

MAY
2014

ISSUE 10

Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 102 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2014

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO



ALL ROADS LEAD TO SCHUMACHER MAY 16 TO 18, 2014

On the long weekend of May 16th to 18th, hundreds of people with a connection to Schumacher will descend on the community from all over the world. Many of these people have not lived in Schumacher since their youth, but still have fond memories and strong ties to the community.

The "every fifth year" Schumacher Homecoming gathering has been going on for decades and the organizing committee hopes that more people living in Schumacher and the surrounding Timmins area will attend as well. To this end, the 2014 homecoming would like to attract a wider variety of people from different generations – youths to middle agers to elders – with the goal of building stronger ties to the community.

The 2014 homecoming will be an opportunity for people associated with Schumacher to share their stories about the community with others and why it was, and still is, a great

place to live and raise a family. It's a reunion where the past and present can connect, and where new residents of Schumacher can meet former ones. Where Chris Shields, a top neurosurgeon in Kentucky, and his sister Alexis who were Canadian figure skating champions; along with local hockey legend Frank Mahovlich; can meet with old friends while connecting to a whole new generation of Schumacherites, in the spirit of camaraderie and good fellowship.

So, mark the weekend of May 16 to 18, 2014 on your calendar and visit the Schumacher Homecoming website to print out and mail in your registration form asap. A good time is sure to be had by all those in attendance!

NOTE: for the purposes of ordering meals, you need to register in advance at:

www.schumacher-town.ca



MAY 2014





PARTAKE IN THE SCHUMACHER HOMECOMING CELEBRATION



Hi Everyone! Now that winter is behind us (hopefully) we can look forward to spring and a whole slew of new beginnings and memories to share. In Schumacher, that means it's homecoming time!

I'll admit, I have never been to a Schumacher Homecoming reunion celebration but, in my defence, neither have most people my age. For me, the homecoming has always been on my periphery - an event the adults looked forward to as I was growing up, a social event akin to the ladies nights put on by the Schumacher Fire Department, but on a much larger scale. It wasn't until I grew up and moved away that I began to question why exactly people my age never got involved in the homecoming - and why, for that matter, people my parents' age weren't flocking to the event.

Of course, many of us didn't graduate from Schumacher High or even attend Schumacher Public School. But we all share the experience of growing up in Schumacher, and the "Schumacher identity". You all know what I'm talking about. We're a feisty, tight-knit bunch with a taste for fun and good cheer. Where presents from Mr. Schumacher are legendary and our people went on to be local, national and international legends. Whether it be in sports, arts, sciences, business, trades, health, education,

spiritual, volunteer groups, and presenting large community events like Schumacher Day and the annual Sportsman Show - our people have a long history of accomplishments for a town of only 3,000!

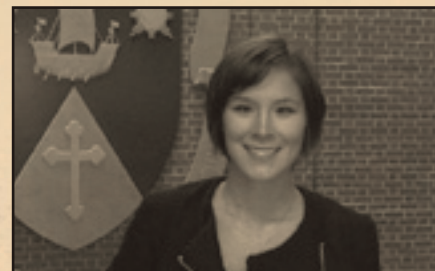
So I can't be the only person to wonder why we haven't jumped on this perfect occasion and opportunity to celebrate.

The team organizing the homecoming has worked hard to put it together. I want to encourage others to take advantage. Sign up, go out, and enjoy. You might go to reminisce and relive the old days, but I guarantee you will leave with new memories to enjoy.

The next order of business is spring cleaning: we have a new SOS editor! I'm pleased to introduce Lisa Romanowski as the new woman behind The Spirit of Schumacher newsletter. I got to know Lisa at O'Gorman High School where she taught me math with the patience of a saint. She also helped found the cross country ski team while I was at OHS. She chaperoned, took care of the whole mess of administrative duties, and joined us on the ski trails for practice. And she is organized - seriously organized. And if all that isn't enough, she truly loves Schumacher! So welcome her on as the new SOS editor with a congratulatory email - schumachergirl@gmail.com

With that, I'll sign off as the SOS interim editor with another plug for people of my generation, and slightly older, to attend the Schumacher Homecoming and make it yours!

