

Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

May 2004

Edition #32

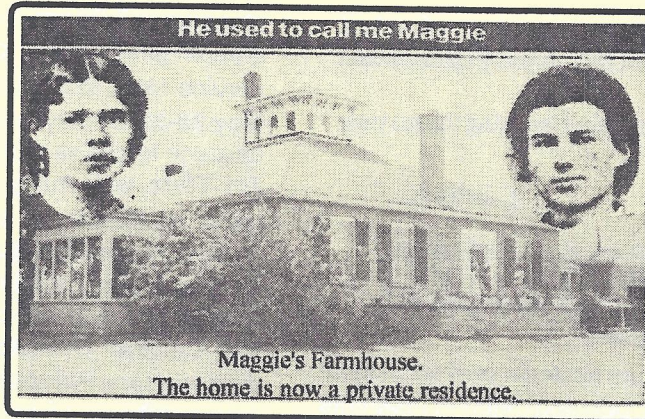
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A HOME TOUCHED BY HISTORY COMES WITH TEARS AND JOY:

By Paul Wilson

Hamilton Spectator Feb. 24, 1990

*I wandered to-day to the hill,
Maggie,
To watch the scene below;
The Creek and the creaking old
mill, Maggie,
As we used to long ago.
The green grave is gone
from the
hill, Maggie,
Where first the daisies
Spring,
The creaking old mill is
still,
Maggie,
Since you and I were
young.
And now we are aged and
gray,
Maggie,
And the trials of life nearly
done;
Let us sing of the days that are
gone, Maggie,
When you and I were young.*



When You And I Were Young Maggie had travelled the world And it was written in God's green pastures, Glanford, just south of the city.

But the plaque on Nebo Road is now gone. So are the highway signs that led to it.

The empty pole is there, on the long front lawn of Maggie's stone farmhouse. And past it, a weathered blue sign -Private Home/Not Open To Public.

The young family who lives there now says it was under siege. People, looking in the windows. Knocks on the door at night Long-winded disciples from the other side of the globe telling how grandma used to .. sing that Maggie song and how it still makes the heart

ache.

George Johnson, handsome and bright, was the schoolteacher, age 21. Maggie Clark, 18, was his student at the little log school

Both were musicians and often sang together at the Clark home, the social centre for the younger set

And George and Maggie went for walks along Twenty Mile Creek. They fell in love. Then he wrote his verse a promise he would love her through the years.

In 1864 they married. Johnson wanted to be a journalist and landed a position with the Cleveland Plain Dealer. So they moved.

But a few months later Maggie got sick and died.

George was shattered. He brought his loved one home for burial and went back into teaching here, some of the time as principal at Hamilton's Central School

Continued on page 3

THE DAY was hot, but 300 showed up in their Sunday best on Maggie's front lawn, July 24, 1963.

Mrs. Clifford Smith and Mrs. J.H Banett sang the sad song. Mrs. Harold Bird played the piano, perched on the back of a pickup.

And Blanche Padgham, Maggie's niece, had the honor of tugging the cover off the plaque. She jumped the gun and the media ~ the shot. But a provincial PR man climbed on a chair and draped the sign anew. The men of the press got their pictures.

The plaque would stand forever. Never before had Ontario erected one to commemorate a song.

NEW MEMBERS:

We are pleased to welcome to our membership
Chub & Estelle Baxter, Orin Denman, Wayne Johnson,
Harold Parker, Mike & Betty Petis, Roy & Ruth Shuker.
Stoney Creek Funeral Home (Joe Geogan)

*This Newsletter
is sponsored by*

Robert W. Smith

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

As members of our Historical Society what are your interests in history? For me, I enjoy studying the format and architectural designs of rural towns in Ontario. When you enter a town and view the main streets you are given a picture of the past and present. One can imagine the lives of the people who lived and worked here a century ago. As you walk or drive through the residential areas the buildings usually determine the economics of that town in the early years. Perhaps it was a town of mills, industry or a railway centre.

The booklet "Doors Open Ontario" offers a great selection of these towns and points of historical interest. While travelling this summer take some time away from the busy highways and visit rural places. Take time to study the building designs, visit a museum and talk to local residents. Many towns offer walking tours which are very helpful and relaxing.

Our Society is preparing a walking tour of Stoney Creek. If anyone would like to assist with this project please contact us.

I hope you will enjoy your travels during the summer and have a wonderful time.

