



# STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

[www.staynerheritagesociety.com](http://www.staynerheritagesociety.com)

Incorporated, 1998.

Fall, 2011.

## 15th ANNUAL STAYNER HERITAGE DAY

Fabulous weather, great crowd, exciting program and entertaining parade marked the **15th Annual Stayner Heritage Day** on July 9, 2011.

Included in the parade were the participants in the **1st Stayner Heritage Classic Car Event**. Their cars were on display at the Municipal parking lot.

Station Park was packed with onlookers, and ringed with food booths, crafters and kid's events.

**The Beinn Gorm Highlanders** set the traditional tone befitting the Scottish/Irish heritage of Stayner.

**The Ballagh Bunch** exceeded all expectations. This talented family from Teeswater did not disappoint. Gary and Janice and Devan, 19, Michael, 17, Paige, 16, and Matthew, 11 fiddled, sang and step-danced right into everyone's heart. Many times they were doing two things at once. What a performance! Following a tour to the East Coast, you can see them at the Shelburne Fiddle Contest!

Darci Que and Emily were busy all afternoon surrounded by children making buttons, balloon animals, etc. The library also offered crafts and entertainment. Thanks to the staff. The Colouring Contest, this year featuring a drawing of "Fountain Park", was well attended. The winners of the prizes were: 5 & under - Cole Robinson and Jacob Miller; 6 to 8 - Ava Bell, Kyle, and Emily Forester; 9 and over - Grace Squire and Rebecca Patton.



*The Ballagh Bunch entertains at Heritage Day*

The Heritage Booth was busy selling Stayner-notes, postcards and prints of Stayner Heritage buildings and raffle tickets.

This year's raffle will finish in December where winners will choose from: (1) a night at Dave Huskinson's Caboose B&B; (2) a sketch of Stayner Co-op Building by John Hindle; and (3) an acrylic painting of the Bell Tower, also by John Hindle. Tickets will be on sale at various places during the Fall, including the GNE.

Larry Culham, representing the Chamber of Commerce, sold 50-50 tickets throughout and the winner was Lynn Butler who was pleased to receive \$175.50.

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During the program, Catherine Walker gave several prizes: the longest married - Dale & Stan Nixon (62 years!); The oldest person attending - Marjorie Gorden at 96 years; the person travelling the farthest - Anna Maria Tiemans (Texas); and the person having the closest birthday - Catherine Allen.

This day would not be possible without the over 100 volunteers who planned, set up, worked throughout, and took down. Thanks to all, especially to the Clearview Firefighters.



*Some members of the Heritage Society: Barb Stransky, Caroline Muir, Susan Brockwell, Jacqueline Porretti, D.A. Millsap and Ferne Allen.*

And finally, we thank the many sponsors who helped make it all possible:

*Stayner Chamber of Commerce  
Wheeler/Spriggs Insurance  
Canadian Legion Branch 457  
Stayner Lions Club*

*Reinhart Foods                      Hanna Motors  
Aarden Chocolates                Walker Aggregates  
Rexall Drugs Helen Hanna    Dairy Queen*

And the Silent Auction sponsors:

*The Coffee Shop                Forget-Me-Not Flowers  
Georgian Bay Family Restaurant    Niftys  
Barb's Clothes Closet        Blue Water Fish & Chips  
Creemore Springs                Hanna Motors  
McKee Tire                        Stayner Burger  
Collingwood Toyota            Stayner Home Hardware  
The Tire Guys Hair by Sue    GNE  
Trinket or 2    Bob Perry    Car Quest  
Canadian Tire                    Knit 'N Kaboodle  
V&S - Stedmans                Blue Mountain Chrysler  
Stayner Auto Parts                Ken Jorgenson  
Marta's Greenhouses            Lafreniere's Auto Sales  
Lewis Motors                      Collingwood Fuels*

## **SUCCESSFUL TREE SALE IN MAY**

Another very successful event, since the last Newsletter, occurred on May 29th when SHS teamed with Stayner Garden Club to sell plants and trees. This experiment appears to be an improvement over previous tree sales held earlier in May when the weather was cooler and less predictable.

