

# THE MADAWASKA HIGHLANDER

Volume 1 – Issue 6

PRICELESS

October/November 2004

## Black Donald Mines

By Bill Graham, Editor

At one time, a vibrant community named Black Donald Mines flourished in Brougham Township. Today there is no evidence of it—it has been literally removed from the face of the earth. The name Black Donald is now used for a lake but once referred to a mining village located on the shores of White Fish Lake, 13 kilometres from Calabogie. Like the village, Whitefish Lake was also removed from the map with the creation of the hydro dam at Mountain Chutes in the mid-1960s. The back water from the dam flooded 8500 acres and placed both the villages of Black Donald Mines and White Fish Lake under 80 feet of water.

All that is left are an historical plaque, a few old photographs; a book entitled *The Black Donald Story* by Rita Quilty and the memories of a few people who lived there. One of those people is Garry Ferguson who was born there and has many boyhood memories of the place. He shares some of those memories in an accompanying article.

When you look out over Centennial Lake, which was formed from the back flow of the hydro dam, it is hard to believe that hundreds of people lived and farmed on land that is now lake bottom. Local ghost towns, like Glenfield, can be visited and a feeling for what the vil-

lage was like can be imagined. But no one will ever visit Black Donald Mines. It is lost forever.

### BLACK DONALD CREEK

Before Black Donald Mines and the village that sprung up around it, there was the settlement of Black Donald Creek. The village was created by the river drivers who built their shanties and homesteads on the shores of the Madawaska and Whitefish Lake. The assessment rolls from as early as 1871 show that Black Donald Creek was probably a French speaking village. When the graphite mine opened around the turn of the century many left the river for the less dangerous work in the mines. It is another lost village.

### BORN FROM GRAPHITE

The village of Black Donald Mines existed because of the discovery of a large and high grade seam of graphite that was discovered in the vicinity of Whitefish Lake in 1889. The story goes that a homesteader named John Moore literally tripped over rock containing graphite while searching for his cows. It took until 1895 to interest “money people”, but in that year Moore sold the mineral and surface rights to the Honourable George McKindsey for the princely sum of \$4,000. This made Moore and his

Continued on page 3

## Returning to your feeder



Photo: David Lester

## Is Calabogie an eco-tourism destination?

By Bill Graham

When thinking eco-tourism my mind turns to Costa Rica or exploring the foothills of the Himalayas, but I definitely don't think of Calabogie. However, I would be wrong. While the term eco-tourism once implied more exotic destinations, now it is a category of tourism called Eco-Tourism and Adventure Tourism. This new perspective on the tourism industry is now sufficiently established that Industry Canada has entered the fray and is establishing standards, running focus groups and suggesting enhanced hospitality and business training among other suggestions to solidify this emerging industry.

Yes, Calabogie and area has huge potential to become an eco-tourism destination, but to do so it must prove its potential through a ‘needs analysis’ study. These studies can be very expensive; costing up to \$40,000 and the municipality certainly doesn't have that kind of extra money lying around.

However, Calabogie and area has lucked out and through chance, good networking and the suitability of our location,

the municipality is having a ‘needs analysis’ study conducted at almost no cost to ratepayers. Such a study is essential for the municipality to get the government grants to develop an eco-tourism industry in Greater Madawaska.

### A LUCKY OPPORTUNITY

Without Don Beckett, a local environmentalist, this opportunity might never have been realized. While at the Trailhead Show at Carleton University in March of this year, Don met Val Bishop who is a professor at Sir Stanford Fleming College (Haliburton Campus) and who runs the Eco-tourism Management Program at the College. After a lengthy conversation it emerged that there was possible mutual benefit; her students needed a project to demonstrate what they were learning and the Township of Greater Madawaska could benefit from a ‘needs analysis’ study on this up-and-coming trend in tourism.

Don and Val went their separate ways with each of them committed to getting the project moving forward. Val wanted

Continued on page 2

## Have a happy Thanksgiving



Illustration: Ernie Jukes

# Leave well enough alone

## A message from Water Watch Association

### THE ONTARIO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT 2002 (REG. 170/03)

Under Ontario's Safe Drinking Water Act, owners of drinking water systems must comply with stringent water quality and operating standards.

If you own or operate a business or public service facility of any kind that relies on its own source of water, then you are forced to comply with Regulation 170/03's costly water test reporting and treatment requirements. Mobile home parks, marinas, recreational camps, campgrounds, athletic facilities, public washrooms, small hotels, motels, restaurants, gas stations, bed and breakfasts, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and other places of worship are examples of the establishments subject to the regulation. So are children's camps, schools, hospitals, health care facilities, delivery agent care facilities and any social care facilities. In short, any place where the general public has access to a drinking water system, such as a drinking water tap, etc.

You are also subject to the regulation if you own or operate a system that supplies water for a seasonal or permanent community of six or more residences.

### Facts about...

#### ...CHLORINE

Chlorine is a controversial chemical added to water to make it safe to drink. It reacts to organic matter that threatens our environment including septic systems. It is currently being studied as it is causing concern with our air. Europe is banning it. Health Canada reports that by 1998, epidemiological studies showed association between the absorption of chlorinated water and THMs (trihalomethanes) and cancer of the bladder and colon as well as adverse pregnancy outcomes such as miscarriages, birth defects and low birth weight.

#### ...TESTING

Previously, our industries and institu-

tions typically submitted water samples at a minimum frequency of twice per season and as often as once per month throughout the entire year, to a local county health unit at no cost to the operator. Reg. 170/03 requires the testing of water as often as once per week at a cost ranging from \$50.00 to as much as \$500.00 per sample, depending on the accessibility of the nearest approved testing laboratory, simply just to comply with the testing requirements of Reg. 170/03.

#### ...SYSTEM COSTS

Analyses have placed capital compliance costs in a range of \$9,000.00 to \$150,000.00 depending on the equipment already in place and depending on the location of the establishment.

#### REMEMBER WALKERTON

But remember also that the 7 deaths and the illnesses of more than 2300 people, did not come about as the result of the absence of a chlorination facility, indeed, Walkerton had chlorinated water.

Rather, the tragedy occurred as a result of human error at the Walkerton Treatment Plant and lack of adequate monitoring by the relevant provincial government departments.

Unbelievably, the Minister of Environment has decreed that in order to ensure that potable water be available throughout the province, water must be treated and chlorinated, despite the fact that rural Ontario has had safe potable water. Is it not ironic that the only deaths occurred where treated chlorinated water was the only option available?

*Editor's note: Water Watch Association is an association of people concerned about the impact of Regulation 170/03 on the economy and lives of the people of rural Ontario. If you would like to know more, visit their website at [www.waterwatch.ca](http://www.waterwatch.ca) or contact them by email at [info@waterwatch.ca](mailto:info@waterwatch.ca).*

## Is Calabogie an eco-tourism destination?

*Continued from page 1*

to consult with her students, who would be conducting the study. She wanted their agreement that a study in Greater Madawaska was the one they wanted to conduct. Don wanted to get CABA and Council, through the Economic Development Committee, on board.

Subsequently, a partnership including CABA, the Township, the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association and Calabogie Peaks jointly sponsored the project. Because of this strong cooperation, because the area has such potential and because the municipality has no money to ever pay for a study like this, the project was accepted by all parties. Four teams of

students will begin arriving in late September and will complete their work in early December.

### ARRIVING TEAMS OF STUDENTS

Each team will inventory and assess a sector of the current Greater Madawaska Tourism Region and its impact on the market. This is the product development aspect of their work.

- Team One – Current Attraction Resources - natural, cultural, adventure, themed & historical tourism product.
- Team Two - Current Food, Accommodation and Shopping Resources

- Team Three – Current Transportation, Information Services, Access Points and Public Service resources.
- Team Four – Current Local skill base, Financial and Tourism Organizational resources.

In addition, each team will research and audit a sector of the current tourism market of the Greater Madawaska Tourism Region and its relationship to the current and potential eco-tourism and adventure tourism market.

- Team One – Tourists focusing on eco or nature based experiences.
- Team Two - Tourists focusing on

- adventure based experiences.
- Team Three – Tourists focusing on Cultural/Art/Historical based experiences.
- Team Four – Tourists focusing on general recreation, shopping or event experiences.

As an added benefit to all, Trent University will manage the project. Watch for later issues of the Highlander for the result of their study. This report might be the key to future development in our area and a new perception on how Calabogie and area is viewed — that being an eco-tourism destination.



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# Black Donald Mines

Continued from page 1

wife very well off compared to their neighbours. However, the very next day McKindsey sold the same rights and land for \$42,000 to a group of men who would form the Ontario Graphite Company. The interest of "money people" had definitely been engaged.

Graphite is used for lead pencils, stove polish, metallic paints and especially as a lubricant for heavy machinery. The graphite at Black Donald was one of the largest deposits in North America and was extremely pure—84% pure. The graphite was also in the flake and compact form at one site; which was very unusual. Graphite mines usually produced one form or the other, but not both.

During the first year of production, the Ontario Graphite Company produced 100 tons of refined graphite and 200 tons of crude. In these first few years, the company treated the ore chemically at their plant in Ottawa. However, in 1902 a three-story refinery was built at the Black Donald site and a 400 horsepower generation plant was constructed two miles to the south-west on the Madawaska River. It is amazing to consider that the village of Black Donald Mines had electrical power for the mine and all the residents in 1902 and electrical power didn't reach the neighbouring townships of Griffith and Matawatchan until the early 1950s.

## A SELF-SUFFICIENT TOWN

According to the *Canadian Foundryman* in 1919, there were 77 buildings in Black Donald Mines. They included a three-story refinery, boiler house, compressor house, hoist house, warehouses, a blacksmith shop, machine shop, garage, three barns, a granary, unloading storehouse, superintendent's house, kitchen, dining room, three sleeping houses for the single men and 36 dwelling houses for the married men and their families. There were 118 workers at the mines.

There was also a commissary building, which handled food and supplies, a barber shop, public school house and a Catholic church. For entertainment in later years, the village boasted an amusement hall where plays were staged and motion pictures were screened. The seating was removed for the Saturday night dance. It became a magnet for attracting the local farmers and homesteaders from miles around.

