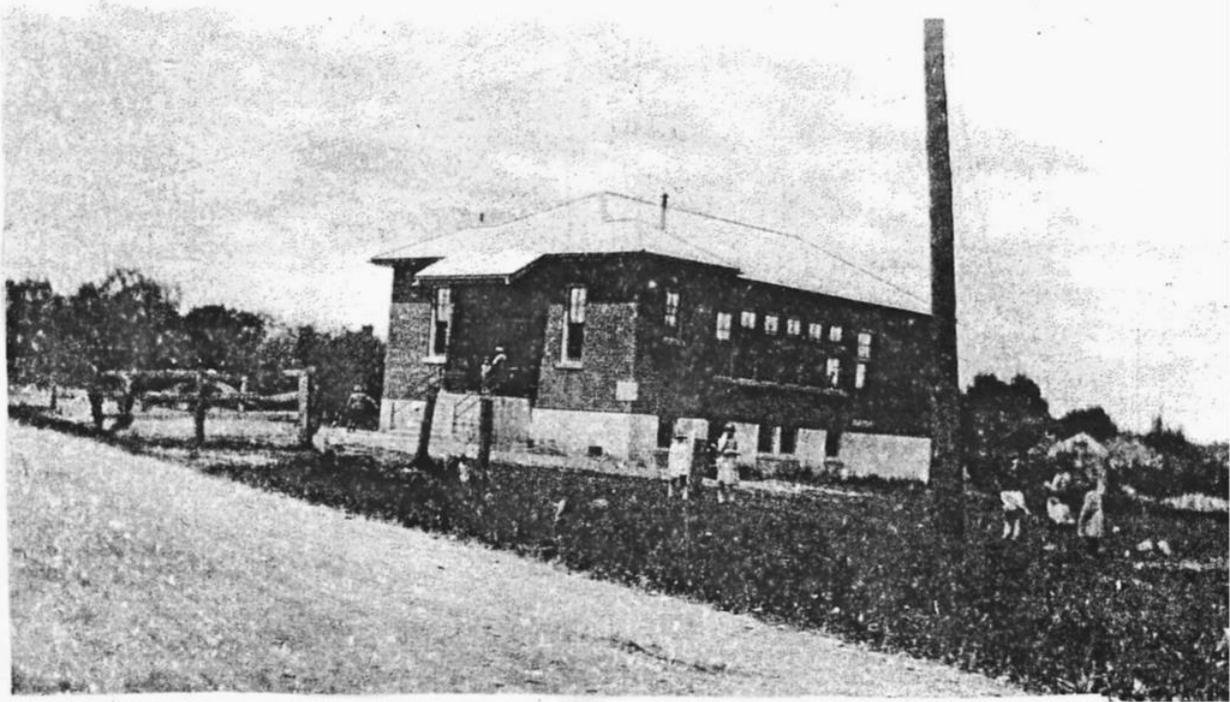


SS#14 ROCKPORT



THEN & NOW



1925 - 2001

SS# 14 ROCKPORT

The Rockport Recreation Centre began as the fourth and final Rockport School, S.S.#14. The previous school was on the Old River Road across the street from the Roy Fair property.

As early as 1907 the school had been condemned by the Inspector. However the local ratepayers rejected the idea to build a new school. In 1909 some renovations were completed which allowed the school to stay open. By 1924 it was obvious that the school could not handle the enrolment of fifty students so plans were made to erect a new facility.

The most suitable site was owned by Mrs. William Fair, who at first was reluctant to sell. She, as well as a number of other citizens, thought that this suggested site directly across from the cemetery was not appropriate. However, she finally did agree and the 1.5 acre parcel of land was purchased for \$500. The tender of Mitchell and Wilson was accepted for \$10500. The architect was Stewart Allister of Brockville.

The cornerstone was laid in August of 1925 with many local residents present. Blueprints revealed a brick structure with double front entry doors, a front porch, a fully finished basement and six long windows mostly on the south side of the school. The idea was to use the basement as a playroom and community hall.

The Senior room was to have been an office and teacher's lounge. But immediately many parents who had sons or daughters who were ready to move on to High School lobbied to have an additional teacher hired who could teach secondary subjects. These students would normally have gone to Gananoque, Lansdowne, Brockville or Athens, at considerable expense to their parents.

Thus Rockport S.S.#14 became a two-room school with the Junior grades 1-5 and the Senior room 6-10. In 1927 the side porch and entry was added. The first two teachers were Vera Fitzsimmons and Freda Collier. Teachers didn't stay long and were often replaced at Christmas, as that's when contracts expired.

The school basically remained the same until 1939 when construction of the Scenic Highway [Parkway] began. Despite considerable debate as to the actual route the Parkway would take the provincial government eventually bought a portion of the school property to the south. With the \$500 they received, land to the north and east

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was purchased and fenced. As part of a beautification competition in 1941 many small trees were planted as a windbreak.

The school was closed in 1965 and all students were transferred to newly built Escott P.S.

THE ORIGINAL REGISTERS

General Register Number	NAME OF PUPIL (in full, surname preceding)	Date of Birth			NAME OF PARENT (or Guardian)	ADDRESS
		Day	Mo.	Yr.		
1	Andress Francis	3	Feb	1919	Mrs. Thornton Andress	Mallorytown
2	Birt Kenneth	15	Jan	1920	Mr. Roland Birt	Rockport, O.
3	Bolger Betty	4	Aug	1917	Mr. Matthew Bolger	Mallorytown
4	Citwell Billie	30	Apr	1921	Mrs. Thom. Citwell	Rockport
5	Andress George	9	Aug	1920	Mrs. Thornton Andress	Mallorytown
6	Caiger Margaret	2	Sept	1921	Mrs. Frank Caiger	Rockport
7	Fair Vera	27	Apr	1909	Mrs. Roy Fair	Rockport
8	Howe Arlos	5	Apr	1922	Mr. H. Root	Mallorytown
9	Kahnt Albin	20	Mar	1921	Mr. Chas. Kahnt	Rockport
10	Kahnt Gwendolyn	9	Feb	1922	Mrs. Chas. Kahnt	Rockport
11	Massay Charles	3	Sept	1921	Mr. Chas. Massay	Mallorytown
12	Massay Harriet	6	Dec	1923	Mr. Chas. Massay	Mallorytown
13	O'Connor Monica	18	Feb	1922	Mr. Mamille O'Connor	Rockport
14	Patterson James	6	Sept	1922	Mr. Cornelius Patterson	Rockport
15	Patterson Stuart	23	Aug	1922	Mr. Cornelius Patterson	Rockport
16	Reid Cecelia	10	Sept	1920	Mrs. Andrew Reid	Rockport
17	Birt Kathleen	16	Sept	1923	Mr. Roland Birt	Rockport
18	Fair Ethel	4	June	1923	Mrs. St. Fair	Mallorytown
19	Collins Paul	5	June	1924	Mr. John Collins	Rockport
20	Brown Freddie	7	Nov	1923	Mrs. F. Huck	Rockport
21	Brown Dorothy	24	Dec	1924	Mrs. F. Huck	Rockport
22	Cobey Dorothy	10	Dec	1925	Mrs. Jas. Cobey	Rockport
23	Citwell Paul	29	June	1924	Mr. Thom. Citwell	Rockport
24	Murphy Calvin	6	June	1923	Helena Murphy	Rockport
25	Murphy Cleo	10	Mar	1922	Helena Murphy	Rockport
26	O'Neill Mary	7	Sept	1924	Mr. Owen O'Neill	Rockport
27	Rogers Ellen	5	May	1925	Mr. J. Rogers	Rockport
28	Cobey Ned	30	Aug	1924	Mrs. Jas. Cobey	Rockport
29	O'Connor Madeline	18	Jan	1927	Mrs. Mamille O'Connor	Rockport
30	Patterson Jack	18	Feb	1924	Mr. Cornelius Patterson	Rockport

A TYPICAL DAY

S.S.#14, Rockport School, Junior Room, Grades I-IV
Friday, October 5, 1956
Theme: Thanksgiving

9:00-9:15 Opening Exercises - "God Save the Queen."
Bible Reading - Psalm 100:1-5
Lord's Prayer
Health check - brush teeth?
wash hands, etc.

9:15-9:45 Arithmetic

Gr. I - cut out paper pumpkins, count,
place on correct no., trace no. & write
no.
Gr. II - complete sums from blackboard.
Gr. III & IV - review problem solving
Gr. III - complete problems from blackboard
Gr. IV - problems from textbook, pg. 25; 1-5

9:45-10:15 Reading

Together read poem "Thanksgiving" from b.b.
Gr. I - use plasticene - turkeys, etc.
Gr. II - oral reading from reader
Gr. III & IV - reading comprehension
questions on worksheets.

