



Stoney Creek Historical Society

PO Box 66637, Stoney Creek, ON. L8G 5E6

NEWSLETTER

Remember the Corman House

August 2018

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McDougall's Garage - Stoney Creek Outstanding Small Business Award 2012

This award is selected by the Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce and is in recognition of a company that has a long standing reputation in the community. It was with great pleasure to present this award to McDougall's Garage.

Click on the following internet link for a 4 minute film re; McDougall's Garage winning the Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXrr_LrcByE



(picture from Hamilton Spectator article on McDougall's 100 years in business)

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President's Corner August 2018



The Stoney Creek Historical Society (SCHS) was honoured by the Stoney Creek Chamber of Commerce during a special event at Winona Vine Estates in May 2018. At that ceremony, SCHS was given the Chamber's Recognition Award for 2017. I was very proud to accept this distinguished award on behalf of SCHS. A sincere "Thank You" to the Chamber for that special recognition.

SCHS participated in Strawberry Fest during June, and met many area residents. We also had a booth at Art in the Park(ing) Lot, (Powerhouse) in August, presented by the Board of Olde Town Stoney Creek. This was a first for that fine organization, and I'm confident that there are many more to come. Our congratulations to Jillian Harris and Kathy Wakeman for their role in organizing this unique event. We also plan to participate in Pumpkinfest, Saturday 13th October, 2018.

Our Reference Library and Archive, 605 #8 hwy, is supported by Judy Green and Nancy Capstick. In addition, Denise Wachnuik, has offered her assistance in making this valuable area resource as available to everyone as possible. My thanks to these fine volunteers.

Our "Just a Kid from Stoney Creek" t-shirts have been very popular. They are available in all sizes from child to 3XXXL. Feedback has been tremendous on both the cost of \$20 as well as the high quality of the t-shirt itself. Special thanks to Owen at Absolute Printing.

SCHS would not be able to offer its services, Newsletter, and monthly meetings without paid memberships, both individual and business. Welcome to new members Dave and Anne Smith, Cam Galindo, and Ellen MacPhie.

Our Landmarks of Stoney Creek limited edition prints continue in popularity. They were created by renowned Peterborough artist George Elliott. Local historian, Jerry Heeringa, was a friend of George Elliott, and was aware that he had created similar artwork of historic landmarks of the Peterborough area. Jerry Heeringa encouraged Mr. Elliott to create a similar piece of art for Stoney Creek, and funded this project. These have now been generously donated to SCHS. Again, these are limited edition prints. The cost is \$50.

We have a great list of guest speakers lined up for the 2018-2019 season. We continue to be very receptive to any suggestions for topics or speakers that you bring to our attention. Your comments and feedback are always helpful.

Our SCHS Reference Library and Archives continues to be a repository of information, photos, and documents for current and future generations.

My Thanks to all of you for your support, to our SCHS Volunteers for donating their time and energy, and to our Board of Directors for their interest and enthusiasm.

See you at the next SCHS meeting, Municipal Centre, 777 #8Hwy, Stoney Creek.

Greg Armstrong
President-SCHS

The way they were is the way it still is at McDougall's
The business started in 1918 as a blacksmith's and carriage repair shop,
writes Jeff Mahoney Apr 16, 2018 The Hamilton Spectator

Do you ever get the feeling we lost something more valuable than money can measure when businesses put shareholders before shopfronts and maximized profit before making people's acquaintance?

Every day at McDougall's Garage, aside from fixing cars, they play cards at the back. The cribbage board is their cracker-barrel.

Customers, old friends, casual passersby, they come and go, laugh, talk, leave, return and there's a feel of the daily current of life, the reassuring ebb and flow. Isn't that what we want? Maybe that's how McDougall's got to be 100 years old. Not with Facebook likes, MBAs and market research but with goodwill.

You should've seen the century celebration party Saturday, April 7 — maybe you did, there were more than 200 people there.

The business started in 1918 as a blacksmith's and carriage repair shop.

"Young" Bob McDougall, current owner, is fourth generation. "Not-as-young" Bob, young Bob's father, is third, and still comes in every day.

They work together, in the space they've always been at, the village heart of Stoney Creek (61 King St.), sticking it out there, respecting tradition, long after the banks bolted.

"I don't do much anymore," old Bob tells me. (Some of the customers, like Brian Perretti, call him "Dad.")

