

Cumberland Singers Perform in Wentworth



The Cumberland Singers perform "The Sounds of Christmas" at the Wentworth Recreation Centre and raise funds for Chalice-Child Care International. (Rick Clarke Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

One of the extraordinary recent programs at the Wentworth Recreation Centre was the Cumberland Singers performing "The Sounds of Christmas" to a capacity crowd. This fund-raising program was conceived and directed by Jocelyn Morris to aid Chalice-Child Care International, which has been given a high rating among Canadian international aid organizations.

Chalice affirms the sacredness and dignity of all people, including all those in need regardless of colour, nationality or creed. Chalice provides funds for needy or homeless children in order for them to be in healthy homes, to be given the chance to go to school, to have proper nourishment, to be well clothed and to have needed medication.

The Cumberland Singers celebrated the spirit of Christmas by focusing on helping children in

need and did this by performing both traditional and contemporary Christmas music. Sponsors for this concert were the Canadian Salt Company Ltd, MacDiarmid's Funeral Home, Dave Wilson, Rick and Judy Clark.

All the singers, musicians, dancers, workers and sponsors at this concert volunteered their time and any expenses (travel, gas, etc.) so all the funds raised go to Chalice-Child Care International. Jocelyn Morris introduced the concert and dedicated this concert to her mother, Pearl Crowley, who is in hospital. The Master of Ceremony was Charley Patriquin who skillfully guided the program through two sets (first set having 18 performances and the second set having 13 performances) and, as well, told a few jokes.

The sets consisted mostly of solo performers with group singing and quartets interspersed. With a band backing up all artists, the solo performers were singers

Charley Patriquin, Jean Mooring, Ashley Baker, Faye Henderson, Paul Merlin, Gloria Merlin, Aubrey Giffin, Larry Patriquin, Carmen Baker, Mitchell Baker, Max Baker, Amy Morris, Jensen Patriquin, Nick Morris, Jocelyn Morris, Sharon Miller and Wayne Reid. Superb singers in the quartet of the first set were Wayne Reid, Ashley Baker, Paul Merlin and Charley Patriquin, and in the second set were Sharon Miller, Ashley Baker, Jocelyn Morris and Charley Patriquin.

As well as the solo singers being part of the choir, other singers in the choir were Laurene DeCoste, Joe Patriquin and Bill Baker. Noteworthy at this concert was the audience giving encouragement and recognition to the young performers. Natalie DeCoste, a teenager, gave an excellent performance on the violin and in step-dancing, and she received loud and long applause accompanied by whistles. In addition,

enthusiastic whistles and thunderous applause greeted Mitchell Baker, aged seven, and Max Baker, aged six, singing in sweet and sincere voices "Jingle Bells," accompanied on guitar by their father, Ashley Baker, and their near-by coaching mother, Carmen Baker.

Members of the band included Ashley Baker, Nick Morris, Wayne Reid, Ron Rushton, Jim Mosher and Jean Mooring. Back-up singers included Wayne Reid, Ashley Baker, Sharon Miller and Faye Henderson. Fiddlers included Charley Patriquin and Hilton Patriquin. The pianist was Jean Mooring.

Claire Patriquin and Austin Patriquin collected admission fees at the door and issued tickets for a door prize which was given out at intermission by Jocelyn Morris. Georgie Patriquin gave out tickets to those who paid to enter a raffle of extensive items on her table and many prizes were given out at intermission, again by Jocelyn Morris. Workers in the kitchen canteen were Kathy Redmond and Mary Anne Jay who served people throughout the concert and at intermission.

Just after intermission, "Sadie" (in reality Sharon Miller) came floating down the aisle in a very

funny costume (it even had a long tail trailing behind), and Sadie entered the stage whereupon she gave a very humorous monologue which created much laughter. Sadie has a natural ability for original comedy as she writes the script herself.

One of the marvelous aspects of this concert is the intergenerational nature of the performers who ranged in age from seven years to 80 years. The older generations show the younger generations how to perform before an audience and, often in addition to music lessons, teach them both how to play instruments and memorize words to the songs. Kitchen parties held throughout the year are another way of having the young bond with music. Another interesting aspect is that the majority of the choir and

workers at this event are descendants of the late Ellsworth and the late Edith Patriquin.

