



Remember the Corman House

# Stoney Creek Historical Society

P.O. Box 66637, Stoney Creek, On. L8G 5E6

# NEWSLETTER

February 1999

Edition #16

Circulation 325 copies

## RECOLLECTIONS OF TAPLEYTOWN & SURROUNDING DISTRICT

Hazel Wilhelmene Clark

1892-1971

submitted by Neil Clark

Tapleytown was named for people by the name of Tapley. They settled there over 100 years ago.

The Norris Farm, better known as "The Negro Norris Farm, was situated on Mud Street a mile west of Tapleytown Village, where the Norris family lived more than a century ago. Their children attended No. 7 Saltfleet school, Tapleytown. They had their own little private Burying Ground, with a fence around it in a corner of a field facing the road.

On the Bobby Covell farm, Mud Street west, was a large pond where ice was cut and stored for the summer in a shed insulated with sawdust and straw. This pond was also used as a skating rink. It was popular with the young people of the surrounding district.

The Richard (Dicky) Beckerson farm was on the opposite side of the road. In later years, Mr. Wm. Cline, U.E. Loyalist, owned the farm and lived there many years. His son Edgerton was the last owner. He sold it and moved to Stoney Creek.

A grist mill at the far west end of Mud Street in Mt. Albion was powered by water flowing over Mt. Albion Falls that turned the mill wheel. Many years ago it was owned and operated by the Grassie Brothers. The farmers in the community took their wheat there to be ground into flour and chop.

Nearby is a spectacular spot on the Brow of the Mountain, called Lovers Leap, where a woman, many years ago, committed suicide by leaping over into the deep ravine. There was also a tragic murder and suicide in Tapleytown many years ago.

Cheyne Presbyterian Church was on Mud Street west. In later years it was moved to Stoney Creek.

There was a knitting mill 1/2 mile north of Mud Street, on the north corner of First side road and #20 Highway. It was called Green Town, much over a century

ago where the people took their wool to be woven into cloth to make their clothing. At that time there was a Negro Settlement living beside the mill.

A lime kiln was on the farm of Fin Patterson, 1/2 mile north and 1/2 mile west of Tapleytown Road. The Tapleytown Road runs north and south from the Mountain Brow to Woodburn Road and 20 Highway. There was a spring on this farm, good, sweet, cold water, beside the Lime Ridge, across from the old Captain Williams farm. During a drought, cattle were driven there to quench their thirst.

The Norton farm is 1/2 mile north and west of Tapleytown Village. Indian arrowheads were found around the spring on the farm. John Norton bought it well over 100 years ago. It has been and still is in the Norton family, four generations have lived there. Edmund Norton, son, Villiers Norton, grandson, Fred Norton, great grandson, and present owner was born on the farm.

The Wm. Fortman farm was situated on the north-west corner from the Norton farm, where his daughter Clara Fortman, was born and raised. The mother of Villiers Norton and Mrs. K. R. Clark, former Hazel Norton.

The homestead of Wm. Myres Clark was in Saltfleet Township on the Town Line, a short distance east of Tapleytown Road, what is now the 20 Highway. Benjamin Burton Clark, known as B. B. Clark, was the last owner of the old Clark farm. His eldest son Wm. M. Clark lived there for some years prior to it being sold. In more later years Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Clark bought the old Wm. Pettit home in Tapleytown Village where they lived for some years.

One of the many hardships the early pioneers had to contend with was bears and wolves, at night, molesting their oxen. Whenever they left their place of abode, they always

Continued on page 4

### NEW MEMBERS:

We are happy to welcome to our membership Morgan Harris, H/W Archaeological Foundation, Ruth Jacobs, Ernie Seager, Lee Kivell Whitley.

*This Newsletter  
is sponsored by*

*Members  
Ed & Anna Orr*

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

Oh what a party! The Christmas Open House at the home of George and Mary Lewis was a great social event finishing our 1998 season. George and Mary Lewis very kindly offered their home for this event where everyone mingled, chatted, sampled finger foods., and signed up for our bus tour of St Jacobs. A very sincere thank-you to George and Mary for your hospitality.

The 1999 general elections are now behind us. The President and Treasurer will continue to serve for the next two year term and we welcome our new Corresponding Secretary Anna Orr to the executive. We hope Anna that you will enjoy working with us. We are always sorry to see a member of the executive step down, Juanita Mitchell has served us well during her time in office. Juanita was and is an important member, on several committees where her input is very welcome.

