

# STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

www.staynerheritagesociety.com

### Incorporated, 1998.

Fall, 2010.

#### 14th ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY

The 14th Annual Heritage Day, sponsored by Stayner Heritage Society, was blessed with perfect weather, a large enthusiastic crowd and a wonderful program, planned by the talented Catherine Walker.

The generous sponsors who made the day possible were:

REINHART FOODS
WHEELER/SPRIGGS INSURANCE
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION STAYNER BR. #457
STAYNER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
STAYNER LIONS CLUB
HELEN HANNA
STAYNER RENTAL
BARB'S CLOTHES CLOSET
FUD GRILL

WALKER AGGREGATES

The show, featuring The Stylamanders, The Beinn Gorm Highlanders, "Classic Country Memories" Band and the Double-Toed Cloggers was a crowd pleaser.

The Heritage Day Committee spends time planning events for the young people during Heritage Day.

For several years for the COLOURING CONTEST, a replica of one of our Heritage Buildings has been drawn. Several local artists have participated. For the past 2 years, Anson Finlay, a retired architect from Toronto, has drawn the buildings - "The Stayner Library " for the 2008 contest and the "Gartlan Building" (where the Pet Store is now situated) for the 2009 contest. This year he has drawn the "Lambert Hotel" now the Golden Apple). We had many colourers in three age categories vying for prizes.



Volunteers at the "Heritage Booth".

This year, a new game, "The Amazing Heritage Challenge" was planned. Those who participated, young or older, enjoyed following the clues and learning about some of our Heritage sites. When they returned, they received prizes.

Meanwhile, everyone enjoyed the food, clowns, silent auction (sponsored by Fud Grill) and displays.

Also making the day possible were the many volunteers, including Clearview Firefighters, who worked very hard all day long.

Thank you to all!

#### In This Issue

- 14th Annual Heritage Day
- The Raymer Story
- Heritage Society Bursary

## STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY GOES TO THE FAIR

This year, Stayner Heritage Society shared a booth at the GNE with Stayner Collegiate Institute which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2011. Many interested people enjoyed the display and filled out ballots in hopes of winning 2 tickets to our upcoming event (SEE BELOW) or received forms related to the SCI Reunion.

## STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY HISTORY BURSARY

Each year, Stayner Heritage Society awards a \$1000.00 bursary to a graduating student at Stayner Collegiate. It is stipulated that this student will go on to continuing education in a history-related field. This year, the fourth recipient of the bursary is Elaine Mabley of New Lowell. Congratulations, Elaine!



Heritage Society Treasurer Carol Marsden presents the Bursary to Elaine Mabley.

#### A REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENT

Stayner Heritage Society is pleased to announce that we will be holding a special event on November 6th, in Stayner Community Church (on Airport Road) at 9:30 AM. Tickets are \$5.00.

Glad Bryce will be our guest. She will tell the audience about her book, "First In... Last Out", stories about RCAF Women's Division and Nursing Sisters during WWII.

Glad, who is first cousin to Catherine Walker and Susan Brockwell, has accomplished many things in her life, including that of being a champion swimmer.

The event promises to be very entertaining. "The Georgian Girls", in keeping with the theme, will add a musical wartime touch.

A continental breakfast is also included.

There has been a great response to this event so if you are able to attend, please call Catherine Walker 428-2719 or Myrna Johnson 428-2540 for tickets.

## HERITAGE CHAIN OF OFFICE IS RECOGNIZED

The "chain of office" of the last Mayor and Council of the former Town of Stayner has been recognized! Robert Hunter has created a "shadow box" for this chain and photo. The finished product, with brass plaque wording below, has been presented to the present Clearview Council to be exhibited in a place of honour in the Municipal Building.



Artisan Robert Hunter presents the shadow box to Heritage member Manfred Leimgardt.

This Chain of Office was worn by former Mayors of Stayner up to the 1990's amalgamation of Nottawasaga & Sunnidale Townships forming the current Clearview Township. The photo herein is of one of the last councils of the Town of Stayner. The wood surrounding these is from one of the pews of Stayner's St. Patrick's Catholic Church. It was crafted by local artisan Robert Hunter and donated to Clearview Township in the fall of 2010.

(In a continuing series, describing families settling in the Stayner and surrounding area, we are pleased to present the Raymer Family)

#### THE RAYMER FAMILY

by Marilyn (Raymer) Cole

In October 1874, Levi & Veronica Raymer along with four of their nine children - John, Sarah, Elijah, and Anna moved from Markham Township to a farm 1/2 mile north of Sunnidale Corners on the east side of the Sunnidale Road.

They purchased the farm from Alfred Shell. It consisted of a log barn and a house located in one of the two front fields. There were two more fields behind the log barn.

Five more children Esther, Mary, Adah, Louisa, and Joseph were born to Levi and Veronica. This made a family of nine and the Raymer household was a very busy place.



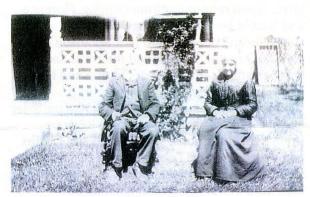
The Original Raymer House on Sunnidale Road later destroyed by fire.

Levi and Veronica Raymer along with their children made many improvements to their farm and buildings during the 43 years they lived there, before retiring to their new home on Ontario Street in Stayner.

