

# THE CABOOSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CTHS)

ISSN 1203-147X

Volume XIX Number 1

September 2007

## Editor's ramblings (by Jeannie Smith)

Calling all students! School starts September 4th! Bus drivers-polish your vehicles, check your lights, learn your routes...and thanks for delivering our children safely to school. Drivers, who are buffers between home and school, quickly get to know their travelers and help to raise our children. Teachers are preparing classrooms, planning lessons, and are ready to guide students towards lifelong learning. Three cheers for bus drivers, and teachers, who make schools a pleasant place to learn.

Volunteer firemen are invaluable resources and still serve the old area of Cumberland Township. Many lives and possessions have been saved due to the dedication of our firefighters. Support your local fire department and be proud of their dedication.

### **Our Society**

The Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS) was founded in 1986. We are a non-profit, volunteer and community-based organization whose goal is to preserve Cumberland Township history.

### **Our newsletter**

*The Caboose* is published six times each year by the Cumberland Township Historical Society.

### **Our Executive**

- Randall Ash, President and newsletter production
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor
- Verna Cotton, Director
- Dan Brazeau, Director
- Jean-François Beaulieu, Director
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Director
- Bob Kendall, Director

### **Our address and local history room**

Cumberland Branch  
Ottawa Public Library  
Local History Room  
1599 Tenth Line Road  
Ottawa, ON K1E 3E8

### **Our World Wide Web address**

[www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca)



If you ate today, thank a farmer! Cumberland Township farms are now sprouting dwellings, instead of food. Few farms remain that ship milk and produce food. Little thanks is given to farmers for their endless work and constant efforts to feed us, but we sure appreciate their contribution. Well done!



Edwin Williams, passenger on the Cumberland fire truck, in the Homecoming Parade June 1981, in front of Lancaster's Store. On November 2, 1974, at the official opening of the R.J. Kennedy Arena, Mr. John Edwin Williams was presented with The Fire Services Long Service Medal for forty-seven years as a firefighter in Cumberland by G. A. Pelletier, Ontario Fire Marshals Awards Committee Chairman.

### **Next meeting of the CTHS**

The next meeting of the CTHS will be held on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Ottawa Regional Police Station on St. Joseph Blvd & Tenth Line Road. Our guest speaker, Joyce Kennedy, will read from her book "Just Call Me Eva." Be sure to bring a friend along. Light refreshments, as always, will be served.

## Society calendar

For more information on these and other upcoming 2007/08 events, please contact a member of the executive committee or visit our website at [www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca).



Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup>	CTHS General Meeting Boardroom of Police Station, Tenth Line & Old Montreal Roads 7:00 pm, Joyce Kennedy presents 'Just Call Me Eva'
Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> , Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vintage Stock Theatre Shades of the Evening 8:00 pm, 'Outrage: The McGonigle Murders' by Susan Flemming, Cumberland Museum...outdoors
Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	'Celebration-Memories of Cumberland Township Display', Cumberland Museum 2:00-4:00 pm

Check for events at the Cumberland Museum: [www.Ottawa.ca/residents/heritage/museums/Cumberland](http://www.Ottawa.ca/residents/heritage/museums/Cumberland)

### Contact us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society including The Caboose, our local history room or anything else of interest to you or to the Society, you may contact any member of the executive by phone or by email:

- Randall Ash, President (833-3207) [randall2620@rogers.com](mailto:randall2620@rogers.com)
- Jean-François Beaulieu, Director (841-0424) [jeanfb@sympatico.ca](mailto:jeanfb@sympatico.ca)
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter Editor (833-2877) [gsmith2877@rogers.com](mailto:gsmith2877@rogers.com)
- Verna Cotton, Director (835-2490)
- Dan Brazeau, Director (834-8336) [danbrazeau@rogers.com](mailto:danbrazeau@rogers.com)
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Director (225-3554)
- Bob Kendall, (613-830-0015) [bobkendall@sympatico.ca](mailto:bobkendall@sympatico.ca)

## We've got mail!

I received the July 2007 issue of 'The Caboose' and read with great interest 'The Smiths' Confusing Connections.' Here is another confusing connection that may be of interest.

My older brother Bob Smith (son of Walter Smith of Cumberland) married Gert Newcombe of East Ship Harbour, NS. Gert's sister, Hazel, married William Mosher of Halifax, NS. Hazel and William's son Ken

The CTHS graciously thanks the City of Ottawa for providing an annual grant of \$1500. This money enables the Society to continue to publish and distribute The Caboose.



married (me) Norma Smith daughter of Walter Smith and yes this does make Bob my uncle by marriage! It also makes Terry Smith (son of Alfred Alton 'John' Smith and Walter's older brother) my nephew by marriage because his wife, Sharon, is Bob's daughter, and my niece!

