



# STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Incorporated, 1998.

Fall 2023

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

**“If history were taught in the form of  
Stories, it would never be forgotten.”**

**Quote: Rudyard Kipling**

## **Looking Back At Summer Events**

### ***Thomas Stayner Award Presentation***

A 35-year commitment to junior hockey in Stayner was acknowledged on July 13 at Station Park when Richard Gauthier was named the 18<sup>th</sup> winner of the Thomas Stayner Award. Gauthier played defence for the Stayner Siskins as a 17-year-old and was with the team in 1991 when they advanced to the provincial finals. Subsequently, Richard has held several senior managerial positions including Director of Operations and President. Club Directors endorsed the nomination describing Gauthier as the main reason Stayner has a Jr. C. hockey club today.



*Richard Gauthier Presented Award By Larry Culham*

The award recognizes the impact Gauthier has had in building widespread volunteer and community support, the development of young athletes, and the economic impact on Stayner. Richard and his wife, Lena, have three children and one grandchild.

The Thomas Stayner Award was presented by the Stayner Chamber of Commerce from 2003-2019. After a three-year pause due to the impact of Covid, the Stayner Heritage Society assumed responsibility for this award. The stated purpose of the award is to recognize an individual whose involvement has made Stayner a better, stronger and more vibrant community. The 2023 nominations drew attention to the deep well of people who are unsung heroes.

Eldon Cubitt, a dairy, and crop farmer brought international attention to Stayner, and was nominated posthumously. Hyways Farms attracted attention for its genetic excellence and best farming practices throughout the 1970s and 80's. Many international delegations and agricultural buyers came to know Stayner through the farm operations and export of superior cattle. Eldon's wife Janet (nee Young), two children and five grandchildren are all living in Stayner.

Judy Hutton was also a nominee this year. She defined the role of supermom as her children grew in the community. Today she continues to give her time, talents, and organizational skills as a Stayner Curling Club, Stayner Siskins, and Stayner Horticultural Society volunteer. She was registrar of the Wasaga Beach Co-Op Nursery, an elementary parent volunteer and parent council member and President, a 4-H Home and Garden instructor, President of the Stayner Minor Hockey Association Mothers' Auxiliary, Stayner Fall Fair children's program convenor and Fair President. Judy's husband Glen passed away in 2021. The couple were married for 43 years and have two children.

A second posthumous nomination was for John Wood who passed away in January 2023 at 94 years. Wood built up a family business in lumber and building supplies and later partnered with his brother, Bob, building several homes in Stayner and Wasaga Beach in the post war years. John's contribution to community life was ubiquitous. He was a skilled hockey player and athlete, minor hockey coach, musician, choir member, pilot and Scout Master. He devoted time and energy to the Northern Light Lodge No. 266 and volunteer firefighting. John's wife of 72 years Joan (nee Noble) passed away a few weeks after his death. They have one son.

The Stayner Heritage Society has begun the process of building a book of honour to feature the Thomas Stayner Award nominees and winners over the past 20 years. Nominations for the award will be opened next spring with the presentation planned for Canada Day 2024.

### ***Museum on Market Night***

Another great summer at the Museum. Folks who are now making Stayner their home, visited the Museum to see what we're



all about. Children visiting the Market popped in for treats and to share some interesting thoughts on the Town of Friendly People. Some learned of their family background in our Stayner Sun Archives.

Twenty-five years of the Stayner Heritage Society were on display showing major sites that have been lost, events and fundraisers as well as pictures of those who have been involved over the years. Catherine Walker was one of the early driving forces (her name was omitted in the Spring '23 Newsletter.) Our Heritage team were present to answer questions and to take in new information.

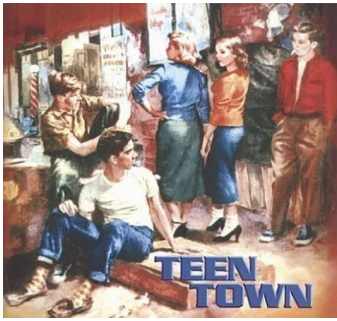
### ***Scott Woods Concert***

On the evening of June 16<sup>th</sup>, the Stayner Heritage Society hosted the Canadian Fiddle Champion, Scott Woods & his Multi-Talented Band to an evening of Old-Fashioned Hoedown music to an audience of 220. The event was held at the Clearview Community Church in Stayner, and our appreciation is extended to its staff for their support of this SHS project. Our appreciation also goes out to Barb's Clothes Closet for their support in selling event tickets. Thanks to all who helped make this a successful fundraiser for the Stayner Heritage Society.

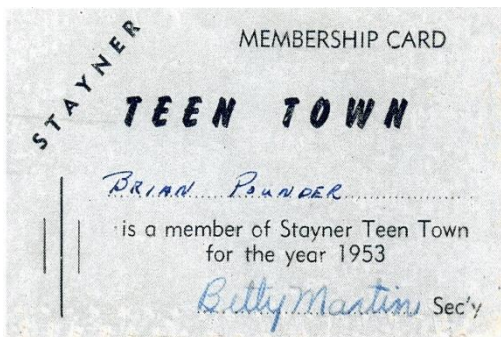
The 50's Are Here To Stay. The fashion, the fun dances, and the energetic revolutionary music of the 50's make it a cherished time for many. Try dancing 1950's style & rock the night away. Barbara Stransky (nee Martin) will recapture some of the magic of the era as she recalls these exciting times at.

