



# STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

Incorporated, 1998.

Fall 2024

[Visit Us at www.staynerheritagesociety.com](http://www.staynerheritagesociety.com)

## A Quote To Think About

“The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see”

Winston S. Churchill

## Events To Be Remembered

### **SHS Annual General Meeting**



The Heritage Society's Annual Meeting was held on May 19, 2024. In recognition of the RCAF's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary we were honoured to have as our guest speaker Lt. Col. Terry Wong. Born in Thornbury, Ontario.

Terry joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1989 as a pilot. He worked in Moose Jaw as a jet instructor before taking a break from the Forces to complete a master's degree in engineering. Rejoining the RCAF as a reservist with 400 Tactical Helicopter Squadron, he completed his training on the CH-146 Griffon Helicopter. He then worked as the operations officer at the Tactical Aviation Unit in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was later deployed as the Deputy Director of Combat Operations in Qatar, working with 16 nations in counter terrorism. He is now Deputy Wing Commander at 16 Wing, Base Borden. In 2019 Terry was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for his work with Sick Kids Hospital. We were proud to have Lt. Col Wong speak at our meeting as he talked about the RCAF 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and his personal experiences.

## **Clearview Tulip Days**



## Thomas Stayner Award

The eighth Annual Tulip Days Festival was held in Stayner on May 16, celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RCAF and the role that Canadian Soldiers played in the liberation of the Netherlands near the end of the Second World War. Clearview Councillor Marty Beelen was the MC for the event. The event was presented by the Stayner Garden Club and the Stayner Heritage Society. Stayner Kinsmen hosted a free barbeque lunch and former Clearview mayor Chris Vanderkruys supplied a traditional Dutch treat, Oliebollen. A special thank you to Edina Van Staveren and her committee for making this a memorable event. A video showcasing this event is available on our SHS web site.

### Stayner Music, Market & Park It

A fantastic line up of live music performers, combined with friendly market vendors and an awesome display of classic vehicles attracted hundreds of visitors to Station Park each Thursday evening thus making this year's event a



great success. The Heritage Hosts at the Stayner Heritage Museum were very busy this year with greeting not only residents but also families new to our community and the many visitors enjoying the friendliness of Stayner. Thanks to Barb Stransky, Jim Paul, Susan Brockwell and Nancy Rumney for organizing the Heritage Museum's collection and activities.

The 2024 Thomas Stayner Award for Citizen of the Year was presented to Tom Scholte on the evening of August 29<sup>th</sup>, the wrap-up for this year's Music, Market & Park It.

Tom is the 19<sup>th</sup> Stayner resident to be recognized with the award for his contribution to a better, stronger and more vibrant community of Stayner.



In the nomination, his work with the Lions Club and Granite Club in Stayner were applauded together with his extensive involvement with the documentation of photographic and film images from Stayner's past. That collection of visual records has created a living resource in the collection of the Stayner Heritage Society for generations to come. Congratulations Tom.

### Stories Of Stayner Families By Katherine Allen

Samuel Eldon Allen served in WW1 and his sister Mary Anne "Annie" Allen served as a nursing sister in England during WW1. Uncle Sam and Aunt Annie are siblings to my grandfather Robert John Allen. Altogether there were nine children born to their parents who were Wm Allen (1839-1894) and Mary Anne Gray (1850-1940). Their parents were very active in the community and East Nottawasaga Presbyterian Church. Later on their mother was moved into town and was active at Jubilee Presbyterian Church in Stayner, and lived with her daughter Sarah (Allen) Patterson.

## Mary Anne “Annie” Allen

When I was a child, I enjoyed listening to stories told by my grandmother (Carrie Watson Allen) and my father (Kenneth Allen), especially when they often spoke of Aunt Annie, although some family members prefer to call her “Anne”. In my mind, I thought of her as a very brave woman to go to the Yukon when travel was not as easy as it is today.

Mary Anne Allen was born March 29, 1881, in Dunedin, Nottawasaga Twp. where the family first lived before moving to the 4<sup>th</sup> line (Fairgrounds Rd) in 1885.

As a nurse, Annie was one of four nurses chosen from Collingwood’s General & Marine Hospital to travel to Dawson City, Yukon during the gold rush days from about 1910-1914. While she was there, smallpox had been brought in over the trail. Annie was in charge of the camp set up outside of Dawson to look after the patients.

Dawson was where Annie met her future husband Colin Hart (1888-1968) who had come out from Scotland as a young bank clerk/manager. According to one relative, they told wonderful stories of their time in Dawson. One story is of a lady known as Lee who had become respectable along with some of the characters.