## MANY UPS AND DOWNS

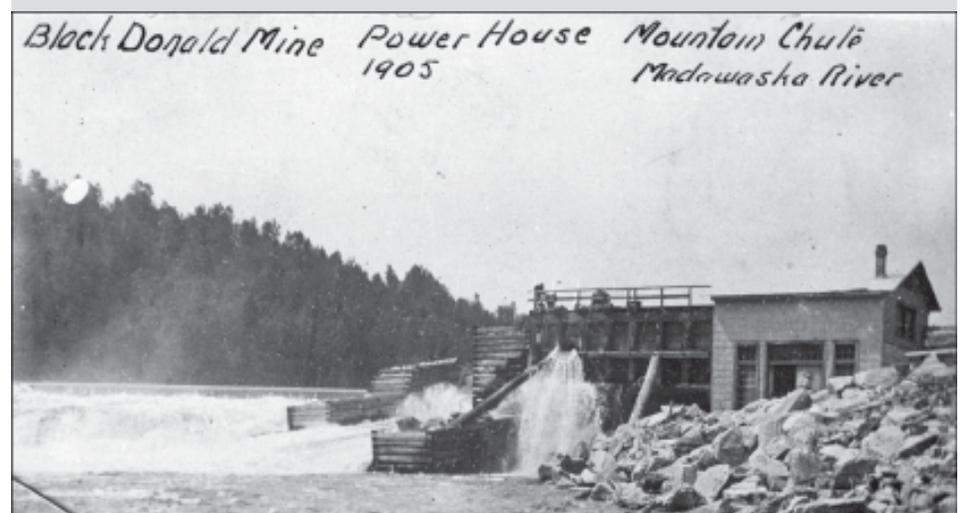
With over a half century of mining in its history the village of Black Donald Mines had many ups and downs. The years of war during 1914-1918 and 1939-1945, were good years for Black Donald since graphite was in increased demand. However, there were other years when the mine was closed seemingly for good, only to be reopened when the demand for graphite rose. There were other years when the mine, which followed the seam of ore right under Whitefish Lake, caved in. Collapses in the mine happened in 1902, 1905 and again in 1950. The cave in of 1950 sealed the fate of the village of Black Donald Mines. Luckily it happened on a Sunday and no one was killed. Within two years mining operations came to a standstill and without the mine as an employer the town also diminished.

Gradually the town was deserted and Ontario Hydro moved in with plans to buy property for a multi-million dollar dam project. They recognized the potential for hydro electric power that was demonstrated in 1902 at the same site. From 1959 onward Ontario Hydro implemented their plan for the Mountain Chutes dam. Property that was to be flooded by the headpond of the dam was purchased, buildings were bulldozed and the land was cleared.

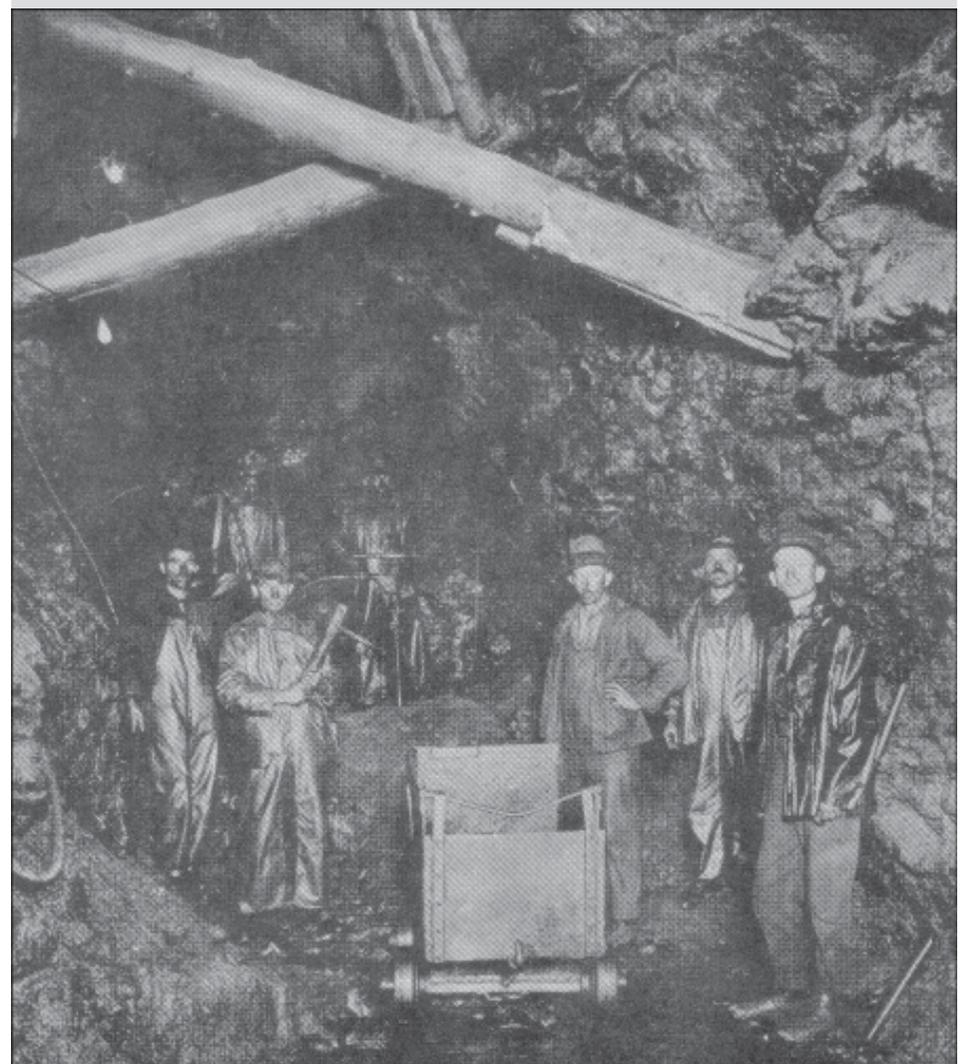
When the dam was built and flooding commenced it took six months to fill and enlarge Whitefish Lake. Eighty-five hundred acres were flooded, in some places to a depth of 150 feet. In 1967, the new lake was renamed Centennial Lake in honour of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A new landscape had been created, but Black Donald Mines was lost forever.



Mill block at Black Donald Mine (1905)



Power house for Black Donald line at Mountain Chute on the Madawaska



Right stope of mine 700 feet from mouth (circa 1934)

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Special thanks to Adam Copeland, Dorothy Jamie and Rita Quilty.

## Memories of Black Donald

By Garry Ferguson

A plaque is the only reminder of an era when Canada was a major producer of graphite. The village of Black Donald, built around the mining operation on the shores of Whitefish Lake in the Madawaska Valley, was burned down, obliterated to make way for the headpond of a hydro project.

The waters of Black Donald Lake, part of a larger reservoir raised by Ontario Hydro, have added eighty feet to the depth of Whitefish and cover the spot where our house once stood.

In 1889, a farmer named John Moore discovered graphite ore on his land. Mining operations began in 1896 and ran sometimes intermittently, through a depression and two world wars. A village, with a company boarding house and a store, grew up around the operation, but the digging ended on a November Sunday in 1950. With a roar, heard throughout the village, the lake smashed through the roof of the pit. Fortunately, the miners had observed the Sabbath so no one was killed.

My maternal grandparents earned a down payment for their farm by working at that boarding house in its early days. My father was working in the mine when the stork appointed me the first "new" 1937 addition to the village. Since my birthday is in August, I can only speculate that the good folk of Black Donald stuck mainly to the fishing and fighting that year. R.F. Bunting, owner and president of the graphite company drove to the Renfrew hospital to bring me home and terrified my mother by insisting on carrying her precious firstborn out to his car.

We left Black Donald before I became interested in more than warm milk and dry diapers but moved back again in 1943 when my father took a job in the refinery. It was here that I had my first introduction to book learning at the one-room schoolhouse. In the spring of 1945, we moved away again.

Given my ties to this place and the memories relating to it – I still remember every house and the people who lived in it – you can bet I was delighted when I was given a book called *The Black Donald Story*. This well-researched record of an era, written by Rita Quilty, is an interesting mix of historical narrative, anecdotes and photos. It not only provides an insight into the graphite industry as it existed then, but portrays the joys and hardships of our lives. It didn't really matter that we were all poor. We didn't know it.

I don't imagine that any of the older kids in the photos, including Rita, remember much about a little white-haired ankle

biter who got into his share of trouble. I remember though, her older brother hauling my young brother out of a hole filled with water. Probably saved his life. I also remember her older sister catching several of us skinny-dipping at the Swimming Rock. We tried to submerge, but since we were afraid of depths beyond a foot we couldn't have been too successful.

The book permitted me to put faces to the names of people who were my parent's best friends during their *first* stay at The Mines and to that of a man who went back into an evacuated pit to carry my father out after he'd been knocked unconscious by falling rocks.

There are pictures of Irving Moore, grandson of the man who made the first find, and of George Kelly. These patient men, along with Leonard Leclair, allowed a mob of us urchins to ride on their sleighs as they went about their work. Irving was the milkman, so he was stuck with us during his morning rounds. George and Leonard, who did hauling jobs for the company, ended up with us in the afternoons. Those people who we considered old now look so young in those photos. The soldiers going off to war, such as Walter Brydges the boy from next door, who never came back, were, in truth, children.

Canadian communities often change so gradually that they serve as constants against which errant natives may return to gauge their own personal change. It is possible for several consecutive generations to share a relatively unaltered setting for their childhood memories. For the expatriates of Black Donald, this setting exists only in the mind's eye. There will be no sharing with succeeding generations. This realization seems to have turned them into rebels against time and circumstances. They had an historic marker erected and maintain contact with each other by holding periodic reunions.

When the last of the Mines people are remembered only through faded images in musty photograph albums, Rita's book might be all that tells of our time in this place. It's somehow reassuring to know that scrawled on some corner of our history's austere wall will be the message; "We were here."

**Advertising for  
Christmas?**

**Next issue of  
*The Highlander*:**

**December 1st**

## MOUNTAIN CHUTE

Ontario Hydro had been patiently awaiting that fateful day in November of 1950, when the final cave-in occurred at Black Donald Mines. Having discovered the great potential that the nearby Madawaska River held at the point known as Mountain Chute, they were elated. The last natural site for a huge dam and generating station on the Madawaska River could now become a reality.

In 1947, Hydro had entered into an agreement with the Black Donald Graphite company, whereby the company would sell their properties to Hydro when the supply of graphite ore was depleted. With news of the cave-in reaching Hydro's head office in Toronto, they immediately set the wheels in motion for the formidable task ahead of them.