**Norma Smith Mosher**

## Just Call Me Eva

### The Story of an Uncommon

Woman *by Joyce Kennedy*

For half a century, Eva Kennedy was at the centre of things in the small eastern Ontario village of Cumberland. From her home, she raised a family of six, assisted by her husband who was the township clerk, and ran a private maternity hospital. She also found time to play the church organ, comfort friends old and new, and do what needed to be done. She was touched by events that defined the 20th century... and she wrote.



To order copies of Just Call Me Eva @ \$19.95 contact : General Store Publishing House 499 O'Brien Road, Box 415 Renfrew, ON Canada K7V 4A6 1.800.465.6075 Fax. (613) 432-7184; [www.gsph.com](http://www.gsph.com) Also available at Laura's Corners, Navan and the Cumberland Museum Store.



## Cumberland Fires

by Edwin Williams (1974)

Fires were difficult to fight in the days of the horse and buggy, the Model T Ford, the four-ninety Chev, and party line telephone. Every able-bodied man, and some not so able, responded to that one very long ring relayed by the telephone operator to other party lines, bringing people from all directions, armed with pails and buckets of all description.

Here are some of the fires that I attended and helped fight.

- ❑ 1925: William Henry Kinsella's (east on Wilhaven Drive)-house and barns destroyed. No telephone, no water. I went on foot through Wilson's bush.
- ❑ 1925 or 1926: Hector MacMillan's (Old Montreal Road west of Cumberland)-fire in hay loft, plenty of water, lots of help saved the building. Went on horseback.
- ❑ 1930: United Church Manse (Cameron Street and Sparkle)- horse stable and ice house destroyed. Some nearby buildings were saved.
- ❑ April 1932: Fire in Village, (north side of Old Montreal Road between Dunning-Haddad Store and Faubert Street and Kilrea). Laframboise Garage and Plymouth Brethern Gospel Hall (Fergusons') were destroyed. Ottawa, responding with a pumper and Masson, with a portable pump, were responsible for saving a house on the property, (Reid's, first home of Charlie and Glenda Barnett Murray), while the two hotels (Cumberland Hotel where John Watson later built his garage, and the Winsor, owned by Mathias Watson) and a large drive shed owned by John Watson, were saved by ladders and bucket brigade.
- ❑ 1932: Arnold Moffatt's Stable (north-west side of Old Montreal Road across from St. Mark's Anglican Church), bull and three horses lost.
- ❑ 1934: Ernest Elliott's (on top of Spring Hill, Old

Montreal Road). House destroyed, most of contents saved.

- ❑ 1942: Eldred Hayes (Fifth Line Road-Dunning Road south of Wilhaven Drive). Granary, drive shed and wood shed were burned. I was in one of my fields on the next farm with a team of horses, when I saw the smoke, I galloped the horses home and got my car. On arrival at the fire, I realized that the house with its shingle roof was in great danger. Going back home, I tied two ladders behind the car. By the time I returned, more help had arrived and with the aid of the ladders, the house was saved.
- ❑ 1945: Bradley's Store and nearby hall (Forrester's) lost by fire in Navan
- ❑ 1950: House fire on Old Montreal Road, site where Dr. Kennedy's clinic was located (summer home of Maude Dunning Heath whose parents were William Nelson Dunning and Maria Rice McLaurin)
- ❑ 1952: Paquette's Cheese Factory at French Hill destroyed but the house was saved.

The Fire Department in the Police Village of Cumberland was organized in 1956. In 1974, it became a District Fire Department. Fire Chiefs were: John Dunning, 1956-1964; Doug Lancaster; Angus Wilson; Cecil Millar; Tom Tennant Jan. 14, 1974 (first paid Fire Chief); Chris Powers, 1982-1994; Gord Mills Nov. 21, 1994 until City of Ottawa Amalgamation.





## The Foubert Family

*(From the CTHS Archives: The Foubert Family files from Ann (Gonneau) Blake)*

Leonard Foubert, 76 years old, in a letter to Pat Wright in 1975 described the log house he was born in as "next to the Maple Hall". He visited the former home of his uncle, Nathan Foubert which had burnt down but Nathan rebuilt it, the same as the original house. Leonard visited the home of the Fouberts, "who founded Cumberland", mentioning that the community was called Foubertville. The Fouberts came from Cannes, France. Amable Louis Foubert and his wife Sarah Capron settled in Cumberland, while his brother, Amable Joseph, went out west. Apparently, Amable buried gold in a sock, saying



Rupert, Delia and Flora Foubert (contributed by Elaine O'Neil)

that it would be found some day by someone who needed it. When road construction of Highway 17 began, workmen found pieces of gold in that area. Amable used to dress like Napoleon and ride through the village on horseback.

