

Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

October 2003

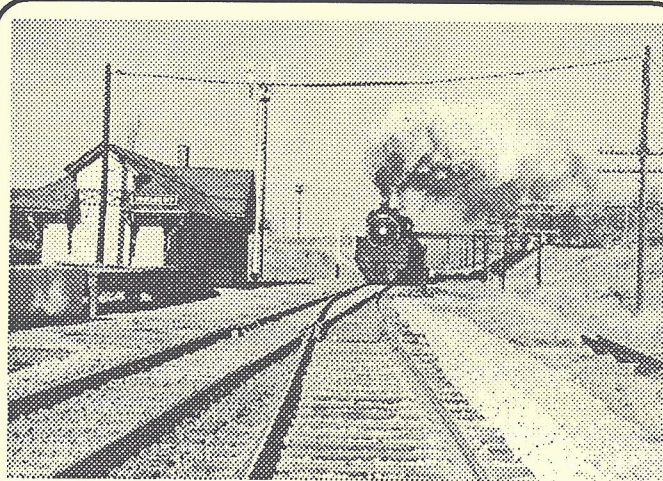
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VINEMOUNT & FRUITLAND

By Howard Martin

I was born in 1910 in the Fruitland (Barton St.) house of my (Emerson) Gage grandparents -later number 822 Barton St. E. -and lived on the Lot 3 Conc. 4 Saltfleet Martin farm on the "Ridge Rd" near Vinemount (23 acres of the NW corner of Lot 3 Conc. 4) until called away on Sept. 4, 1939 to the Second World War. Before then, for several years, my brother and I operated the Vinemount General Store and Post Office. After the war, I was, for about five years, agent-telegrapher at Vinemount T.H.



Vinemount Station.

& B Railway station, shortly before it was closed and moved to be a dwelling on the Governor's Road, west of Dundas. Before the war, I had been on many occasions the night telegrapher at the T.H. & B Stoney Creek station, perched part way up the escarpment, "hooping" orders onto the big steamers hauling their loads up the "hill", en route to the border. On wintry evenings, some old men of the village would trudge up the hill to play checkers and tell tales of the old days, in the heated, lighted waiting room. that area was well known. I had never then heard that Senator E.D. Smith had named Vinemount through his family connection with that area. The story I was told, from childhood on, was that the Canadian Post Office was proposing to set up a new postal outlet on that eastern end of the Ridge Road in Saltfleet. The mail was being carried by courier up the Fifty Mountain Road, from Winona en route to Tweedside. In much of my younger days, a large old pine tree still stood on the west side of the Fifty Road, just north of the Ridge Road, part way up to the crest of the ridge. For many years this tree still carried a bit of board nailed to it, the remnants (we were told) of the box into which the passing courier had placed Ridge Road mail. There was also the story of the local family that had trained their

dog to go fetch this mail.

Local people were invited to suggest names for their new postal outlet, to be voted on, the contributor of the winning name to become postmaster, a lucrative appointment, given the financial state of those times. A local clergyman submitted Mount Arrarat, the mount where Noah's ark grounded. But the winner, entered by the local blacksmith-cum-farmer Jacob Pettit, was "Vinemount", said to have been inspired by the many

wild grapevines that grew on the escarpment.

Jacob Pettit (1832-1913, buried in the Fifty Cemetery) owned Lot 4 Conc. 4 Saltfleet. His house, which had contained the first Vinemount Post Office, was located, with barns, etc., on the south side of the Ridge Road and was only demolished in recent years -the "oldest house in Vinemount". His blacksmith shop was almost immediately opposite so he may have owned that land too - the Ridge Road meanders. Our Martin farm was immediately east of the Pettit house. My grandfather John Martin, a Cornish mason and bricklayer, had moved there on retiring from his Hamilton construction business, perhaps about 1891. He died in 1916, so these two old men lived as near neighbours for about twenty years. I never had occasion to doubt the firsthand nature of the story of the naming of Vinemount. In my earliest recollection, Jacob Pettit, his wife and one daughter had passed away, and spinster daughter Victoria lived alone in that house. She told the most entrancing stories of life in the old days, of a traveller treed by wolves and having to so spend the night, back where the old Vinemount quarry then stood. I remember that quarry's whistles signaling the end of the Great War, 11 November 1918.