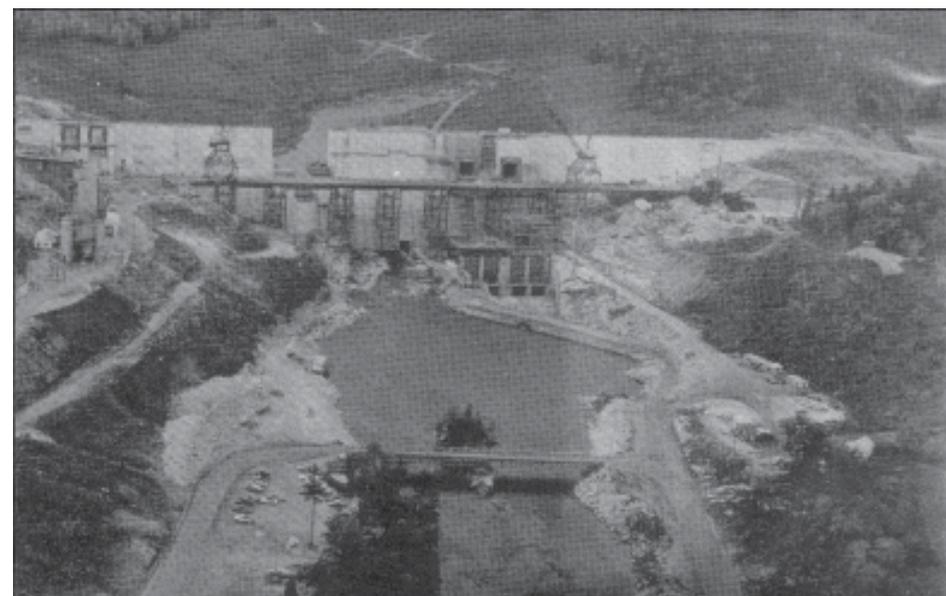
Soon, there were airplanes, helicopters and huge land vehicles descending on the area. Diamond-drillers re-confirmed their earlier findings and surveyors double-checked their maps. It took several years to complete expropriation of privately held properties around Whitefish Lake and along the Madawaska towards the village of Griffith.

By the early 1960's, Hydro began clearing land to the proposed high-water mark. All trees had been cut and great fires were burning daily. Houses; out-buildings, cottages and farm houses went up in smoke. Black Donald Mines literally disintegrated before our eyes.

By 1966, with the dam completed and the generating station ready for operation, the task of filling the 8,500 acres of the headpond had begun. The depth of the new body of water reached 150 feet in some locations, Whitefish Lake level was raised by more than 80 feet. The newly created headpond was named Centennial Lake and stretched for more than 22 miles upstream along the Madawaska River. The easterly portion of this new body of water was officially named Black Donald Lake and is now the summer home for many Canadian and American tourists.

At a final cost of \$31.3 million dollars, the first waters cascaded through the sluiceway on March 26, 1967, and Mountain Chute Generating Station became a reality.

**Source:** *The Black Donald Story* by Rita Quilty, 1990.



**Mountain Chute dam under construction (Photo courtesy of Ontario Hydro)**



**Mountain Chutes Generating Station (aerial – 1978)  
(Photo courtesy of Ontario Hydro)**

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# THE MADAWASKA HIGHLANDER

## Looking Back...

### Fate of Matawatchan Hall in doubt

For the second year running, the fate of the Matawatchan Hall will be determined by a second Annual General Meeting. The recent first attempt at a meeting with residents to inform them of the accomplishments of last year's board and to elect a new hall board and executive for the coming year, failed when half of the board was absent from the meeting and only six residents attended.

During the previous week, Hall board President, Doug Vasey, announced the Annual General Meeting in a letter mailed to all residents of Griffith and Matawatchan. This meeting, which all were encouraged to attend, was scheduled for September 15 at 7:00 pm.

The identical circumstance occurred last year when only four residents showed up for the first meeting. A subsequent letter from then President Al Pennock made it very clear that without replacements for retiring board members, the Matawatchan Hall would shut down. This would mean no dances, no suppers

and no private use of the Hall in the coming year. That second letter brought out around thirty residents and a full board of eight individuals took responsibility for the operation of the Hall.

It's *déjà vu* with the fate of the Hall again in doubt. At minimum, a board of five is required to legally operate. From the current executive, four have stated their willingness to continue for a second year.

Hall President Doug Vasey outlined just a few accomplishments of the board last year. These included renovations to the interior, establishment of a very popular weekly "Euchre and Darts" night and application for an impending permanent liquor license. A licensed outdoor patio was planned for the coming year. It would be a shame to lose all this due to lack of interest.

*A second meeting, which will determine the fate of the Hall, has been scheduled for Monday October 4 at 7:00 pm.*

### Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Residents of the Burnstown, Calabogie and Arnprior areas, as well as anyone who cares about the Madawaska River, should be alarmed and concerned about the proposed tire processing plant in Burnstown.

I have been involved with the group *Waste Not! Burnstown* since it was first formed on August 12, when 23 people met in my living room to discuss questions and concerns about the plant. Since then, our group has grown to include more than 120 residents.

Reduxtec Technologies Inc. has applied to the Ontario Ministry of Environment for a permit which would allow the company to store more than 5,000 tires on the site. The facility plans to shred, chip and grind used tires.

You might expect that the notion of tire recycling would be seen as a positive contribution to the problem of scrap tire management, and the members of *Waste Not! Burnstown* readily agree that there is a need for this type of facility.

However, after researching the issue extensively, we believe that the proposed site is the wrong place for a tire processing plant. Instead of locating in

an agricultural, residential and tourist area, this type of plant belongs in an urban setting, in an industrial park, where the proper infrastructure and resources are readily available to support this type of operation.

Reduxtec's application to the Ministry of Environment contains misleading and inaccurate information:

- The owner did not consult with adjacent landowners, other than to send a letter dated August 3, as required by the Ministry of Environment.
- He did not consult openly with Council, as was suggested in the application; in fact, the Mayor has stated that Council was unaware until August 17 that the company had applied for a Certificate of Approval for a Waste Disposal Site.
- The map included with the application did not show distances to neighbouring residences, and was drawn in a way that would suggest those houses are further away than they actually are. (The nearest residence is 8 metres from the property line.)
- The application indicates that 'residual waste' from the operations, in the amount of one tonne daily, would be sent to the McNab/Braeside landfill site, even though



Black Donald Mines overlooking Whitefish Lake

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Council has indicated they will not agree to accept any industrial waste from the facility.

These flaws in an application submitted to the government seem to suggest that the owner is not being completely honest and forthright about his intentions.

Reduxtec's owner, Oral Girotti, has not attended any public meetings, including Township Council meetings, to talk about his plans for the operation. Instead, he has sent a representative, who has responded to many questions by saying, "I'm not authorized to answer that."

In a recent media article, Mr. Girotti gave a tour of the site to a reporter, and pointed out a sprinkler system, which would constantly mist the machinery while it's operating, in order to lubricate the blades and keep everything cooled down. He also pointed out a secondary water system which would hose down the entire device if necessary in case of emergency.

I was surprised to read about this constant use of water during operations, because at the McNab/Braeside Council meeting on August 17, Mr. Girotti's representative told us that this would be a "dry operation," and no water would be used.

We have asked about drainage facilities at the plant, but the representative was unable to answer our questions. According to our information (from a previous employee at Hoffman Concrete), the industrial waste water from the main building goes through a drain in the floor, flows under the property, and empties into the creek which flows through Burnstown and into the Madawaska River.

No drainage studies have been done by Reduxtec. If the company disputes our claim about the drainage system, they should be prepared to pay for the studies which would prove that we are incorrect.

Continued on following page

## Letters to the Editor (cont'd)

We have asked that Council impose several restrictions on the site plan for this facility, before it is allowed to begin operations. We believe that our Councillors have a responsibility to ensure the health and safety of the residents and the environment.

The restrictions we have proposed would help prevent problems such as stockpiling of tires, tire fires due to arson, toxic run-off from fire-fighting activities should a fire occur, contamination of groundwater and well water, and contamination of the Madawaska River.

We have also requested that the company be required to post a substantial financial bond in order to cover full clean-up of the site in the case of business failure, and/or to cover any costs related to fire-fighting, contamination of groundwater, well water, air or soil.

The City of Ottawa is in the process of trying to clean up a similar tire processing facility in Greely, where more than 120,000 tires have accumulated on a piece of property about one-fifth the size

of the Burnstown site. The Ottawa Fire Department has drawn up detailed evacuation plans for the communities of Greely and Metcalfe.

The restrictions we have proposed are the same types of restrictions which the City of Ottawa is now trying to impose on the Greely plant. We can only hope that our Township Councillors have the foresight and wisdom to implement these measures before the plant begins operations, to prevent the same kinds of problems that are now occurring in Greely.

I encourage your readers to become involved in our efforts to preserve the Burnstown area as a tourist destination and a safe rural community.

For more information:  
[murfymike@hotmail.com](mailto:murfymike@hotmail.com) or phone 432-9383.

**Michaela Murphy**

.....

*Dear Sir:*

While staying at the Swiss Inn with my 86 year old mother on August 2, 2004, I happened to pick up your newspaper (Volume 1 – Issue 5) and proceeded to read while we were waiting for our driver.

Much to my surprise, on page 13 was THE BOOYAW article. Well I started to read and read the whole article to my mother. The reason I was so interested in the article was, when I was growing up I'd ask my Mom what are we having for dinner and her reply was BOOYAW and as I grew older and my sister and I would get together the odd time and she'd ask what are you making for supper, and I would reply BOOYAW.

Never did we know what it was, but it sounded pretty gross and we'd always laugh. My sister passed away this April and I wish she was here to read your article for we truly enjoyed it. Now I

know what BOOYAW is. I had to share this with you.

Your newspaper was very interesting as well. Thanks again for making my/our day.

Sincerely,

**Bev Svarc, Belle River, Ontario**

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# GRIFFITH-MATAWATCHAN NEWS

By Garry Ferguson

## Still Wasting Away In M & G

Gary Guilmette, our waste site attendant – who’s still eligible and still smiling – asked me to pass along his gratitude to the good folks of the area. Not only do they drop around to socialize and brighten his days at the Matawatchan and Griffith sites, but by observing the sorting and recycling guidelines, they have made his task much easier. “An awesome summer. A piece of cake once everyone ended up with the same schedule,” he said. Gary’s helpfulness and cheerful disposition are probably the major factors in gaining the cooperation of patrons, whether they come to socialize, shop or just throw things away. The recycled-gift shops, those areas that Gary has set aside to display rescued treasures - there for the taking - are still in operation and doing a brisk business. Since Christmas is just around the corner, you may wish to obtain that unique gift for that relative who has everything. I’m sure that Gary would be happy to expedite your holiday shopping by suggesting items from the large inventories on hand.

## New Faces In Old Pulpits

Looks like our group paranoia was unjustified. Though several members of our local clergy left or retired at the same time, we can now tell ourselves that this was purely coincidence. The empty pulpits have been refilled. It really wasn’t due to deodorant breakdown after all.

Linda Winton who is in her final year of studies at Queens Theological School, Queens University, Kingston, took up her position as Student Minister for the triple charge of Matawatchan, Denbigh and Schutt United Churches on July 01,

2004. She will become Reverend Linda next spring. Her previous posting was a three-year stint at North Augusta, Ontario. (Go on, look it up on a map).