10:15-10:30 Printing / Writing (from blackboard)

Gr. I - LI LI
Gr. II - I like _____
Gr. III & IV - Thanksgiving is _____

10:30-10:45

10:45-11:15

Science / Health

Discuss foods/plants eaten by Indians and Pilgrims for Thanksgiving. List on blackboard. Copy into notebooks with illustrations.

11:15-11:45

Spelling

Gr. I - match words to pictures

Gr. II - review list from b.b., copy into workbook - 3x each

Gr. III & IV - dictation of week's word lists

11:45-12:00

Phonics drills

- climb the "an" ladder

- spin the "all" wheel, etc.

12:00-1:00

Noon hour recess

1:00-1:15

Read aloud to class, "The First Thanksgiving"
- discuss

1:15-2:30

Social Studies / Art

Make booklets - "I am thankful for..."
(on each page illustrate, colour, write appropriate sentence(s)).

Music - if time sing Thanksgiving songs

2:30-2:45

Afternoon recess (Gr. I dismissed for the day)

2:45-3:15

Our Village

Begin map of village of Rockport. Remember to include roads, homes of pupils, family friends, school, churches, stores, post office, marina, cemetery, farm, etc.

3:15-3:45

Language

- Gr. II - worksheets on morning story
- Gr. III & IV - oral reading from readers
- complete unfinished work, make corrections

3:45-4:00

- assign homework
- tidy desks and room; reminders

4:00

- Dismissal

Audrey Newell, teacher

Gym - was held 2-3 afternoons per week (30-40 min), outside, weather permitting

- tag, skipping, catch
- running games e.g. "Red Rover," "Squirrels in Trees"
- baseball
- skating in winter

Junior Red Cross meetings were held every second Friday afternoon.



SS 14 ROCKPORT STAFF

TRUSTEES

Dewitt Williams
Hiram Edgely
W.E. Address
Fred Huck
George Address
Clifford Hunt
Donald Williams
Orval Kahnt
John Caiger
~~John Bolger~~
Roscoe Williams
Howard Edgely
Grant Haskin
Hubert Fair
Elmer Address
Fred Caiger
Harold DeWolfe
William Henshaw

SECRETARY TREASURERS

Charles Kahnt
John Collins
W.E. Address
Marilni [Hunt] Haskin

CUSTODIANS

Maggie Kahnt
George Hodge
Annie O'Neil
Hubert Fair
Pearl Fair

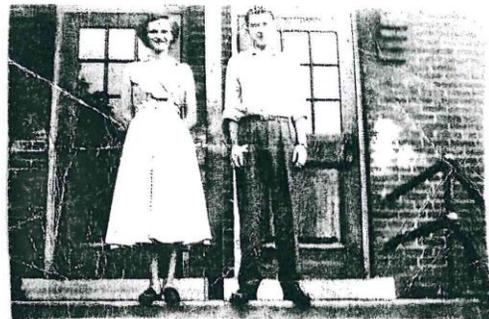
TEACHERS

Junior Room -
Florence Moore
Honor Gowan
Louise Poole
Edith Doughty
Effie Davis
Mary Bolger
Minerva Root
Gladys Withers
Margaret Hanley
Gertrude Scott
Maureen Cheetham
Elva Williamson
Gwen Hough
Edith Stewart
Margaret Mott
Audrey Newell
Meta Hill

Senior Room
Freda Collier
Mr. Bradley
Goldie Hutchinson
Gordon Ireland
Mary Bolger
Margaret Strachan
Mr. C.E. Thomas
Bernita Leeder
Gord McCready
Maude May
Carmel Bartsch
Vera Fitzsimmons
Jim Keller

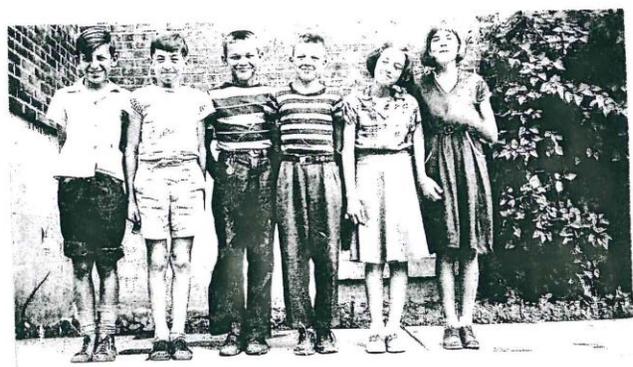
INSPECTORS

W.C. Dowsley
Elwood Oakes
Gordon Younge
W. Hiscocks
G.T. Hackett
W. Ellis



STUDENTS







HELEN HAYES



RICHARD



ERIC BOLGER

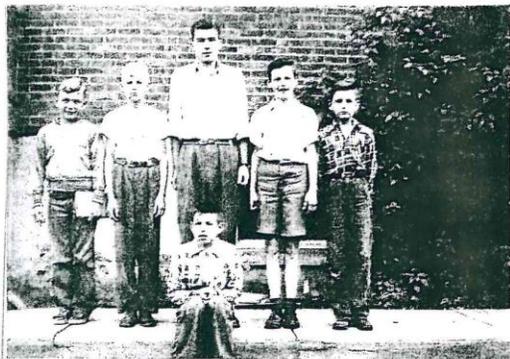


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ERIC BOLGER

WHO DO YOU KNOW ?



GENERAL REGISTRATION

General Register Number	NAME OF PUPIL (in full, surname preceding)	Date of Birth			NAME OF PARENT (or Guardian)	ADDRESS
		Day	Mo.	Yr.		
51	Hunt Marilyn	2	7	30	Mrs. Clifford Hunt	Rockport
52	Haskin Blithe	3	3	23	Mrs. Walter Haskin	Malloryton
53	Haskin Grant	17	1	26	Mrs. Walter Haskin	Malloryton
54	Fitzsimmons Mary Ellen	3	2	31	Mrs. Hubert Fitzsimmons	Rockport
55	De Wolfe Gerald	4	5	30	Mrs. Harold De Wolfe	Rockport
56	Hunt Jane	27	11	30	Mrs. W. P. Hunt	Rockport
57	Colley Ole Veev	7	11	30	Mrs. Mary Colley	Rockport
58	Lynch Abice	11	6	23	Mrs. Augustine Lynch	Malloryton
59	Augustine Lynch	21	2	24	Mrs. Augustine Lynch	Malloryton
60	Pavicich Stella	27	11	27	Mrs. Steve Pavicich	Rockport
61	O'Neill Catherine	27	3	31	Mrs. Annie O'Neill	Rockport
62	Gerrond James	18	6	24	Mrs. J. Gerrond	Rockport
63	Mackey Buslah				Mrs. George Mackey	Rockport
64	Campbell Gordon	26	5	25	Mrs. Nell Campbell	Lansdown
65	Chuter Betty	4	8	26	Mrs. Jack Chuter	Rockport
66	Pavicich Rose	9	9	24	Mrs. Steve Pavicich	Rockport
67	Brooker Allison				Mrs. J. Brooker	Rockport
68	Brooker Evon				Mrs. J. Brooker	Rockport
69	Gerrond Douglas	5	12	27	Mrs. Jack Gerrond	Rockport
70	Mackey Stewart				Mrs. George Mackey	Rockport
71	Sorenson Neva	9	11	28	Mrs. R. Sorenson	Rockport
72	Chuter Bob	8	4	30	Mrs. Jack Chuter	Rockport
73	Mackey Bobbie				Mrs. George Mackey	Rockport
74	Huck Bobbie	25	12	32	Mrs. Edward Huck	Rockport
75	Huck Arma	16	11	32	Mrs. Edward Huck	Rockport
76	Harrison Patsy Mae	29	12	33	Mrs. John Gerrond	Rockport
77	Mac Neil Keith				Mrs. George Mac Neil	Rockport
78	Mac Neil Fay				Mrs. George Mac Neil	Rockport
79	Patterson Barbara	30	1	32	Mrs. Corneilus Patterson	Rockport
80	Sorenson Ellen	31	7	32	Mrs. R. Sorenson	Rockport
81	Edgely Tommie	13	7	31	Mrs. Howard Edgely	Rockport
82	Mackey Gerald				Mrs. George Mackey	Rockport
83	Mac Neil Lila				Mrs. George Mac Neil	Rockport
84	Hunt Gordon	11	12	32	Mrs. Clifford Hunt	Rockport
85	O'Neill Tommie	13	9	32	Mrs. Annie O'Neill	Rockport
86	De Wolfe Doris	21	4	33	Mrs. Harold De Wolfe	Rockport
87	Reid Gerald	17	12	25	Mrs. Grover Reid	Lansdown
88	Hodge Allan	30	3	22	Mrs. George Hodge	Yunadine
89	Griffin Mitchell	6	8	26	Mrs. D. Griffin	Rockport

Memories of Rockport School House Circa 1958 - 1964 - Michael William De Wolfe

Roger Hodge was my best friend we played together a lot, I still remember him throwing marbles at the brick school house until (#%\$@(*&" %) one hit him on the head! Roger also had the misfortune of falling off backwards from the 2nd. floor senior room porch. He recovered but did have a headache for days.