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Stan Graham 1930 - 2003

It is with sadness that I report the death of member Stan Graham who passed away July 9, 2003. Stan and Sandee, have been great supporters of this historical society and members since 1992. Our thoughts go out to Sandee and family during this difficult time.

*This Newsletter
is sponsored as a Memorium for
Sarah May (Widdows) Metcalfe
and William Metcalfe*

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

Welcome to another season that promises to be very interesting for our Historical Society. Our main project is the Christmas House Tour December 7th, followed by our December meeting which will be a Friday December 12th, bus trip to Niagara Falls for dinner and to see the lights. Our monthly meetings will be very informative and entertaining, thanks to Barbara Green our programme convenor.

On Friday June 13th. Many of our members enjoyed our picnic supper at the Shaver House. Jack and Shirley Cranston were gracious hosts as we toured their grounds, museum and heritage home.

In August while visiting Peterborough I had the opportunity to attend a play at Millbrook outdoor theatre. "For Town and Country". This was history of the Women's Institute from it's beginning in Stoney Creek to modern times. It made one proud to be from Stoney Creek. Many thanks to Ron Place for his untiring efforts in preparing this letter. He could always use some help with delivery.

Bill O'Reilly

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

by Michael Gemmell

The museum has a busy fall planned, with our 11th Local Art Show running from October 1-31. This community art event is designed to showcase local talent in our heritage setting, and is one of the museum's favorite ways to contribute back to the community. Don't forget that the art is available for purchase at the conclusion of the show.

The Art Show Opening is Sunday, October 5th, from 1-4 pm. Please join us and meet some of the artists who have contributed to this year's Art Show. Admission on October 5th is complimentary. Regular admission applies throughout the remainder of the month.

On November 11th, the museum will be unveiling a temporary exhibit, the Tragedy of War, which runs from November 11-28th, featuring artifacts belonging to Gordon D'Arcy Lee, son of the museum's namesake. Gordon Lee perished during the First World War, and his death paved the way for the eventual transition of the Lee farmstead into the Erland Lee Museum in the 1970s. Over the last few years, museum volunteers have identified and catalogued a variety of family artifacts belonging to Gordon Lee, some of which have never been on display before. Join us during regular business hours (10-4, Tues-Sat and 12-4 Sun) in November to see the exhibit in memory of the young men of Stoney Creek who lost their lives in service. Regular admission applies.

The museum's Victorian Country Christmas in the City runs November 22nd - December 23rd. The home will be decorated for the season with late Victorian and Edwardian trim. This year's theme: a Gingerbread Christmas. Guests are invited to take a tour and decorate a gingerbread man tree decoration for you to take home and hang on your tree (or eat, your choice!). Regular business hours and admission apply. The grounds of the museum will also be decorated with modern Christmas lights.

The Erland Lee Museum will also be offering special extended December hours on Sunday, Dec. 7, Sunday Dec. 14, Saturday Dec. 20, Sunday Dec. 21, and Tuesday Dec. 23, for those wishing to see the Christmas decorations after dusk.

Dec. 7: 10 am - 7 pm (as part of the Stoney Creek Historical Society's 12th Christmas Tour)

Dec. 14: 10 am - 8 pm

Dec. 20: 10 am - 8 pm

Dec. 21: 12 pm - 8 pm

Dec. 23: 12 pm - 8 pm

The Erland Lee Museum will be closed from December 24, 2003 - January 8, 2004 for a holiday break. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

by Marnie Hutchinson

Another busy and eventful summer has come to a close at Battlefield House. We hope that you and your family enjoyed a fun and safe holiday and that you made it through the major event of the summer, the blackout, without too many problems. Dealing with the blackout for just one day sure makes you appreciate what the early settlers such as the Gages had to go through every day of their lives.

We are very pleased to welcome our newest staff member, Ben Mastroianni, who is filling the position of historical interpreter on a permanent basis. Our hours of operation have been extended to year round, six days a week, so you are sure to meet Ben if you come by for a tour of the Museum.

In addition to our extended hours, we are also busy planning for our fall and Christmas special events. We hope that you and your family can join us for one of these special days and help us celebrate our heritage.