Daughter Jessica is a Halifax artist presently working on a CBC children’s TV show called Poko. Son Alistair lives in Hamilton and is working on an Engineering Degree at Ryerson University in Toronto. Linda was born in Toronto and raised in Port Hope, Ontario.

Reverend Don Oldford, whose last position was with the New Connections Ministry, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation organization in Renfrew, began duties at Vennachar Free Methodist on August 09, 2004.

Previous to their Renfrew posting, Reverends Don and Jessie Oldford – both ordained and both holding Masters Degrees in counselling – served as counsellors for an interfaith marriage, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre in Barrie Ontario. Before their time as counsellors, they spent 16 years as missionaries in Central and East Africa where they became fluent in Swahili. Don and Jessie, who have two adult sons, were born in Newfoundland. They now live in Vennachar.

Reverend Dave Tubby, after 18 years as a Co-Director – along with wife Marie - at ‘Frontier Trails’ children’s camp near Eganville, became the pastor at Hilltop Pentecostal on September 12, 04. Before transferring to Eganville, both served in the same positions at the Frontier Trails Camp in Fernleigh, Ontario. Only a daughter, from a family of five boys and one girl, has not flown the nest, though two sons have returned to work

at the camp; one on a part-time basis and the other full-time. Marie was born in Frankford and Reverend Dave in Fernleigh. They will continue to live in their home near Eganville.

## Griffith Ball Tournament

This from Karen Wagstaff: A great big thank you to all the ball players and volunteers who helped make the Griffith Ball Tournament a big success. Tremendous fun was had by all, including the sore, stiff, bruised players that couldn’t walk on Sunday.....some I hear not till Wednesday! Monies raised at the tournament will be going towards the purchase of “The Jaws of Life”, a piece of equipment badly needed by our dedicated firemen. The women’s auxiliary will hold its first meeting on Monday, October 4, 2004, 7:00 pm at Pine Valley Restaurant. Anyone wishing to attend please call Karen Wagstaff at 333-1768.

## Drop-in Centre Back In Operation

For the benefit of those readers who never make it to the “Classifieds” I am including a note of appreciation from Boyd MacDonald – proprietor of the Matawatchan-Vennachar version of

“The Golden Arches.” Boyd asked that I convey his gratitude to all those who provided transportation, tended to his chores, gave moral support, lavished food on him, piled wood, visited him, prayed for him and for the many other acts of kindness during his recent hospitalization and recovery. “You find out who your friends are at times like this,” he said. “And I found out that I have a lot of them.” The coffee pot is back in full operation.

## Matawatchan Hall

As was the case last year, the board found it necessary to make a second run at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Due to lack of attendance, including board members, at the meeting attempted for September 15, 2004, another date was scheduled for a second attempt at the AGM. Monday, October 07, 2004 at seven p.m. is the scheduled date and time. For any interested in any of the functions – including the Euchre and Darts Soirées – this may be the last chance to keep the hall open. Those who can’t help in any way can show their support by coming out to fill the empty seats.

<p align="center"><b>4th Annual CALABOGIE ARTFEST</b></p> <p align="center">At the</p> <p align="center"><b>CALABOGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE</b>  <b>574 Mill St., CALABOGIE</b>  <b>Saturday October 2 and 3, 2004</b>  <b>From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily</b></p> <p align="center"><b>FREE ADMISSION</b></p> <p align="center"><b>For information call: Dwyene MacNabb at 613-752-2438 or Georgette Reed 613-752-0928</b></p>
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# Denbigh Checking In !!!

By Evelyn Inwood

## WHERE, OH WHERE HAS THE SUMMER GONE?

The Big Orange buses are rolling again, transporting our children to their schools to begin another year of their lives, learning and growing in the best way possible for each one.

Some of the trees have started to change from their summer colours to their autumn colours and soon they will be so beautiful you will want to look often and marvel at the wonderful display.

The Olympics have been over for a few weeks and all the excitement of all the athletes working so hard to win the gold for Canada.

What great summer activities to remember as we make our way in time into the next months of Halloween and Christmas!

## FROM THE SCHOOL

A big WELCOME back to all the students at Denbigh Public School. The 2004-2005 school year will be an exciting year.

We welcome to our school-Miss Christine Oastler. Miss Oastler will provide French instruction to our Grade 4-6 students, as well as being the Primary teacher for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2. Welcome back to all returning staff- teachers, secretary, educational assistants, custodian and bus drivers.

## FROM THE LIBRARY

### Library Hours:

**Flinton:**  
Wed. - 10-12 noon  
Tues. - 6-8 p.m.  
Sat. - 9-12 noon

### Denbigh:

Tues.-9-11 a.m.  
Thurs. - 6-8 p.m.  
Sat. - 9-12 noon

CEO, Librarian for Flinton is:

· **June Phillips** 336-1091

Librarian for Denbigh is:

· **Sandra Lloyd** 333-1426

Note: Library Board meets the 4th Thursday of every month - (call CEO for details).

The Librarians invite anyone who wishes to visit the Library and see for yourself the great supply of books that are available.



## FROM MY ‘RETIRED TEACHERS’ NEWSLETTER

### WAYS TO LOVE A CHILD

- Laugh and dance and sing together \*\*
- Understand \*\*
- Allow them to love themselves \*\*
- Ask their opinions \*\*
- Say yes as often as possible \*\*
- Say no when necessary \*\*
- Apologize \*\*
- Fly kites together \*\*
- Lighten up \*\*
- Believe in possibilities \*\*

# Greater Madawaska Literary Matters

By Mary-Joan Hale

We had a record summer at the Greater Madawaska Public Library. The numbers of new patrons, Internet use, books added to the shelves, traffic and circulation are way up. Both children's programmes were well attended. It is great to see folks from the whole of Greater Madawaska coming to use the facilities. We welcomed visitors from all over the States and Canada. One gentleman from Connecticut was so impressed with our area he sent us a donation. Many of the new people moving here came to visit the library as part of their assessment of the area. Some even got their library cards before the sod was turned for their new homes. What a tribute to the six ladies who envisioned a library years ago!

The volunteer fire fighters paid us a visit in August and delighted the children with demonstrations of their equipment. All enjoyed the chance to sit behind the large steering wheel and try the siren. Chief Naismith and crew provided a very educational experience for the youngsters. If your children participated, please contact the library with an email address if you wish to receive a copy of their picture.

The younger children planted trees, studied weather, made windmills, fire hats, and turtles. The older ones participated in the TD Summer Reading Club. The theme of "Dragons" inspired many activities. They started to write a fairy tale, which will be continued in an after-school club to start later in the fall. The quest has begun and I cannot wait to see how many dangers will be overcome before they all live happily ever after!

Besides books, the library offers a variety of magazines to satisfy interests from gardening, geography and outdoor activities so dear to our rural population. The children's area provides Owl, Chickadee and others.

If you lack a home computer, we have five on-line CAP computers from Industry Canada and the Ministry of Culture, Ontario as well as an off-line one. There is no charge to use them and you can set up an email account. There are printers available if you wish to make hard copies of resumes, letters or other documents. We also have a coiling machine and photocopier for essays and reports. To cover the cost of materials, there is a small charge for printing and coiling.

We welcome a new trustee to the Board. Bruce Parker, the new councillor from Ward 2 is replacing Reeve Kristijan as the Council representative. He will also chair the Library Citizens' Committee. He comes with an impressive background and we look forward to his participation in support of literacy for all ages in the Township.

Cathy Reddy has resigned as CAO and we will miss her support and guidance. Best wishes for the future Cathy. May you enjoy your new endeavours and we offer many thanks for past efforts on behalf of the library.

Volunteers fulfil many roles for the library. The board members give freely of their time. It is an unpaid position. The Friends and members of the Citizens' Committee do so out of care and concern for literacy in the area. Those who work in the library help with shelving, cataloguing, and circulation. The

Pre-school Story Time will be moving to Friday mornings on October 1st due to changes in the Kindergarten schedule. A volunteer is needed to work the desk for an hour and a half. Computer comfort is needed and training will be given. We could use volunteers for other times to work the desk so I could catch up on the mounds of books to be catalogued. Please call the library (752-2317) if you would like to help.

**NEW ADDITIONS:**  
Andrew Ward: The blood seed; Dean

Koontz: Stalkers; The servants of twilight; Elmore Leonard: The big bounce; Maeve Binchy: Nights of rain and stars; Jules Verne: 4 complete novels; John Saul: The Blackstone chronicles; Tami Hoag: Dark horse. There are many new audio books too.

Kids: There are tons of new books for you. Come into the "Snuggle-up-and-Read Centre" and check them out!

There is still time to vote for the CBC Canada Reads books.

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- Teach feelings \*\*
- Share your dreams \*\*
- Walk in the rain \*\*
- Bend down to talk to little children \*\*
- Frame their artwork \*\*
- Stay up late together \*\*
- Delight in silliness \*\*
- Don't judge their friends \*\*
- Protect them \*\*
- Giggle \*\*
- Let them cry \*\*
- Let them help \*\*
- Don't hide your tears \*\*
- Brag about them \*\*
- Let them go when it's time \*\*

\*\*\* Remember that they have not been on earth very long. \*\*\*

.....



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# Community Calendar

## CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

### GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

#### St. Andrew's United Church

Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
 Minister: 333-2381

#### Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church

Griffith  
 Saturday Mass 7:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.  
 Esmond  
 Sunday Mass 9:00 a.m.

#### Hilltop Tabernacle

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
 Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

### DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

#### Vennachar Free Methodist Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

#### St. Luke's United Church

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
 Minister: 333-2381

#### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

#### The New Apostolic Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
 Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

### CALABOGIE

#### Calabogie Bible Fellowship - Congregational Church

Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.  
 • Prayer & Praise (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)  
 • The Lord's Supper & Praise (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday)  
 • Healing Ministry (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
 Wednesday Evenings 7:00 p.m.  
 Bible Study

#### Most Precious Blood Catholic Church

Calabogie - Saturday Mass - 5:00 p.m.  
 Calabogie - Sunday - 10:30 a.m.

#### Calabogie St. Andrews United Church

1044 Madawaska Dr. (on the waterfront)  
 Church Services Every Sunday  
 Morning at 8:45 a.m.  
 Minister: Rev. Don Anderson  
 Organist & Choir Director: Anita Selby  
 Communion Services held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome.

## CHURCH EVENTS

#### St. Andrew's United Church - Matawatchan

- Hunter's Supper - October 6 - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
 - Fish Fry - Sunday October 31 - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
 - The St. Andrews United Church Women's Group will be sponsoring dinners, bake sales, flea markets etc. to raise money for the summer camp facility at Golden Lake and for the Millennium Garden / Coffee Club.

