

Requiescant in Pace

KURTZ Olive Marie (nee Hummel) - May 23 2014 at St. Joseph's Health Care, Guelph, age 90. Mother of Diane Kemp (Rick), Sharon Drexler, Susan Siefried (Joe) and Bonnie Spanopulos (George). Predeceased by husband Lawrence Peter Kurtz (1999). Sister of Doris Paprocki (John), Clarence Hummel (Cecile) and the late Alvin Hummel (Mary).

KURTZ, Jerry - May 24 2014 at Twin Oaks, Maryhill age 84. Brother of Joseph. Predeceased by parents Matilda and Peter and brother Doug.

ELLIG, Joseph Arthur - May 30 2014, age 91. Husband of Mae (Turner), father of Linda Shaw (Murray), Jody Burtch (Ken) and Susan Ellig. Survived by sisters Marie (late Vic) Bordignon, Evelyn (late John) Burton, Maddy (Doug) Seiling and Cecile (Clarence) Hummel. Predeceased by brothers Wilfred (late Betty), Francis, and Jim and by sisters Isabel (late Harry) Male and Eileen McDonald.

FORWELL, Margaret Johanna (nee Kurtz) - June 4 2014 at Leisureworld Caregiving Centre, Elmira age 94. Mother of Dorothy Schnurr (Alan) and predeceased by husband Walter, parents Paul and Hanna, brother Paul and sister Adeline.

BROHMAN, Albert — June 7, 2014 in Sooke BC, age 90. Survived by partner Iris Cook, children Ken (Betty), Alberta (Birdie) and John (Cathy). Predeceased by wife Betty, son Alan and parents Alex Brohman and Elizabeth Schell.

BRUDER, Herbert — July 11, 2014 at Leisureworld Caregiving Centre, Elmira. Survived by wife Phyllis Haley, predeceased by his first wife Margaret (nee Baetz). Survived by his son Joe (Cheryl), sister Helen (Earl) Dorsch, brothers Elmer (Catherine) and Arthur (Eva). Predeceased by sons Paul (in infancy) and Gerard, sisters, Sister Mary Bruder and Frances (Simon) Reinhart and a brother Leo (Eileen).



Open House

Edward Halter House
Open: Sundays from 1:30—4pm from
June 1 through September 21
or by appointment

Annual General Meeting

Sunday November 23 2014
Time: 2—4 pm
Maryhill Heritage
Community Centre

Fall Harvest Fun

Edward Halter House
Sunday October 19 1-4pm
Corn shelling, cider pressing, some-
thing for every one under the tent

The Last Word

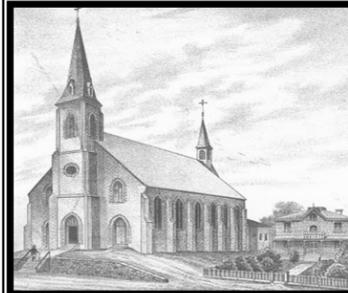
The Eaton's Catalogue
1940-1941

I came across this advertisement from the 1940-1941 Eaton's Catalogue for boys' uniforms and figured it would be fitting to publish in our newsletter. At first I thought they were Halloween costumes, but I've learned that during the war, children wore these military outfits for every day wear, even to church. Parents showed their patriotism by dressing their younger children in military uniforms. Then I found a family photo with little Bobby Brohman (yes, this is Robert Brohman who volunteers for our historical society) in a child's military uniform. I am sure little Bobby felt very special being able to dress like his older brothers! I imagine Bobby wasn't the only little boy in 1940 who dressed like this.



The Brohman Family 1940:
Back Row: Leonard, Barney, Roy
Centre: Bernard **Front:** Betty,
Bob in military uniform, Mary

Contact Us:
Historical Society of St. Boniface &
Maryhill Community Inc
Edward Halter House
1338B Maryhill Road
Maryhill Ontario
N0B 2B0
Website: maryhillroots.com
Email: info@maryhillroots.com



GREETINGS
FROM
NEW GERMANY
CANADA



The Historical Society of St. Boniface & Maryhill Community Inc
1338B Maryhill Rd., Maryhill ON N0B 2B0 maryhillroots.com info@maryhillroots.com

Fall 2014

Editor: Susan Motz

Heritage Day Sunday September 21 2014

Please join us as we celebrate our heritage featuring
A Musical Reunion With
Mary Lorentz & her son Bobby

We've also invited the
1960 & 1961 St. Boniface CYO Softball Champions

Once again this year we anticipate a full-house. We will take reservations this year so please call or email and we'll be sure to save a seat for you. Please RSVP by September 14th if you would like a reserved spot. Pay at the door: \$8 includes local homemade farmers sausage, scalloped potatoes, fresh pie and a chance on a door prize! **Register early!**
For those without a reservation, you can still join us, however, seating may be limited.