"FROM DARKNESS TO DAYLIGHT"

View an exhibit of seldom seen artifacts from the Museum collection, on display until December 31, 2003.

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VINEMOUNT & FRUITLAND

continued from page 1

I remember the night when the newly-electrified quarry was struck by lightning and never operated again.

It was my grandfather, said John Martin, who built the foundations for the Vinemount Creamery. My grandfather, with his son-in-law John Batey as helper, also built Tweedside United Church from the bricks of the dismantled Bartonville Church (the cemetery still exists), one of the earliest Protestant churches in Hamilton below the escarpment -the other was the "lake church". The salvaged bricks were "teamed" to Tweedside by Archie Tweedle and his sons.

Years later, I was one of the many who helped restore the old Creamery building as a Women's Institute hall; it had the best dance floor for miles around. My mother, Ethel Martin, was a charter member of the Vinemount Women's Institute. The building had fallen on hard times since its creamery days. The railway had lowered its grade, largely draining the creamery's cooling pond. The local T.H. & B. agent, Norman Burdick, stabled his horse in one end of the ruinous building; the steam plant was rusting away in the other. The engine room made a wonderful W.I. kitchen and many's the great feast that came out of it- oyster suppers, etc. 1928 would be about the right date for the acquisition by the Women's Institute of the old Vinemount Creamery building. The story then was that the wife of the Vinemount Store proprietor had persuaded her husband to buy the building, the Institute to repay him as funds became available. Alfred William Little, in those heady days, it was whispered, was the only man in the area wealthy enough to actually pay income taxes! Advancing the money to the W.I. would not be out of character for Mr. Little, for he was known, as no doubt were many other small merchants, to have assisted the financing of farm operations. Some farmers and their wives were noticed dropping in on the Littles in the fall, no doubt to settle accounts. Three women living at or near Vinemount community center were that center's movers and shakers. They were of course assisted from the outlying areas, but they were central -Mrs. Walter Johnson, Mrs. George Gliddon and Mrs. A. W. Little. But Mrs. Little was the prime mover and shaker. Born Annie Richardson of a Scottish settler family of Fergus, Ont., she was a school teacher who married Alfred Little, who had acquired his business experience in Northern Ontario enterprises. In those days, lady school teachers who married were obliged to retire from teaching. Something about social mores, perhaps, since it was OK for men to continue teaching after marriage. The Littles had several children, but all had died at birth. In later years, -I several times drove the Littles to visit and tidy their infants' graves at Elmvale and to visit relatives there. I expect they are all now reunited there. I've thought that Mrs. Little, denied both a teaching career and motherhood, "mothered" the community. She had two spinster sisters, one a teacher, one a nurse in Hamilton who regularly visited at Vinemount weekends and holidays.

The Institute and the Hall formed the nucleus of a lively and active community. We young people rehearsed plays in the Fall and put on performances at the hall in the winter, often carrying our performances to other rural centres. And not just young people; the more mature characters were well portrayed by elders from the area. Who was it who said of Canada's rural populations of those days that they were "lumpy with talent"?

In return, the Institute did much for us young people. I still recall being sent to Hamilton for weekly lectures at the Y.M.C.A.; one lecture was given by ! Arthur Lismser, then an unknown, but later one of the Group of Seven. My especial thanks to Mrs. Little were for bringing a branch of the Saltfleet Library to Vinemount. She was a member of the Library Board, and personally read every book selected by them. Now she coaxed her husband into giving up some shelf space in his store (in the Post Office section) for a library outlet.

The name "Vinemount" identifies more than the post office, the lost railway station and the ebbing memories of community. It has been applied to the "*Vinemount Moraine*" (*The Physiology of Southern Ontario*) The name "Ridge" of Ridge Road does not refer to the height of the escarpment, but to the meandering ridge that runs along the top of the escarpment, extending, I believe, as far as Rochester in the USA. It marks a final push of the glaciers coming down from the North in the last ice age. Our cherry orchard, atop this ridge, having been freshly worked, would sparkle like diamonds after a shower of rain, quite unlike the dull limestone of the rest of the farm. This was caused by rock fragments brought down from the Canadian shield.

