

THE CABOOSE

Newsletter of the Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS)



Summer 2021

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President's message

Thank you to the large majority who sent in their renewal slips for 2021-2022. And thank you to the approximately twenty members who also indicated their support for the continuing work of your current executive. We are planning an Annual General Meeting for September 8, 2021, so please mark that date.

In this issue we feature the last installment of the Rathwell story to about 1930. We also include the second and final half of

Margaret McNeill's account of her family's immigration to Canada and settlement here.

We note the passing of two of our former members, Patricia Ann Wright from Cumberland and Glen Armstrong from Bearbrook. A distant relative of Glenn's, who visited the Bearbrook area a few years ago, has provided an interesting account of the branching out of the Armstrongs from Bearbrook to the United States.

Finally, the rediscovery of a

community quilt assembled in 1943 that features the stitched-in names of approximately 650 people is creating quite a buzz amongst our members. The quilt was donated to the Cumberland Village Heritage Museum and our Society is working with them to flesh out the histories of the names on the quilt. It will be the feature item at our AGM on September 8. See you there.

Gérard Boyer

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 four times each year by the Cumberland Township Historical Society.

Our Executive
Gérard Boyer, President
Jean-François Beaulieu, Past President
Tom McNeely, Vice-President
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Ivan Tanner, Director
Jeannie Smith, Director
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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



AN INVITATION INTO THE PAST

Cumberland Township Historical Society

In 1941 as the magnitude of the Second World War was beginning to strike home, Canadian families bid farewell to sons and daughters as they enlisted to go overseas.

Many of these young people were wounded or killed in battle, or taken prisoner and sent to POW camps.

How did Cumberland Township residents support their troops? They made a quilt.



Money was collected from family, friends and neighbours, and their names were embroidered onto 87 blocks. 700 names, sewn onto the quilt, raised funds for the Red Cross to send care packages to soldiers.

To learn more about the creation of this quilt and hear the stories of these families attend the Annual General Meeting of CTHS at the Navan Curling Club
Wednesday, September 8th, 7:00 PM



The Rathwells of Navan (Part III)

The patriarch of the family and original Rathwell settler of Navan, Samuel Rathwell, died on his farm in 1903 at the age of 84. He had willed his farm to his son George and a small lot and house on this farm to his spinster daughter Maria (pronounced Mariah by family members).

George and Maria both sold their parts of the farm to their brother Charles Rathwell in 1919. George married Clara Chamberlain, granddaughter of one of Cumberland Township's first pioneers, William Nathan Hoyt (married to Leurancy Dunning). George and Clara Rathwell left Navan and moved west. We were not able to determine what happened to Maria Rathwell, but she is buried in the Anglican cemetery in Navan.

William Rathwell, Samuel's oldest son, died in 1902, at the relatively young age of 52. His nine children were all still living at home.

By 1911, his son Charles Carson was managing the farm with his mother, Agnes. Two of his sisters, Sarah and Mary were also with them. And they had a hired hand, Alfred Pruner. William's oldest son, Marshall, was listed separately with his sister Anne and they kept a boarder, David Fuller. By 1921, William Rathwell's widow Agnes was living with Marshall, who had moved into his uncle Robert's place at 1241 Colonial Road, and still at home were his sisters Anne, Mattie and Alma (the last two were twins). Anne never married and is well remembered as a music teacher in Navan and the organist at St. Mary's Anglican church.

John Rathwell and his wife Johanna Lowe farmed at Lot 8, Concession 8, all of their lives. Their three children, Walter, Nathaniel and Leona all eventually moved west. Nathaniel sold the farm to Harold Shaw in 1947.

(Caboose article in Summer 2020 edition)

Elizabeth Rathwell's story becomes part of the Thomas Wall story after their marriage in 1883. She and her husband spent their life on the Wall homestead and had five children: Howard, Sam, Annie, Beatrice and Florence.

Charles Rathwell purchased and moved to the original Rathwell homestead after his father's death in 1903. He and his wife Amelia had five children: Mary, Emma, Charles Clarke, Maria and Samuel.