#### St. Luke's United Church, Denbigh

- Exercise Group Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

#### The New Apostolic Church, Denbigh

The New Apostolic Church in Denbigh invites all visitors to our area and all interested to join us for our Sunday morning services. Come enjoy our choir. They sing several selections before service which begins at 10:30 a.m.

Prayer changes things. Our Wednesday evening services at 8:00 pm, again gives us an opportunity to join in prayer and Godly fellowship.

#### Calabogie St. Andrew's United Church

Special Anniversary Services

October 17th, 2004

8:45 a.m. - Rev. Don Anderson  
 7:00 p.m. - Barbara Day, from the Glad Tidings Church in Arnprior will be our Guest Speaker & will provide Special Music.  
 Our Choir will have special music for the morning service and the evening service.

**Contact Bill Graham 333-1694 or Richard Copeland 333-1551 to have community and church announcements placed in future issues of the paper.**

### DID YOU KNOW...

According to the US Weather Service, their one day forecasts are accurate more than 75% of the time. They send out 2 million forecasts a year.

There are more than 150 million sheep in Australia, a nation of 17 million people.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### CALABOGIE SENIORS

You are invited to join the Calabogie Seniors for our **Ocktoberfest Dinner/Dance**: October 15th, 2004

- Calabogie Community Centre  
 Doors open at 6:00p.m.  
 Tickets \$15.00 per person  
 - Dinner: 6:30 p.m.  
 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. (Cash Bar Available):  
 - Draft German Beer  
 - Beer, Liquor & Wine  
 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
 - Dancing: 8:00 p.m. to midnight  
 - Band: *The New Orleans Express*  
 Dr. Ron Loyd, from Pembroke  
 - Coffee available from 10:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.  
**For Tickets Contact: Joan Swift at 752-0154**

### Calabogie's Annual Festival of the Arts

October 2 and 3 at the Calabogie Community Centre  
 10 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.  
 Show by local artists  
 Free admission  
 Coordinator: Georgette Reed 752-0928

### Calabogie Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast

October 9 from 8:00 till 11:00 a.m.  
 Calabogie Community Centre

### MATAWATCHAN HALL

- Matawatchan Hall General Meeting: Oct. 4  
 - Roast Beef Dinner: Oct. 9, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
 - Halloween Dance: Saturday Oct. 30, 9:00 p.m.  
 - Hunter's Ball (Dance): Saturday Nov. 6, 9:00 p.m.  
 - Christmas Tree Lighting - 7:00 p.m.

### Busy Bees Craft Club

Meetings will resume on October 12, 1:30 p.m. at the Matawatchan Hall. All welcome. Call Jackie Jenks, 333-5542 for information

### "Northern Lights" Seniors

Meet the third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. alternating between Griffith and Matawatchan. For information contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082. **All Seniors Welcome**

### Community Bus Service

Phone Kay Kelly for information and reservations at 333-2731 by Tuesday evening. Bus travels every other Thursday for shopping. The bus fee is \$10.00.

### Fellowship Luncheon

These meals are held the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Please contact Carol Anne Kelly at 333-5570 or Lois Robbins at 333-1082 if you wish to attend and be added to our mailing list. These meals are held in our community for those who live alone, seniors and retired people who enjoy a meal together. The location alternates between the Griffith Lions Hall and St. Andrew's United Church, Matawatchan. Cost \$5.00.

### Diners Club

Dinners are held the first Monday of the month at the Denbigh Community Hall at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$5.00. Contact Lynn McNicolle at 333-5586 for information.

### HEALTH CARE

Paramed Health Care Services Foot Care Clinic/Denbigh  
 Call 333-5559, Muriel Burgess, for an appointment.

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## Sculptor comes full circle — From Mexico to Burnstown

Since 1972 every year in Burnstown at Fog Run Studio, accomplished local artist & clay-relief sculptor Richard Gill captures the architectural landscape and culture of places he has travelled in unique three-dimensional hand-sculpted clay wall plaques.

This fall marks Richard's 32nd Annual Fall show inspired by the rich layers of culture he discovered while visiting the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico with his life partner Bittersweet Gallery owner Cheryl Babineau.

Initially Mexico is where Richard, then a young 21 year old curious student of architecture at Pennsylvania State University found his artistic medium in clay at the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende in 1966. Ironically he has come full circle 38 years later to depict in clay some of Mexico's most fascinating landscape and architecture, still intrigued by the medium and by Mexico. Richard & Cheryl are inviting the public to join them for this exciting exhibit and sale of over 70 pieces that express the diverse culture of this amazing country as well as 25 pieces depicting landmark scenes of Ottawa.

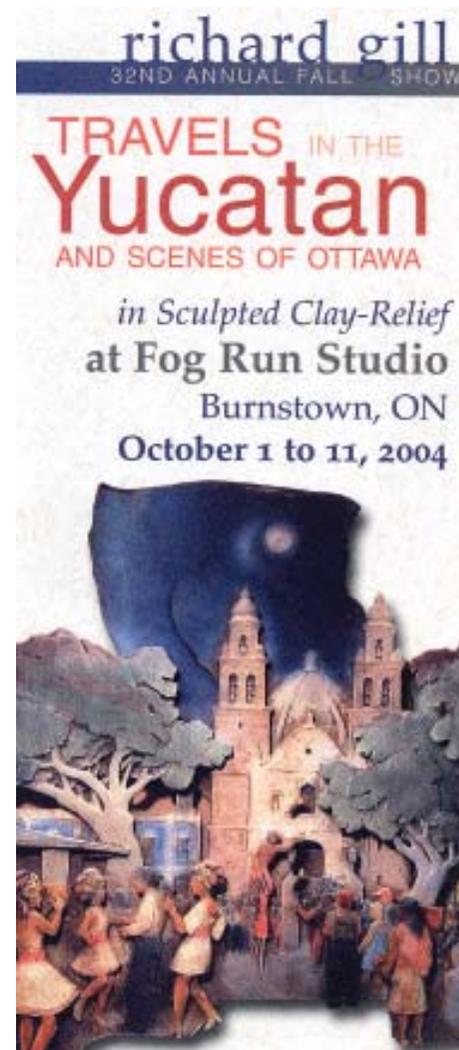


Discover the historical richness of ancient Mayan ruins and colonial cities, festive carnivals, quaint fishing villages & markets, underground caverns called "cenotes" or sinkholes along with some of Canada's own impressive architecture of our beautiful national capital city.

The show takes place in their newly constructed building and future new home

of Bittersweet Gallery at Fog Run Studio 5 Leckie Lane in Burnstown. The Opening reception is Friday, October 1st from 7 to 10pm. The exhibit and sale continues for the next 10 days to October 11th, 11am to 5 pm daily.

The picturesque village of Burnstown is a short but sweet drive in October with fall's exhilarating autumn colours.



## Cry of the loon

By Floris Wood

The famous cries of the loon are familiar to the ears of most Canadians. Around the Madawaska Valley the common loon (*Gavia immer*) is the one most likely to be heard. Actually the common loon has four distinct cries, the wail, the tremolo, the yodel and the hoot. The wail is used to re-establish communication with a mate after a period of absence or silence. The tremolo is the cry that has earned the loon some ridicule for it's somewhat loony (a word having more to do with the word "lunatic" or the moon than with loons—but if the shoe fits...) quality. It is used as an alarm or to convey some urgency to its mate. The yodel is reserved for the male loon and is used to define and protect its territory. The hoot is the loon version of what is known as phatic communication. Phatic communication is very casual ongoing chatter that helps parents keep track of the babies and vis-versa.

Another unique feature of the loon is its rather odd display when intruders approach. This display is known as the penguin dance and is intended to ward off strangers. The loon rises up out of the water with furiously paddling feet. It tucks down its head so that its bill lies flat against its chest. In this position it charges toward the intruder splashing a riotous spray of water. Unfortunately



humans are so intrigued by the spectacle that they may even return for another show or send their friends. The shy loons do not tolerate intrusion well and will abandon their nests quite easily.

### SYMBOL OF THE NORTH

The photogenic common loon has earned its place as a symbol of the solitude of the North. Its piercing, lonely wail has been immortalized in stories, songs and poems that romanticized the northern wilderness. But in the winter our solid symbol of the north sneaks off to the sunnier climes of the Atlantic and

Pacific shores. Loons are both fresh and salt water birds and spend their summers either in the marshes along the coasts or even out to sea.

The loon is a strikingly beautiful bird with its speckled back, white ringed neck, black head, red eyes and spear-like beak held perfectly horizontal to the water as it floats with serenity and dignity. Loon watching can be frustrating because the loon can disappear so stealthily, without a ripple, that one can begin to wonder if it was really ever there at all. It may turn up again, long

after you gave up looking for it, far from where it had been, looking as though it had been there all along.

### BUILT FOR DIVING

This very old species of bird has, as its only close relative, the grebe. More distantly related are the cormorants. Like grebes, loons eat primarily small fish. But loons are great divers and have been recorded as far down as 240 feet. In Europe loons are called the Great Northern Divers. From floating quietly and so low in the water that sometimes only the head is visible, the loon can suddenly slip silently under the water and remain under for more than one minute. It may reappear 300 feet from where it disappeared. It dives by rolling silently to its side, which leaves no splash or wake, leaping forward and head first into the water, or it can dive from flight. Its body is wider and flatter than a ducks and its feet, which are very far back on its body, propel the loon through the water at great speed. It can twist and turn sharply in the water as it chases fish. Its body is quite flexible but strong, making it better designed for swimming than for land navigation.

Continued on next page

# Cry of the loon

Continued from page 12

## MANY THREATS

Because the loon's feet are mounted so far back on its body, walking is extremely difficult and dangerous for the loon. It spends as little time on shore as possible. Nests are built as close to the water as practical. A mercifully short time (26-30 days) passes between egg laying and egg incubation. During this time the eggs are exposed to the threat of predation primarily by raccoons, but from other animals as well. Since eggs are laid early in spring the possibility of flooding the nest endangers the viability of the eggs. The Madawaska River Water Management Review recommended placing man made floating nests in the river to prevent flooding of loon nests. Subsequent annual reports of the Madawaska River Management Review state that this recommendation has been implemented. Nests are usually made of water plants hastily piled up on a bank with one side nearly touching the water. Islands, inaccessible to main land animals are a favourite nesting place as are back water bays out of the reach of motor boats.

