

The Madawaska Highlander

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Free

May 2009

Emigration from Scotland 1820

By Bill Graham, Editor

Although Scots had been arriving in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and in Upper Canada's Glengarry Township prior to 1820, it is during the period 1820 to 1870 that most Scots arrived in what would become Canada.

There were two major Scottish pioneer settlements in Upper Canada: Glengarry County (east of Ottawa) and Lanark County (to the west of Ottawa). Renfrew County did not exist at this time. These were two distinct groups of Scots. Twenty-five hundred subsistence farmers from the Scottish Highlands settled in Glengarry County before 1815. These settlers had no financial assistance from the government. They were organized by families led by Highland patriarchs. Defence of their traditional culture and lifestyle was an important reason for their emigration from Scotland. The second group made up of 4,000 weavers and artisans from the Scottish Lowlands settled in Lanark County after 1815. This group was financially assisted and was organized by emigration societies. Their motivation for emigration was economic opportunity.

The economic and social conditions in the early part of the century were very difficult. The ending of the Napoleonic Wars in 1801 did not bring expected prosperity but instead economic collapse akin to a depression. The labour market was flooded by thousands of disbanded soldiers and sailors. To make matters even worse, agricultural improvement and industrialization had reduced the need for labour.

These were the early days of the industrial revolution when the peasant class was being thrown off the land and replaced with sheep whose wool fed the growing textile industry. Many of this peasant class made their way to the cities in search of work as a means of supporting their families.

"Disgruntled urban Lowlanders became active in early labour politics and formed Emigrant Societies, as an extension of their craft guilds. Their home environment was more advanced than the Highlanders and exhibited strong effects of English culture, law and politics. This facilitated the creation of politically involved emigrant societies who interacted with the local gentry and members of

parliament to influence emigration to Upper Canada. After 1815, the British government changed its attitude toward domestic population levels and, instead of discouraging emigration, tried to direct it towards places of strategic importance in the colonies. Earl Bathurst, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, was a proponent of settling Lanark County in Upper Canada under the aegis of the military and administrative centers at Perth and Lanark Villages. The townships of the Bathurst District had already been surveyed and the settlers, in common with the Highlanders at Glengarry, would supply a ready and loyal militia presence in Upper Canada as well as furnish staple goods (particularly lumber) to the mother country in exchange for British manufactured goods." (*The Politics of Emigration: Scotland and Assisted Emigration to Upper Canada, 1815-1826* by Michael E. Vance)

Settlers who were provisioned through the emigration societies supported by funds from the crown after 1820 got everything that they needed to establish a new life in Upper Canada. A book, which was first published in Glasgow in 1821, which was entitled *A Narrative of the Progress of Emigration from the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew to the Settlements in Upper Canada* contains a list of provisions given to prospective settlers.

Transport - or Conveyance, including Baggage, from Quebec to the Redeau (now Ottawa) Settlement

1 Settler, averaged at £3
Wife, averaged a £2
Child, averaged at £1

Provisions

Seeds for 100 Settlers, to be provided Canada.
150 Bushels of Potatoes,
200 Bushels of Oats,
200 Bushels of Fall Wheat,
200 Bushels of Spring Wheat,
25 Bushels of Indian Corn,
7 Bushels of Beans,
13 Bushels of Grass Seed,
Total cost £279 2s 6p

Survey of 100 Acres, 15s.

Implements

continued on page 3

Spring has sprung



The daffodils are up in Matawatchan

Photo: Bill Graham

Dispatches from Afghanistan (2009-2)

By Major Ross Allan

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of dispatches during the 2009 Highlander publishing year.

Since 1 April 2008, my team and our predecessors placed nearly \$20 million dollars worth of contracts for everything imaginable from vehicles to screws. Other Canadian contract teams are responsible for reconstruction and construction tasks; still others ensure bulk fuel and food is available. Satisfaction varies - buying \$200,000 of communication supplies from Dubai is routine but getting a new Afghan contractor into business is very satisfying. My highest priority purchase within the last two weeks was unexpected. On Tuesday, one of my customers called and said his regular delivery was disrupted and he was going to run out on Friday; could I arrange an emergency purchase of...toilet paper? 2000 rolls of toilet paper. Otherwise, come Saturday morning, 1400 Canadian derrieres would be subject to unpleasantness. We brain-stormed alternatives - perhaps Post-It Notes with a caution to apply the sticky side to your fingers; salvaging newsprint from the recycling; arranging visits to comfort stations that do not rely upon a Canadian supply; asking our Afghan hosts how to use gravel (I kid you not, Afghans will use gravel if need be).

In the end (pun intended), we got what we needed - a contractor at the Kandahar

Air Field sold me 2000 rolls, Canadian newsprint was preserved for its intended use, and Afghan gravel remained in place for its intended use. I went to bed that night with a sense of satisfaction. I never did hear why we ran low at Kandahar Air Field but I am certain that the Air Force is somehow responsible.

This week had its highs and lows. On the plus side, my team member received his care package from Canada and he has not reported any further spoon failures. On the debit side, the Internet is still slow and he did run out of Perrier on Thursday. We received resupply during the week but it was a little light on Perrier and he is now reduced to drinking regular bottled water, tea, or any of the 10 other types of beverages in our fridge and cupboard. If he is willing to walk 50 m, he can get Perrier at another cupboard. That cupboard (it is actually a room) supplies our headquarters and the duty staff. Because they work 24/7 and cannot necessarily get to the mess hall during opening hours, that food point is very well stocked. As it is their only source of sustenance during the off-hours, they are, understandably, very protective and there are several warning signs advertising that the food is for authorized duty staff only. However, Afghanistan is a war zone so politeness, like Perrier, is in short supply. Furthermore, the duty staff can be officious. Therefore, in the absence of armed guards, a minefield, and AIDS-infected guard dogs, all the non-duty staff

continued on page 2

Dispatches (Cont)

visits the duty-only food point. Everyone I talk to is quite proud of the fact that they snuck in and grabbed whatever they wanted. The only noticeable effect of the warning sign is that people take one or two items at a time and not case-lots (the last time I counted, there were over 26 drink cases i.e. more than 600 cans and juice boxes).

Also on the plus side, the Afghan government announced the arrest of those responsible for the acid attack on the schoolgirls and their teachers. Two of the 10 arrested are said to have confessed and said that they were paid 100,000 Afghan dollars for the attack; this is worth roughly \$2600 Canadian. Within Afghanistan, \$10 is considered very well paid for a day's work and the average income is closer to \$100 per month. Therefore 100,000 Afghan dollars represents a couple of years' wages – the motivation for the attack was as much financial as religious. When we analyze insurgent motives, we try to determine whether religion, money, or some grievance played a role. The 'grievance' fighter might be open to a political settlement that addresses the grievance's root cause. The 'money' fighter has few economic alternatives to the Taliban wages, which we hope to address by rebuilding infrastructure and rekindling the economy. The religious fighter is much harder to dissuade

– if Taliban leaders tell him that he fights for God, then there is little someone from outside his village or tribe can do to change that attitude because the fighter is illiterate and hears only what his Taliban leader reads to him or provides by way of audio-visual material. A recent book that I read argues, convincingly, that religious fanatics plagued this part of the world since the 1830s and the British were continually mounting punitive expeditions to root out the fundamentalists. Since the 1830s, a small, relatively well-educated, ambitious cadre of leaders rely upon illiterate soldiers who are kept isolated and fed only their leaders' message; nothing has changed in 180 years.

Last week, I mentioned deficiencies of the Afghan police. In addition to their poor training and motivation, they are also employed differently from police forces back home. Instead of providing local policing, the Afghan police are adjunct security forces for counter-insurgency work. For instance, they will sweep roadsides for bombs or man checkpoints. If an Afghan citizen has something stolen then the police are not available to help (the police may have been responsible for the theft which can add a fighter to the 'grievance' team). Instead, local policing is performed by the Taliban, the local drug-lord, or the local warlord (the warlord, drug-lord, and insurgent may be the same person). Therefore, the insurgents provide a service that

the elected government cannot. Other visible aspects of the government include the school system, the medical system, and the road network. As a result, the Taliban attack schools and teachers, destroy bridges and roads, and, with a poor road network, frustrate the delivery of medical treatment; another aspect of the government – the justice system – is widely viewed as corrupt and a convicted felon, even a murderer, can either buy or barter his way to freedom. In contrast, Taliban dispense justice quickly, publicly, and with a view to 'an eye for an eye'. Although few Afghans are fond of the Taliban, they appreciate the security the Taliban provided when in power and continue to offer in some areas of the country; there is also some fondness for the rapidity with which the Taliban dispense justice. With the elected government providing no visible service, and the Taliban providing some, the Taliban hopes to position itself as a viable alternative to a democratically elected, ineffectual government. For those that disagree, the Taliban Plan B is to kill them and there is an active Plan B campaign. Foreigners are automatically on the Plan B list - thirty humanitarian workers were murdered in 2008 (twice the 2007 count) and still more were kidnapped. The killings convince aid agencies to suspend or curtail operations with the intended effect of limiting ordinary Afghans' knowledge of the outside world to what the Taliban provides; the kidnappings finance the insurgency, provide publicity for the insurgency, or provide revenue for bandits who can operate in the absence of an effective police force. I mentioned within earlier reports that information and education are potent tools for the Afghan government and its coalition partners. If Afghans can read and think critically for themselves, then the Taliban practice is quickly exposed as being at odds with the teachings of Islam and basic conduct elsewhere; nothing in the Koran says you can spray women with acid. That is one reason our reconstruction teams like to build schools and the Taliban likes to either destroy the buildings or scare away the teachers and students.

Although Afghans may despair about the state of their government both elected and self-proclaimed (the Taliban), they have tremendous potential and they believe that, if not for the Soviet invasion during 1979 and the ensuing three decades of turmoil, they would be far more developed than their Pakistani neighbours. During the 2008 Olympics, an Afghan athlete won the country's first ever medal. In contrast, Pakistani athletes won none during 2008, 1992 was the last time a Pakistani did so, and Afghans believe that this shows the potential of their much less populous country – quality will prevail over numbers. The Afghans want peace, a chance to earn a living, and they want their leaders to be more concerned with good governance and public welfare.

End

Energy Report Card

• As a result of the increased use of energy, Canada's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions increased by 21.7% and, at the end of 2006 stood some 29% above the Kyoto target.

The Madawaska Highlander

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Emigration (Cont)

1 Grindstone among every 15 persons.
 1 Pit Saw, among every 15 persons.
 1 Cross Cut Saw, among every 15 persons.
 1 Set of Blacksmith's Tools to each Township
Total cost £29 12s 0p

Implements for each 4 Settlers

4 Felling Axes in Canada,
 1 Broad Axe
 4 Hand Saws
 4 Locks and- Keys
 8 Door Hinges
 4 Iron Wedges.
 4 Pitch Forks
 4 Iron Pots
 4 Frying Pans
 8 Gimbles
 8 Files of Sorts
 4 Chisels
 4 Augurs
 4 Scythes, complete
 4 Sickles
 4 Spades and Shovels
 4 Pick Axes
 4 Broad Hoes
 4 Narrow Hoes
 4 Carpenter's Hammers
 4 Adzes.
 4 Drawing Knives
 4 Brush Hooks
 36 Harrow Teeth
 4 Planes
Total cost £16 17s 6p

Building articles for each 4 Settlers

72 Panes of Glass, 7½ by 8½ Inches.
 6 Pounds of Putty.
 400 Feet of Pine Boards, to be provided in Canada
 8 Pounds of Nails of Sorts
Total cost £16 1s 0p

Bedding for each 4 Settlers

4 Paillasses and 4 Blankets.

Additional Bedding for each Member of a family.

