

SCHUMACHER





A Community Newsletter to Connect the **Past, Present and Future**



CELEBRATING 113 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2025

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO



FEEDING FAMILIES





Friends, family and community volunteers joined Schumacher Lions Club members on Saturday, December 21, 2024 to deliver more than 500 Stan Fowler Christmas Fund Food Vouchers to local families in need. (Photo from the Lions' Facebook page.)

The Stan Fowler Christmas Fund (also known as the Stan Fowler Santa Claus Fund or simply the Stan Fowler Fund) has been a cornerstone of holiday charity in the local community since its inception by its namesake in the late 1940s. Currently administered by the Schumacher Lions Club, the fund broke two bittersweet records in 2024 in terms of both the value of funds raised and the number of food vouchers distributed. In a news release from the Schumacher Lions Club on December 21, Lion John McCauley (who has chaired the fund since 2018) is guoted as saying, "So far, we're at 503 vouchers that are out for delivery and counting. The total raised to date is \$102 465.26. Both are records. We've never even come close to giving out 500 vouchers. Last year, we were at \$93,000 and that was a record. This year, we smashed it". The records are bittersweet because as much as they represent the generosity of local individuals, businesses and organizations, they also underscore the ever-growing number of families facing challenging times. (Continued on page 2.)

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CHRISTMAS IN SCHUMACHER

(Continued from paged 1) The Christmas voucher campaign has come a long way from its humble beginnings in the post-war years. In 1948, local businessman Stan Fowler became aware that some families in the region were struggling to make ends meet during the Christmas season. Moved by this, Fowler rallied local businesses, service clubs, and individuals to donate towards purchasing grocery baskets for those in need. That first fundraising campaign raised \$2800 - an impressive sum for its time. Public recognition of donors in the local media encouraged further generosity, which in turn saw the campaign grow and evolve over the years. Eventually, things got to the point where Stan Fowler reached out to the three local Lions Clubs for administrative support. Stan, a Lion himself, remained directly involved with the fundraising efforts into the 1980s. The Schumacher Lions Club (chartered in 1935) took over full responsibility for administering the Stan Fowler Christmas Fund in the late 1990s, with the Timmins Lions Club (chartered in 1935) and South Porcupine Lions Club (chartered in 1946) continuing to lend their support until they disbanded in 2005 and 2015 respectively.

The Stan Fowler Christmas Fund saw major changes in 1981. The word-of-mouth campaign shifted to a full telethon format with volunteers manning phones and urging viewers to donate in exchange for performances by local entertainers. At the same time, the distribution of food baskets shifted to providing grocery vouchers to make it easier for families to purchase what they most needed. In 2017, due to television station cutbacks causing telethon production costs to be borne by the Lions, the fundraising format shifted again. The telethon was replaced by the Feeding Families radiothon hosted by Moose 93.1 FM (now Country 93.1 FM), ensuring that almost 100% of funds raised would go towards supporting families in need. For the past three years, Kinz and Klomp (a Timminsbased social media entertainment company) has provided live coverage of the Feeding Families Radiothon on Facebook. In addition to the radiothon, funds for the campaign are also raised through the Lions' participation in the Tim Hortons' Smile Cookie program. In 2024, the Club raised just over \$10 000 from Smile Cookie sales.

Beyond the fundraising aspect, organizing the voucher program is no small undertaking. Careful efforts are made to ensure that the vouchers are used for their intended purpose by their intended recipients. The mandate of the Stan Fowler Fund is to support families with small children, with assistance being extended to individuals and local food banks if funds permit. Families can apply for a voucher through local agencies such as the Cochrane District Services Board (CDSB), North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services (NEOFACS), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), and Timmins Native Friendship Centre (TNFC) to name a few, or by emailing stanfowlersantafund@gmail.com, or by calling 705-267-6838 and accessing the Stan Fowler Mailbox to leave a message including name and callback number. In all cases, local agencies assist in vetting requests to make sure that those families in greatest need get assistance. Registered families each receive a \$150 voucher that is honoured at every grocery store in Timmins (excluding Walmart, which opted out several years ago). Vouchers must be presented with identification and cannot be used to purchase tobacco or alcohol. The full value of the voucher must be redeemed at one time as change is not provided. Every effort is made to ensure vouchers get to families; this includes having recipients sign to acknowledge receipt. If no one is home on distribution day, a notice that includes information about pick up at the Lions Den and a number to call for further assistance is left.

