The Pioneer Times

NEWS VEHICLE OF THE CLOYNE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



This photo may be of a father teaching his son to play hockey on a flooded field across from the Northbrook Hotel. Mary Lloyd Johnson chronicled the history of our area through photography and her neice Mary Forbes recently sent us a new collection. Names and date unknown. *Photo: Mary Lloyd Johnson and Mary (Hope) Forbes Albums, Flick*r

■ IN THIS ISSUE

Volume 25, #2 Fall/Winter 2025-26

DIRECTOR and COMMITTEE REPORTS	
President's Message	EVENTS
Museum Report	Fernleigh Lodge Dinner and Cruise Fundraiser5
Membership and Book Store Reports4	The Lions Club Banner Program4
NAEC Bursary Award4	Speakers and Events9-10, 12
Heritage Wall Update	
	WE LOSE FRIENDS
FEATURES	Margaret Evelyn Axford11
Art, Archives and The Rock: A Mazinaw Story	-
Reversed6	© November 2025
Bon Echo Provincial Park-60 Years Old7-8	Cloyne & District Historical Society
The Story Behind the Bon Echo Inn Replica9	"Preserving the Past for the Future"

The Pioneer Times

Volume 25, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2025-26

Newsletter Committee

Carolyn McCulloch - cargomcculloch@gmail.com Cathy Hook – cathyhook@gmail.com Cathy Newcombe – cathynewcombe@live.com

Newsletter layout – Cathy Hook Photos - Ken Hook unless otherwise credited

The Pioneer Times is produced semi-annually by the Cloyne and District Historical Society. It is distributed free-of-charge 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: 613-336-9167

Website: https://pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/ Email: pioneer@mazinaw.on.ca flickr contact: kenwhook@gmail.com

CDHS Board

President

Cathy Newcombe

Vice President

Daryl Austin

Secretary

Cindy Austin

Treasurer

Ian Brumell

Directors-at-large

Warren Anderson, Eileen Flieler, Catherine Grant, Rex Henry, Ken Hook, Carolyn McCulloch

The Cloyne and District Historical Society is a not-for-profit Registered Charity Charitable Number 89756 8217





2002, 2012, 2021 Recipient

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The long, hot summer has flown by, and it's nice to enjoy the lovely fall weather. The museum has been put to bed for the winter after a very successful season this year with 1682 visitors!

We had three great students this summer working at the museum. Jacob Heyman returned to us as an intern from the Sir Sandford Fleming museology course and with his new knowledge, he initiated a number of changes at the museum. Jacob had worked at the museum in previous years. We were fortunate to have him, and we wish him well in his future career! Sadie Grand was another familiar face as she's worked at the museum for several summers and we hope she brings her expertise back next year! Lastly, was Aila Muzio, a co-op student from the University of Ottawa. All three worked hard implementing changes, archiving treasures and giving the museum a big clean!

Our formal museum opening was June 28 with a BBQ organized by Cindy and Daryl Austin. The music was supplied by the talented group "The New Pickled Chickens". The museum was open throughout May and June as Jacob was doing his internship.

On June 14, we had a fundraiser spearheaded by Marlean McLean which involved a delicious roast beef dinner at Fernleigh Lodge, a silent and live auction followed by a boat cruise on Kashwakamak Lake. It was a



2025 Pioneer Museum staff L-R: Sadie Grand, museology intern Jacob Heyman and Aila Muzio.

great evening. We also held a raffle for a prize donated by Fernleigh Lodge which included a 2-night cottage stay, dinner and a boat cruise for two. It was drawn on Sept.1 and Kristin Falardeau was the winner! Thankyou to all involved including Kevin, Owen and Melissa Philips from Fernleigh Lodge, as well as the many generous donators!

Our heritage wall on the front of the museum has several new plaques. Thanks to Eileen Flieler and Sandra Miller for all their work on this project.

The gardens in front of the museum are undergoing a transformation. They were cleaned out as an invasive weed had taken over, and work will continue in the spring to create a "heritage garden".