Bill O'Reilly

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

by Michael Gemmell

The Erland Lee Museum hosted a very successful heritage lecture in February, bringing together residents and former residents of Stoney Creek's Community Beach. Many of the visitors brought new pictures of Community Beach to the museum, which were incorporated into the photo database.

The model train display, which opened during March Break, is now going to be a permanent display in the basement wing of the main building. The From Saltfleet to Stoney Creek material has been moved to that area. The museum is seeking volunteers interested in assisting with the creation of additional scale models of historic Stoney Creek c.1910, and volunteers interested in getting hands-on with Stoney Creek's history. Several museum volunteers already work to catalogue donated artifacts from the Stoney Creek area, but your help is always requested to help us get a handle on the 3000+ artifacts in the museum.

Thank you to all the Society members who came out to the museum's Pancake Breakfast at the beginning of April. The event drew over 200 people and was a great success. Special thanks go to Wayne Lymburner, who provided the maple syrup from the old Lee sugar bush,

and to our corporate sponsors Fortinos (Fiesta Mall), Tim Horton's (Elfrida), Highland Packers, and ED Smith & Sons.

Upcoming:

May 1-2: The museum will again be part of **Doors Open Hamilton**. this year there are 40 sites in the region open to the public at no charge as part of this Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association initiative. Guidebooks available at the museum in late April.

May 22: We commemorate **Queen Victoria's birthday** at the museum, with kid's crafts, lawn games, and ice cream making. This walk-up event is on for Saturday afternoon, from 12-4 pm. Come enjoy the holiday weekend the way it was meant to be celebrated: honouring her Majesty's birthday. \$4.00 charge for adults and children alike includes activities and ice cream.

May 28: The **Stoney Creek Charter Branch Women's Institute** holds its annual general meeting at the museum at 7:00 pm. Visitors are welcome to attend the annual get-together of one of the longest running service clubs in Stoney Creek. No charge.

May 29-30: Stoney Creek's artists set up in the museum carriage house as part of the **Spring Blossom Studio Art Tour**, with many types of art for sale within our walls. No charge for entry into show area.

June 6: As part of the Stoney Creek Battle Re-enactment Weekend and Canada Flag Day Parade celebrations in Stoney Creek, the Erland Lee Museum will be hosting the **Central Ontario Artists Association's 50th Anniversary Paint-Out**. Please come and enjoy this free exhibition of paintings and painting in progress from many artists, including Stoney Creek's own Douglas Mays.

July 21: Ladies will enjoy a "**Just For Me**" day out at the Ebenezer Church, sponsored by the Erland Lee Museum. This series of workshops and demonstrations include such things as a fashion show, landscaping, quilt block making, natural healing, and heritage plants. Lunch is included. Please call 905 692 3111 or 519 621 2046 for more information.

RONALD HUGH BERTRAM

February 23 1913 - February 21, 2004

Stoney Creek has lost an icon of the community. Ron Bertram, a prince of a man, although not a member of our historical society was a friend and great help to me and the society when it came to identifying memories from our past. With his help the knowledge of early times in Stoney Creek have been preserved for our descendants to cherish. Ron did not remember all he was asked but would direct me to someone else who would know. He will be missed. Our sympathies go to the Bertram family.

Ron Place

A Home Touched by History

continued from page 1

The year after Maggie died, George had the words of his ballad set to music by J.A Butterfield of Detroit The song was an instant success.

George died in 1917, more than half a century after Maggie's death He's buried in Hamilton Cemetery.

We move ahead now to 1961 and the formation of a new branch of the Women's Institute in Glanford. Someone suggested the Maggie Johnson W.I. and everyone liked it.

Member Marg McKibbon, new to the area, got to work on official recognition for Maggie's house.

"My dad used to sing that song to my mother," she says. "They were Scottish and always thought the song started there. When I found out the truth, I felt we had to do something."

So she got a Mr. Sloan to come down from the Historic Sites Board of Ontario. He checked everything out and said yes. Then there was that plaque ceremony in the summer of 63.

The woman who owned Maggie's house apparently never minded the visitors. But about 2 1/2 years ago she sold to Susan and Tony Grossi. They weren't prepared for the attention.

Most people thought the house was a museum. They wanted to come inside and look around And during the Grossis' first summer, there was a bad accident in front of the house a carload of Maggie fans hit by an oncoming vehicle.

So the Grossis went to council and suggested moving the sign a little south and putting a drive-off on the shoulder.