Margaret Jane Rathwell lived with her husband George Foster Carr along the Ottawa River between Cumberland and Orléans, on Lot 27, Concession 1 (Old Survey). They had three children: Harold Carson, Cecil and James. They moved west to Saskatchewan sometime around 1907.

Robert Rathwell plied his trade as a blacksmith in Navan for many

years. He and his first wife Ruby Obre had three children: Walter, Percival and Robert. Ruby died in 1915 and Robert later married Gladys Campbell. He died in Westboro, Ottawa, in 1936.

Of the second generation of Rathwells, two would provide a third generation of Rathwells in Navan, the children of William and Charles. This concludes our series of articles on this pioneering family of Navan. It is my hope that a Rathwell descendant will write a proper family history as there is much more that could be included. It is also hoped that someone will take on the task of writing a proper history of the Village of Navan as there is much material available to do so.

Submitted by Gérard Boyer with the thoughtful assistance of Joan Rathwell, Mary Wall and Bob Burns.

New Information on Henry Evans, listed as a labourer on the George Shaw farm in the 1911 Canadian Census

By Laurie Watson

In its Fall 2018 Caboose, The CTHS responded to a request by a Jennie Edwards for information about a Henry Evans listed as a labourer on George Shaw's farm in the 1911 census of Canada. Her grandfather was Henry Charles Evans and he had been a Barnardo boy (a British orphan sent to Canada to work, usually on a farm). The CTHS did not have any information to add to Ms. Edwards' request but did publish information about the George Shaw family and added a photo of the Navan cenotaph with the name Henry Evans listed as a casualty of the First World War.

I took it upon myself to do more research into the Henry Evans who was listed as living with the Shaws in Navan in 1911. The Barnardo records show the boy living in Navan was named Henry Arthur Evans and that he came to Canada in 1907. Ms. Edwards was looking

for Henry Charles Evans who came in 1901.

Henry Evans from Navan did serve in WWI. He never returned to Navan, and was presumed killed in the war (which may well have happened). His memory was not forgotten, and his name has been written on all of the Honour Rolls kept in the village ever since, and it is engraved on the Navan Cenotaph. The original Cenotaph committee had used documentation from the Book of Remembrance, Veterans Affairs and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to document that Private H A Evans of the Canadian Expeditionary Force died on September 4, 1915, and is buried at La Plus Douve Farm Cemetery in France. They believed that this material was proof of the death of the young Barnardo boy, Henry Evans, from Navan. Researching this H A Evans' service record in Library & Archives Canada quickly

reveals, however, that H A Evans was Henry Arthur Evans born in 1879 – an 18-year age difference from the Henry Arthur Evans of Navan – and that the older fellow was married and living in Tribune, Saskatchewan when he enlisted. They are two different men!

From a Barnardo Homes report in 1920 it appears that the younger Henry Arthur Evans (the Navan boy) returned to England and joined the British Expeditionary Force. That would explain why there is no Canadian Expeditionary Force record on him. Almost all the British WWI service records were destroyed and there are only collateral records such as medal records or pay records left to document British service people of WWI.

Commonwealth War Graves records show that there were several Henry Evans who served and died in the British Expeditionary Force,

but their records are very basic and have very little biographical information.

However, I did find some information with regards to the Harry Charles Evans that Jennie Edwards was looking for. He was born in Birmingham, England, on September 25, 1888, and his wife was Ellen Edwards of 512 Aylmer St., Perborough, Ontario. He served in WWI, was wounded twice, but survived and was given a medical discharge in late 1918 due to Tachycardia. He returned to Toronto in 1919. Unfortunately, Jennie Edwards had contacted the CTHS using its previous e-mail address, and we have lost contact with her.

So three Evans who fought in the First World War have also become entwined in our research for the one who lived in Navan.