We have had some great guest speakers this fall at our general meetings. In September, Marg Graham and Dianne Cosway from Trent Hills spoke about the British Home Children. It was a riveting but emotional presentation. At our October meeting, Coleman Boomhour spoke of the history of trapping and current practices. It was a very educational and eye-opening talk. In November, a video by Ken and Cathy Hook interviewing Eileen Flieler about her life as a long-time teacher and resident in this area will be shown.

Our annual Christmas party will be December 15 at Myers Cave Lodge hosted by Mike and Nawar Hage. Tickets are limited, so get them soon!

As always, we welcome new members! Thank-you to a wonderful group of members who help make our historical society so special!

Cathy Newcombe, President

MUSEUM REPORT

The Cloyne Pioneer Museum had 1682 visitors this year and \$2570.50 was donated to the Donation Jar. New this year, the TipTap allowed cashless visitors to give a good-will offering for their visit.

This year's summer staff was a robust team. Sadie Grand had been a volunteer and for the second year was on staff. Jacob Heyman, a prior-year staffer, graduated from his museum course at Fleming College by completing an internship with us. Aila Muzio, a history student at U of Ottawa, thought it was a great summer job, right in her area of interest.

The museum was closed up, as usual in early October, by moving fragile artefacts into the two heated rooms. The storage shed had a tidy-up and a few older items moved out from the museum and in from the grounds. This summer we were pleased to find a leather-sturdy sewing machine and return it to the family who loaned it (this is no longer our policy).

We hope to find a new home for two items—the not-complete (but with photos) loom, previously in the Pioneer Room and the 1901 Hayburn United Church pump organ. Although this lovely green organ was item #7 donated to the museum in 1982 it is from outside our catchment area and we are looking for "space". We intend to keep the second organ that is local. If you know of anyone who would have an interest in either of these please let us know.

Have you explored the Cloyne & Pioneer Museum on the Bloomberg Connects app yet? Winter might be a great time to have a look and hear a bit more about the museum's artefacts than just seen by a visit to our building. While there, also peak at some of the now thousands of museums and cultural sites world wide on this app.

For more information visit: https://pioneer.mazinaw. on.ca/digital-guide-to-the-cloyne-pioneer-museum/

Wendy Hodgkin 🛠



Download the free Bloomberg Connects app from the App Store or Google Play prior to visiting the museum. When you arrive, look for a Bloomberg Connects magnifying glass near exhibits and scan the QR code to learn more. And, don't forget to bring your headphones.

MEMBERSHIP

Our memberships are strong at 72 paid members for 2025, and I think there are a couple of key reasons. We have scheduled some really great speakers for our monthly general meetings. The quality of these speakers and the subject matter have brought many new faces out to our meetings. I think credit for scheduling the speakers goes to Ken Hook. He has done a terrific job of lining up a terrific speaker for each meeting. I also know that Mike Hage and several others have provided or proposed several speakers.

There are many new or one-time attendees that come to hear the monthly speakers, and often, these guests leave after the speaker is finished and before the business portion of our meetings. I have started to spend a few minutes before the speakers begin their presentation, to suggest that our guests should leave their email addresses with us so we can include them in a monthly communication email. Many of these guests are now part of our mailing list, and several have paid their membership fee and joined the historical society.

I am hoping that as we continue to schedule great speakers our membership will continue to grow on site.

Daryl Austin, CDHS Membership Coordinator &



Banner Program by Lion Lynn Lowe

The Remembrance Day Banner Program, sponsored by the Lions Club of

Land O' Lakes, lets us celebrate the service of our military personnel, past or present. This program is only successful through the collaboration between families and volunteers. Photos are submitted by the family, added to our template and then the completed banners are hung from hydro poles in our local communities of Northbrook and Cloyne. We hope to expand to Plevna and Flinton in the future.

It's not just about the banner. It is the story that accompanies the photo. We had a wonderful reveal ceremony

last year which allowed 20 families to come up and talk about their loved ones and their unique experiences. It was very moving. The hall was packed and the event touched everyone.

It is our honour to recognize these service personnel. We all serve to make it a better world.

View the banners in the Lions Club of Land O'Lakes Album on the CDHS Flickr site. The banners are 24 x 48 inches.

https://www.flickr.com/photos/cdhs/albums/72177720302307419/

THE BOOKSTORE

Over the years, many local authors have recorded poetry, memoirs and stories. These records of the past have been preserved for the future.