Amable and Sarah's children were: Moses B., who died at the age of 31; Godfrey married Ida (Carrier) from Thurso; Napoleon, who lived at Leonard (son Rupert lived at Carlsbad Springs); William married Margaret Lough in April of 1874, at the age of 25. Margaret was a first cousin to Sam Lough (Mrs. Myrtle Russell's father). They lived in a log house east of the Maple Hall. He ran the ferry to Masson. Their children were: Lloyd, Leonard Amable, born 1899, and Lawrence. Lloyd, the only one who spoke French, married a Gallagher girl whose mother was a sister of the Mrs. Hayes who ran a bakeshop in Cumberland. Leonard married Anne O'Higgins and worked as a bell boy at the Chateau Laurier in 1909 when he was ten years old and was working when he received news of his father's death. Lawrence married a girl from Gatineau and their children were: Henri, Arthur, Leonard, Bill, Fred and Jackie.

Nathan (lived where Nuttalls lived) had a daughter, Kate, and a son, Walter; Annie became a practical nurse and worked with old Dr. Ferguson. She married Edgar Foot of Carleton Place. They ran the Mississippi Hotel when the area was just a lumber camp. Annie celebrated her 91st birthday in 1974.

Amelia married Joseph Jamieson from Orleans who owned the Victoria and the Empress, which he operated on the Ottawa River. They had two daughters, Mary Laroque and Susy O'Connor. Mrs. Sam Laroque Besserer was the granddaughter of Amelia. Matilda married a Dunning.

Apparently, the graves of the Fouberts were in a specific spot in the Dale's Cemetery. They counted trees to find the graves but someone removed the graves and they are now in a mound in the middle of the cemetery somewhere!

Dorothy Foubert was the mother of Pat Grimes from Navan. Catherine Brennan (one of Mike's daughters) married Everett Foubert. The mother of Lionel Laroque of Vars was Alexina Faubert. His cousin was Rose Cameron of Ottawa, aged 86 in 1978. Joseph Faubert died in Russell in 1966.

## Get us to the school on time!

Thanks to Joan Stoker for naming the following CTHS members who have been school bus drivers: Gilda Birch, Ted Dashney, Earle Fitzpatrick, Bob Edwards, Vida Edwards Wade, Gladys Eggert, Verna Kinsella, Doug Lancaster, Joan Lancaster, Garrett Lowe, Marilyn Lowe, Earl Sharkey, Wilfrid Sharkey, Joan Stoker. Doug Hayes, Jane Lafrance, Ann Taylor and Sharon Wright are still driving students to school. Well done...and thanks.

The following has been edited from the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Speech for M.L. Bradley Ltd. by Lorne Bradley, June 1990



In 1945, Ed Inglis started the first public transit in Cumberland Township. There was a school bus operator in the early 1940s bringing kids from Vars, Bearbrook and Navan. I had the privilege of attending Lisgar Collegiate in '46-'48. We had a 1941 Dodge car

and I drove it to school along with five other students. Ed Inglis was driving an old '42 Ford station wagon through Navan daily with workers. I told him what I wanted to do; drive a wagon of his and bring fellow students. He could charge them a fee; I would drive for my fee. Ed says, "You'll never make any money bringing kids to school." He subsequently started Capital Coach which is now Laidlaw. Little did he know that these two organizations would become so successful.

In 1965, I won the tender on two runs with the Cumberland Township School Board, but had no drivers, no buses. Ed Inglis came to my rescue and sold me two buses, a Carpenter and a Wayne. My Dad and Ted Dashney got their class two licenses and I got mine shortly after (second time around) and we were off! In 1970, we sold these two buses and started to lease from Capital Coach. In 1975, things started to expand in the east and we purchased four vehicles-and it just grew from there.

The next big expansion year was August, 1986 when we were asked to take on eight new runs. What a challenge-eight new runs, no buses, no drivers, just like 1965. We put a sign up in the store-"Drivers wanted-will train" and received 12 to 15 applications and had enough trained and certified

for September.

Throughout this endeavor, I have been lucky to have had one special person beside, behind, and in front, all the time, my wife Joyce. Would you believe too, that Ted Dashney and I have been working together since 1958, quite a feat for both of us!

In the past eight years, Kathleen and her husband Gord Both, have been sharing some of the responsibilities making my job easier. So it really has been a family operation. Wendy and Lorna have done their stint at driving and Lorna punches it with background music at the functions and Joy and her husband Yvon have become quite infamous with their year end dinners. Actually, Joyce started baking about two months ago for different occasions. We have been very fortunate in the 25 years to have dedicated employees, part of our extended family, all of which has made this kind of a business such a pleasure to operate.

Lorne Bradley, oldest son of Morris and Elda, continued to run J.T. Bradley & Sons Ltd. Store in Navan, after his father's death in 1975. Lorne died in Decemeber 1991 after serving his community faithfully as a milk transport driver, school bus driver, life member of the Navan Lions Club. He was involved in the building of the Navan Arena in 1952, its rebuilding in 1955 and the installation of artificial ice in 1972 and reconstruction in 1982. Lorne was a volunteer fire fighter and active in the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce. Lorne organized School Bus Safety Awareness Day in the Ottawa area. M.L. Bradley & Sons has a fleet of seventy vehicles and managers,

Kathleen and Gordie Both, have started a second business, Child-Check Mate Systems which promotes the safety of children on school buses throughout North America. M.L. Bradley Ltd. Transports an average of 4,000 students in the eastern area of Ottawa.