Ricky Huck was my best friend we played together a lot, I still remember his dark eyes and dark hair and sneaky smile. His mother made the best brownies.

Rosemary Caiger was one of the prettiest girls with a big smile and lots of bouncing curls. I still remember Blind Mans Bluff. Rosemary ran like ants were in her pants until she ran into the corner of the big red school house. She missed school for days but survived the ordeal with a big goose egg.

Margaret Bolger had the reddest hair and a temper to match, pleasant but don't push your luck. Very athletic and fast on her feet. She always had better marks than most kids.

Eugene Johnson was very slick and tried to stay one step ahead of the school authorities. Unfortunately his bicycle let him down and he lost an eye in a collision with a car. Eugene made the best of it and sometimes the glass eye would somehow pop out during school and he would have to go home early.

Mrs. (Audrey) Newell was a kind and gentle teacher and always put her students first, although I do remember her pointing out the errors of my way several times a week.

Ms. (Media) Hill was a tall woman with neat freckles all over her face with reddish head. She was a good teacher and somehow I had a nervous condition that caused my knee to bounce and she would have to sit on my knee to calm me down (didn't work).

Jim Kellar was the principal and came to our school early in his career. My mom made a welcome cake and the next day he stayed home sick! On a nice sunny day in November 1963, Mr. Kellar was dozing in his convertible car in the school yard when we woke him up to hear his car radio announce the President of the United States of America had been shot in Dallas, Texas!!!

Senior students would chase junior students to the east side of the property and in the spring water floods would force us to walk the page wire fence of the Hubert Fair property (he became my father in law) while they picked us off with hard pine cones that had not opened up yet!!!

Baseball games against La Rue Mills was a huge event that scared me as these students were like people from a foreign land (I didn't know it was only 5 miles away).

Snow forts and tunnels in the school yard was a winter ritual, wet mitts on the floor register drying until they were stiff as boards.

Ice storms so that we could skate to school down the gravel north lane catching the odd stone, stumbling, getting up and going again.

Tar pit on the north lane from highway paving, standing until shoes almost would not come out.

Lunch pails that were peanut butter cans with a tight lid and wire handle.

Spring clean ups that was lots of work but no school books and chasing girls all day. I

Julie Fair fell and broke her arm resulting in me suspected as the cause (1 married that girl).

Christmas concert ritual the 3 wisemen, carols, anxious parents and teachers. I sang silent night solo and thought I would die. My dad played Santa but was found out due to his black and blue thumb he had hit just the day before with a hammer.

School Closing 1964 - the long bus ride north to Escott arriving at that huge red school house that looked too long and too low. The Escott road was under construction at the time, I think it was being paved for the first time?

John Keats is an American writer whose children have had the benefit of some of the most modern schools in North America:

But for two years they attended a small, two-room school in rural Ontario.

Of course we have memories of the schoolhouse, the teachers and the Rockport children, and a perfectly clear knowledge that it was in Rockport, more than any other place, that our children acquired their basic attitude toward education and formed their work habits, and received a first-rate elementary instruction in a small, simple school of singular human warmth.

We have been distressed to hear that our section of Ontario--in which we are now but summer residents- is in some danger of coming down with a case of United States-style educationitis. The suggestion has been made to do away with the tiny one- and two-room rural schools, in favour .of large, centrally located consolidated schools. One hears rumours of impending curricular reforms that sound distressingly like attempts to accommodate the school's standards to the imaginary incompetence of the children, instead of being attempts to require the students to accommodate themselves to ever-rising standards of the schools. It is certainly not our desire to enter into an educational argument in a nation where we are guests, but we cannot view the tiny rural schoolhouse as a wholly bad institution. If it is true that little Rockport, with its limited means, followed a rigid pattern of instruction designed to be impervious to- the worst efforts of the world's most incompetent teacher, it must nevertheless be said that the end result was a sound schooling in the building blocks of learning. Something must be said for the much- maligned little red schoolhouse, and for "reading, writing, and arithmetic/ taught to the tune of a hickory stick."

WHAT I REMEMBER ABOUT ROCKPORT SCHOOL

I remember:

- We played downstairs in the basement on rainy days. It was all cement and when recess was over you couldn't see across the room for cement dust.
- Hot lunches consisted of one dish only. They were made on a wood cookstove. Dishes were washed in a dishpan and the water dumped outside.
- There were no flush toilets; there was a wash basin at the back to clean your hands.
- The Senior room was cold if a northeast wind was blowing in the winter. The temperature was often just above freezing but we were not sent home.
- Mr. Thresher was our Music teacher, he came once a week.
- At Christmas we put on concerts, also again in the spring.
- When we arrived at school in the morning our work for the day was neatly written on the blackboards. In particular I remember long rows of numbers to be copied and added.
- In the Senior room we had sewing and craft classes. That is when I learned to embroider, which I still enjoy to this day.
- In grade 4 we were introduced to writing with ink. Then we used straight pens and bottles of ink. That was when blotters came into play, it could be very messy.
- At that time you had to buy your own books and supplies. We learned at a young age to take care of them.
- There were no copy machines. If work was given to us on sheets of paper they had been copied on a hectograph. The first sheets were quite clear, but later ones became fainter and harder to read.
- We had a dress code. The girls all wore dresses but no one was allowed to wear a hat in school.

- If we had recess outside, the girls lined up on one side of the sidewalk according to grade and the boys on the other side. The girls had their own cloakroom and the boys theirs.

- If there was a funeral across the road at the cemetery that day we didn't get recess.

- At the end of school in June we went to the Grove for a picnic that was the only field trip we had. .

- Arbor Day was held in the spring, that was when we raked and cleaned the school yard.

- Every Fall we had a day off school for the teacher's convention. We also got a half day for the Lansdowne Fair. -

· - The highlight of the year for me was when the library books arrived from Miss Eaton - a book critic from New York City. She, being a summer resident, sent us copies of all the books she had critiqued over the year. They had to be unpacked, catalogued with a corresponding number on the spine, before being assigned shelf space. ·

- There were no school buses. In grade 1 I walked over a mile with the snowbanks higher than me.

- There were no detentions or suspensions. The teacher took care of all the problems.

- There was no milk to buy at school. I remember carrying a thermos in my lunchpail. I never remember forgetting it at home or school.

- When grade 8 students were getting ready for high school they had to pass Entrance Exams written in Mallorytown.

from the Gananoque Reporter...

March 3, 1949 - The Junior Hockey team held a dance in, the school basement. There was splendid attendance with the music supplied by local talent. \$20 was realized.

.July 14, 1949 - Congratulations are extended to the five boys who passed their · Entrance Exams to High School: Jack Bolger, Bernard Bolger, Rhoderick Cirtwell, Floyd Hunt and Norman Haskin.

September 4, 1949 - School reopened this- morning with Mr. Thomas Hamilton, teacher in the Senior room and Miss Moreen Cheetham, Portland, in the Junior room.

Thurs., May 29,1952 - A farewell party was held recently in the school basement for Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chattaway who are moving near Mallorytown. They were presented with a chesterfield chair and card table by their friends.

Thurs., July 3,1952 - Congratulations were extended to Esther DeWolfe, Bob Edgely, Leon Kahnt, Eddie Johnston and Vincent Sands who were successful in passing their Entrance Exams to High School.

- A Farewell Social was held in the school basement for Miss Eva Williamson, junior room teacher. She was presented with an electric table lamp and a coffee table in recognition of her work at the school. She is getting married and moving to Kingston.

- Teachers, parents and students attended an end-of- the year picnic at Brown's Bay.

Thurs., September 11, 1952 - Miss Bemeta Leeder is the teacher of the Senior Room and Miss Gwen Hough the Junior Room.

- Peter Morrow received medical attention, during the first week of school, following an accident while playing on the yard.

Thurs., September 18.1952 - Nine former SS#14 students are attending Gananoque Secondary School. Byron Latimer is the bus driver and has a new, larger bus.

Thurs., March 26, 1953 - Members of the Anglican Church Guild held a very pleasant and successful St. Patrick's Tea in the school basement on March 17th

Thurs., April 30, 1953 - Chicken pox: and measles were going through the school. . Many students were absent during this period of time.