As if predation and flooding were not threats enough for the loon, heavy metal poisoning and human development further diminish the survivability of loons in areas where man has a greater presence. Two studies in the United States—one in six New England states and one in Michigan—reported strikingly similar results. Both found that 25% of the loons found dead were killed by lead poisoning. The lead came from lead gun shot embedded in their bodies and fishing sinkers the loons had scooped up from the lake beds to help grind up food. Fishing can be far less of a threat to the loon by the use of sinkers made from bismuth, tin, steel or a tungsten-nickel alloy. These alternatives are readily available in bait and tackle shops

Mercury poisoning is also a great threat to birds in polluted waters. Industrial

pollution delivered by air and rain accounts for most mercury in lakes and streams. Chemicals settling on land eventually get funnelled into the lakes where they are concentrated and ingested by fish. Fish predators, such as loons, acquire the mercury, which builds up in their bodies, and becomes even more concentrated in their eggs. The newborn brains of chicks become the repository of high concentrations of mercury. As in lead poisoning affected birds have problems of balance, judgment and flying. They are far more susceptible to becoming victims of predators, who then inherit the poison.

Other threats are destruction of shoreline for commercial and private human use, noise and vibration from boats and jet-skis, and the general clamour of human living.

## CAN WE CO-EXIST?

Humans have admired loons for centuries but loons have been driven farther and farther north during the summer because humans are spreading into the traditional southern boundary of the loon nesting grounds. Loons, for all their shyness, have a fairly reasonable tolerance for humans. We personally could keep them closer if we would make some effort to accommodate them. We can use different tackle, avoid loon nesting grounds in spring, cause the least noise and disturbance in their waters as possible. On a larger scale we can support legislation to reserve some lakes for non-motor craft, for slower speed motorboats and support reasonable laws regulating noise and disturbance on all lakes. The loon, like the proverbial canary in the coal mine, is telling us something about our environment. If the loon no longer wants to live here, how long can it be before we will want to abandon the place too.

# Canadian Folk Songs

By Garry Ferguson

*A land without song,  
Can't stand very long,  
When the voice of its people is  
dead.*

Tom Connors

While listening to good old CBC Radio, as I often do when I'm within broadcast range of Ottawa, I heard an over-the-phone interview that left me hyperventilating and blaming the wax in my ears for playing tricks with my hearing.

A man representing a museum was being questioned about the museum's plan to recreate an early Canadian country fair for the public. When asked about music, he said that it was on the program—mostly American-like Stephen Foster compositions. During my ensuing semiconscious state—brought on by inhaling my morning coffee while hyperventilating—I could swear I heard the bones of my ancestors rattle as they did somersaults in their graves.

For more than a century, *les voyageurs* and the lumbermen, each group possessing an incredible folk song tradition, passed within virtual hailing distance of where the man worked. The shanty boys carried their music across this country and into the United States during the days when they could get a job in a U.S.



lumber camp on the strength of being Canadian. Their music has been collected in places as far away as Texas, Britain, and Australia.

It wasn't only the shanty boys and *voyageurs* who gave us our rich body of folk songs estimated to number in the tens of thousands. As well as songs in the many languages of indigenous peoples, there were in French and English, songs of love, war, murder, cowboys,

Continued on page 16

## Best wishes Cathy!



Cathy Reddy retires from her position as Township Clerk.



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# CABA CORNER

It has been an eventful summer and there are interesting developments to report. The first is the eco-tourism & adventure tourism project to be managed by Trent University and delivered by four teams of students from Sir Stanford Fleming College. The project was accepted because we proved that we had strong co-operation but not the funds to pay for such a report. CABA, the township, the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association and Calabogie Peaks Resort created a partnership for this proposal. Students will assess tourism in our area and make recommendations. The following three key questions will be answered:

- What is the current natural, cultural, adventure themes and historical attractions available in the Greater Madawaska Tourism Region?
- What is the impact of these resources on the tourism market?
- What tourism product(s) could be developed based on these current resources?

The project begins September 30 and the final report will be submitted to us by January 7th. Thanks to Don Beckett for finding us this exciting opportunity! We will keep you updated.

### THE CALABOGIE FALL CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Another summer event was our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Calabogie Fall Classic Golf Tournament on September 12<sup>th</sup> held at the Calabogie Highlands Golf Resort. All the money raised this year will be going to the township's Barnet Park Improvement Project and to Roger's House, where palliative care will be provided to children in a family setting on the grounds of CHEO in Ottawa. Chad Schella from the Ottawa Senator's Foundation spoke about Roger's House after our dinner and Spartacat, the Senators' mascot, posed for pictures and entertained both the golfers and a group of children from the area.

Highlights of the day included the following. At the dinner, the CABA president confessed that, only a year ago, she thought the Senators were a football team. Joe Legris won the prize for the best tie and Reeve Isobel Kristijan for the best scarf, worn to the tournament to acknowledge the contributions of Roger Neilson to his community. Roger, of course, was known for his loud ties. Renfrew County's Warden Sweet, who recently bought the winning ticket, won the draw at the dinner, for the real flat television and complete home theatre system. Just to make the day more memorable, CABA member Della Charbonneau, representing The 'Buckhorn Roadhouse', made a hole in one.

The business community support for the tournament was impressive. Hole-sponsors included 3 businesses from Arnprior, 7 from Burnstown, 9 from Calabogie and 4 from Renfrew. Prizes and silent auction items were donated by 3 businesses in Arnprior, 4 from Burnstown, 25 from Calabogie, 10 from Renfrew and 5 from Ottawa. Mark Papousek from Y101 Country Radio joined us for the day as well. Add to that the 70 golfers representing the business and non-business community and you get a picture of what working together can accomplish. How much money has been raised over the last three annual tournaments and how the money is being use to benefit the whole community will be reported in the next CABA Corner.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

CABA Members attending our summer meetings in July and August enjoyed listening to guest speakers; specifically our Township Reeve, Isobel Kristijan and Lanark Highlands Township Chair of Community Economic Development Committee, Mary Vandenhoff. Both are inspiring leaders in their communities.

At our July meeting Reeve Kristijan expressed appreciation and acknowledgement of the progressive work CABA has accomplished. She and fellow council members recognize the tremendous resources the Township has in its' own people. In the future, Council plans to carry out CABA's suggestion to honour community volunteers in some way. In her vision she sees the Community Library and Services becoming a focal point of the Township's Arts, Recreation and Cultural activities but realizes that with ever restrictive budgets, corporate sponsorship may be necessary to achieve these goals.

### LANARK HIGHLANDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mary Vandenhoff was provided a mandate by the Council of Lanark Highlands to improve the economic climate in their Township. With dedicated volunteers and strong partners Mary has accomplished much to be admired. The aesthetic look of the village of Lanark has been improved; festivals and special events are now attracting visitors, including the "Art of Being Green" the Purdon Conservation area "Lady Slipper" festival and the Labyrinth Festival. Community volunteers are focused on Eco-Tourism as the product to promote to tourists and visitors. Their accomplishments to date in developing a tourism slogan, brochures, pictorial calendars, etc., are to be envied and CABA is especially lucky to have been offered Mary's assistance as a mentor for contacts, program information and neighbourliness.

### THE WATER ISSUE

CABA members along with members of Council attended an information session coordinated by member Ann Stubinsky to learn in detail the requirements of meeting Provincial Water Regulation Bill 170-03. Guest Speaker, Gunther Borck of "Crazy Paul's Oasis" in Killaloe, has organized a citizens group called "Water Watch Committee" whose mandate includes the education of other groups and individuals regarding the Bill. Their message outlines all the negative repercussions and the unnecessary, costly burden to small businesses. The committee has been travelling to as many communities as possible speaking to groups, councils and government representatives.

Another achievement this summer has been the completion of Phase One of CABA's improved signage program. You may have noticed the erection of many directional signs that will greatly assist visitors to the Township. Phase Two, being the signage of special sites and points of interest, will now commence.

Welcom to CABA's latest members: Victoria Alexander of Springtown

Artworks, Robin Postma of Ottawa Valley Insurance & Financial Services Inc., Gary Reed of Telsys Bell Products, Jill Thomson of MYFM Radio, John Sullivan of SULCO Private Lot Sales and Apt. Rentals, Georgette Reed of The Creative Brush, Jerek Kasprzak of Bestview Chalet, Sandra Navarro of Chipmunk Cove; and, in Burnstown, Kathy and Jesse Chretien of Madawaska River Market, Judy Wolff of Boutik J & H, Ted and Nancy Young of Beyond the Bullrushes... and far from ordinary, and Francie Bingham of Bingo Bay Interiors. See our web site [www.calabogie.org](http://www.calabogie.org) to learn more information about our approximately 90 members and about CABA.

*Editor's note: Thanks to Carolyn Jakes and Debora Giffin for their contributions to this column.*

**DID YOU KNOW...**

92% of Chinese belong to the Han nationality, which has been China's largest nationality for centuries. The rest of the nation consists of about 55 minority groups.

**GARBAGE DISPOSAL**

<b>Norway Lake Transfer Station</b> Sunday and Holiday Mondays Wednesday Saturday	Noon to 2:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to Noon 8:00 a.m. to Noon
<b>Black Donald</b> Sunday and Holiday Mondays  Wednesday Saturday	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (*Summer, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
<b>Mount St. Patrick</b> Sunday and Holiday Mondays Saturday	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Griffith</b> Sunday and Holiday Mondays Wednesday  Saturday	Noon to 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (*Summer, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) 10:00 a.m. to Noon
<b>Matawatchan</b> Sunday and Holiday Mondays Wednesday Saturday	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Noon to 2:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Denbigh</b> Wednesday Thursday Saturday	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m.
<b>MacAvoy</b> Wednesday Sunday	8:00 a.m. to 12 noon 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Vennachar</b> Thursday Saturday	8:00 a.m. to 12 noon 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\*NOTE: Black Donald and Griffith Site Summer hours are in effect from the **long weekend in May** until the **Thanksgiving weekend** each year.

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# Heritage Old Time Country Music Association

By Garry Ferguson

On August 17, 2004, six people met at the home of Stan and Barb Callaghan, in Cobden, to explore the feasibility of forming a traditional country music association. The stated aim was to preserve, to perform and to perpetuate traditional country music within the Ottawa River watershed with emphasis on the historical and heritage value of this musical art form. Step dancing, Canadian fiddle and folk ballads traditional to the area were included. The six present, Earl Meilleur, Joe Moreau, John and Ester Levesque along with Stan and Barb Callaghan became the steering committee for this venture.

At a subsequent September meeting in Pembroke, members of the committee elected an executive board, adopted a draft constitution and agreed that, subject to legal process, the organization would be named the Heritage Old Time Country Music Association. (H.O.T.C.M.A.) Stan Callaghan, who is known to many of our readers as the kindly voice of C. H. I. P. Radio's Saturday afternoon programming, was elected President. Joe Moreau was elected vice president, Barb Callaghan, secretary and Richard Sernoskie, treasurer.