## Grade 8 Graduating Class SS#5 Cumberland, 1965





L to R Back row: Joanne Wilson, Anne Kennedy, Deiter Eckhardt, Laurie Beaton, Clifford Burns, Jane Joldersma, Ray Robertson, David James, Bill Russell, John Scharfe, Helen Beaton, Ken Sundborg, Marian Watson

L to R Front row: Jim Hill, John McNarry, Ralph MacEachern, Brian Findlay

**New addition to SS#5  
Cumberland, 1963**

"That picture of the old school brought back a few memories; spent 8 years there. One Halloween, someone turned the bell in the tower upside down. Mr. Thomas (principal) made me and two other guys, possibly Ray McEvoy, maybe Phil Moss, go into the attic through the trap door onto the roof & slide down the tin roof into the bell tower to turn the bell over. I know it doesn't look



Third Row; Bill Russell; Doug Berndt; Dale Edwards; Brian Findlay; Beverly Findlay; April Johnsen;

Fourth Row: Maureen Findlay; Maureen Edwards; Dieter Eckhardt; Humphrey Eckhardt; Delmer Findlay; Shirley Findlay; Christine Morrow; Anne Minogue; Clayton Minogue; Gail Moffatt.

Thanks to Jane Lafrance, Nancy Toonders, and Elaine Findlay for providing names.



that far, but imagine if one of us had missed the tower and slid off the roof. That was damn far to the ground. What cheesed us off is that we had not done anything wrong to get this task. After school one day, we were sitting on the ledges of the windows of Dunnings' store when J R (Thomas) stopped on his way home and saw us. I guess he thought we shouldn't be there, so turning the bell over to its proper position was our punishment! Can you imagine having a student do something like that today!"

*Bill Woodruff, son of Georgina Deavy*

**Earle Fitzpatrick's passengers  
June 23, 1963**

Front row: Nancy Kelly; Judy Morrow; Patsy Kelly;

Second row: Ricky Berndt, Joanne Berndt; George Eckhardt; Christine Deavy, Bruce Smith; Lynn Berndt; Jane Edwards, Ruth Edwards; Mike Kelly; Susan Edwards; \_\_\_\_; Lise Ann Johnsen; Mary Kelly; Mark Berndt;

Earle Fitzpatrick's bus driving career spanned from Sept. 4, 1962-1973. Earle asked Township Reeve Nelson Charlebois to ensure that the gravel road, (Wilhaven Drive), in front of his farm, be widened and that his laneway be plowed in winter, to accommodate a new 66 passenger bus, in 1966. Earle never had an accident and he always enjoyed driving his crew of children who he claims "behaved very well... they were a perfect group of kids". Earle treated his passengers as equals, never condescending, always eager to have fun. "Driving was more cordial then," laughs Earle. Cars would slow down to let him cross Highway 17 at Canaan Road. Riverview School Principal, Roy Thomas, would only let Earle drive students on field trips and



many a happy day was spent driving to Upper Canada Village and various end of June trips. Earle even had the kids to his farm for a party and hay wagon ride! The children took pride in their bus and enjoyed decorating it for Christmas. Cumberland gas station owner, Hans Mattes, upon annual mechanical check-up of the school bus, repaired the worn brakes, but was not paid by the Trustees, so had the bus taken off the road until a cheque was delivered by hand!

Earle, caretaker at Riverview PS 1966-77, then at Cairine Wilson Highschool until his retirement in 1989, is fondly remembered by a generation of Cumberland area students.

## An Industry without Memories has no History

*by Jeannie Smith from the WI Tape*

On June 10, 1987, the Navan WI met at Hazel MacDonald's to hear Albert Belanger and Gordon Eadie talk about cheese making in Cumberland Township.

Gordon Eadie, from North Russell, married to Navan's Greta Morrison, went to dairy school in Kemptville in 1937/38. He was hired by Stardale, near Vankleek Hill and worked with cheesemaker Alex Stewart. In 1939, Gordon, a proud producer of 100% 1st grade cheese, took over the Vars cheese factory. The local dairy inspector, Jim Mitchell (daughter Vivian Lowe), supervised. In 1941, Gordon took over the Navan Cheese Factory, across from Bradley's Store. Surplus milk was sent to the cheese factory and the rest was hauled to Ottawa Dairies by truck. The Navan Cheese Factory was closed when the Kemptville inspector found fault in the building. Poor drainage and ventilation could harbour bacteria. Mr. Cotton, Mr. Dick, Mr. Clarke and Wesley Savage were on the Navan Dairy Ltd. Board.

Gordon had to 'work like a dog', to make cheese, starting early in the morning and finishing by night. 'It wasn't how long your nose was but how well you could smell with it!' that produced top-notch cheese. Jim Mitchell, Gordon's trainer said, "As long as you've got that nose on your face, Gordon, I don't think you'll let much get past you!"