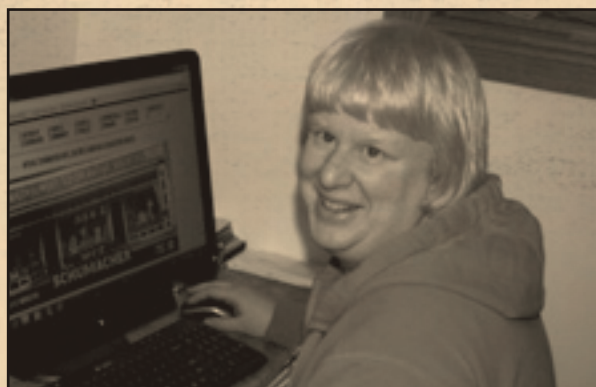
Bridget Yard,
SOS Interim Editor



POST SCRIPT:
There will be a delay in SACHA releasing the Schumacher Lions Club film that I have been editing. Originally scheduled to be released in April, the short film will now be readied for this Fall, to coincide with the unveiling of the new outdoor pavilion being constructed in the McIntyre Park



NEW SOS EDITOR STARTS IN AUGUST



Hi SOS Readers and subscribers! Let me take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Lisa Romanowski. I'm a lifelong resident of Schumacher and a graduate of Schumacher Public School. My Schumacher roots run deep. From 1930 to the late 1940s, my grandparents, Bob & Danica Pupich and Ed & Valentina Romanowski, immigrated here from Yugoslavia and Poland respectively. My parents, Henry and Vera, built their home, raised their family, and are now enjoying retirement in Schumacher. My sister Jen, her husband (René Dunkley) and my three nephews (Ben, Jake, and Joe) have remodelled a house just up the street from my parents' place. My maternal aunts and uncles along with various cousins live in Schumacher as well. While I love to travel, at the end of the day Schumacher is, and always will be, home.

I've been dabbling in graphic design since my yearbook editing days at Roland Michener Secondary School. I'm a math teacher and department head at O'Gorman High School. For over a decade my design hobby has been focused on promoting OHS activities. Working on the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter will be an interesting change of pace; I am very much looking forward to this new endeavour starting with the 2014 August issue.

There are so many Schumacher stories to share. I look forward to working with current and past residents during the creation of upcoming issues of the SOS newsletter. I'm interested in hearing from you, the readers. Feature story suggestions, good news announcements, and current event reminders are most welcome.

Please drop me a line by email at schumachergirl@gmail.com or by regular mail at: SOS Newsletter c/o PO Box 13, Schumacher, ON, P0N 1G0.

AUGUST READER POLL

What is / was the best way to spend a perfect summer day in Schumacher?

If you have photos of summer activities in Schumacher to share, please do!



Do you know of a recent or upcoming event or achievement of a current or past Schumacher resident? Has someone opened a new business, gotten married, had a baby, celebrated a milestone birthday or anniversary, or experienced some other success?

If so, we want to hear about it so that we can share the good news with the SOS community!

Accompanying photos should be sent to me.

Digital files can be emailed and actual prints can be sent by regular mail to my address below left. Please include a description with any photos, including the location, date, and full names of any people.



BOOK ABOUT JP BICKELL MCINTYRE MINE OWNER IN THE WORKS



Graham MacLachlan is the vice president of Millenium CreditRisk Management and lives in Calgary, Alberta. He is currently researching and writing a book about JP Bickell. He spoke to Bridget Yard about the project.

Bridget: How did you learn about JP Bickell, and what led you to take such an interest in his life and legacy?

Graham: He's a relative of mine. I'm very involved in hockey - we're a huge hockey family. We knew we were related to JP Bickell but didn't know who he was. We learned there was a memorial award that was being given out. His family was English and his dad was from England while his mother was from Scotland. Her name was Annie Paris. My great grandmother was Annie's sister. In our family, tradition was to give the lady's maiden names to the boys. My grandfather is Tom Paris MacLachlan and father James Paris. JP Bickell is John Paris. So he is my first cousin twice removed.

