

## Masstown Community News



Verna Gamble is pictured with her "going away - we'll miss you" cake taken at our Masstown UCW meeting August 19th.

By *Chris Urquhart*

Summer is drawing to a close and it seems like such a short time since Spring was just ending. How time flies! School starts back up September 3rd so be sure to keep an eye out for the children hurrying off to school or catching the school bus near their homes. The small ones who are going to school for the first time may not remember to watch for traffic so please watch out for them.

I want to let you know that there will be no Masstown Community News in the next issue of the Shoreline Journal as I am going away for three weeks and won't be back in time to do my column. Be assured that it will appear in the following issues! I will tell you all about my trip then.

September is a month of "starting up's" in our lives: The DGM Men's Club will hold their Breakfast meeting on September 4th, 8am at the Double C Restaurant. All men welcome.

Masstown UCW will hold their meeting at the Masstown United Church basement on September 9th at 7pm. All ladies welcome! We have a new president, Paula Digout as our past president Verna Gamble has moved to Dartmouth.

We held a surprise "meeting" as a going away party for Verna on August 19th, 2pm, which was well attended and a true surprise for Verna. Verna we wish you well in your new home but you will be greatly missed.

Masstown Stewards & Trustees will be holding a Refundable Drive on September 25th at the Church. Drivers will be coming around to pick up your refundables that morning. Please have them outside by 9am if at all possible.

If you have a lot of refundables, won't be home on the 25th or just want someone to come to your house to get them (rather than having them picked up at the end of your driveway) just call either Kay 662-2140 or Chris 662-3550 and we will arrange for pick up.

Refundables can also be

dropped off at the Masstown Church. We really appreciate the effort that you make to save your refundables for us. Thank you.

If you would like to help out with our Refundable drive - doing pick-ups, sorting refundables, etc., please call Kay or Chris to let them know or else just show up at the Masstown United Church around 9am.

Bill and Doreen Simpson would like to Thank everyone who came out to help them celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary! Special thanks to all those who traveled from New Brunswick, Cape Breton, PEI and Ontario; and extra thanks to all who provided food etc.. Much appreciation goes out to Butch McClellan and his many musical friends who added so much to their party.

Many thanks to their son Darren Simpson, friends Brenda McCray, Walter Langille, Susan Walsh, Yvonne Cavanagh, Hillary Langille, Barb Simpson and Barb Jollimore for their contributions and help. Special thank you's to photographer Monique Arnfast and Rev. Don MacQueen who preformed the renewal of the vows ceremony. A great time was had by all, it was a party to remember!

We have had two Weddings in our community this past month. Russell Jennings and Sally Higgins were wed in Sally's beautiful back yard at her home in Onslow where the couple now reside. A large tent was set up in part of the yard and a chicken dinner was served. A dance floor was laid out near the driveway for dancing that evening. The couple were surrounded by family and close friends, including the bride's mother Ev Jenex. It was a beautiful wedding. Congratulations to you both!

Dale Digout, daughter of Peter and Paula Digout married Bruce Treeby on the beach in Pictou County and then returned to her sister Rorie's in Onslow where a three day pig roast was held! People stayed in campers and special guests were Dale and Rorie's sister Carly Digout and

her boyfriend Josh Watts from Calgary. Surprise, surprise! Just last weekend Carly and Josh eloped to Las Vegas! What a great joy for Peter and Paula! Congratulations to both Dale and Bruce and Carly and Josh on their recent weddings!