Colin and Annie left the Yukon in 1916 to enlist, and both went overseas. Colin went to France with the Yukon Infantry Company, and Annie went overseas to England through Toronto General Hospital.

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she served with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force as a Nursing Sister with the Canadian Army Medical Core. She served in Canada and England with the CAMC: CAMC Depot, Westenhanger; Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington; Duchess of Connaught’s Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Taplow; Granville Canadian Special Hospital, Buxton; and No.4 Canadian General Hospital, Busingstoke. Anne returned to Canada July 1919 for reason of general demobilization.

Upon their return to Canada Anne & Colin were married. Colin had a long and distinguished career with the Bank of Montreal, living in several places across Canada eventually retiring in Winnipeg. Over those years Aunt Annie was active in volunteer and church work, producing beautiful gardens from one end of the country to the other.

Aunt Annie died in the Spring of 1952, Uncle Colin in 1968, both in Victoria, BC.

## Samuel Eldon Allen

Samuel was born on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 1887, Nottawasaga Twp., Ontario, the youngest son to

William Allen (1839 - 1894) and Mary Anne Gray (1850-1940). He grew up on the 4<sup>th</sup> Line (Fairgrounds Road) with eight siblings.

Sam Allen served in WW1 and resided in Calgary and Edmonton

before moving to Saskatoon in 1930. His occupation was an accountant.

According to the Attestation Paper, Uncle Sam was with the 13<sup>th</sup> Royal Regiment, Hamilton Ontario for one and half years before moving to Edmonton. He enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force with the 60<sup>th</sup> Overseas Battery in March 1916 to 1919. He arrived in England on the SS Cameronia in September 1916 and was at Witley Camp, Surrey until August



1917. He left for France in August 1917 to May 1919. Under the 60<sup>th</sup> Battery, he was assigned first to the 15<sup>th</sup> O/S Brigade C.F.A. and later transferred to the 14<sup>th</sup> brigade.

Upon his return to Canada, he settled in Calgary, Alberta. In 1923, he married Florence Onions in Edmonton. They had one daughter, Jean Florence Allen born in 1925 in Calgary. Uncle Sam died in April 1974, aged,85, in a Veterans Home in Saskatoon. He is buried in Soldier's Field in Woodlawn Cemetery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 63.



### In Memoriam -FERNE ALLEN

Ferne Allen was an active and proud resident of the community of Stayner.

She was a member of the Stayner Heritage Society for 25 years taking an important roll in the beginnings of the cataloguing of our collection. She very capably joined the team in setting up displays for our special event such as Canada Day.

She will be sorely missed. We honour her memory and commitment to her community.



### Upcoming Events

Remembrance Day. Veterans want Canadians to understand the price of freedom. They are passing the torch to the people of Canada so the memory of their sacrifices will continue, and the values they fought for will live on in all of us. This year's observance will take place at the Stayner Cenotaph at 11 o'clock on November 11<sup>th</sup>. A

reception will follow at the Stayner Legion Branch 457 at 7149 Highway 26.

### Stayner Heritage Society 2024/25 Executive

Chairperson: Jeff Parton  
Vice-Chair: Jim Paul  
Secretary: Larry Culham  
Treasurer: Carol Marsden

#### Committee Members include:

Publicity/Newsletter: Tom Scholte, Myrna Johnson, Barb Stransky, Larry Culham  
Membership: Myrna Johnson, Tom Scholte, Barb Stransky  
Program: Susan Brockwell, Janet Cubitt  
Museum Committee: Susan Brockwell, Barb Stransky, Phyllis Perry  
History Rep: Jim Paul  
IT Rep: Mike Scholte  
Stayner Homes Project: Roger Fry  
Thomas Stayner Award: Larry Culham  
Legion Rep: Manfred Leimgardt  
Chamber of Commerce: John Broderick  
Community Rep: Bob Charlton  
Nominations: Jim Paul  
Please submit enquiries, pictures or stories through our web site at:

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

### Stayner Heritage Society Annual Membership

Your membership is very important to our ongoing success. Your financial support is a vital part of our ongoing project initiatives. These projects include:

1. Remembrance Day Banners.
2. Thomas Stayner Award Administration.
3. SHS Museum /Artifact administration.
4. Historical House Research/Walking Tour programme.
5. Historical Video/Image preservation.
6. Web Site/Face Book administration.

We thank you for your past support and look forward to your continued commitment to our Society.