



The Historical Society of St. Boniface & Maryhill Community

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Fall 2017

Editor: Susan Motz

Heritage Day 2017 Celebrations

60th Wedding Anniversary

Gerald and Nellie Brohman

Bob and Sally Brohman

Neil and Shirley Prior

50th Wedding Anniversary

Fred and Liz Bruder

Diane and Danny Stricker

Ron and Judy Zettel

New Horizons Social Group

For their enrichment of the Maryhill community through social and educational activities.



July 1st 2017: MPP Mike Harris, Woolwich Township Ward 3 councillor Murray Martin, Historical Society president Tom Schell and MP Harold Albrecht beside the newly planted red maple tree—in honour of Canada's 150th.

Annual General Meeting

Date: Sunday Nov 19th

Time: 2pm to 4pm

Location: Maryhill Heritage Park Community Centre
58 St. Charles St. E. Maryhill

Join us as we hear **Marilynn Crow**, author of "Evolution of the Family Farm – To The Seventh Generation" talk about the changes in farming practices, rural architecture and the lives of farm women and men through two centuries.

Heritage Day 2017 Raffle Winners

1st Prize - Set of 8 hockey sculptures - Joe Rider

2nd Prize - \$200 EB Games gift card - Art Eby

3rd Prize - Kuerig coffee brewer - Ron Zettel

4th Prize - \$100 cash - Bryan Leva

5th Prize - \$100 EB Games gift card - Paul Kraemer

Item From The Past: A Cabbage Cutter

Our German and European ancestors have handed down the practice of making homemade sauerkraut and many of us continue to do this today. Back then, Grandma grew cabbage in the garden. In October, as the weather grew colder, she would haul out the 5lb crock pot and the old wooden cabbage cutter. She'd shred a bunch of the cabbage heads and layer them in the crock pot with salt – pushing down hard with the



'stomper'. Grandma would cover it with a plate and a heavy rock and finally a clean tea towel. The crock was left beside the stove in the kitchen and after about 4 weeks Grandma would scoop out the sauerkraut and warm it up with a nice piece of pork and a few boiled potatoes.

Presidents Report Fall 2017 - Tom Schell

Since the last newsletter in early June, our Society has been involved in a number of activities.

On June 27th, I had the honour of presenting Alex Zettel a graduating grade 8 student from St. Boniface School The Maryhill Historical Society History Award. Alex is a 6th generation Zettel in the Maryhill area.

On July 1, we celebrated Canada 150. We were honoured to have Harold Albrecht M.P., Mike Harris M.P.P., and Murray Martin Councillor for Woolwich Township in attendance. All three had opening remarks, but I think most of us remember Murray Martin's remark. "Why me, why was I born or moved to Canada to enjoy all that we have in this great country". The names of all those that served in the first and second world wars were read out. Also a maple tree was planted on the Society's grounds to mark the occasion. I want to thank the Knights of Columbus for the luncheon, the firemen for the display of equipment, Peter Tillich for the maple tree, the Lions Club for their display, Melody Train for providing music, those that participated with antiques, old cars and tractors. Also Diane Beitz and her wagon team for providing narrated tours of Maryhill and the Freiburg area. The rains came around 3pm and closed the outside activities. However the day concluded with a mass of thanksgiving at St. Boniface Church at 5pm. We were again honoured that Harold Albrecht and Murray Martin attended this mass.

On July 8th, our society set up a display at the Lions Club Canada 150 celebration at the Marden Park.

We have had open houses on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer. If anyone would like to visit the Halter House at your convenience contact a board member or send us an email. We will gladly arrange a time.

Diane Strickler and Mary Ann Stroh were honoured with Canada 150 medals. This was in recognition of their continued research and publications of the history of Maryhill and area. They have served on the Maryhill Historical Board for the last 40 years.

On Sunday September 24th we held our Heritage Sunday. This day started with a special mass, the wayside shrine tour and a luncheon at the community centre. Here we honoured our members that were celebrating their 50th and 60th wedding anniversaries. As well we recognized members that celebrated their 80th and 90th birthdays. New Horizon a group led by Joan Haid, Sandy Hachborn and Heather Trakalo were presented a community service award. This group arranges for speakers on different topics. The New Horizon group meets every 2nd Thursday of the month.

In this newsletter are details for the Annual General Meeting on Sunday November 19th at the Maryhill Community centre. The business meeting is at 2pm. There is a proxy attached to this newsletter for those that cannot attend.

At 3pm, Marilyn Crow from Puslinch Township will speak on the family farm. Please join us for light refreshments at this event. We welcome new members to our Society. New ideas, new members help keep our unique heritage alive for future generations. Finally, I want to thank the board members for all their volunteer hours the last few years. Also thank you to all the Society members for their encouragement and support during this period.