My Connection to Bearbrook, Cumberland Township, Ontario, Canada

Prepared June 2021

- First Generation:** **Charles Armstrong (1785-1857) & Mary Ann Hayes (1806-after 1881)**
Both born in Ireland. Married 23 Oct 1826, Saint Andrew's East, Quebec.
They settled in the Bearbrook area in the mid-1830's.
They had 9 children. #7 was a son, [John F. Armstrong](#)
- Second Generation:** **John F. Armstrong (1839-1919) & Jane Hayes (1842-1913)**
John was born in Bearbrook, Ontario. Jane was born in Hawkesbury, Ontario.
They married 20 June 1863, Hawkesbury, Ontario, and settled in Bearbrook.
They had 13 children. #4 was a son, [James Edward Armstrong](#)
- Third Generation:** **James Edward Armstrong (1867-1903) & Mary Alice Lloyd (1875-1955)**
James was born in Bearbrook, Ontario. Mary was born in Marengo, Iowa, USA
They married 6 June 1898, Denver, Colorado, USA.
They had 3 children. #2 was a daughter, [Mary Alice Armstrong](#)
- Fourth Generation:** **Mary Alice Armstrong (1901-1988) & Clyde Raymond Johns (1901-1982)**
Mary Alice was born in Denver, Colorado, USA. Clyde was born in Munroe Falls, Ohio, USA. They were married 24 Dec 1921, Monterrey, California, USA.
They had 3 children. #2 was a daughter, [Gwendolynn Harriette Johns](#)
- Fifth Generation:** **Gwendolynn Harriette Johns (1925-2013) & William Francis Webb (1925-2004)**
Gwenn was born in Akron, Ohio, USA. William was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
They were married 31 Oct 1945, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
They had 7 children. #2 was a daughter, [Catherine Elaine Webb](#)
- Sixth Generation:** **Catherine Elaine Webb (1950) & Kerry Clyde Juchau (1951)**
Catherine was born in Hayward, California, USA. Kerry was born in Pocatello, Idaho, USA. They were married 24 June 1977, Oakland, California, USA, and currently reside in Surprise, Arizona, USA.
They have 2 children and 7 grandchildren:
- Seventh Generation:** Adrian Tyler Juchau (1980, Phoenix, Arizona) & Lisa Michelle Funk (1973), married 2005 in American Fork, Utah, USA. Divorced 2017. Adrian currently lives in Cedar Hills, Utah. Christina Erin Juchau Ly (1981, Phoenix, Arizona) & Nhan Viet Ly (1974, Vietnam), married 2000 in Mesa, Arizona, USA. They currently live in Murrieta, California, USA.
- Eighth Generation:**
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lauren Taylor Ly | (2004, Kansas City, Missouri, USA) |
| Gwendolynne Michelle Juchau | (2006, Payson, Utah, USA) |
| John-Michael Tyler Juchau | (2007, Provo, Utah, USA) |
| Ryan Caleb Ly | (2007, Wildomar, California, USA) |
| Elisabeth Grace Juchau | (2009, Provo, Utah, USA) |
| Katelyn Amber Ly | (2010, Wildomar, California, USA) |
| Katherine Amelia Juchau | (2011, American Fork, USA) |

From Cumberland Township to Surprise, Arizona, USA

by Catherine E. Juchau

It is now summer of 2021 and I am six generations removed from the ancestral Armstrongs of Cumberland Township, Ontario, Canada, yet I am still very much attached to Bearbrook because of them. Without getting bogged down in the complexities of the genealogy, I will weave it in as I tell this story. My personal research has brought me to exactly the same information as so many other Armstrong family genealogists, which is now available in [The Early History of Cumberland Township 1798-1840](#), Beaton, Boyer, Sequin, Smith and Watson, *pages 66 and 209*, published by Burnstown Publishing House in 2020.

My 3rd great-grandparents were Charles Armstrong (1775-1857) and Mary Ann Hayes (1806-circa 1882), both of Ireland, who married in St. Andrew's East, Quebec, in 1826. About 10 years later they settled on two hundred acres of land designated as Lot 24, Concession 6 of Cumberland Township, Ontario. Charles and Mary Ann were the parents of nine children, number seven of whom was a son, John F. Armstrong (1839-1919), my second great-grandfather.

