

115TH Anniversary Schoolhouse Reunion



The Heritage Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse is maintained in excellent condition with restoration, additions, repairs, and continuing support by Friends of the Old Valley Schoolhouse. (Carol Hyslop Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

The 115th Anniversary of the Old Wentworth Valley Schoolhouse was celebrated in a grand and friendly style. An important theme at this 2018 Reunion is the 1903 date because in 1902 Alexander Munroe, a resident of the Valley, received a contract from the School Trustees to build a new school at the same site for \$530.

The old school was ordered replaced by School Inspector Craig and a new one built by August 1, 1903. The beautiful site still remains amid August greenery as it is situated next to a Cobequid Mountain range which has a peak called High Head and a brook which begins the Wallace River.

This Heritage Schoolhouse was a one-room school for grades one to eleven, but in 1958 this school was amalgamated with all the other Wentworth schools into an Elementary School at Wentworth Centre with bus service. The older grades seven to eleven were given bus service to Pugwash District High School.

What happened at the Valley? The residents obtained the School for community use as a rifle club and a ski club. The group



Outdoors in the beautiful yard surrounded by greenery, Bob Lafrance is a talented, skillful, humorous and factual auctioneer. In this photo Bob Lafrance auctions off a jug of beautiful flowers. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

called the Friends of the Old Valley Schoolhouse, using the official name of Wentworth Valley Community Hall Association, decided to restore the school with volunteer work, fundraising, and government grants to a great level and it was named a Heritage School by the County of Cumberland, as it represented the many one-room schools which dotted rural Nova Scotia.

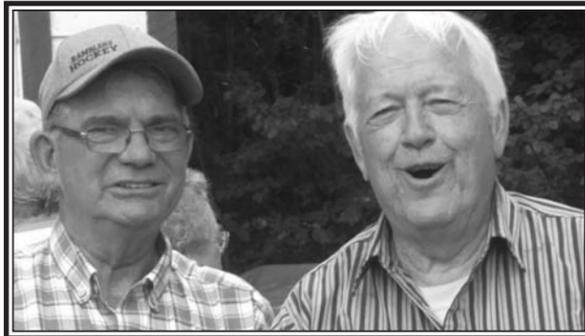
This column for the 2018 Reunion, along with textual commentary, uses photos and texts, to find out about this splendid event. This reunion was planned and prepared by the Directors of the Wentworth Valley Community Hall Community Association, also known as Friends of the Old Wentworth Valley School House.

The schedule was packed with worthwhile entertainment and knowledge, except that at 1:00pm unfortunately the Hike to High Head, sponsored by the Wentworth Learning Center, was cancelled due to very warm weather. However, the rest of the program was very successful as follows: at 2:00pm admission to the Reunion required an item for the auction; from 2:30pm to 4:00pm an Auction was held in the scenic field next to the school; from 4:00pm to 6:00pm a meal and friendship time was held; from 6:00pm until closing time musical entertainment and prizes ended a wonderful day.

The dedicated work of the Friends of the Old Wentworth Valley School House resulted in an inspiring and wonderful program for everyone present. We thank all of the Director Friends: Debbie Barclay, Chair, Carol Hyslop, Secretary/Treasurer, Butch Atkinson, Debi Atkinson, Harold Barclay, Andy Hunt, Bobby Hunt, Francie Hunt, Shannon Letcher, Ernest Wood, Marion Hunt, Honorary Director, Bud MacDonald, Honorary Directory.



Friendships are revived during the Reunion when Stuart Weatherbee, Brian Hunt and Barry Beebe remember being in Grade Primary in 1957 at the Old Wentworth Valley School House. Do you remember being in Grade Primary? They remember and are now celebrating that time as happy men. (Carol Hyslop Photo)



Robert Hunt teams up with Bob Lafrance to make the auction a success by handing out items to Bob and then delivering the prize to the winning bidder. After a hard work of auctioning from 2:30pm - 4:00pm both are tired, but happy. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)



Before the meal at 4pm, Harold Barclay and Shannon Letcher barbecued pork. Other helpers in cooking and kitchen work wear Debbie Barclay, Carrie Barclay and Debi Atkinson. (Carol Hyslop Photo)



Kathy MacDonald, pianist, and Wayne Elliott, singer and guitarist, make toe-tapping music while entertaining folks after the tasty meal. During this time Carol Hyslop stops them long enough to give out prizes and a 50/50: Shannon Letcher, 50/50; Raffle Prizes: 3rd prize: Harold Barclay, 2nd prize, Doreen Barclay, Basket 1st prize: Terry Hunt.

Kittens/Puppies (our furry friends)

We were born in the wild
But now need a home
Where we can play safely
With freedom to roam
If you can help us
Then please come and see
Why the best things in life
Are those that are "free!"

God bless and thank-you, Thomas a. Marshall (ex-navy)
Dedicated to the S.C.P.A /Humaine Society

PROTECT & PRESERVE YOUR FAMILY MEMORIES



VHS Home Videos
Transferred to
Digital Disk

JD MacLean & ASSOCIATES

jmaclean@eastlink.ca
128 Oakwood Drive
Truro, NS B6L 1N4
902-893-3466

Print Layout/Correction
Audio - Video Production

CULGIN CONSTRUCTION LTD.

- ✧ FILL ✧ GRAVEL ✧ ROAD CONSTRUCTION
- ✧ EXCAVATING ✧ TRUCKING ✧ DOZER
- ✧ SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION
- ✧ NEW HOME SITE PREP

781 Belmont Road
General Delivery
Belmont, NS B0M 1C0
Tel: 662-3867
Fax: 662-2701



DAN WESLEY INSTALLATIONS

976 Station Road
Londonderry, Nova Scotia
B0M 1M0

Residential
Commercial
Agricultural



REPLACE • INSTALL • REPAIR

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
902-899-6294 ~ 902-668-2202 ~ ds Wesley@hotmail.com

Bass River Storage

Heated and unheated

Video Security

Rent 6 months,
get the 7th month free!

"Your all-season
storage solution"

902-895-0448

Lawrence R. Nicoll

NOVA SCOTIA LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER

Parrsboro - Nova Scotia

902-254-3334 or LRN@ns.sympatico.ca

Local Landscape photographs make wonderful gifts for birthdays, Christmas and retirement

Choose from samples at:

www.LRNphotographic.ca



LRN PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES

ROCHE ELECTRIC

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICES

902-986-0205

Colin Roche

197 East Folly Mtn Rd, Debert NS, B0M1G0

roche.electricalservices@gmail.com