B: Most people in Schumacher know Bickell from his namesake - the summer camp. What are some parts of his legacy we might not be familiar with?

G: He was a stockbroker and he had seats on various stock exchanges. He started at the age of 23 in 1907, and by that time he was already investing in

the theatre industry. His next venture was in mining in Cobalt, Ontario. His first interest was in a silver mine and then after that, there were several more. The big one, obviously, was the McIntyre Mine. He invested in that and ultimately took over the presidency. From there, he invested in the Toronto St.Pats so he was very much into the entertainment business. The St.Pats became the Maple Leafs. He was the brains, genius, money, and the coordinator behind Maple Leaf Gardens. He had RJ Innes running the McIntyre mine and Con Smythe running the Maple Leaf's hockey team. He was very much the quarterback of his interests.

B: So he was very accomplished as a businessman, but what about his personal life? What have you found out about the man?

G: Everything I've heard about him indicates there was never a man that enjoyed his wealth more than JP Bickell, but who also shared it with others. There's a story where him and mine manager RJ Innes were at a funeral, talking to the pastor about how things were going and he said his mortgage was hampering his ability to work. Bickell looked at Innes, and they tossed a coin. Innes lost, so he had to pay off the mortgage. During the war, Bickell bought the Red Cross in Schumacher a sewing machine. The list goes on and on and on.

B: When will we be able to read more about Bickell's life and projects?

G: The book will be done this year. Right now, it's really just to honour him and his lasting legacy and his charitable foundation. Once this book's done, I plan to take it everywhere he's touched, including the summer camp in Schumacher. My idea is to inspire philanthropy. So everyone who gets a dollar from his foundation gets a book, and to know who JP Bickell was.

If you have a JP Bickell story you would like to share with Graham, please contact him at: g.maclachlan@shaw.ca



Footnote: The JP Bickell story will be the fifth book written about people who called Schumacher home, and a welcome addition to our community's rich cultural history. The four other books are: Frederick W. Schumacher - Portrait of a Renaissance Man, The Big M - the Frank Mahovlich Story, Les Costello - Canada's Flying Father, and Schumacher - Voices from the Goldfields. Congrats to all the authors.

MAY 16, 17 & 18 2014

SCHUMACHER HOMECOMING #9!

It all started with the closing of Schumacher High School (SHS) in 1967-68! The Township of Tisdale Secondary School Board decided to close Schumacher High School because enrolment was declining at the secondary level. As a result, the decision was made to bus Schumacher students to Roland Michener Secondary School (RMSS)– the new and expanded South Porcupine High School.

The SHS graduates, remaining students, and staff chose to hold one last big bash (reunion) to celebrate what the school meant to us and to Schumacher. The whole town took part and it was held at the school and the McIntyre Arena. Some organizations that took part in the festivities were the Croatian Hall members (a Croatian-style barbecue for over 700 people), the Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department, Tisdale Township Police Department, the local business community, the McIntyre Mine, Trinity United Church, St. Chad's Anglican Church, and St. Alphonsus Catholic Church.

Some organizing committee members that come to mind were Sal Salamone, Louis and Emil Klisanich, Frank, John, and Stan Buchar, Eric (Doc) Prentice, Kirby Joyner, Rino Bragagnolo, Jean Percival, Dennis Pope, Clayton McAlpine, Louise Nightingale, and many others whose names don't come to mind at this time. I apologize for that!

A Scholarship Fund was set up for 15 years. It was for \$400 and would go to the top Schumacher student that graduated from Grade 13 at RMSS each year. That student would pursue university studies.

But by 1979, the fund was running low on money and the committee, of which I was chair, decided at a special meeting to carry on with the scholarship in the name of Schumacher High School!

It was at this meeting that the "Schumacher Homecoming" was born and included all residents of Schumacher – those born here, raised here, attended school here, or worked here.

The committee was made up of me, George Delich, George Stefanic, Brian Grant, Anne MacDonald, Marilyn and Clayton McAlpine, Diane Dwyer, and Bill Stimac. Others volunteered to help out during the reunion events. This year, we were happy to have Brian Conley and Darryl MacGregor join our group! The Homecomings have taken place every five years since, starting with the first one, then in 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, and 2014 - the ninth.

