad and sit on what you called the

dog house. In the centre of the 1940's army trucks the motor actually came inside. They were flat on the front and made out of steel. I would sit there and keep warm. I wiped off the windshield while Dad plowed. The trucks were four-wheel drive. I was with my Uncle Doug once, when he was clearing snow so that people could get to Herb Marriett's wake. At that time wakes were held in homes. When I was a kid, all of these plantations were either little trees planted by schools or vacant. Being wide open for drifting, it took hours to back up and go ahead and actually break the snowdrifts open. Coming in the Flinton Rd. at times the snow was up to the telephone wires. We often walked to school, over tops of fences. When Dad plowed at night I liked to wait at the top of the stairs for him to come in. I would sneak up when everyone else was asleep. When I heard him come in, I sneaked downstairs. He made scrambled egg sandwiches for us. One night I fell asleep and fell down the stairs and my mother put an end to it.

My grandfather, Jack Davison, taught me a lot about doing a good job. He taught me blacksmithing, what metal was and how to work with metal. My dad taught me everything I needed to know about running a farm and fixing machinery. He even gave me a Chilton manual, as they called it at that time. When I was thirteen years old the '57 Ford station wagon needed a new cam shaft. My father parked it and said "go ahead and put the cam shaft in". I tore it all apart and put a cam shaft in it no problem. There used to be an old carburetor where the dome goes on. In an eight cylinder, it was an intake. My father told me what intake exhaust was, the whole bit. I dropped a nut and it was sucked in. As soon as I started it up it was "rattle, rattle, rattle". Not wanting to get in trouble, I didn't say anything. He knew exactly what I'd done just from listening to it, and I thought

"oh boy, I'm going to have to tear it all apart again". Spark plug out, long magnet down in, pulled it out, put it back in, purred like a kitten. People in the village did an awful lot for us kids.

The river was our biggest friend. In the summer time, we swam at what they called the boom, which is a conservation area now. Why they call it the boom, I have no idea. It was a sandbar, and a mother would always come and watch while we were there. The men built a big diving board for us to dive from. Back when Father Piche was there and my grandfather, behind the United Church they built a huge slide that went straight down to the river. They also built a huge sleigh to put the kids on. They would ice the slide and we would get on it and slide down onto the river, and down the river. The men held lanterns while we slid, then they pulled the sled back up again. They built a rink behind the school for us. It was flooded by chopping a hole in the ice in the river. Clifford Lessard worked for Nyberg so was able to bring one of their big gas pumps up to flood the ice. The villagers helped us a lot.

Father Ferguson ran bingos at least once a month with all kinds of great prizes and no kids walked away without something. Claude Decharme who lived just down from where the old hall is now would get movies once a month and for twenty five cents we could watch a movie in the old town hall.

In those days there were twenty six farms in the Flinton area. There are three left now. Dustin Lessard operates Stewart Trepanier's, (his grandfather). The others either have horses or have simply grown up and gone to dust. Mechanization certainly played a big role in that. I remember the first tractor, a Ferguson, I believe, purchased by Hasler's. I remember going to the Spicer farm at the end of Freeburn Road, hunting porcupines. Garry McLuckie, Robert Woods and myself. When we got to the top of the hill, Gordon Hasler, who is a long time passed away, was plowing a field with a tractor. Some people were getting things and other people were renting them at the time. There were many farms in the area. Owned by Sedore, Wagar, McLuckie, Trepanier, Bryden, and O'Donnell families. Little settlements on their own. I believe at Deer Rock Lake at what they call the Stone Dam, Aubrey Wagar told me that, almost where the new dam is now, there once was a great big home and the Bear fields and the Dave York fields. It was quite a farming community.

On the River Road, right across from Fevreau's, there was a hotel that the loggers would use when they drove logs down the Scoot. Across the road from it was Ralph Goodmurphy's place. On down from it, was Louis Lessard's farm and then Billy Lamb's farm. When I was a very young child my best friend Cecil Lessard and I, were sitting out on the long sidewalk in front of the school. Freeburn's store was there. Billy Lamb stopped with his team and into the store. Cecil and I had two firecrackers. Oooh, yeah, it hurt here when we got done. We waited until Billy came back out and got back on his team. We set the two firecrackers off. The horses and Billy went that way and Cecil and I went the other way.

When the tin school burned about 1944 or '45. They decided to build a new school. Wilfred Lessard, Herb Marri-sett and my grandfather were trustees. There may have been a fourth but I'm not sure. It was agreed that they would build a school on one level because they just barely got the kids out of the tin school when it burnt. Rashotte's did the actual building. My grandfather and Herb Marri-sett dug the basement. When we were kids going there, they left the basement door open for us to change our skates and get warm. I remember once, on the river playing hockey, we didn't have equipment back then and someone would have to be in goal. We took four catalogues, two Eaton's, two Simpson' and strap them to goalies' legs.