John married Janes Hayes (1842-1913) of Hawkesbury, Ontario, in 1863. Together they became the parents of thirteen children, which were born and raised in Bearbrook. Their first child was Charles Abbott Armstrong (1864-1941), and the fourth was James Edward Armstrong (1867-1903), my first great-grandfather. This is where the family begins to splinter and migrate to the United States. While Charles is not my direct ancestor, his brief inclusion in this story is important in showing the movement of his younger brother, James Edward.

On 23 June 1894, Charles married Elizabeth Ann Heather in Houghton County, Michigan, USA. The 1900 US Federal Census recorded that Charles immigrated to the United States in 1888 and that Elizabeth had immigrated from England with her family in 1882. The marriage record for Charles and Elizabeth indicates that James Edward Armstrong, brother of Charles, acted as a witness to their union. Referring again to the 1900 US Federal Census, the record indicates that James Edward Armstrong immigrated to the US in 1893, five years after his older brother.

What brought these men to the States is unknown today and those who might be able to shed some light on their decisions, travel, and daily labors have long since passed on. US Census records from 1900 through 1920 indicate that Charles remained in the Houghton County, Michigan, area working in law enforcement as a police officer and deputy sheriff. Sometime before the 1930 census he and his family moved to Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, where he worked as a night watchman for an adding machine company.

James Edward Armstrong was more commonly known among his family and friends as "Ed." Details as to why Ed left Bearbrook, what he came to the States in search of, where he crossed the border, how long it took him to get to his final destination (if he even had a final destination in mind), the route he took, and what he might have done along the way, are not available to us.

What we do know is that on 6 June 1898, approximately five years after he left Bearbrook, and four years after he witnessed the marriage of his brother, Charles, in Michigan, Ed married Mary Alice Lloyd (1875-1955) in Denver, Arapaho County (now Denver County), Colorado, USA. After the wedding reception and luncheon at the home of Mary's mother, Ed and Mary left for a six-week honeymoon trip to Bearbrook,

presumably to introduce his beautiful bride to his family, as well as show her the area where he was born and raised. Ed and Mary were the parents of three children: James Edward Lloyd Armstrong (1900-1986), Mary Alice Armstrong (1901-1988), and Cecil Leslie Armstrong (1903-1973). Ed worked as a landscape gardener and a furnace cleaner.

The third of five children, Mary Alice Lloyd was born in Marengo, Iowa, USA, to James Lloyd (1850-1886) and Harriet Baker (1850-1918), both of England. The Lloyd family moved from Marengo, Iowa, to Denver, Colorado, USA, sometime between September and December of 1880.

Heading home after work on the evening of 2 March 1903, Ed and a co-worker were riding their bicycles between the tracks of the local electric streetcar system, with Ed in the lead. Peddling with his head down, he did not see the oncoming streetcar speeding towards him. When he finally became aware, he tried to swerve to miss it, but veered into the car rather than away from it. The car hit him with full force, propelling him 20 feet down the tracks. Within a few hours after the impact Ed died from a fractured skull, leaving behind his pregnant wife and two young children. He was buried at Riverside Cemetery, Denver, Colorado. After news of Ed's death reached Bearbrook, his mother, Jane, wore a brooch holding a picture of her deceased son all her remaining days.

One might think Ed's story ends there, but it does not. Six years later, in 1909, his widowed wife, Mary, married John August Giem, a widower with three children of his own. Together they had two more children, both little girls who died at birth and were buried alongside John's first wife's grave at the Cañon City Cemetery in Cañon City, Colorado. These were difficult and trying times. The family moved frequently looking for work to provide for their needs. They moved from the Denver area to Guthrie, Oklahoma, and later to the Carmel and Monterey areas of Central Coastal California, USA, before settling down again.

The second child born to Ed and Mary was a little girl named Mary Alice. Yes, she was given the same name as her mother, but to differentiate between them, their daughter was called by her middle name, Alice. Alice was my grandmother. Since Alice was less than 16 months old when her father was killed, the only father figure she knew growing up was Mr. Giem, under whose charge she claimed to have had a very unhappy childhood. Even so, she dutifully submitted to the authority of her stepfather and made the best of her relationships where ever they moved. It was while living in Carmel that she met Clyde Raymond Johns at a party, shortly after he had been discharged from the Navy. They were married 24 December 1921 in Monterey, California. Clyde was born in Ohio.