One of our responsibilities as a Historical Society is to educate and preserve our historical past. This is accomplished in many ways working with other Stoney Creek historical partners, Battlefield House and The Erland Lee Home. I am pleased to report that when approached, one of our members in Ottawa, Suzanne Hill, agreed to do research on our behalf at the National Archives on the twenty four men killed in action June 6th 1813. These names are on the plaque to the right of the Monument entrance. This is information we do not have, but should. We owe it to the citizens to make available as much information as possible about these heroic partners in the victory at the Battle of Stoney Creek.

We thank you Suzanne for your help.

*Ron Place*

### ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

The Erland Lee (Museum) Home finished a successful 1998 season with Christmas at the Lee. Despite slow attendance on the two craft-sale Saturdays, overall numbers were high because of many visitors during the week. The museum also received an early Christmas present compliments of the City of Stoney Creek and its road-construction contractor, *Stephens and Rankin*. The Dewitt Rd. construction was completed in mid-December and, as a goodwill gesture to repair damage to the Lee's grounds incurred over the summer and fall, the Museum's gravel driveway was paved over at the same time as the new road. The Erland Lee is very appreciative of the City's appreciation of the heritage property throughout the roadwork repairs.

The museum also got a web page on the Internet over Christmas. The new website address is <http://www.fwio.on.ca/fwio/promo.html>. Please visit it and tell us what you think.

The Erland Lee Museum is closed to the public from

December 1 to February 28, 1999. We are, however, still open for pre-booked groups and educational programming. In a move designed to improve our availability to the general public, the Museum will open early in 1999, reopening to the public on April 1, 1999. As part of an extra month of open hours, the Erland Lee will be offering a **March Break program** between March 15-19, 1999.

The **March Break program** will be aimed at children 8-11, designed to provide a fun and educational environment, while instilling participants with a sense of Stoney Creek history. It will be offered on a daily basis, that is to say that there will be a new activity each day during the March Break week, each day with a different theme relating to the focus of the museum (e.g.- the Lee family farm, butter making ,and pasteurization of milk on Monday; a *Junior Museum Technologist* program on Friday, where children can help preserve a family document). Please call the Erland Lee Museum for complete details, or look in the Stoney Creek News in February. An examination of the museum's *raison d'être* will also be a part of each day's activities. There will be a \$5.00 fee for each day, which covers craft materials costs as well as including a break-time snack. Children may attend as many of the days as desired, as each day will be a completely separate program.

The next event on the horizon at the Erland Lee Museum is our **Pancake Day** fund-raiser, an all-you-can-eat pancakes and maple syrup affair, this year's event takes place on April 10, 1999 from 9:00 am - 12:00 p.m. Price is yet to be determined, but the museum will be offering concurrently an open house with our *new 1999 exhibits*, tentatively slated to feature an exhibit on Mr. Abram Lee, the father of Erland Lee and prominent Saltfleet businessman in the 1860-1910 period.

The Erland Lee (Museum) Home would like to thank everyone at the Stoney Creek Historical Society for their continued support of our local museum. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 662 2691 (our new fax number is 662 2045). We hope to see you throughout 1999.

*Michael Gemmell*

### ON THE INTERNET:

If you are a computer user, and are connected to the internet you may be interested in local web sites. There are items about Battlefield House, the Monument, Sarah Calder and Billy Green, as well as access to the Stoney Creek Historical Society site where you can find our programs for future meetings and some of our history. We can also be connected through our own address.

The City of Stoney Creek site gives access to the photographs of homes designated by The Stoney Creek Heritage Committee (formerly L.A.C.A.C) as well as other useful City information.

Westfield Village is another good site to visit.  
Erland Lee (Museum) Home a new site

**Continued on page 8**

### **SOMETHING NEW:**

Beginning with this issue we will recognize some of the early residence of Saltfleet/Stoney Creek taken from the Annals of the Forty, the excellent publications of the Grimsby Historical Society. Many names have been referred to as settling within Saltfleet and it is these we will feature in a new column "LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS".

*editors note: It is coincidental that the name Place should appear in this first entry.*

### **LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:**

**PHILANDER BARNES** of lot 16, Conc. II and III, Saltfleet was according to his sketch in the Wentworth Atlas, born 20 April, 1831, County of Oxford. Left an orphan at age six, he came to Saltfleet and lived with E. B. Place, a farmer. He was married 19 Jan., 1852 to Eliza Truesdale and, when Mr. Place died in 1869 Philander came into possession of the farm. Ebenezer Place, who subscribed to the building of St. Andrew's church and worked with John Barnes, was probably the E. B. Place mentioned above and a connection of the family.