Lion McCauley is quick to say, "If we didn't have to give out a single voucher, I'd be the happiest guy in the world because then you [would] know people are being taken care of and they don't require this. Unfortunately, we're living in a society where it's just not feasible and the struggle is real. It's not just a few. It's becoming more and more every year." In light of that reality, the Schumacher Lions will continue to do their best to address the need and live up to the Club's motto: We Serve.



SIGHTS OF THE SEASON



For a small community, there is no shortage of festive events in Schumacher. For well over a century, school-aged children have received Christmas gifts from our town's namesake: Frederick W. Schumacher. At one time, it was Mr. Schumacher himself who picked out and delivered the gifts. For the past several decades, the Schumacher Foundation has provided funds for volunteers from the Schumacher Fire Department to purchase, wrap and deliver the gifts. In addition to their efforts with the Stan Fowler Fund, the Schumacher Lions also host a Christmas Dinner for local seniors and run a Christmas Vendor Market at the McIntyre Arena. The Croatian Society of Schumacher hosts its members Christmas Party complete with a visit from Santa and a delicious meal featurina cabbage rolls and other traditional treats. Then there are the various gatherings with family and friends. Amidst all the celebrations, there are also plenty of opportunities to reach out and support those in need.





Above (left) Logan Levasseur meets Santa at the December 15 Croatian Christmas Party and (right) Scotty Sutherland visits with him at the Lions Den on December 21, 2024. (Photos courtesy of Jasmine Chenier and Brittney Sutherland.)



Above: The 4th Avenue Gang at the 2024 Schumacher Lions Seniors' Christmas Dinner. From Left: Elsie Winchester, John Duclos, Adrian Gubbels, (across the table) Dolores Duclos and Carol Sweezey. (Photo from Elsie Kampela Winchester.)



Left: Darryl MacDonald and Jen Dundas delivering meals (shown below) to 28 families in need on December 23, 2024.



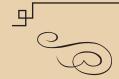
Last year, Darryl MacDonald (who grew up in Schumacher) and his family decided to give back to the community by providing 4 Christmas meals to people in need. This year, they teamed up with fellow Schumacher boy, Aaron Krofchick, to provide 20 meals. Thanks to the generosity of friends and coworkers, Darryl, his partner Jen Dundas, and his coworker Shane Korri delivered meals to 28 families on December 23, 2024. Darryl's plan for 2025 is to seek donations, recruit more volunteers, and deliver more meals.



Above: A group of Schumacher Boys toasting the season at Casey's Bar & Grill. From left: Dennis Sebalj, Graham Reid, Berny Stansa, Esa Saarela, John Delost, Mark Chenier, Rob Knox and Spyke Pintar. (Photo used with permission.)



NEICHBOURHOOD NEWS



MCNAIR CHALET



The Porcupine Ski Runners was founded in 1973 by Lorne and Diane Luhta. From its humble beginnings as a single trail built behind the Luhta's Schumacher home, it has grown into one of the largest Nordic ski clubs in Canada. The Luhta's original trail remains as part of the Blue trail. The volunteer-run club boasts a 30 km network of groomed ski trails, scenic snowshoe trails, waxing facilities, equipment rentals, and a beautiful chalet offering lockers, change rooms, a kitchen and a common area.