Because of its high and dry nature, the "Ridge", the moraine, may have formed an aboriginal trail. The Martin farm is a registered Ontario Archaeological Site, because of the perfect spear point found thereon, made of material traceable to the Penetanguishene area. Lady Simcoe's diary tells of her husband, the Governor, in order to fulfill a promise, having a trail made so his Lady could ride above the escarpment from Grimsby to Stoney Creek. She may have been the first tourist to visit the area.

Howard Martin's article on Vinemount and Fruitland will continue in the February 2004 edition of the newsletter.

SPONSOR A NEWSLETTER:

Would you like to sponsor an edition of the newsletter? We are almost caught up with our sponsorship list, the next issue requiring a sponsor would be May 2004.

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 905-662-8856

DECEMBER BUS TOUR:

There will **not** be a December meeting in the Saltfleet Room, we will **not** have a Christmas party **BUT!** we will have a bus trip to Niagara Falls Friday December 12th.

On the agenda is a stop at the **Butterfly House**, a tour of the **Magnotta winery**, a tour of the **Niagara Casino**, supper at **Betty's** then to top off a perfect day a visit to the great **Christmas light show in Niagara Falls**. The bus will leave from Battlefield Park parking lot at 1.30 pm. returning at approximately 11.00 pm. Tickets are \$42.00 each which includes admissions, supper and gratuities.

For more information please contact Bill Mitchell at 905-664-4576, or Harry Brown at 905-578-9555.

The payment is required by the Wednesday November 5th. Historical Society meeting.

DID YOU KNOW:

Mozart's age when he wrote the melody, "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star : 5 years old.

REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

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SPINNING OUR WHEELS

An exhibit with a focus on the history and use of the spinning wheel is the highlight of the week of October 4 to 12. In addition, three special theme days will be offered.

Wednesday, October 8: "Pop a Wheelie Wednesday: Crafts, Games and Activities related to the history of the wheel"

Thursday, October 9: "Spinning our Wheels: Exploring the Heritage of the Spinning Wheel:

Friday, October 10: Children's Bicycle Parade

Time: 1:00pm-4:00pm

SPIRIT WALK

Fun and fright for the whole family. Take a walk by candlelight of the grounds where the Battle of Stoney Creek was fought and where a ghostly presence resides.

Date: Saturday, October 25, 2003

Time: 6:30pm-9:30 pm

Cost: Adults \$5.00, Children \$2.00, Children 6 and under are Free

BATTLEFIELD TROUPERS DRAMA PROGRAMME

Participants develop their skills in improvisation, role-playing, public speaking, directing and staging. A performance for family and the public will be presented on February 7, 2004. No auditions or experience required.

Dates: Saturdays from November 1-29, 2003 and January 10-February 7, 2004

Time: 1:30pm-3:30pm

Ages: 10yrs to 15 yrs

Cost: \$110

STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR

Tour some of Stoney Creek's historically and architecturally significant homes, including Battlefield House, all beautifully decorated for the holidays.

Date: Sunday, December 7, 2003

Time: 1:00pm-7:00pm

Cost: \$12 per ticket or two for \$20

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

Children will decorate their own pre-made, homemade gingerbread house to take home. Includes a visit from St. Nicholas and refreshments.

Date: Saturday, December 13, 2003

Times: 10:00am and 1:00pm

Cost: \$20

GAS AND SALT FLEET

Saltfleet Then and Now

Possibly the first natural gas in this part of Ontario was discovered when the Mount Albion mill was built. Two Irishmen were quarrying the rock for the wheel pit, when one stooped in a corner to light his pipe. The match ignited the gas which flared up, singeing his hair, whiskers and clothing. He was terribly frightened and shouted, "Mike, we've broke through into the infernal regions, and the devil is after us sure. May all the saints preserve us!"

There was little or no natural or manufactured gas in Canada at this time. Half a mile down the creek was the burning spring, a flame of gas two feet high burning on a pool of water. It attracted many people at that time. A nearby hotel supplied their wants for food, drink and shelter. The stone foundation of the hotel was still there in J. E. Turner's time. Close to this spring a firm of oil and gas men from Bradford, Pennsylvania, in 1884 drilled an eight-inch hole 1700 feet deep but all Messrs. Emerson and Haymaker got for their money was experience, a smell of gas and a taste of salt.