1 Blanket to each Married Woman.
 1 Blanket to each Child.
 1 Paillasse to each Family having more than 1 Child
Total cost £3 4s 0p

It is a well thought list of necessities that would allow a newly arrived settler to literally carve out a life in the wilderness. Most were resourceful, survived and prospered. The 1821 publication contained a number of letters that reflect the settler experience. One letter from William Gourley -Lanark, (January 28th, 1821) back to family in Scotland captures their experience.

"We are getting over the winter easier than we expected: we have not that fretful anxiety of mind how to get through,



Map of Upper Canada (1820) with Townships only as far north as present day Ottawa

as we had in the old country. We have no landlords nor tax-gatherers here. Every Briton; on making application for land, receives it, with the necessary implements, whether sent out by Government or not; and tradesmen are entitled to a town lot of one acre, besides the hundred acres. We still get implements by degrees. I have got an axe, spade, hammer, pick-axe, auger, frying-pan, camp-kettle, and three blankets. I have also laid in my seed potatoes: it takes eight or nine bushels to an acre, and three and a half quarts Indian corn: the same quantity of oats, and three quarts of wheat. Potatoes are half a dollar a bushel; oats, 3s. 6d; wheat, from 5s. to 7s.

The weather is pretty sharp, but the air is, clear and brushed, and one chopped: now is the time to be employed, that we may get our crops in the ground by the spring. We are all getting quite comfortable to what we were. All who hold land, and have been in possession of it for three years, are entitled to the deeds, and have a vote for a member, which is every four years: the election was at Perth in May last.

There are a great number of new townships, the names of which I have omitted at present; however, Lanark is the best settled, and we expect, in a short time, that it will be a flourishing place. I am very uneasy to know how all the poor people with you have got through the winter. I wish that many of them were here, for they would be able to make themselves comfortable in a short time. Let our friends know, that they would do well by taking land: come out yourselves; also, if it be possible, bring Janet and Mary, for they could get service quite fast: servants are very much wanted, and get from three to five dollars a-month. Get into some Societies, for it would take more to bring you up, than to bring you over: you shall not be so badly, off as we were, for a house to put

sermon since I left you; however, I trust much good will be done in this place,- by the hand of the Lord, as it has every appearance to be flourishing in other respects. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Bell, of the Presbyterian church at Perth. Some of the friends of religion were cutting down wood for a church and school-house, last Monday; and some more are going to-morrow, to help to build a log-house for that purpose.

1821, May 7th.-I have wrote two letters, some time ago, and the person who carries this will have them We have received all the instalments promised by Government, with all the implements. We got the winter more favourably by than we expected, and it was not so severe as it was represented: the weather is pretty warm at present.

I have got about four acres chopped, and we are to burn it off immediately. I have bought all my seed, and a heifer two years old, with her young calf, she cost me eighteen dollars; and two young oxen, one year old, cost seventeen dollars: they will be able to work a little next year."

End

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 just in case you have to eat them.*

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In my Backyard

Anemone Canadensis

By Richard Copeland

This beautiful white flower grows in most temperate areas of North America. Its name comes from the Greek word for wind –*anemos* – and so named since it was believed that the flowers opened at the first winds of spring.

The plants can be 20-60cm in height, with bright blooms that appear to be five petals but are actually petal-like sepals. The blooms are about 2.5 to 3.8 cm in width. Anemone has long stalked sharp leaves having 3-5 sharply toothed sections at varying distances along the stem. The flower can have 80-100 bright yellow stamens in the middle of the bloom. The fruit is a spherical or egg-shaped green achene (single seeded fruit that does not open to liberate the seed) with

winged margins and has a straight beak 2-6 mm long.

Their favourite habitat is in open space and meadow-like moist areas with good water retention. In my backyard there is an area that remains moist throughout the spring and summer; a low land area over which the spring run-off travels as it heads downhill toward the river. On this particular piece of land the anemone flourishes in the hundreds and is not found elsewhere on the property. They grow from early spring and in some cases into late summer.

Some North American indigenous peoples valued the root of the Canadian anemone as having medicinal astringent properties using it in poultices and washes, but the plant actually contains caustic substances and one must be cautious in handling it. Direct contact should be avoided by people with sensitive skin. If you are intending to pick, be wary and pick only a few.

End



See Richard's blog at <http://offgrid.ottawariverinstitute.ca>



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Ontario Power Generation's Ottawa/St. Lawrence Plant Group invites you to attend our annual community meeting. You're invited to hear presentations by OPG staff on how our operations affect water levels and flows during the year on the Lower Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers. There will also be an update on OPG operations, a general public safety update, and information on water levels and flows.

The meeting will be held at the location and time listed below. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions. OPG representatives will be available to answer questions and discuss individual interests and concerns. We look forward to seeing you there.

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LOWER MADAWASKA AND OTTAWA RIVERS
ANNUAL STAKEHOLDER MEETING
Galilee Centre, 398 John Street North (main stone building), Arnprior
7:00 – 9:30 PM

We invite people who live in the Lower Madawaska River reaches and the Ottawa River reaches between Chenaux GS and Chats Falls GS to attend this meeting. Other meetings will be held for the Ottawa River on May 26 in Deep River and the Upper Madawaska River on July 15 in Palmer Rapids.

For more information, please call
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Pamper the wick! Tip #2 for Using Candles

By Carolyn Jakes

Editor's note: This is the second of a series on candle care. Carolyn Jakes is an encaustic artist (beeswax painting) and paints and teaches the encaustic method in her home studio at 318 Kennedy Road. She has been selling beeswax and paraffin candles and giving candle tip workshops for seven years.

Trim that wick? Yes. In the last edition, I explained how to hug and extend the life of your pillar candles. When 80% of the center is a pool of melted wax, hug the sides of the pillar into the center. This raises the level of the wax around the wick and keeps the top level all the way across. Less wick is then exposed and trimming may not be required. Trim the wick to no more than one cm each time you relight it. If the wick gets too long, it creates a very large flame that will burn down the wax in a shorter period of time. All types of candles need the wicks trimmed.

Beware of smoking wicks. A wick that is too tall will smoke even if it is in a beeswax candle. The extreme heat of the tall wick melts the wax so fast that it does not burn efficiently. Wicks can be trimmed with scissors while they are burning.

Blow out that wick? Never. Melted wax is conducted up the wick much like an oil lamp. If you blow out the flame, the wick continues to smolder. There are small embers inside the wick burning the wax out of the fibres. The wick could become brittle and difficult to relight. Use a snuffer or dunk the wick into the pool of liquid wax using a pencil or the point of your scissors.

continued on page 7



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The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

“read cover to cover”

Denbigh gets support from Greater Madawaska

Denbigh’s Community Ambulance Committee, which has been fighting to maintain full ambulance service in the Denbigh area got much needed support from the township of Greater Madawaska. Greater Madawaska has appealed to the province through Renfrew County to maintain ambulance stations at Northbrook and Denbigh. Renfrew County’s health committee now also lends it’s support to this appeal.

Citizens in Denbigh and the surrounding area have been struggling with the County of Lennox & Addington to leave Denbigh’s volunteer ambulance service on station in Denbigh and not shift it south at times when there is greater demand to the south of the county. On average this would result in having no ambulance on station in Denbigh for 12 hours of every day. The result of this is that in the event of a medical emergency in Denbigh and the immediately surrounding area, the response time for an ambulance to arrive would be greatly increased.

To quote the resolution from the Greater Madawaska Council: “A reduction of the Denbigh Ambulance Service to 12 hour coverage would unacceptably leave the people currently served by this base defenceless against medical emergencies 50% of the time.”

Richard’s Blog;

Dear Sustainer,

I have begun to resent being called a consumer. *Consumer’s Reports*, *Consumer Watch* or *Consumer SOS* on TV, the whole thing seems to suggest that we should consume. That somehow the very act of consuming will benefit humanity. I recognize that I do need to consume in some areas of my life – water or food for example – and it is obvious that acts of consumption lead to ‘processing’ and that an output from all that consumption is inevitable—hence sewage treatment and septic systems. “I metabolize – therefore I am”.

What is lost in all this is that we lose sight of the fact that all categories of our consumption leads to processes and ultimately an output. As we live, we crap out dead cars, TV’s, cell phones or CO2. And we are not as good at addressing the material sewage of our socio-economic functions as we are with bodily functions.

Denbigh lies in close proximity to Hastings County, Renfrew County and Frontenac County. As such, 59% of the calls serviced out of Denbigh are cross-border calls. Many of these are from Griffith and Matawatchan at the western end of the Township of Great Madawaska. Ambulance response time is a very important issue for Reeve Peter Emon and his Council.

Renfrew County’s health committee chairwoman Killaloe Mayor Janice Visneskie said that Renfrew County plans to meet with officials from Lennox & Addington to discuss the future of the Denbigh ambulance station.

This is all about budgets and resources. Municipalities throughout the province have been hard pressed since the Ontario government downloaded 50% of the cost of ambulance service on municipalities. If any political entity is to blame for putting people at risk by strained ambulance services it is the Province of Ontario.

Hopefully cooperation between neighbouring counties will help the situation and maintain the level of service that we currently have.

End

We have been encouraged to behave this way. The economy always trumps the environment. Who reports on the web, radio or TV about the day’s *sustainer’s index*? So little thought has gone into how these two elements of economy and *sustain-omy* can mutually support each other. I’m trying to improve at this. Carbon neutral wood heat, off-grid living, growing organic food and still I get called that ‘C’ name. I’m referred to as a consumer, and expected to behave like one.

I would love to have a survey or an ad mailed to the house addressed to *The Sustainer*. How do you feel about being addressed as such in this blog? I would probably even read that survey or ad. I would subscribe (but only online) to *Sustainer’s Report*. If I were called a sustainer, rather than the ‘C’ word, maybe I would think like a sustainer, and feel some satisfaction in feeling that. Perhaps I would think about sustainable implications when I make a purchase. Maybe if the terminology were changed, everyone would think about the sustainability in their actions.

See Richard’s blog at <http://offgrid.ottawariverinstitute.ca>

Looking back...



Renfrew and Raglan Streets in an earlier day

2009 Matawatchan Market Season Confirmed

An April 19th public meeting, which sought feedback from patrons and local residents, was a great success. A huge crowd by Matawatchan standards; twenty-seven people attended.

