

THE CABOOSE

Newsletter of the Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS)



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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*

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Past President

Tom McNeely,

Vice-President

Gilles Chartrand,

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Ross Bradley, Director

Ivan Tanner, Director

Jeannie Smith, Director

Christine Boyer, Website.

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



Cumberland Township History and Heritage, Ours to keep

President's message

Thank you to Denise Beaton for our highlight in this edition: a Dale family commemoration this past summer.

We congratulate the Russell History Society for getting a plaque of the Old Forced Road into the ground just north of Russell. The

Russell History Society has had more luck in getting that plaque in the ground than we have so far; we have two plaques ready, but are caught up in unexpected administrative challenges. More in the next issue.

We have included renewal slips

for 2022-2023 in this issue only for those who have not yet renewed. If you have not been sent one, thank you for having renewed.

Finally, please indicate interest in The World War II Cumberland Blue Quilt Companion so that we can estimate how many copies to publish. Check out the article herein.

Gérard Boyer

Pre-Order for WWII Cumberland Blue Quilt



Companion Book

Sometime in 1943, a group of Cumberland Village women stitched 722 names into a blue and white quilt as part of a Red Cross fund-raising effort to support Canadian troops in WWII. People paid 25 cents to have their name, the name of a relative, the name of a co-worker, the name of a place, even the name of a dog, stitched into this quilt. Luckily, this quilt has been carefully preserved by City of Ottawa staff.

This year, Jeannie Smith spearheaded an effort to have each of the names identified and some of their stories told from that time period. The book is designed with a picture of each quilt block (there are 90 in total) next to which are the eight names, short bios and family relationships of those inscribed. Many photos and anecdotes from that time period have also been included.

We expect that this companion

book to the WWII blue quilt will cost somewhere between \$30.00 and \$40.00. We are attempting to establish how many copies to print. We ask our members to let us know if you are interested in purchasing one or several copies of it by contacting a member of the Cumberland Township Historical Society executive as soon as possible. All we need right now is your name and number of copies that you would possibly wish to purchase.

If you know of non-members who may be interested, please have them contact any member of the executive or by emailing us at historicalcumberland@gmail.com. We will need an e-mail or post office address or phone number in order to contact non-members. We will also need a desired number of copies for each.

There is no obligation to purchase at this time. We are simply gauging interest.

Gérard Boyer (President)

Jeannie Smith (Director and lead editor of the book).

What a Navan Fair it was!!!



Gérard Boyer, President, Tom McNeely, Vice President

It had been three years since the last Navan Fair. I flew in from Thunder Bay on Thursday afternoon and walked over to the fair grounds that evening. All of the workers and volunteers just seemed to be in a happy mood. Thanks to Gilles Chartrand and Ivan Tanner, our historical booth was ready to roll. City of Ottawa employees had mounted and delivered the very precious Cumberland WWII blue quilt. Jeannie Smith had five copies of the accompanying manuscript for the quilt ready for public viewing and editing. Our stock of reading

material was neatly laid out. It felt good to be back!

And the weather co-operated, sometimes a little too well with afternoon temperatures into the 30oC. Thank you to all of the members and individuals who dropped by. Thank you to all of our executive for their cooperative manning of our booth, and to a few extras who helped out as well.

An extra bonus for me was having the Orléans Health Hub fund raisers sitting next to us. It was pleasant spending time with my uncle Phil McNeely, a key promoter



Ivan Tanner, Director; Dave Williams, Member and Jeannie Smith, Director

of the Health Hub. And a pleasant surprise was spending time with Carol Kennedy, who was donating proceeds of the sale of two Kennedy family books, *Black Crosses on my Wingtip* and *Just Call me Eva*, to the fund-raising effort. I read both books over the next two weeks and enjoyed them thoroughly. I highly recommend both as personal and moving testimonials of "Bus" Kennedy's very humble and accurate account of his WWII military pilot experience and of Eva Kennedy's outstanding life as a daughter, sister, wife, mother

and village nurse of Cumberland village and surrounding area. I look forward to the historical commemoration of Cumberland Township and Orléans medical health pioneers at the Orléans Health Hub in the near future. And by the way, the Health Hub is still looking for contributions to complete the community portion of its construction.

If you decide to make a donation, please indicate that your donation is in support of the Commemoration of Healthcare Pioneers of Orléans and Cumberland Township.