Gerry McNair and his late wife, Noëlla, started skiing at the PSR in 1976 when it moved to its current location off HWY 101 just east of Schumacher. They were hooked from the start and the entire family became members and dedicated volunteers. Gerry and Noëlla were driving forces behind the Nordic Centre Project. Completed in 2010, the \$1.7 million, multi-year project included the construction of a new chalet, entrance road improvements, parking lot refurbishment, and a septic system rebuild. Noëlla is credited for her fundraising efforts and managing publicity for the project. Gerry, a longtime PSR Board member, had a hand in the chalet's design and oversaw the project from beginning to end.

In recognition of a \$50 000 donation by Kidd Operations, the new chalet was originally named the Xstrata Copper Chalet. Recently, Lorne Luhta proposed renaming the chalet to honour the McNairs. The PSR Board agreed and the change was made official at the PSR AGM on September 10, 2024.



Gerry McNair (centre), his son Neal (second from left), and his grandchildren Isaac, Caleb and Sarah-Simone stand outside the recently renamed McNair Chalet at the Porcupine Ski Runners. Gerry was surprised yet pleased that the PSR Board decided to rename the chalet in honour of his family's contributions to the Nordic Centre Project and decades of volunteerism with the ski club. (Photo from PSR Facebook.)

SIGN REPLACED



For a while, the Schumacher sign at the Flag Park across from Platt Vet disappeared after being damaged during a motor vehicle accident. Thanks to the efforts of Ward 3 Councillor, Billy Gvozdanovic, a new sign has been installed.



THE POWER OF SOCKS



Did you know that new socks can help fight poverty, one tiny toe at a time? In spite of this, socks remain one of the most needed and least donated items. SOCKS, a grassroots initiative started by Schumacher's own Terrol McFarlane Maciver a decade ago, is working to change that. Terrol, who lived on Fourth Avenue from the time she was two until well after high school, had moved to Oshawa by 1990. In 2014, Terrol found herself in a precarious personal situation and felt like she had nothing left to give. Then one day, while sitting alone in her car, she heard a voice ask, "Terrol, what are you going to do next?" To this day, Terrol remains unsure whether the voice was in her head, within her heart, or from some other presence in her car, but it was unmoved by her protests and insistent that she commit to doing something, no matter how small. After some contemplation, Terrol decided she could manage donating some socks to someone in need - and thus, SOCKS was born.

Thanks to word of mouth and the interest of good people, the SOCKS organization has spread across Ontario. The movement spread from Oshawa to nearby communities like Brooklin, Whitby, Ajax, and Bowmanville, and then expanded to cities like Kingston, Sudbury, and Timmins. The SOCKS program is entirely volunteer-run. There are no paid positions, just an amazing amount of "joy-equity" derived from helping make another human beings' life just a little easier. As of summer 2024, over half a million pairs of socks have been donated through branches across Ontario.

Now, you might be asking yourself, why socks? From a economic standpoint, Terrol was financially strapped; but socks were (and are) inexpensive. Even today, you can buy a pair for about 50 cents, making it easy for anyone to contribute. From a practical standpoint, socks are a needed item at all times of the year, they are easy to collect and distribute, and they don't have an expiry date. From a making a difference standpoint, SOCKS only collects new socks for hygiene reasons and those clean socks offer warmth, health, and a sense of dignity to those in need.

It is important to be aware that the SOCKS organization does not accept monetary donations and cannot provide income tax receipts. That said, sock donations are always welcome - whether they're warm socks, sports socks, or kids' socks. Quantity is more important than quality, as limited access to laundry facilities often means those living in less -than-ideal circumstances must simply dispose of their socks once they become unwearable. The ultimate goal is for everyone to be able to start each day with a fresh pair of socks.

Whether or not your community has an official SOCKS branch, there are simple ways for you to get involved. Ask friends and family to bring new socks to your next gathering, help run a sock drive at your child's school, set up a collection box at work or church, or organize a donation drive at a local event. Once you've collected some socks, contact your local SOCKS branch for help arranging distribution. Sock donations are generally turned over to outreach programs, shelters and food banks for distribution. So, if your community does not yet have a SOCKS branch, reaching out to a service agency is your next best bet. The idea is that any socks collected should be used to support those in your immediate community.