Heritage Mass: 10am St. Boniface Church

Wayside Cross Cavalcade: 10:40 am
leaving from the Church Parking Lot

Lunch & Programme: Commercial Tavern
Door Open at 11 am

Lunch Pay at the Door: \$8

New This Year: RSVP by Sept 14th
Email: info@maryhillroots.com or
Call Marjorie Zinger @ [519-744-3902](tel:519-744-3902)
or Ken Hanson @ [519-829-3569](tel:519-829-3569)



Please return your tickets to a committee member
by mail / place in collection basket at St. Boniface Church
The draw will be held on Heritage Day!
Thank you for your support!

CANADA DAY in Maryhill by Tom Schell

Thank you to everyone for making our first Canada Day successful. To the volunteers, exhibitors, EBGames for their donations and any others, a big THANKS. We were honoured to have Mayor Cowan and Councillor Bryant enjoy a slice of cake with us along with young and old visitors from as far away as Ottawa. We hope to make this an annual event with new activities for younger guests.

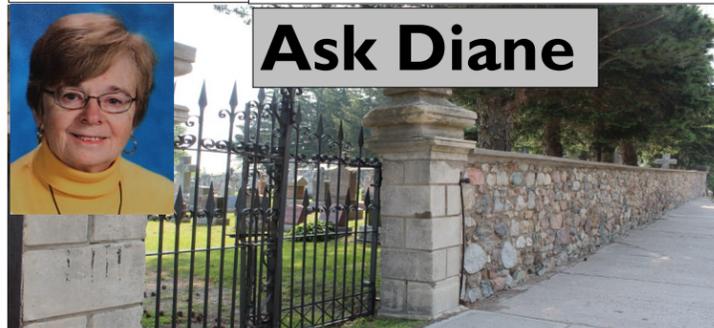
At Canada Day: Tom Schell, Councillor Bonnie Bryant,
President Marlene Bruckhardt, Mayor Todd Cowan

Item from our Past: A Single Furrow Plow

It's fall .. and that means local farmers are in the fields, harvesting their crops and plowing their fields for spring. But the plowing today doesn't hold the craft of that done in the past with a SINGLE FURROW PLOW. Many of our members, and certainly their parents and grandparents used these plows to turn the soil in their fields. Some tell me you could plow one acre in a day but others say two – I guess it depended on the time you started, the breaks you took and the amount of cider you drank the night before! Regardless, farming was certainly a tough occupation with tools like this!



A single furrow plough found in Leonard Brohman's barn. It now sits as a memorial to him on the corner of his property.



Ask Diane

Dear Diane: **How old is the statue of Mary that we see erected outside the church in the grotto? What's the history and significance of it?**

Dear Readers:

Our statue of the blessed Virgin Mary is 70 years old! We can thank the Weber family for her! In 1944, Sister Tarcisia was a teacher at St. Boniface school. Her mother, Mary Magdalena Weber, daughter of Anton X Weiler and Theresia (Weiler) had passed away and had willed a sum of money to be used for a statue and construction material. A statue of the blessed Virgin Mary was erected as a fitting tribute to the newly named community of Maryhill. Father Joseph Diemert designed the grotto and his uncle Mr. Missere and his father Louis Diemert constructed it.



Dear Diane: **What can you tell me about the Waterloo County Soldier Information Card Collection project at Kitchener Public Library (KPL) ?**

Dear Readers:

In honour of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War, (1914) the KPL staff have created soldier information cards about the many courageous men and women of the province's Waterloo County who served Canada in the First and Second World Wars. These cards were created during and shortly after each war and were compiled using newspaper and magazine clippings, photographs, and information contributed by soldiers and their families. The information on each card varies, and some cards do not include a photograph. If any of our members served in WW II, or their relatives did, I encourage you to visit the library and review the

Diane Strickler is a local historian with a wealth of knowledge on genealogy regarding St. Boniface and Maryhill families. Send your questions to info@maryhillroots.com and we will feature questions in our newsletters.

cards or pass along information that you have. If you are not local, please contact Karen Ball-Pyatt, the local history librarian. She can be contacted: karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org Grace Schmidt Room of Local History, Kitchener Public Library, 85 Queen Street North, Kitchener, ON N2H 2H1 or 519-743-0271 ext. 252

Dear Diane: **There was a water tower in Maryhill by the Rectory. Do you know when it was taken down?**

Dear Readers: You have stumped me on this one! I welcome information from our members. Do you remember the water tower? Do you have a picture of it? Do you know when it was removed? Please share your memories with me.