Congratulations to the incoming board for 2018

Tom

HERITAGE DAY

A special **THANK YOU** for donations to our 2017 Heritage Day:

A&W, St. Jacobs
Amy Schell
Artefacts Salvage & Design
Bob Haliburton
Brad Huck
Carol Neumann
Connie Brohman
Daily Grill Restaurant
Danny & Diane Strickler
DNR Industries Ltd
EB Games
Eco Café
Elmer & Karen Zettel
FYiDoctors
George Isley
Griffin Mechanical
Hamel Brooms

Home Hardware, St. Jacobs
Huntley O'Hagan Financial
Jean Fromm
Jean Keller
Jeff & Helen Peacock
Joan & Earl Haid
Kalora Interiors
Ken & Sheila Kurtz
Ken Hanson
Linde Canada
Lisa Zettel
Marlene Bruckhardt
Martins Garage
Mary Ann & Earl Stroh
Maryhill K of C
Maryhill Maple
Perfect Touch Massage Therapy

Red, Whites & Brews
Rick Lawrence Photography
Rick Weber—Martin's Small Engines
Robert Brown Glass
The Schell Family
Stone Crock Restaurant
Town & Country Fencing
TSC, St. Jacobs
Tyler Griffin
Tyler Thompson
Veslo Family Restaurant
Wellington Motors

Thank you 

Our Community—The **Blue Moon** Gang

During 1930s and 40s, a gang of youngsters called New Germany and Freiburg their home. The Blue Moon Gang consisted of about 27 boys and girls who chummed together for years. It was not uncommon to see the group bicycling on the area roads; those who owned the bikes pedaled and the others tagged along on the handlebars. One time the group cycled to Elora to visit Bill Seblefski's relatives. Too far to walk or ride on handlebars, the group would trade off cycling. One group would cycle ahead, drop the bicycles in the ditch and begin to walk. The other group, walking, would come along the bicycles in the ditch, cycle past the walkers and leave them in the ditch. The group did this all the way to and from Elora. As they grew older, the group of kids earned a reputation for their mischief in and around the town. Those that owned cars would pile them full of friends and meet in New Germany after dark. They would drive down the



church hill. They would turn the key off and of course, the cars would backfire making a ruckus in the village. They would then go onto the Kieffer hill and do the same thing. Alex Zettel, who lived in New Germany with his wife Florence, once complained about 'those dam Blue Mooners' and thus the name Blue Moon Gang stuck. The group often hung out at the home of Linus and Tillie Zinger. Tillie loved to take pictures and captured many moments with the group of kids. Thanks to Ruth Hahn Berzuki for many of these pictures. More pictures can be found at the Halter House in Maryhill.

The Gang Members:

Audrey Barrie
Harold Bitschy
Lorne Fehrenbach
Betty Frank
Bill Frank
Harold Frank
Mary Greenwald
Cecil Hummel
Gerald Hummel
Mildred Hummel
Frank Kloepfer
Bill Seblefski
Betty Snider
Clarence Snider

Melvin (Dick) Snider
Norman Snider
Leo Steffler
Helen Steffler
Annette Thomasing
Beatrice Thomasing
Helen Thomasing
Bill Thomasing
Norbert Thomasing
Verna Gloor
Anthony (Doc) Zinger
Cyril (Pat) Zinger
Harold (Bops) Zinger





Mary Ann Stroh and Diane Strickler

Congratulations—Canada 150 Awards



On August 1st 2017, Diane Strickler and Mary Ann Stroh were honoured with Canada 150 awards at Castle Kilbridge, Baden, in recognition of their contribution to our community.

Membership Dues

Please note that membership dues will increase on January 1 2018.

Single Annual \$25

Single Lifetime \$50

These will be the only two categories.

Current membership categories will be grandfathered.

Quoits: Clarence Schuett donated a pair of quoits which his father Charles Schuett used circa 1913. These are saucer-shaped with a hole in the centre, made of steel alloy and are tossed at a stake, like horse shoes. This was a very popular game for men in the 1900s. Today the equivalent would be horseshoes or ring toss.



The Last Word

Without food preservatives nor refrigeration, there was often a need for a remedy to treat parasites (worms). Many families would de-worm regularly. Below is recipe to get rid of those nasty worms—found in **Uncle Jim Weiler's Book of Remedies**, a little black book with handwritten cures to various ailments.

"Uncle" Jim Weiler (1897-1990) was the son of Jacob Weiler (1860-1910), and Catherine Brohman. He was the grandson of Anton Weiler and Regina Romer and the great-grandson of Andrew Weiler and Johanna Allegeier, one of the founding families of our community. Uncle Jim was a weaver in the carpet industry in Guelph. He never married. He lived with his sister Hannah Brohman on Glasgow Street in Kitchener.

Thank you to Patricia Weiler of London (wife of the late John Weiler) for submitting the recipe, picture and information!

Remedy For Worms



Jim

John

Jamie

Mark

Uncle Jim's Remedy for Worms

Take a pint of malt whiskey
put on the fire
let it come close to boil
take off and cool for ten minutes
Add 3 oz of gunpowder
Dose: A dessert spoonful for 3
mornings fasting. On the third
morning take a strong Visig.
(we are unsure what a 'visig' is,
but the handwriting is clear)

For Worms.
19
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whiskey put on the
fire let it come close
to boil, take off and
cool for ten minutes
add 3oz of Gunpowder
Dose
A desert spoonful for
3 mornings fasting, on
the third 3rd morning
take a strong Visig.

Pictured here are 3 generations of Weiler relatives standing beside the grave of Jim's grandfather—Andrew Weiler and Johanna Allegeier.
(Circa 1982)