Nothing happened. And last summer, somehow, the plaque came down. It's now in the hands of the province, which is supposed to work out a solution with local government.

But Tony Grossi says everyone's taken too long. "We just don't want the sign anymore. That's the bottom line. They had their chance and they blew it"

Marg McKibbon is sad, the fight's been knocked out of her. "This is a small issue that became a major one.

I couldn't remember how George Johnson's song went and asked if she could sing it In the livingroom of her old brick farmhouse she did her best, She did it with feeling.

But she had to stop before the end The memory of her husband, who died a few years ago in a farming accident, is still too strong. "He used to call me Maggie. "

(Located on Nebo Road -south of airport.)

SUMMER EVENTS

Murder Mystery - Battlefield Park Saturday May 8th.
Flag-day parade - Saturday June 5th
Battle week-end - Saturday & Sunday June 5th & 6th.
Peach Festival - August 27 - 28 - 29.

REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

by Marnie Hutchinson

As nature slowly comes to life here in Battlefield Park, the staff at the Museum is in full gear, preparing for another busy spring and summer season. We hope that you and your family will join us at one of our upcoming special events.

DOORS OPEN HAMILTON

Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2, 2004

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Free admission for visitors who join us as we celebrate Hamilton's built heritage.

MURDER MYSTERY IN BATTLEFIELD PARK

Saturday, May 8, 2004

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Gather clues by talking to characters throughout the site in order to solve the murder mystery. Prizes to be won!

\$5.00 per person

SPRING BLOSSOM ARTISTS STUDIO TOUR

Saturday, May 29 and Sunday, May 30, 2004

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Two unique artists display their talents and wares at Battlefield House Museum, one stop on a local artist's studio tour.

Free Admission

RE-ENACTMENT OF THE BATTLE OF STONEY CREEK

Saturday, June 5, 2004: 12:00 noon to 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 6, 2004: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Experience the drama, pageantry and excitement of one of the most important events in Canada's history. Bring the whole family for games and prizes, horse-drawn wagon rides, food, demonstrations, musical entertainment, Chief Tecumseh and the Re-enactment itself.

Adults \$5.00

Youth \$2.00

Children 12 and under Free

GAGE FAMILY REUNION

Sunday, September 5, 2004

Join descendants of the Gage and Westbrook families at the second Reunion to take place in Battlefield Park. Reconnect with Gage relatives from all over North America in the midst of the original family homestead.

FROM THE PAST:

*Wentworth Historical Society Minutes
1908 -1948*

JUNE 10th, 1914

The closing meeting for the season of the Saltfleet Historical Society was held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evening June 19th, 8. p.m. President W.E. Corman presiding.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Mr. J.B. Davis presented the Finance Com. report of receipts and expenses for the Field Day of sports as follows -

To cash on subscriptions, 2 lists	\$53.75
To cash sale, Refreshment privileges	\$10.00 63.75
Paid, cash prizes, sports	\$36.35
Paid, Green Band	\$20.00
Popcorn	\$.50 56.85
Balance	\$ 6.90
Bal. prizes over cash	\$ 5.75
	\$12.65
Less 5.00 rent, Parish Hall, 5 meetings	\$ 5.00
S.H.S. account, cash transferred	\$ 7.65

Moved by J.B. Davis, seconded by Chas. Moore, that the Finance Com. report be received & adopted. CARRIED.

It was moved by J.B. Davis, seconded by Chas. Moore, that the meetings of the Society be adjourned to meet again in November.

It was agreed by all that our first Field Day to commemorate the Battle of Stoney Creek was a complete success in every way and the thanks of this meeting are due to the various Coms. having the matter in hand.

There being no further business the meeting then adjourned.

W.E. Corman

EARLY SALT FLEET

From an old Corman Diary

During the year following the close of the war (1816) the first school of Saltfleet was established, and a very unpretentious one it was. The School was situated near the eastern end of Burlington Beach, not far from Mr. George Lottridge's, and was a log cabin about 18 x 20 that had been erected by a family of settlers. The place was heated by a crude fire-place, and was accommodated with a few board seats, but devoid of everything in the shape of desks, maps or school furniture. The school-master was paid in grain and any other equivalent acceptable. He did not adopt the traditional method of boarding around among his pupil's parents for part payment of his salary.

