

**STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
Fall 2008**

THE 12TH ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY

Since 1997, each year in early July, the Stayner Heritage Society has been greeted by perfect weather. And, more amazingly, each year, Catherine Walker, as Master of Ceremonies, has greeted the many who have attended with a top-rate show. This year was no exception. Kudos to her for a wonderful show each year.

Following the pancake breakfast put on by the Jubilee Pres. Choir, and the parade, organized by Manfred Leimgardt, once again, the **Beinn Gorm Highlanders**, and the **Classic Country Memories Band** set the tone for the show. The high quality was continued with the "exhortation" by Roy Wilson, **Town Crier**, and his wife, Kay and the **Georgian Girls** with their rendition of "O Canada".

Mayor Ken Ferguson, Mike Gennings, chair of Stayner Chamber of Commerce, and Stayner Heritage Society chair, Jeff Parton, all brought greetings.

The abundance of talent continued with **The Clearview Community Theatre Travelling Group** (led by Gren Bray), **Bob Gunns** on the harmonica (a Roy Thompson Hall Act) and **Colin Orr** (veteran keyboard artist with candlelight dinner-type music). **Joe Bothwell**, former winner in the Clearview Idols Contest, sang a few favourites. All of the performers presented a wide variety of music to the delight of the crowd.

One reason the show is so well received each year, is the Sound System, operated by Gren Bray and his helpers.

The **sponsors** who made the entertainment possible were: Reinhart Foods, Wheeler/Spriggs Insurance, Stayner Legion, Branch #457, Stayner Chamber of Commerce, Helen Hanna, and Re/Max Clearview Inc.

Elsewhere, there was lots of activity. Shirly Millsap, June Holroyd and the ladies of various Stayner Churches sold pies from their stand; Murray Lowe, Goldie Hendry and their helpers, entertained the crowd while they sold hotdogs and drinks; and Marlene and Tyler Davidson ran the popcorn and candy floss stand. Edythe Philipps, Barb Starnsky and Carolyn Muir gave information and sold merchandise, including the new DVD's from the "Heritage Booth" situated at the entrance to the park. Many signed the guest book!!!

Throughout the park, the children found several activities.

Diane Millsap with Eleri, Cam, and Adam looked after the **playland games** for little children. The **Colouring Contest**(operated by Gayle Favalaro and Jill Ruppert) winners were: **5 and under**, 1st-Claire Diana-Gonsalves; 2nd -Philip O'Brien; **6 - 8 Years**, 1st-Keegan Seddon, 2nd-Kyanna Bell; **9 and over**, 1st-Madeleine Jerry, 2nd-Shelby Rolling. The picture this year was "Stayner Public Library", drawn by Anson Finlay.

In the **Kiddie Tractor Pull** (donated by Stayner Rental and operated by Jamie Thurman and her daughter, Katrina) engraved medal winners were: **30-40 lbs**, 1st-Danell Miller, 2nd-William Wager, 3rd-Holly Lemieux; **40-50 lbs**, 1st -Oliver Ward, 2nd-Adam Millsap, 3rd-Ava Bell; **50-60 lbs**, 1st-Nathan Wager, 2nd-Kyle Bell, 3rd-Adelaide Bouchard.

Participants in the **Scavenger Hunt** (organized by Pete Millsap) all won Dairy Queen certificates.

A new feature this year, "**Meet U-Gene**", designed to instigate in children an interest in Family History, was conducted by Ferne Allen and Michelle McKenzie.

Darci-Que and Emily entertained children with balloon animals and button painting, while Jennifer Dutka did face painting.

Gretta Leighton won \$300. in the 50-50 draw, conducted by Mike & April Gennings, and Ethel Sharpe's daughter, Catherine, won the prize for coming the greatest distance from Alabama.

SHS thanks all those named above and many more, not named, who volunteered to help make this day such a success. Clearview Firefighters helped set up and take down, an invaluable service.

It was a wonderful day in the Friendly Town.

STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY SPECIAL EVENT!

In keeping with our desire to hold special programs for the public occasionally throughout the year, we are announcing an event for November 18th.

This is a unique presentation for this area. It also continues the celebrations of the 100th Anniversary of the publication of the most popular book ever written in Canada, **Anne of Green Gables**.

Linda and Jack Hutton from Bala first presented this evening in P.E.I. last summer and received great accolades.

We are privileged to be able to present it to the people of this area.

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES NIGHT

Tuesday, November 18, 2008,
7:30pm

Centennial United Church, 234 William Street,
Stayner, ONT

Admission: Adults - \$10.00

Seniors & Children - \$8.00

6 & Under - Free

Stayner Heritage Society is pleased to announce that in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the publication of Anne of Green Gables, arrangements have been made to have

Linda & Jack Hutton from the Bala Museum, present their recreation of the original Anne of Green Gables movie of 1919.

The evening will include live "Silent Movie" piano music accompaniment by Jack Hutton.

Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

There will be a display of Anne of Green Gables memorabilia.

This promises to be an evening of splendid entertainment for the whole family.

STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY WEBSITE

Stayner Heritage Society now has a website : **staynerheritagesociety.com** This site will be constantly updated and will contain many valuable pieces of information, including news about the Society, a list of our merchandise for sale, historical data and a "virtual museum". Here the reader will be able to read about the items we have stored until the proper facility can be found, and see pictures of the items. This will happen in due course!!

Here is a copy of the lead article to be found if you log on to the website:

History of The Stayner Heritage Society

"It all began in 1992 after the very successful Stayner Continuation School Reunion.

Many of the organizers of the Reunion felt we should have a permanent group in the community of Stayner which would concentrate on preserving the past. They knew that, as time has passed, much of our history has been lost.

An executive Committee was formed, consisting of representation from Stayner's organizations and Service Clubs. A constitution was drafted and application was made to the Ontario Historical Society. Incorporation was achieved in February, 1998.

The Committee began by commissioning an Archives Cabinet to be placed in Byng School to house records and memorabilia from Stayner's educational saga. Remaining funds were dedicated to the formation of a Heritage Society in hopes that a museum for the town would be possible at some future date.

The SHS participated in the beautification of Stayner Main Street and the refurbishing of the "Fountain Park" and "Station Park" both on Main Street in conjunction with the Millennium celebrations.

It also endeavoured to replace the Railway Station, lost in 1986. This structure could be a place for the museum. Through a decade, various plans to rebuild the Station did not materialize because suitable land could not be found. The Society has not given up on this project.

The Society attempted to purchase Stayner Small Hall (the former Orange Hall) but this endeavour was not successful.

Each year, a " Heritage Day" is held in Station Park . In 2006 and 2007, a Big Band Dance was held in the Arena, featuring the "Toronto All-Star Big Band". During each year, through a special "Remembrance Day" program in November, and "Black History Event" in February, SHS is able to be visible in the Community. Through various fund-raising projects, membership revenues and donations, SHS is able to meet obligations while planning for the acquisition of a Museum.

*The person we wish to remember in this newsletter is Dr. R. E. Ives. (The story was originally printed in a recent book, **Remember When...** published by McNulty Printing of Collingwood for the GNE).*

On November 5, in the year 1605, Guy Fawkes and 10 fellow conspirators made an abortive, gun-powder attempt to blow up the English houses of parliament. This attempt, having been successfully foiled, the date November 5th, know as "Guy Fawkes Day" is still celebrated by the English descendents.

On November 5th, in the year 1889 (exactly 284 years later), Raymond Ellesworth Ives was born in Colborne, Ontario, on the shores of Lake Ontario. He was the eldest of 7 children born to George and Emma Ives. His father was a farmer, a skilled craftsman and carpenter, specializing in building large, hip-roofed barns and fine bird's-eye maple furniture.

Ray's first occupation was that of a primary school teacher in a one-room school, where among his pupils were 2 of his younger siblings. He aspired to become a family doctor following in the footsteps of his great grandfather, Dr. Burr Ives, who, in the early 1800's was a saddle-back doctor treating patients in the towns and villages that dotted the primitive roads between Kingston and Toronto.

In 1914, he enrolled in the faculty of medicine at the University of Toronto, but in 1916, in an act of patriotism, he postponed his studies to join the Royal Canadian Artillery. In the Canadian expeditionary force he fought both in France and Holland, and was an integral part of Canada's triumph in the battle of Vimy Ridge.

In 1918, Raymond returned to complete his studies, graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in 1922, and began practice in Barrie, Ontario under the guidance of a Dr. Lewis. In 1924, he moved to Stayner, Ontario and for the following 50 years, in the town of friendly people, he practiced his medical profession.

In the span of his 50 years of practice, many of his adventures, both successes and failures, have become legendary! All who knew him would agree that sedate, speed-limit driving was not one of his strong points. Lorne Wyant, a Dodge dealer and fellow veteran, and later, Roger Watson, a Chevrolet dealer and fellow photographer, both rubbed their hands gleefully as "Doc Ives rolled another one"!!

His love of flowers and photography energized him. Yearly exhibits of gladioli at the C.N.E. were a must for some years. As president of the Ontario Horticultural Society, he was honoured to plant a tree in Kew Garden, London, to celebrate his presidency. In addition, he was

a driving force behind the province proclaiming the trillium to become Ontario's official flower.

Most remembered and beloved of all his adventures, was his willingness to see his patients (with or without pay) at any time, in his office, or in their homes. Many a story has been told of the stormy, winter trips he made on snow shoes or by horse and cutter to deliver babies, or treat the flu, pneumonias or other infectious diseases. He truly loved his patients and they loved him!

He was, I suspect, secretly proud to have had a daughter who became a nurse, and a son who became a doctor. Over the years, he was even prouder when he could boast that he had two grandsons who also had joined the medical fraternity.

On May 30, in the year 1431, shortly after noon, Joan D'Arc a young French patriot, was burned at the stake as a heretic - an obscene, painful death.

On May 30, in the year 1981, (exactly 550 years later) shortly after noon, Dr. Raymond Ellesworth Ives also died - a serene, peaceful death. He lived life to the fullest - "A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS"!

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