Stayner is becoming more beautiful each year as folk plant the new flowers and trees they purchase in the park each May!

## **STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY GOES TO THE FAIR**

Stayner Heritage Society enjoyed taking part in the GNE Fair Sept. 23-25. Our booth featured the RAFFLE we are conducting this Fall. (See details elsewhere in this newsletter).

We also exhibited the merchandise items we have available and secured some new members. The important aspect of taking part in the Fair is the opportunity to meet many people and to explain our mission in Stayner and surrounding area.

Thanks to the volunteers who put up, took down, and spent hours meeting the people!

## **AN EXCITING COMING EVENT!**

On Saturday, November 5th, Stayner Heritage Society is holding a special Remembrance Day Event at Jubilee Pres. Church on Main St, Stayner, at 9:30 AM.

A continental breakfast will welcome the guests.

Graham Trude, the featured speaker, will relate stories of his experience in Afghanistan and will share his musical talent.

Unfortunately, Sgt. Retired Phyllis Howald, is unable to attend but we will enjoy a DVD of her experiences in the Military, including Bosnia and the Golan Heights.

In addition, the "Georgian Girls" will also entertain.

The \$5.00 tickets will be sold in advance.

Call Catherine Walker 705-428-2719, Myrna Johnson 705-428-2540 or visit Barb's Clothes Closet.

## THE STORY OF THE TREES IN STATION PARK

*"I think that I shall never see  
A poem as lovely as a tree"*

It was the late thirties, times were tough, no money, but we still had dreams. There it was - a wedge of scrub land, covered with scrub trees. There was a drainage ditch running through it. No one wanted it. It did act as a buffer for the noisy steam trains, as they fired up steam for the next part of their journey. Scrub trees, not all. There were three maples that had promise of later beauty. The Station Master looked out his window all day long and saw possibilities of beauty. He and Fred Picot talked much of this. But, first, much work had to be done - the scrub trees removed, the ground leveled, etc. This being unwanted town property the work had to be done outside of the working day.

The Section Foreman, Fred Picot, decided he would get it done. So he went an hour early in the morning and worked at it and again two hours after his 8-hour working day. This upset Mrs. Grace Picot!

Her work schedule was messed up good! After all, she had five hungry kids to feed besides her husband. So breakfast was moved ahead and dinner was moved back - there was peace in the family again.

Who was this Fred Picot? He was born on the Island of Guernsey in the English Channel. He was one of eight children - four girls and four boys. His mother, whose husband was a soldier who deserted her, decided to send the four boys to the Bernardo Orphanage. From there, Fred was sent out to Canada as an orphan. He spent his teen years as cheap help on a farm.

The First World War came along and he escaped the drudgery by signing up in the army. He was sent back to Europe as a soldier. In England, he met his life-long partner, Grace. She left England as a war bride. When Fred came back to Canada they made a life for themselves. Fred worked on the railroad.

They moved wherever there was employment. The family finally settled in Stayner on John Street.

Back to the park. Six trees were ordered, and arrived by rail car, where they sat waiting for Fred's shovel to make a home for them. He dug and dug until all the trees were planted.

Now, today, what magnificent trees they are.

*"A tree that does in summer wear  
A nest of robins in it's hair"*

This park is the crown jewel of Stayner. And only God can make a tree, with the help of Fred Picot and his shovel, that is. Much has been added - a gazebo, a clock etc. and the town is proud of their park.

This is as factual as I can remember. Many years have passed but it only seems like yesteryear.

Ryerson Picot  
(my father's son)



*Ryerson, Fred and Grandson Ron Picot*

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Dorothy-Anne Millsap

Myrna Johnson

Peter Millsap

## AN UNFORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCE

Since 1998, you have been receiving the Stayner Heritage Society Newsletter twice a year. We have enjoyed bringing you news and stories from your home-town or the town you hold dear to your heart. Each time, you are invited to become a member of the Society to help in preserving Stayner's History.