- A Farewell Party was held in the school basement for Miss Berneta Leeder who has been a teacher and Principal for the past three years. A Brownie camera, perfume and a sum of money was presented to her by Lawrence Edgely.

- The annual school picnic was held at Brown's Bay and was deemed a great success.

Thurs., March 18, 1954 - A Farewell Party was held at the school for Thomas O'Conner and Kieren Sands who have joined the R.C.N. and Norman Haskins who joined the R. C .A. F.

- A stag "500" party was held recently with the proceeds helping to finance redecorating the Honour Roll.

Thurs., December 9, 1954 - The Leeds County Films were shown in the Junior room of the school after which the Women's Institute served sandwiches, pie and coffee. A very good crowd attended and nearly \$25 was raised.

- The teachers Miss May and Miss Stewart have begun practising for the Annual Christmas entertainment at the school.

Thurs., December 16, 1954 - A miscellaneous shower for the recent newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Mallory [Marjorie Williams] was held this week in the school basement.

Thurs., February 16, 1956 - The Women's Institute are holding an open night in the school house next Friday evening with Constable Arthur Roberts of the OPP speaking on the topic of Safety. A few numbers will be sung by the school choir to make for an instructive and interesting evening. A silver collection will be taken to replenish the school's First Aid Kit.

...from the Gananoque Reporter

April 30, 1964 - A large crowd recently gathered in the school basement to tender gifts and best wishes. to Elaine Johnston and Mike Woledge who are to be married on April 29th in the United Church.

Wed., May 12, 1964 - Rockport students did well recently at an area Track and Field Day at Escott. Inez Bolger won a silver cup as the best female athlete for the meet. Wade Haskin suffered a painful accident that left injuries requiring a cast for his ankle .

Wed., February 24, 1965 - A very successful card party was held in the new Rec. Hall on Feb., 10th. Proceeds were forwarded to the newly formed Peewee hockey team. Lucky winners were Julie Fair ladies first and Betty Johnston, second. Mrs. Harold DeWolfe won a fantastic snowman cake.

June 8, 1965 - A miscellaneous shower was held in the Rec. Hall for Betty DeWolfe in honour of her approaching marriage.

BOOKS!

BOOKS!

A person who had a profound influence on the school was Miss Anne T. Eaton. She was a teacher by training but never taught at SS #14 Rockport. Her impact here was as a librarian and well-known literary critic, specifically of children's literature. Though she lived in New York City, she was a summer resident of Tar Island/or much of her life. Many of her books found their way into the homes of local friends. She also generously donated books to the school library, helping it maintain a high level of current literature. Thanks to her the number of books in the school rose from 734 in 1934 to well over 2000 by 1944. The young people of the community took great advantage of these materials, take a look at pages from the Sign-Out book.

BOOKS!

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR DECEMBER
 (To be entered by the Principal from the AFTER APPROVAL BY THE INSPECTOR)

YEAR	1936		1937		1938		1939		1940	
	\$	c	\$	c	\$	c	\$	c	\$	c
RECEIPTS										
1. Balance on hand Jan. 1st, as per last statement	3419	79	3002	59	2387	08	2183	30	2724	44
2. Legislative Grants (Total actually received)	65	72	782	82	1015	46	829	10	667	74
3. County Grants	135	55	168	16	309	54	159	80	29	43
4. Township Grants	690		680		765		765	00	850	00
5. Section Tax Levy	295	42	290	38	276	79	682	44	425	62
6. Temporary Loans										
7. Proceeds from sale of debentures (if any)	47	89	154	32	23	88	524	78	19	10
8. Receipts from other sources										
Total Receipts	5239	47	5108	27	4797	73	5144	42	4716	33
Amount deducted by the Department of Education for superannuation (To be entered by Inspector)			49	50	49	50	49	50		
EXPENDITURES										
1. Cost of Instruction (Total actually paid)	165	42	1600	50	1600	50	1714	10	1910	90
2. Cost of Instructional Equipment	14	44	80	06	444	12	2613		56	96
3. Cost of Administration	29	55	25	00	50	00	2770		28	22
4. Cost of School Plant Operation	407	47	316	71	364	05	332	44	467	91
5. Cost of School Plant Maintenance	103	29	148	10	13	20	172	43	95	36
6. Cost of Auxiliary Agencies	05	83	47	12	42	58	78	18	8	00
Total General Maintenance Expenditures	217	64	2217	149	2114	45	2350	98	2567	25
7. Repayment of Temporary Loans										
8. Capital Outlays	34	28	508	00	500	00	69		30	73
9. Capital Charges (See Note 3)									878	25
Total Expenditures	221	88	2725	149	2614	45	2419	98	2597	98
Balance to next account	3002	59	2382	78	2183	30	2724	44	2118	35
Amount deducted by the Board of Trustees for superannuation (To be entered by the Secretary-Treasurer)	44	58	44	50	49	50	51	50	59	20
<i>Amount of Capital Charges.</i>	878	63								
1. Estimated Value of (a) Land and Buildings (b) Equipment	12766	37	12766	37	1688	13	833	32	12,766	628
2. Debenture Debt Unpaid					6150	41			1,561	

It was not long before our children adapted themselves to Canadian ways; before Chris understood the difference between English and United States spellings; before Margaret had caught onto pretty Miss Stuart's Highland burr and — United States theories notwithstanding — discovered it was possible for a second grader to learn to write as well as to print. Indeed, during the next two years, our children learned a good many other things in that two-room Ontario country school that they would never have learned had they always attended the impersonal, million-dollar, cement factory of a consolidated school that they had known in Maryland. They returned to Maryland far ahead of their classmates in every subject, and here it must be said that their Maryland school enjoyed an A-1 rating by United States standards. More important, however, the Canadian school presented our children with a concept absolutely new to them; the idea that hard work and discipline might have something to do with acquiring an education. And just as important as this, Rockport school also gave them a proper view of their place in life; a sense of their obligations to themselves, and a great view of what people could do for one another when they found themselves in a situation where nothing was being done for them by anyone else.

9	Snowdrops and seven Swans.	Gerald O'Connor	Jan 17	Jan 15
0	The White Rat	Jim Bolger	Jan 18	Jan 19
6	Story of the Golden Fleec	Catharine Bolger	Jan 18	Jan 19
2	Jack & Robin	Anna Bolger	Jan 18	Jan 20
6	A Brave Boy	Brendan Reid	Jan 18	Jan 19
7	The Three Bears	Ada. Slicker	Jan 18	Jan 20
9	Babies in the Woods	Finus Root	Jan 18	Jan 19
7	Stories of Heroes	Fred Hodges	Jan 18	Jan 24
5	Old World Stories	Gerald O'Connor	Jan 19	Jan 20
2	Little Red Riding Hood	Kathleen O'Connor	Jan 19	Jan 20
1	Snake and Rabbit	Catherine Bolger	Jan 19	Jan 20
5	Story of Golden Fleec	Jim Bolger	Jan 19	Jan 20
5	Witch	Mary Bolger	Jan 19	Jan 30
8	Wife and Seven Little	Gerald O'Connor	Jan 20	Jan 21
0	The White Rat	Kathleen O'Connor	Jan 20	Jan 24
0	Three Little Pigs	Brendan Reid	Jan 20	Jan 24
9	Babies in the Wood	Gerald O'Connor	Jan 21	Jan 24
6	Beautiful Joe	Purinton Root	Jan 21	Jan 26
6	Beautiful Joe	Louise Williams	Jan 26	Jan 3
6	A Brave Boy	Finus Root	Jan 24	Jan 2

IS YOUR BOOK STILL OVERDUE ?

7	Man's Work	Kathleen O'Connor	Jan 28	Jan 3
9	Little Red Riding Hood	Fred Hodges	Jan 28	Feb. 2
0	The Watchers of the Forest	Purinton Root	Jan 28	Feb. 2

The initial meeting to transform S.S. 14 Rockport P.S. into a community hall was held on Jan. 26th, 1965. Under the guidance of Tom Massey a Ratepayer's Association, which later became the Community Hall Committee, was formed to facilitate this transition. An executive was elected and a sub-committee was struck to approach Council regarding the taxes on the hall. A card party was planned for the community for Feb. 3rd.

Over the next few months meetings were held almost weekly as enthusiasm in the community grew. Donations were forthcoming. The key issue was whether to lease or buy the school. At the first official Community Hall meeting on March 15th the decision was made to enter into an agreement with Escott Township Council to buy the school for \$1.00. The Committee sought legal advice from Ron McFarlane of Gananoque. A further meeting with a representative of the Community Program Branch of the Department of Education was necessary to finalize terms of the agreement.