Philander had a family of three sons and two daughters. The old residence on No. 8 highway, Fruitland, known for many years as Philander Barnes Inn, was a stage coach stop, and although somewhat dilapidated, is still standing. Saltfleet historians claim that the Inn was built before the war of 1812 and is said to be haunted. It is now the property of Mr. John W. Hewitson, who lived in it for a number of years and said that during that time he never encountered any ghostly apparitions.

*Annals of the Forty book No. 3 page 21.*

### **WESTFIELD VILLAGE:**

#### **The latest from Westfield.**

**Feb 13..** Miss Muffin Gets Married... an 1812 period wedding, sleigh ride, reception, dinner and dance. Tickets must be purchased in advance. It's Jane Austen Canadian style. Call (519) 621-8851 for info.

**March 14, 21, 28,** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and March 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m...Maple Syrup Festival. Explore the invention and development of Maple Syrup in an historical village of over 30 buildings covering the native american, pioneer and modern forms of maple syrup production. Visit the one stop gift shop and enjoy the finest pancakes at the Ironwood. Call (519) 621-8851 for info.

School programmes are available all year round. Be sure to check our home page for details (special event dates are currently under updating).

<http://worldchat.com/public/westfield/westf1.htm>

### **HUNTING FOREBEARS:**

*by Dorothy Reid*

#### **SOURCES FOR THE GENEALOGIST**

Primary sources are the records made at the time of the event by someone involved in the event, or a witness to the event. These records are an acceptable source in proving a relationship from one generation to another. The following records are primary sources:

Birth records Marriage records Death records  
Will & Probate Military records Cemetery "  
Census records Church records Burial records  
Land records Funeral Home records Court records  
Permits

Secondary sources are records that did not come from a local or government record. Usually these records are made after an event occurred, and not accepted as proof, but may provide valuable information:

Bible records Newspaper clippings Obituaries  
Directories Personal papers  
Tombstone transcriptions  
Atlas & Landownership maps  
Published family histories & genealogy  
Published County Histories & Biographical material.

One tries to collect as much primary information as possible, but since these records are not always found one relies on as much secondary material as one can find. Do not blindly trust an isolated record but reinforce your find with other data to confirm the facts.

Further reading for the genealogist:

Genealogy in Ontario: Searching The Records  
by Brenda Dougall Merriman BA CGRS, CGL  
ISBN 1-55034-311-4 (1988)

The Canadian Genealogical Handbook  
by Eric Jonasson ISBN 0 920374 02 6 (1978)

### **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**September 1926**

#### **30 NEW LIGHTS FOR THE VILLAGE**

At last Stoney Creek Police Village Trustees have gone into the lighting subject, and have decided to place 30 new lights along the main and side roads. This certainly has been a long-felt want, and it shows that the men holding the position as trustees are taking the wishes of the citizens seriously.

Continued from page 1

leaned the broom crossway of the door. No Indian would cross the threshold if a broom was across the doorway.

There was a creamery at Vinemount. It was sold to the Women's Institute, and they had it remodeled into a hall and was used as a community center. The Tapleystown Branch of the Women's Institute was organized about 65 years ago.

There is a stoney quarry south of Vinemount. One time it was owned, operated and known by the Armstrong Stoney Quarry.

Many years ago on the Mountain Brow, a little way east of Tapleystown Road, stood an old stone church, one of the four churches in the Methodist circuit.

About half way down the Fruitland Mountain near the T. H. & B. railroad tracks was a gas well that burned day and night.

The Methodist Ladies Aid held their meetings once a month, alternating in each members homes, discussing the business affairs, sewing, quilting quilts, etc. They had strawberry festivals, concerts, Box socials and Christmas concerts to realize money toward helping church expenses.

The Tapleystown Sunday School picnic was held in Grimsby Park, the children went paddling in Lake Ontario, a great day for all.

The Tapleystown baseball team played ball in a field on John and Hi. Clark's farm. Later years, the matches with other teams of the surrounding district were played on the school grounds. The young people around the community held dances in Hi. Clark's home.

There is a corner stone in the original Tapleystown No. 7 Saltfleet, stone schoolhouse. The front end of the school collapsed over 100 years ago, and it was rebuilt again. In winter entertainment's were held there, concerts, singing classes, spelling bees, and the Literary Society. Three generations of the Nortons went to the Tapleystown school.

The old Methodist Parsonage and cemetery was across from the school. The old church was torn down when the new Methodist Church was built in 1879. The old parsonage and ground was fenced off from the cemetery and sold to John Norton. In later years his son, Edmund Norton, bought the parsonage. That is where Villiers Norton and Mrs. K. R. Clark, nee Hazel Norton, were raised. It is the oldest house in the village and still stands there.