Clyde (1901-1982) and Alice had three children together: Eugene Clyde Johns (1923-2011), Gwendolynn Harriette Johns (1925-2013), and Wayne Cecil Johns (1928-2016). For the most part, the family remained in California in the Monterey and Pacific Grove areas, but by the time their children were in high school, they had settled a little further north in Hayward, California. Clyde worked as a carpenter, often leaving his family behind while he sought steady work. He frequently spent long periods of time working in Alaska and Arizona.

Clyde and Alice's daughter, Gwendolynn (Gwenn), met her future husband, William Francis Webb (1925-2004) while attending high school in Hayward. His family had come to California in the late 1930s from Salt Lake City, Utah (where he was born), searching for better employment opportunities. Bill and Gwenn were married 31 October 1945. Together they had seven children.

That's where I come in. I am Catherine Elaine Webb, second child of Bill and Gwenn, born December 1950 - that was over 70 years ago, folks. In 1957 our growing family moved from Hayward to Pleasanton, California, which is where I remained until I married Kerry Clyde Juchau 24 June 1977. Shortly after our marriage we moved to Glendale, Arizona, to establish ourselves as independent adults and start our own family. We have two children who were born and raised in Glendale, but who now reside in other states. Our son, Adrian, lives in Utah with his four children. Our daughter, Christina, lives in Southern California with her husband and three children. After 38 years of living in a beautiful 2-story home, my husband and I moved from Glendale to Surprise, Arizona, to a more accommodating single-story home. Arthritis is a pain, ya know!

In early 2015, my two sisters and I traveled to Canada for the primary purpose of visiting the Bearbrook Parish Cemetery of the Trinity Anglican Church, where so many of our Armstrong ancestors are buried. While we were planning this once-in-a-lifetime trip, I discovered a new piece of information about the Armstrongs had been posted on Ancestry.com by a contributor named Kathy Walsh. I reached out to Kathy, asking if she would share the source of this information. Much to my delight, we discovered that we were related and she invited me to visit sometime. Really? I let her know that we already had confirmed reservations to be in the Bearbrook area for a few days in mid-April. She immediately offered to show us around and invited us to meet some of our other cousins. We loved our time with Kathy Walsh, Sharen and Glen Armstrong, other members of their families, as well as Norman Fraser, all of whom are second cousins to us through the younger siblings of our great-grandfather, James Edward Armstrong.



April 21, 2015

Standing L-R: Cathy Juchau, Glen and Vicki Armstrong, Sharen Armstrong, Kathy Walsh and Trish Hodge
Seated: Alisa Fullmer

Remembering Glen Armstrong (1951-2021)

Glen Armstrong died tragically on his own farm on May 16 of this year. Most of our readers knew him much more than I did. I would like to share two stories about Glen and then one "hope".

Glen travelled to Barry's Bay

one winter with a hockey crew organized by my brother, Frank Boyer. It had to have been in the late 1970's or sometime in the 1980's. The temperature was -30. The team slept in a concrete-block uninsulated building used by a

local snowmobile club. But it did have a huge barrel wood-stove in the centre which eventually moved the temperature up to non-freezing conditions. I remember showing up early the next morning to visit the boys, and Glen was already

up early with a few others playing cards, with that ever-present grin on his face.

My second recollection was meeting with Glen, his sister Sharen and their cousin, in his home, in order to confirm his family's genealogy in preparation for a written history of Cumberland Township and to organize a meeting with some distant American cousins who had never been to Bearbrook. Imagine – not having been to Bearbrook!

My hope is that Glen did get to read the short section about his Moffatt ancestors in the book *The Early History of Cumberland Township*. He truly carried on a proud family tradition in Cumberland Township that began back in 1836.