Cheese making was a difficult process and just the right amount of lactic acid and bacteria fermentation was essential. Sometimes a 'stable flavour' was added! 'Manure gas' resulted when a cow put her foot in the milk pail. Cats would dip their paws into the milk too, adding the aroma of manure, and the farmer couldn't wash the milk, so everything was sent along to the dairy. Oft times there were bad

dairy cans with broken seams where bad bacteria could grow in the milk and this would overrun the desirable type of lactic acid. Farmers were put under quarantine due to their unsanitary methods of cleaning the milk cans.

Albert Belanger, one of twelve children, was born into a cheese making family. His father operated the factory and as soon as Albert could walk, he played around the vats. By age 15, he was a cheesemaker. In 1943, he attended dairy school. In his father's factory, there were sometimes 2 vats, no equipment to cool the milk and lots of long hard hours of work. The priest insisted that there be no work on Sundays, so Saturday nights the whole Belanger Family worked at the production of cheese. Once a kitten was found in a milk can, and another time, a straw hat poured forth upon draining the milk! Of course, there were flies by the thousands because there were no screens on the windows and the kids had to strain the flies off the cheese vats. Bill Olmstead, from Bearbrook, initiated the regulation that screens be installed on factory doors and windows but this was a costly expense for cheesemakers. Every spring, a meeting was held to determine the cheesemakers' pay: 1 ¼ to 1 ½ cents a pound of cheese. The farmers could barely make a living. 10 lbs of milk made 1 lb of cheese. 600 lbs were made daily.

With the advent of electricity in the 1930s, the government declared that refrigerator coolers were necessary. Many cheese factories could not afford the expenses of renovations and closed. In the 1940s, the introduction of stainless steel vats aided the sanitation requirements. The government provided 90 % of the costs for a cheese maker to buy two old factories and build a new factory. In 1956, the Belangers bought Sicotte's and Maisonneuve's factories on the road to Vars and opened their new factory west of Sarsfield on Colonial Road in March 1957. The cost was \$220,000 and they received a grant of \$112,000.

Small factories disappeared as the government put the pressure on for improved sanitation standards. In the early days, whey milk stuck to the joints of the old wooden rakes used in the vats and after they had been washed out with steamy hot water, they 'smelled like hell'. Farmers started to use milking machines and stainless steel strainers rather than milk by hand. The old cheese cloth strainers often harboured a rancid smell. With pasteurization, the quality of cheese improved and cheddar could become aged.

In the early 1900s, cheese factories were situated in various parts of Cumberland Township, close to the farms, so that the transportation of milk would be easily accessible and the quality of milk would be preserved. Some of the factories were:

**East**

1. Sarsfield, end of 19th century, Mr. Lafleur 1901 - 1923 Lot 10 Conc. 4
2. South of Sarsfield, Andre Farmer, 1934, Sicotte's 1946-1956
3. French Hill Lot 3 Conc. 4 Emmanuel Lafleur 1905, Belanger & Sons 1917-1924, Leopold Potvin, 1927-1932, Marcel Paquette destroyed by fire July 4, 1952
4. Clarence Boundary, Wallace Charbonneau, Tommy Morris, Fred Lamarche, Sylvio Larmour 1931, Willy Carr 1947
5. Beckett's Creek
6. Albert Belanger Colonial Road west of Sarsfield 1956-1972

**South East**

1. Frank Reid sold to Mr. Belanger Sr. 1919, closed in 1947.
2. Abe Nelson, road to Vars Lot 13. Con 6, Legault, then Roger Maisonneuve, destroyed by fire
3. Leonard Cheese Factory end of 19th century Lot 14 Con 5 behind Rathwell's Store. Mr. Lafleur closed it and transferred the equipment to Sarsfield.

**South West**

Jack Kyle (his sister Bella married Garnet Hamilton, father of Erwin and Forest) had a cheese factory on the southwest corner of Devine and Frank Kenny Roads.

**Navan**

1. North side between Bradley's and the corners of Colonial and Trim late 1800s Will Monroe and Thomas McWilliams
2. Cement block building, Marshall Rathwell, John Ferguson, 1937-38, Gordon Eadie, Hugh Reid and brother
3. Wall Road and Navan Road intersection, north-west corner Alec MacGregor, Arthur O'Neill, Rosario Chartrand

**North**

1. Massey's Corners
2. John Serson Martin was awarded the contract to make cheese Dec. 13, 1902 on Innes Road west of Frank Kenny, west of SS#10. Evaniste Chartrand, W. H. Cox, Vachon, Thos. McWilliams, John Minogue, Thomas Wilson, Isaac Hodges, William J. Edwards, James Spratt, Thomas Armstrong, John Deavy, John J. Byrnes, Thos. Spratt, Joseph Scharf, Sam Byrnes, Henry Watchorn, John Watchorn, Joseph Legault,

Prosper Rancourt, Regis Huot, and Benom Huot all hauled milk to this factory.

