

Ken's Corner

By Ken Kennedy

Here we are again, friends and neighbours. So what's bugging you? I'll tell you what's bugging me: ants, fruit flies, house flies, air wigs, caterpillars, and all kinds of ugly wiggles. Have you ever seen so many? I wonder if it's a sign of a hard winter ahead. Those web nests you see hanging in trees along the road contain caterpillars by the dozens. Some say they should be cut down and burned.

I just heard on the TV that Environment Canada says this is going to be a "balmy" winter compared to last. When we were down South in March I picked up a copy of this year's US Almanac. Man alive, I don't know how they do it but their predictions have been dead on so far this summer - even listing the storms we had ahead of time. They are calling for an "off-coast hurricane for today, Sept. 24th.

Let's see what they predict for October along the Eastern Seaboard: 1-3rd periods of showers; 4-9 fair, windy, cool; 1-11 showers; 12-17 fair but cold; 18-19 showers but warmer; 20-25 fair but cold; 26-27 showers; 28-29 fair, milder; 30-31 windy & much colder. So there you have it.

Tomorrow is garbage pick up here in Debert. Did you know there's a young woman throwing those heavy bags up into the truck along the road here? When I saw this pony tail swinging in the wind, I had to take a second look. Maybe she's training to be a female wrestler!

Not much going on in the Kennedy household this past month. Did I say "not much?" It's just that Velma and I have



been out visiting or singing at nursing homes in the area, looking after Olivia after playschool and on weekends while Pam studies at NSCC and works at Glengarry on weekends. Then, there's church and church meetings; back and forth to Truro almost every day for one reason or another is keeping us busy. Too busy to take a summer vacation as of yet. Next week will be our 49th Anniversary and we hope to make a quick trip to St. John's NL to check up on some of my relatives.

No one was more saddened than me to hear of Florence Bird Adams' death recently. I can't remember how come we came to get acquainted back in 1994. I don't know whether it was my idea or hers that she contribute her home-grown poetry to the Shoreline Journal or whether I went to see her about it. In any case she kept sending me the poems and we kept publishing them. My only regret is that we hadn't kept them in a separate file and published them as a book.

I must say the local highways and by-ways are looking much better these days. The DOTI work crews have been busy and doing a great job. I hope they don't forget to fill in the low shoulders along

Plains Road in the Debert area.

Debert Baptist is now without a full-time pastor and is looking for guest preachers for pulpit supply on Sundays. For the past few months they have been having guest preachers from First Baptist Truro and/or Immanuel Truro. For further information please contact Deacons Priscilla Jennings and/or Sheila Hughes.

The United Church seems to be going strong if the large number of cars in the parking lot is any sign. Likewise for the Christian Fellowship Center next to the old army drill hall (Now Community Metals) across from the old army main gate. By the way, the old CE building, Provost Shack, or whatever it's been called over the years, is up for sale but it has to be moved. I hear the owner is open for bids.

The Debert Tim Hortons has taken on a new look. They now have soft seats - but there's only four. The electric fireplace and the over head TV is a nice touch to view the ads and the CBC headlines. I think the Masstown Market has better doughnuts and more room to meet and greet and get free coffee refills. Trouble is they close too early. So do all the other restaurants in the area. Out of town tourists must shake their heads in disbelief when they are passing through in the evening.

Speaking of evening, it's now almost 7:00 pm and the days are shortening fast. Must go out and finish resealing the driveway and bring in some wood. Had to put a fire in the wood-stove one evening last week because it turned so cold. Guess it's a sign of things to come. Someone reminded me the other day that it's only about ten (10) weeks 'til Christmas.

Genealogy Workshop at the Ottawa House

By Lawrence R. Nicoll

The Parrsboro Shore Historical Society has outdone itself again. On August 22-23 they held a weekend event called "Mysteries & Muddles" with excellent speakers on genealogical and historical topics.

Friday was a wonderful skit written by Bernice Byers in 2010. The setting was during the period after the expulsion of the Acadians. In the skit the Acadian Woman met a New England Planter woman who have been given her land. The skit was captured on video to be enjoyed by many in forthcoming years.

The speakers were extremely knowledgeable on their topics, and everyone came away with new ideas and information. Ed Gilbert opened a talk on the early days on the Parrsboro Shore. Kerr Canning, keynote speaker, talked about overlooked & underutilized resources.

Other speakers included: David Winter, who took us through the NS Archives and Halifax holdings, while Dawn Josee offered wonderful ideas turning research into artwork. Darlene Strong gave a powerful presentation on Black History and Cumberland Heritage.

Pamela Wile spoke on ways to jump start your genealogy. Lawrence Nicoll talked about Differing results and search methods with internet resources.

Lunch was wonderful as always, and everyone came away with tummies and heads full of good things.



A powerful presentation on Black History and Cumberland Heritage was given by Darlene Strong at Ottawa House's genealogy workshop in late August. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



Kerr Canning was the keynote speaker and talked about overlooked & underutilized resources at the genealogy workshop. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)



Speaking to a large number of delegates, Ed Gilbert opened the workshop with a talk on the early days on the Parrsboro Shore. (Lawrence R. Nicoll Photo)

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