The Market committee received many good ideas for the coming market season from the public discussion and is grateful for the input. The committee also sent some idea out to those attending. These include the possibility of construction of an outdoor pizza oven on the Matawatchan Hall grounds that can be used by anyone. The oven could be used for Market lunches, for Fish and Game Club or any other community events. The Committee even envisions outdoor bread baking classes open to all.

One definite plan for the 2009 market season is soda fountain setup each market day where milk shakes, banana splits and other delights will be sold to complement the market lunch.

The first day of the season is a pre-market day plant sale on Saturday May 30. You will find trees, plants, perennials and even horseradish root for sale. I’m told that the lunch menu will include asparagus soup and pizza—all home-made.

The regular season begins on Saturday June 27 in conjunction with the annual Matawatchan Picnic – Canada Day festivities. Lunch that day will be served by the local United Church Women (UCW) group. After that there will be a market day every Saturday morning between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. until the Saturday closest to Labour Day (September 5). The only exception is August 22 when the market will move to Griffith to participate in their annual Show & Shine event.

While the season has shortened a little, there will be still be special market days for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Eulogy to Bert Stubinsky

He was born up around Black Donald
we hear
On a Christmas Day, I forget the year,
With a big bass voice and a thirst to quench
He became quite handy with the pliers
and wrench
And they called him Bert Stubinsky

He sang a song so we’ve been told,
about dying young when he grew old.
On his guitar he’d strum and play
And sing the songs of yesterday;
singing Bert Stubinsky.

If you watched his face as he told a
joke,

It would light right up like a fire
stoked
And his laughter came from ‘way down
deep
Like a giant roused from his deep
sleep;
laughing Bert Stubinsky.

Some years ago we wrote this song
And we’re here today to say, “So
long”
To an old time friend, a decent man.
May his soul find rest in that Promised
Land.
Farewell Bert Stubinsky.

Wes Bomhower

Using manure to generate electricity

By Janet McNeill

In working to make our world “cleaner and greener,” qualities such as intelligence, innovation, boldness, persistence, common sense, ingenuity – and a regard for small rather than grandiose projects – are needed. Brothers Fritz and Paul Klaesi of Fepro Farms near Cobden have demonstrated all these qualities in spades.

I first learned about their unique operation in the CBC Fifth Estate episode “The Gospel of Green,” and was fascinated to learn about this innovative project in our area. The day I visited the farm to chat with Paul Klaesi was the very one that their Hydro hook-up finally went “live” – so now Fepro farm is selling energy created on-site, to Hydro One.

The farm has 300 Holstein cattle, and what the Swiss-born brothers have done is create a manure digester and methane-powered generator to take the “poop” and turn it into enough energy to power 300 homes. Grease (not French fry oil) from grease traps in restaurants in Ottawa and Toronto is now also added to their energy mix.

The two brothers have been working on this innovative technology for 10 years now. The road to becoming an independent producer of electricity hasn’t been smooth, exactly, but Paul Klaesi, who has a masters degree in high voltage application and a Swiss high voltage inspections degree, has always been confident of their project’s soundness.

In chatting with Mr. Klaesi, I learned that, although the two brothers have had to face down daunting bureaucratic and regulatory mazes, they chose to persist and to navigate their way through these many challenges. Along the way, Paul helped co-found the AgriEnergy Producers’ Association of Ontario, a group for farmers involved in producing energy. Cooperation among APAO members has helped streamline the process of having farms connect to the Hydro grid. In future, farmers who set out to do what’s been done at Fepro Farms will find inter-connection issues considerably more straightforward.

The Klaesi brothers have had quite a bit of support along the way from OMAFRA – the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. In 2007, they won a Premier’s Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence – including a \$50,000 cash prize. Clearly, their efforts have been noticed and supported in “high places.”

When I asked Paul Klaesi why he thinks there is so much more energy-related innovation in Europe than in Canada, he replied that in North America there seems

to be an obsession with bigness. Europeans seem more inclined to recognize the power of many small things adding up incrementally to a large contribution. He cited the presence of solar panels on barn roofs in Switzerland and Germany, and the fact that many homes in Germany have solar panels on their roofs. He’s a big believer that smallness rather than bigness is what’s needed, and he also believes firmly that dealing properly with energy “streams” such as manure and grease is a necessity.

The AgriEnergy group is a member of the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA), a group that supports Ontario’s Green Energy Act.

Asked to give advice to would-be innovators, Paul Klaesi is liable to say, “Just take the plunge.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “Do not follow where the path may lead...go instead where there is no path, and leave a trail.” The Klaesi brothers are definitely local trailblazers!

You can watch a video about the Klaesi farm at www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engi-neer/facts/video_pooppower.htm

On April 23rd, ORI will be cooperating with the Marguerite Centre in a public showing of “The Gospel of Green” in Pembroke. For more information, contact Amber at (613) 732-9925 or amber@margueritecentre.com

Editor’s note: Janet McNeill is a member of the Ottawa River Institute (www.ottawariverinstitute.ca). This article is the 15th in a series on energy innovators in the Ottawa Valley. Previous articles in the series can be found on the Ottawa River Institute website www.ottawariverinstitute.ca

End

Candles (Cont)

Check for wick thickness. Candle wicks should be of a specific thickness and texture designed to burn within the diameter of the candle. A 12 cm wide pillar needs a thicker wick than a 2 cm wide taper. How often have you seen spoiled, wide pillars with thin wicks and a deep well down the center of the candle?

Fix off center wicks. If it bothers you, fix it. Burn the pillar candle for one to two hours. Slide a thin stick down the side of the wick about 3 cm deep on the side too close to the edge and push the wick gently into the center.

The next issue of this paper will explain how to select the right candle type and size to fit the occasion. For free candle advice or the complimentary use of her hot plate to repair a spoiled pillar candle with a deep well, call Carolyn at 613-752-2500.

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WALLS, WALLS AND WALLS

by **Ernie Jukes of Camp J**

Someone once said “Fences or walls make good neighbours”, however, history does not prove that at all. In fact, walls provoke rather than inspire. Walls become barriers to communication and potential understanding and friendship. They can be shields of the paranoid.

Early barricades and walls built of almost any material protected inhabitants from animals and marauders. Later on, borders prompted fences, thorny hedges and walls. Some with garrisons of soldiers like the 14th century Great Wall of China and the Hadrian’s Wall built in AD122 to keep the Scots out of Roman Britain.

In more modern times there was the Maginot Line, a series of connected forts built by France after World War I to keep the Germans from invading. It didn’t work. Not all walls are structures of defense. Some walls can also be political; for example, many of the world’s enemies who know no borders, come out of Pakistan, but the U.N. are not allowed in.

Everyone remembers the disgusting Berlin Wall, built by Russians to keep citizens from escaping out of communist East Germany. The United States is presently building their great wall along the 1,952 mile Mexican border. It too has armed Border Patrols and armed private citizens calling themselves minute men all along the Rio Grande River. At one time Mexico extended as far north as present day Kansas.

Walls come and go, there was even a 2,000 mile fence attempted in Australia with the sole purpose of controlling rabbits. But the prolific bunnies won.

There is also today’s wall built by Israel in the West Bank. Like all walls, people and rockets go over, tunnels go under. Walls can be offensive security and usually don’t compliment the builders.

Next to the Maya of Mesoamerica, Canada’s early French built the very first walls for protection and fortification in the New World, well constructed to this day, as evidenced in fine fortresses of Louisbourg and Quebec City, 400 years ago. Peculiar as it may seem, during the most single event that altered the course of history in North America, General Montcalm unwisely left his walled city to face General Wolfe’s British forces in the open on the Plains of Abraham. The result of this short, but bloody battle, in 1759 cost France their ownership of real estate in North America

The following wave of immigration to “The Canadas” brought smaller walls. Scots, German, Irish, English and Welsh built walls to show boundaries and keep cattle from wandering. Most of the materials came from tree roots and rocks as

these hardy pioneers cleared their land for grazing and crops.

In our part of Ontario we can easily see miles of these comparatively small walls almost in any direction we travel. Sometimes only a few feet high, built by hand with only a horse or oxen and “stone boat” to aid in the back breaking chore. Sliding boulders, weighing hundreds of pounds, was a family affair, occasionally with them ending up in the walls or solid fireplaces and chimneys of their new habitations.

As we jump around like “globe trotters” we appreciate many more walls, like those here in Mexico. There is a saying “Behind those Walls”.....which means very plain and functional on the outside – leading to beautiful gardens and patios on the inside. There are walls everywhere down here. Almost every property has a wall around it. A Mexican amigo told me the Spanish brought their language, their religion and their walls.

In fact, I am presently scribbling while soaking up the “rays of sol” here behind the wall surrounding El Parque, in central Mexico. I write and paint during the winter from Casa Perry one of 114 villas in this “bonito” gated community near the shore of Lake Chapala.

Coming back to Canada – will the paranoia of the U.S. Homeland Security continue, to the building of yet a northern wall – perhaps part of it floating in the lengths of Lake’s Ontario and Erie? To our way of thinking, the last thing this world needs is another wall. And we can’t even make a wall of snow or ice – with this other political football called “Global Warming”.

End

**Pot Luck in
honour of Gerry
&
Marion
Adamson
Friday May 22 at
5:00 p.m.
Matawatchan
Community Hall
Euchre to Follow**

Griffith & Matawatchan Fire Department: Station #2 Community News

Betsy Sayers

Remember to visit the Public Health Agency of Canada’s website www.phac-aspc.gc.ca for the most up-to-date information.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK:

As you no doubt heard in the media, last week was Emergency Preparedness Week in Canada. GMTFD Station #2 took advantage of the opportunity our rally represented to share information on how you can help prepare your family for any kind of emergency from fire, floods and storms to pandemic influenza. The children especially liked the fire hats and activity books we handed out.

Everyone is thinking about Pandemic Influenza these days, and we’d just like to remind you that the best thing you can do to protect yourself and your family is to stay home when you are sick; sneeze or cough into your sleeve not your hand; and to wash your hands often and properly with soap. Most of us don’t wash our hands long enough to remove germs – teach your children and grand-children to sing Happy Birthday or their ABC’s while they are lathering up with soap.

RALLY DAY IN GRIFFITH:

Our fourth annual ATV rally dawned overcast but hopeful. By afternoon though, the rain had set in and riders reported having a great time despite being well soaked. This year’s trail was almost 70km long. Over 300 ATVs of all makes and models participated in a terrific day of fun for everyone. Warm coffee, hot-dogs and burgers were well received as the riders returned to the firehall.

On behalf of GMTFD Station #2 we’d like to express our appreciation to our many sponsors who donated prizes for helping us put on another wonderful day – we couldn’t do it without you!

We especially would like to acknowledge that we could never put on a day like this without all of the hard work done by our organizing committee of Melissa, Celine and Oxanna.

See you again next year!

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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew’s United Church
Feb. to August Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Aug to Feb Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

Hilltop Tabernacle
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church
Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am
WMI meet first Monday of the month
Weekly Bible study Tuesdays 7pm
at Fellowship Hall and in Plevna
Pioneer Club Thursdays 6pm at
Clar-Mill Hall, Plevna

St. Luke’s United Church
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

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

**The Calabogie Bible Fellowship
Congregational Church**

The Mill Street Chapel at 538 Mill St.,
Regular service – Sundays 10:30 a.m.