In Flinton, there was a big sawmill just about where the sub-division is now, behind Wagar's. There was another sawmill down the old road, Luke's sawmill where the tree farm is.

My Uncle Doug had a billiard parlour in the top of the old cheese factory which still exists in Flinton. It's an apartment building now. If you read about the history of Flinton, you'd be able to read about the old grist mill, the other saw-mills and why they dammed it up to produce the power for the Golden Fleece Mine.

In one of the museums in Montreal is a silver goblet that was found in a cave at the head of Deer Rock Lake, what they call the Big Eddie. They haven't been able to trace back to that spot again but in the museum is the goblet. Nobody knows how it got there.

Lots of stories about the gold mine. How it opened up, who discovered it, who stole the idea from somebody else and the fact that all the gold mines are in the shape of a spider and all they're looking for is the body of the spider now.

In October our guest was William McNaught, grand nephew of Private John Ball of Vennacher. McNaught has written a book called *Vimy: Letters from the Front*. The book is an account of the effects of WWI on this small community and the supreme sacrifice of its young men.

This book is a new item in our bookstore and sells for \$18.95.

Editor's recommendation: On November 3rd Loreena McKennitt released her digital single called "Breaking of the Sword". The track was recorded with The Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces and the 90-voice Stratford Concert Choir. It can be purchased through online music retailers with the proceeds from digital sales in Canada donated to the Canadian Armed Forces' *Support Our Troops Fund*.

Watch the RCAF video production of the single on youtube at <http://bit.ly/2i7h07t>



We lose friends

Graydon Clare MacCrimmon
October 27, 2017 (in his 93rd year)



Graydon was a longtime member and dedicated supporter of the CDHS in earlier years. As time and health interfered he was no longer able to join us regularly but somehow managed to pull out enough oxygen to serenade listeners on his beloved harmonica, which magically just happened to be in his pocket. He could make that tiny mouth organ produce amazing music and was overjoyed to be invited to show us. We remember Graydon for his contribution to the organizing of the Sawyer Stoll Reunion in 2001 and his efforts in planning and working at the Lumberman's Picnic in 2003. He was always willing to help when asked.

Our condolences to Family and Friends.

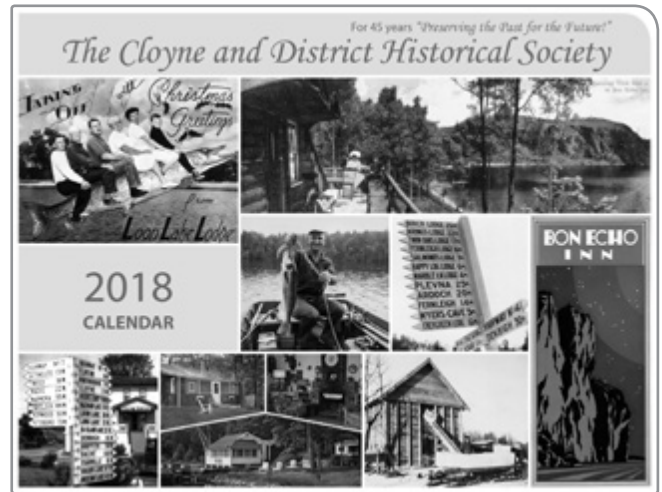
2018 Calendar

We still have a few copies of the CDHS 2018 Heritage Calendar available. This calendar features lodges and campgrounds - past and present.

\$15.00

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

To make arrangements for a calendar call Eileen Flieler 613 336-9593 or visit our online book store at www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca



Cover Photo 2018 Calendar

Events - 2017/2018

2018 CDHS meetings

Barrie Hall – Cloyne, 1PM
3rd Monday of the month

November 20 – Guest speaker will be Candace Lloyd, Secretary/Treasurer of the Highland Waters Métis Council. Candace will speak on Métis history and culture in our area. Everyone welcome.

January 15

February 19

March 19 (Annual General Meeting)

April 16 – The Mazinaw/Pringle Lake Tramway

May 21 – The Kaladar Hotel

December

CDHS Christmas Luncheon
Monday December 4, 11:30AM
Harlowe Hall

Pat Cuddy is the chef for the CDHS Christmas Luncheon on December 4th in the Harlowe Hall. Arrive at 11:30 for noon. Tickets are \$18.00. Contact Sandra Sparks @ 613 336-0157 before November 30th to reserve. Bring an item (like pork & beans) for the Land O'Lakes Food Bank.

Are you on our email list? 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 19, 9AM
Barrie Hall – Cloyne

Save your gently used items.
Items may be dropped off
Friday May 18 from 9AM until noon.



The Cloyne Pioneer Museum and Archives is now closed for the season. Stay in touch through our website: cloynepioneermuseum.ca, follow us on flickr and visit our Youtube channel.

We now have 293 followers on flickr viewing 883 photos. We have 16 subscribers on Youtube.