The Association will focus on the cultural, historical and social heritage of

this regional music with the aim of improving its public image, recognizing its pioneers and creating awareness of its contribution to Canadian culture. Efforts will be made to introduce aspects of this art form into the school systems and performances will be held to raise interest.

The organization will not only encourage artists, but will steer individual members in the right direction concerning the marketing of their music as well. The H.O.T. C.M.A. will begin taking applications for ten-dollar-per-year membership in November, 2004. Watch for announcements in local newspapers.

For information, call Stan Callaghan at 613-646-9726.

### DID YOU KNOW...

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten.



It is believed that Shakespeare was 46 around the time that the King James Version of the Bible was written. In Psalms 46, the 46th word from the first word is shake and the 46th word from the last word is spear.

# Canadian Folk Songs

Continued from page 13

fishing, farming, and all of the other events that touched the lives of our forebears.

Regardless of language (we even have bilingual songs), traditional Canadian folk music seems to fall into three broad categories: those imported by the early settlers, hybrids or Canadian versions of imports, and songs native to Canada. People such as Kenneth Peacock, Dr. Helen Creighton, Dr. Marius Barbeau, Dr. Roy Mackenzie, Barbara Cass-Beggs, and Edith Fowke dedicated a great deal of their lives to preserving this music from the prairies to Newfoundland. On records and in print, these collections are available to anyone who is interested.

It's true, a few of the old "tragedy" ballads, sung unaccompanied and in minor keys, might not go over too well at a modern rock concert. If the gig was held in Maple Leaf Gardens, the place would be empty somewhere around the forty-

-seventh verse of the first number. As a kid growing up along the Madawaska in Renfrew County, I used to snicker a bit when old singers spoke the last line of those ballads. I thought they were in a hurry to finish. I didn't realize that they were using a unique technique to announce the end of the performance. In spite of modern trends, this music is still enjoyable. A timeless window on our past, it's Canadian—ours.

We can safely assume that most early Canadian country folk would have had some sort of exposure to music from abroad, including that of Foster, but any depiction of their lives must include *their* music. "The voice," referred to in Tom Connors' song, was very much alive during their time. Its echo can still be heard out along the rural routes.

I'm not sure why we have aspiring historians who can't hear it. I guess we could be kind and blame it on wax in *their* ears.

# Out on the First Concession

MOM'S SILK STOCKINGS

By Wes Bomhower

Back in those years, long before the advent of nylon panty-hose, women prized their silk stockings, not only because of their expense, but they sometimes were difficult to find in the stores during war time rationing. Mom had two pair of which she took extremely good care, although she only wore them on special occasions when she and Dad went out to town.

We had a foolish Holstein bull calf born early that summer and Dad would jokingly say it was part goat because of its eating habits. It would eat things that no self respecting, normal calf would ever touch. It got loose and devoured an ornamental 'burning bush', so named for its fiery red colour.

Apparently the 'burning bush' was poisonous or toxic to the young animal and Mom spent some time nursing him back to health. Finally when it recovered, my job was to tether the calf in a different spot each day around the outbuildings

to crop the grass. One day that crazy calf managed to get loose again and headed for the clothesline where Mom's silk stockings were flapping in the breeze. He ate the feet out of both pair of stockings before anyone noticed he was loose.

Mom had a quick temper, but I managed to get the wee animal out of harm's way until Dad came along. There was a devilish little grin on Dad's face (when Mom wasn't looking of course) as she related the dastardly deed the calf had committed. He realized new stockings would have to be found sooner or later, but that didn't stop him from having a chuckle. "Keep that crazy animal out of your mother's sight for a few days", Dad said aside to me, trying not to smile.

I did keep him out of Mom's sight for a week or two, and although his eating habits didn't change much, the calf grew up to be a fine Holstein bull which we used for breeding purposes.

How times have changed.

Terry & Donna Spencer



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### DID YOU KNOW...

In 1998, American people, foundations and corporations gave more than \$175 billion to charities and churches. Churches received 40% of the contributions, while public charities and educational organizations received the remainder.



# The First Thanksgiving

By Ernie Jukes

Canadians have so much for which to be thankful. Our society today has benefited by many events of the past. Much of course we owe to early French and British exploration. One such event we simply call "Thanksgiving". But do you know where and when the very first real Thanksgiving in North America actually took place? No — it was not in New England! That's another myth. True facts are that long before the first pilgrims in what is now the U.S. were even born, the first Thanksgiving took place in Canada.

While searching for the elusive North West passage, a young English captain named Martin Frobisher with a large 15 ship convoy and 400 men landed on Kodlunarn Island. It is located near Baffin Island in what is today called Frobisher Bay. It was here that an Anglican clergyman named Robert Wolfall, on July 22, 1578 recorded the very first Thanksgiving service in North America for these brave men. They were the first white men to meet the Inuit and they traded iron pots and knives for caribou meat and an abundance of a bird called ptarmigan that tasted like chicken. Other food caught and bartered consisted of codfish, arctic char and seal. The first

Thanksgiving was a long day due to their geography in the land of the midnight sun.

Here on the highest point of Kodlunarn Island, they established the first English colony in the New World. From their attractive site of multi wild flowers they could see the huge whales rising in the bay of fresh water below. There were also many sightings of polar bears and arctic fox. During their time there they learned to make warm waterproof seal boots and clothing from the friendly natives and how to use their harpoon. In spite of the severe winters and flies in warm weather, it was a land of plenty.

Today the location is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It would be a full 27 years before the Englishman Raleigh attempted a settlement in what became Virginia. And almost half a century would pass before the Mayflower sailed from Portsmouth, England into Newfoundland for supplies on its way to Plymouth Rock. We are lazy about our history and allow foreigners and Hollywood (of all people) to make it up for us. It's all there — it's all carefully recorded so have a look at it and you'll be impressed.

## CLASSIFIED

I wish to thank all my good friends for their kindness during my hospitalization and recovery. Thank you for the prayers, visitations, food, wood piling and moral support.

Boyd MacDonald

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# Frank Stubinsky remembers Black Donald

By Doug Smith

We folks from the city that flee from our over-organized, busy lives there to this beautiful, natural place often do so without noticing the real wonder to be found here, the people.

Our first encounter with "the locals" is usually in a commercial context, that is, we need their help in the acquisition of goods and services. This engenders an initial feeling of dependence followed by a wary defensiveness towards those that are offering the things we need, many of whom are local people.

With time some of us are able to peel away that veil of defensiveness and begin to see the originality and uniqueness of those that pioneered the Madawaska Valley before we knew it existed.

My own process of trying to appreciate the people among whom I live led me to the door of Frank and Jesse Stubinsky on Black Donald Road.

Normally as a reporter visiting someone's home for an interview one would describe the structure, decoration, and general ambience of the place. But the Stubinsky residence makes that kind of description insignificant and shallow when confronted with the reality of this home and its history.

Ten years after the death of his mother (a beautiful woman whose portrait is prominently displayed on the living room wall) Frank at the age of twelve with his father's assistance built this house of squared logs. Years later, he and his crew working for the Forestry (currently the Ministry of Natural Resources) extended the road he lives on 19.7 miles through heavy bush and rocky hills down to Ompah. When you can say at 82 years of age that you built the house you are living in at the age of 12 and extended the road you live on another twenty miles, you have a unique address.

Frank began the interview with his experiences in the Black Donald Mines by

saying, "It was quite a community." There were about twenty homes for those working there and a boarding-house for visitors. All workers received free housing and electricity and an hourly wage for a fifty hour week. Frank recalls bagging graphite at the mill for \$0.17 an hour as a young lad. His father ran the powerhouse, which provided electricity to the community and the mills. Frank and his brother worked with him during his 35 year tenure operating that facility and Frank had the honour of pulling the switch that shut it down in 1952. A high grade of graphite was removed and taken by teams of horses and sleighs in the winter and trucks the rest of the year to the Calabogie railroad station requiring all day for the round trip.

The shaft for the mine was at the top of a hill and followed the vein of graphite under the lake without the use of supports for the walls and ceiling. One Sunday morning when no one was there the mine let go and the lake poured in. When the water rushed into the mineshaft, the air exploded out the top with enough force to blow logs used to cover the shaft for security forty feet into the air where they fluttered a bit before crashing back down to earth.

The mine was reopened during World War II when there was such a desperate need for graphite that the tailings (ore of lower quality) from the original mine were retrieved from Whitefish Lake where they had been dumped. It was then pumped back up to the refining mill keeping the mine open a few years longer.

The next big enterprise beside the usual logging and road building that Frank embarked on was the building of the hydroelectric system in the area, which was started in 1964. He was the first hired from the Centennial/Black Donald area and worked down as far as Stewartville and the last from the area to leave the project. He worked with a crew of 27 men who cleared the area to be flooded. Unfortunately, some of the

other crews had taken the shortcut of bulldozing dirt on top of what they were supposed to have taken out or burned to conceal it from inspectors. In 1967 when the area was flooded, the dirt was removed leaving all the timber and brush behind. This created the most difficult part of the job. Frank and his crew had to remove and burn all this wood from the water. They took out 36,000 cords (4x4x8 ft) and burned the rest by using islands because of the fire danger. With the aid of a couple of strategically located pumps to wet down areas in the range of sparks, even though it was an especially dry period, they had no major fires. It took two years to clear the water of all debris leaving us with 100 miles of pristine shoreline between Centennial Lake and the Mountain Chute dam.

Social life during these industrious years centred on dances at the community halls in Black Donald, Matawatchan, and Calabogie. He met his wife Jesse when he was with a girlfriend from Griffith at a dance in Matawatchan and they married in 1942. Picnics in Griffith and Calabogie with fairs in Renfrew filled out his social calendar quite agreeably. What he remembers most from his first Renfrew Fair was drinking a Coca Cola. Memories of boyhood skiing on staves from barrels with bindings made from leather in the stable were also

prominent. He finds it confusing when kids today say they're bored replying, "We were never bored."

Frank's retirement project has been running the campground on the lake above the dam for the Ministry of Natural Resources during the last seventeen years. They have about 30 trailers, a boat launch, and campsites. Through the years at the campground, Frank has developed friendships all the way to Florida, and many have had an opportunity to enjoy his good humour and tall but true tales. He concluded the interview with one of his favourite stories:

"This old fella, he lived quite a rough life drinking and carrying on. There was a little Baptist church by a lake near him. One Sunday morning the preacher saw him in church and thought this could be a breakthrough, a chance to straighten him out. 'I've got to get him baptized.' So after the service he took him down to this little lake, the minister shoved him under the water, and pulled him up asking, 'Did you see Jesus?' The man said, 'No.' Repeating this procedure several times with the same response he held him down for quite a while, pulled him back out and again asked, 'Did you see Jesus?' The lad replied with his own question, 'No. Are you sure this is the place he fell in?'"