We have been successful in raising money for the Scholarship Fund because you have always come home to make our Schumacher Homecomings a success! The scholarships are now worth \$500 each and up to five awards may be given each year to deserving Schumacher students that attend any of the five area high schools – RMSS, Timmins High & Vocational School,

O'Gorman High School, ESC Thériault, and ES Renaissance. Students must apply for the scholarship and they are chosen by our Scholarship Committee. The students must provide proof that they are pursuing post-secondary studies at the college or university level.

The Schumacher Homecoming Committee has always supported Schumacher students. We sincerely thank the Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department for assisting us throughout the years. We also want to thank Schumacher Public School, the former school boards, District School Board Ontario Northeast, Camp Bickell, the Schumacher Foundation, the McIntyre Mine, the former Tisdale Township, and the City of Timmins for all of their support. Finally, we thank Goldcorp for their donation to this year's reunion. Hope to see a lot of new faces at Homecoming #9!

Lou Battochio,
Chair, 2014 Schumacher Homecoming





SACHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The current board members of SACHA are:

Mark Chenier (President)	Brian Conley
Rob Knox (Vice-President)	Vera Romanowski
Kathy Vukobratich (Treasurer)	Kylie Laughren
Lloyd Salomone (Secretary)	Chis Hubbs

Noella Rinaldo (City of Timmins) & Heather Duhn (Goldcorp) are ex-officio members of the board.

NOTE: Thanks go out to all of our board members for their service to the community. If interested in volunteering with SACHA, please contact a board member to find out more about the organization.

SOS WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

In the Fall of 2013, Kylie Laughren, a new resident of Schumacher and daughter of Mayor Tom Laughren, joined the SACHA board. Since then she has been looking after updating and maintaining all of SACHA's online activities – the SOS web and Facebook sites. She is also working closely with other organizations who have a web or Facebook site to cooperative link and promote them all.

So if you would like to connect with SACHA, Visit our web and Facebook sites and email Kylie at: kylIELaughren@gmail.com

SOS NEWSLETTER

Since January 2012, Lloyd Salomone has overseen the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter. During this time 10 issues have been published by SACHA. Big thanks go out to Lloyd, Heather (Campbell) Swietek who edited the first 8 issues, and to Bridget Yard who contributed many articles and was the interim editor for the last two issues. We would also like to thank those who placed ads and contributed articles over the years – Wally Wiwchar, George Delich, Diane Armstrong, Joe Ferrari, Anne MacDonald, TEDC staff, and many others – because without you the newsletter would not exist.

We would also like to thank and welcome Lisa Romanowski for accepting to undertake the role of SOS editor starting with the August 2014 issue. It's a big responsibility and we hope the community of Schumacher will supporter her in TELLING YOUR STORIES – past, present and future. All the best Lisa from the SACHA board.



MEMBERSHIP – SUPPORTERS

Since May 2013, Vera Romanowski has been SACHA's membership – supporter coordinator. Her role is to promote SACHA and the benefits associated with becoming a supporter of the organization. She also looks after processing, servicing and renewing all SACHA memberships. As of April 2014, the following individuals, families and businesses are SACHA members. We thank you for your continued support and hope others will join by filling out the enclosed SACHA supporter contribution form.

Individual Members (\$15):

Don Babcock
 Pierrette Campsall
 Mary (Grsich) Cox
 Diane Dwyer
 Joan (Fox) Halloran
 Dave Jenkin
 Florence Kelly

John Kivioja

Shirley Knox
 Edward Lebrun
 Allan MacDonald
 Anne MacDonald
 Linette MacDonald
 Shirley McGarry
 Don Murphy
 Pauline Murray

Connie Fournier-Nelson
 Linda (Whittle) Prodan
 Al Proulx
 Ed Pupich
 Lorne Rowe
 Stacy Sloan
 Gloria (Whittle) Sones
 Val Ulmer
 Glen Vicevic

Family Members (\$25):

Lou Battochio
 Ida Cicci
 Rolly & Zora Chenier
 Joanna & Gord Conley
 Jennifer & Rene
 Dunkley & Sons

Jack & Ruth Hartling
 Darrell & Bernadette MacGregor
 Gord Phillips
 Mike & Paulina Pintar
 Darlene & Mike Polowy
 Lorraine Price
 Nick & Helen Resetar

Vera, Henry & Lisa Romanowski
 Anthony & Rachelle Salomone
 Robin & Dave St. Aubin
 Vic Tremblay
 Liz Knox Violin

Business Members (\$50):

Goldcorp – Porcupine Gold Mines
 Flower Power Production Inc.
 (Lloyd Salomone)

Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department

NOTE: many members have given contributions over and above their membership fee.

