

Pickering Junction News

City of Pickering • Culture and Recreation Division

Pickering Museum Village Foundation Newsletter

May, 2000 • Volume 6.1

School starts in April

Foundation Update

by Pat Dunnill

IT IS EXCITING to report that the latest addition to the Pickering Museum Village, the reconstructed Puterbaugh Schoolhouse, will be ready for all 2000 events. School programmes will held in the schoolhouse in April and a grand opening is expected in June. The Foundation is proud of its first major contribution to the village, having covered half of the more than \$100,000 reconstruction costs. There is not enough space to thank all those who have contributed to this project: individual members, friends, corporate sponsors, service clubs, grants from the Ontario Lottery Corporation and the Ontario Film Development Institute, and the cash flow from our weekly bingos at the Delta Bingo Hall. The construction



costs were equally shared by the Foundation and the City of Pickering. Thanks to Mayor and Council for their continued support of the Foundation. Congratulations to Tom Murison and his team for their excellent work.

Make sure you come to see the schoolhouse at least once this summer.

With your help the Foundation plans to go on to bigger and better things. Currently we are studying the feasibility of an even larger project, full restoration of the Brougham Hotel. With your support this **can** happen.

We need volunteers!!!

If you and/or a friend can help us one Tuesday morning a month with Bingo this **will** happen.

To help with Bingo, or if you would like information

about the Foundation call Pat Dunnill at 905•839•4672. ☎

Artifacts recovered thanks to quick action by staff

AS STAFF AND volunteers started to set up December 5, for Christmas in the Village, there was a shock waiting for them. They discovered, when they entered the log house, that thieves had broken into the site and taken the following artifacts: Flatback Cupboard; Rocking Chair; Pine Box; Jam Cupboard; Dough Box and Lid; Wooden Bowl; Nursing Rocker; Punched Tin Reproduction Lantern and a Dry Sink.

This was one in a series of museum thefts. In October Scugog Shores Historical Museum was a victim; in November attempts were made at Heritage House Museum, Smith Falls (nothing taken); in December Lang Pioneer Village; January thieves broke into the volunteer's building at the Clarke Museum & Archives in Kirby, nothing was taken; and the Masonic

Hall in Orono lost many pieces of furniture.

Thanks to the recommendation by Gerry Marks of Pollikers, Dave Marlowe, PMV collections and education officer, placed a notice in the Upper Canadian about our missing items.

We were extremely lucky to have recovered all but the small Pine Box. Some of the other museums recovered many artifacts and one was delighted with the restoration that had happened to a desk.

One of the items taken, the dough box and lid, was donated by James Holtby and Agnes Dean. Family member Scott Holtby, a youth volunteer at the museum village for over five years, is relieved to have part of his family's treasures returned to the museum village.

Our thanks goes out to the antique dealer who purchased the items in good faith and had the integrity to notify the authorities of his acquisitions. ☎

May 27 & 28

Steam-Up and Opening

A celebration of the promise of spring with steam engine demonstrations and the Mobile Millinery Museum

Sunday, June 11

Walking Through Thyme

Exploring the use of herbs for curative, culinary and cosmetic purposes in the museum village

Sunday, June 25

Antique & Classic Car Show

Presented by the Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada

July 15 & 16

The War of 1812

Three battles re-enacted by: 49th Regiment of Foot – Grenadier Company

Sunday, August 13

Pastimes of Past Times

A day of old fashioned children's games and activities

Sunday, August 27

Ol' Fashioned Hymn Sing and Afternoon Tea

September 9 & 10

History in Action

A celebration of the bounty of the harvest and steam engine demonstrations

September 15, 16, 22 & 23

A Spirit Walk

Meet the spirits of the 1837 rebellion.

December 3 & 10

Christmas in the Village

Celebrate a Victorian Christmas and Scottish Hogmanay

Events 2000

www.city.pickering.on.ca/museum

From the Foundation Chair

The year 2000 promises another exciting year of events at Pickering Museum Village.

The highlight will be the official opening of the completed Puterbaugh Schoolhouse which will be held in June. Stop in and feel the cosy atmosphere of the building and smell the wood burning in the beautifully constructed stone fireplace. Tom Murison has done a superb job!