Kenneth Roy Clark (Pat) and Hazel Wilhelmine Norton were the first couple married in the new Methodist Church, December 31st, 1912. The Elders of the Church presented them with a family Bible. Reverend J. L. Quinn was the officiating clergyman. Two sons born of that union, Burton Norton Clark and Kenneth Edmund Clark. Reverend J. L. Quinn married their son Norton Clark and Luella Gowland, October 8th, 1939 in Tapleystown United Church.

In the spring of 1913 a fire broke out in a shed at the back of the Tapleystown Methodist Church, but for the prompt action of the men in the community, the conflagration was avoided.

The old St. George's Anglican Church and cemetery is a mile east of Tapleystown on Mud street. After the new church was erected it was used as a hall for entertainment's, sometimes a polling booth was set up in the hall at election time. Mr. Jas. Hildreth Sr. bought the adjoining church property. In later years Mr. George Gowland owned the farm and lived there until his demise. Back of the church is an old stone cottage, at one time Judge Taylor, the first judge in Wentworth County owned the property and lived there many years ago.

Some years later Mr. Billy Land lived in the old cottage, he drove around the country side selling groceries, his horse drawn wagon was filled with groceries. He would blow a whistle, that he carried around his neck, as he approached a home to let the housewives know he had arrived with his wares. John Pettit peddled fish in the summer, blowing his fish horn as he came along the road. The women and the family cat would come running out to his waggon to buy some good Lake Ontario white fish.

Big Wes. Marshall was one of the threshers in the district. It was quite a sight to see the steam engine, puffing smoke, coming along Mud Street pulling the threshing machine, following it a big heavy team of horses pulling the water tank.

How Mud Street received its name. Mud Street runs from Mt. Albion to Lincoln County. Beyond that, it is called Fly Road. Mud Street was very muddy, thick clay mud, axle deep. During wet weather and the spring thaws making it very hard going for the teams of horses drawing the heavy loads of cord wood. The men, the drivers of the teams of horses, named it Mud Street.

Much more than 100 years ago, people bought land that had to be cleared for farming, it was all woods and bushland. Many walnut trees were piled up and burned. Oxen were used to pull out stumps. To stump the land was the saying. Wood was the only fuel in those days. There was a large market for wood in Hamilton as wood was the fuel used in homes, factories and the railroad. It was steam power that operated the engine that pulled the train of cars, commonly called the drag.

As the land cleared, the ground was seeded. The farmers would carry a large sack of grain hanging from their shoulders, as they walked along, they threw handfuls of grain in an arc before them. Usually it was sown in the early morning starting at sunup. They sowed when it was calm so the grain wouldn't blow away. When it came harvest time, they cut and reaped the grain by hand swinging a cradle.

At that time, Tapleystown was a thriving busy place. There were 2 blacksmith shops, John Graham owned and operated one, settling there in 1876. Wm. Pettit owned and operated the other blacksmith shop, on Mud Street, just east of the corners. There were 2 hotels, one on each corner, another one on the corner of Tapleystown Road and 20 Highway. It was called The Halfway House. The men and

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

teams put up at these hotels to rest man and beast and eat.

There were 2 general stores that sold groceries, food, clothing, boots, lanterns, coal oil, about everything travelers would need and ask for. Mr. Smith Lucas had one general grocery store. Mrs. Wm. Pettit had the other general store and also had the Post Office in her store. At that time there were several small houses around Tapleystown corners. In later years Walter Ptolemy had a grocery store and the Post Office where the present store in Tapleystown now stands. In more recent years Mr. and Mrs. Amy Hildreth, nee Lily Cable, operated a grocery store and the Post Office in the same house that stands there today.

Mark Lee's sugarbush was along side the Tapleystown Road.

In more recent years, Patsy Peconi had a cheese factory, 1/2 mile north and east of Tapleystown Village.

The Tweedle family were early pioneers, they settled in the community that is now Tweedside and was named for them.

Mrs. James Theaker, nee Debbie Cable, was a Sunday school teacher in the Methodist Sunday school. Mrs. Albert Dawe, nee Fanny Pettit, was the music teacher for the surrounding district. The Medlar farm was on Mud Street east, a little way past St. George's Anglican Church. Mr. Emerson Freel was the superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School.

Mr. Chris. Burkholder's farm, where Frank Burkholder was raised and lived many years, was east of Tapleystown Village just south of Mud Street.

The old Ptolemy farm, east of Tapleystown Village, the old Homestead is still there. In later years Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Horning, nee Louie Norton, lived there, where they raised their family.

Many years ago the Jamieson family—lived east and south of Tapleystown Village. A son, Kenny Jamieson and his family were raised there and farmed the old farm many years ago.