For more information about the SOCKS organization, to check if your community already has a SOCKS branch, or to inquire about starting a SOCKS group in your area, please visit sockswarminghearts.com. Terrol would love to see the movement take root in communities across Canada. The Timmins Kinettes manage our local SOCKS branch. They can be contacted by email at sockstimmins@gmail.com and found on Facebook by searching SOCKS Timmins.





Interested in learning more about SOCKS from Terrol?

Her November 10, 2024 video on this topic is available in the Still Proud to Be a Schumacher Boy Facebook group.

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PAST MEETS PRESENT

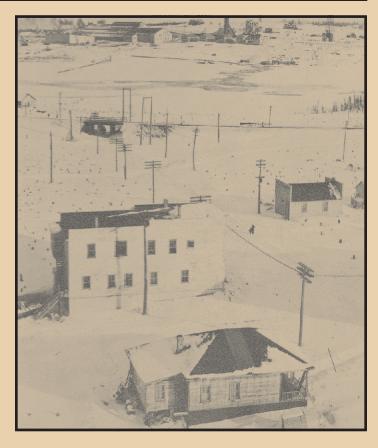
OVER, UNDER & THROUGH



Referred to by some as the Ontario Northland Railroad (ONR) overpass, to many as the Timmins underpass, and to those from a certain generation as the subway, the elevated train crossing located just before Spruce Street became a fixture in the community in the early days. According to a November 1, 2021, My Timmins Now article, the original timber structure, typical of early 20th-century rail bridges, was built in 1916 to allow trains to cross above increasing car traffic. Due to the layout of the roads at the time, there were blind spots in both directions.

In 1926, the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railroad (T&NO) tried to improve things by building a concrete structure that had support beams in the middle of the roadway. While the blind spots were reduced, vehicles crashing into the supports became a new problem. In 1977, a new, and ultimately last, concrete structure was built by Leo Alarie & Sons Ltd with concrete supplied by Mascioli Construction Ltd. The were no longer supports in the road, but oversize vehicles sometimes got stuck. From its first incarnation, the area under the overpass was prone to flooding whenever there was a significant rainstorm.

When Timmins lost its rail service in 1989, the overpass was essentially abandoned save for those who chose to use it an alternate way to cross the highway. On top of the flooding problem, additional issues linked to the city's homelessness / addictions / mental health crisis also cropped up in recent years. As part of the City of Timmins' multi-year Connecting Link infrastructure project, it was decided that demolishing the overpass and leveling the road was the best option. Demolition occurred from April 2 through 25 and the restructured road reopened to traffic on November 21, 2024. Please enjoy these photos of various views of the overpass throughout the years. Photographer and collection attributions are included within the captions.



Above: One of the earliest photos of the train overpass, circa 1916. For context, and based on details provided in the Timmins: Then and Now Facebook group, the photo was taken looking east towards the Hollinger Mine. The bungalow in the foreground was relocated to this location from South Porcupine in 1915 and belonged to Dr. Brown, a dentist. (The photo joined the Richard Lamoureux Collection in 2014.) Below: Since its first incarnation, the underpass has been prone to regular flooding. (This photo, taken July 5, 2021, belongs to the Darren Dubanow Collection.)





The 1926 version of the overpass was known as the subway. (No attribution, from Timmins: Then and Now on Facebook.)



The newest, and final, overpass was constructed in 1977. (Photo from Linda Berube Inch & Brigitte Tessier Labby.)



The ONR 700 heading south from Timmins on July 22, 1951. (A Richard Granger photograph courtesy of Frank Vollhardt.)



The Northlander on the overpass and a glimpse of Doran's Brewery to the left. (Photo from the Len Gillis Collection.)



Demolition of the overpass began on April 2, 2024. (Photo from the City of Timmins Facebook Page.)