It is with great pride I relay to you the good news that the project has been fully paid for through an equal partnering of the Foundation with the City of Pickering. We are indeed fortunate that our mayor and council support our work and trust our efforts.

The advisory committee and foundation are happy to support the growth of the educational programmes at the museum village. We congratulate the staff on its excellent research on the schoolhouse project on behalf of the citizens of Pickering and our museum attendees from across Toronto and Durham.

Please continue to show your support for Pickering Museum Village by making a donation to the Foundation and become a part of the decision-making process which will determine our start up date for our next major project. You will be most heartened when you hear what it is!

Sincerely,

Laura E. Drake

Laura Drake

About our artifacts

by Mike Lindo - Pollikers

IT'S HARD FOR people today to imagine life without indoor plumbing or running water but Ontario's settlers managed.

Outdoors was the privy or outhouse; inside, a washstand in the bedroom and in the kitchen a dry sink or something similar.

Washstands in various styles sat in the bedrooms of the day. The stand found upstairs in the Collins homestead in the Pickering Museum Village is typical, made of local pine with a round cut out in the top to hold the basin steady, towel dryers on each side and a lower shelf to hold a pitcher, soap or shaving gear.

Bedrooms weren't very warm in the winter, heated only by a stove pipe passing through or warm air rising from the stove or fireplace downstairs so you might have to break the ice in your basin before a chilly morning wash, but that was not as uncomfortable as a trip to the privy in January.

The dry sink, or kitchen sink as it later became, was a far cry from today's

kitchen conveniences. The dry sink in the Collins home, (the board and batten house on the east side of the grounds) is a low cupboard with a counter sunk top to catch spills from the basins where food and dishes were washed. Underneath are shelves to store basins or pots and pans. Tops of these sinks were lined with copper, tin, oilcloth or just a thick coat of paint, whatever was available to make them somewhat water-proof. They had no provisions for drainage and had to be wiped dry after use. In the 1850s they were made with pine boards from trees cut to clear farm land and nailed together with forged square nails made locally at a forge such as the Greenwood blacksmiths shop.

Water from the well or stream was kept in buckets in the kitchen area and most homes would have had small open shelves called pail stands close to the stove or fireplace so the water wouldn't freeze. Keeping the house supplied with buckets of water was usually a child's chore and neck yokes in very small sizes enabled them to carry two buckets at once. 🐾

Season Memberships

Single \$20 🐾🐾 Family \$45

not including A Spirit Walk

PICKERING MUSEUM VILLAGE membership allows you to visit the museum village during the season as many times as you want, also the opportunity to book for *A Spirit Walk* one week before the limited tours go on sale to the public and receive \$2 off the tour price. Plus bring your children to Kids in the Village at no extra charge.

**Kids in the village
summer craft programme**

Returns in July and August

Half Day Camp

One week \$53, Two weeks \$88

For more information, please call the site at 905•683•8401. 🐾

Pickering Museum Village Foundation Membership Levels

Member	\$25
Friend	\$50
Historian	\$100
Benefactor	\$250
Pioneer	\$500
Settler	\$1000
Citizen	\$2500

Membership forms and tax receipts will be available at our AGM. 🐾

If walls could talk

SUPPORTERS WILL SOON be able to buy a copy of *If walls could talk*, the book containing information on Pickering Museum Village's heritage buildings with drawings from the Ajax Creative Arts - Millennium Collection as well as our own artist volunteers. The Foundation is looking for a few outlets to carry this publication.

We are delighted to have *ready to frame* reprints of the collection available at special events during the summer. For only \$10 you can support our next project and take home an image of the museum village. 🐾

Music Notes

SEE ENCLOSED SHEET for information on this exciting workshop - an exploration of early Ontario music and book early. 🐾



Info on events

Steam-Up and Opening

PICKERING WILL BE busy on Saturday, May 27 with this event, Whitevale's Spring Festival and Artfest in the city. A free festival bus will operate between the sites so you won't miss anything.



Scheduled times at the museum village include 11:45, 12:15, 1:45, 2:15 and 3:45. For visitors to the museum village, passes for Saturday and Sunday will be available for regular event admission.

New this year will be the Mobile Millinery Museum and fashion show featuring hats from 1830 and up.