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# What you need to look for when buying a cottage

By David Lester

As the “boomer” generation ages, more and more people find themselves in the financial position to think about buying a vacation property. Buying a cottage may not be cheap. However, it’s also one of the few ways to convert your family vacation budget into equity that can grow in value year after year.

People generally want to buy a cottage for fun. But, with the right planning, it can also be a wise investment. There are two ways you can benefit – renting it out when you don’t use it (which we can handle for you by the way) and reselling it later for a capital gain. But to realize the best return, remember that as with houses, the three most important factors are: *location, location, location*.

**First, is it on the waterfront?** Generally, the premium for waterfront properties is worth it because the cottage will tend to increase in value better over time.

**Second, how’s the access?** Water access cottages can be beautiful, but since you need a boat to get there, the number of potential buyers or renters is limited. That generally means it can’t command the same price or rental fee as a road access cottage.

**And what about the commute?** The closer to a major city the better. It means a shorter drive and less money for gas. But it may also cost more for the cottage because of the convenience.

**Finally, can it be used all year-round?** People prefer access 12-months a year. For example, can the property be used in the winter for skiing, ice fishing or snowmobiling? Today, cottages need to be used for more than just swimming if you are to get maximum value for your money.

Don’t forget, it’s far easier to make money investing in areas that are already accepted, than to guess where the next “in” area will be.

**The nine things to look out for when buying a cottage or lot ...**

## 1) Wells ...

Most of the time, you’re going to find that the water is supplied either from a well or the local lake/river. As we all know, Walkerton showed us the care that is necessary when buying a “potable water” supply that comes with a cottage. Make sure that there are 3 reports issued by the local health authority (because they recommend 3 sample reports, each 1 week apart). If the seller has already taken the samples, it might be best NOT to accept them and to get your own. You can get your Realtor to do that for you or can hire an independent building inspector that does the water testing pro-

cedures as well. It won’t hurt to be very cautious, as a new well can cost up to \$4,000-\$6,000 depending on the land terrain involved. It would also be an excellent idea to get a water flow test done by the same inspector. I’ve heard of new owners having 6 gallons / hour flow when it should have been 6 gallons / minute. Big Difference ...

## 2) Sewage ...

In the countryside, there are only so many places you can put your dirty water. Normally, a septic system is used to receive the effluence. A septic system can run for years without harm. However, even a little more laundry or an extra child or teenager can upset a system that worked for a long time. Have the system pumped (~\$250) as part of the building inspection and have the pump person look inside for any obvious signs of problems. He’ll know what colour the effluence should be and you’ll get a newish system ready for your home. Check also to see where the system bed is located. Check that area for any spongy spots. Make sure that nothing heavy has been stored over the site as well. Heavy objects can damage the tile system that’s below. Normally, you’d like to have the system cleaned out every few years at least so, either pay for the cleanout yourself or ask the seller to do it for you.

## 3) ROW ...

That’s “Right Of Way” for you city folk. When you have to cross someone’s property to have access to the local lake or river, and you don’t own the property you’re crossing, that’s called a “right of way”. In simple terms, it must be disclosed by the seller but it’s not been unheard of that the present seller didn’t know that he had inherited it from the previous seller. Have your lawyer check the title for you just in case. A title search should show up any problems.

## 4) Title insurance ...

Because there can be problems and mistakes made in purchasing land and cottages especially in the area of ROW’s, Easements and Surveys, the banks will now accept “Title insurance” in place of a survey. Survey’s usually run about \$800-1000 for a small cottage property. A Title Insurance policy will cost about \$175-\$275 depending on the software your Lawyer uses. Believe it or not, it really depends on what software the lawyer uses that determines the rate you pay. If you can, get a local lawyer to handle your buying, as they might be more attuned to the local problems and what to watch out for. They also have had a better chance to have seen the same type of local potential problems before and know what to do.

## 5) Heating sources ...

The three major sources of heating (as

of February, 2004) are all getting very expensive. But what the heck, we’re Canadians eh! Oil was and still is the cheapest. Electricity is now the second most expensive and Propane / Natural gas the most expensive to use. Wood is the cheapest but there are problems with insurance and any mortgage availability from a bank. CMHC guarantees mortgage loans for the banks. Therefore, the banks will only allow heating that CMHC says it will cover. CMHC says that a house has to have the ability to be kept at 72F (21C) 24 hours a day to be available for a mortgage. That doesn’t mean you have to keep that temperature, just be able to. That’s so when you go to Florida in the winter, the pipes won’t freeze because there will be a system available to keep the home warm. Also, Insurance companies are now looking very carefully at heating sources. It might be best to contact your insurance agent and ask first before you buy or you may be in a tight spot. The banks like mortgages to be insured. No insurance, no mortgage. No mortgage, you need cash.

## 6) Water usage restrictions ...

As in, “Can I use my 300 horsepower motor on this lake?” kind of usage ... There are a growing number of lakes and rivers that, by gentlemen’s agreement and if you ever want to be friends with your neighbours, are allowing only 9.9 hp maximum sized boat motors (enough to push a pontoon or fishing boat around but not enough for water-skiing. Seadoo’s? Yet another question to be asked. A lot of people want their cottage country to be quiet and not have noisy neighbours with big boats running around. Check first, it could avoid a problem later on.

## 7) Lot building ...

There may be times when the idea of getting a lot and placing a trailer on it might be a cheap way of enjoying the country life. Check with the building inspector for the local area first. A lot of municipalities are not allowing mobile

homes to be used in place of cottages anymore. Check first at the local municipal hall and ask the town clerk if you don’t know who the building inspector is.

## 8) Shore Line ...

Be prepared to be able to do nothing with the shore line. If you want to make any changes to the shoreline, you must make an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and they have the power to deny your request. It’s not a sure thing that your request will be not allowed, however, an examination of the situation will determine if your activities will affect wildlife and water flow etc. Just be aware that it’s not a fait accompli just because think you own the land.

## 9) Shore Line Ownership ...

Beware of who owns the shoreline and the easements that might be in-place as restrictions. There are a fair number of areas that Ontario Hydro owns the water frontage and allows you to use it for recreational purposes (swimming boating etc.) However, you cannot build a permanent structure on the shoreline, as you do not own it. Ontario Hydro owns this as a part of their “Flood Plain”. It’s theirs so that just in case the water rises, it floods their land, not yours. Lately, it has been possible for you to purchase some of the water frontage from Hydro (I guess they got tired of paying the extra taxes) so you can inquire into that type of arrangement if you see fit. Just don’t plan on building that boathouse on the shoreline until you find out if you have the right to do it.

Have a great fall and enjoy all the changing scenery. With the wet summer we’ve had, we all deserve something special to happen.

Take Care ... David Lester, Real Estate Broker, Calabogie

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# Council Notes

By Bill Graham

In the last two months Council has met in various locations around Greater Madawaska—Griffith in August, Dacre on September 11 and back in Calabogie last Thursday night. With summer over, meetings will now take place every two weeks and be located in Council Chambers in Calabogie. What is different from last year is that meetings will rotate between Thursday evenings (7:00 p.m.) and Saturday mornings (9:30 a.m.). This will allow business people the opportunity to attend at least one meeting since most of them are operating their businesses on Saturdays.

## THE GRIFFITH MEETING

Like many Council meetings, the meeting in Griffith had numerous items of correspondence to cover. This correspondence is from other municipalities seeking support, association, government agencies and private citizens. Among the things raised from the 17 letters tabled was the two-hatter issue.

This issue is important to many rural municipalities and was raised again in subsequent meetings. The union for professional firemen is trying to force firemen who are both professional and volunteer to give up their volunteer status. Municipalities across Ontario are seek-

ing the support of other municipalities asking the Premier to nip in the bud this move by the Ontario Profession Fire Fighter Association. Greater Madawaska has given their support to the motion.

During the Griffith meeting and subsequent meetings Waste Reduction Week from October 18 to 24 was announced. Waste management was also on the agenda in form of an update on Council's negotiations with Ottawa Valley Recycling (OVR) with the possible result of Greater Madawaska joining a number of other Renfrew County municipalities and OVR to work as partners for environmentally responsible waste management. This is a long process, which will probably not be concluded until sometime in 2005. The water issue, the Track, bears at land fill sites and others were also raised.

## THE DACRE MEETING

The Dacre meeting of Council took place on Saturday morning on September 11. The meeting was preceded by a reception for departing Township Clerk Cathy Reddy, Jack Frost, Jim O'Brien, Barry Moran and Brian Moran. Long service awards were distributed by John Yakabuski who presented as MP on behalf of the provincial government and on behalf of Cheryl Gallant our federal

representative. This formal part of the reception was capped by a rendition of *Heartaches by the number* by our provincial MP. It was a very credible performance and enjoyed by all.

Another formality at this meeting was the swearing in of newly elected Councillor for Brougham Bruce Parker. Mr. Parker won handily by some 20 votes. Like Reeve Kristijan, Councillor Parker has a cottage on Black Donald Lake, which has become a second home. Also like the Reeve, he and his family have been coming to this area since the mid-1970s. He brings volunteer and professional credentials to Council that will be very valuable.



Councillor Bruce Parker

## THE CALABOGIE MEETING

The Calabogie meeting on September 23 was held at the Calabogie Community Centre in anticipation of the final third reading of the zoning bylaw for Calabogie MotorSport Park. The bylaw is not in effect until this third reading. The final version of the site plan, which would contain provisions as to noise restrictions and other matters of concern to citizens had only been just finalized. Council had not had an opportunity to make the document public for the scrutiny of interested citizens and so no third reading occurred at this meeting.

A portion of the 'public participation' part of the meeting dealt with Track issues. There were questions about past procedures, about the separation of a noise bylaw from the noise issues surrounding the Track issue, about a public meeting and about when after a public meeting the third reading would take place.

Council is trying to get Council minutes up on the Township website ([www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com](http://www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com)) as fast as possible but the Township office is short staffed with the leaving of Cathy Reddy. In future, the details of meetings, which are far too detailed to be published here, will be available on the website for all who are interested.

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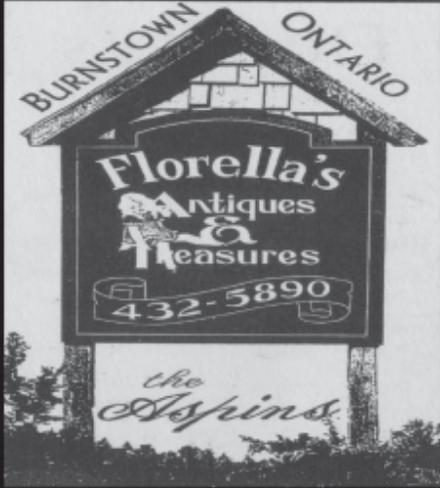


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