

# Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the  
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 104 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2016

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

## TRAVELLING IN STYLE



Frederick W. Schumacher is known for his legacy of generosity to the community's children. He also appreciated the finer things in life. The 1940 Packard limousine, pictured at left, served as Mr. Schumacher's personal vehicle until his death in 1957

Mr. Charles Blackman, who grew up in Columbus, Ohio, purchased the car from the Schumacher estate circa 1959. Mr. Blackman, who still owns the car today, recalls the novelty of seeing Mr. Schumacher leave his mansion or arrive at his office in the stately, chauffeur-driven car. As far as we know, the car has never travelled to our community. It is believed Mr. Schumacher always took the train on his visits up north. (Photo and information courtesy of John Lake.)



*Happy Canada Day from SACHA*

### IN THIS ISSUE

page 2

An Angel on the Ice

page 3

A Legacy Lives On

pages 4 & 5

A Walk About Town

pages 6 & 7

Editorial & SACHA Info & Events

page 8

SACHA Supporters



## AN ANGEL ON THE ICE

During the summer months of my childhood a skating program was offered at the McIntyre Arena. The program brought together many young skaters who showed promise for the future. Participants came from across Canada and the United States. We were privileged to have Barbara Ann Scott train with her coach, Sheldon Galbraith, at the "Mac". Every Thursday evening, a Pop Concert was featured at the arena and all the young skaters took to the ice to dazzle the spectators with their spins and jumps.

One particular warm spring evening in April, 1948, is forever etched in my memory. It was that evening that Barbara Ann Scott, dressed in a delicate white skating costume, appeared on the ice. As the music began to play, a film of white mist hovered over the ice surface. Barbara Ann Scott, so petite and graceful, skated to "Ave Maria".

Her performance was absolutely breathtaking. You could not even hear the whisper of her blades cutting the ice. It was like she was floating on air. It was as though the heavens had opened up, allowing this beautiful angel to appear out of the clouds to entertain us with her intricate footwork. The crowd was in awe. At the end of her performance, you could not hear a pin drop. Then, the crowd gave a thunderous roar of approval.

What a night it was! I think I was eight years old at the time, but I knew I had just witnessed something extraordinary. I have not seen anything as moving as this since. I wish someone had recorded this performance on film so it could be viewed again and again. I'm sure that many will recall this memorable evening at the Mac.

Margaret (McGee) Inskip,  
SOS Contributor

The photo at right is one of many that appeared in the souvenir program of the Porcupine Skating Club's 7th Annual Skating Carnival. The carnival took place on April 6 & 7, 1945.

Margaret, and her relatives Mina and Jim (both of whom are among those pictured), skated in the carnival. Margaret was a rabbit in the skating number called Easter Fantasy.

Thank you to Jane Vettor for sharing the souvenir programs obtained from her grandfather, Arnold Greer.



Mina McGee, Jim McGee, Mary Hiese, Bob Moore, Wanda Greer, Ed. Keeley, Angus Campbell, Pat Campbell, Gladys Fulton, Theresa Belec, Judy Dobson, Mose Greer, Ed. Reid, Pat Reid, Joyce Coffey, Shirley Coffey, Joyce Jenkin, Vera Jenkin.

Compliments of SAM BUCOVETSKY LIMITED





# A LEGACY LIVES ON

An unexpected post from “Father Les Costello, Public Figure” came across my Facebook feed on Friday, May 13th, 2016. As many SOS readers know, the former Stanley Cup Champion turned Roman Catholic priest died in December of 2002, years before Facebook was even launched.

Curious, I did some sleuthing and discovered that the page was newly created with the purpose of remembering Father Les Costello and all the charitable work that he did. I “liked” the page and over the next few days was treated to a stream of old photos and links to newspaper articles and videos about “Father Hockey, the Schumacher Saint”. Thinking that readers of the SOS might be interested in the backstory, I reached out to the page administrator.

Turns out, the page owner left Timmins almost 40 years ago. He met Father Les on only a few occasions, but the priest left a lasting impression on the then young boy. His purpose in creating the Facebook page is to share details of Father Les’ life and good deeds with a broader audience. Ultimately, he hopes the deceased priest and former NHLer might be inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame and that perhaps someone might be inspired, as Hollywood director Francis Ford Coppola once was, to create a movie about Father Costello and the Flying Fathers.