Ian Bell (see Music Notes), and friends will be our musical entertainment for the day and Sher Leetooze will tell stories, as only she can, in the log barn.

Bloomers & Britches will return with a plant sale and some garden tips for all interested in heritage gardening.

Pickering school bands and choirs have been invited to perform again on Saturday, in Bandstand Beats.

We are fortunate this year to be able to bring you many needle art samples and demonstrations. Invited groups include Maple Leaf Tatting, Rouge Valley Quilters, Scarborough Needlearts, Toronto Knitting, Toronto Lace and

Shuttlebug Weavers and Spinners.

Walking Through Thyme

New event inspired by Bloomers & Britches. Garden talks and treats throughout the museum village.

Confirmed garden gurus at time of printing: Roland Cave-Browne-Cave, Andrea Clarke, *gardening with native herbs*; Pat Crocker, *author*; Lisa Parker, *herbalist*; Norma, *Norma's Edible Flowers*; Carol Roe, *author*; Diane Tait, *herbalist*; Brenda Utton, *pot pourri recipes*; and hopefully their new book *Gifts from the garden*. Music by the Hamstrings of Durham and Valerie Morgan, *harpist*.

Herbal teas and sandwiches will be served by Norma's Edible Flowers and Herbs and Rivendell Herb Farms for a nominal fee from 12:20 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. in the village.

Antique & Classic Car Show

An annual stroll down memory lane, presented by the Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada. To register your treasure to display call 905•649•2664.



The War of 1812

Three battles re-enacted by: The 49th Regiment of Foot – Grenadier Company.

Featuring fife and drum music, military

and civilian encampment, open fire cooking demonstrations, camp followers and their stories, and a flint-lock musket loading competition by re-enactors. Children will be invited to take 19th century marching lessons.

The illustration of a drummer boy, which will appear on all promotion for this event, was created for the museum village by Dennis Stillwell Martin.

Pastimes of Past Times

Focusing on old fashioned family leisure activities, or how the settlers spent their free time. You are invited to experience parlour sing-a-longs, nail driving contests, tug-o-war games and other pastimes of yesterday.

Ol' Fashioned Hymn Sing and Afternoon Tea

Soloists, choirs, musicians and those who love to sing are invited to attend this afternoon in the Chapel. Groups are encouraged to book with Dave Marlowe at the museum village.

See our fall newsletter for more event information. 🍷

Wanted

THE PICKERING MUSEUM Village is looking for adult volunteers 17 years of age and older. Gardening, assisting with event set-up, taking admissions, and interpreting Pickering Township's history are just a few of the ways that you could donate your time. Museum volunteers' training workshops to be offered this season include:

- ✦ Volunteer Orientation
- ✦ Techniques for Successful Interpretation
- ✦ Costumes
- ✦ Gardening
- ✦ Using the Old Woodstove
- ✦ Weaving.

Adult Volunteer Applications can be obtained from the museum village or downloaded from the museum's web page. Completed applications can be submitted at the Pickering Museum Village, or to the Culture and Recreation Division of the City of Pickering. Following receipt of your application, **Katrina Pyke**, Volunteer Co-ordinator, will be pleased to contact you for an interview.

For more information on the Pickering Museum Village Volunteer Service and Recognition Programme, please call the museum. 🍷

Bits from Bloomers & Britches:

by Julie Oakes

THE BLOOMERS HAVE held three meetings over the winter to plan for our spring plantings. We have ordered heritage varieties of seeds from "Seeds of Diversity" for tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers and pole beans to grow in the Miller-Cole vegetable garden; we will collect the seeds from these plants both for our use next year and for "Seeds of Diversity."

Lyn McGowan has done a great deal of research for our new dye garden at the Collins house, and it is hoped that the dye garden will become an interpretative focal point for that house. **Ed**



Cammack, in consultation with **Pam Auguste**, has kindly volunteered to build state of the art compost bins behind the barn so that we can start to produce our own compost for the beds. We will be holding "Turnover Day" on Sunday May 7, starting at 9:30 A.M., to turn over the beds, plant and divide perennials and generally clean up the gardens. There will be a pot luck lunch (and judging by the excellence of the offerings at our October pot luck lunch, it'll be great !!) and

we welcome any newcomers who want to help.