In 1847 Squire John Williamson, father of Mr. J. H. Williamson of Stoney Creek, erected a grain store-house at the lake immediately below the village and thus gave the first start to the grain trade of the county. In 1850 Mr. R. R. Waddell an enterprising young merchant, now of Hamilton, built another grain storehouse, and for three years subsequent, Stoney Creek absorbed nearly all the grain trade of the Gore District. Hamilton had no storehouse,

and the little village, in consequence of the monopoly of the trade, leaped ahead until it grew ambitious to become the head of navigation on Lake Ontario, and thus supplant Hamilton. A short distance east of the two storehouses a lagoon stretched inland nearly half a mile to the line of the then proposed Great Western railway. It was intended to dredge out this lagoon. make a harbour of it, and build a large depot at its head, in order to make it a shipping port of importance. A village to be called Hopkinsburg was planned by Ephraim Hopkins, father of Mr. Silas Hopkins and the late Wesley Hopkins, and surveyed by Andrew Miller on that part of Mr. Hopkins' farm between the Stoney Creek road and the pond or lagoon. In one fall no less than 100,000 bushels of grain were exported from the two store-houses; and the Great Western Railway Company having offered \$14,000 for a piece of land where the station was proposed, it seemed likely that the harbor would be opened.

In the year 1853.. Mr. John Williamson removed his storehouse to Hamilton, and his rival did the same thing a year later. A grain market was thus established in Hamilton. No grain warehouses were kept up at Stoney Creek, and the village, bereft of its sustaining trade soon began to go backward, in the following ten years, half of its places of business were vacant and decaying houses.

Then the Great Western Railway was opened, a station was erected in Saltfleet about 12 miles east of Hamilton, called Ontario. The wharf had been built by Mr. John W. Wilson at the Lake, the first locomotive run on the line (the "Middlesex) was landed here. Quite a local grain trade was carried on at this point. When the act of Confederation was passed, and the Province of Upper Canada changed its name to Ontario, numbers of imperfectly addressed letters which found their way to this office, became a nuisance which drew the attention of the Post Office Department. It was found advisable to change the name of the post office and station which was called Winona, after Winonah, an Indian maid, the daughter of Tecumseh.

QUICK QUIZ

In 1895 (The spelling of Stoney Creek as Stony Creek was printed in the newspaper, also in the Farmer's Directory. Does anyone know when the spelling was changed to (S-T-O-N-E-Y) ??

DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Historic events, written articles, family stories that will help us appreciate our history. If you have a piece large or small you feel would have a place in our publication please submit it. Please call Ron Place at 905-662-8856.

ANSWER TO QUICK QUIZ

In 1832, the first post office in Stoney Creek was established and spelled "Stony Creek". It wasn't until 1927 that the present name "Stoney Creek" was used.

**DESIGNATED PROPERTIES
in STONEY CREEK:
FIFTY UNITED CHURCH
1455 #8 HIGHWAY**

In 1796 Methodist settlers at Fifty Mile Creek began to meet for worship in homes of the area. Silas Smith, U.E., ancestor of E. D. Smith, was a local Methodist preacher who held meetings and Sunday School classes in his home until a church was built. Fifty Mile Creek was a part of a circuit riding extending from Fort Erie to Queenston to Binbrook.

On November 28, 1820 land was deeded to the Trustees of the Methodist Church by Levi Lewis (Lot 1, Concession 2, Saltfleet Township) for the building of a church. At the same time land was also deeded for an adjacent cemetery. Signatories to the original deed included Hugh Willson, John Willson, James Lewis, Silas Smith, John Smith and William Nixon. The first wooden chapel was built and painted white in the process of time, if not at first.

In 1825 Egerton Ryerson preached at an Easter Sunday service at The Fifty. The second Canada Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held at the The Fifty on September 14, 1825.

The present church building was constructed in 1869 at a cost of \$3,100 paid in full at that time. The church was built in Gothic Revival style with stained glass windows and seating for 400 persons. The pulpit, platform, altar and aisles were carpeted. The new cabinet organ was also installed at that time. The building was dedicated on February 14, 1869. At that time the original chapel was still located on the site.

In 1923 a Sunday School hall was erected. The old stoves and stove pipes were removed and new furnaces, pews and hardwood floors were installed.

The name "Fifty United Church" is taken from the creek which runs nearby the site. This term was used as early as May 1, 1802, in connection with the church.

Important to the preservation of the Fifty United Church are the original brick facades, the stone foundations, the stained glass windows and frames, and the roof.