The deed that was drawn up entrenched the new name of the "Rockport Recreation Association". In early May a draft constitution was approved which delineated the objects of the new organization. As well an "An Agreement of Usage" form for rentals was created. During these busy times another group was working on the Grand Opening. The involvement of the U.C.W., the Women's Institute, the Anglican Church and the Catholic Women's League aided in these plans.

At an emergency meeting held on May 18th Hall renovations was the main topic. From the minute books it was obvious that this was a very lively meeting with reprimands for some members of the Executive and dissension in the community evident. The issue of insurance was resolved with the lowest tender: being accepted. Dances were planned for every Saturday night through the summer. One of the earliest events held in the hall was Harold DeWolfe's daughter's wedding.

At the June regular meeting a sale was planned for Aug. 7th to sell off the desks. Two blackboards were given to Escott P.S. and the Rockport United Church. A draft membership card was produced. A piano was donated by Mrs. Eddie Johnston's sister. A serving counter for the kitchen and a stage for the orchestra were to be completed over the summer.

The financial statement for August showed a balance of \$62.00 in the Dance report

and in the Recreation Association account \$194.78. Bingos became a regular event over the next few months as well. In the fall of 1965 the bank balance grew and new chairs were purchased. Plans were made for a Hallowe'en party for the children and an Art Exhibition was scheduled for Dec. 2nd. There were numerous discussions regarding a rink on the grounds including a donation of \$100.00 from Harold Harvey of Kingston. The Women's Institute donated \$15.00 towards lights for the rink and further bingos and dances were held to fundraise for this cause. However nowhere in the records is it apparent that a rink was built.

The Recreation Association involved itself in a number of other local issues. They approached Council with the concept of forming a fire department. They also lobbied strongly for stricter enforcement of a speed limit in Rockport. As well they explored the possibility of forming a Municipal Recreation Committee.

At the end of their first official year of operations the bank balance, as reported at the April 4th General Meeting was \$29.91.

APRIL 2, 1965.

Rockport School Sold To Citizens

ROCKPORT (Special) — A citizen's committee last night purchased the vacant Rockport school for \$1 from the school board.

The Front of Escott Township School Board was unanimous in giving consent to selling the \$10,000 school which has been vacant since Feb. 1.

A committee of Rockport residents, headed by Mrs. Henry Muller, is planning to turn the 40-year-old building into a community centre to be used by organizations and for social events.

Regarding financing the operation of the centre, an official of the citizens committee, Gerald Huck, said today, "We haven't really come to anything conclusive. Plans are still in the talking stages."

Mr. Huck, committee vice-chairman, said the group is discussing possibilities of fundraising projects, soliciting money from local residents and asking the municipal council's support so that a provincial grant may be obtained.

No major alterations are planned now for the brick school on the north side of Highway 401 in this 1,000 Islands community west of Brockville. The school was left vacant in February when pupils were transferred to the new consolidated school at Escott.

Hubert Mallory, school board secretary, has said that two or three verbal bids had been made for the building, one of them for \$10,000. It was considered to have a valuable location, being just off Highway 401.

Mrs. Elmer Andress is secretary of the community centre group; treasurer is Mrs. Everett Terrel. The committee has held several meetings since February in an attempt to secure the school.

The building will be made available to women's community and church groups and any other organization for their meetings and special projects.

THE EARLY DAYS

A meeting of the ratepayers of the Community was called on Jan. 26th, 1965, for the purpose of planning to make the Rockport Public School into a Community Hall.

The community was well represented by the ratepayers of the former S. S. 14.

It was moved by Edward Andrus and seconded by Mrs. H. Muller that Tommy Massey be Chairman for the meeting. Carried.

It was moved by Grant Haskin that Mrs. Henshaw be secretary for the meeting.

THE ORIGINAL MINUTES OF THE REC. HALL for, to form a Ratepayers Association.

Mrs. H. Muller was appointed President of the Association. The motion was seconded by Howard Huck. The following nominations for officers were made:

Gerald Huck - Nominated by Mrs. H. Muller
seconded by Bob. Huck.

Mrs. Elmer Andrus was nominated
by Grant Haskin and sec. by T. Massey

William Henshaw: Moved by Mrs. E. Terrell.
seconded by Mrs. George Andrus.

Donald S. Andrus - Moved by Mrs. John Cairns

Mrs. E. Terrell :- Moved by Mrs W. Haskin
seconded by Elmer Andrus.

John Bolger: Moved by Mrs. H. Dewolfe
Seconded by Arthur Huck.

Election of officers followed. Votes
were cast by ballot. Donald
Johnston was appointed scrutineer.

The following Committee was elected.

Mrs. H. Muller: (by motion to chair
the committee.

By Ballot

Mrs. E. Terrell.

Mrs. Elmer Andrus

Mr. Wm. Henshaw

Gerald Huck.

The elected Committee was then
asked to take chairs at the front
to conduct a meeting.

Gerald Huck was named Vice President
Mrs. Elmer Andrus was named Secretary
and Mrs. E. Terrell to be the Treasurer.

Donations were asked for,
to finance upkeep of the building
for this term.

It was decided the Committee
would meet with the Council
on Monday Feb. 1st. regarding
taxes for the Community Hall.

ONE OF THE FIRST EVENTS IN THE HALL !

VALUABLE PAINTINGS TO VISIT Rockport

The Rockport Recreation Association Art Club is pleased to announce that Mr. Paul Bennett, B.A., B.S.W., M.Ed., Director of The Art Institute of Ontario, is bringing a collection of valuable paintings to Rockport for an evening programme on art on Thursday, the 2nd of December. Last year Mr. Bennett visited more than fifty towns and cities within Ontario and lectured to over ten thousand people.

Mr. Bennett will carry a collection of ten original Canadian works of art. These paintings, all painted within the last twenty years, will range from landscapes to abstracts. The collection has been assembled especially for this lecture tour. The pictures are large, bold, imaginative, varied in technique, and emphasize qualities that make them suitable for study purposes. The artists represented are Alan Collier, Kazuo Nakamura, William Roberts, Harold Town, Tony Urquhart, William Winter, William Ronald, Ann Savage, and Frank Palmer. The collection has been secured from public galleries such as The Art Gallery of Toronto, industries such as Union Carbide and Imperial Oil, and the artists themselves. The value of the collection runs to many thousands of dollars.

Mr. Bennett will lecture on these paintings and illustrate his points by means of slides of other works of art by the same artists. He has requested that local artists bring their own paintings to the meeting and he will be pleased to meet this group at the end of the public lecture and give a criticism of these works.

The Art Institute of Ontario has a programme of fifty travelling exhibitions. These shows had over three hundred and fifty individual bookings last year and were viewed by more than three hundred thousand people. This exhibition programme and Mr. Bennett's lecture tours are the result of grants being secured by the Art Institute from the Province of Ontario Council for the Arts and the Canada Council.

The meeting is open to all members of the public interested in art. It is hoped that High School students will be able to attend.

Several artists from the surrounding District attended the exhibition. Light refreshments were served.

HERE'S THE RULES WE HAVE TO FOLLOW !

CONSTITUTION OF ROCKPORT RECREATION ASSOCIATION HALL

Purpose of Recreation Association Hall*-

The Rockport Association Hall has been established for Recreational and other activities for the betterment of the Community.

1. TRUSTEES: three (3) to be elected; CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, TREASURER SECRETARY to be appointed by the trustees and Executive Committee consisting of two (2).
2. TERM OF OFFICE: Two years (2) for Chairman, one (1) for other two (2) Trustees and Executive Committee.
3. LIASON COMMITTEE: This Committee will be representatives of the various organizations in the area. One member from each group.
4. The Rockport Recreation Association to be made available to any area Club or organization free of charge for their meetings.
5. The Rockport Recreation Association Hall will not be let under any consideration for private parties....other than wedding receptions etc. these will be referred to the Executive Committee for approval.
6. A fee set by the trustees and Executive Committee will be charged for dances, card parties or any other activity for which admission is charged.
7. A Trustee or Executive Committee member will be in charge of letting the hall. The Hall may be obtained from this person only. This Trustee or Executive member will have the calendar of events taking place.
8. No drinking, profanity, fighting or other abuses in the Rockport Recreation Association Hall or grounds will be permitted. Any Trustee or Committee member will be empowered to take action necessary to enforce this rule. The Board of Trustees and Executive shall be responsible for the barring or suspension of any individual not abiding by these rules.
9. A responsible person will supervise all Rockport Recreation Association activities.
10. A General meeting will be held annually the first Monday in April. Financial reports, elections, and progress reports will be made at this meeting.
11. All Expenditures for the Rockport Recreation Association Hall must be approved by two (2) Trustees and one (1) Executive Committee member.
12. Three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
13. Any damages to the Rockport Recreation Association Hall or grounds will be the responsibility of the individual signing for the use of the hall.