No not much. Young Bob smiles when old Bob says that. He's just finished changing the brakes on a Honda Accord, a couple of days before his 90th birthday. If I make it to 90 I doubt I'll be able to change my own ... well, enough said.

McDougall's is the kind of place where a senior will come in, fretting about a bad smell in the car or nail in a tire, and one of the Bobs will sit him or her down, pour a cup of coffee, and work the nail out, or look everywhere and finally find an old bag with kielbasa in it under the seat (true story).

And when the customer says "How much will that be?," you know the Bobs will say, "No charge" and send them on their way.

But it comes back to them.

Their feedback is sometimes literally feed back, stuff you can eat. Pastries, baked pies, you name it, often homemade by the customers. That nail-in-the-tire story is also a true one. Says Bob's wife Lynda, "The woman came back with muffins for them."

Goodwill? Right now, they're trying to convince a 98-year-old who's been coming to them forever not to give them her car. She's sharp as a whip, says young Bob, but she can't drive any more — she did, right up till now, at 98. She feels they should have the car because they took such good care of it.

This story was going to run last week, in time for not-as-young Bob's 90th but Brian took me aside, handed me an invitation. A surprise 100th birthday party. Brian and some friends organized it all.

Brian spent two months lining up an old buggy and carriage from Judy at Farm Fresh. There was a display of old tools, old trunks and some vintage cars as well as a DJ who played "Waltzing Matilda," old Bob's favourite song.

"I've known them for 50 years," says Brian. "Old Bob treats me like one of his sons."

The party, as we said earlier, was packed. And the two Bobs received two certificates stamped with the official seal of Ontario from MPP Paul Miller, a longtime family friend and some-time cribbage rival — one certificate for old Bob's birthday, one for the shop's centenary.

Old Bob even gave a speech, thanking everyone. Earlier in the week he'd told me that when he started at the shop there were six stations within two blocks — a BP, a Fina (Petrofina; remember those?) and several others.

Gas back then? Young Bob remembers. "It was 50 cents — a gallon — when I started." McDougall's stopped pumping gas in the 1980s. "It was a pain," says young Bob, with a wry smile of reminiscence. "Always dropping your tools when you heard ding, ding, ding."

Some things really change. Other things, like McDougall's itself, thankfully don't.

Why would they? Theirs is a richness you can't put a price on. But you can bake them a pie.



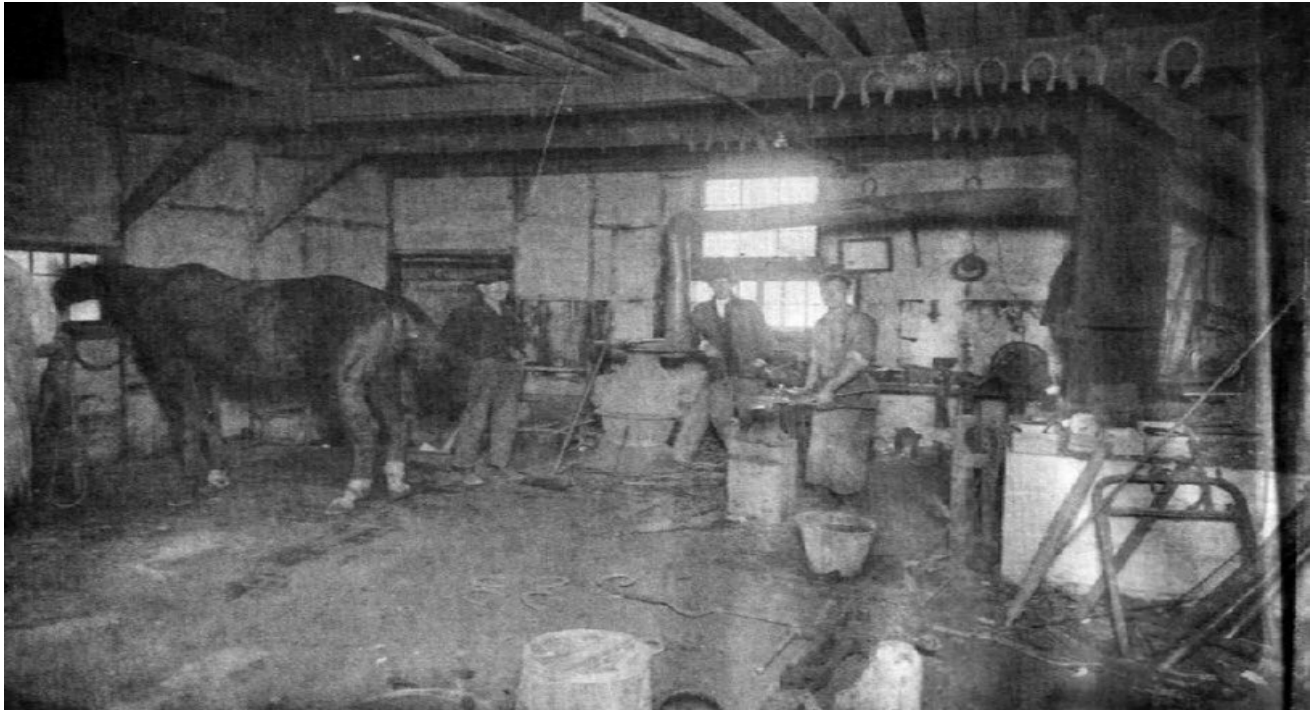
L. F. McDOUGALL
Remembers Where
IT ALL STARTED
HERE 1918