SCHUMACHER HISTORICAL MUGS FOR SALE

SACHA has partnered with Mira Buchar to design and sell a series of specially designed historical mugs featuring Schumacher icons. You can purchase these hand crafted mugs at the SACHA booth during the Schumacher Homecoming, where Mira will also be on hand. Mira's artistic inspiration for the mugs lies in her Schumacher roots.

"When I was approached by SACHA to create a work of art for the upcoming Schumacher Homecoming celebration, I wanted to design something that was going to be a nice keepsake and be useful. So it was either beer or coffee mugs. The mugs I created will serve both purposes depending on the users tastes.

Being raised in Schumacher helped in the design of the mugs. One image shows off the iconic McIntyre Mine headframe and the other is of Mr. Schumacher with the downtown in the background. If you look real hard, you can pick out the Grandview Hotel, my family's claim to fame.

I really appreciate that I was given the chance to design something special for the Schumacher Homecoming. Our small town pride, good people and fond memories go a long way."

Mira Buchar





ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

MAY TO JULY 2014

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO - THE MEETING PLACE!

May 2 to 4
Timmins Home Show
@ The Mac Arena

May 7 to 9
Ontario Mine Rescue
Competition @ The Mac Arena

May 16 to 18
Schumacher Homecoming
Reunion @ The Mac Curling Club

May 22
Nova Awards @ The Mac Arena

May 27 to 29
The Big Event Mining Show
@ The Mac Community Centre
& Grounds

May 31
Audio Expressions (Dance)
@ The Mac Ballroom

June 1
Timmins Multicultural Festival
@ The Mac Arena

June 2 to 13
Timmins Community Policing
Bike Rodeo @ The Mac
Curling Club

June 14
Ross Beattie Public School
Graduation @ The Mac
Auditorium

June 19
Ecole Secondaire Catholique
Therault Graduation
@ The Mac Curling Club

June 21
Timmins Sports Heritage Hall
of Fame @ The Mac Curling Club
& Auditorium

2014
MAIN EVENT

2014 Schumacher
Homecoming Reunion
Celebration

Long Weekend
May 16, 17, 18, 2014

Location:
Curling Club

Refurbished sculpture
of Sandy McIntyre to
be unveiled during the
homecoming weekend.

NOTE: for the purposes of
ordering meals, you need to
register in advance at:
www.schumacher-town.ca



CONTACT

The Spirit of Schumacher community newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by SACHA (Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association), a not-for-profit organization. Printed newsletters are distributed free to all postal boxes in Schumacher and at local retail outlets.

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Design & Layout by Ben.D Graphics;

General Inquiries:
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Email: info@spiritofschumacher.ca..

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VISIT THE SPIRIT OF SCHUMACHER WEBSITE
www.spiritofschumacher.ca

JOIN SACHA'S FACEBOOK GROUP
www.facebook.com/SpiritOfSchumacher



ADVERTISING

If you would like to promote your business, an event, wish the community of Schumacher or someone you know a happy birthday or anniversary, or have a memoriam for a loved one, then please send an email to Lisa Romanowski schumachergirl@gmail.com and she will forward you the SOS advertising rate card. All proceeds from ad sales help to cover newsletter costs.

NOTE: brief "good news" announcements are free but larger or customized announcements and ads are subject to fees.

SCHUMACHER WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF A GREAT TOWN

I was most fortunate to grow up in Schumacher, a vibrant, safe, caring community where everyone knew each other, and there was no social class distinction. As someone once said, Schumacher is a unique town where everyone grew up on the wrong side of the tracks!