**STONEY CREEK
CANADA FLAG DAY PARADE
SATURDAY JUNE 5TH
11.00 AM.**

Look for the "Drop a Loonie - Take a Pin" boxes at your favourite Stoney Creek stores, your loonies will help the committee raise the \$15,000.00 needed to pay for this years parade. A lot of money has been raised or committed to make this happen but! we are not quite there yet. Come out and support the Stoney Creek Canada Flag Day Parade, wave your Canadian Flags and show you want this special parade to continue.

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

LOTTERIDGE

In 1759 Sir William Johnson sent Captain Robert Lotteridge from Canajoharie to reconnoitre Ticonderoga preparatory to Amherst's successful attack on that post. It is believed that, after the War of the Revolution, Robert came to Canada and settled at the Head of the Lake. The first map of Barton 1791 shows his name on Lot 20, Conc. IV- Lot 19, Concs. II, III, IV and Lot 18, Conc. II. It is probable that he died sometime before 1796 as in July of that year the heirs of Robert Lotteridge petitioned for land stating that their late father was a Captain in the Indian department during the late war. On the second map of Barton 1811 the name of Sarah Lotteridge is on Lots' 19 and 20 Conc. IV, probably the widow of Robert. Captain John Lotteridge's name is on the first map of Barton Lot 20, Conc. II. In 1802 he was elected Master of the Barton Masonic Lodge. He served with the 3rd Regiment, Lincoln Militia and was killed in repelling Cot. Smyth's attack on Fort Erie 28 November 1812.

Probable children:-

John Lotteridge Jr., Lived on Lot 7 Conc. I, Barton Township.

William Lotteridge, Lived on Lot 6 Conc. I.

Nancy Lotteridge, B. 1807, d. 1891 buried at Dundurn, Hamilton.

Elizabeth Lotteridge, married George DePew of Barton. Licence issued 13 March 1828.

William Lotteridge settled in Saltfleet township on Lots 29 and 30 Conc. I and B.F. on Lake Ontario. He married Mary, daughter of Michael Showers. During the War of 1812 he served as a Captain in the 5th Lincoln. Later in 1824 he was made Lieut. Colonel.

Children of William and Mary:

Hannah, b. 13 Dec. 1801.

Mary, b. 1 August, 1803.

Nancy, b. 28 March, 1805.

Robert, b. 10 April, 1807.

John, b. 1 June, 1811.

Catharine, b. 27 June, 1813.

Harriet, b. 6 July, 1816.

George, b. in 1818.

William, b. 23 November, 1820.

Sarah, b. 24 May, 1823.

Daniel, b. 1 October, 1825.

Thomas Lotteridge, Captain in 3rd Gore Regiment, 1838.

Robert Lotteridge, Captain in 3rd Gore Regiment, 1838.

George Lotteridge, Lived on Lot 30 Conc. B.F. Saltfleet twp.

William Lotteridge, Lived on Lot 29 Conc. I Saltfleet.

Daniel Lotteridge, Lived on Lot 19 Conc. III, Saltfleet.

Ann Lotteridge, married Levi Wilson of Saltfleet. Licence issued 13 Feb. 1830.

Harriet Lotteridge, b. 1816, m. Henry Cline of Grimsby twp.

From the Annuls of the Forty, Book #6, page # 23

CROWN PATENTEES OF SALTFLEET TOWNSHIP:

By Mabel Burkholder and T. Roy Woodhouse

Continued from Feb. newsletter

In the following list, the date of the settler's arrival in Canada (meaning arrival at Fort Niagara in most cases), is shown in brackets. The date of the actual settlement in Saltfleet could be the same year, but might be a year later. These names and registration dates were copied from the County Registry Office by Mabel Burkholder, and elaborated by T. Roy Woodhouse:

CONCESSION THREE

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
Levi Jones, Jr. (of (Grimsby) (1786)	1	All	100	May 10, 1798
Silas Smith (1787)	2	All	100	May 17, 1802
Robert Isaac Dey Gray (Sol'r (General)	3	All	100	Aug. 10, 1801
John Pettit, Jr. (of Grimsby) (1787)	4,12	All	200	May 22, 1803
Robert Isaac Dey Gray (Sol'r (General)	5,6	All	200	Aug. 10, 1801
Capt. Bernard Frey (Butler's Rangers)	7	All	100	Oct. 24, 1804
James Geddes Jacob Smith Jr. (of Glanford)	8	All	100	Aug. 12, 1818
(1788) Jacob Smith Sr. (of of Glanford)	9	All	100	Dec. 16, 1816
(1788) Charles Pettit (of of Grimsby)%,)	10,11	All	200	June 11, 1801
(1787) Capt. Benjamin Pawling (Butler's Rangers)	13	All	100	Oct. 24, 1798
John Biggar (1786)	14	All	100	Mar. 14, 1798
Richard London (before 1793)	15	All	100	Dec. 31, 1798
Hannah Cowell (Barth. London Ist?)	16,17	All	200	May 17, 1802
Charles Moore	18,19	All	200	June 24, 1802
George Corman (1790)	20	All	100	June 10, 1818
Joseph Petry, Sr. (Sgt. Butler's Rang-s)	21,22	All	200	Dec. 31, 1798
Stephen Jones, Sr. (1789)	23	All	10	July 10, 1801
	24,25	All	200	April 25, 1811

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
William Gage (1789)	26 to 28	All	300	May 17, 1802
John Gage (1790)	29	All	100	Oct. 8, 1803
Ebenezer Jones, Sr. (1789) (Ass't. Surveyor)	30,31	All	200	May 6, 1796
Timothy Thompson and John Carseallen (of Fredericksburgh)	32 to 34	All	300	Jan. 17, 1811

MEMBERSHIP DUE ??

The date on the right side of your mailing label indicates the year your membership is paid for.

Membership term is January 1, to December 31.

Your partnership is important to us.

Please renew today.

WESTFIELD VILLAGE:

by Rob Winniger

Events 2004

May 23rd, 12:30 pm to 4 pm: Victoria Day and the United Empire Loyalists

Join us as Westfield officially re-opens the ca. 1820 Bamberger House, Hamilton's oldest occupied building. Ceremonies at 3 pm. Visit with Revolutionary War troops or tour the over 30 historical buildings and walk 340 acres of nature trails.

June 20th, 10 am to 4 pm: Father's Day Antique and Steam Show

Bring the Kids out for a special day of antique cars, agricultural equipment, steam traction engine rides and a special kids' collectors show case where your junior collector can show his or her collections, will learn about collections care and receive a special certificate as a Westfield Junior Curator certificate.

Westfield is open Sundays and holidays 12:30 pm until 4 pm and features guided tours, a one of a kind gift shop and fresh, home made biscuits and soup at the bandstand.

Westfield Heritage Village Hour Open Sundays and Holidays
April 6 to October 26, 12:30 - 4 pm

featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop.

ELECTION NIGHT at VINEMOUNT STATION

By Howard Martin

In the days before radio broadcasting hit its stride, the Morse telegraph ruled the world of communications. I don't think it was possible to make a long-distance trans-Canada telephone call until sometime during the Second Great War (1939-1945). Though much of my work as Station Signals Officer at Rockcliffe Air Base in Ottawa in 1942-44 had to do with radio and radar, I supervised monthly accounts with the CPR and CNR telegraph companies, covering many communications.

Until radio, sporting events such as championship boxing matches, would be covered by a reporter writing copy, the pages usually being passed to a Morse operator, usually sitting beside him. Jack Rountree, a Morse operator and a hero of my younger days, who had married a Vinemount girl, Miss Sturch, was noted for being able to both report a sporting event and transmit a Morse copy simultaneously.

For such special events - elections, etc., often in a city a hall would be engaged, a commercial telegraph wire installed, a "gold key" telegrapher hired, and the returns, results, etc. read off to the assemblage. Small towns, villages, where there was sufficient interest, would make similar arrangements.

Such commercial wires, owned by the CPR, ran on the pole line alongside the T.H. & B. Railway tracks. Several had been looped inside the station at Vinemount for tests as required by the distant CP "Wire Chief" in Hamilton; I don't recall that they were accessible at other stations.

So, on election nights, several prominent Vinemount citizens would invite Norm Burdick, the agent-telegrapher, to their home for supper. After which they would adjourn to the little station. Norm would plug his instruments into the special circuit and they would enjoy election results as speedily as did the Prime Minister.

THE FAMILY STORY TELLERS. . . .

We are the chosen. In each family there is one who is called upon to search out their ancestors, to make them live again by telling the family story. Somehow we know they know and approve. To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but instead breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the story tellers of our generation.

All families have one. We have been called upon, as it were, by our genes. Those who have gone before us cry out to us: Tell our story, and so we do. In finding them we somehow find ourselves.