Tons of rebar and sewage infrastructure slowed the demo. (Richard Lamoureux, Uneeda Drone Creative Photography)

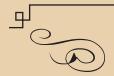


Demotion complete, road levelling began on April 25, 2024. (Photo from the City of Timmins Facebook Page.)

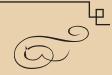


Algonquin Boulevard reopened on November 21, 2024. (Photo from the City of Timmins Facebook Page.)





CROATIAN HALL GALA



The Croatian Society of Schumacher marked its 92nd anniversary with a gala dinner and dance at the Croatian Hall on Saturday, October 19, 2024. The evening featured a meal of Croatian delicacies including homemade cabbage rolls, roast pork and traditional cookies followed by kolo dancing and singing. Musical entertainment was provided by Zlatni List, a young Croatian polka band from Hamilton, ON. Band members Erik Horvat, Davor Vlašić, Matteo Vlašić, Karlo Zdelar and Luka Barberić enjoyed their first gig in Northern Ontario and hope to return soon. In other Hall news, thanks in large part to the federal Enabling Accessibility Fund, an additional entrance with an accessibility ramp has been added to the main hall. Visit croatiansocietyschumacher.com for more info.



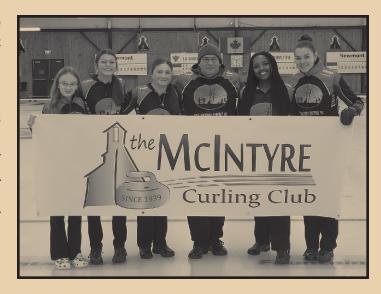
Croatian Society Schumacher President, Jasmine Chenier, and Zlatni List band members Erik Horvat, Davor Vlašić, Matteo Vlašić, Karlo Zdelar and Luka Barberić at the Croatian Hall for the 92nd Anniversary Gala on October 19, 2024.



TEAM CHILTON UPDATE



It's been a busy season for Team Chilton. Home ice advantage paid off during the first ever U18 Mac Classic Bonspiel in December. The girls posted a 6-1 record and went on to win the Girls Championship. Although the Northern Ontario Curling Association U20 Provincial Championship (held in Fort Francis from January 2 to 5, 2025) did not go as planned, it provided the girls the opportunity to curl against several teams they would face again at the NOCA U18 Provincials at the Mac from January 15 through 19. Team Chilton shone during round robin play at the U18 Provincials (5-2 record), finishing second behind Team Dubinsky (6-1 record). After posting a 5-4 semi-final victory over third-place Team Wright, Team Chilton advanced to their first ever provincial final. Unfortunately, it was just not meant to be. Coming up short in the Championship against Team Dubinsky resulted in Team Chilton's competitive season coming to an end.



SACHA is proud to be a returning sponsor of the McIntyre Curling Club's Team Chilton. Team members include (from left): Audrey Desigratins (Alternate), Kendall Chilton (Lead), Leanna Delich (Second), Steve Meunier (Coach), Natalie Graham (Vice) and Deanna Chilton (Skip). (Supplied photo.)

WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW



Schumacher has been in a precarious position since 1973 when the townships of Mountjoy, Tisdale, and Whitney were forced to amalgamate into Timmins. Ward 3 (Schumacher) is the smallest of the city's five wards. As a result, the community has continually had to fight to maintain its identity and services. Over the years, much more has been lost than gained. However, like our neighbors in Porcupine and South Porcupine, Schumacher residents continue to take pride in our distinct corner of the city and rely on our councillor to represent us at the City Council table. Unfortunately, it seems our representation may once again be at risk.

In October 2024, current Ward 5 (Timmins) Councillor and former Mayor, Steve Black, introduced a motion to have City staff prepare a report on the ward system, including population data and possible revision options. The motion faced backlash from Councillors Bill Gvozdanovic (Ward 3), Lorne Feldman (Ward 2 – South Porcupine), and John Curley (Ward 4 – Porcupine) as the proposed options would reduce the voice and representation of residents east of downtown Timmins. In spite of the objections, the motion passed 4-3, with Councillor Kristin Murray (Ward 5) absent and thus ineligible to vote.