A Letter From Donna MacEachern

Dear Gérard

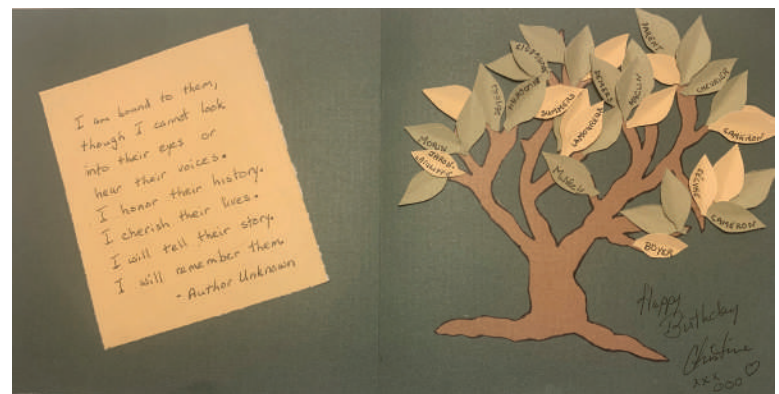
Hello again, I just wanted to write and give you and your staff kudos for the Winter Edition as given by the daughters of the Butenschon family and their life story of their family's immigration from Germany to Leonard, Ontario. I thoroughly enjoyed the stories from each girl from landing in Canada and to present day status. As Don (MacEachern) and I were dating in the early fifties, we attended many of the dances that were held in Leonard on Saturday nights during the summer months then we could have even bumped into the oldest girl Elke (Rathwell) if she would've been there. This story was dear to my heart because my mother, Clara Nuttall, was raised by her immigrant German Grandparents, so it all comes home, so the saying goes. Secondly, it is history from the 1900s to present and to me it means a lot. We had a project once in school in Grade 7 to do an essay on the history and background of some of Cumberland's older residents. I thoroughly enjoyed it and also scored high with my project. So once more, Gérard, keep up the good work.

Sincerely Donna MacEachern

A Sister's Birthday Card

I thought I would share this birthday card in the light of what members of our historical society attempt to do.

Gérard Boyer



McKees, a response from our last issue featuring McKees in Cumberland Township

Many Irish records were destroyed when the English bombarded the four courts in Dublin where they were kept in 1921. However, in recent years they have been reconstructing records from Parishes, civil courts and even by analysing the charred remains from the 1921 fire.

What I can tell you is that McKee has two derivatives. The Irish and Catholic McKee is a corruption of MacAoidh which means son of Hugh. Hugh was an O'Neill so we are a branch of that family which dominated the northern part of Ireland (and parts of Scotland) for centuries. The other McKee is Scottish and can be derived from the same 'son of hugh' or from scots gaelic maccaoch(?), 'son of the blind one'. This McKee group can claim the McKay tartan and came over with the plantation in the 16-17th centuries. They would have been Protestant.

In the mid-1800s there were radical changes in Irish society. The Irish famine (an gorta mor) in the 1840s is well known but there had been other potato blights and crop failures throughout the early 1800s. Also, the imposition of taxes on Irish produce by England (tariffs were imposed on all products even if intended for consumption in Ireland itself) made for a hard time for those living off the land - many as renters not owners. This certainly led to emigration of farmers throughout the 19th century.

Many were lured by advertisements from landowners in Canada and US who needed people to farm their lands. Indeed, I have a reproduction of an ad sent from St. Lawrence County in New York to Ireland and the UK with

testimonials about the great land and farming opportunities and signed by some settlers (One person is a McVeigh from Glenavy, Co Antrim which was my 3 time great grandmother's name and the village she came from)

Another economic shift was the industrialization of the linen industry. Throughout the 18th and early 19th century many families were weavers and spinners in their homes (my 4 times great grandmother was listed in an 1852 census as a Spinner (she was 70 at the time). However, the commercialization of the industry led to the establishment of large factories in Belfast = their chimney stacks still stood when I was growing up in the 70s. Many families moved to the city which saw immense growth over this period. Others left for England or North America.

One other common occurrence was that people came here and settled where some of their kinfolk, or neighbours in Ireland had settled. Letters home would have spoken of the great opportunities and many had their way paid for by these relatives (or the landowners). Unsettled social and economic conditions in Ireland made it an easier decision to move.

One last thing by sheer coincidence I was staffing our History Hub in Kemptville yesterday doing an Irish heritage session. One lady came looking for info on her McLaughlin ancestors - Catholics from Antrim. She is going to a family reunion soon and will come back with more info so we can do a better search.

Brian McKee, July 2022

Joséphine (née Doutre) Ramonida

Shirley Hosler Fromaget wrote us a letter dated August 2, 2022. She asked for information about her grandmother, Joséphine Doutre, who married Victor Ramonida¹ in St-Jacques Catholic church, Embrun, Ontario on October 2, 1882.

Joséphine was born in Curran, Ontario, on April 4, 1866. She was baptized two days later in St Luc, parish church of Curran. Her parents were Maxime Doutre and Philomène Payet dit St-Amour². Maxime Doutre must have acquired a farm somewhere between Curran and Embrun in the township of Cambridge, Russell County. They would have been a devout Roman Catholic and French-speaking family. They were probably originally from today's province of Québec, but it would take more searching to discover this.

In 1881, one year before Joséphine was married, the family consisted of her parents, 38 and 37 years old, herself (15), Maxime (7), Philomène (7), Rose (5), Anna (3) and Joseph (2).

As we mentioned above, she married Victor Ramonida on October 2, 1882. He was originally from France. The wedding certificate stated that he was a railway man.

We have Canadian records for the following children of Victor and Joséphine, while they lived between Embrun and Curran:

Philomène was born in 1883 but died two years later from croup.