The McIntyre Mine was the main employer for the majority of the town's workforce, and we grew accustomed to the hum of the mine fan and the regular underground blasts. Even today the McIntyre headframe dominates the landscape.

First Avenue was the centre of the business sector, which in my youthful recollection boasted 8 hotels (Eldorado, Emporium, Plaza, Schumacher, Grand View, Gold Range, Tisdale, Pearl Lake), 5 grocery stores (Northern Provision, McLellan's, Blahey's, Zanchins, Sebalj's), 3 clothing stores (Bucovetsky's, Arnott's Tot & Teen, Arnott's Men's Wear), 2 hardware stores (Grant's, Schumacher), a jewellery store (Gurevitch's), 2 restaurants (Hazel's, Sagan's), 2 drugstores (McNaughton's, Wilson's), 2 hairdressing shops, 5 corner stores (Laham's, Gay's, Hancock's, Fabello's, Townsend's), and a beerstore. The CIBC bank, Post Office, Fire Hall, Croation Hall, Library, Dr Weston and Dr Templeton's offices, and the 3 churches (St Alphonsus, St Chad's Anglican, Trinity United) were also important fixtures. If there was any need to travel to Timmins, Dwyer's Busline was the transportation of choice.

In my youth, summer activities focused around the Schumacher Lion's Pool, Schumacher Public School, and the McIntyre Park. In the summer, for a \$1 season pass, we were fortunate to have morning swim lessons, and afternoon and evening free swims. The schoolyard was the hub for all age groups playing baseball, Danish, game of box tag or home sheep run. Thanks to Carlo Catterello, Jim Maxwell, and Dusty Baker softball teams were organized, and our girls' team always looked forward to the competition in Virginia Town and Larder



Lake. The beautiful McIntyre Park drew us to the tennis courts, the picnic areas, and the evening baseball games. Through Schumacher Public School our summer out-of-town holiday was to Camp Bickell where we thoroughly enjoyed 10 days of fun for \$10.

In the winter, we skated and played hockey daily at the 2 school rinks (maintained by Mr Vicevic). Laham's Hill and Fifth Avenue Hill provided our sliding areas. At the Mac Bowling Alley, under the watchful eye of Steve Karahan, in Grade 6 we organized a Saturday evening youth bowling league. The High School Bowling League was also a successful social gathering on Saturday evenings. The McIntyre Curling Club also appealed to many. For a \$3 membership and \$3 for a broom, curling became popular as the rink was available every day after school, with league competitions on Saturday mornings. Under the supervision of Hugh and Kay Caverley, we also organized a Christmas and Easter bonspiel.

The Mac Arena was the venue for figure skating, free skating, and rollerskating when the ice was removed. And, of course, we cheered on the Schumacher Midgets and Juvenile hockey teams at the arena. The Mac was an integral part of our lives; as the the arena, coffee shop, curling rink, gym, auditorium and numerous events provided part-time employment, and the mine also hired summer students for the garden gang, the surface, and underground. Even Schumacher High's annual Cadet Inspection was held at the Mac, with the entire student body marching down from the school with all the town's children following!

Schumacher High School provided many opportunities to participate in

extracurricular activities from clubs and intramurals to team sports and leadership roles. We practised after school for volleyball, basketball, track and field, with scheduled Friday games. Football Fridays were highlights of the fall season, with pep rally assemblies led by the cheerleaders, shortened days, and exciting games at the McIntyre Park, supported by many parents and community members. However, we all respected the 9 pm curfew, the bleeting siren from the Fire Hall was our cue to head home!

Schumacher was a very close knit and proud community, and I cherish the fond memories enjoyed with family and friends over the years. I am also thankful to the Schumacher Homecomings Committee, who continues the tradition of reuniting Schumacherites – new and old friends, classmates, families, relatives - every five years, so we can meet and relive our experiences of growing up in a unique and wonderful town. I hope anyone associated with Schumacher - current and former residents – will attend the homecoming this long weekend in May. If attending, organizers need to know how much food to order, so please pre-register ASAP at:

www.schumacher-town.ca

Submitted by: Anne Mac Donald

