

BEST HERITAGE DAY YET

July 10, 2004 marked another milestone in the history of great days in Stayner. The 8th Annual Heritage Day, held on a perfect summer day, drew a large crowd and delivered what was promised!!

The program entertained the audience all afternoon, thanks to the wonderful sound system, courtesy of the Clearview Players.

“**The Hansens**” (mother and daughter team from Kitchener) were true professionals. They demonstrated their vast talents through playing instruments and singing. **Ian Leith**, 16 year old fiddle champion, accompanied by Jack Hawthorne, treated the crowd to the kind of music everyone likes. **The Georgian Girls** likewise!!

Cal Fenwick’s whistling is quite amazing; the kind of music a crowd doesn’t hear very often.

And, of course, the **Cottage Country Cloggers** finished the afternoon in typical energetic style.

The prizewinners were announced at 4:00Pm. Shirley Milne won the coveted “Arena Window Mirror”. By a fluke of the draw, she also won the Billy Hill Pine gift certificate. How many times could that happen?? The gift certificate from La Pizzeria went to Hazel Parrish. Joy Burkholder was pleased with her share of the 50-50 draw. Helen Hanna’s “Guess the Antique” contest was very popular. There was a tie for most right - Gayle Favalaro and Jean Waddell. Aarden’s Chocolates gave the prizes. Thanks to all those who donated prizes.

The winners in the “Colouring Contest” were: Raymond Hardisty - teen; Emily Van Niekerk in the intermediate, Bryn Millsap, junior, and Michael O’Brien in the under 5. The drawing of Station Park and Gazebo was specially created for this contest by Jo Christopher.

Actually everyone got a prize if they played any of the games in **KIDZ ZONE**, thanks to Pat & Orv Elliott and Sandy Townes. This facet was new this year and proved to be a good one. **Dayn Leyshon** with the Scavenger Hunts and Scooter with the Magic Show made a memorable day for the kids.

Brad Lebeck provided another special feature - rides in his beautifully restored Victorian coach to and from the Small Hall (formerly the Orange Hall). The hall presented many interesting displays, hosted by owner Bob Levant, and Heritage Society members.

As always, the Food Fair was well patronized. Bob & Ferne & Co. were a tired group by the end of the day. I understand the pies went well and Pete Jerry’s peach pie was sold to someone else! Thanks to Shirly Millsap and crew for “Pie in the Park”. Cathy Main, Tyler & Marlene Davidson kept the popcorn and candy floss

coming all day.

Thanks go to Manfred Leimgardt and Kevin Jerry for putting together a great parade. This followed a very successful pancake breakfast at Jubilee Pres. Church where the breakfasters were treated to music by “Kenny and the Cruisers”!

It was only because of the over 100 volunteers and the sponsors that we were able to bring off such a successful venture. Reinhart Foods sponsored the Hansens, Hanna Motors, Scooter the Clown, Barb’s Clothes Closet, the Cloggers, and Stayner Legion, the Beinn Gorm Highlanders. Individuals also came forth: Mary Burkholder for Cal Fenwick and Helen Hanna for Ian Leith. Lorne Bunn Electric and Bill Swanton Travel sponsored the Midhurst Pavillion Tent.

A great event in a great town!

HERITAGE PRESENCE AT THE FAIR

As in the past, Stayner Heritage Society participated in the fair with a Heritage booth. The baggage cart with the model of the Station on it provided a focal point. Along the wall were several enlarged photos, taken by Walter Clemence during the 50’s. His daughter, Pat Gidley, had arranged them on colourful sheets of bristol board and donated them to us. Many fair-goers were interested in these pictures. In the booth we also had our merchandise for sale - Christmas Ornaments, videos, Stayner Notes, and C.D.’s .

Appropriately, the new series of Christmas Ornaments, **STAYNER TOWN HALL, 1908**, was much appreciated, because the Town Hall was demolished shortly after.

We also had a 50/50 draw. Shirley Parton was the lucky winner of \$199.00.

A SAD EVENT

During the latter part of September, 2004, our beloved Town Hall was demolished. The site is now to be a parking lot!

There are many who did not believe that the building was in such bad condition. Some even felt that just a portion of the approximately 4 million dollars spent on the new building could have been used to refurbish the old one into a meaningful municipal building - up-to-date and retaining its heritage status. Sadly, that wasn’t to be.

Stayner Heritage Society is keenly aware that much of Stayner’s heritage has disappeared with little apparent effort having been put forth to preserve it.

**A FOND FAREWELL TO A FAITHFUL
HERITAGE MEMBER**

*(The following story is another in an ongoing series
featuring former Staynerites, gone but not forgotten!)*

Jack Sparrow has been an interesting and interested member of Stayner Heritage Society for several years. We have just learned that Jack & Hazel will be leaving Stayner to be closer to their family. We will miss Jack's wonderful stories and sense of humour. The Stayner Horticultural Society will also miss his faithfulness to that group. Good luck Hazel and Jack!