Marcel Belanger taught Stuart Martin, John Serson's son, to make 100% first grade cheese. Stuart passed the trade to his brother Maurice and opened up a garage in Cumberland in the 1940s. Maurice supervised Dalton (Dolly) and Everett who became cheese makers. Martins sold to Tessiers in 1946.

Local cheese factories have disappeared and the only one in Eastern Ontario is in St. Albert. But remember: if you want your adult children to leave home: don't feed them cheese!

*It is impossible to name all of the dairy farms in Cumberland Township, so forgive any errors and omissions. A good winter project for someone would be to annotate all of Cumberland Township farms! We have not mentioned farms in the south part of the township!*

**Old Montreal Road: Rockland to Trim Road**  
(From Terry and Wayne Smith)

Laurin Simoneau, Eli Poupart, Ovide Talbot, Earl Lafontaine, Wolf, Mahoney/ Harold Gibbons, Tom Ryan, John Smith, Norman Smith, Walter Miller, Michaud, Sylvio and Ernest Levesque, Wilfrid Winters, Armand Faubert, Paul Morin, Rene (now Gerry) Lalonde, Lacroix, Jack Sharkey, McNeely, Phil Morin, Stackhouse/Minion, Angus Wilson, Carleton Farmer, MacEachern, Edwards - assorted, McMillan, Hector MacMillan, Ferg Minogue, Kenny, Rollin (just west of Trim). Earl Sharkey is the only farmer left who ships milk today.

**Old Montreal Road: Blair Road to Cumberland Village**  
(From Myles Edwards)

Neil Sorely, Hopkins, Don Sorely, Lemays, Percy Kenny, Leo McNeely, Duford, Vinette Brothers, Doug Taylor, Arthur Charbonneau, Robert Russell, Henry Cardinal, Fergus Minogue, Alcide Rollin, Norman Edwards, Lester Edwards, Hector MacMillan, Jim McMillan, Carleton Farmer.

**Innes Road:** (From Gladys Scharfe Eggert)

Eric Scharfe, Robert Scharfe who also had a large sawmill powered by steam engines, Arnold Scharfe; Frank Deavy; Cecil and Glen Deavy; Borden Scharf, Edmund Scharf; Luchtenberg and Lemay.

**Frank Kenny Road:** (From Abraham Penning)

Brahm Penning farmed on the Edwards Homestead, Lesley Edward's farm. His son -in-law Fred Van Munsteren ships milk from his farm on Giroux, off Dunning Road. John Smits took over Manson Walsh's farm off Frank Kenny and his son, Robert Smits, brother of Rita Dessaint, is a dairy farmer. Bert



Molenaar and his wife Wendy operate their farm on her family farm of Wes Hodges'. Other farming families include Toonders, Bertram, Proulx, Fitzpatrick, Hodges, O'Toole.

**Dairy Farms on Trim Road:** (From Helen Burns and Basil McFadden)

Robert Russell, Carmen Wright, Norman Edwards, Ken Findlay, Rancourts, Grattons, Elke Bakkers, Rouleau, Tony Farley, Walter Christie, Albert Thibodeau, Joe O'Neill, Edgar & Byron Wall, Martin & Robert Burns, Carson Rathwell, Jerry & Pat Grimes, Archie & Stan Edwards, James Cotton & Sons, George Shaw, Lancasters, William Johnson, Ira McWilliams & Sons, Frank McFadden, Ed. St. Denis, William Jackson, Sam Dagg, Charles & Basil McFadden, Mervin Dagg, Adelard & Herve Trudeau, Basil & Barrie Johnson, Ches Moffatt, Perraults, Denis Perrault, Gord McFadden, Richard & Chris McWilliams, Jaren Cotton, Stan, Glen & Wayne Edwards, and Luc Dutrisac remain on Trim Road to ship milk.

**Colonial Road:** (From Rita Dessaint)

Bob Dessaint and Scott Rathwell are the only dairy farmers left who ship milk to either Winchester or Sealtest Dairy on Trim and Old Montreal Roads.

## Farms on Dunning Road from the Village of Cumberland to Colonial Road

by Helen Beaton MacNeill

*I thought that it would be of interest to identify the farms that once were on Dunning Road from the Village of Cumberland to Colonial Road as many of these families are no longer amongst us, and their owner's names would not be remembered. I knew that I would require assistance to do this, and telephoned Gerald Laplante. I thank him for sharing his wealth of knowledge on the farms in the area. I also spoke with Roy Murray and Florence Edwards who shared information and stories with me. Their input was gratefully appreciated. Any mistakes that occur are of my making from hastily written notes.*

**Dunning Road** as we know it was referred to as the 5th line. It divided the land on the west (5th Concession) with that of the land on the east (4th Concession). Farms along Dunning Road in the past were as small as 25 acres to as large as 600 acres.