A fascinating fact about the Recreation Centre was that it has had two official openings. The first took place on Sat., June 8, 1965 when the initial transfer took place. The second occurred ten years later, Sat., June 7th, 1975 when a Rededication Ceremony was performed.

By 1973 discussions regarding upgrades and renovations were well underway. A Walkathon had raised \$250.00 and consideration of applying for a LIP grant to finance the majority of the project was being fleshed out. Through the spring of 1974 estimates from contractors were requested and the newly formed 1000 Islands Friendship Club [Seniors Club] formally applied for the grant known as the New Horizon Program. As well as renovations new furniture and furnace were needed. Recreational supplies and first aid kits were also included in the application. Approval came in October of 1974 in the form of \$22331. Over the next year the renovations were completed.

At both the first opening in 1965 and the Rededication in 1975 former students and their parents came to see the improvements that had transformed the school into a well - equipped and inviting Community Centre.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, FALL 1973 !

October 15, 1973

Dear Member:

This is the beginning of a new year for the Rockport Recreation Hall and the time has come to renew your membership fee of \$5.00 which may be paid to any of the following:

Mrs. Marg Allen

Mrs. Ethel Johnston

Mrs. H. Duess

Marj Andress

We urge you to take an active part by attending our meetings on the second Monday of every month, and to express your ideas for our monthly activities and any other use we might find for the Hall. We would like to plan a special activity each month. Come join us and help make it a successful year.

Special activity for the month of October will be a Drop-In Centre for the ghosts and goblins of the community from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, October 31. Costume Judging will be at 8p.m. sharp. Hot chocolate will be served.

Mom and Dad are invited.

ROCKPORT RECREATION HALL COMMITTEE

Chairman,

Secretary

REDEDICATION
OF THE



*Rockport
Recreation Hall*

Saturday, June 7th
1975
2:00 P.M.

Celebrating

40 YEARS A SCHOOL
10 YEARS A RECREATION HALL
AND A NEWLY RENOVATED
BUILDING

Rockport Recreation Committee

CHAIRWOMAN.....Marg Allen

VICE-CHAIRWOMAN.....Anne Dues

SECRETARY.....Ethel Johnston

TREASURER.....Cor. Haarbos

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS..... Bob Smith, Gerald Huck
Grant Haskin, Elmer Andress

1000 Islands (Sr. Citizens') Social Club

CHAIRMAN..... Harold DeWolfe

VICE-CHAIRWOMAN..... Joan Boucaud

SECRETARY.....Hazel DeWolfe

TREASURER.....Mabel Elliott

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR.....Harold Elliott





REDEDICATION — Hon. James Auld, MPP for Leeds and Tom Cossitt, MP for Leeds are pictured ready to lend a helping hand to little Heather Huck in the ribbon

cutting ceremony at the rededication of the Rockport recreation hall held in Rockport on Saturday afternoon. The hall recently underwent extensive renovations. (Staff Photo)

Cossitt and Auld re-dedicate hall at Rockport June 7

The recently renovated Rockport Recreation Hall will be re-dedicated on June 7 at 2 p.m. in a ceremony to be attended by Tom Cossitt, MP for Leeds, and James Auld, MPP for Leeds.

The hall was renovated through an LIP grant, a Senior Citizen's grant known as the New Horizons program, and volunteer help from the community.

The building is used by such organizations as the Women's Institute, Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce. The lower half of the hall will be used by the Thousand Island Social Club, a group of senior citizens.

A social evening will be held at 8 p.m. the same evening.

VOLUNTEERS

Marguerite Allen named Citizen of the Year by Chamber

ROCKPORT (Staff) — Marguerite Allen of Rockport was selected Citizen of the Year by the Thousand Islands Chamber of Commerce meeting here at the recreation centre

Chamber president Bruce Martin announced in front of approximately 60 people the award was the first time the chamber has ever done it. He said the chamber decided to give it to one who everybody thought deserved it.

Mrs. Allen or "Marg" as she was referred to at the meeting, was presented as the ideal citizen.

Mr. Martin said, "I can't think of anyone in the area who has done more for the community than Marg."

He said there wasn't anything which she didn't get into which she didn't enter willingly.

Scouts, cubs, women's groups, senior citizens, community activities and fund raising were among a few of

the activities Mr. Martin named.

He said Mrs. Allen was the key person for renovating the Rockport Recreation Centre.

If it weren't for her, it wouldn't have been done he said.

Mrs. Allen has also given freely of her time to cater to the Thousand Islands' Lions Club and the Chamber.

"She works her butt off... well, almost," Mr. Martin said after some thought.

Mrs. Allen said she was completely surprised by the chamber's move saying she had no indication that she would be the recipient.

A standing ovation and the song "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow" were rendered by chamber members and guests.

Mr. Martin said Mrs. Allen would be presented with the official award at the January meeting.

He said he hoped the award would become an annual event with the chamber.

ORGANIZATIONS



Rockport Recreation Association

User Organizations and Events

Thousand Islands Fine Arts Association

Studio Art Tour / Art Colony Tour

Rockport Winter Carnival

Thousand Islands Lions Club

Lioness Club

SAIL

Men's Breakfast Club

Ladies Breakfast Club

Seniors

Provincial / Federal Elections - polling stations

Chamber of Commerce

Junior Citizen's Club

1000 Islands Friendship Club

Nordic Ski Trails Club

First Aid Courses

St. Lawrence College Courses

St. Lawrence Parks Interpretive Summer Programs

Vacation Bible School

Bingos

Dances

Family Reunions

Weddings / Showers

Hallowe'en & Christmas Parties

Skate & Ski Exchange

Cubs

Card Parties





REVVIN' IN '97



**ROCKPORT WINTER
CARNIVAL
FEBRUARY 14th, 15th and 16th**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

7:00 PM FIREWORKS/BONFIRE
7:30 PM DART TOURNAMENT

BOATHOUSE BEACH
BOATHOUSE TAVERN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

7:00 AM - NOON (WEIGH-IN)
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM (\$2.00)
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
NOON - 2:00 PM
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

ADULT FISHING DERBY
PANCAKE BREAKFAST
CAR RALLY
HORSESHOES
1ST ANNUAL VINTAGE
SNOWMOBILE SHOW
SNOLF-TEXAS SCRAMBLE
CHICKEN BOWLING
EUROPEAN CURLING
GANG PLANKING
POTLUCK SUPPER
(\$2.00 WITH A DISH)
ENTERTAINMENT
(MIKE MALLOY)

CAIGER'S RESORT
RECREATION HALL
RECREATION HALL
BOATHOUSE BEACH
BOATLINE LOT

1:30PM - 4:00 PM
2:00 PM
3:00 PM
3:30 PM
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

BOATHOUSE BAY
BOATHOUSE BAY
BOATLINE LOT
RECREATION HALL

AFTERNOON/EVENING

BOATHOUSE TAVERN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
10:00 AM SHARP
NOON - 4:00 PM
1:00 PM
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
1:30 PM
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY HEWITT'S BAY
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING RECREATION HALL
ART/CRAFT/BAKE SALE RECREATION HALL
LOG SAWING RECREATION HALL
CHILDREN'S DOG SLED RIDES RECREATION HALL
NAIL DRIVING RECREATION HALL
SLEIGH RIDES RECREATION HALL
CHILDREN'S GAMES RECREATION HALL
POKER RUN SNOWMOBILES RECREATION HALL
SPAGHETTI DINNER RECREATION HALL
(\$4.00 CHILD/\$6.00 ADULT)

TICKETS FROM PRIZE SALES WILL BE DRAWN AT REC. HALL DURING SUNDAY DINNER.
THE LIONS CLUB CANTEEN WILL BE AT CARNIVAL FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS WILL BE YOUR \$2.00 CARNIVAL BUTTON UNLESS OTHERWISE
STATED. A TAXI SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SATURDAY EVENING FROM 9:00PM.
CONTACT THE COMMITTEE FOR MORE SCHEDULE INFORMATION!!

MEG MALLORY 659-4009
JOANNE MONTEITH 923-5239

ROCKPORT RECREATION HALL NEWS

This fall has been busy for a number of volunteers that have been helping with hall renovations. The big hall upstairs has been painted and the Men's Breakfast Club will be cleaning and painting the kitchen, cupboards and all. The stair project will start in January and the remainder of work upstairs will be completed that month as well. We hope to get new curtains for the windows and the blackboards and the wood floor sanded. All this, and the newly installed carpet, should make the hall a more pleasing place for users and visitors alike.