The requested report was presented to Council on December 10, 2024. It outlined three options, two of which would negatively impact Ward 3. Option 1: A 2-4-2 ward system, where Ward 1 (Mountjoy) gains a councillor, Ward 5 remains unchanged, and merged Wards 1, 2, and 3 are presented by two councillors. Option 2: Replace the ward system with an at-large system, where all eligible residents vote for all eight council seats. Option 3: Maintain the status quo.

Ward 1 has been the city's fastest-growing ward for the past decade. There is a valid argument for adding a second representative for Mountjoy based on its current and projected growth. However, several alternatives that would allow Ward 1 to gain a seat without negatively affecting Wards 2, 3, and 4 were not included in the report. For example, a 2-4-1-1-1 option, which simply adds a seat for Ward 1, or a 2-3-1-1-1 option, where a seat shifts

from Ward 5 to Ward 1, were not considered. Councillor Black's preference, a 2-2-2-2 system, which would split Ward 5 into two wards with two councillors each and combine the east end into one ward represented by two councillors, was also excluded, as city staff deemed it infeasible. While it's unclear where Ward 3 would amalgamate in a 2-2-2-2 system, the result would be as detrimental to Schumacher as the 2-4-2 option.

Although he was absent, another motion from Councillor Black to have city staff run an online poll over 90 days to gather public input on the status quo, elections-at-large and 2-2-2-2 options was put forth at the January 14, 2025 council meeting. Concerns were raised about the poll's timeframe, limited options, and potential costs. Several councillors suggested there was no need to rush the process, though Mayor Boileau noted that if the intent was to have changes in place for the 2026 municipal election, time was a factor. Councillor Murray suggested that the best option might be to hold a referendum during the 2026 election, with any changes taking effect in 2030. Ultimately, the motion for the online poll was defeated 4-2. Councillors Whissell, Gvozdanovic, Feldman, and Curley opposed. Councillor Andrew Marks (Ward 5) and Mayor Michellle Boileau were in favour. Councillor Murray abstained from voting.

Proposals to change the ward system have been raised before, including during Steve Black's tenure as mayor (2014-2018), but they did not gain significant momentum. A 2003 referendum to replace the ward system with at-large elections was defeated by 58% of voters. When this issue went to print, it was not clear if Council would continue with a ward boundary review or return focus to more pressing issues. Should push come to shove, one thing is certain: Ward 3 residents will not give up our municipal representation without a fight.

PAST ISSUE CORRECTION NOTICE

The Schumacher Scholars article in the Summer 2024 SOS (Issue 46, p3) incorrectly stated the value of the Schumacher Lion's Club Oliver Laurila Memorial Scholarships. In 2024, each recipient received \$1000 not \$500.



Belated Christmas greetings and New Year wishes! I hope this issue of the SOS finds you well. As always, the holiday season in Schumacher and area was a bright and busy one. A multitude of festive traditions and community outreach efforts helped to bring merriment to young and old alike. And, of course, winter is here in full force.

While the ONR Overpass was technically located beyond Schumacher limits, to me it always marked the "start" of Timmins with the stretch of Algonquin Boulevard from HWY 655 to the underpass being "neutral" territory. Considering its history and recent demolition, it seemed fitting to include an article about the "subway" in this issue. It will certainly take some time to get used to the new landscape.

I hope you enjoyed learning about Terrol's Socks initiative and the McNair family's contributions to the Porcupine Ski Runners. The ward review article was not meant to raise premature alarm, but it is definitely something to keep on the radar.

As reinforced by the letters from David and John, now is a great time to record your best Schumacher memories and connections to our community. These stories are at the heart of the Spirit of Schumacher and they are very much enjoyed by our readers.

Until next time, take care!