The Facebook page has been renamed “Tribute to Father Les Costello - RIP” and is worth visiting: [www.facebook.com/Tribute-to-Father-Les-Costello-RIP-127026007703824/](http://www.facebook.com/Tribute-to-Father-Les-Costello-RIP-127026007703824/). An account is not required. In less than a month, the page has been “liked” 875+ times and certain posts have reached thousands of people. The page administrator is overwhelmed by the positive response from the online community. That said, he wishes to remain anonymous and out of the limelight.

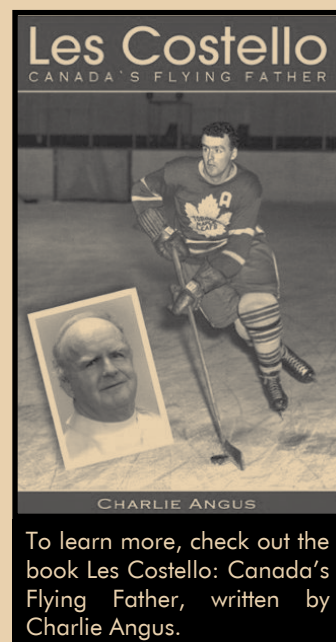
Although it barely scratches the surface, the following brief biography should paint a picture for any SOS readers who did not know Father Les.

Les Costello was born February 16, 1928 in South Porcupine. Les was an outstanding hockey player as a boy and went on to win the Memorial Cup in 1945 and 1947 while playing for St. Michael’s College of the University of Toronto. During the 1947-48 season, he donned the blue and white jersey of the NHL’s Toronto Maple Leafs.

That season, the Leafs defeated the Red Wings to win the Stanley Cup; Costello contributed two goals and three assists during the playoffs. In 1950, in the prime of his career, Les Costello became (and remains) the only NHL player to leave the game for the priesthood. He entered St. Augustine’s seminary and was ordained in 1957. Eventually, Ft. Costello found a way to put his love of the game to good use. In 1962, he cofounded the Flying Fathers, a team of skating priests recruited from across Canada. The team played more than 1000 exhibition charity games and raised \$4 million.

Father Les was a people’s priest; a great storyteller, a joker, and never one to take himself too seriously. His true passion was helping the less fortunate. His main mission (named after St. Martin de Porres) operated out of the rectory and supplied food, furniture and clothes to the needy.

Father Les became the priest at St. Alphonsus in Schumacher in 1979. He remained there until his death on December 10, 2002. He died at age 74 due to a head injury sustained at a Flying Fathers game in Kincardine, ON. His funeral, attended by more than 2200 mourners, was held at the McIntyre Arena.





## PHOTO FEATURE

# A WALK ABOUT TOWN



Looking east along Father Costello Drive (First Avenue). The Croatian Hall is to the right of the photo.



Looking east along Father Costello Drive (First Avenue) with the former Trinity United Church on the left.



The McIntyre Mine homes still stand on Platt Vet Property. The entire subdivision is currently for sale by a private owner.

Fourth Avenue, looking west up the hill from the playground at Schumacher Public School. A permanent outdoor rink has been built in the schoolyard and is enjoyed by young and old.



Croatia (Third) Avenue across from the District School Board Ontario North East office, the site of the former Schumacher High School.

Looking west down Dwyer (Second) Avenue from the corner store. (It's currently a Mac's Milk, but was formerly a Mike's Mart, a Pinto, and a Consumers Co-op.)



These days, the old St. Francis Catholic School is known as the FW Schumacher Residence and is operated by North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services.

A desire to see what Schumacher looks like now is a sentiment shared by many SACHA supporters who no longer live in the area. Some of the community's most prominent building, such as the McIntyre Arena and Schumacher Public School have not changed much over the years. Others, including the CIBC Bank and the three churches, have acquired new owners and been put to new uses. The photos on these pages were taken during an evening stroll in mid May 2016.



# EDITORIAL & SACHA INFORMATION

By the time this edition reaches you, it will be well into June; my apologies for the delay. As a result of too many obligations competing for my time, I will be stepping down as SOS Editor at the end of this year. The SACHA board is hopeful that someone will volunteer to take over the newsletter. A posting for the position can be found on the last page of the newsletter. If you know of someone who might be interested in the position and up for the challenge, please pass the information on!

Please note that any uncredited photos appearing in this issue were taken by yours truly.

It's hard to believe it's been almost 14 years since Father Les died. While much has changed in that time, it's somehow fitting that his legacy lives on in the hearts of many. Please check out the Facebook page and consider sharing his story with friends and family. I hope the other articles in this issue serve as springboards for fond walks down memory lane. Perhaps they will inspire you to share some of your stories and photos with me over the next few months.