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church
504 Mill St., Rev. Father Pat Blake
Sundays 10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church
Mount St. Patrick
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Calabogie St. Andrews United Church
1044 Madawaska Dr.
(on the waterfront)
Church Services Sunday Mornings at
8:45 a.m. Communion
1st Sunday of every month.
Bible study every Wednesday evening
7:15 – 9:00

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Yard Sale (new and used items),
Fundraiser at St. Andrew’s United Church
Sat. May 30, 8 am to 5 pm

Renfrew County Seniors’ Games
in Calabogie June 10 & 11.
For info/registrations call Ronnie Brown
at 613-752-0247 or go to Greater
Madawaska
Township Office or Township Library.
As long as you are a 55+ Renfrew County
resident, you may participate.

Strawberry Social,
St. Andrew’s United Church,
Sat. June 27, 11 to 2 pm;
free will offering

Fitness, Adults Only Fun,
Contact Township office at 753-2222
for details for evening sessions starting in
May.

Calabogie Seniors’ Dinner & Meeting,
last Thursday of each month,
5 pm at Community Hall.

All seniors 55+ welcome.

Calabogie Women’s Institute
meets second Thursday monthly,
7:30 pm. at Calabogie Home Support Office
next to Murphy’s Landing Restaurant.
New members welcome.
752-2598

Calabogie Arts and Crafts Assoc.,
Every 2nd Monday (if holiday, then 3rd
Monday),
10:00am – 1:00 pm, Community Hall,
prospective members most welcome
(\$12 per year), 752-2598

Lion’s Club Bingo every Wednesday,
7:15 pm, Calabogie Community Hall,
752-0234.

**The Calabogie and Area
Ministerial Food Bank**
538 Mill Street,
2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month
10:00 am to 12:00 noon
For emergency situations, please call
752-2201.

Burnstown

Burnstown New Affair of the Arts
May 30 and 31
www.burnstown.ca

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Market Plant Sale
Saturday May 30 at 9:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Matawatchan Community Hall

St. Andrews Church : Community Hymn
Sing-a-long May 17 @ 7:00pm
All welcome - dessert & refreshments

Pot Luck Lunch
Guest Speaker: Residential Schools
Tuesday May 26 at noon
St. Andrews United Church
Matawatchan
Contact: Pat Strong 333-2707

**Pot Luck in honour of Gerry &
Marion Adamson**
Friday May 22 at 5:00 p.m.
Matawatchan Community Hall

Yard Sale (Gerry Adamson)
House sold must downsize
May 16, 17 & 18 9 am to 4 pm
2527 Matawatchan Rd.

Garage Sale (Ardean Kelly)
Sat. May 16 – 8 am to 4 pm
Sun. May 17 – 10 am to 4 pm
4316 Matawatchan Rd

Lion’s Club Bingo
Every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Sylvia’s Foot Care
Every six weeks
St. Andrews Church (Matawatchan)
Call Annabell Marshal 333-1752

“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.
AllSeniors Welcome

Denbigh

Diners Club
Dinners are held the first Monday of the
month at the Denbigh Community Hall
at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$6.00.
Contact Faye Mieske at 333-2784 or
Irene at 333-2202 for information.

St. Luke’s United Church, Denbigh
Exercise Group - Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

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Cottage Corner

Visitus Interruptus

By John Roxon

Normally, I'm not one to complain. I usually get to the cottage about 20 or so times a year – sometimes to do nothing, sometimes to complete any myriad of jobs that always need doing. I have often come up with a friend or friends to blow off steam – getting lost in the woods at 2 a.m. and capsizing boats at midnight (don't ask). Other times with the family to play some board games, go exploring and to have some great meals. And sometimes I just arrive alone to contemplate my navel and, often, to write this column.

In other years, while up here, the rest of the world is a din, an easily ignored one at that. Lately, the normal white noise of world events has turned into an irritating screech as the media hammers away at the so called global economic crisis. There's nothing the media likes better than a story with legs that scares the crap out of the general populace. The various levels of government like the same thing, of course, because then they have a chance to prove to the voting public that they're really doing something and that their head isn't up their collective you know what all the time.

I'm not buying it though – any of it. I mean, is this really our problem? On one side of the scale we've finally discovered that paying unskilled labor hourly rates comparable to what many doctors earn

is not sustainable. On the other side of the scale, we have highly paid banking analysts and “investment professionals” who have come down with a serious case of me too-ism as they all chase the holy grail of big returns and even bigger bonuses instead of sticking with a deliberate investment strategy involving only those companies with a solid balance sheet and years of unspectacular, perhaps, but measured, growth. So mistakes were made and the public at large pays because our elected officials choose to give money to idiots and losers and all this is seriously messing with the gentle karma of the cottage. And that, quite frankly, peeves me off. And it should peeve off all of you as well.

I don't really know where to start with my list of Chicken Littles. Ok, I do – the media. On the one hand they're front and center in spreading the economic crisis manure, on the other they have their hand out for government – our – money. The large media companies have spent millions and billions consolidating all the small town papers and radio stations in this country – shutting many of them down and incurring great debt in the process. Then to save money they run the same columnists and wire stories in all their media outlets and then they whine because they can't figure out why no one is buying their papers or visiting their web sites. The truth of the matter is that the best thing that could happen to the media in Canada – the very best thing – is if CTV and Global were allowed to fail. The subsequent sell-off of assets would bring a great opportunity for real media diversification in this country. Diversification would mean different voices and different opinions and that would bring

more discourse and debate – all good in a healthy democracy. The day our government takes these whiners seriously is the day I start advocating anarchy and rebellion in the streets.

The next target has to be the auto companies. Well, specifically Chrysler and GM. They've had their financial head in the clouds for years as they gave in to the unions, promising pensions and health care for life and tuition help for offspring and any number of other mind boggling hand outs all in the name of – what? Labor peace? Corporate growth? Well, they have neither right now and I can't believe that behind closed doors the eggheads at these companies didn't know what they were doing. I'm sure that the issue of sustainability was brought up yet the corporate heads, in all their smugness, knew that the government wouldn't allow them to fail because they employed too many people and because it would look bad to the voting public. The truth of the matter is that failure of these companies wouldn't be that bad – in fact it would bring many opportunities. There are many car companies in other pockets of the world who would love to enter the North American market. Most of them can't due to the high costs of importing every vehicle and/or setting up local factories and/or setting up a dealer network. Allow Chrysler to fail and all of a sudden there is a trained workforce, empty factories and a dealer network all in place - ready to go to the highest bidder. And I would bet that the government wouldn't have to offer up one dime of taxpayer money as incentive as the successful new companies entering our marketplace would get their infrastructure needs answered for dimes on the dollar.

This brings me once again to the money launderers – I mean lenders. An advanced PhD isn't needed to figure out if you lend someone 100% of the purchase price of something – especially something that would take decades to pay off – then that person has no stake in the item and would sensibly walk away or fail to make payments if the going got tough. In essence, these lenders were buying houses and then asking a complete stranger to look after their investment for them. I think I figured out in grade two that if I asked a classmate to look after my hockey cards for me that I probably wouldn't be seeing those hockey cards again. Yet there's great surprise when people either fail to make their house payments or walk away altogether once the value sinks below what they still owe on their debt. Thankfully, we seem a bit saner on this front up here in the great white north, but this foolishness south of the border sure has affected our sense of fun. To paraphrase Trudeau, if the elephant has gas, everyone smells it.

All of which affects my bucolic existence at the cottage. Why should I get so steamed at this? My life hasn't been directly affected by this nonsense yet. The sun still shines; there are still mosquitoes and winter still lasts far too long. I guess what makes me so worked up is that the future is coming into sharp focus. Ask yourself what the only possible outcome is when your government spends billions it doesn't have to the extent that it has to print extra money to make up for the shortfall. The economic future isn't looking so bright. And it peeves me off.

End

Griffith / Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

On April 19, 2009 the Matawatchan Market Committee's promised public meeting drew a large crowd of prospective vendors, devotees, the socially deprived and some good old hangers-on. Ken Birkett conducted a far-reaching and comprehensive presentation during which all facets of the market were reviewed and many suggested improvements were discussed. The important outcome was that the “The Market” will again this summer, be a place for us to kick back and enjoy Saturday mornings.

The Pembroke District Office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has approved the Ottawa Valley Forest Inc. (OVFI) 2009-2010 annual work schedule (AWS) for the Ottawa Valley Forest. The AWS will be available for public inspection at the Pembroke OVFI District Office and on the MNR public website, ontario.ca/forestplans.

Some of the scheduled activities are: construction of roads, harvesting operations including clear cutting and renewal activities such as tree planting and tend-

ing. Those interested in information regarding tree planting job opportunities may contact the OVFI at 613 735 1888. For information on the location of, and license requirements for obtaining fuel wood for personal use, contact Mary Beth Stewart, MNR, at 613 732 5581. For commercial fuel wood opportunities, contact the OVFI. To find out what's happening in our neck of the woods, AWS operations summary maps may be obtained from Helen Hermansen, MNR, at 613 732 5573 or from Bruce Summerby, OVFI, at 613 735 1888.

Thanks to a giving community, the Denbigh Griffith Lions Club (DGLC) picked up some serious currency through the sale of the Easter Bunnies – chocolate of course – and the Daffodil Tea. All funds raised at the “Tea” went to the Cancer Society. The Lions are leaving no stone unturned – perhaps an overwhelming thought in this area – in their fund-raising efforts. They'll even take your used books and used toner cartridges. Used prescription eyeglasses for needy folks are also collected.

Members will be out again swatting black flies and collecting contributions at the DLGC Toll Roads on May15, 2009. After a shift of feeding the little pests, most volunteers could use a blood donation but they'll settle for your loonies and townies so stash a few in your vehicle and seek out the toll sites.

The Show and Shine is on again this year – August 22, 2009. This is an event that no-one should miss, whether you're interested in classic cars or not. There are some great photos of Roy Bernt and his old-engine display still circulating in the community. Vendors wishing to reserve a table at the Show and Shine may contact Gail Holtzhauer at 613 333 5551.

Over 50 people made it to the Matawatchan Hall on May 03, 2009 for a get-together, consisting of descendants of the Pete/Lizzie Kelly and the Wattie/Maggie Hutson families. The event was planned to welcome Brian and Yvonne Kelly back to the valley. Brian was born and raised in Matawatchan but now lives in Kelowna, BC. As with all Matawatchan bashes, there was a lot of socializing, a lot of sto-

ries told – not all of them true – and a lot of grub consumed.

It is not often that we comment on births and deaths in the community. We leave that to the larger weekly publications. When, in a matter of days however, we lose three of our links to bygone generations, it is fitting that we mark their passing by acknowledging their outstanding lives.

The first to pass away was Donald MacPherson, then T.J. MacLellan and lastly John Lacourse Sr.