The annual general meeting was held in October and we would like to introduce you to the new Executive for the 1996-97 and 1997-98 terms:

Mike De Wolfe	Chairperson
Meg Mallory	Vice-Chair
Orma Allen	Treasurer
Joanne Monteith	Secretary

A special thank you to all the groups that use the hall for their continued support. If you would like more information about the hall you can attend the meetings held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm or contact one of the Executive.

ROCKPORT WINTER CARNIVAL **FEBRUARY 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH**

The first meeting of the 16th annual Rockport Winter Carnival was held last week and we should see a fun-filled weekend this year. New to the schedule will be a vintage snowmobile exhibit and the re-introduction of cross country skiing. We will also have back again chicken bowling, snolf, poker run and horseshoes to name a few events. We are always looking for volunteers to help us out before and during the carnival. This year we hope to make 800 buttons for this great event. The next meeting is at 7:00pm at the Boathouse on January 15th. If you want more information on the carnival please contact:

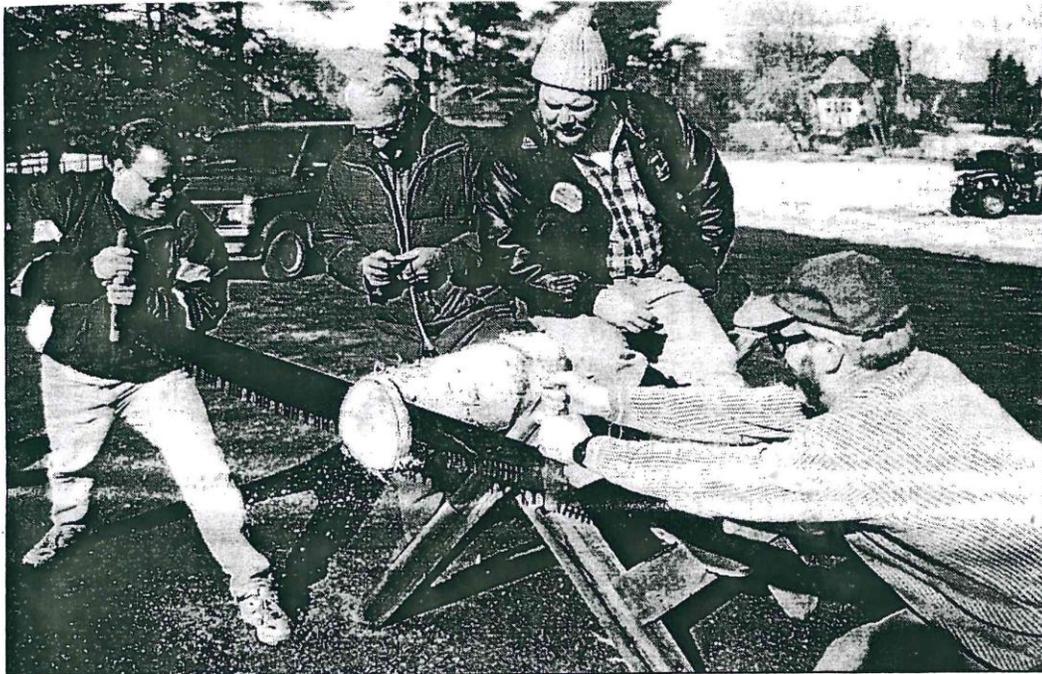
Meg Mallory	659-4009
Joanne Monteith	923-5239





After a day's activity at the Rockport Winter Carnival, Tom Iassey and Carolyn Avery have hearty appetites for the pot luck supper in the Recreation Hall.

(Staff photo by Brian An

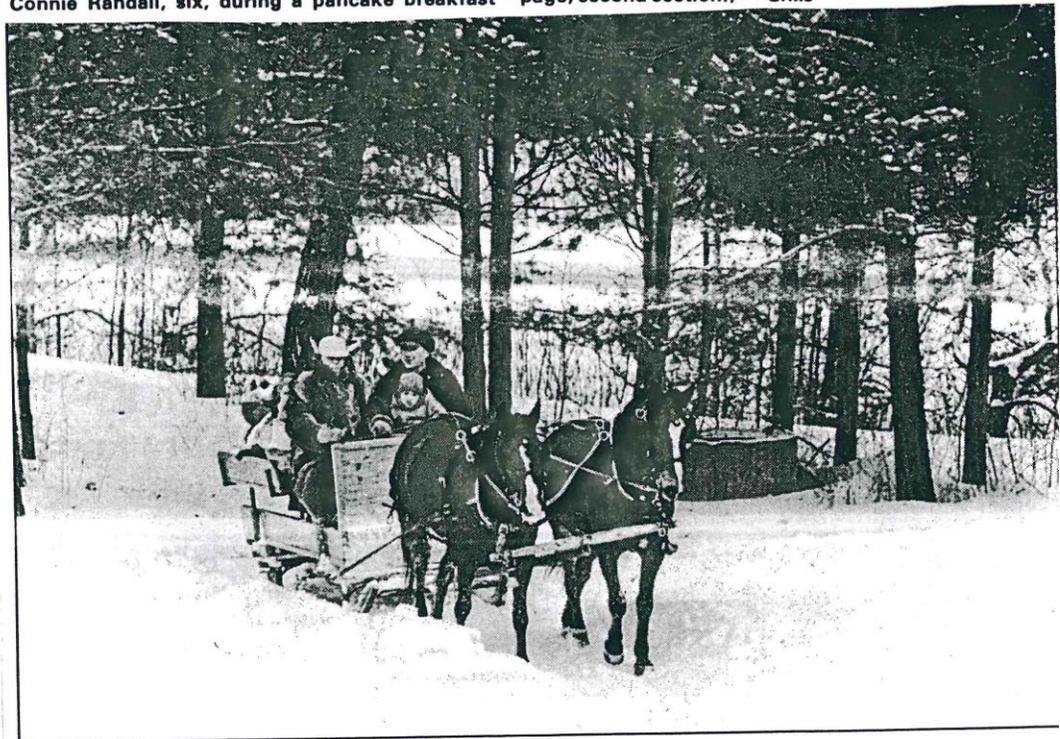


Sawing logs: Nobody was snoring, but plenty of logs were being sawed during the Rockport Winter Carnival events held Feb. 22 at the Rockport Recreation Center. Here, Dave Wringier and Mike DeWolfe take their turn during the competition to see who could get through the contest with the fastest time. The Rockport carnival, delayed initially by January's ice storm, has been rescheduled and the events have been spread over several weeks. — Photo by Derek



Talking over breakfast

Anne Blanchard, one of the Rockport Snow Carnival princesses, discusses carnival activities with Heidi Randall, two, and Connie Randall, six, during a pancake breakfast event last weekend at the Rockport Community Centre more on the Rockport Snow Carnival, see photos on page, second section.) — *Grills*



Sleigh ride: A horse drawn sleigh was popular with the children at the Rockport Winter Carnival on Sunday. It made a number of trips from Rockport and along the Parkway. — *Photo by Mark King*

LIONS CLUB





ROCK
CUB
198

MENS' BREAKFAST CLUB



**IN RECOGNITION OF 70 HOURS OF
TEAM EFFORT**

Joanne & Jim Monteith

Grant & Marilyn Haskin

Mike & Julie De Wolfe

Meg Mallory

Greg Saunders

Stan Westall

Chris Newman

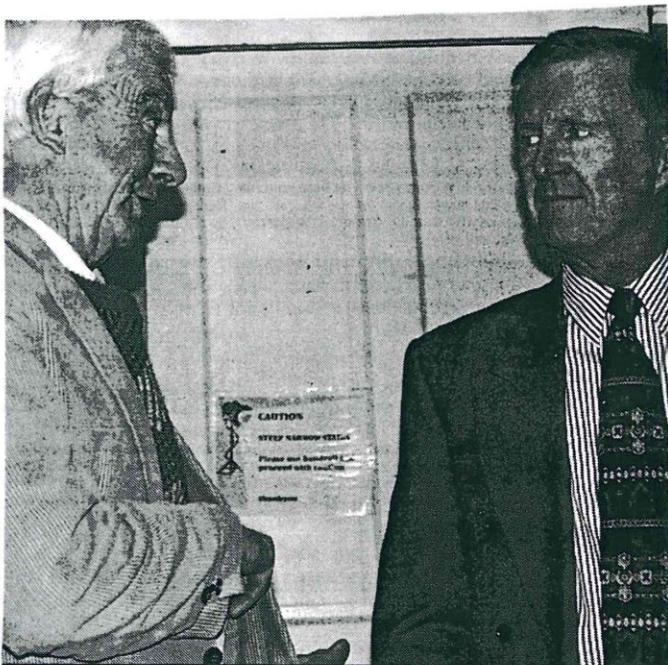
Brad Cromwell

Ben De Wolfe

Eric Prohaska



History revisited: Heritage Committee members (from left to right), Anne Hunt, Joan Barrett and Randy Frith, took part in the presentation of *The History Lesson* last week. — *Photo by Nicole Burgers*



Handy visit: Councillor George Shire chats it up with Leeds-Grenville MPP Bob Runciman during a ribbon cutting ceremony March 20 at the Rockport Community Centre. Mr. Runciman was on hand for a \$45,000 cheque presentation from the Trillium Foundation. — *Photo by Laurie Weir*



The
**Old River Road
 Heritage Byway and
 Memorial Way**

TRILLIUM FOUNDATION GRANT

Runciman recognizes Rockport

MPP on hand for \$45,000 presentation for improvements at community building

By Laurie Weir
Reporter Staff

ROCKPORT—The Rockport Recreation Association has been patiently waiting for financial assistance for some time; on March 20, a \$45,000 cheque from the Trillium Foundation was awarded for improvements at the community building.