Until next time,  
*Lisa Romanowski*,  
SOS Editor



One last view, looking south down Vipond Road (Poplar Street) towards the McIntyre Headframe from the corner of Fourth Avenue.

## SACHA BOARD

Rob Knox (President)  
Kathy Vukobratich (Treasurer)  
Lloyd Salomone (Secretary)  
Vera Romanowski (Sponsorship)  
Brian Conley

## Interested in volunteering with SACHA?

Contact Lloyd Salomone  
info@spiritofschumacher.ca  
We'll find a role that suits your skills and interests.

## SOS NEWSLETTER

The not-for-profit Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association publishes the SOS newsletter quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

The print edition is distributed freely to all Schumacher post boxes.

To receive a free PDF versions, email: subscribe@spiritofschumacher.ca

## ADVERTISING

Businesses can purchase ads for \$25/issue or \$90/year. It is estimated that 5000 people read each edition. Contact us for more information.

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

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

### SOS Newsletter Inquiries

schumachergirl@gmail.com  
PO Box 13, Schumacher, ON, P0N 1G0

### General SACHA Inquiries:

info@spiritofschumacher.ca

### Connect with Us Online:

www.facebook.com/SpiritOfSchumacher  
www.spiritofschumacher.ca



# A TASTE OF SCHUMACHER

## *Frozen Strawberry Squares*

Contributed by Marilyn (Pupich) McAlpine

A lamb feast was never complete without this special dessert, cool and refreshing on a hot summer day.

1. Mix together, then spread in a shallow pan:  
1 cup flour  
¼ cup packed brown sugar  
½ cup chopped walnuts  
½ cup melted butter
2. Bake for 20 minutes at 350F. Stir occasionally.
3. Place 2/3 of crumb mixture in a 9" by 13" pan. Press down firmly to form a base.
4. Whip a cup of whipping cream and refrigerate.
5. Combine:  
2 egg whites  
2/3 cup of white sugar  
10oz. package of partially thawed strawberries  
2 tsps. lemon juice
6. Beat on high speed for up to 10 minutes. When light and fluffy, fold in the whipped cream.
7. Spread over base. Top with remaining crumbs.
8. Cover and freeze overnight.
9. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.



**Linda and Rob Knox**  
Timmins, Ontario



## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 1, 2016

### Canada Day Celebrations

11:00 AM

#### Canada Day Walk

Join Karl Habla on his annual walk from City Hall to the Schumacher Flag Park  
Red & white dress encouraged!

11:00 AM to 1:00 AM

#### Canada Festivities at Hollinger Park

11:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Marketplace & Free Children's Activities

11:00 AM to Midnight

Food and Beverages Available

Noon to 1:00 AM

Live Music and Entertainment

10:30 PM

Fireworks from the Goldcorp Berm

Noon to 4:00 PM

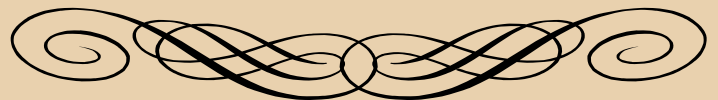
#### Gillies Lake Waterfront

Relay Races, Scavenger Hunt, Face Painting, Etc.

August 26, 27, 28, 2016

## 8th Annual Great Canadian Kayak Challenge & Festival

Kayak Races, Live Entertainment, Food Court  
Marketplace, Children's Activities & More!  
Mountjoy Historical Conservation Area  
[www.thegreatcanadiankayakchallenge.com](http://www.thegreatcanadiankayakchallenge.com)



**Carol Sweezey**  
(Lafrance)  
Sales Rep./Agente d'Immobilier

**ClaimPost**  
705-264-5364 REALTY LTD.  
BROKERAGE  
690 Riverpark Road, Unit 405, Timmins, ON P4P 1B4

♥ I Love Referrals ♥

Pager: 705-360-8123

E-Mail: [c\\_sweezey\\_realtor@vianet.ca](mailto:c_sweezey_realtor@vianet.ca)

[www.carolsweezey.com](http://www.carolsweezey.com)

"Professional, Bilingual Service...Just a Phone Call Away"