This gas was used for lighting the mill for 100 years, A flame 16 inches long burned night and day from the end of an iron pipe. It came from the base of the wheel pit 30 feet below. The odour was unpleasant, and wherever used, took the colour out of the sale bills or wallpaper in a short time. It is sulphur, only found in this region in small quantities and of no commercial value. At low water, it is seen in the creek bubbling up through the water, and can be lit with a match. One can sometimes see another vein of gas burning on DeWitt Road on the left side as he drives to the top of the escarpment.

**DESIGNATED HOME in STONEY CREEK:
THE JACOB SMITH HOUSE -LANGSIDE"
982 HIGHWAY NO.8**

Built in 1847, The Jacob Smith House -"Langside" consists of the original stone building and several later wooden frame additions. The structure, that is the original building and porch addition (circa 1920), represents a sympathetic and successful compromise to a difficult design problem and in that sense is unique.

The great sloping roof over the porch, supported by short, stout columns on the front facade, tends to mask the symmetrical stone facade behind.

The stone structure incorporates elements of the Neo-Classical Revival style in a vernacular context. This is made apparent by the raised base on which the walls rest, the strong horizontal barge board at the roof and the eave return. Further suggestion of Neo- Classical detail is shown by the curved topped window in the gable over the entrance as well as the symmetrical placement of windows on the front and side elevations.

During the Revolutionary War, Jacob Smith Sr. served with the New Jersey Volunteers, a detachment loyal to the British crown. Jacob and Elizabeth Smith came to Niagara in 1787. For his services during the war Jacob was granted Lot 4, Concession 1, thus becoming the first settler in Glanford Township. In 1796 he petitioned and was granted Lot 8, Concession 1 and 2, and one chain (66 feet) of Lot 9, Concession 1 and 2 in Saltfleet Township, together with 35 acres in Flamborough (Beverly) Township.

A son, Jacob Jr., born in 1768, married Susannah, daughter of Jacob Beam of Beamsville. The fifth of six children born to Jacob Jr. and Susannah was John Smith who was born on January 19, 1800. Having married Jane Atkins, he lived on Lot 9, Concession 2, which had been granted to his father Jacob Jr. in 1816. In 1847, to the west of the family log home, he built the stone house that still stands on that site.

John Wesley Smith, born in 1843 to Jane (Atkins) and John Smith, married Jane DeWitt. Together with Ira E. Van Duzer he operated a business providing nursery stock to fruit farmers.

Howard B. Smith, son of John Wesley and Jane (DeWitt) Smith, added a wide verandah to the front of the stone house. The name "Langside House", after a Scottish battlefield, was added to the home at this time.

John Reid Smith, the son of Howard B. Smith, served as a Trustee on the Saltfleet District High School Board. His son, Roger DeWitt Smith, presently resides at Langside House, thus continuing the ownership by successive generations of the Jacob Smith family. Important to the preservation of The Jacob Smith House -"Langside" are the original stone facades, the roof, the linear frieze and mouldings, as well as the windows and foundations. The structural wood framing is significant as is the porch.

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

LEE

James Lee, a British soldier served under General Cornwall during the Revolutionary War. After the war was over he settled in Maryland and married Hannah, daughter of George and Sarah (Harrison) Corman. Later with other Loyalist families James and his small family moved to Canada and settled on Lots 21 and 22, Conc. IV, Saltfleet township. He was accidentally killed at the raising of the first frame house in Saltfleet by an axe flying from its handle. The dates of his death and of his wife, Hannah, have not been recorded. They were buried on their farm but the stones marking their resting place have long since disappeared.

Children:-

John, b. 1784, m. Mary Moore 3 Jan., 1808, settled on Lot 18 Conc. IV, Saltfleet. He served in the War of 1812 with the 5th Lincoln Regiment, died 1875 and, with his wife Mary was buried at Stoney Creek. Issue -6 sons, 4 daughters.

Samuel, b. 1786, m. Anna Shaver 28 Aug. 1808. He lived on Lot 18 Conc. IV, Saltfleet. Issue -9 sons, 4 daughters.