Thank You

For the support you have
given us the past 52 years

L.F. McDougall
R.L. McDougall

Mr. McDougall back in 1918



Lorne McDougall standing in front of original store and gas pumps with garage – blacksmith shop to his left. Top picture taken inside original blacksmith shop.

Upcoming Speakers at Stoney Creek Historical

Wednesday, Sept 5 th, at 7:00 pm **Speaker:** Daryl MacTavish & Ann Jarvis
Topic: The Griffin House presents Honour
before Glory 1 hour film on the first Canadian Black Battalion in WW1

Wednesday, Oct 3 rd, at 7:00 pm **Speaker:** Al McLaren
Topic: History of the Hamilton Beach Rescue

Wednesday, Nov 7 th, at 7:00 pm **Speaker:** Michael Gemmel
Topic: History of the Veevers Estate

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dave & Anne Smith, Cam Galindo, and Ellen MacPhie.

The Stoney Creek Historical Society's Archives and Reference Library is located at 605 Highway 8. We are generally open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1pm - 4pm. Visitors and researchers are always welcome. Please come and join us.

Committee Chairs / Co-ordinators

Archives: Nancy Capstick, Judy Green,
archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca

Telephone: June Guzar
Membership:

Social: Bev Gray, Carolyn Briggs
Programming: Kathy Wakeman

Website: Jillian Harris
Newsletter: Doug Green

Please contact *Doug Green* by telephone at (905) (662-4065) or by email at newsletter@stoneycreekhistorical.ca or dougag1@hotmail.com
If you have questions or answers regarding our newsletter content or contributions or if you wish to receive your copy of the newsletter via e-mail. Help us reduce mailing & printing costs.

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Member Business Directory

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RBC Royal Bank	Paul Kelzer	917 Queenston Rd.	(905) 564-6575
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 622	Joyce Brown	12 King St. East	(905) 662-4171
Sabourin Auto	Rick Sabourin	82 King St. East	(905) 662-7322
S.W. Plumbing		49 Upper Lake Ave	(905) 741-2552
Swiss Chalet # 1105	Zeb Ponte	735 Queenston Rd	(905) 561-1414
The Innsville	Bob Hemberger	1143 Hwy. 8	(905) 643-1244

STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORY OF STONEY CREEK

I WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE/RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE S.C.H.S. 2018 RENEWAL

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ADDRESS _____

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|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
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PLEASE ACCEPT MY ADDITIONAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OF \$ _____ TO ASSIST THE WORK OF THE STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY. RECEIPTS WILL BE ISSUED FOR DONATIONS OF \$25 OR MORE.

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OUR NEWS LETTER BY EMAIL OR CANADA POST.

PLEASE SEND TO : STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY,P.O. BOX 66637,STONEY CREEK, ONTARIO, L8G 5E6

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND LOOK FORWARD TO YOU ATTEND

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OUR NEWSLETTER FOR A \$35.00 DONATION

MEMBERSHIPS CAN ALSO BE RENEWED ONLINE USING PAYPAL.

Historical Society Research Queries

Please contact via email:
archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca

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