## STAYNER TEEN TOWN

### Part 1



This story is put together with some facts and a lot of memories. You will agree with the statements, remember as we did or perhaps not remember at all. You may not even have heard of such things. We'll give you this story in two parts.



Back in the early 50's and in the dying days of Stayner Continuation School, there were a group of kids looking for a venue to have some fun and with dances being the social thing of the day, they decided that they should give it a try. The Stayner Sun says they held their first dance in December of 1952. Gord Oliver, played clarinet, Don Doner trumpet, John McAllister trombone, Glenn Sawyers piano, Wally Baynon stand-up bass and

Bobby Jones drum put together a band which came to be called "The Dixie Teeners".

The Memorial Arena on Mill St. (now Perry St.) was in its early days having been opened in 1948. This group of young Staynerites rented the Hall at the Arena and they were off! They could spin some records and dance the night



away. A whole evening of entertainment could be had. Go to the hockey game at the Arena and then go upstairs to dance.

Some of these teens were also amateur musicians. They started performing at some of the dances and soon became a regular attraction. They played mostly Dixieland music of the day with a "square dance" included. Lorne Doner played violin for the squares and Brian Pounder "called" the moves.



At this time a New Years Dance was held each year in the Arena and at one such dance, the Dixie Teeners were asked to play. Brian Pounder remembers the night. Bobby Jones, the drummer, was out of town so the band had to come up with a solution. The LOL big bass drum and a borrowed kettle drum were acquired, and Brian sat in as drummer never



having played drums and pretended for the evening. Nobody noticed.

As this group of Stayner teens grew up and were looking to their future, the dances on Saturday night slipped away. Other big changes were happening for the teens of the Town. The year was 1954. Stayner Continuation School (upstairs at Byng School) was being closed and Stayner students were being bused to Collingwood to the newly built CDCI (High School). Students from Creemore, Stayner and Wasaga Beach were all together now.

The kids on the Stayner bus started talking about holding a dance. They could rent the Orange Hall; use Jack Green's record collection and they'd be set to go. There were some rules set up for these young teens like having to come up with chaperones. Brian Bannerman was one of these keeners and his parents Floyd & Hattie Bannerman and some others were up for the responsibility.



The word got out in the halls of CDCI that there was dancing in Stayner on Saturday night and the small space in the Orange Hall (now the Small Hall) was not filling the bill. Onward to the Hall at the Memorial Arena on Mill St. (now Perry St.). These Saturday nights needed some organization. Some of the young people involved over the years were Brian Bannerman, Jack Green, Roy Atkinson, Vaughn Coffel, Ed Barnes, Merv Brockwell,

Wayne Brownridge, John Hood, Robin Thompson, Susan Baker, Mary Davidson, Barb Martin, and others.

That's all for now folks. Check in with the Spring 2024 newsletter for Stayner Teen Town Part 2. The whole story is available for reading at our Museum.

### Remembrance Day Banner Project

Our Remembrance Day Banner project continues! We are pleased to announce that two new banners will be added to our collection which will be displayed on Main Street from mid-October through to Remembrance Day. The banners will be dedicated at the upcoming November 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Service hosted by the Stayner Legion Branch 457. This service will take place at the Cenotaph on Gideon Street with a luncheon to follow at the Legion.

### June Holroyd In Memoriam

June and Syd grew up in Stayner. After being 'away', they came back in retirement and June became part of the community again. June was a devoted member and Director of Stayner Heritage for many years. June passed away in August.

#### The Nicest Gift



The present you give to others  
Need not be a costly thing  
if you have tucked some love  
inside before you tied the string.  
Written by June Holroyd  
"A life made beautiful by kindly  
deeds A helping hand for others  
needs To a beautiful life Comes a  
happy end

She died as she lived, everyone's friend."

## Webpage Update

Over the past summer our web page was restructured to reflect new platform technology and to make it more user friendly. If you would like to forward any historical pictures of our communities past, we would be pleased to post these on our new website [www.staynerheritagesociety.com](http://www.staynerheritagesociety.com)

### Stayner Heritage Society Membership

Your membership and special donation support is important to making our projects possible as we strive to maintain the heritage of our community. If you have not yet renewed your annual 2023/24 membership please complete the attached form and return as soon as possible.

**Please note our address is now  
P.O. Box 1595, Stayner, Ontario  
L0M 1S0**

### **STAYNER HERITAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**Please complete and return as soon as possible**

**Fees are due May 31<sup>st</sup> for the year May 31, 2023 to May 31, 2024**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP**

\_\_\_ **Individual (\$20/annum)**

\_\_\_ **Family (\$30/annum)**

\_\_\_ **Corporate (\$75/annum)**

**We can supply a tax deductible charity receipt. Enclose stamped self-addressed envelope  
Stayner Heritage Society, Box 1595, Stayner, On LOM 1S0**