Now, 13 years later, some of you have chosen to not become a member, or to let your membership lapse.

This message is to announce to those who have NEVER become a member or whose membership lapsed 5 or more years ago, that this will be the last letter you will receive, unless you decide that we are providing a valuable service and you wish to become a part of it.

We will be delighted to receive you as a member or a renewed member, starting now!!

## STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY RAFFLE

We are now conducting our Fall Raffle with 3 valuable prizes. There will be three tickets drawn - the first to be drawn will get a choice of the three prizes.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

The prizes are:

**\*A one-night stay** including breakfast at "The Caboose", an authentic railroad caboose situated on the property of Dave Huskinson near Creemore. This is a registered B&B.

**\*A framed ink drawing** of the Co-Op Building on Huron St. in Stayner, done by artist, John Hindle.

**\*An acrylic painting** of the Bell Tower, also painted by John Hindle.

## MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

*The following items make excellent gifts.*

**\*NEW\*Stayner Notes** - \$10.00 + \$3.00 shipping  
we now have 3 different sets.

The new set features 4 original drawings of Heritage buildings on Main St. by Anson Finlay.  
They are packaged with an SHS pen, suitable for gift-giving.

**\*NEW\*Postcards** - A drawing of the Co-op Buildings by John Hindle.

We now have several different postcard pictures. \$2.00

**\*NEW\* Prints** - 4in x 6in, suitable for framing of various Stayner landmarks. -The Fountain Park, The Gazebo, and the Hindle drawing of the Co-Op building. The prints are \$3.00 each.

**Christmas Ornaments** - Hand-crafted, wooden depicting Railroad Station, Bell Tower and Town Hall - \$10.00 + \$6.00 shipping.

**DVD's** (formerly in VCR format):

**"Memories of Our Town"** (Bill Ives and D.A. Millsap are narrators of the Roger Watson film taken in 1948)

**"The 125th Anniversary of Stayner in 1997"** (narrated by Brian Pounder, video by Maryanne Buie)

**"Stayner's Millennium Day, 2000"** (narrated by D.A. Millsap, video by Maryanne Buie and Gren Bray).

If you wish to order any or all of the DVD's, please send **\$15.00** for each (+\$2.00 shipping). Please stipulate which ones you prefer.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2010-2011

Chairperson - Jeff Parton .....	428-3537
Past-Chair - Kevin Jerry .....	428-5459
Vice-Chair - Bob Charlton .....	428-6943
Secretary - Myrna Johnson .....	428-2540
Treasurer - Carol Marsden .....	428-3945
Publicity - Dorothy-Anne Millsap .....	428-2917
Membership - Barb Stransky .....	445-4468
Program - Catherine Walker .....	428-2719
Ferne Allen .....	428-2137
June Holroyd.....	429-5075
Susan Brockwell .....	428-6062
Clearview Council Rep - Robert Walker .....	428-3335
Chamber Rep - Claire Weston .....	428-3736
Lions Club Rep - Pete Jerry .....	429-3269
Kinsmen Club Rep - Jayson Cox .....	428-0249
Legion Rep - Patty Conner .....	428-5106
Garden Club Rep - Pam Townsend.....	428-2306
Masonic Order Rep - John Hindle .....	428-2135
Eastern Star Rep - Richard Marsden.....	428-3935
Clearview Theatre Rep - Pam Townsend.....	428-2306
Stayner Collegiate Rep - Emily Walker.....	428-0216
History Rep - Jim Paul.....	428-2815
Community Reps - Shirley Parton .....	428-3902
Shirley Millsap .....	428-2074
Judy Cox .....	428-2061
Phyllis Perry.....	428-2916
Nominations - Barb Stransky, Pam Townsend	
Technical Advisor - Jack Craig.....	428-2323
Auditor - Sandra Squire .....	428-6316
Directors - Bob Charlton (2 yr), Lorne Stewart (2 yr), Pete Jerry (1 yr), Manfred Leimgardt (1 yr)	