All were born and raised in the Matawatchan/Griffith area: all had reached their early nineties and all were well-known and highly respected. The inspiration and background information for many of the historical articles published in The Madawaska Highlander can be attributed to them. Their passing leaves a void and they will be missed. To their families we offer heartfelt condolences.

End

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Bee Nice

By Floris Wood

I know you have to endure a lot of shrieking from the telly warning you about flu epidemics that never seem to happen, comets due to collid with Earth in only octillion years, and of global warming which, in moderation, might even seem like a good thing.



Well, I'm no Peter Mansbridge or Wolf Blitzer but I'm here to tell you we've got a bee problem. Yes, a bee problem! We don't have enough bees.

Just imagine this scenario. You and your family are taking a stroll through the streets or the park or the zoo of your favourite city when you happen on a nice ice cream stand. It's hot and the phantom taste of ice cream lands on each family member's lips at once. Much to the relief of the adults a child says, "Let's get an ice cream!"

"Yeah, good idea." Several chime in. So all eyes dart up to big board that lists the flavours . . . and prices. Whew, you don't remember ice cream being this expensive last year. You're thinking maybe single dip. You look at the cones being dispensed by the clerk and they seem smaller than you remember. Definitely, single dip. You really like the traditional flavours more than the mocca tutti fruitis, so you look for blueberry. No blueberry. Strawberry? No strawberry. You ask the clerk if they maybe they didn't have

room to list the traditional flavours. He explains that it was a bad year for some fruits so they cost a lot. The manager decided to eliminate some of the more expensive flavours in order to provide more of the very popular ones. No strawberries? Blueberries, gone? What is the world coming to?

Well, that is some time in the future yet, but the future we are living now already presages that one. We are already paying higher prices for things like almonds because the almond industry in California has been hit very hard by the lack of bees to pollinate their almond trees. California supplies 88% of the world's almonds and yields are down by 16% in spite of importing bees from Florida and Arkansas. You see, bees are responsible for pollinating about one third of all food consumed by humans. The wind, ants, birds and other insects pollinate the other two thirds. In 2007 the Ontario Provincial government spent three million of your hard earned tax money to help Ontario bee keepers rebuild their bee hive stocks after the previous winter killed 30% of the bee population of Ontario. The winter previous to that killed 18% of the bees. The usual winter kill in Ontario is 10%. So you're already paying for the bee shortage. After the winter of 2007-2008 P. E. I. experienced a 40% winter kill in its bees which effected their blueberry production and blueberry prices. Usually blueberry producers can increase their blueberry yield by 50% through the use of 2-4 beehives per acre of blueberries. Bee keepers are learning better ways to insulate hives and to medicate bees against the dangerous Varroa mites, but this takes extra money and labour. Most Ontario bees are raised for pollination purposes, with honey as an incidental by product that helps pay the bills. The Ontario government has charged the University of Guelph with doing the research to help determine the causes of such deep winter kill and with finding possible solutions.

It is felt by most bee keepers that the shortage of bees in Ontario has not been caused by the rather generic condi-

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tion known as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) that has plagued bee hives in much of the rest of the world. Extremely cold winters appear to be the most likely culprit, but then, Ontario is no stranger to extremely cold winters, which raises the possibility of the bees being weakened by something else, making them more susceptible to extremely cold winters. This is one of the many possibilities that the University of Guelph researchers have to examine.

While the direct evidence is missing that CCD is killing Ontario bees, bee keepers are warily watching the movement of CCD across the continent from where it first appeared in California in 1987. It is not known where the mite came from but it is known to have existed in Java over 100 years ago. If cultivated bees are

in trouble wild bees are faring far worse. There is nobody to replenish their stocks so all losses are final. A survey of bee populations conducted by Michael Wariner for the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission will determine if any bee species have become extinct. A similar survey conducted in Britain found that half the country's bumblebee species can no longer be found.

The cause of CCD is only slightly less mysterious today as it was when first identified. Two facts seem to be well known. One is that bees were diminishing in population before CCD landed in North America. An article published in 1977, ten years before the onset of CCD, describes devastating losses due to pesticides. But these losses could be avoided

continued on page 21

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BURNSTOWN'S "NEW AFFAIR" - a time to Discover, Linger and Rejuvenate...

By Cheryl Babineau

Seven years ago, Burnstown introduced its "Affair of the Arts".

This event marks the beginning of the busy season for the shops and galleries who extend their business hours to welcome local visitors and tourists alike.

Organizers of the event wish to thank the many guest artists who helped make the Affair a success through their participation in previous years. This year's event has been dubbed the "New" Affair as the format has changed. The focus of the weekend (May 30 & 31) has been re-invented to showcase the talent & quality that resides within the village itself and celebrates the antiquity and origins of Burnstown.

The resident artists and craftsmen who have devoted their lives to developing and honing their skills have accomplished a level of professionalism that has brought them national and international recognition. They, along with their guest artists will be "creating" in their studios throughout the weekend. This is your chance to see where, and how the magic begins. Also note that the galleries here represent many accomplished artists who don't have studios in the village.

"Why don't my photographs look good?" A newer member of the group, who happens to be a professional photographer, will be happy to share his knowledge with you - free of charge.

The healing arts are represented by two practitioners living in the village. Both are dedicated, skilled and intuitive women, each with their own wealth of knowledge. Come and meet them and learn more about the services they offer.

Finding noteworthy gifts is not a problem here. Canadian crafted jewellery, glass, pottery, and other fine products (including quality clothing for women and children) are tastefully displayed in the beautiful shops and galleries.

With the quality of food that is served in the café and the coffee-house here, it becomes much more than a staple of life, it is a sensory delight - fresh, aromatic and pleasing to the eye.

While most people enjoy the aroma of a fresh cup of coffee, many may never have witnessed the actual roasting of the beans that cause the reaction of closing ones eyes and breathing deeply. You will be treated to that experience during the Affair.

Because the village is not only a group of business people, but a community, the church, a prominent Burnstown landmark also participates in this spring event. On Saturday May 30th, they are hosting a concert (starting at 7:00 pm) with renowned tenor David Galbraith, and other talented vocalists. A silent auction will also be held as part of their fund raising efforts for building maintenance costs. Informative tours of the church will be offered to visitors who would like to learn about its origins of construction, design and architectural features.

In the spirit of community, there will also be a special unveiling of a fireplace "wrapped in history". A long-time resident artist has spent much time, and creative energy producing a work of art that captures and documents the history of his 175 year old log home; a permanent record for future generations.

Viewers of this unique expression of history and art will have an opportunity to help maintain the preservation of the Burnstown United Church for posterity.

Come to Burnstown - a stopping place since 1825- Celebrate antiquity and originality at the NewAffair on May 30 & 31.

Further details will be posted soon at www.burnstown.ca

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GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan Hale

Spring has come to the Township and we are surely ready for it. The lakes and rivers are glistening like crystal goblets. The birds are busy practising for their May concert. Between their beautiful songs during the day and the frog orchestra at night, it is no wonder the buds on the trees are bursting open to hear the music while the bushes perform a graceful ballet to the breezes. Just as Mother Earth prepares her family for these performances, the flowers present us with a beautiful canvas of colour. Soon crosswalks will be set up for the annual turtle trek to prepare for the next generation's arrival.

The nonfiction section has a great collection of titles about flora and fauna. Explore the shelves to learn about that bird at your feeder, the raccoon which knocks on the patio door, the otter playing in the water and the skunks digging up your lawn and why, as Martha says, "It's a good thing". From flower and vegetable gardening, landscaping and pruning we have it all. What about building your own deck, stone wall or patio? Come and see if we can help. If we do not have it, another library will and we can get it for you. Our six high-speed computers and Wi-Fi are other resources at your disposal.

The children are enjoying the new puppet theatre. It is wonderful to hear and see the great little plays the children perform for each other. The new children's DVDs can be watched in the library using the listening centre or take home to enjoy. We are building our own collection as well as receiving a set from the Southern Ontario Library Service every three months.

The TD Summer Program is to be offered again this summer. Agent 009 will lead the children through many clues to discover

solutions to many mysteries. It will be every Wednesday afternoon in July and August. In July, we have a children's entertainer coming as well. Movie afternoons will bring the children in from the hot sun.

The wee ones are celebrating spring with stories and crafts. They decorated the hall bulletin board with coloured flowers. I cannot believe that I only have a few more visits with the local school children.

I have been madly getting Museum passes for you. At present, you may borrow ones for The Museum of Science and Technology, all of the City of Ottawa Museums and The Museum of Civilization which gives you entrance to the Postal Museum, the Children's Museum and the War Museum as well. Passes to other venues are in the works, so watch the website or drop in to keep up-to-date. What a wonderful family outing!

We have been adding many more titles in both paper and media types. There are some other surprises on the way as well.

I have received partial funding for two summer students for July and August. The first position is for a student in grade 12, College or University. The candidate must have excellent organizational and computer skills, be independent, and work well with children and the public. The junior position is for a student in grade 9 to 11. The candidate must have computer skills, take instruction well, and work well with children. Both positions will be required to carry out various library duties for which instructions will be given. It is expected that casual business attire will worn. Please register with Ontario Jobs Service and provide the library with a detailed CV. Please call the library if more information is required. The deadline is June 1, 2009.

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Denbigh Checking In

By Angela Bright

Editor's note: This is the last contribution from Angela Bright to the Highlander. The pressures of a growing family don't allow her to continue. Thank you Angela for the service that you performed for your community and for the Highlander. I hope that there is someone else in Denbigh who is willing to step into her shoes. If so, please contact me.

*There was lots "happening" at the Lion's Easter Party on Saturday, April 11th! It was hard to even count how many little ones there were, but everyone was clearly having a good time playing fish pond, bean bag toss, golf, and decorating cup cakes and rabbits. The arrival of Molly the Clown was a big hit and the kids lined up to get their very own balloon dog. The Egg Hunt was a lot of fun too; the Easter Bunny led the way outside to find the coloured eggs. After the whirlwind of fun, each one was given a goodie bag on the way out the door, just a little sugar to keep them going until they got home. Thank you to the Denbigh Griffith Lion's for a great afternoon!

*The Denbigh Recreation Club is the fortunate recipient of a 2009 Trillium Grant, provided by The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario. Our community is very appreciative of this grant and quite excited with having the financial means to make some improvements that we will benefit from for years to come. This specific grant covers a fairly wide variety of recreational related improvements to the Denbigh rink/ball diamond building

and its outside facilities. The bulk of the grant involves upgrades to the rec building itself, including a kitchen renovation, new septic system, two handicap accessible washrooms and new siding. The picnic shelter will get a new concrete floor as well as having the underside of the roof structure enclosed. Basketball nets will be a brand new addition, and the children's play area will be treated to some new playground equipment such as a slide and climber. To keep our horse friends happy, a permanent corral will be built for the annual fall horse draw showcased at Countryfest. This corral will help improve safety for both the teamsters and the spectators. And for the audience enjoying the outdoor events, a new set of bleachers is also included in the plans, meaning plenty of room to sit and take it all in. Work is already well under way, with the kitchen renovations nearing completion. Thanks to the great support of volunteers in the Rec Club and in the community; without your help the benefits of receiving the Trillium Grant would not be realized or mean quite so much. Upgrades will progress into the fall, so there will be lots of opportunities to become involved. If you would like to lend a hand, please contact one of the Rec Club members or Tony Fritsch at 613-333-2224.

