

NEWS

Have I Got e-  *for You!*



News from the Communities in and around the
Old Barns and Hilden United Churches



No 14

February 2020

Message from Your Editor

Hello Friends!

Here we are just past the hump of winter, looking forward to March 20th and the vernal equinox, or first day of spring, to arrive.

On February 2nd, we all look to the groundhog to give us an indication of the up-coming weather. This tradition comes from the lore that clear weather on the Christian Holy Day of Candlemas forebodes a prolonged winter; this was brought to North America by the Pennsylvania Dutch with the most famous groundhog being “Punxsutawney Phil”.

The tradition moved about North America and now we have “Shubenacadie Sam”, who is the most accurate of all the creatures with a 45% chance of being correct. We also have “Two Rivers Tunnel” in Cape Breton and “Daks Day” in Lunenburg. Not to be outdone, “Lucy the Lobster” from Barrington Passage, also tries to get into the action.

No matter what they predict, we still awaken each day and wonder what Mother Nature will present to us. Try to enjoy each day and what it brings. No amount of gripping will change the weather so find something good to make your day brighter. Perhaps the weather outside means you can stay inside to read a good book or work on a jig saw puzzle; write a letter to a friend or bake a pie.

I love to say, “The sun always shines, even when you cannot see it.” ~ *Leslie*



Good Bye, Dear Friends



Edna "Mary Lou" Mitchell
November 5, 2019 – aged 68 years
Old Barns



Florence "Joyce" Stewart
December 9, 2019 – aged 92 years
Old Barns



Elmer Henry Patton
February 1, 1940 – December 28, 2019
Formerly from Lower Truro



Chester Frederick Rutherford
April 16, 1921 – January 20, 2020
Father of Sandra (Garry) Matthews, Gary
(Debbie), and Randy (Heather) of Clifton



William "Bill" Arnold MacDonald
February 6, 2020 – aged 77 years
Princeport

Sympathy is also extended to those community members who have lost family and friends from outside our communities.

Always missed, forever remembered.

I was given the gift of life,
and now I have to give it back.
This is hard.
But I was a lucky woman,
who led a lucky existence,
and for this I am grateful.

Jane Lotter, 1952 – 2013 – wrote her own obituary

Happy Days!

Birthdays:

Jan 04	85	Allen Large
Jan 29	87	Hazel Brenton
Mar 17	89	Don Chisholm
Apr 04	82	Beth Saunders
Apr 09	82	Janet Kent
May 14	86	Millie McKim
May 29	86	Colie Brenton
June 27	92	Gerry McLeod



Anniversaries:

Apr 10	50	Merle & Carol Collins
Apr 30	66	Don & Kathie Chisholm



*Hope you all enjoyed, or will enjoy,
your special day!*

I thank my God every time I remember you.

Philippians 1:3

Pancake Brunch

Sunday, April 5th 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, Old Barns United Church
Pancakes, maple syrup, sausages,
biscuits, and a beverage
Entertainment provided.
Cost – to be announced

Clifton Pastoral Charge

February/March/April/May/June Services

February 26 – Ash Wednesday
7:00 p.m. in Hilden

March 1 – Regular Service
note time changes
9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden

March 8 – 15 – 22 – Regular Service
9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

March 29 – Joint Service
10:00 a.m. in Hilden

April 5 – Regular Service – Passion Sunday
note time changes
9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden

April 9 – Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. in Hilden

April 10 – Good Friday
7:00 p.m. in Old Barns

April 12 – Easter Sunday and Communion
9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

April 19 – 26 – Regular Service
9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

May 3 – Regular Service
note time changes
9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden

May 10 – 17 – 24 – Regular Service
9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

May 31 – Joint Service
10:00 a.m. in Old Barns

June 7 – Regular Service
note time changes
9:30 a.m. in Old Barns
11:00 a.m. in Hilden

June 14 – 21 – 28 – Regular Service
9:30 a.m. in Hilden
11:00 a.m. in Old Barns

Thank You

From Terry Mitchell

Twenty-five years ago, my family and I moved into our home in Old Barns. We chose to live here and I often thought before we moved here how inviting this community felt when we drove through from our home in Hillsborough N.B. to the Annapolis Valley to see our family.

Over these past twenty-five years, friendships, relationships and family-like relationships developed. I didn't realise just how much these "ships" had developed.

I cannot Thank You enough for all your loving thoughts, feelings, wishes and caring that was extended to myself and my family. Thank you to the Progressive Club for your kindness and lovely food at Mary Lou's Celebration of Life, you were able to make a difficult time a bit more tolerable.

Thank you to the Old Barns Church and its members for all its kindnesses. Thank you to the Men's Club and UCW for their much-appreciated generosity. Thank you to pastor LeBlanc for his visitation and time spent with the family.

A special Thank You to "Hwy 236" for all the support you have given us over the past couple of years and being there and playing at Mary Lou's Celebration of Life, thanks to each and every one of you. Mary Lou loved you all.

Thank you to the community of Old Barns for all your kindness over the past years and especially in the time of our loss.

In closing, I simply want to thank the community for making us feel like this is our home.



A Hymn for Winter

I saw this hymn, which I do not remember ever singing in church, and thought how lovely the words; and so I share with you.

Sing till Sundown # 78 Voice United

Sing till sundown, hum your joy,
Dress in starlight, girl and boy.
Man and woman climb the hill,
Warmed beyond December's chill,
Reeling, clapping, touch the air:
Is that fragrant music there?
Come the glory, gone the gloom:
In a wondrous huddled room.
Christ the Word we've longed to know
Call us dancing through the snow.