# SACHA SUPPORTERS

## Individual (\$15)

Albert Blain  
 Pat (Morellato) Blasi  
 Pierrette Campsall  
 Jon Chenier  
 Mary Kay (Ashton) Claydon  
 Mary (Grsich) Cox+  
 Don Critchley\*+  
 Diane Dwyer\*  
 Gloria (Yankovich) Easton  
 Bonnie (Fleming) Gorham  
 Connie Fournier-Nelson  
 Linda Guacci\*  
 Joan (Fox) Halloran\*  
 Dorothy (Rowe) Hopkins\*  
 Margaret (McGee) Inskip\*  
 Judith (Fleming) Jaeger  
 Karol (Buchmann) Jones\*  
 Marion Kearns  
 Florence Kelly  
 John Kivioja  
 Judy (Little) Kleven  
 Shirley Knox\*  
 John Lake  
 Allan MacDonald\*  
 Anne MacDonald\*  
 Linette MacDonald

Carmen Marchiori  
 Shirley McGarry  
 Jim Miller  
 Mary K. Miloknay  
 Pauline Murray\*  
 Euro Narduzzi  
 Jeff Price\*  
 Linda (Whittle) Prodan\*  
 Lisa Romanowski  
 Pat (Krupka) Saeglitz\*  
 Nick Sebalj  
 Malcom Sheldon  
 Bill Stimac  
 Larry Stoddart  
 Lyle Urquhart\*  
 Glen Vicevic\*  
 Kathy Vukobratc\*  
 Bill Wallace \*

## Family (\$25)

Don Babcock  
 Lou & Cecile Battocchio\*  
 Ann & Brian Bell  
 Gord & MaryLou Cameron\*  
 Ed & Maryjo Cepuran  
 Joanna & Gord Conley  
 Charlene & Michael Doody

Jennifer & René Dunkley  
 Deborah & Guy Dupuis  
 Mark & José Duquette  
 Mary (Fannarelli) & Archie Flora  
 Claudette Fregonese\*  
 Ron & Sylvia Gervais  
 Don & Joanne Hartling  
 Jack & Ruth Hartling  
 June Houston  
 Kenn & Sandra Lessard  
 Laurie & Roy Lindsay\*  
 Doreen Lister & Ted Anderson  
 Darrell & Bernadette MacGregor  
 John Maletich\*  
 Steve Markovich\*  
 Clayton & Marilyn McAlpine  
 Jack & Jean McLaughlin  
 Louis & Joan Morellato  
 Don Murphy  
 Harry & Leona Orsztynowicz  
 Mike & Paulina Pintar  
 Darlene & Mike Polowy  
 Alexis Price\*  
 Lorraine Price+  
 Al Proulx\*  
 Ed Pupich  
 Nick & Helen Resetar  
 Vera & Henry Romanowski\*

Lorne & Jane Rowe  
 Frank & Denis Sebalj  
 Theresa & Ed Sebalj  
 Wayne & Liz Shippam  
 Niki Skrtic & Allison Hobin  
 Robin & Dave St. Aubin  
 Karen & George Stefanic  
 Carole Stoddart  
 Lynda & Mike Sura  
 Shelly Thomas\*  
 Bronko+ & Elia+ Vicevic\*  
 Connie Videto  
 Liz (Knox) & Victor Violin\*  
 Ruth & Wally Wiwchar  
 Cathy & Jack Yard  
 Gloria (Stimac) Zagrodnik

## Business (\$50)

Blackhawk Transport  
 Claimpost Realty (Sweezey)  
 Flower Power Productions  
 Northern Windows & Doors  
 Schumacher Fire Department

\* Additional Contribution  
 + Deceased

Your financial support covers the costs of producing and distributing the SOS newsletter.  
 Thank you for your continued generosity.

## SACHA SEEKS NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association seeks a person to oversee the *Spirit of Schumacher* newsletter beginning in January 2017. The SOS newsletter editor should have some understanding and association with the community of Schumacher and its people and history.

The volunteer editor will oversee all aspects of publishing an eight page quarterly newsletter to inform the people of Schumacher and beyond about their community's past, present and future.

Editor responsibilities include:

- overseeing the newsletter content, advertising, budget, and distribution;
- researching, writing/creating, and editing articles & content for the newsletter;
- designing the layout of the newsletter (currently created using Adobe InDesign);
- working with members of the SACHA board, the printing company, advertisers, etc.;
- promoting the newsletter to various stakeholders (e.g. residents, advertisers).

If up for a fun challenge, please forward an expression of interest and an overview of any relevant experience to: [info@spiritofschumacher.ca](mailto:info@spiritofschumacher.ca) Subject: **SOS Newsletter Editor**