Gerry Boyer



James Edward (Ed) Armstrong
1867-1903



Mary Alice Lloyd
1875-1955



Ed & Mary
Married June 6, 1898



Children of Ed and Mary in 1907:
James Edward Lloyd Armstrong (7)
Mary Alice Armstrong (6)
Cecil Leslie Armstrong (4)



Mary Alice Armstrong
1901-1988



Clyde Raymond Johns & Mary Alice Armstrong
Married December 24, 1921
Picture taken summer 1980, both age 79



Mary Alice Armstrong Johns
1988, age 87



Gwendolynn Harriette Johns
1925-2013



William Francis Webb & Gwendolynn Harriette Johns
Married October 31, 1945
Picture taken 1988, both age 63



Gwendolynn Harriette Johns Webb
March 2013, age 88



Catherine Elaine Webb
1950-
Picture taken 1976, age 26



Kerry Clyde Juchau and Catherine Elaine Webb Juchau
Married June 24, 1977
Picture taken 2020, age 70

Patricia Anne Wright (Haughton)

May 20, 1927 – December 7, 2016

Pat passed peacefully at Glacier View Lodge and will be missed not only by her family but by her many friends she made since retiring in the Comox Valley and those she made at her former residence in Cumberland, Ontario. Pat very much enjoyed her time as a Hospice Volunteer and being able to provide comfort to those in need. She had a great sense of humour and loved life. Her positive spirit will always be remembered.

Dear mother of Anthony, Andrew, Alex, Marie (Paul Mainville) and Shelagh. Survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Our most sincere thanks to the wonderful care from all the staff at Glacier View Lodge. Service to be held at a later date.

Jan 1, 2016 OBITUARY from the Comox Valley Record



Docked in Montreal harbor

Upon arrival, we were met by the Immigration Officer and put on the train to Ottawa with only \$50 to our names. At the Ottawa train station an Immigration Officer found us lodging at a house on Osgoode Street in Sandy Hill close to the park. On Monday morning Dick went to the office to find out where we would be living as a farm worker.



At Hazeldean with other laborer's children

Our family was assigned to Wilkie Seabrook in Hazeldean. Our housing was to share a two-car garage converted to 2 apartments with a family on each side – very crowded for 5 people. Immediately Dick was put to work in the hay mow as it was hay season – he lost 20 lbs in the first month from the heat. One Saturday, Dick wanted to have a haircut so Margaret walked with him to Stittsville and back. When we got home, Hazel had homemade chicken soup on the stove – it was the best we ever tasted.

Margaret and Henry went to a one room school a short walk from the farm that had grades 1 to 8 and the teacher was ancient.

In late October, Dick purchased a second-hand bike and rode it to Ottawa to visit the Immigration office to ask for a different farm.

On November 8th, with all our belonging, we rode in a taxi to Navan to work on Basil Johnston's farm. Our new home was a new cinder block house with 3 bedrooms, kitchen/dining room and living room. The following May, Priscilla was born.

Cindy was looked after by the Johnston family and Margaret looked after Henry and Dick while Hazel was in the hospital for a week.



Priscilla was born 5 May 1958



Basil Johnston's farm house (2013) – removed since 1958

On the day that Hazel came home with Priscilla, Eileen McFadden, Myrtle Johnston and Mrs. Lagamaat brought in a complete roast beef dinner to welcome them both home.



South road gang ladies Evelyn Johnston, Lois Dagg, Kay Dagg, Alice Brereton, Donna Hayes, Diana Brown, Eileen Vaillancourt and Doreen McFadden- cut off

The McFaddens, Dagg, Vaillancourts, McWilliams, St Denis and Johnston families immediately adopted the Matthews family into all their activities and helped integrate everyone into the community of Navan.



Allan was born 17 May 1962



Ivan was born 4 October 1965 – his second name is Charles after Charles McFadden



DB Brown's farm house - we lived in from 1962-67 at Vars



Tug of war with our Navan family and friends



Doreen was born 27 July 1967



Lived in Remi Cleroux's house in 1960-62 and 1966-68



Our family farm in Navan 1968



Ivan and Kathy took over the farm in 1985 – 2013 picture



2012 Family picture

**Back Row: Allan, Doreen, Ivan, Sylvia (Cindy) and Henry
Front Row: Margaret, Hazel and Priscilla**

Memories put together by Henry and Margaret