Isaac, b. about 1788, married Elizabeth Saguaro Issue -2 sons.

George, b. about 1790, had two daughters.

James, married Catherine Shaver. Issue -3 sons, 5 daughters.

Margaret, married a Mr. Wilkins.

Patty, married a Mr. Sweet.

Mary, no record.

The following names and dates may give some information to those seeking Lee history:-

John Lee, 1810-1890. Lived in Norfolk, wife Catherine 1822-1906, buried Townsend township near Colborne.

William Lee, married Harriet Lacey 1 June 1837.

Jeremiah Lee, 1812-1899, m. 1. Mary Ann Pew. 2. Bathsheba Bedell, buried at Stoney Creek.

Thomas L. Lee, 1818-1864, m. Phoebe Cline. Buried at Stoney Creek.

Abram Lee, 1823-1906, m. Jemima Pew 1831-1918.

Mary Ann Lee, 1826-1908 m. Thomas Russel. Buried at Stoney Creek.

Edward Lee, married Sarah Hill. License issued 15 May, 1834.

John Lee, married Mary Ann, daughter of Robert Pettit, 22 January 1840.

From the Annals of the Forty, Book #6, page # 16

DID YOU KNOW:

• Alexander Graham Bell refused to have a telephone in his study - the ringing drove him nuts.

NEED A RIDE TO A MEETING?

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

CROWN PATENTEES OF SALTFLEET TOWNSHIP:

By Mabel Burkholder and T. Roy Woodhouse

Continued from Oct. 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 ONE

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
Levi Lewis, Jr (of Grimsby) (1786)	1	All	100	May 16, 1798
Abijah Chambers (1797)	2	All	100	Mar. 14, 1798
John Pettit (of Grimsby) (1787)	3	All	100	June 30, 1801
John Pettit, Jr. (of Grimsby) (1787)	4	All	100	May 22, 1805
Nathaniel Pettit (of Grimsby) (1787)	5,6	All	200	Dec. 15, 1796
Gershom Carpenter (1786)	7	All	100	May 17, 1802
Jacob Smith (Glanford) (1788)	8	All	100	June 10, 1801
James Brundridge (about 1787)	9	All	100	Aug. 11, 1804
James Chisholm	10	All	100	Dec. 31, 1798
Gershom and John Carpenter (1786)	11, 17	All	200	June 22, 1803
John C. Pettit (1787)	12	All	100	Sept. 15, 1803
Charles Pettit (of Grimsby) (1787)	13,14	All	200	Oct. 24, 1798
John Biggar (1786)	15	All	100	Dec. 31, 1798
William Halton	16	All	100	Feb. 9, 1811
John Pettit, Jr. (of Grimsby) (1787)	18	All	100	Oct. 24, 1798
John Pettit, Sr. (of Grimsby) (1787)	19	All	100	May 16, 1804
Thomas Pettit (about 1790 via Nova Scotia)	20	All	100	May 1, 1798
David Palmer Utter (before 1796)	21	All	100	May 17, 1802
Thomas Bailey	22	All	100	May 6, 1796

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
Edward Brinley (ass't. Commissary N.S.)	23	All	100	Sept. 8, 1804
Augustus Jones (1789) (Dep. Prov Surveyor)	24	All	100	May 6, 1796
James Wilson	25, 27	All, 1/2	150	May 6, 1796
Hon. William Claus (of Niagara)	26, 27	All, 1/2	150	Nov. 8, 1811
John Ryckman (about 1788) (to Barton).	28,29	All	200	June 30, 1801
John McDonnell (Butler's Rangers)	30 to 32	All	300	Oct. 4, 1811
Ebenezer Jones (1788) (Ass't. Surveyor)	33	All	100	May 6, 1796
John Aikman (of Barton) (1786) -	34	All	100	Dec. 31, 1798

WESTFIELD VILLAGE

by Rob Wunniger

Events 2003

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

Celebrate Christmas past from the Georgian to the Modern eras and feel the warmth of the season through plays, food samples, fire works, horse and wagon rides, and a visit from Saint Nick.