Some of the improvements made were: the building of a bank barn with stone walls and a silo, a good well with a windmill, two cisterns one at the barn and one at the house, 2 acres of orchard consisting of several varieties of apple trees along with cherry, plum and pear trees.

William J. Galbraith moved with his family to the Raymer farm in early 1918. Mr. Galbraith had purchased the farm from the Raymers.

Levi & Veronica Raymer along with daughters Annie & Louisa later moved in Stayner to a home they purchased from Dr. McLeod on John Street. Members of the Raymer family lived in this house on John Street until Louisa's death in 1957.



Levi and Veronica Raymer

As the Raymer children became older and married, they moved to their new respective homes. Sarah and her husband, Alex Pridham, moved to their home in Stayner. Ada and her husband Wilmer Sider moved to their farm on Hwy. 26 across from the present day Stayner Collegiate Institute. Sons John and Elijah purchased farms on the west side of Sunnidale Road and moved with their wives onto these farms.

John and his wife Isabella Ritchie lived three farms north of his parents on the west side of the Sunnidale Road and John and Bella farmed this farm until John's death in 1929. Bella continued to live there until her death in 1945. They had no children.

Elijah and his wife Maria Harvey purchased the farm across the road from his parents. They had five children - Almeda, Nelson, Oliver, Florence and Myrtle.

Nelson and Oliver farmed with their father until the marriage of Nelson to Mary Pridham. Nelson purchased the farm between his dad Elijah and his Uncle John Raymer. There he built a house in 1931. He and his wife Mary were married in June 1931 and became the parents of four children - Marilyn, Doreen, Ruth, and Paul.

Nelson farmed this farm until his death in 1977 when his son Paul took over.

Oliver farmed the home farm with his wife Verna Daley. They had three children - Howard, Glenn, and Leone. Oliver and Verna retired from farming and moved to Hamilton Drive in Stayner.

Florence and her husband Harold Bell farmed south of Stayner on Airport Road. They raised four sons - Lloyd, Ray, Murray, and Eric on this farm. Upon retirement from farming, Florence and Harold moved to Collingwood.

Myrtle and her husband Jack Robinson lived on John Street in Stayner and their son Kenneth was born here. In later years Myrtle and Ken moved to Collingwood.

Eileen Sider, daughter of Adah & Wilmer Sider became a nurse and missionary to Nigeria. Upon her return home she married Ken Collins and they farmed on County Road 7 just across from the 12th line of Sunnidale. Ken farmed here until 1971. Eileen and Ken had one daughter Ruth.

Of the thirteen great-grandchildren of Levi and Veronica Raymer, only two of the greatgrandsons took up farming - Lloyd Bell and Paul Raymer. Paul and Lil's daughter Charlene lives in the house built by her grandfather Nelson Raymer. Their daughter Shelley lives in the house once owned by John Raymer.

All thirteen of the great-grandchildren are still living with the majority of them retired: Marilyn (Keith) Cole, Collingwood; Doreen Harney, Toronto; Ruth (Frank) Scott, Kitchener; Paul (Lil) Raymer, Stayner; Howard (Kay) Raymer, Orillia; Glenn (Ann) Raymer, Stouffville; Leone (Vernon) Sherk, Kitchener; Lloyd (Audrey) Bell, Stayner; Ray (Doreen) Bell, Owen Sound; Murray Bell, San Jose, California; Eric (Rhonda) Bell, Milton; Kenneth (Wendy) Robinson, Muskoka; Ruth Collins, nurse, Mississauga.

The Raymer family were and still are very involved in their local Mennonite or Evangelical Missionary Churches.

The traditions and beliefs of parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents have left an indelible imprint on the lives of their offspring.

#### STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY WEBSITE

www.staynerheritagesociety.com is a valuable tool for up to date information, historical facts and coming events. Check it out! Plans are in place to create a virtual museum where you can view some of the treasures we have been given waiting for a museum site in the future!

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2010-2011**

Chairperson - Jeff Parton428-3537
Past-Chair - Kevin Jerry428-5459
Vice-Chair - Bob Charlton428-6943
Secretary - Myrna Johnson428-2540
Treasurer - Carol Marsden 428-3945
Publicity - Dorothy-Anne Millsap 428-2917
Membership - Barb Stransky445-4468
Program - Catherine Walker428-2719
Ferne Allen428-2137
June Holroyd429-5075
Susan Brockwell428-6062
Clearview Council Rep - Robert Walker 428-3335
Chamber Rep - Claire Weston428-3736
Lions Club Rep - Pete Jerry429-3269
Kinsmen Club Rep - Jamie Sutherland428-2788
Legion Rep - Val Bradey428-2280
Horticultural Soc Rep - Pam Townsend 428-2306
Masonic Order Rep - John Hindle 428-2135
Eastern Star Rep - Joan Wood428-2711
Clearview Theatre Rep - Pam Townsend
Stayner Collegiate Rep - Mason Elwood 428-0519
History Rep - Jim Paul428-2815
Community Reps - Shirley Parton428-3902
Shirlie Millsap428-2074
Judy Cox428-2061
Nominations - Barb Stransky, Pam Townsend
Technical Advisors - Jack Craig428-2323
Auditor -
Directors - Bob Charlton (1 yr), Lorne Stewart
(1 yr), Pete Jerry (2 yr), Manfred Leimgardt (2 yr)
The Parties No residence with the order has a role of many the most

#### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Dorothy-Anne Millsap

Myrna Johnson

Peter Millsap