It's just not documenting facts. It's pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish and how they contributed towards what we are today. It's respecting their hardships and losses, never giving in or giving up their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family and future generations.

It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep us a Nation. It goes to an immense understanding of their accomplishments for us, that we might be born who we are. And so we do, with love and caring, recording each fact of their existence, because we are them and they are us.

Author unknown

A friend in Alberta received the above from a contact in Salt Lake City.

It originally came from N.S.W. Australia

Submitted by Dorothy Reid

Tuesday, February 11, 1896. - Blocked by Storm. Train service in this district demoralized.

Street Names in Stoney Creek

by Jean Baine

Mountain Avenue:

Runs north to south from Lake Avenue to Trevor Drive.

A photo of Mountain Avenue in Stoney Creek taken in 1910 faces the escarpment, popularly known as "the mountain". The dirt road has wooden houses on the west side and barns on the east. A wooden sidewalk runs in front of the houses.

Mountain Avenue continued up a steep grade to the top. Farmers used this road frequently to reach the village and surrounding area.

Just below the escarpment ran the T.H. and B. railway and a wooden station just west of Mountain Avenue was often a busy spot. Freight trains huffing their way up the grade to Vinemount were a fascinating sight. The station master at his desk seemed to be constantly sending and receiving messages.

Another interesting area to visit was the Devil's Punchbowl. Just past the railway tracks a well worn path led to the left and through the woods. This ended in a falls of 80 - 100 feet rushing into a rocky basin below. This could be an awe inspiring sight during most of the year. It was also the site of abandoned cars until a sturdier fence was erected.

In winter, bob sleds could start their run just below the tracks and fly down Mountain Avenue as far as Jones Street!

In 1969 a large medical building was erected on the east side of Mountain that serves the greater community. The T.H. and B. station has disappeared and two large concrete blocks prohibit driving up the "mountain". But memories linger on of happy treks up Mountain Avenue.

*Dwyer, Kay -Saltfleet Then and Now -D. G.Seldon
Printing Limited.*

This concludes the series of Streets names in Stoney Creek, Starting with the November issue we will begin a new series "Through the Garden of Canada"

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:

Appraiser*Quiltmaker*Lecturer	Judy Lyons	8 Douglas Pl.	905-664-4519
Britannia Cleaners	Ed Strecker	17 King St. E.	905-662-4971
Chamber of Commerce	Dave Cage	21 Mountain Ave. S.	905-664-4000
Comic1 Books	Tom Laing	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-3777
Watercolours by Doug Mays	Doug & Angela Mays	3 MacDui Dr.	905-643-4541
Elm Grocery & Deli	Rick/Mario/Sonia	44 King St. E.	905-662-7900
Erland Lee Museum Home	Michael Gemmell	552 Ridge Road	905-662-2691
Evans Flower Shop	Karen Evans	5 King St. West.	905-664-3712
Forsyth Hagar Accounting	Anne Forsyth CGA	42 King St. E. Unit#2	905-662-2848
Picture Palace	Joanne Wynhofen	19 King St. E.	905-662-4014
Queenston Stationery	Salam Zoghaib	38 King St. E.	905-664-3360
Royal Canadian Legion	Branch 622	12 King St. E.	905-662-4171
Spera House Antiques	Lyn & Brent Jukes	228 Ridge Road	905-662-9339
The Snackery	Carol Dushko	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-2288
Stoney Creek Funeral Home	Joe Goegan	454 Highway 8	905-664-222
Winona Garden Shoppe	Georgina & Jeff Beattie	1381 Highway 8	905-643-2161

PLEASE MENTION THIS DIRECTORY WHEN YOU SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS!

DID YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW THIS?

If you thought History boring!!! Listen to this

More facts about the 1500s.

In early homes, the floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "*Dirt poor.*"

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying "*thresh hold.*"

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey. The combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a "*wake.*"

SHIPWRECK:

The C.G. Alvord of Detroit, a three masted schooner owned by Stuipson & Co. bound from Detroit to Toronto was wrecked December 12, 1867 on the shore just east of Burlington Beach, near the foot of Stoney Creek Road, on the farm of Peter Van Wagner. The ship was caught in a snow storm, sprung a leak and became unmanageable before coming aground. The wreck was stripped and her cargo of grain although listed as a total loss, there was some salvaged. Loss to ship was \$12,000; loss to the cargo \$18,500. Insurance on the ship was \$12,000, insurance on cargo \$12,500.