Twins Pierre and William were born and baptized in 1886.

Louis was born in 1890.

The last Canadian records we have for this family are the following:

The 1891 census of Canada records Victor, Joséphine, Pierre and William and Louis living in Hochelaga Ward, Hochelaga, Montreal. Louis' death is recorded 10 years later and he was buried in St-Bidgid parish cemetery in Montreal in 1900.

Family history tells us that three more children were born to Victor and Joséphine: François in 1895, Joséphine Matilda in 1897 and Auguste in 1899. But we have not found any of their birth or baptism records in Canada. Then at some point a child is born in the United States to Joséphine Doutre and Adélar Fromaget. Joséphine's first husband, Victor Ramonida, is recorded as dying in 1933.

We would need some help from American descendants and researchers to help us with this last paragraph.

1 Ramonida is the spelling used in the church documents. We have also seen Ramoneda, Romoneda and Romonado.

2 She was later known as Philomène St-Amour, as the first part of her compound last name was dropped.



June 12, 2022

To: Our Cumberland, Ontario Cousins – Descendants of William Dale and Mary Lough, and Thomas Kinsella and Eleanor McKee

From: Descendants of Russell Pease Dale and Jennie McClellan Dale

Greetings from the United States.

We very much would rather be with you in person, here in Cumberland, jointly honoring our mutual relatives and commemorating this lovely memorial marker. Please know that we are with you in spirit.

Growing up, we often heard stories of our ancestors coming across the Atlantic to settle and farm in Cumberland. We had even heard a rumor that there was a Dale Cemetery connected to these ancestors. But those were just stories until just recently when our eldest cousin, Margaret Dale, made a connection with Terry's wife, Denise, through the genealogical website, Ancestry.

One thing led to another and a few years ago, most of the US Dale cousins ended up visiting Cumberland and meeting Terry, Earl, Dave, and their families. What a lovely place to be descended from, and what terrific cousins to be related to. Who would have thought?

While here in Cumberland, we visited this cemetery and learned that there were several mutual relatives that had no markers, and after several conversations, we agreed with our Canadian cousins that recognizing and honoring those ancestors was a good thing to do – together.

And so, in spirit, we proudly join you today in “unveiling” this memorial stone of our relatives buried here and celebrate with you the friendships we have forged through our ancestral connections.

Sincerely,

Margaret Lane Dale – Auburndale, Massachusetts

Carol Margaret Devine – Ithaca, New York

Nancy Jane Dale – West Roxbury, Massachusetts

Peter James Devine – Garland, Maine

Susan Lee Dale – Roslindale, Massachusetts

Sarah Jane Dale – Brighton, Massachusetts

Amy Ferguson Dale – Alexandria, Virginia

The family of John Fenton Dale – Middlebury, Vermont

Dedication of the William Dale & Mary Lough Family Headstone

Dale's Cemetery in Cumberland held its annual Memorial Service on June 12, 2022, during which there was a special dedication of the William Dale (1805-1895) & Mary Lough (1815-1855) family headstone. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the service and dedication had to be postponed until this June. The land for this cemetery was sold by William Dale & his wife, Mary Lough, in 1836, hence the Dale's Cemetery. This couple and many of their 10 children were buried there, but they had no marker. In October 2019, Earl & Dave Sharkey and their American Dale relatives chipped in to erect this headstone and honour their ancestors (picture attached). As part of the dedication, a very nice letter written by these American relatives was shared with the audience. They came for a quick visit in October 2018 and again for a longer one in August 2019 when an exploration of Dalesville, Quebec, was made with the Sharkeys and the Beatons in search of a possible connection to Daniel Dale (1785-1865) who founded Dalesville. No such definite link has been found to date, although some people on Ancestry.ca have Daniel down as William's father. We suspect that they were rather uncle and nephew, but we could be wrong.

A headstone was erected a few years ago in Dale's Cemetery for John “Jack” Dale's family. The names of his parents, James Dale & Mary Haney were added on the back of that tombstone in 2019 by Amy (Dale) & Fred Jones.

For more details on the Dale family, see the book published by the CTHS *The Early History of Cumberland Township 1798-1840*.
Submitted by Denise Beaton

Names of the Descendants Standing Behind the Dale Headstone:

Front: Paula Findlay & Pamela Lafrance (their mother was Vera Dale 1919-1978); Amy Jones, 94 yrs old (the oldest living Dale descendant, daughter of John “Jack” Dale 1889-1970); Susan Bucciarelli (Amy & Fred Jones' daughter); Stacey Findlay (Paula's daughter)

Middle: Lois Deavy (related to Mabel Magladry, John “Jack” Dale's wife); Megan & Sarah Sharkey (Dave & Judy Sharkey's daughters); Fred Jones (Amy's husband); Shannon Findlay (Paula's daughter)

Back: Frederick Jones junior (Amy & Fred's son); Terry Beaton (my husband, related through the two Kinsella sisters who married two Dale brothers, sons of William Dale & Mary Lough); David “Dave” Sharkey; Eric Sharkey (Dave & Judy's son); Earl Sharkey.