Out on the Town Line in Saltfleet Township, lived an Irishman by the name of Paddy McGuire. When Kenneth Roy Clark was born, on the 17th of March, this Irishman came to see the "St. Patrick baby". He said, "Begorra, he will have to be called Pat". That is how he got his nickname "Pat".

The old Wm. Gallagher farm on Mud Street just below the Tapleystown corners, where his son Sam Gallagher lived and farmed for many years.

The Truesdale farm on Mud Street is just west of the corners in Tapleystown, now owned and farmed by Mr. Leslie Thomas. The original old farm house is much over 100 years old.

The Digman farm was on Mud Street east.

The Tapleystown Community Hall was built on the John Tingey Farm.

On the opposite corners were the farms of Mr. Judd Cranston and Mr. Ned Peaire. The Cranston girls and their

friends used to roller skate on their kitchen floor, nearly 100 years ago. Mr. Ned Peaire and his family for many years were the only Catholic family in the community.

The Moffat farm, Mud Street West, where Alex and his brothers and sisters lived many years ago.

The Walker farm, later Sam Patterson farm, was situated 1/2 mile north of Tapleystown Village.

The Dewitt farm in Tapleystown, where two Dewitt sisters lived. They made feather flowers from the down plucked from geese, dyed them pretty colours and fashioned them into decorations and wreaths for funerals.

Wes Lampman was a well known resident of Tapleystown Village. He lived in his home beside the Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Hildreth, Jr. lived next door to him, in what at that time was the Herb Davis home. Mrs. Hildreth, nee Becky Penfold, was caretaker of the Methodist Church for some years. Mr. and Mrs. Villiers Norton own and live in the home where his grandparents lived in Tapleystown, after retiring from their farm.

Boys herded cows alongside of the roads. Harvey St. John, a neighborhood boy, sometimes had two or three herds all pasturing together which made it at times somewhat difficult to separate them when returning them to their respective farms.

Ralph Featherston, a drover, would take a drove of cattle up Mud Street, on their way to the slaughter house, following them by horse and buggy. He had a cattle dog that criss-crossed the road, back and forth, to keep the cattle moving and in line. Nearing the corners, this dog would run ahead, to head the cattle off from turning the corners. A good dog.

Looking for water, a man would walk along holding a crotched branch from a willow tree. It was called the water witch stick and was used to locate water, to find where to dig or drill a well. It would bend down when water was found.

A man who was called "Liniment Man", periodically came walking down Mud Street, selling liniment, good for man and beast. There was an Italian peddler, with a great pack on his back, who sold clothing, linens, jewelry, beads, hairpins, thread, a dry goods store on his back. The rag and bone man was another who would buy anything from rags to chickens and bicker a half hour over the price.

In the summer the gypsies came in great covered wagons, with pails, axe, odd things swinging beneath the wagons. They always had numerous horses, dogs and children, and camped a few days to a week in someone's woods, going around the vicinity selling little tables they made from small limbs and branches of trees. The women would tell fortunes if their palms were crossed with silver. The men mended leaky saucepans and knobs on teakettle lids and trade horses.

Nathaniel Tapley bought 300 acres of Lot 17, 18 & 19, Concession 6, Saltfleet Twp. from Joseph Jones Williams in 1834, originally a Crown Grant to Samuel Williams in 1796.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Devil's Punch Bowl

The history of the Devil's Punch Bowl dates back at least 450 million years (the late Ordovician and early Silurian periods) when materials which form the Niagara escarpment were originally deposited in a large inland sea. This sea most likely originated from the Appalachian Mountains of the eastern United States. At this point in history, corals and other organisms inhabited the area until, as the sea bottom deposits slowly changed to rock, these organisms became fossilised.

Approximately 1 million years ago, the area was subjected to four great ice ages. By this time, the inland sea had already retreated and great slabs of ice covered the land. Their effect on the landscape was to either sharpen and expose the escarpment rock face or to bury it with drift material.

Following the end of the last ice age there was a period of high water levels. This is what etched the final details into the landscape of the Punch Bowl. The water concentrated into huge streams which had a tremendous capacity to carve out the landscape. One of these powerful streams plunged right over the escarpment at Stoney Creek and carved out what would later become known as the Devil's Punch Bowl. Eventually, there was less water available in the area to continue the powerful stream, and its capacity has been greatly reduced. The rate of development in the Punch Bowl declined quite considerably after this time period, but it left a gorge that seems almost bottomless if viewed from the safe side of the surrounding guardrail. It has become a landmark that is famous with geologists worldwide for its exposed rock strata.