Interesting Reading on the Internet

Rather than list a book review I have decided to list an interesting site for you to visit on the Internet. Go to: thegaltcookbook.wordpress.com



This is a web site with information written by Carolyn Blackstock, a local historian. Every day Caroline cooks a recipe from a historical cookbook and posts her experience with preparing and tasting it. She researches the women that submitted the recipes and writes about them as well. In 2012 she cooked from the 1906 Berlin Cook Book and this year she is cooking from The New Galt Cookbook published in 1898.



Our members have been cleaning their family tombstones! See the results! A soft scrub brush, citrus based cleaner & lots of water! Many stones need cleaning. It allows our future generations to be able to read our ancestors' stones.



Leo Lauber's soldier card

Who's This from Our Community?



This fall I am excited to feature **Leo Lauber**, a personal friend of mine and someone we can call a true hero. Leo is a lifetime resident (except for 6 years during WWII) of the Maryhill area. Leo had 10 siblings and was the youngest son of Michael Lauber and Caroline Schmuck. I love to visit with Leo and hear the stories of when he was a young lad in the 1920s. They are typical of how life was before indoor plumbing, (he bathed in Cox Creek on Saturdays) and before electricity (he did chores in the barn by the light of a lantern). Leo attended SS#10, the one room schoolhouse near Weissenburg where, after finishing Grade 4 he left school to work on the farm. Although Leo stopped learning from books, his learning from real life-lessons continued. He worked on his father's farm and at the age of 19 he became em-

In the fall, Leo would pick apples and load them on a wagon and take them to the Seifred or Walter Brohman Cider Mill where the apples were ground and pressed and poured into cider barrels. Back home they would roll these down to the cellar, add a little honey and raisins and let the cider ferment for about 6 weeks. Leo first tasted cider at the age of 6 years—his father put a straw in the top of the barrel and let him taste the sweet cider. Leo remembers his father occasionally eating a piece of dry bread and a glass of cider for breakfast.

ployed at the Sunshine Waterloo Company making office furniture. In 1939, at the age of 21, Leo was called to service for WWII and suddenly he was forced to learn some very difficult real-life lessons that were never taught in school. Leo travelled overseas to France, Belgium, Holland, England and Germany. The year was 1943 when Leo received notice that his father had died; he requested a leave to rush home to attend the funeral. The only flight available was on the floor of a fighter-bomber. Landing in Kitchener, he took a taxi to St. Boniface church and made it just in time to say good-bye to his dad. It was in the fall of 1944 while in Belgium driving a Bren-Gun Carrier, Leo drove over a land-mine. A wire to his family identified that he had "suffered a severe bomb fragment wound". Leo was discharged from the army as soon as he had healed enough to travel. Back at home, Leo was reunited with his girlfriend Reta Brohman who had been writing to him during those 6 years. They married in 1948, built their house in Maryhill and raised their daughter Barbara Gingerich. Leo is still in good health, welcomes visitors and can be found at Twin Oaks nursing home in Maryhill.



Leo and cousin Clarence Brohman enjoying a pitcher of cider when home on leave.

More on our Forefathers The Lauber Family

Leo married a Brohman, and I think his great great grandfather Joseph Lauber would approve. Joseph was one of the founding families of Maryhill. Joseph, his wife Maria Johanna Schott and their young family travelled from Schirrhein a village just a few km west of Soufflenheim. He came to Little Germany with or around the same time as Gottlieb Brohman in 1829. The Laubers and Brohmans were good friends. In 1836 Joseph's son, Michael Lauber married Catherine Schuett. Their oldest son Stephan married Katherine Fuhre. Stephen lived on the 113 acre Lauber homestead (located a half mile east of Maryhill on the Guelph road) until 1923 when he sold it to Louis Kieffer. Stephen's son Michael married Caroline Schmuck and from this union came my friend Leo. Leo has a sister Mary Anne (Haehnel) who is also a member of our Historical Society. Mary Anne lives in Trinity Village in Kitchener. We sure are glad that Joseph Lauber chose Little Germany to settle in—and we are thankful for our friend Leo!

We thank our hero Leo and all of our heroes who served in WWII.