*Here is a quick run down of events Denbigh Recreation will be hosting throughout the coming year; June 13th Indoor-Outdoor Yard Sale, July 4th Canada Day with lawn tractor pull, September 18-20th Countryfest with Horse Pull and Loggers Games, October 31st Scary Halloween for the kids, and December 5th the Santa

Training the Corporal

By Howard Popkie

When I got back from Korea I joined the **Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry** (PPCLI) a second timer about three years later.

We were training on Vancouver Island. The officers, who had white bands on their arms, were observing the training to see how it was going. They had a roped off area and anyone considered "killed" in the exercise had to spend their day there.

My corporal said, "Popkie, you were in Korea so you take the Bren gun and go across the clearing and hide in the bush and fire on us."

We were all using blank ammunition. The Bren gun was automatic with 30-round magazines.

When I fired a few rounds at them, they did their thing where ten men fired their rifles at me while their Bren gunner runs up a few yards then fires while the ten men advance: it's called leap-frog.



Private Popkie and Bren Gun

I got out of there seconds after I fired the first time but they didn't know and assumed I was still in that position. There was low land around the clearing with brush so they didn't see me run around the clearing and get behind them. I got behind a big rock for cover and fired two magazines (60 rounds) into their backs.

The officer watching said that I had killed them all and that they had to spend the

Claus Parade.

*Easter was celebrated at the kid's program at the library in April. On May 14th from 6 to 7pm, the kids are invited back for more fun. And don't forget, the library steadily receives new material on the shelves for readers of all ages, so stop by and see what is available!

End

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The Sergeant Major

By Howard Popkie

When I was 16 years old I was 200 pounds, six feet tall and very strong from my training with the **Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry** (PPCLI).

We were doing PT (Physical Training) getting ready for Korea. The NCOs (Non-Commissioned Officers) had to be in good shape so they did PT with us. The sergeant who was the PT instructor paired us off and told us that we had to grab each other by the wrist and try to slap the other man's face.

As a partner I got the RSM (Regimental Sergeant-Major) who had a big waxed moustache. I slapped his face as often as I thought was appropriate—three times.

I was the only private in the Canadian Army that got to slap the face of the RSM and get away with it.

End

End

CABA CORNER

By Debora Giffin

The Calabogie and Area Business Association is made up of one hundred area businesses (give or take a few in any given year) and is led by a dedicated group of volunteer executive and directors. CABA’s slogan, “Improve.Promote.Grow” along with a mission to promote and develop better business opportunities are considered first and foremost when tasks and projects are undertaken.

Looking back over the past year we will have accomplished:

- A) Community support by participating in the Christmas Parade, Calabogie Winter Carnival, Bogie Lights display, Canada Day celebrations, and Remembrance Day services.
- B) Creation and implementation of the first Festival of the Senses providing a demand generator in a typically slow time of year.
- C) Partnering support to the Township’s Economic Development Committee for their Broadband Grant Application and Barnet Park Committee in their Trillium Grant process.
- D) Provision of a fully government funded student to operate the Tourist Booth during the summer months.

- E) Recognition of outstanding businesses and community volunteers.
- F) Provision of feedback to Township Council relating to their Strategic Vision.
- G) Representing local “business” on relevant committees – such as County Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development, Noise By-Law Committee, Strategic Plan Implementation.
- H) Producing the CABA Business Directory in the Madawaska Highlander and maintaining the www.calabogie.org website.
- I) Posting of community events on highway sign board and online.
- J) Acting as a point of contact for visitor and general enquiries.
- K) Sponsoring of 1 kilometer of Hwy. 511 for Renfrew County’s Adopt-a-Road clean up plan.
- L) Funding support to the Township Trails Committee and the purchase and placement of a gazebo in Barnet Park.
- M) Assisting in development and distribution of the new and improved GMT and Burnstown Tourist Map.
- N) Profiling of area businesses in The Highlander.

O) Provided a local workshop for GPS Training

At each of the four meetings held throughout the year, Executive work to provide an interesting and informative agenda.

Most recently (April 20th) CABA analyzed and critiqued itself. Feedback was very positive, with some great ideas for improvement and change brought forward.

Our next meeting will be held at “The Duck”, hosted by new owners, Lee Chapman and his daughter Kristina, on Monday June 8th at 7:00 p.m. We encourage every business to attend.

As with any volunteer organization it is important and imperative to receive assistance and support from the membership. **Please consider volunteering to be a**

Director for the upcoming term, commencing July 1st. We hold four general membership meetings and four executive meetings each year with meetings lasting an hour or two – and the cookies are always great!

We would also greatly appreciate help with single event projects or to act as a representative of CABA on other committees. For instance, Laura & Doug Bevington and Lori & Glen Bottriell have again volunteered for the spring clean up of CABA’s kilometer of Adopt-a-Road.

Membership fees are very low – and the benefits are very high - at just \$30.00 –renewable in July of each year.

For additional information or to volunteer please
Email: president@calabogie.org or call Deb Giffin at 752 0690 or Carolyn Jakes at 752 2500 or Cath Reynolds at 752 1595.

End

Out on the First Concession

AUNT CHRISTY

By Wes Bomhower

Aunt Christy was well into her 80’s when Aunt Kate asked her to come spend her last days on the farm, and though we lived in our part of the same farmhouse, I never became very well acquainted with the elder lady. She and Aunt Kate were actually my grandfather’s older sisters.

I would be five years old, my brother Everett, twelve years old, and we could sometimes hear Aunt Christy through the thin walls of the old farmhouse as she prepared for bed each night. For some reason she always gargled her throat with a solution for a couple of minutes or more before retiring. It would be, “glug-glug-glug,glur-glur-glur,” and Everett and I began imitating the sounds she made from the relative safety of our bedroom until Mom caught us, and that was the end of that.

Aunt Christy passed away in the spring at the age of 88 years, and of course she was laid out in a coffin in the parlour as was the custom in those days. (The par-

lour rarely got used for anything else unless the minister came to visit.) I had never seen a dead person before and my older sisters told me all sorts of spooky stuff about dead people to the extent that I really didn’t want to view Aunt Christy in her coffin whatsoever. Finally, because they insisted, I went into the parlour with them and stood on a chair to see Aunt Christy to the best advantage.

There she lay, so still and peaceful with her hands clasped together, that I began to have second thoughts. Here was the poor old lady whom Everett and I had been making fun of not long ago, and now she was dead. I felt so sorry for her, and I even felt tears welling in my eyes. I heard a door close softly, and looking about, I realized to my horror that I was in the parlour all alone with a dead person!!! My sisters had slipped away quietly, leaving me to my own devices, and just at that moment a candle beside the coffin sputtered, casting intermittent shadows on Aunt Christy’s face.

I fled in terror down the hall, expecting something,(I didn’t know what,) to grab me at any second to drag me to wherever it was that dead people went. I wrenched the kitchen door open and flung myself into the safety of living people once

continued on page 21

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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



Not much has happened since we last talked except the black flies are here. Trout were biting well at ice off but have slowed down some since then.

As the middle of May is almost here, Pickerel and Pike open, so be sure your boat and fishing tackle are ready to go. You should go over your boat and be sure it is in top shape to start the season. You don't want to have trouble the first time out.

A list of things I check on the motor are: lower end oil, spark plugs & wires, water pump, and make sure your prop is in good shape. As for your boat, make sure your bilge pump and all lights are working if your boat is equipped with these items. Be sure all your safety equipment required by law is on board.

Now, for your fishing tackle – the most important thing is your line. Make sure it is still good, as you don't want to lose the “big” one because of bad line. Be sure to have a good supply of jig heads in different colours and

weights. Having different weights of jig heads enables you to get to the bottom on a windy day. You have to get to the bottom if you want to catch pickerel.

A tip I told you in the last Fishing with Jim, is to run a 6 foot fluorocarbon lead, lighter test strength than your line i.e. if you are using 8 lb. test, use a 6 lb. fluorocarbon lead. I use a #12 or #14 barrel swivel – you will find you will have better luck with this system.

Don't forget to read your fishing regulations and check the dates and limits in the zone you are fishing in.

Remember July 11, 2009 is the Saturday the Calabogie Fish & Game Club is holding their Bass Derby. Please come out and support the club as it is a fun family day. I hope to see you there. Also let me know about your big fish.

Also don't forget to get your tickets on the draw for a Remington 20 gauge shotgun. It will be drawn on the day of the derby. Tickets are \$10.00 ea. Only 400 tickets in all will be sold so don't wait until the last minute.

See you out on the lake, but if I don't, be safe and catch the “Big” one.

“BLAME IT ON THE PHONE”

By Susan Veale BSc. Kin

Editor's note: Susan Veale is a Natural Health Practitioner in Calabogie at the Wellness Natural Health Centre 613-752-1542

Being the multi-tasker I am and having many projects on the go at one time, last night I was desperately trying to meet the deadline for this paper and be attentive to the last session of a 7 week teleconference course on biotherapeutic drainage. Both of these things required a significant amount of concentration and attention, needless to say, one had to go. Since my course was time defined, I put the article aside.

By the end of the teleconference call, I had a good sense for what this month's article should be about. I was pleased with what I had learned, the depth of knowledge given and eager to share my new and updated education with my clients, knowing it can make it difference in people's lives. However, I also had a feeling of frustration.

This frustration mounts within me every now and then when I start to internally verbalize my feelings of disappointment in our health care system, particularly the lack of understanding and the desire for integrative medicine. People are intelligent enough to make their own decisions when given information that addresses their health concern, so why do people continue to suffer with “same old” rather than investigate alternatives particularly

those who are living right here in our greater community?

I opened Wellness Natural Health Centre in the community to offer alternative health services, some of which are not found elsewhere.

My clinic time has over 25 years of natural health experience in nutrition counseling and hands on therapies such as trigger point therapy, acupuncture and reflexology. To inform the public of new information, I offer workshops on health matters to small or large groups and schools. Stress, women's health issues and children's nutrition are prime topics. Illness in today's society is too widespread. Incidences of cancer, heart disease and diabetes are high. Allergies, Irritable Bowel Disease, and Menopausal complaints are common fare. No system of the body is left unaffected. Too many people are suffering and Natural Health can be a viable adjunct to our health care.

It has been reported by independent scientific research that every human being alive, no matter where they live in the world, have more than 250 chemicals in their systems.

In my clinic I offer Biotherapeutic Drainage using proven, specific, homeopathic complex medicines to access inside the cells of particular organs and glands and help to remove chemicals and toxic buildup. This system of medicine stands by the principle of “*Physiology over Pathology*” which means if we keep the body healthy, there is no reason for it to get sick. There is no other system of medicine like it in the world!