We have been able to sell them to you at The Museum Bookstore, but in many cases the inevitable happens. How we hate to hear that our local books are "Out of Print" or "No longer Published."

This year, we created a special space for these precious items for those wishing to do genealogical or local history research. Our "rare book collection" is available from the staff to be photographed, photocopied, or read on site. They cannot be removed or borrowed from the Museum. They are separated from our extensive book collection and available to you by request.

Carolyn McCulloch *

CLOYNE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NAEC AWARD

On October 24th, President Cathy Newcombe presented a CDHS bursary of \$200 at the annual NAEC award ceremony. The bursary is awarded to a student with "the highest academic achievement and personal interest in Grade 10 Canadian history".

This year's recipient was Megan Decker.

Fernleigh Lodge Dinner and Cruise Fundraiser – \$2950 was raised!

The Cloyne and District Historical Society (CDHS) organized its latest fundraiser on June 14th with a 'Dinner and Cruise' event, held at Fernleigh Lodge on Kashwakamak Lake. A delicious Roast Beef dinner with all the trimmings fed over 70 guests in the Lodge dining room.

There was a silent auction followed by a live auction with Doug Galt acting as auctioneer extraordinaire. Many items were graciously donated by local businesses to help the CDHS continue operating the Pioneer Museum.

Fernleigh Lodge pontoon boats provided guests with a memorable guided cruise on the lake. The lake was calm, and the temperature was perfect for cruising.

Kevin, Melissa and Owen Phillips of Fernleigh Lodge donated a weekend for two, including dinner and a cruise, for an additional raffle. The winning ticket was drawn on Labour Day at the Pioneer Museum by fundraising committee member Marlean McLean. The prize, valued at \$1,200, was won by Kristan Falardeau. The CDHS would like to thank the event organizing committee, personal and business prize donors for their generous support.

Our non-member donors included: Betty deVarennnes Birch Babe Bishop Lake Outdoor Centre

Cas Shields Colleen Cutler-Wagner BPP Designs–Brenda Prevost EB Woodcraft Creations

Enright Cattle Company-Enright Leather

Fernleigh Lodge

Hide and Quill Co.-Amanda Miles

Hook's Building Centre

I Can When You Can't-Angela Deline

Jillian Freeburn Royal Lepage Realty

Lakeport Power Ltd.

Milligan's Meats

Neil & Susanne Quinlan-Iron Rooster Local Honey

Pat Dubyk

Pine Grove Motel/Marina's Handcrafted

Potter Settlement Vineyards

Pumped Up Parties

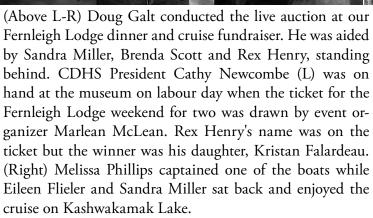
Red Barn Zone

Stonepath Greenhouse

The Tweet Boutique

Tweed & Company Theatre Marble Arts Centre









Art, Archives and The Rock: A Mazinaw Story Reversed

All came to stay and paint but Carmichael saw it from the top looking down across the lake

from Stuart MacKinnon - Mazinaw

One of the most rewarding activities of the Cloyne District Historical Society (CDHS) is assisting researchers in uncovering hidden connections in our shared history. Earlier this year, we received a fascinating request from Don Ross, Founding Director of the Orillia Art Gallery and Museum. Don was preparing a book on Orillia-born artist Franklin Carmichael of the Group of Seven. We discovered several references to Carmichael scattered across the CDHS books and archives.

Franklin Carmichael (1890–1945) is celebrated for his sensitivity to the Canadian landscape, his masterful watercolours, and his contributions as a designer and teacher. Records confirm that Carmichael visited the Bon Echo Inn in August 1928 as he was commissioned to produce a series of black-and-white oil sketches to promote the Inn–an evocative glimpse into how art and place are intertwined.