*Saturday, December 6, 13, 20, 5 - 9 pm

Christmas Moveable Feast and Christmas Table.

Eat your way through a four course historical dinner and magical tour through Christmas traditions. Limited Tickets go on sale starting September 2nd.

*Saturday, December 6, 13, 20-Christmas Moveable Feast

*Sunday, December 7, 14-Christmas Table

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

featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop.

DO YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

After 30 editions of this newsletter it becomes more difficult to locate bits of history, historic events or 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.

FROM THE PAST:

Wentworth Historical Society Minutes

1908 -1948

JUNE 1st, 1914

A meeting of the Saltfleet Historical Society was held in the Parish Hall on Monday June 1st at 8 p.m. 16 being present. President W.E.Corman presiding, the minutes of the previous meeting being read and adopted.

The business of the meeting was the final arrangements for the Field Day to be held June 6th.

Mr. J.H. Jones submitted a draft programme of sports also two large advertisement cards. It was finally decided to have Mr. Jones go on with the printing of the programme and through the kindness of the Robinson & Co. Hamilton, 2000 were ordered by this firm without cost to this Society. It was agreed to raise the sum of \$50.00 towards the expenses for carrying out the programme June 6th. Same sum to be raised by public subscription. Messrs. W.E. Corman & Oliver Nash to canvass east of Village, Messrs. Evans & J. Clough, west of Lake Ave. and Messrs. J.B. Davis & Arthur Lee all in the Village and to report on Thursday evening, 8.30 at the last meeting.

Business related to selling refreshments privileges and to report at next meeting of the Society. CARRIED.

A discussion arose in regard to the nature of prizes to be awarded. It was left to Mr. Jones to find out and report at next meeting whether the giving of money prizes would interfere with the winners amateur standing or whether there was an age limit set. So it was decided to form a committee at our next meeting to purchase suitable prizes at Robinson & Co., Hamilton because of their generosity in printing programmes free of cost. Amounts of prizes were then decided and placed against each race.

The Secretary reported that the matter of holding the sports at Battlefield Park had been decided. Mrs. J.S. Hendrie giving permission by letter to do so.

W.G. Davis, Secretary Minutes confirmed W.E. Corman

PHONE COMMITTEE:

Our phone committee make every effort to notify all local members of the upcoming meeting, the speaker and their topic. Those of you with answering machines are easy when a message can be left. However! Many do not have these and must be called back, sometimes several times. If you are not getting a call, it is not because you phoner has not tried. Has your address or phone number changed? A suggestion is to mark your calendar for the period covered in the "Future Speakers" section of your newsletter when it is issued to avoid disappointment should an interesting meeting be missed. If you prefer not to be called at all, please let your phoner know.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR 2003

Sunday December 7, hours 1.00 to 7.00 pm.

Our Christmas House Tour has expanded. This year we are pleased to offer 8 stops on the tour. The Church of the Redeemer, located at Lake Ave. S., 12 Lake Ave. N. The previous Manse for the Stoney Creek United Church, The Carpenter House, 1060 Highway #8, #36 Maple Drive, #9 Mather Drive, and as always the beautiful and interesting Erland Lee Museum and Battlefield House Museum.

Volunteers to help at the sites are needed, so if you can help out for a 3 hour shift please contact Bill O'Reilly 905-662-2248 - Bill Mitchell 905-6644576

Street Names in Stoney Creek

by Jean Baine

Glover Road:

Runs north to south from Shoreline Drive to south of Highway No. 8.

At the corner of Glover Road and #8 Highway sits a large convalescent facility known as Stoney Creek Lifecare Centre. Attached to this is a fine old house built in 1888 known as "The Glover Homestead" The staff is proud that this house has been designated as a Heritage House.

The Glover family emigrated from England to America and settled in New Jersey. Francis Glover had been born in 1729 and married his second wife, Rebecca Green in 1765. One of his sons, John, born in 1770 in New Jersey married Mary Birge in 1795 and they had eleven children. They moved to Saltfleet in 1805 where they farmed and raised and treated horses. In 1823 John purchased two lots adjoining the road that now bears the Glover name.

