



SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWS LETTER

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Please see our web site www.sparrowlake.ca for a complete list of executive and contacts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday September 28 is our annual potluck meeting, so mark your calendar and prepare your favorite dish. Doors open at 6:00pm for those who come to help setup and dinner will start at 6:30.

The speaker at this meeting will be Liz Ross from the Orillia campus of Lakehead University who will be speaking about her experiences as a research assistant prospecting for fossils on Bylot and Devon islands in the Arctic.

It is with great pleasure that we can say that Dave Stanton, shown here receiving a certificate from Ken, has been given a life membership in the Society in recognition for his role in the formation of SLHS and his many years of serving on the board in several different capacities.



Just a note to remind folks that 22 members out of 60 are in arrears. That is over one third of the members. So if you are not sure of your status please check with Dave Stanton. Our expenditures are not great but we do require the income to meet our ongoing expenses, and we do value your membership.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are again in our glorious Fall season. Not only did we have a good holiday period but we enter this specially coloured season. Do we really appreciate all it has to offer?

The board has been busy and our members can see our progress at the September 28th meeting. Be sure to attend this always popular pot-luck event and take time to catch up with your friends and neighbours. See you there!

LESLIE WAGNER

“Ever Mindful of the Needs of Others”

On Sunday July 28 over forty people gathered at the Church of the Good Samaritan in Port Stanton to celebrate the life of Leslie Wagner one of our long time members who passed away in Nov. 2012. Her daughter spoke of Leslie's love for the Sparrow Lake area and her enjoyment of her participation in various organizations, The Church of the Good Samaritan, the Sparrow Lake Sailing Club,

Conservation Authorities, The Sparrow Lake Association and the Historical Society.

The service was followed by an excellent outdoor lunch organized by the community on a beautiful summer day.

BETTY CHISH-GRAHAM

Betty has moved from Mutton Meadows, I know with considerable regret, but she has found a new home and an interesting new past time which I will mention more about later. She left me a parting note that I lost on my untidy desk but it is never too late to pass that on.

ALL GONE – NOT QUITE

MCLEANS BAY IS DIFFERENT
MUTTON MEADOWS OWNER HAS LEFT
BUT NOT QUITE
SHE LEFT KNOWING THE EAST SHORE
NATURE RESERVE
WITH BANNER BLOWING
WOULD ALWAYS BE PROTECTED BY
THE MUSKOKA HERITAGE FOUNDATION
WHICH HAD BEEN DONATED IN MEMORY
OF THE GRAHAM FAMILY
THE BEAUTY WOULD BE THERE FOR ALL
THE QUIET AND PRIVACY THERE FOR ALL
RARE FLORA AND FAUNA THERE FOR ALL
GONE FOR HER – BUT NOT QUITE
A SMALL STRIP WAS KEPT
WITH A BOULDER – SIGN ATTACHED
THE CURIOUS WILL FIND IT NEAR THE
ROAD
THIS IS CURRENT HISTORY
IN YEARS TO COME
SOMEONE WILL ASK ABOUT MCLEANS BAY
AND THE LEGACY LEFT
AND THE BANNER BLOWING IN THE
BREEZE
AND THE BOULDER MIGHT HELP
TO TELL A STORY



SUMMER OUTING

About fourteen of us enjoyed our visit to the Muskoka Boat and Heritage Centre on Friday July 26. Our visit was arranged and guided by Betty Chish-Graham who now lives across the road from the Centre and is a volunteer there. For those of you who have never been there I would highly recommend that you make an effort to visit, it is a great facility.



SWIFT RAPIDS REUNION

As some of you know I and some of my cousins have a long standing connection to the Severn River and in particular to Swift Rapids. These cousins along with other cottagers, who also have been connected to the Swift for many years, organized a reunion at the Swift for any and all that felt a connection to that place. In all over 70 people showed up, and it was a great party. As well as Jeanne and I the following SLHS members were among those present –
Dick and Marion Ellis
Jim and Sylvia Maguire
Kathy Nicholson
Roy Vokes
Jim and Ruth Weir

Dan Watts (the only remaining Orillia Power employee now on site) was good enough to give a large group a tour of the only remaining OP house, where he now lives. This house was built circa 1920 and has been well maintained and is in immaculate condition. My Grandfather was the first occupant of this house and my Father and his siblings grew up here.

The day ended with a great potluck meal augmented with a roast pig done to a turn by Kelly Ironsides and Stewart Macdonald.



Sparrow Lake Historical Society Membership Renewal & Application Form

Please note: The year that your membership subscription is paid up to is shown on the envelope in bold letters next to your name.

For those email recipients who are not sure of the year please contact Dave Stanton at DavAnn@aol.com

Name -----

Mailing Address -----

Postal/Zip Code -----

Email address _____

Will you receive your newsletter via email? **YES** **NO**

Single \$15.00 ----- Family \$25.00 ----- New ----- Renewal -----

Please make cheque payable to – Sparrow Lake Historical Society – and mail to **Ken Thomson**, Treasurer
1729 Peninsula Pt. Rd. RR #1, Severn Bridge, ON, P0E 1N0.