Just before the ending, Jocelyn Morris announced \$2,900 had been raised at this event, introduced a member representing Chalice and said the funds would be delivered very soon to this charity organization. Then, Master of Ceremony, Charley Patriquin, presented a gift of flowers to Jocelyn and thanked her for all her hard work in helping the needy. Jocelyn said she could never do it alone and that all the singers and workers of this concert were really receivers of this gift as well. The entire choir singing the final song, "Feliz Navidad," summed up the glory of this occasion.

Great Village & District Fire News

By Kathy Simpson-Giles

MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!! That's right, a spring event to look forward to...

The Annual Fall Auction is coming early this year. Just in time to get you out of the house after a long and snow filled winter, our auction will be held the end of April this

year. Ready to de-clutter? We will be collecting for our Auction in mid-April.

Tired of being house bound for the cold months? Come and join us. Meet your friends as you support the Fire Brigade in its annual fund raiser. Watch for the details in next month's Shoreline

John Murphy celebrates 90TH

By Linda Harrington

John Murphy, Debert, recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He and his twin brother were born in Lord's Cove, Newfoundland, on Feb. 16th, 1921. As a young boy he moved to St-Pierre-et-Miquelon and lived there until he was fourteen at which time he moved back to Lord's Cove.

For the next three years he fished on the Grand Banks with his uncle and worked on farms. At seventeen years of age he joined the Merchant Navy and travelled all over the world for three or four years.

John joined the Army in 1943, and with a draft of ten men, he was cleared to go to North Bay for training and then overseas.

A serious case of the mumps kept John at a Naval Hospital in Halifax and he was never sent overseas. He was given a year on light duties and was later transferred to Debert, not long before the war ended.

John met Lillian Hinchcliffe when he came to Debert in 1945 and they were married in the early part of 1946 (they recently celebrated their 65th Wedding



Anniversary). "She was only young when we married. Lillian has been a wonderful wife and she is the one who has kept me going," says John.

The newlyweds moved into a little two bedroom cabin near Lillian's mother's house. Later they purchased one of the buildings from the camp and moved it to East Folly Mountain Road. "We hauled it down the road with a tractor and we have been here ever since," he laughs. John and Lillian raised eight children, five girls and three boys, in this home.

John left the army in 1946 and he says jobs were very hard to find, "I worked for 40 cents an hour and that was

not much pay to raise a family." In 1950, he was hired at 16X Debert which later became CFS Debert. He worked there for 33 years, as a maintenance man at the heating plant, until his retirement in 1983.

Fishing has been John's favorite retirement past time, although he says he doesn't get out as much as he used to, "I have a heart condition and it slows me down a bit, but it doesn't stop me. I don't sit around all the time watching television." He says he has enjoyed some RV trips to Newfoundland, Ontario and into the States with his son-in-law at the wheel.

When asked about his secret to living a long life, John replies, "Good drugs!", giving credit to his doctor for keeping him in good health.

There have been many changes in Debert over the past 65 years. John notes the increased population as one of the major ones, as well as the buildup of businesses in the Industrial Park. "The buildings in that area were all sold off or torn down after the war and there was nothing left. Now it is all built up again."

We would like to wish John Murphy a very Happy 90th Birthday from The Shoreline Journal and its readership.

Historic Sites Along The Shore - DOMINION CHAIR COMPANY

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.



From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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By Dick Akerman

Map numbers's 300-301 and 328 locate the forerunner of the "Dominion Chair Co", the "Union Furniture Co". of 1875, in Bass River, on the north west bank of the river, just above the tourist kiosk of to-day. The photo shows the factory buildings, and a wagon load of chairs, no doubt on their way to the freight cars at Londonderry Station.

Be sure to see next month's, "Historic Sights" feature in the Shoreline. If you have a suggestion for future "Sights", submit it to the editor or the Archives, at 895-9530.

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.

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