A number of stories circulate as to how the Devil's Punch Bowl got its name. There is the possibility that it was named for the pails of home-brew which, at one time, could be bought by the gallon in the woods surrounding the Punch Bowl. Another story suggests that people who saw the beautiful sight as a true work of God, but knew that God would not want something named after him self, decided to name it after the devil instead.

Although it may not have been named after God, one monument located in the Devil's Punch Bowl is a large, 10 meter high steel cross. This cross was erected on December 18, 1966 by a man named William Sinclair (1925 -1994). He felt he could bring a little light to the world by building the huge steel monument which has 106 light bulbs along its edges and was originally planned to be lit up for six weeks of each year, during Christmas and Easter. However, since 1991, the cross has lit up every night of the year being turned on automatically each night thanks to donations made by a Stoney Creek branch of the Knights of Columbus.

An incredible view is offered by the Devil's Punch Bowl. It overlooks Stoney Creek and Hamilton Harbour. and from the lookout tower installed in 1991, there is an excellent view of the Skyway bridge. The Punch Bowl is well-known for its unbelievable scenery and has been the location of many television and movie shoots. In 1989, for example, television star Super Dave Osborne taped an atomic yo-yo stunt at the Punch Bowl which left many fans breathless.

Despite being the perfect spot for photography or a romantic picnic, the Devil's Punch Bowl has been the scene of a lot of vandalism as well as some suicides (at least three in recent years). Conservation authority had to shut down the stone washroom building years ago due to vandalism, but it is still not uncommon for picnic tables, stolen cars, portable washrooms and lengths of fence to be tossed to the bottom of the gorge by vandals. Local residents have also complained that on the occasional summer night, drunken parties will make quite a lot of noise down in the Punch Bowl, sometimes as late as three or four o'clock in the morning. However, regardless of this, the Devil's Punch Bowl is a beautiful and historically significant site.

### References:

*Clipping File. Hamilton - Hamilton Region Conservation Authority - Devil's Punchbowl Special Collections, HPL*  
*Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Scrapbook vol 1. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Scrapbook vol. 2. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Scrapbook vol. 7. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Stoney Creek Scrapbook vol 1. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Stoney Creek Scrapbook vol.2. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Stoney Creek Scrapbook vol 4. Special Collections, HPL.*  
*Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Website*

### **Historical Society Day-trip:**

A day trip has been organized by the Stoney Creek Historical Society for Saturday March 13. The coach will leave from Battlefield Park at 9.00 am. traveling to *The St. Jacobs Farmers Antique and Flea Market*, the *Outlet Mall* is next door. The second stop will be at *The Crossroads for a BuffetLunch*, lots of good food (and desserts), followed by a 1 1/2 hour country side guided tour, finishing up with a 1 hour shopping stop at *St. Jacobs* We then travel to Waterloo to *The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery* for a guided tour and a visit to their Gallery Shop, before wending our merry way back to Stoney Creek, arriving at approximately 6.30 pm. The cost is \$48.00 per person including lunch and admission to the Clay & Glass Gallery. Don't hesitate if you are interested, only a few seats left. Call Bill Mitchell 664-4576, Bill O'Reilly 662-2248, or Ron Place 662-8856.

## REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

by Marnie Hutchinson

Happy 1999 from Battlefield House! Hopefully the snow, snow, and more snow that has been dumped on us isn't getting you down. What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time we had to cancel our "Winter Frolic" event because of a lack of snow. This year we can only hope that the parking lot in Battlefield Park will be plowed out in order to let the visitors in.

We had two new Christmas special events at the Museum this year: "Breakfast with St. Nicholas" and a "Gingerbread House Workshop". We were up to our elbows in gingerbread and festive fun. They were both wonderfully successful events and so we are already planning for next year. Our educational programming this Christmas was as equally as successful with well over 1,700 children visiting the Museum over a period of four weeks.

The fall and early winter have been busy as usual at the Museum, with educational programming and special events, but there has also been time for travel and meeting new people.

In early November, our curator, Susan Ramsay, travelled to the United States for a much-needed holiday. Besides visiting Hershey's Chocolate World in Hershey, Pennsylvania, Susan took a tour of the Pennsylvania State Museum, a very impressive place that serves delicious lunches of the kind one could picture being served at the Nash-Jackson House.

Susan also had the opportunity to visit the Stone-Tolan House Museum in Rochester, New York. Depicting much the same time period as Battlefield House, the Stone-Tolan House is based on the family life of pioneer Orringh Stone, representing the private and the public activities of a household and rural tavern on the frontier in Brighton, New York between 1790 and 1820. Sue talked to curator Cindy Boyer and Cindy suggested that their historical society, the Landmark Society of Western New York, might make a bus trip our way. It's always great to make connections with people and museums on the other side of the border.