Many people have been visiting over the summer months. Annabell Teed and her granddaughter Amy from Uxbridge Ont. visited Verna Gamble. Carol Evans was home from Salmon Arms BC to visit her sisters Marina Fisher and Rita Langille; and brothers Lorne Putnam and Gene Putnam. Carol came home especially to help celebrate her sister Rita Langille's 80th birthday! Linda McGraw and her daughter Shelby from Prince George BC, Brian and Tracy Jennings and children Stephanie, Matthew and Craig from Toronto all visited Linda and Brian's parents Cecil and Dotty Jennings. Lindsey Jennings-Jones and her baby Charlene Jean Jones were home to visit her parents Dave and Annette Jennings. Barry and Adrianna Appel with their daughter Natalie from British Columbia visited his son Brian Appel and wife Abbe and also visited Abbe's mother Val McCabe and her partner Dave Newell and grandson Ben. Nicki and Esben Arnsast are heading off to Denmark, Iceland etc. and their son Oliver will be staying here with his grandparents Wayne and Brenda McCray for a short visit. I suspect that Oliver will be quite spoiled by the time Nicki and Esben get back home!

Sonya Fisher and her daughter Dianna from Grand Prairie visited Jerry and Marina Fisher. Barb Fisher and her friend Nancy Bell of Calgary visited Barb's parents Jerry and Marina Fisher. Carol Nicols and her husband Lloyd Marshall went to Calgary for Carol's grandson Travis Nicols and Becky Webb's wedding, then the went to Langly BC and visited Carol's sister Mavis Wilders. After that they went to Enderby BC and stayed over night with niece Debbie and her husband Ed Marriott.

Congratulations go out this month to Ken and Susan Russell on the birth of their new grandson, a son for Darren and his wife, Brandon Paul Russell; Congratulations to Layton and Mary Stoddart on their recent 60th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to Rodney and Joy Reid on their recent 31st Wedding Anniversary.

Condolences go out this month to: Lary McKenzie and family on the death of his father Cecil McKenzie; to Dotty Jennings and family on the death of her brother Frank Fletcher; to Paula (Rev. Russell) Harding on the death of her father Arthur Tefler; to Ursula Lynds on the death of her brother-in-law Karl Lynds and her other brother-in-law Maurice Brunet; and finally condolences to Vicki MacDonald, her father Bernie and their family on the death of Vicki's Mom and Bernie's wife Sharon MacDonald. Special condolences to Sharon's best friend Marie McElhinney.

As we turn the calendar page and fall starts showing up around the corner, take the time to reflect on what a great summer we have had.

# Nature Notes

By *Fran Spalding* • 647-2837

Earlier this summer I recounted the sad tale of a very young Canada goose, too small even to be called a gosling, and how he was part of the first nesting record this far down the shore. Later in the season I read in the Halifax paper how geese were becoming a nuisance on the grassy areas of parks and, more seriously, of airports.

That's not really news; the point was that hunters may be allowed a greater bag limit and perhaps a longer season to try to control goose numbers here in Nova Scotia. It's not likely we'll notice a change. That an eight-and-a-half foot mako shark became trapped in Wayne Linkletter's weir also made the news.

Wayne suggests these fierce-looking creatures may follow draggers into the Bay and occasionally find themselves in trouble when the water recedes. They tried to keep this one alive but couldn't budge him and it died before the tide rose.

While rain cut short the strawberry season raspberries had a splendid one, and blackberries and blueberries seem to be doing very well. A friend of ours, whom some call the "bear lady", was driving through the hills when she came across a large male sprawled at the edge of a blueberry field raking in the berries with outstretched paws.

It wasn't until she honked that he stopped "scooping", looked up, got up and dashed away. How such large

animals survive on such small fare always surprises me; it's good for both them and us that they've generally left a blackberry patch before we get there.

Matt Martin sent me a photo of a yellow-rumped warbler on its nest in early August, a most surprisingly late date. The yellow-rumped is one of the first warblers to arrive and its young are generally out and about by the end of June, so even if its first attempt fell prey to a squirrel or jay, this second nest was very late.



Those of you who keep feeding birds through the summer may be rewarded by seeing the parents bringing the family for lunch. We've had such visits from purple finches, blue jays, song sparrows, chickadees, downy woodpeckers (whose young always seem larger than the parents) and, best of all, evening grosbeaks, who can use their huge bills very gently.



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