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The purpose of Biotherapeutic Drainage is to help the body's own physiology to eliminate any toxins which are interfering with the normal physiological functions. This is why it has been so successful in many different disease states. Success is a result of not being limited by

the diagnosis, but rather unlimited by the body's own ability for self-preservation. By stimulating the cells of the organism, addressing the role of the liver and kidneys and looking at the both the primary and secondary excretory organs, the body's ability to clean these organs and have good circulation results in good health. This “forward thinking medicine” is here and available to all.

Other forward thinking medicine I use works in conjunction with laboratory facilities across Canada and the U.S. This allows for comprehensive testing including hair analysis for nutritional components and heavy metal detection, saliva

continued on page 23

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A cautionary tale about boat safety

By Doug Bell

They call it ‘Gramma’s Week’ but it is mandated that Grandpa’s be there too.

Our Gramma Week is usually the third week in July just before the Civic long week end in August. The idea is to get as many Grandchildren as want to come, which is usually a command performance for a week of freedom from the daily routines of home and parents. Somehow the supervision and discipline of us grandparents seems to suit especially well during the ‘dog days of summer’. This summer was no exception. We have eight grandchildren, and five came for Gramma Week. Two were too young, under and the other was at a camp he goes to each year. Events were planned well in advance; this year we were going to make bird houses for next seasons birds. Our cousins next door also hold the same week and together we have a wonderful time of fun and adventure at the cottage.

By mid week activities are starting to slow down so a planned picnic always picks things up. Tradition has it that a planned picnic on a remote spot, usually an uninhabited island, will do quite well. Everyone is excited to take off by boat and find a spot up lake to stake out our picnic spot, eat lunch and maybe do a little exploring. This is usually the highlight of our week.

Our boat is of ‘middle age’ status. It is an inboard/outboard 17 ft., bow rider, run-about class about 13 plus years old. It has been well maintained during those years and never been a problem or concern. This year I purchased a new high cranking battery for it ... we were all set.

Picnic day arrives and the boat is all gassed up, cleaned up, all the safety items accounted for and we are set to go. We check on the other boat (cousins) to see if they are also ready. Five grand kids in ages 15, 8, 7,6 & 6, Gramma and me. Bilge pump on, vent fan on, start her up and away we go. We went down to our cousins dock front and waited until they were showing signs of starting off. The 15 yr. old granddaughter says “Grandpa I can smell gas”. This is not an unusual occurrence, especially since I had just filled the tank. I turned on the vent fan and ran the bilge pump which showed no evidence of gas on top of the lake water. Off we went. Of course all of us have life jackets on including grandpa, being responsible grandparents. I mention responsible since I usually have mine close but not necessarily always on. I planned taking the boat to minimum planning speed and letting the others catch up so that we could travel up the lake together. Up and over the plane speed the boat she went. Then it died. I looked up at Gramma and shook my head. This occurrence has happened before but when out of fuel. I knew I had a reserve tank in the back but



I had just filled the tank up? Everyone sat back down again. Three in the front bow rider section, two behind the driver in the back and one on the other side. No one in the seat beside the driver (me). I turned the key over as I have done seemingly hundreds of times before. A very slight hesitation and ka-boom and I do mean ka-boom. I looked around and the back cowling was about two feet in the air and about five feet ahead of its normal position. The engine well was engulfed totally by flame. I had noticed that the middle dry well had blown upwards beside me and it was laying partially across the vacant seat adjacent to me. I looked at Grandma and we simultaneously said “Everyone ... Get out” !!! All were in the water perhaps in a matter of less than 10 seconds. It was a surreal feeling to look at shore perhaps 125 yards away from shore at water level. All these children are swimmers but it really didn’t matter since they had life jackets on. One little guy in the front was a little hysterical but with some quiet reassurance from others he soon calmed down. Upon later assessment I was the weakest swimmer of the lot. I think I could have made it to shore without a lifejacket ... but I’m not sure. Without my lifejacket I would not have been able to talk to the others and convince them that we were safe and there was not a problem getting to shore.

I was asked later if I could have used the fire extinguisher to douse the flames. Hell, I couldn’t have got a lifejacket(s) if it was under a seat. Boats seemed to appear from nowhere. A couple of well meaning ladies roared up to us just as we reached shore met by another lady there.

This was a very fortunate accident which may sound odd. The pros heavily outweighed the cons. There was some small immediate trauma with the younger grandkids. I had minor burns to my leg. The younger guys are asking this year if we are going to get another boat, the kind with the outside motor. I think and hope that the overall lesson will be to never boat without a lifejacket attached to your body and respect the present situation you’re in.

We as grandparents are slowly regaining the confidence that was shaken that boating day July 2008.

Remembering earlier days

By Marge Smith

Elson Buesch was a funeral director in Cleveland, Ohio. He had two great passions - fishing and building and so it was natural that he would combine the two into a fishing camp. His strife, Marie, and daughter, Sally, had no idea when they made their first trip to Matawatchan in June, 1951 that within a few years their as yet unfinished cottage would be the center of a fishing camp.

Elson had found this spot a year or two previously when he asked Alex MacPherson who owned the cottage near the old iron bridge on the Madawaska River where he and his friends stayed where to find a good lake for small-mouth bass. (The bridge is now under about 100 feet of water about a quarter of a mile downriver from the present bridge.) Alex suggested they go to Matawatchan and ask for Nelson Thompson. They did so and were directed to the Hutson Lakes. Within a short time they had their limit from the beautiful, unspoiled lakes. During the next year he purchased land around the lakes and began work on a cottage. The year was 1950. More land was purchased from Nelson and so began a life-long friendship and the beginning of Buesch’s Camp. Each year new buildings were built and fishermen and their families came to enjoy the area and the excellent fishing.

In 1967 Elson sold the camp to Jack Holleran from St. Catherines who called it Holleran’s Hideaway, and today it is no longer a fishing camp but the Matawatchan home of Jack’s daughter, Sharon and her husband, Gary.

My first trip to Matawatchan in 1954 was truly an adventure. After 15 hours traveling over two days and a stay in the Peterborough Hotel (no motels in those days) we reached Griffith after a roller coaster ride on 41 from Kaladar. The road from Griffith was two tire tracks which curved, went up over rocks, and around trees. There were occasional spots for passing vehicles, cows on the road and sometimes chickens and turkeys. The road into Buesch’s Camp necessitated bouncing from one rock to another and being careful so as not to put a hole in the oil pan. Opening the car door when I arrived, I nearly stepped on a snake Which slithered out from under the car. Snakes had been my greatest fear when I agreed to this adventure.

The day was lovely - we unpacked the car and stowed the groceries we had bought in Madoc. The next day we woke up to a steady, cold rain which went on for six days. After two days the road out of camp was too “greasy” for us to go up the hills, so we were stuck. We spent our time dry-

continued on page 23

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Bee nice (Cont)

with appropriate planning by farmers for crop rotation. By not planting crops that require bee pollination, such as alfalfa, right next to a crop that requires pesticide spraying, such as cotton, the bees could do their work in the Alfalfa without being harmed by pesticides. Although some plants do not need bees for pollination, the bees will still work the blossoms for nectar. The other fact is that Varroa mites alone do not kill the bees. They weaken their immune systems, making them susceptible to other environmental stressors such as extreme weather, viruses, pesticides, and even having to travel far to sources of nectar.

Second, there is no single known factor that is present in all cases of CCD. Varroa mites are often present, indicating that Varroa mites contribute to the conditions that cause CCD. In some studies a virus known as Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus is also known to be present.

Just as the Ontario government has charged the University of Guelph with solving the winter kill enigma in Ontario, other provinces, states and countries have charged their own research institutions with the same task. The compilation of this research has shown that what seems to cause CCD in one location is not a factor in another and there is no single identifiable culprit. Some researchers are flirting with the idea that CCD is simply a response to environmental stresses that have exceeded the threshold beyond which the organism can live. The response is to die or pack up and leave. In different areas of the world different stressors or combination of stressors can do the job. Among these stressors have been mites, viruses, fungi, unhygienic habits of worker bees, genetic problems, radio waves, pesticides, cell phone towers, over manipulation of the bee environment by humans, and abandoning the hive to go work in the tar sands so they can earn a little extra money for the family (bloggers!).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

This is a story about four people EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY, ANYBODY and NOBODY. There was an important job to be done and EVERYBODY was asked to do it. EVERYBODY was sure that SOMEBODY would do it. ANYBODY could have done it, but NOBODY did it. SOMEBODY got angry about that because it was EVERYBODY'S job. EVERYBODY thought ANYBODY could do it, but NOBODY realized that EVERYBODY wouldn't do it. It ended up that EVERYBODY blamed SOMEBODY when NOBODY did what ANYBODY could have done.

Some people say not to worry because this is how evolution works. Their feeling is that if the bees with the usual genetic makeup don't like the environment they should make way for those with the genetic makeup that thrive in it. I felt that way when my youngest daughter was home and watching one of her short attention span (the screen must change in no longer than two seconds or they change

channels) TV shows that appeared to me as a stressful blur, leaving no impression on me at all. I would look at her and, to my amazement, she looked like she was actually getting something out of it. I don't think I could have gotten something out of that TV show even when I was young. Is this a genetic thing or just conditioning? Just as I might say, "I couldn't live like that." Maybe that's all the bees are saying. My daughter has traded the mayhem of Comedy Central and MTV for the mayhem of New York City. The bees are either dead, gone feral or taken up residence in a more bee friendly hive. California, which seems to be having the most bee problems, is infamously unfriendly to its migrant workers ((Grapes of Wrath). Maybe the rest of the world is just following in California's footsteps. Could it be that we are expecting too much of an organism to be shipped all over the country, genetically manipulated (to be immune to diseases), inoculated, fattened and starved to our own purposes, robbed of its food, exploited for its labour, etc., and expect it to go on as always, while we pretend they are free and wild?

Of course they are not human and we have every right to use their labour, just as they use our domestic plants as food. But my point is that they are organisms and they have organic limits. We cannot continue to consume nature and cast aside that which is not momentarily useful. We must look at the possibility that the bees are not just dying, but that we are just stressing them to death.

End

First Concession (Cont)

ple. They enjoyed a good laugh at my expense until Mom put a stop to it. Right up until the day of the funeral, I refused to go near the parlour, giving that whole area of the house a wide berth. And down through the years, that room always gave me the creeps, even when we returned to visit. I never looked upon another dead person until I was 21 years old and living in Toronto, and though dead people don't bother me anymore in my dreams, the image of Aunt Christy lying in her coffin is still just as vivid in my memory today as it was in that long ago time, the year 1934, to be exact.

How times have changed.

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Space Weather: The Goddess of Global Warming

By Doug Vasey

The planet is named after Venus, the Roman goddess of love. However, her brand of love may be the toughest in our solar system. Over time Venus has undergone runaway greenhouse warming, where trapped solar radiation has heated the surface to an average temperature of 467C (872F).

Professor Fred Taylor, from the University of Oxford says: "new data make it possible to construct a scenario in which Venus started out like the Earth - possibly including a habitable environment, billions of years ago and then evolved to the state we see now." Next to our moon, she is the brightest light in Earth's night sky. Venus reaches its maximum brightness shortly before sunrise or shortly after sunset. This is the reason it is often called the Morning Star or the Evening Star. In size, mass and composition, Earth and Venus are remarkably similar. Venus is closer to the Sun, but this alone does not explain her differences with Earth.

