



Rev. Brian DeLong, Wentworth United Church minister, and his wife, Debbi DeLong, volunteer to help in the kitchen during a Pancake Supper at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

Wentworth Pancake Supper A SUCCESS

By Hope Bridgewater

The Wentworth Recreation Centre held a successful pancake supper recently in March, 2012, with an intergenerational volunteer staff ranging from teenage years to senior years. The executive of the Recreation Centre, Betty Curry (Chair), Bob Smith (Treasurer) and Carol Hyslop (Secretary), Mary Ann Jay (Director of the Kitchen) and Joanne Ferdinand (Director of the Floor), were all deeply involved in all the details of the supper, before and after.

Claire Patriquin and Pearl Crowley welcomed from 4 pm to 6:30 pm over 300 people and had available supper tickets. At a nearby table, Jean Bentley and her daughter Sandra Moss had for sale maple sugar products in the form of maple syrup, maple cream and maple butter. The Bentley farm taps 35,000 maple trees. The supper is a celebration of maple syrup poured over hot pancakes as Cumberland County is known for its many maple sugar farms.

At another table sponsored by the Wentworth Recreation Association, Jean Wood was selling tickets on a donated quilt in order to raise funds for cancer research. Jean Wood was selling tickets for the same quilt at the Old Time Music Afternoon on March 25.

Director of the Floor, Joanne Ferdinand, supervised a volunteer staff to direct the people to their seats, direct them to food served buffet style, keep an eye on table space, serve them drinks, and answer any questions. The volunteers included Melanie Sprague, Zachery McMaster, Ben Ferdinand, Christie Henderson, Julie Murphy, Laura Adams, Stephen Ferdinand, Jim Henderson, Debby Alexander, and Jamie Alexander.

Director of the Kitchen, Mary Ann Jay, supervised 12 volunteer staff to have the food ready to serve buffet style. Rev. Brian DeLong, minister at the Wentworth United Church, received the supper tickets from the people and

kept track of the count. Winston Patriquin prepared and stirred up the pancake batter with Reg Jay cooking plain pancakes while Marie Duranceau and Carla Guion cooked blueberry pancakes. Peggy Patriquin collected the pancakes and organized them for serving. As well, both Mary Ann and Reg Jay had cooked many sausages.

Carol Hyslop, Mary Ann Jay and Debbi DeLong were stationed at the counter and served the food buffet style. They served hot pancakes with plenty of maple syrup, sausages, baked beans, and brown bread. Later, Carol Hyslop left the counter to tend the commercial dishwasher as stacks of used dishes came back. Peggy Patriquin removed the sterilized dishes and utensils from the dishwasher and put them back in place. Kitchen work extended out into the hall where tables stretched out in front of the stage and were covered with a many kinds of cakes. Bob Smith, Eleanor Sprague, and Twila McMaster cut the cakes into generous pieces and had the people choose which cake they liked for dessert.

While the pancakes and sausages were cooked on site, baked beans, brown bread, and many varieties of cakes were baked at home by volunteer cooks who also donated the cost of the baking materials to the Recreation Centre.

Betty Curry as volunteer organized four other volunteer musicians to be on the stage for the public to hear "old-time" music, and it greatly added to the spirit of enjoyment at the supper. Betty Curry and Winnie MacKinnon (piano), Dave Bagnell and Curtis MacKinnon (violins), and Marilyn Tattrie (banjo) played waltzes, jigs, reels, fox-trots, polkas, and hop-polkas with skill and enthusiasm.

Bass River Fire Brigade News

By Peter Christensen

Well tomorrow (March 21) is the first day of spring. Hot dog, less heat needed from the old wood stove. Less wood needed to burn, and less cresote should end up the flue.

Went to a flue fire the other day and here is a reminder for next year folks, please order your winter wood NOW. Get it cut up and start drying it by the summer, when hot dry winds and hot sun, will dry out your winters wood. Then put it inside a dry structure, so when winter comes around next year, you can feel safer than burning wet or damp wood in your

stoves. Split wood left outside is still wet wood, but an awesome contributor to cresote buildup in your pipes and chimney.

Just when we thought the winter flue fires were over, we now are awaiting the renewal of the spring GRASS FIRE season. Just last week a hapless soul in Pictou lost a barn because a grass fire got out of control and spread to the barn, and it was over very quickly. Lose a structure over, trying to get some grass to look greener sooner. A terrible waste of property and a waste of your fire department time and resources. Although we will answer the call for assistance.

Historic Sites Along The Shore - Brodrick's Hotel, Five Islands

The Shoreline Journal, in collaboration with the Colchester Historical Society Archives, have inaugurated an ongoing feature utilizing a combination of the digital "A. F. Church Maps" to pin point the circa 1875 location of a Colchester site of historical importance, and connect it to an archival photograph of that site, in that frame.



By Dick Akerman

The arrow pointer on map #301 locates the position in Bass River where this photo was taken, likely in the early 1880's. Maple Street is on the extreme right, and down the hill on the right, the Dominion Chair Store, which still exists. Across the road to Economy, are the Chair Factory wagon sheds.

Today in this location sits a warehouse, similar in size to the store. The road through the village was called the "Flats" and was susceptible to flooding in the spring freshets. In 1876 the Chair Factory would have been located behind the photographer, below Maple Street, on the banks of the river. Since there is no work activity going on, no horses and wagons, and only a few people in black talking in the roadway, a good guess is that the photo was taken on a Sunday.

The same spring freshets which flooded the "Village", augmented by dammed ponds in the Cobequid hills above, were used to transport logs cut in the forest above, to the mill in the village below. The logs were cut during the winter, and piled or "browed" on the banks of the river



above. At an appropriate time, the water in the ponds was added to the spring runoff, and the logs were released into the now raging river, making an exciting time for the men responsible to keep the logs going, over falls and snags.

In the early 20th century, the mills were located near the same ponds, and a sluice or elevated wooden box, filled with water from those same ponds, was used to transport cut lumber, or "Deal" over several miles, to the Bass River Wharf, to be loaded on schooners for transport to market, usually in the "Eastern States". If anyone has any information, or photos of this "sluice" system, the Bass River Heritage Society would be very interested. *Dick Akerman has been compiling information on behalf of the Colchester Historical Museum Archives, which will be published as a monthly column in the Shoreline Journal.*

From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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from 10 am till 12:30 pm.

The boys and girls are gearing up to flip the flap jacks and spill the maple syrup over the ice cream for desserts. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming news, next month

The first dance of this year will be on April 28. The Fishing Derby will be held at Gamble Lake on June 2. Hope the spring weather greets us soon, and if it is nice and warm, then just take a book outside and soak up the sun and do not light any grass.

Fire man Pete saying be safe and get started on that wood pile.



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