Peter Birge Glover, one of John's sons married Jane Stewart in 1842 and their only child, Alexander Stewart Glover married Margaret Dean in 1863. Twenty-five years later the Glover House was built of stone that had been quarried at Queenston and drawn by horse and wagon to the site.

Alexander Glover, Jr. continued in the family tradition of fruit farming. They raised mostly cherries, plums, grapes and pears. Cars of fruit were sent over to nearby E.D. Smith farm for widespread distribution. When he died in 1948 his family continued to live in the stone house. It remained in the family until 1966 when it was converted into a care centre.

Visitors are always interested to see this lovely house.

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

Powell, R. Janet - Annals of the Forty #5 - Grimsby Historical Society.

Stoney Creek L.A.C.A.C committee Designation notes.

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:

Anne Forsyth Accounting	Anne Forsyth	9 Lake Ave. South	905-662-2848
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
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
Doug Mays Watercolourist	Doug & Angela Mays	3 MacDui Dr.	905-643-4541
Picture Palace	Joanne Wynhofen	19 King St. E.	905-662-4014
Queenston Stationery	Salam Zoghaib	38 King St. E.	905-664-3360
Appraiser*Quiltmaker*Lecturer	Judy Lyons	8 Douglas Pl.	905-664-4519
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
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

Some facts about the 1500s.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June 20. However, they were starting to smell so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide body odour. Hence the custom of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water. then all of the sons and men, then the women and finally the children - last of all the babies. By then the water was so you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

FIRSTS - ORIGINATING IN STONEY CREEK:

- 1: First white child born to UEL parents; Billy Green.
- 2: First Methodist Church in Upper Canada; 1792.
- 3: First Women's Institute organized worldwide; 1897.
- 4: First plaque presented to an American soldier outside of the U.S.A.
- 5: First pure jam factory in Canada; E.D.Smith.
- 6: First Senator appointed and then retired while in office; Hon. E.D. Smith.
- 7: First greening apples shipped to the U.K.
- 8: First drive-in theatre 1946.
- 9: First woman volunteer to receive a Firefighters plaque and medal; Mrs. Bertie Depew, Mar. 25 1964.
- 10: First area to have school bus transportation; students were bussed to Saltfleet High.
- 11: First Canada Day flag day parade.
- 12: First Public Township library; Saltfleet.
- 13: First Little League baseball player joined the New York Mets; Brian Ostrosser.
- 14: First baby born in Canada in 1992 was in Stoney Creek.

Do you know of other firsts we may have missed ? If you do, please contact me, Ron Place at 905-662-8856

Stoney Creek Historical Society

Year 2003 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

Name: _____ Date: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Apt.: _____
 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

HUMEROUS ENGLISH SIGNS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- TOKYO HOTEL:** *Is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not a person to do such thing is please do not re notis.*
- BUCHAREST (ROMANIA) HOTEL:** *The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret you will find it unbearable.*
- LEIPZIG (GERMANY) ELEVATOR:** *Do not enter the lift backwards, and only when lit up.*
- BELGRADE (YUGOSLAVIA) ELEVATOR:** *To move the cabin, push button for wishing floor. If the cabin should enter more persons, each one should press a number of wishing floor. Driving then going alphabetically by national order.*
- ATHENS (GREECE) HOTEL:** *Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 am. daily.*
- MOSCOW HOTEL:** *You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists and writers are buried daily except Thursday.*

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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

LIBRARY ACCESS:

The Stoney Creek Historical Society Library which is located within the offices of Steel Market Place and is accessible to all society members is not staffed.

Please realize that this arrangement has been given to the society at no cost to us and is a greatly appreciated convenience. We ask you not to involve the owners for assistance in your research. We also ask you to leave the room neat and tidy.

New material is added to our collection as it becomes available

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

Wed. Nov.5, The Bishop of Niagara Diocese
Ralph Spence - Flags and Heraldry.

Sun. Dec. 7, Stoney Creek Historical Society's 12th.
Christmas House Tour

Wed. Jan. 7. Marie Robins -Old Buildings Hamilton's
2004. north end.

Wed. Feb 4, Michael Gemmell - History of Mt.Albion

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 \$5.00 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.

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. February. 4, 2004
Material deadline is Wednesday, January. 15, 2004

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

S.C.H.S. Library

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