DON BLACKSTOCK

Don Blackstock's father, James McNair Blackstock, was born in Collingwood, June 4, 1879. His first marriage was to Janet Kaiser who had lived in Sunnidale. James had a grocery store in Collingwood. After he moved to Stayner, he lived on John St. and made his living delivering milk with a horse and wagon. Later, he went into the grocery business in Stayner.

STATION PROJECT UPDATE

When we last reported, we advised that an agreement to purchase land for our Station had been reached. Part of the agreement was that a portion of the property in question needed to be severed before we took title. This seemed at the time to be a rather simple process, but despite efforts by our lawyer to move this forward, he was unable to get the Township to provide us with information as to exactly what was needed to get the severance approved. This resulted in a delay of several months and we approached the Planning Dept. directly to see if we could make any progress. We were able to determine that amongst other things, they would require an environmental survey be provided to support the application. Your Board of Directors always felt that we should have a survey as part of our "due diligence" in acquiring the property, and so we agreed to order the survey from Terraprobe Inc. in Barrie. We are pleased to report that the field work for the survey has been done and we expect to receive their report shortly. In addition to advising if there is any contamination of the property., they are also to advise us as the cost of remediation, if required.

So, while progress has been slower than we expected, we are making headway.

Janet and James had four children. Edward lived in Stayner and later helped in the grocery store. He was killed tragically in a tractor accident in Nottawa. Clarence, who lived in Toronto, worked for Eatons. Later, he moved to B. C. Marion also lived in Toronto. Russell died young in 1924 of diphtheria. Janet died in 1918.

Eventually, Charlotte Walters, born November 6, 1889, came to help look after the family. In 1922, James and Charlotte married.

Their family consisted of Walter (died at 2 years), Don, Isabelle (McMahon in Richmond), Beatrice (Oliver in Georgetown), George (who lives in Nottawa) and Irene (Zilio in Cambridge). The "Blackstock" building still remains, now housing a barber shop on the south side of the west end of Stayner business centre. The family lived behind the store. They all attended school at Byng in Stayner.

The Blackstocks were a respected family in Stayner. James was an elder in Jubilee Presbyterian Church. He died March 19, 1942. Charlotte died April 5, 1976.

Don Blackstock lived all his life in Stayner. He started as a butcher in Brown's Butcher Shop. While in the Armed Forces, he trained as a plumber. After his discharge, he worked as a plumber in Camp Borden. Stories still exist today about his kindness in helping people with their plumbing.

Later, he returned to Stayner and the butcher shop. He was also a very dedicated Legion member. He looked after sports for boys and girls - hockey and baseball especially. He often paid to get birth certificates for some who couldn't afford to buy them. One young man whom he coached, said later that Don kept many young people from getting into trouble.

Don left his home on Main Street and moved to Leimgardt's Retirement Home where he died in 1997.

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HERITAGE MERCHANDISE

Unique, hand-made in Canada
**wooden Christmas
ornaments**

3 series now available
Stayner Railway Station, The Bell Tower &
NEW
Stayner Town Hall, 1908
\$10.00
(add \$5.00 for s&h for mail orders)

STAYNER-NOTES

12 notes in a package, 3 of each of 4 buildings.
The pen sketches are originals and comprise
The Co-Op
The Wilcox Inn
The Railway Station
The Patterson House on Point St.

\$5.00
(add \$2.00 for s&h)

Heritage Videos

1. Memories of Our Town.
Taken from movie footage owned by Roger Watson. Many have been delighted to see family and friends strolling along Main St. in the late summer of 1948. Narration by Bill Ives and D. A. Millsap.
2. Stayner's 125th Anniversary Celebration - July 12, 1997.
Narrated by Brian Pounder, you will meet many people you know and hear Brian interview them. The whole day from the parade to the closing is included.
3. Millennium-Stayner - July 9, 2000.
Narrated by Dorothy-Anne Millsap with expert videography by Marianne Buie and Gren Bray. A wonderful souvenir of a memorable day.

\$20.00 (+ \$5.00 s&h)

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Dorothy-Anne Millsap, Myrna Johnson,
Peter Millsap

CAPS FOR PICTURES

1. A familiar landmark now gone forever.
2. The demolition scene.
3. Another of the demolition.
4. Heritage Day, 2004.
5. The original drawing done by Jo Christopher for the Heritage Colouring Contest.
6. The Heritage Society Booth in the Stayner Fair, 2004. Photos mounted in the background taken by Walter Coemence in the 50's.
7. Don Blackstock, well-known Stayner resident.