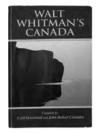


Inspired by this discovery, Don and his wife Evelyn traveled to our Museum where our own Jacob Heyman showed them the original 1929 brochure design Carmichael created. Their visit led them to explore Bon Echo Provincial Park, where Emma Fuller, Chief Park Naturalist, gave them a private tour. Also as a result of the visit, Dave Dea-



con, a former CDHS director, was able to provide a print of one of Carmichael's works that will become part of Orillia Museum's collection. This original Carmichael work is part of the Agnes Etherington Gallery and Ross has received permission to include it in his forthcoming book.

During his research, Don also examined an out of print copy of Walt Whitman's



Canada by Cyril Greenland and Robert Columbo (The Battered Silicon Dispatch Box, 2002). To his surprise, the book's cover design was by none other than Charles Pachter—a renowned Canadian artist and personal friend of Don's.

A leading contemporary Canadian artist, Charles Pachter (1942) is a painter, printmaker, sculptor, designer, historian, and lecturer. Pachter's works are housed in the Portrait Gallery of Canada, the Canadian Embassy in Washington, Canada House in London, the Parliament Buildings, the Prime Minister's residence, and the Embassy of France in Ottawa. His iconic Hockey Knights in Canada murals adorn Toronto's College Subway Station. Pachter is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Chevalier of France's Order of Arts and Letters, and a recipient of the Order of Ontario.



In gratitude for the CDHS's assistance, Don Ross and Charles Pachter collaborated to produce a limited series of five printsone of which was graciously gifted to the Pioneer Museum.

But the story didn't end there. When examining the artwork, we noticed something curious: the image of Mazinaw Rock is reversed. Intrigued, we reached out to Don, who contacted Pachter. Pachter confirmed that the piece had been commissioned by John Robert Columbo in 2000 for the 2002 book and later donated to the Art Gallery of Mississauga. As for the mirrored rock, Pachter declared, "Not sure why I did it in reverse... perhaps just a fluke. I do like it that way."

What began as a simple research inquiry unfolded into a story of artistic legacy, friendship, and serendipity—bridging generations of Canadian creativity. Sometimes, history reveals itself not through grand discoveries, but through the quiet symmetry of art, memory, and chance.

Carolyn and Elspeth McCulloch 26

Bon Echo Provincial Park-60 Years Old

by Cathy Hook

In 1935, Merrill Denison and his wife, Muriel Goggin Denison, first put forward a proposal to donate their Bon Echo property, then 2000 acres, to the Crown.

By 1955 legislation had been passed that would allow the department of Lands and Forests "to acquire by gift, purchase or expropriation suitable areas for development as provincial parks for conservation, recreational and educational purposes."

In 1959, the Inn property (now 1200 acres) was formally transferred to the Crown. In exchange, Merrill and his second wife Lisa Andrews retained life use of Dollywood (now the Visitor Centre), Greystones (now Greystones Gift Shoppe), the manager's house which was moved to its present location behind Greystones (now the Cabin on the Hill) and Mike's cottage (Mike Schwager was caretaker of the property and lived in the cottage from 1939 until 1971).

At one time the Inn property had 33 buildings, most built by Dr. Weston Price. Photos were included in Merrill Denison's 1935 proposal and can be viewed in the Bon Echo Provincial Park Album at our Flickr site. https://www.flickr.com/photos/cdhs/albums/72157657219206775/



Merrill Denison dedicated Bon Echo Provincial Park in memory of his mother Flora MacDonald Denison and his first wife Muriel Goggin Denison. In addition to managing the Inn for many years, Muriel was the author of the popular Susannah of the Mounties book series. Muriel died in 1954. This plaque is on a rock at the narrows. Photo: Norm and Carol

Morrow Album, Flickr.

References: in the Shadow of the Rock by Margaret Axford, Bon Echo: The Denison Years by Mary Savigny, Mugwump Canadian, The Merrill Denison Story by Dick MacDonald.

Building Bon Echo Provincial Park

Wayne Miller worked at Bon Echo Provincial Park in the 1960s as a technician and then as Park Superintendent from 1969–1974. Ken Hook did a video interview with Wayne in 2023. You can view it on our YouTube channel: htt-ps://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vY4krhEucgo&t=66s

Park plans were finalized in Toronto and beginning in 1961 crews started building the park.