Now it's time to gear up for our winter and spring special events. Besides our Winter Frolic in January, our next event after that will be our Valentine Romance, on Saturday, February 6th. Guests to this popular affair will witness the mock wedding ceremony of Elizabeth Gage and Major John Westbrook, partake in a wonderful feast and participate in some dancing with the bridal party.

Pancakes in the Park will take place on Saturday, April 10 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. with the usual fare of hot pancakes, sweet syrup and sizzling sausages.

Our Daffodil Tea comes next, on Sunday, April 25th. A warm and inviting afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones, sweets and entertainment.

Hope you'll all make the most of our great Canadian winter and we look forward to seeing you at Battlefield House Museum very soon.

## FROM THE PAST:

OCTOBER 27, 1908

Bee was held for drawing stone for foundation. Those present. Donald McInnes, Selby Corman, W.E. Corman, R.E. Glover.

November 24 Bee

Donald McInnes, Hamilton Lee, John Corman, Albert Corman, Elvin Corman (with team), R.E. Glover, Arthur Glover (with team).

February 2 1910 Bee

J.A. Lottridge, - two teams, 1 1/2 Days \* Arthur Corman, - with team 1 Day \* J.A. Walker, - with team, 1/2 Day \* Oliver M. Nash, - with team, 1/2 Day \* Marcus Lee, - with team, 1/2 Day \* J.W. Green, - with team, 1/2 Day\* Selby Corman, W.E. Corman, Elvin Corman, Donald McInnes, Edwin Kelly.

### The History of the Fruitland Cemetery:

*From the O.G.S. transcribing October 28, 1986*

This cemetery is located on lot 15 in the 2nd concession of Saltfleet Township, Wentworth County. John Biggar obtained the Crown Patent to all 100 acres of this lot, date of instrument December 31, 1798.

A Methodist Church Class was organized in May 1843. In 1853 a frame church was built on a lot 10 rods by 6 rods at the corner of Fruitland Sideroad and what is now #8 Highway.

The Church was dedicated in December 1853.

The lot on which it was built was not formally transferred until Charles Carpenter deeded it to the Trustees of the Stewart Congregation of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, date of instrument March 17, 1873, date of registration November 27, 1875.

The Trustees to whom it was transferred were, Alexander Stewart, Gershom Carpenter, Joseph Biggar, James Smith, Samuel Kennedy Green, Daniel Showers Lottridge, Philander Barnes, John Wesley Smith all yeoman, John McNeilly, shoemaker, all of Saltfleet.

In 1882 a brick church was built across the road and the name was changed from Stewart to Wesley. It continued as the Wesley Methodist Church until 1925 when it became Wesley United Church. This was the time when the Congregationalist, Methodist and some Presbyterian Churches joined to form the United Church of Canada.

The cemetery has been known as the Fruitland Cemetery. The earliest internment as recorded on a monument was that of *Margaret, wife of John McNeilly, 1829 - 1862.*

August 1926

With another election near at hand we will soon hear all the pros and cons, but the Cons. have the say this time.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS  
BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:**

Anne Forsyth Accounting	Anne Forsyth	9 Lake Ave. South	662-2848
Britannia Cleaners	Ed Strecker	17 King St. E.	662-4971
Comic1 Books	Tom Laing	Elm/King Plaza	664-3777
Erland Lee Museum Home	Michael Gemmell	552 Ridge Road	662-2691
H/W Archaeological Fdn.	Rita Griffin-Short	McMaster University	662-1384
Queenston Stationery	Martin Battell	38 King St.E.	664-3360
Rotary Club of Stoney Creek		P.O Box 66655	573-3584

**FUTURE SPEAKERS:**

- March 3, 1999: Bill Mitchell - Die-cast toy collectables.
- April 7, 1999 Sylvia Wray - Bakersville Flamboro.
- May 5, 1999: To be announced
- June 1999: Picnic - Details to follow

**SPONSOR A NEWSLETTER:**

Would you like to sponsor an edition of the newsletter?  
A \$30.00 donation helps with the expense of printing and mailing the Stoney Creek Historical Society Newsletter, a tax receipt will be issued.

Please contact Ron Place 662-8856

**NEED A RIDE TO THE MEETING ?**

Let your phone contact know that you require a ride to our meeting. They will try to make the necessary arrangements.

