

Annual Reunion of Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse

By Hope Bridgewater

The annual Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse reunion/open house was another fun-filled occasion in August, 2014. The one sad note was the absence of Bob Hyslop who passed away this year and is greatly missed at the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse and in the community of Wentworth.

So much happened at this reunion that I have two installments: one for now and the other one a week later. The reunion program included the High Head Hike, an auction, a barbecue supper and entertainment with activities beginning at 10 a.m. and lasting until 9 p.m.

The first installment tells the adventures of the High Head Hike which is worthy of a detailed description as shown with the words from Debbie Barclay and Stacie MacLeod. High Head is the name given to the highest point in a Cobequid mountain range located in the Wentworth Valley. The Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse (OWVS) stands next to this particular mountain range in a beautiful location with greenery all around from trees/ bushes /grass, and with a brook rushing by as one of the many tributaries which begin the Wallace River. Opposite the Cobequid mountain range containing High Head is another Cobequid mountain range with a railway track running across it.

The Directors of the Friends of the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse (Harold Hunt, Debbie Hunt, Bobby Hunt, Francie Hunt, Andy Hunt, Steven Hunt, Ernest Wood, Carol Hyslop, and Shannon Letcher) believed so much in the value of this hike that they gave the whole morning to it at this reunion/open house. Bob Hyslop as one of the past Directors began the tradition of the three hour hike to High Head, and he is still remembered for it as a trail to High Head is now named for him, being called the Chilkoot Bowl after Bob's nickname "Chilkoot Bob." Bob had once hiked the Chilkoot mountain range in the Yukon.

This beautiful location attracts hikers. In 2014, Wentworth residents, Robert (Butch) and Debi Atkinson led the hike and their fellow hikers were Howard Waugh, Mike Law, Debbie Barclay, Erin Totten,



Robert Lafrance was auctioneer at the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse during its annual reunion and open-house. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

Andy Hunt and Cecil and Stacie MacLeod with their three children: Nate, age 8, Bella age 5, and Ellie age 3. Both Butch and Debi are expert hikers as they hike

almost daily up the many trails leading to High Head.

"Thank you for asking about the hike; we had a great time! We took our three kids along for the adventure: Nate, age 8, Bella, age 5, Ellie, age 3. Carol [Hyslop] told us about the hike and what it meant to her late husband. We stopped a few times for drinks, but for the most part we did straight 4k up the hill. The kids each got into it and found their own hiking sticks to hike like the adults. On the trip we saw large toads, a snake, waterfalls, crossed small bridges, and washed our hands in cold springs. It was surely our kind of adventure!"

Stacie MacLeod wrote this wonderful letter describing the hike to High Head and, while reading her words, it is as if we were there, too.



"The young gentlemen in the photo were quite instrumental in getting the Great Village Fire Hall back in order after the river rushed through the hall on Monday, 22 Sept. 2014 and they certainly get our heartfelt thanks. They pushed out the mud and washed the floors of the bays, moved equipment around and ran when we needed running done, never complaining. They were seen around the area all day, rendering assis-

tance to anyone who needed it. Next time you see them, give them a pat on the back. They deserve it! Pictured are: Bradley Cooke, Brady Taggart, Anthony (AJ) Bird, Daniel Dodsworth-Lush (junior member), Dakota Smith. On behalf

the members (and the boys, too I'm sure) we'd also like to say thank you to the In the Village Cafe who provided us with sandwiches and sweets. They were delicious and appreciated by all." (Submitted)

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- Free BBQ & Cake
- Guided Facility Tours (Balefill, Compost & Recycling)
- Bouncy House (Family Friendly)
- Face Painting
- Touch-a-Truck - Bring your Camera!
- Games
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- And much, much more!

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Visit the Beautiful Wentworth Valley's

Fall Festival of Colours

Thanksgiving Weekend
October 11 & 12

Events:

Chairlift Rides
October 11 & 12
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Ride the chairlift to the top of Wentworth Mountain. It's the ultimate way to enjoy spectacular views of Wentworth Valley ablaze in bursts of red, orange and gold.
Weather permitting. Please check website.
There is no transportation back down the mountain. Sorry, no dogs on chairlift
Please note: There will be **no Mountain Bike access**

Cost:
One way trip: \$15/person
Family pass: \$40/family of 5
BBQ outside @ noon each Day

Guided Hikes to High Head
October 11 & 12
Departs 10 am sharp from Old Valley School House
11 km (3 hour) hike

Petting Zoo (Saturday only) and Haystack Playground
Get up close and personal with some barnyard friends from a local farm.

Early Bird Season Pass Sale
Until October 31st.

WENTWORTH VALLEY OF SNOW
www.skiwentworth.ca

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