An excerpt from an old Corman diary states; *January 2nd. 1868 - Got 4 bags more of the wet wheat from the old wreck of the schooner "Alvord" Captain Rogers. This makes about 45 bushels of this wheat that we have got, and some of it is pretty good and will make flour. The schooner came on shore here on Friday morning the 13th of December in the coldest snow storm of the season and were got on shore by the inhabitants around here on boards on the floating ice. There was a cargo of 15,200 bushels of wheat (white) on board of the best quality, insured they say for \$3.00 per bushel in green backs. All the nails, ropes and rigging are taken off to be sent up to Detroit to the owner Mr. Hudson. The vessel coming on shore here has been a great help to some of the people around here who have made money out of getting out the wheat at 50 cents per bag.*

Stoney Creek Historical Society

Year 2004 Executive

President:	Bill O'Reilly	662-2248
Past President:	Ron Place	662-8856
1st. Vice President:	Bill Mitchell	664-4576
2nd. Vice President:	Michael Gemmell	549-5949
Treasurer:	Judy Green	662-4065
Recording Secretary:	Cheryl Gemmell	549-5949
Corresponding Secretary:	Anna Orr	643-7653
Newsletter:	Ron Place	662-8856

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \ RENEWAL \ DONATIONS

(Please print)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt.: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

(Please check) Renewal: New:

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	

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

HUMOROUS ENGLISH SIGNS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- Paris Hotel Elevator:** Please leave your values at the front desk.
- Austrian Ski Lodge:** Not to perambulate the corridors in the hours of repose in the boots of ascention.
- Polish Menu:** Salad a firm's own make; limpid red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of a finger; roasted duck let loose; beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion.
- Hong Kong Tailor Shop:** Ladies may have a fit upstairs.
- Bangkok Dry Cleaners:** Drop your trousers here for best results.
- Paris Dress Shop:** Dresses for street walking.
- Rhodes (Greece) Tailor Shop:** Order your summer suit. Because is big rush we will execute customers in strict rotation.
- Honk Kong Ad:** Teeth extracted by the latest Methodists.
- Rome Laundry:** Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time.
- Czech Tourist Agency:** Take one of our horse-driven city tours. We guarantee no miscarriages.
- Moscow Hotel:** If this is your first visit to the U.S.S.R. you are welcome to it.
- Norwegian Lounge:** Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar.

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT STONEY CREEK CITY HALL,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1st. WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 7.30 pm.
SEPTEMBER TO JUNE

COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS FOLLOW

LIBRARY:

As most of you are aware, "Saltfleet then and Now" contains a number of errors. My aim is to correct and record these errors as we become aware of them. We wish to have our copy at the Stoney Creek Historical Society library as accurate as possible for people doing research. A numbered, coloured dot will be placed next to the error, then recorded on a separate page at the back of the book.

If you know of an error, please contact a member of the executive giving him the page number and particulars, we will then make the corrections.

PLEASE NOTE!

Members may be borrow from the library for a period of 3 weeks, material must be signed out and signed back in on return.

Our appreciation to **Karen & Peter Orr** for donating this library space to our society.

Steel Market Place

(Rear of) 1247 Highway 8, Winona.

Monday to Friday 8:30 am. To 4:00 pm.

FUTURE SPEAKERS

Please Note! No meeting Wed. June 2nd.

*Historical Society Potluck Picnic, Friday June 11th.
at the Erland Lee Museum Grounds.*

Meetings will resume Wednesday Sept. 1st at 7.30 pm.

Wed. Sept. 1, Bob Brattina - Railways.

Wed. Oct. 6, Dorothy Turcotte - The Beach Strip.

**Wed. Nov. 3, Ian Kerr Wilson - Steam and Technology
Museum Founder**

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS:

I want to commend our members, for the tremendous response regarding the sponsoring of the newsletter. Five of the next newsletters have been sponsored. As you are no doubt aware the printing and postage costs are significant and your help in this venture is greatly appreciated.

Stories, News or Queries can be mailed to

Ron Place

56 Wyngate Ave.

Stoney Creek, On. L8G 1T6

E-mail r.place@sympatico.ca

Next newsletter will be issued Wed. Oct. 6, 2004

Material deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2004

Visit our Historical Society website www.stoneycreekhistoricalsociety.701.com

S.C.H.S. Library

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