Fairway Campground, near the main beach was finished first and campers started to arrive. The new park was so popular that overflow was put at the point (narrows).

About sixty people on a winter works program built the road to Hardwood Hill and Joeperry Lake and put in a hydro line as far as Hardwood Hill.

Infrastructure in place when Wayne left Bon Echo in 1974 included:

- the main gate, and main office
- the main campground (Fairway, Sawmill Bay, Midway) with pre-registration building
- a comfort station near the lagoon
- main beach and south beach with change houses
- amphitheatre
- Hardwood Hill campground with pre-registration building (the building is no longer there)
- Bon Echo Creek, High Pines, Shield, and Abes and Essens Lake hiking trails.
- the "nat shack" visitor centre
- cabins behind the maintenance building including a cabin with kitchen facilities for male staff

The province rerouted a seven km section of Hwy 41 onto a new alignment through Bon Echo Provincial Park in 1969. The old Hwy 41 became Mazinaw Heights Roads North and South.

Memories of Bon Echo 1975–77

Ken and I met while working as seasonal naturalists at Bon Echo from 1975–76.

Today campsites are reserved online but 50 years ago visitors arrived at the main gate and if camping, were directed to the pre-registration building to choose a camp-

site. It was on a first come-first serve basis. Only people who were camping were allowed beyond this point. Lisa Denison still used the private compound.

I seem to recall that a chaplain lived in "Mike's" cottage during the summer. On Sundays, there were interdenominational church services held at the amphitheatre.

We took park visitors on guided hikes along Bon Echo Creek, to the Tapping Farm and occasionally the first loop of the Abes and Essens Trail. One day a week, Ken guided a birdwatching hike. There was a trail to the top of Bon Echo Rock, but hikers had to get themselves across the lake. Today there is a ferry service and steel staircase.

Our most ambitious but popular guided experience was the 21 km Kishkebus canoe route. This route leaves from the lagoon, heads south on Mazinaw, through Semi-Circle, Shabomeka and Kishkebus Lakes ending with a 1500 metre portage back to the Mazinaw and viewing of the pictographs.

Evening shows at the amphitheatre featured slide and film presentations and lots of questions from campers. We used 35 mm film cameras to take photos. The film had to be mailed to a lab for processing and the slides mailed back. There was no way to preview the photos, so no way to delete the bad ones. The naturalist office had a large cabinet for storing and viewing slide photos. Films were borrowed weekly from the National Film Board (NFB) and the reels would be sent to Kaladar on the bus.

There is a small cabin on the trail between the amphitheatre parking lot and the lagoon. That was our visitor centre – the "Nat Shack".



"Nat Shack" visitor centre, 1977. Photo: Ken and Cathy Hook Album, Flickr



Naturalist staff c1976. (L-R) Cathy Davis (now Hook), Ken Hook, Angela Goodfellow and Chief Park Naturalist Peter Neugebaurer. Not in the photo, Lorraine Cuddy looked after the children's programme. Emma Fuller, who is now the Chief Park Naturalist, recently sent us this photo. *Photo: Bon Echo Park Album, Flickr*

What follows is a list of the people I can remember working at the park during this time period:

Ed Buck–Park Superintendent. Ed started in 1974 or 75 and was there as late as 1994. Ed approached the Pioneer Club in 1988, who accepted the challenge to form The Friends of Bon Echo; Brian Peck–Assistant Superintendent; Eythel Grant–Office Clerk; Arnold Boomhauer–head of Park Security; Harold Lyons and Marshal Bennsecurity; John Flieler–bookkeeper.

Working on maintenance: Bill Tibble –maintenance foreman; John O'Donnell, Jimmy Wilson, Ken Armstrong, Albert Meeks, Elburn Meeks Sr., his wife Dorothy and their daughter Muriel VanNess. Muriel was a CDHS director from 2007-2011, worked with Dave Deacon on the Calendar Committee and contributed photos and history to the CDHS and our Flickr site.

Gate Staff: Nicole Goodfellow, Grace Mordak, Cathy Burris, Merrill Savigny, Kevin O'Donnell, Gerald Wilkes.

(I know I've missed some people. We would love to hear from you if you worked at Bon Echo sometime in the last 60 years, and please send along any photos you might have).