If you can give plants for our Steam-Up plant sale or if you'd like more information on Bloomer activities, call **Julie** at 905•728•6953. 🍷

Thank you

THE BUSH-LADIES – the treat of the season at Dunbarton H.S. theatre last fall. The lives of four Upper Canada pioneer women were graphically portrayed on stage. Our guests experienced their hardships as we learned about their daily struggles. Congratulations to **Mary Cook** for her initiative in bringing this educational theatrical programme to Pickering as a fund raiser. It was a fine example of how hard individual members of the Foundation work to further our objective. Thanks to Mary and **Ontario Power Generation, Pickering Nuclear (OPG)** and **Pat O'Brien** in particular and all who bought tickets, it was a profit maker for the Foundation.

OPG has requested to be an event sponsor for the 2000 season. 🐾

A special thank you to the media for their coverage of the museum village. Without **News Advertiser, KX 96** and **Shaw Cable 10** carrying our press releases we would not be able to keep you informed about activities at the site.

Thanks to the concept presented to TVO's Studio 2 by **Mary Delaney** and **Katrina Pyke, A Spurt Walk** experienced a greater audience than we dreamed possible. 🐾



Happy Birthday

AVAILABLE WEEKENDS FROM June 1 to September 30, call for details on how you can have your child's next birthday at the museum village. 🐾

Special thanks to **Irene Dewar** and friends for providing a hand embroidered queen-sized quilt to raffle. Entitled, Rural Roads to Millennium City, this quilt was started in 1999 and features heritage buildings of Pickering. Drawings by many local artists were adapted to quilting.



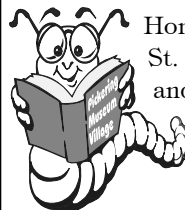
The draw will be held at Christmas in the Village, December 10, 2000. Tickets (\$2 each or 3 for \$5) available at the site or from quilters. 🐾

Read-A-Thon

PICKERING
Museum
Village
FOUNDATION

Congratulations to:

- 1st **Glengrove P.S., Pickering**
 - 2nd **Southwood P.S., Ajax**
 - 3rd **Kathleen Rowe P.S., Whitby**
- Top placing schools in the **1999 Schoolhouse Read-A-Thon.**



Honourable mention to:
St. Monica's C.S, Ajax
and Claremont P.S.



Great books are just the beginning
The Durham Centre, Ajax

Watch for Read-A-Thon details coming to your school in September.

Durham's heritage education centre news

TWO NEW COURSES were introduced at the museum village in 1999 – brochures enclosed.

For our on site tours, *Games, toys and leisure activities* and for our Heritage-to-go programmes, *Buzz saws and building blocks.* 🐾

Cataloguing update

OVER THE WINTER, **Dave Marlowe** and **Lyn McGowan** updated part of our collection records. From May to August we will welcome **Leila Persaud**, a student in the Museum Management and Curatorship Programme at Sir Sandford Fleming College. Leila will assist with this massive project.

Updating the catalogue is expected to be a five year project. 🐾

Site rentals



Brides and grooms looking for a different location for weddings or photos have chosen the Museum Village. Bookings are still being taken for the Chapel, Hall or Bandstand as well as use of the grounds for photo shoots, family and bridal portraits.

Make your wedding an 'Historic Event'.



Pickering Museum Village

is operated by the Culture and Recreation Division of the
CITY OF PICKERING
One The Esplanade
Pickering, ON L1V 6K7

CITY PHONE: 905•420•4620 SITE PHONE: 905•683•8401

WEB SITE: < <http://www.city.pickering.on.ca/museum> >

E-MAIL < museum@city.pickering.on.ca >

Regular Hours of Operation

Spring & Fall – Tours by appointment only

June and September weekends only – 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

July & August – Wednesday to Sunday – 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

We are on Hwy. 7, between Brock Road and Westney Road, in Greenwood.

PICKERING JUNCTION NEWS is a Pickering Museum Village Foundation and Advisory Committee publication.

If you have any questions, comments or additions to its contents, please send them to:

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or E-MAIL to:

< lauric@idirect.com > 🐾