Venus lacks the Earth's magnetic shield. The absence of this shield means that hydrogen, helium and oxygen are blown away by the solar wind much faster than happens on Earth. Understanding the influencing factors of global warming on Venus could help us in mitigating the threat here on Earth. (BBC, November 27, 2007)

In the early stages of the Solar System, Venus seems to have evolved very rapidly compared to the Earth. Data from the Venus Express Satellite supports the theory that the Earth's twin once had a significant volume of water covering the surface but it appears that these oceans were lost in a very short timescale. 'They may have started out looking very much the same', said Professor Taylor (Oxford University), but increasingly we have evidence that Venus lost most of its water and Earth lost most of its atmospheric carbon dioxide.'

On Earth, the CO₂ is now locked up in minerals in the crust, in the oceans, and in plant life. The release of some of this back into the atmosphere is the source of current concern about global warming and climate change. On Venus, most of the CO₂ is still in the atmosphere and the surface temperature is a scorching 450 degrees Celsius, slowing or stopping geological as well as biological evolution. It is much too hot for life as we know it. Although according to Larry Esposito with the European Space Agency; "some scientists believe life forms may exist in the atmospheric currents around Venus."

As Venus continued to warm, any liquid water was boiled off into the atmosphere. Venus is covered by multiple cloud lay-

ers made up primarily of sulphuric acid. The European Space Agency reported its Venus Express Probe has confirmed there is lightning on Venus. It is an important discovery because the electrical discharges drive the chemistry of an atmosphere by breaking molecules into fragments that can then join with other fragments in unexpected ways (possibility of creating other gases or compounds). The lightning on Venus is unique from that found on Earth, Jupiter and Saturn, in that; it is the only lightning known that is not associated with water clouds. Instead, on Venus, the lightning is associated with clouds of sulphuric acid. (Science Daily, Nov. 29, 2007) Imaging radar systems aboard the NASA space probes Pioneer (1978) and Magellan (1990-1994) produced a map of the Venusian surface. (NOAA)

It appears that over 85% of the surface of Venus is covered by volcanic rock. Data from NASA's Pioneer spacecraft shows evidence of a volcanic eruption in the late 1970's that may have been ten times more powerful as anything on Earth in more than a century. Volcanoes do affect global warming by pumping large quantities of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere.

On November 9, 2005 the European Space Agency launched the Venus Express. The mission's objectives are primarily to study the thick atmosphere of Venus, from the tops of its sulphuric acid clouds, to the searing heat and crushing pressure of the air at the surface. In 1975 Russia landed unmanned probes on Venus. They took photos and atmospheric readings. Within hours the Landers collapsed and burnt from atmospheric pressure and heat, but not before readings and a large volume of photos were transmitted to the orbiting mother ship. Close study of Venus' atmosphere will address the most fundamental question about Earth's "sister planet:" why doesn't Venus look more like Earth? And what calamities in Venus' climatic history led to the runaway greenhouse that makes it such a hellish place? (Science Daily Apr. 6, 2008)

Many factors seem to influence climate, some of which, seem the normal nature of life in our universe, while some, we as individuals can and do influence. Just as many microbes and plants produce oxygen, humans and our activities seem to produce carbon dioxide and also monoxide. However, we are learning that we don't necessarily have to produce those things in significantly harmful quantities.

What use is Venus to us? Why do people even talk about it, let alone spend billions of dollars to actually go there? To understand and experience our world and our extended world, we can only perceive what we sense. We can only understand what is evident and what is possible based on what we already know. As life

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Space (Cont)

forces we continue in directions that we feel most comfortable in travelling, and the development of stress causes the continued evaluation of our assumptions. At least it seems that way to me.

Some people scoff at the notion that human activity is affecting global climate and temperature patterns. In the face of developing climatic events and scientific evidence, such individual mischief must be understood as: ignorant, financially or politically motivated or even intellectually depraved. Weather patterns take many lifetimes to change and therefore many lifetimes, if ever, to reverse. Mankind must consider the consequences of global warming and the effects on our present and future environs. I believe the climatic history of Venus only supports specific consensus that is already formulating.

Arctic Solar Storm Report: The short to long term forecast: Canada's Polar Regions are generally unsettled with the Auroral Zone being somewhat active.

(Sources: Science Daily, European Space Agency, *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*, *National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)*, Space Weather Canada, British Broadcasting Corporation BBC)

End

Vignette (Cont)

ing out wood to put in the fireplace, our only means of heat and light. The cottage had very little furniture, and the hydro had not yet reached Matawatchan so light was kerosene lanterns and flashlights.

The days were long, cold, and dark and the nights were worse. I couldn't believe where I was and couldn't wait to go home. And to make matters worse we had very little food and the only meat we had was three pounds of baloney -- a stack of slices about ten inches high. After three days even Nelson's dog wouldn't eat it!

Finally after six days the sun came out - the days were glorious and the fishing was wonderful. Each day we caught our dinner of snarl mouth bass in a few minute and enjoyed them thoroughly.

With the sunny days and meeting many of folks in Matawatchan I decided to stay and have enjoyed my stay each year since.

Buesch's cottage soon became Buesch's Camp since new cabins were built each year until they numbered eight. Then there were outhouses, wood sheds, ice houses, a garage, boathouse, shower house, and a recreation hall. Mr. Buesch loved to build! He did hire two carpenters from the village to work on these buildings - Pete Kelly and Billy Smith. One summer when I was staying with Mrs Buesch to help, it was my job to take Pete and

Billy home at 5:00. The first night as I was nearing the village they both yelled, "Stop the car, stop the car! We have to see Mr. Gordon!" I stopped and looked but could see no one. They hopped out of the car and ran into the bush while I waited. Presently, they returned looking very pleased. Mr. Gordon was their gin bottle stowed in a cool creek in the bush! So every afternoon from then on I knew I had to stop while they visited Mr. Gordon. Four or five days later Billy returned with an empty bottle and announced, "Mr. Gordon is dead."

Billy Smith lived in the house where the Brown Family now lives. Across the road he had a shed where he enjoyed his "smokes" and a pint. One day he had the surprise of his life. Bill Dunn came down the hill, which was unpaved and a real washboard, in his old station wagon. The tailgate had come open and out flew a case of beer right in front of Billy's shed! And not a single pint was broken! He must have thought he died and went to heaven! I don't know how Bill Dunn felt when he got home.

Eli Troke lived with Billy Smith. He was an old gent who wore a heavy dark suit and shirt, a felt hat, heavy socks and boots even on the hottest days. He sat on a bench with his old collie dog in front of the Matawatchan store smoking his pipe and nodding to all

who entered. In summer on Tuesdays the store had ice cream cones, usually Parker House (vanilla with big cherries) or chocolate. We often walked to the village for this treat, but I never saw Eli eat a cone although we always asked if we could get him one.

End

Wellness (Cont)

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Life is too precious to live it feeling unwell. There is a cost for good health but the cost is not measured in dollars, it is measured in "sense".

End



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"The Stone" cottage is a real treat. This one is a classic. Right on the shores of Norcan Lake, and all the comforts. Bathroom has whirlpool tub for relaxing. The view of the lake is second to none, all with your own private boat dock and beach area. Enjoy all nature has to offer with nature trails nearby, golfing, skiing and all just a short 1 hour 10 minute drive from Ottawa. Check it out @ www.hilltopvacationproperties.com

1086 VICTORY LA \$549,900

"The Lodge" This is it! Restored Log lodge, with 7 bedrooms, floor to ceiling fireplace, wrap around porch, right on the shores of beautiful Norcan lake with your own sandy beach and boat dock. Ideal for those large family gatherings, or multiplr families. Come fully furnished, just move in and enjoy. Check it out at www.hilltopvacationproperties.com or www.canontolodge.com

LOT 1 VICTORY LA \$50,000

"The Juniper" Very affordable water access lot with acreage. Water access and 1/9th share of common area go lth this lovely property. Boat dock will be in place waiting for your boat. Close to the Calabogie Peaks Ski Hill and the village of Calabogie. Build your dream home or vacation property here.

LOT 2 VICTORY LA \$60,000

"The Aspen" Peace and quiet with water access on this lovely 3+ acre treed lot. Ownership included 1/9th share of a common lot allowing for water acces and a boat dock. Enjoy waterfront ownership without the high taxes. Lake is steps away from your lot. Make this one yours today.

68 CALABOGIE RD \$289,000

THIS 4 BEDROOM HOME WITH HARDWOOD FLOORS COMES WITH A TURN KEY CONVENIENCE STORE, GAS PUMPS, COUNTRY STYLE DONUT FRANCHISE AND CHIPWAGON. LARGE PRIVATE YARD

LOT 3 VICTORY LA \$80,000

"The Ironwood" Beautiful natural state building lot with water access to Norcan Lake. 3+ acres to build your dream home or vacation property on. Ownership of this lot includes 1/9th share of common area with lake access. Check it out @ www.hilltopvacationproperties.com

17 PHEASANT RU \$45,000

DEEDED WATER ACCESS TO ALABOGIE LAKE WITH THIS NICLY TREEDED LEVEL LOT ON THE HIGHLANDS GOLF COURSE BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME HERE

LOT 8 VICTORY LA \$149,900

"The Hilltop" Beautiful natural state building lot with water access to Norcan Lake. 2+ acres to build our dream home or vacation property on. Ownership of this lot includes 1/9th share of common area with lake access. Check it out @ www.hilltopvacationproperties.com

LOT 14 NORCAN LAKE LA \$249,000

One of a kind waterfront lot, situated on the shores of beautiful Norcan Lake. 574 feet of shoreline to call your own. All natural setting, peacefull and tranquil for the nature lover. Build your own home and escape the hustle and bustle. Just a short 1 hour and 10 minute drive from Ottawa. Submarine hydro and telephone cable on site.

LOT 12 NORCAN LAKE LA \$249,000

Totally private for your dream waterfront home or vacation property. Natural beauty with mature trees and an amazing view and access to tranquil Norcan Lake. Sloping lot with 541 feet of your own shoreline. Just a short 1 hour and 10 minute drive from downtown Ottawa. Submarine hydro and telephone supplied to lot line.

1086 VICTORY LA LOT 10 \$349,900

"The Store" Waterfront living at its best, ideal view of Norcan Lake, wow. Its all here, including the boat dock. Spacious open concept, 2 bathrooms with an extra large family room and bunk beds for fun vacations or full time residence. 1 hour and 10 minutes from downtown Ottawa. Just minutes from downhill skiing, golf, nowmobiling, nature trails and all the fishing and boating you want. Check it out www.hilltopvacationproperties.com

569 KENNEDY RD \$35,000

NICELY TREED CORNER LOT AT THE ENTRANCE TO KENNEDY WOODS (CALABOGIE RD (508) AND KENNEDY RD).

201 DANIEL ST. S. ARNPRIOR, ON., K7S 2L9



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