On a 2023 visit to the Bon Echo Provincial Park Visitor Centre, I took a photo of the scale model of the Inn which is on display. I looked but couldn't find any information about who made it and when?

I discovered a 1994 park newspaper guide on the Internet Archives website. (https://archive.org/). When visitors enter the park, they are given a guide with maps, articles and local advertising. There was an article written by the late Colin Edwards, who was a vice-principal at NAEC, an artist, and President of the Friends of Bon Echo in 1994.

The Friends of Bon Echo group raised the idea of having a model of the Inn built for the centre. Colin suggested he "might know a person". Colin phoned his dad, Gord Edwards, an engineer and draughtsman from Peterborough, and outlined the job description: "Wanted: Skilled model builder to

draw accurate plans and construct meticulouly correct scale model of the Bon Echo Inn. A number of old photos and rough plans will be available as resource material. Salary is \$0.00".

Colin's dad accepted the job. He was given a building fund by the Friends and in his basement he replicated decking, railings, windows, walls, roofs, porches and gables. He then built removable walls in two areas so people could see inside and he made miniature furniture, fireplaces and decor.



It took Gord Edwards more than 500 hours to create the 1:48 scale model of the Inn.

The 1994 Bon Echo paper is a great read. The pdf can be found on our website.

https://pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/wp-content/up-loads/2023/02/Bon-Echo-Visitor-Guide.pdf



Thank you Cathy and Bill Newcombe, our hosts for the July potluck luncheon. (L-R) Eileen Flieler, Dave Woodruff, Carolyn McCulloch, Ian Brumell, Wendy Hodgkin, Dave and Trudy Deacon, Daryl Austin, Kim Pierce, Cathy Hook, Cathy and Bill Newcombe, Cindy Austin, Mike Hage, Wayne Marsh, Janet and Joe Wilson, Loretta Corrigan. Cathy gave us a tour of their lovely off-grid home and Bill a tour of their power system.



The historical society has been very busy since our last newsletter in April. Top to bottom (L-R). Our April speaker was Tim Porter from the Marble Arts Centre in Actinolite. Elspeth McCulloch presented Tim with a gift of our appreciation. Tim donated show tickets to our fundraiser. https://www.marbleartscentre.ca/

In May, Ken Hook presented a video history of Fernleigh Lodge. Seen here are owners Melissa and Kevin Phillips who were on hand to answer questions. Our fundraising event was held at Fernleigh Lodge and Kevin and Melissa donated a "Weekend Package for Two". If you missed the presentation, find it on our YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9MH91Wto-s&t=28s

Marg Graham (L) and Dianne Cosway did a presentation in September on the British Home Children. Over 10% of the current Canadian population are descendants of the Home Children. Marg and Dianne are seen here with Warren Anderson.

The Crown Jewels group from Madoc visited the museum in August. Many of the ladies are retired teachers and were quite interested in the schoolhouse display. Our CDHS expert on schools, Eileen Flieler, was on hand.

Mike Hage, Cathy Newcombe, Brian Miller (seen here) and Ken Hook, on the advice of the Land O'Lakes Garden Club, covered the gardens at the museum with black plastic and mulch to irradicate an invasive weed. The CDHS received a \$1000 North Frontenac Community Grant and in the spring they will be placing heritage plants into the gardens.

In October, Coleman Boomhour did a presentation on the history of trapping. Coleman has 60 years of trapping experience and with his family, operates a 22,000 acre trapline following sustainable and ethical practices. Coleman's daughter Sarah, operates a local business Wayeshkad Wear in the tradition of her Ojibwe culture. Sarah harvests, tans, and sews and sells fur products.











We lose friends

Margaret Evelyn Axford (December 1, 1941 – September 24, 2025)



Margaret grew up in the hamlet of Verschoyle in Southwestern Ontario where she was one of seven girls in the class; there were only seven students! A few years after she started teaching, she searched for a quieter place to live. She moved to Cloyne and first taught English and French at the NAEC. Her ongoing delight was with her students either in class or the drama club, once taking a busload to the Stratford Festival to share her love of that venue.