When you leave the Village of Cumberland, south on Dunning, the first farm on the east side (4th Concession) was that of Arthur Williams, now the home of his grandson David. On the opposite side) was the farm owned by Arthur's son Edwin. This property, Arthur's property and the Brennan Farm (which I will refer to later) are now part of Wilhaven Farms which is run by David and his son Andrew. Part

of this farm was used for housing development, as well as for the location of the local John Deere shop.

**Wilhaven Drive.** The second farm was that of the William Hayes family. Eldred, William's son took over the family farm which stretched from Wilhaven Drive to Fred Regimbald's farm on the 5th Concession, and from Wilhaven Drive to Marcel Lemay's farm on the 4th Concession. With the exception of 33 acres of the West part of Lot C, Concession 4 which was purchased in March of 1998 by Terry and Denise and Ken and Jean Beaton, this land is no longer farmed.

75 acres of the west ½ of Lot B Concession 4 formerly known as the Marcel Lemay farm was bought in 1984 by Mark and Evelyn Beaton. This farm (which had been previously owned by Mark's Kinsella great-grandparents and sold to Ovileau Lemay) joins into Terry Beaton's property to the east and what was the Clifford Hayes' property to the south. The remainder of this property was used for Glenhaven Park and is owned by Bernie Trottier.

Across Dunning Road on the 5th Concession was the Tasse Farm which was bought by Fred and Margo Regimbald who ran a Holstein dairy operation, and is now owned by Fred's nephew, Raymond Regimbald.

Angus Beaton (Mark and Terry's grandfather) purchased the farm next to the Marcel Lemay farm which belonged to another son of William Hayes, Clifford (100 acres of the north half of Lot A Concession 4) on March 9, 1950. This farm was transferred in March of 1998 into Mark Beaton's name.

The next farm on the 5th Concession was owned by the Gilbert Lemay family. This farm has changed owners often since the demise of the Lemay family.

Thomas and Catherine Beaton purchased 100 acres (south ½ Lot A Concession 4) known as the Buckley place on Sept 20, 1899 from a yeoman by the name of John Buckley. This property ran from Clifford Hayes' farm up to the current Beaton Road. This property was left to their son Hector, who in turn sold it to Canadian Hardwoods Ltd. Canadian Hardwoods Ltd. sold the property to Omer Lavergne. This property is still owned by the Lavergne brothers.

Across from the "Buckley" property on the 5th Concession, was the farm of Maurice Lemay. Maurice was not the original. This farm was on the west side of Dunning Road and ran from the Gilbert Lemay farm to the present Innes Road. It is presently owned by Jean Mercier.

**Innes and Dunning Roads.** 100 acres ( west ½ of Lot 1 Concession 4 ) known as the "Dunning" farm was leased in 1914 and then purchased by Thomas and Catherine Beaton on September 13, 1934. This property had been owned by George Gibb Dunning. Thomas and Catherine left this property to their son Herbert. When Herbert died in June of 1959, his brother, Colin Beaton purchased the property. On June 7, 1973, Colin sold the southerly portion of the West ½ of Lot 1, Concession 4 to Bruce and Pat Hill. When he retired from farming in 1964, Colin kept 11 acres of a retirement lot on which Brian and Helen MacNeill and Gail Beaton currently reside. The balance of the farm was sold to Terry and Denise Beaton (Colin's great nephew and niece) for crops.

100 acres (North ½ Lot 1 Concession 5) known as the "Spearman" place was bought by Colin Beaton on April 18, 1930 from Leo Lemay. This property, along with the adjoining 100 acres to the south had been purchased from the Crown by a John Cameron on November 4, 1842. On November 24, 1868 George Gibb Dunning sold these 200 acres to Treffle Vachon. In July of 1898 Treffle Vachon sold the North ½ (100 acres) to Margaret Spearman. In November 1922, Margaret Spearman Burrows sold 100 acres to Onesiphore Lemay and two years later he sold it to his brother Leo. It was on this farm that Gail and Helen Beaton were raised. Colin Beaton sold the 100 acres to Henry and Anne Luchtenberg in 1964. Henry's son John and his wife and family are now farming this land.

100 acres (South ½ Lot I Concession 5) remained in the Vachon name. Theodule and Lena Vachon farmed this property and their son Arthur continued to farm this land. Arthur's son Marcel started an automobile wrecking business on the farm. The property is now owned by Sonshine Auto Parts.

The next farm on the 4th Concession on the top of the hill was originally owned by Oscar Lafrance and sold to the Lavert family. This was run by Paul Lavert and it ran between Bruce and Pat Hill's property and Tony Regimbald's farm.

On the 5th Concession, was the Hector Potvin farm. This farm ran between the Vachon farm and the Ovileau Potvin property. Adelard Regimbald owned the dairy operation on the 4th Concession next to the Lavert farm. This property was left to his son Tony and was used for cash crops after the demise of Tony Regimbald and is currently owned by the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam.