Lisa Romanowski,

SOS Editor



We appreciate the individuals and families that support SACHA and the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter. To that end, it has become our custom to provide a small token of gratitude to our supporters around Christmastime. This year, we opted for a small black hardcover notebook featuring a muted red SOS logo on the front along with a red pen with Spirit of Schumacher engraved on the barrel. These items can be used for so many things, but we would suggest using them to record your favourite Schumacher memories or the story of your or your ancestors' journey to our community. Of course, we would love to share your musings in an upcoming issue!

We have some additional pens available for purchase. For more information, please visit www.spiritofschumacher.ca or reach out by email to spiritofschumacher@gmail.com.

REMINDER: NEW PUBLICATION TIMEFRAMES

To keep the production of the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter viable, we have permanently switched to two issues per year.

Expect issues in July/August and December/January.

SACHA ACCEPTS ETRANSFERS

Annual SACHA support payments can be made by eTransfer. Use the email address *schumachergirl@gmail.com*.



Scan the QR Code to visit our website.

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Good for a Giggle ...

Where's the best place to do math homework?

Times Square

SOS NEWSLETTER

The not-for-profit Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association publishes the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter two times a year in the summer and winter.

For newsletter inquiries email: spiritofschumacher@gmail.com

Readers are invited to submit articles and photos celebrating Schumacher's past, present, or future for publication consideration. Please include the creator's full name and the full names of photo subjects.



READER MAIL

Hi Folks,

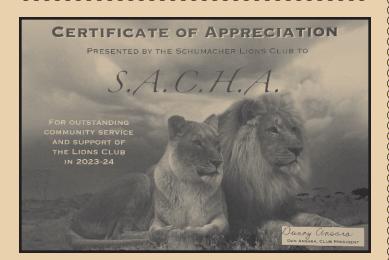
Was happy to receive the summer edition of the SACHA newsletter. As always the content was varied and interesting. I always enjoy seeing old photos of Schumacher and the shot of McIntyre Park brought back many fond childhood memories.

Over the last few years you have published vintage photos submitted by Ted Vail, Dennis Sebalj and others and some real gems from the Lloyd and Ennis collections. Has anyone thought of putting together a booklet of historical photos? This would be a great companion volume to the local histories and collections of reminiscences which came out at the turn of the century. I'm sure I'm not the only one who would enjoy seeing a collection of these historically important photos.

Several years ago you printed an excellent piece from George Skarzynski detailing the journey his and other families made to Schumacher from their native Poland after WWII. I know that many families came here from Nova Scotia, including my childhood friends, the Murrays. Could you put out a request for more family histories? I think that all your readers would enjoy learning where the members of our amazing community came from and how they got here.

All that said, please keep up the good work. We all cherish your regular reminders of how fortunate we were to grow up in Schumacher.

Take Care, David Hamilton



SACHA appreciates being recognized by the Schumacher Lions for community service and Club support in 2023-2024.

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING? PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH!





Permanently Closed January 13, 2025

Words cannot describe our gratitude for the continued support from the community over the past eight years. It was an amazing journey and we will forever cherish the memories and connections that we made.

READER MAIL

Lisa et al,

I really enjoyed the latest edition (issue #46) on celebrating Canada and all the volunteers pitching in to make Schumacher "alive". It makes me want to be 15 or 25 again, but really reminds me of my real age.

A few years ago, I was encouraged by my daughters to write a book about my life in Schumacher. At my age, I may experience short term memory loss, but when it comes to childhood experiences, one's memories are just around the corner. Needless to say, thanks to my embellished stories, my girls and their families have toured the wild north and can relate to your newsletter to an extent. We also certainly appreciate reading about the present life of Schumacher.

At 85, I can still boast about Schumacher to my swimming friends here in Burlington. Surprisingly, I've met some folks from the north - Timmins, Cochrane, New Liskeard and Kapuskasing ... wow!

You keep my northern spirit alive and well.

Thanks, John Perkovich

Edited for length and clarity.



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