She was a leader in the community, focusing on the health and welfare of the people who live here. Margaret was involved with the first doctor recruitment project, directly pushed Ontario to build Pine Meadow Nursing home in Northbrook then lead the management committee for a number of years, and provided the impetus to develop Community Services and was executive director in its early years.

Margaret was delighted when her book "In the Shadow of the Rock", telling Bon Echo's story, was published in 2023.

But of course, we hold a most special place for her in the history of the Cloyne and District Historical Society. She was instrumental in taking the original Pioneer Club idea to "preserve the past for the future" when the club was languishing in the late 1990s and established the charter of the CDHS as a not-for-profit corporation. Margaret was the president of the revitalized Historical Society for eight years. The museum has expanded twice to provide more space for the ever increasing artifact collection. She established the CDHS Archives by learning, practicing and teaching the theories of archival provenance. As the volunteer curator for 15 years she guided numerous summer staff, many on their first job, in "museum thinking". In her favourite role as historian she encouraged many families in the area to appreciate what the early pioneer life was really like and get their stories recorded.

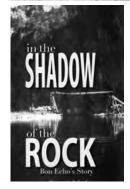
Margaret leaves behind her husband Ian Brumell and her daughter Margot Stothers.

Wendy Hodgkin 🛠









(L-R) *The Oxen and the Axe*, was first published in 1974 by the Pioneer Club. The book was edited by Ian Brumell, Carol Morrow, Eileen Flieler, Margaret Axford and Carolyn McCulloch who introduced the fifth edition in 2008 with a book signing. (Carolyn was not available for the signing). Margaret Axford and Ian Brumell. Margaret won the Addington Highlands Community Builder Award in 2010. Margaret was Curator of the Pioneer Museum when she gave a presentation at Bon Echo Provincial Park in 2014 *The Builder, The Whitmanite, the Conservationist – the personalities who shaped Bon Echo*. The presentation was filmed and can be viewed on the CDHS YouTube channel. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdwdSXoAP40&t=69s. Margaret published her book *In the Shadow of the Rock* in 2023.





CLOYNE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY HERITAGE WALL PROJECT

The Heritage Wall at the museum is a project created to recognize and honour members of the community and former members who helped build our community.

You can order a plaque to honour a person or family through Hart N Hart, 111 Industrial Blvd. Napanee. Call Andrea Moore at 613-354-9554.

Presently we have about 12 plaques on the front wall of the museum with more on order. When your plaque is ready please contact Eileen Flieler 613-336-9593 so that we can mount them.

Prices:

5x7 – black \$25.00 with a gold trim option of \$10.00 = \$35.00 plus tax 10x12 – black \$40.00 with a gold trim option \$15.00 = \$55.00 plus tax The plaques can be portrait or landscape with symbols and or logos

This a wonderful tribute to people who have contributed to their community (past or present).

Eileen Flieler

Events - Fall/Winter 2025 - 2026

General Meeting Dates

General Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month, 1 pm at the Barrie Community Hall in Cloyne. Visit our website to confirm meeting dates and speakers ahead of time.

https://pioneer.mazinaw.on.ca/

November

November 17 – Eileen Flieler – My Life

Video Presentation by Ken Hook

Land O'Lakes Lions Club Santa Claus Parade Saturday November 22nd

Lions Hall – Northbrook Parade starts at, 3:30 PM Fireworks 5:30 PM

Land O'Lakes Lions Club Christmas Market Extravaganza Saturday November 29, 10 AM – 2 PM Lions Hall – Northbrook

The CDHS will have a table with all of our books for sale. Great gifts for under your tree.

December

CDHS Christmas Luncheon Myers Cave Resort, Monday December 15, 12 PM.

Tickets are \$35.00 per person. Nawar and Mike Hage will be hosting in their newly renovated barn event space. There is a 46 person capacity. Secure your spot with pre-payment by cash, cheque or e-transfer. The contact person is Daryl Austin dcaustin@bell.net

January – May 2026

General Meetings of the CDHS
Barrie Hall – Cloyne, Mondays at 1 PM
January 19
February 16
March 16
April 20
May 18

Cloyne Pioneer Museum and Archives Open Summer 2026 cloynepioneermuseum.ca