

Sunrise Senior Citizens Hosts a Meeting

By Hope Bridgewater

The Sunrise Senior Citizens Northport hosted a meeting in Lower Shinimicas (Shinimicas means a "shining river" in the Mi'kmaq language) for the Cumberland County Seniors Council at its third meeting of the year. Meetings are held in March, May, September, and November.

The Northport Sunrise Seniors have their usual meetings at this former one-room school which has been renovated into a community centre. It has a stage with piano, an excellent PA system, and shelves for holding musical instruments. A list of charter members (dated June 16, 1977), two memorial plaques (of past members and of wedding anniversaries), a notice board, and a blackboard adorn the walls. At the back there is a fully equipped kitchen, a storage room, and a bathroom.

During the winter months, the Sunrise Seniors have musical afternoons, card games, dances, a pancake supper, an appreciation supper for volunteer musicians, and other meetings. This active club has as officers comprising the executive: President Arnold

Smith, Vice-President Arlene Goodwin, Secretary Barbara Slade, and Treasurer Beverley Mason.

Entertainment began at 11 am with four musicians: Ronnie Smith, Linden (banjo), Hughie Hunter, Linden (guitar, piano, vocals), Bob Gimmett, Amherst Head (mandolin, guitar, vocals), and Jess Thompson, Mount Pleasant (bass). These musicians get together to play music at the Northport Club and nursing homes in Pugwash and Amherst. Jess Thompson and Ronnie Smith also play at the Wentworth Sunday Music Afternoons, and Bob Gimmett also plays with the Uniacke Ramblers.

After entertainment, everyone lined up for the noontime meal: beans, vegetable and fruit salads, meatballs, potato scallops, shepherds' pie, relishes, pickles, chili, biscuits, breads, carrot cake, lemon squares, chocolate squares, apple crisp, and ice-cream. As hosts, the Northport Sunrise Seniors sure know how to cook.

The business meeting followed at 1 pm with Council Executive conducting the meeting: President Judy Schultz,

Secretary Betty Curry, and Treasurer Brenda Rushton. A minute of silence was observed for those who recently passed away. Correspondence verified that the Group of Nine is now called the Senior Advisory Committee which meets with relevant Nova Scotia government departments in the autumn to relate to them senior concerns raised by vote at the May Convention of the Federation of Senior Citizens and Pensioners of Nova Scotia. The federation comprises over 100 senior clubs throughout the province.

A report of the Federation's May Convention in Truro was given. A nominating committee was elected to bring in at the November meeting a new slate of offices for 2016 and a vote taken. A job description for each executive officer is recommended.

Reports from the four Cumberland County senior clubs present (Northport, Oxford, Springhill, Wentworth) were presented outlining activities since the May meeting. Altogether there are nine Cumberland County senior clubs. Northport President, Arnold Smith attends monthly Amherst meetings of the Aging Well Network.



Ronnie Smith, Linden (banjo); Hughie Hunter, Linden (guitar, piano, vocals); Bob Gimmett, Amherst Head (mandolin, guitar, vocals) and Jess Thompson, Mount Pleasant (bass) performed a skillful and beautiful one hour music session at a meeting of the Cumberland County Senior Citizens Council and its Senior Clubs held at Lower Shinimicas. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

The Christ Child's Day
(mon dieu)

*Hey look me over
Lend me an ear
While you're at it
Pass me a beer*

On the Christ Child's Day

*Bubbles and soap
Thongs and songs
Socks and keys
Prayers and knees*

On the Christ Child's Day

*Rugs and thugs
Jail and court
Wicks and bics
Propane and profane*

On the Christ Child's Day

*Doors and glass
A desert past
A saviour born
One special morn!*

On the Christ Child's Day

God bless and thank-you
Thomas A. Marshall
(ex-navy)

Great Village Fund Raiser in 2016

By Heather MacKay

As many of you know the Great Village Community Association has been on hiatus for a number of months. It is now time to revitalize the association with new members and ideas. The first of which is a creation of a walking trail along the Great Village River.

This project is on the table now for discussion. We have seen lots of community support and ideas. In other news the Great Village Community Association and the St James Preservation Society have joined together for a fund raiser beginning in the new year.

Watch for poster with more information.



Nick Redden from Masstown Hardware, Castle Building Centres presents Lower Onslow PreSchool teacher JoAnn Micheline with a cheque for \$1000 as Jay Shreve, Ty Shreve, Bodie MacDonald, Coen Shreve and Danielle Redden look on with excitement. The donation comes from the Castle Community Recognition Program, which gives back to the community through monetary donations to worthy causes. Nick Redden says, "This year we decided to donate \$1000 to the Lower Onslow PreSchool. We have a lot of customers who are in some way involved with the preschool. Customers who's kids used to go there, are going there, or will be going there in the near future. It is a great program to have right in our back yard, and with all the renovations they have been doing to make it possible for every child to have the opportunity to go there, we figured it was a good place to give back to." (Harrington Photo)

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