**Continued from page 2**

**Battlefield House**

[www.alpha.binatech.on.ca/~bhmchin](http://www.alpha.binatech.on.ca/~bhmchin)

**Stoney Creek Historical Society**

[www.city.stoney-creek.on.ca/events/histori](http://www.city.stoney-creek.on.ca/events/histori)

**The City of Stoney Creek**

[www.city.stoney-creek.on.ca](http://www.city.stoney-creek.on.ca)

**Westfield Village**

[www.worldchat.com/public/westfield](http://www.worldchat.com/public/westfield)

**Stoney Creek Heritage Committee**

[www.stoney-creek.on.ca/lacac/](http://www.stoney-creek.on.ca/lacac/)

**Erland Lee (Museum) Home**

[www.fwio.on.ca/fwio/promo.html](http://www.fwio.on.ca/fwio/promo.html)

**Next newsletter will be issued Wed., May 5 1999**

**Material deadline is Thursday, April 15 1999**

**Stories, News or Queries can be mailed to**

Ron Place  
56 Wyngate Ave.  
Stoney Creek, On. L8G 1T6  
E-mail [rplace@bestnet.org](mailto:rplace@bestnet.org)



**Stoney Creek Historical Society**

**1999**

**Executive**

Past President: Mary Lewis 643-3665  
 President: Ron Place 662-8856 1st. Vice President: Bill O'Reilly 662-2248  
 2nd. Vice President: Bill Mitchell 664-4576 Treasurer: Milt Henderson 662-1035  
 Recording Secretary: Nancy Kinsman 662-2900 Corresponding Secretary: Anna Orr 643-7653

**Directors**

Lloyd Corman 664-7161 Barbara Green 662-4582 George Lewis 643-3665

**Committee**

**Programmes:** Barbara Green 662-4582 **Genealogy:** Dorothy Reid 664-6355  
**Archives:** Dorothy Kinsman 662-2900 - Barbara Green - Nancy Kinsman - Bill Mitchell - Juanita Mitchell  
**Publication:** Mary & George Lewis 643-3665 - Barbara Green - Bill O'Reilly  
**Plaquing:** George Lewis 643-3665- Bill Mitchell - Gerry Heeringa - Harry Brown  
**Social Conveners:** Irene & Bob Pergentile 662-2595  
**Publicity:** George Lewis 643-3665 Nancy Kinsman 662-2900  
**Telephone:** Barb Green 662-4582 Dorothy Kinsman 662-2900 Irene Pergentile 662-2595 Mary Place 662-8856  
**Canada Flag Day:** Harry Brown 578-9555 Bill O'Reilly 662-2248  
**House Tour 99** Mary Lewis 643-3665 - Elaine Gravelle - Barb Green - Lyn Jukes - Juanita Mitchell  
**Newsletter:** Ron Place 662-8856

\*\*\*\*\*

**VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT STONEY CREEK CITY HALL, SALTFLEET ROOM  
 1st. WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 7.30 pm. SEPTEMBER TO JUNE  
 COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS FOLLOW

\*\*\*\*\*

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \ RENEWAL \ DONATIONS**

(Please print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership**

Family .....\$15.00  
 Single .....\$ 12.00  
 Student/Senior.....\$ 7.00  
 Business/Institution.....\$ 20.00

**Donation to funds**

General Fund.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Museum Fund.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Publication Fund.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
***Tax receipts will be issued***

( Please check ) \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_ New:

Membership Term January 1st. to December 31st.  
 Please complete application and make your cheque payable to  
 The Stoney Creek Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 66637 Stoney Creek On. L8G 5E6

Help Celebrate  
**Heritage Day**  
**Sunday February 14,**  
**2.00 P.M.**

**Stoney Creek City Hall**

777 Highway No 8

Stoney Creek, ON.

Everyone Welcome

**1999 EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS:  
RESULTS**

The 1999 general meeting was held Wednesday January 6th. at 7.30 p.m.

**The following have been appointed**

*President. Ron Place*

*Treasure. Milt Henderson*

*Corresponding Secretary. Anna Orr*

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUERY POLICY:**

Members may submit 2 free genealogical queries per year. Queries should be typed or printed clearly on separate pages 8 1/2" x 11", 50 word limit.

Non Members must remit a fee of \$3.00 per query. which will be dated when received and printed in the order received as time and space allow.

Please include Name, Address, Postal Code and phone number.

**PROPERTY PRESERVATION PLAQUE 1999:**

Nominations have been accepted from members and the general public for the 1999 Property Preservation Award. The judging is complete and the Plaque will be presented for the winning entry at the Heritage Day Celebration Sunday February 14th. 2.00 p.m. at Stoney Creek City Hall. Everyone welcome.

Archives  
c/o Dorothy Kinsman