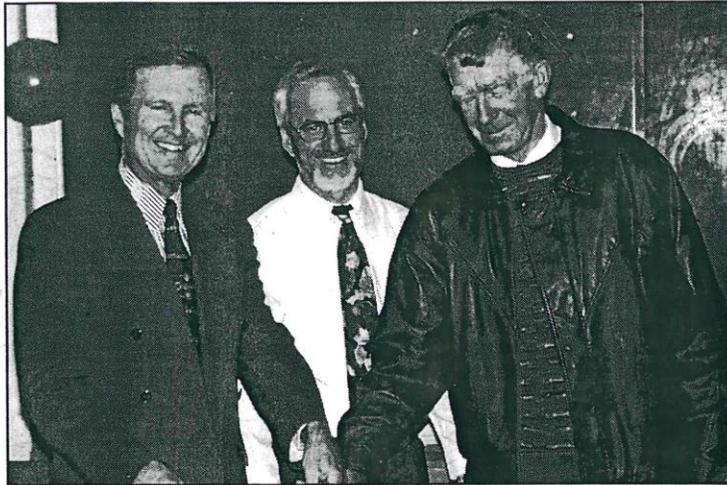
"This Trillium grant is the result of a two-year concerted effort by the Rockport Recreation Association (RRA), council and community members to research and develop a project that will make a positive contribution to the community," RRA Vice-president Meg Mallory told a crowd who gathered here last week for the official cheque presentation.

"We're really excited about the improvements," she added. "It's been a long time in the works."

Leeds-Grenville MPP Bob Runciman was on hand for the presentation and was asked to say a few words.

"It's a great pleasure for me to be here to congratulate you on your effort and this is a celebration of the community and its volunteers," said Mr. Runciman. "This room is full of volunteers and you are so important to any community...especially one like this."

The grant will enable physical improvements to be made to the community building to make it more ac-



Springing up trilliums: The Rockport Recreation Association received a \$45,000 Trillium Foundation grant. The money will be used for upgrades at the community hall. Pictured from left to right are: Leeds-Grenville MPP Bob Runciman, Mike DeWolfe and Reeve Harold Grier of the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands.
— Photo by Laurie Weir

cessible for the elderly and physically challenged, said Ms. Mallory.

A ramp will be built and a new step will join two existing ones, making it easier for wheel chairs to manoeuvre, she added.

"Handicap accessible washroom facilities for the first and second floors have been upgraded already, and we will replace the exterior entrance steps for safety reasons as well," said Ms. Mallory.

Construction on the second phase of the project is expected to start in May.

"The washrooms cost

about \$25,000," said Ted Bootsma, a member of the RRA. "The outside steps will be about another \$20,000."

The Rockport Recreation centre was established in 1968 to provide a meeting place and activity centre for all members of the community and to promote and foster a community spirit, Ms. Mallory said.

"The centre is a focal point for community activity and about 600 volunteer hours throughout the year maintain the building and a host of events."

Randy Frith, also a mem-

ber of the RRA, gave a brief history on the community building.

"It wasn't until 1923 that a decision was made to build a new school," Mr. Frith said. "Many locals opposed the site because of the cemetery directly across the road. It was built for \$10,150."

The building remained a school until the early 1960s when the students moved to the brand new Escott Public School.

"From the beginning, community has been actively involved in the use and maintenance of the hall," said Mr. Frith.

"Under guidance and direction of the recreation centre committee, and particular individuals, the building has survived and flourished."

Money raised through memberships (there are about 50 members), rentals and support from local organizations like seniors, (originally the men's Institute), the bridge clubs, Lions and Lions clubs, the recreation centre has sustained a core of volunteers who have spent countless hours of their time, Mr. Frith said.

"It's thanks to grants today's that we all hope (the building) will live to a good old age," he said. "It stands as a place for children to keep it for the children of our future."

Linda Thom, a board member with the Ontario Trillium Foundation, said the foundation is an agency of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation.

"With \$100 million in annual funding from the province's charitable gaming initiative, the foundation provides grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the culture, sports, recreation, environment and social service sectors," said Thom.

"Coming to Rockport and visiting the venue is seeing the people who work so hard is what we're ab-

2001

Reunion planned for Rockport students

By Mike Sikes Staff Writer 15/10001
 If you went to Rockport School, reunion organizers want you

ROCKPORT—The first reunion of students of the Rockport School is planned for Sept. 8. Today the school is known as the Rockport Recreation Centre and is still the heart of the community as it has been since it opened in 1925. "Everybody thinks this is a wonderful idea," says organizer Marjorie Mallory, a student at the school. The school had two classrooms. One served Grades 1 to 5 and the other, Grades 6 through 10. "It was rather unique because it had two years of high school," recalls Ms. Mallory.

The reunion idea was hatched from her work at preserving the recreation centre. While contemplating a fund-raising venture, Ms. Mallory's daughter had an idea. "She thought that we should send out notices and I thought, 'okay, let's do a reunion at the same time,'" says Ms. Mallory. Some 150 invitations have been sent out. A problem is finding some of the female students who changed their names when they married. "But we found a lot of them," she said. Ms. Mallory is working from two record books, but

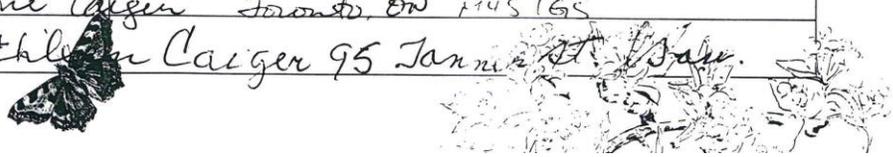
says she knows there are more around. She is appealing to anyone with records from the school to contact her so she can send invitations to all of the several hundred former students. "I'm also looking for pictures of kids who went to school there," she adds. If you can help with either records or photos, call her at 659-3452. Helping her are Orma Allen at 659-3429 and Frances Birt at 659-2874. The school, now the recreation centre, serves many community organization today. A Trillium grant helped make the building and wash-

rooms handicapped accessible. Ms. Mallory says there is a need to fund-raise for the on-going maintenance of the structure. fund-raising project will involve the creation of a book that reflects the history of the building and those who attended school there. "It's been really neat," says Ms. Mallory of the reunion experience to date.

Invitations and flyers were sent out and many former students and staff came to enjoy the festivities!

REUNION

Date	Name	Address	GUEST BOOK
	John Anders	15 WARDWICK AVENUE RD MARRIOTT TOWN	
	Jessie Anders	15 Narranpore Rd Mallorytown	
	Chris Moore	898 FAIRFAX RD LANSDOWNE	
	Susan Morrow	68 CROSTWATE AVEN. HAMILTON L8H4V2.	
	Samuel Bartzuk	217-1020 Cambridge Kingston	
	Ben Fenton	33 Ontario St. #422, Kingston	
	Verity Caiger	15 WARDWICK AVENUE RD	
	John Caiger	523 Portsmouth Ave Kingston	
	Rose Ann Luck	Rockport	
	Margaret Spafford	851 1000 St. Jean	
	Marjorie Caiger	617-111 Davisville Ave. Toronto, ON M4S 1G5	
	Kathleen Caiger	95 Tanna St. Sarnia	



HISTORIC COUNTRY SCHOOLS of FRONT OF ESCOTT TWP.

- ..QUABBIN.....1860
- ..SELTON.....1867
- ..ESCOTT.....1875
- ..MITCHELLVILLE.....1880
- ..POOLE'S RESORT.....1881
- ..JUNETOWN.....1893
- ..HOLLAND.....1904
- ..ROCKPORT.....1925
- ..GRENADIER ISLAND..1926