Ovileau Potvin and his wife Lousia raised their family on the farm that now houses the apple orchard next to Hector Potvin's farm. This property is currently owned by Richard Laplante, and ran to the Brennan property.

The Brennan Bros owned the Holstein dairy operation on the 5th Concession from the Ovileau Potvin farm to what is now French Hill Road. Patrick, Martin and Michael Brennan were sons of Martin and Elizabeth Brennan. After the death of Michael Brennan, this farm was sold to David and Andrew Williams.

Between Tony Regimbald and Martin Brennan on the 4th Concession, was the Joe Millette farm (25 acres) which was sold to Claude Mainville. This is the current site of Serge Payant family. The log cabin on the Millette property was sold to Louise Williams to store her antiques and moved on to Wilhaven Farms.

Martin Brennan also owned property across from the farm on the 4th Concession. This property had cherry trees, and a barn which was used to house the young stock. This property was mostly used for crops. It was on this property where the house owned by Francois Maille became a crime scene.

Next to Martin Brennan's property on the 4th Concession, was the farm of Alphonse Larocque. The farm ran south until French Hill Road. The Brennan Bros owned the land east (surrounding Alphonse to the north and the east). The Larocque property is currently used by Naturally Slate. The first farm south of French Hill Road on the 4th Concession was the Zeph Larocque Farm.

Across the road was the Mike Madden Farm. This land was sold to the Brennan Bros, and became part of their 600 acres property. Property not used for housing is owned by David and Andrew Williams.

Rudolph Lafrance's property next to Zeph Larocque on the 4th Concession is currently owned by Pierre Lafrance. Wilfred Murray owned the 50 acres on the 5th Concession between the Madden Farm and Albert Dutrisac. Omer Lafrance owned the farm next to Rudolph Lafrance. Albert Dutrisac owned the property on the 5th Concession next to the 50 acres owned by Wilfred Murray. This farm ran to the present Regimbald Road. Napoleon Robert owned the farm on the 4th Concession that ran from the Omer Lafrance farm to the current Regimbald Road. Ernie Philippe currently resides here.

**Regimbald Road.** Rene Regimbald owned the next farm property on the 4th Concession south of Regimbald Road. This farm is currently operated by Raymond Regimbald. Rene, Tony and Fred were sons of Adelard Regimbald, and all three had farms on Dunning Road.

Across the road on the 5th Concession was the Wilfred Murray Farm. Mr. Murray was Reeve of Cumberland Township. Along with his wife Agatha, they raised two boys, Charlie and Roy. This farm was sold to Billy Mulder, who in turn sold it to the current owners, the Chretiens.

Next to the Rene Regimbald farm on the 4th Concession, was the Lionel Gratton Farm. This property was purchased by Gerald Laplante and he and Claudette and their family raised dairy cattle until they suffered a devastating fire. Upon rebuilding, the Laplante's changed to raising poultry.

South of the Murray farm on the 5th Concession was the Aldage Fournier Farm purchased by Ovida Dutrisac and now the home of Roland Dutrisac.

Dan and Nora Minogue, a brother and sister, owned the next 50 acres which was purchased by Adrien Laplante and is now owned by Adrien's son Gerald. South of the Aldage Fournier farm was the farm of Ernest Dutrisac.

South of the Dan Minogue farm on the 4th Concession, was the Paul Farmer farm. Albert Daoust owned the next farm on the 5th Concession which ran between the Ernest Dutrisac property and Alex Giroux.

Everet Roy owned the next farm on the 4th Concession, currently owned by Roland Laplante. Alex Giroux (grandfather of Gerald Laplante) owned the farm between Albert Daoust and Gerald Berigan. Zoteic Daoust owned the next farm property next to Everet Roy. Gerald Berigan farmed between Alex Giroux and Joe Giroux. Joe Giroux farmed between Gerald Berigan and Leo Laplante.

The last property on the 4th Concession which runs to Colonial Road belonged to Jean Noel Dessaint. The last property on the 5th Concession which runs to Colonial Road belonged to Joe Murray (brother of Wilfred).

**Dairy Farms that exist today on Dunning Road**

1. Wilhaven Farms owned by David and Andrew Williams
2. Braedale Holsteins owned by Terry and Mark Beaton and families
3. John and Bev Luchtenberg
4. Dan Vanden Hanenberg



Jean-Noël Dessaint on his farm (Denrob), August 1941

5. Chretien Family Farms (Wilfred Murray's farm at French Hill)
6. Raymond Regimbald
7. Denis Gascon
8. Ronald and Fern Rollin (Bill Coburn's farm in Leonard)
9. Luc and Benoit Charbonneau (Hayes farm in Bearbrook)







Congratulations to Ruth and Harold Moffatt who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on June 15<sup>th</sup>



Gordon Eadie, Verna Cotton, Albert Belanger  
June 1987



CTHS President Randall Ash presented Doug Lancaster and Terry Morrow with certificates after their presentation at Firefighters Day, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Museum