Gladness deepens into grace,
Weaves its light on every face.
Let us wake the sleeping earth,
Celebrate the sweetest birth
Pierce the night with festive cry,
Bloom in colours of the sky.
Bring the flute, the tambourine,
Wave the branch of evergreen.
Lost we were a grief ago,
Now we're dancing through the snow.

Happy Birthday!



Party for Lloyd Yuill on March 21st
Arrive any time after 7:30 p.m.
Green Oak Dairy Farm (Burriss)
All are welcome!

Community Supper

Where: Cobequid Fire Hall, Lower Truro
When: Wednesday, April 22
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Menu: Ham, potato scallop, baked
beans, coleslaw, rolls, tea, coffee,
water, cake
Cost: Free – served while supplies last

Live Entertainment

The Cobequid Firemenettes are hosting this supper for all those living in our fire brigade area from Truro Heights to Green Oak. We hope you will join us,



UCW Annual December Christmas Party
Old Barns



Youth Drama Members singing at Old Barns Variety Show in December

Events from the Past Few Months



November Birthday Girls –
Sybil and Glenda



Lydia Sorflaten, Guest Speaker at Old Barns UCW
Canada Foodgrains Bank Trip



Highway 236 singing at Old Barns Variety Show in
December



The Blue Lane – Rachael Henderson and Morgan
Cruickshanks at Old Barns Variety Show in December



Reg Henderson, Laurie Sandeson, Garry Matthews
Old Barns Variety Show in December



A November Snowfall in Green Oak

The next two pictures were taken about 7 years ago on Wyman Yuill's 90th birthday, the last time his mill sawed wood.



Santa drops in for a visit at Old Barns Variety Show in December



Above: Wyman Yuill with Wilfred Pierce

Below: James Yuill, Wyman, Wilfred, John Yuill



Silly Snowman

Picture Credits: Catherine Alexander, Karen Archibald-Waugh, Jenna Burris, Leslie Burrows, Janel Nelson, Marjorie Pierce

Old Barns Progressive Club 1943-2020

Submitted by Millie McKim

This Club was formed in 1943, and although the structure has changed somewhat, we are still Progressing.

Our Group has eight to nine members but any gal can join us. All that is necessary is a sense of humour, to be able to pay a monthly due of \$2.00 and, if possible, host a meeting either for afternoon or evening (2 hrs). We take turns doing this, but do not meet in the summer.

It is a social time, but we also do a lot of good with the amount of money we raise.

We have helped people who have health problems and paid for the flowers that were planted outside the church and also helped with a musical evening. We always have a Christmas party open to the ladies of the Community. We provide a box of food for someone in the Community.

Our present Group has had the same Secretary since 1995, our President since 2001 and Treasurer since 2001.

We share in entertainment and also concerns for members of our Community.

Just wanted to fill you in on our purpose and concerns, but still keep it fun and sociable. Our main objective is FELLOWSHIP.



Variety Concert

Thursday, February 27th
7:00 p.m.
Old Barns United Church
Free Will Offering
Pie Auction
Featuring Highway 236
The Blue Lane
Special Guest Performers
All are Welcome!

How Do You Look at Each Day?

Submitted by Marjorie Pierce

The 92-year-old, well-poised and proud lady, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, moved to a nursing home today.

Her husband of 70 years recently passed away making the move necessary.

After waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, she smiled sweetly when told her room was ready. As she maneuvered her walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of her tiny room, including the eyelet curtains that had been hung on her window.

"I love it" she stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"Mrs. Jones, you haven't seen the room..... just wait."

"That doesn't have anything to do with it", she replied. "Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged, it's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice, I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do."

"Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away just for this time in my life."

"Old age is like a bank account you withdraw from what you've put in.... So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories. Thank you for your part in filling my Memory bank, I am still depositing."

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries
3. Live simply
4. Give more
5. Expect less

A "Useful" Health Warning!!

Submitted by Glenda Kent

DON'T WASH YOUR HAIR IN THE SHOWER!
It involves the shampoo when it runs down your body when you shower with it – a warning to us all!!

I don't know WHY I didn't figure this out sooner. I use shampoo in the shower! When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning: "FOR EXTRA BODY AND VOLUME".

No wonder I have been gaining weight! Well, I got rid of that shampoo and I am going to start showering with Dawn dishwashing soap instead. Its label reads: "DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE".

Problem solved! If I don't answer the phone, I'll be in the shower!!

The Old Barns United Circle Cookbook

Circa 1956

Apple Squares

Mrs. George McCurdy

1	cup	flour
½	teaspoon	salt
½	teaspoon	soda
½	cup	brown sugar
1	cup	quick oats
½	cup	shortening
2 ½	cups	apples, sliced
2	Tablespoons	butter
½	cup	white sugar

Sift together flour, salt, and soda and mix with brown sugar and quick oats. Cut in shortening until crumbly. Spread half the mixture in 7 X 11 in. pan. Arrange sliced apples on top, dot with butter and sprinkle with sugar. Cover with remaining crumb mixture. Bake in moderate over 40 – 45 min. Cut in squares and serve cold.

Hello, My name is Annie & I am Lost!

PLEASE HELP ME GET HOME!

Annie has been missing since **December 23rd, 2019** from the **Masstown/Debert** area. She is a 65 lbs fawn (tan color) boxer. She was wearing a pink and black collar the day she went missing.

If anyone has any information please call **902-890-5925** or find us on facebook at **"Bring Annie Home."**

The Joy of Unselfish Giving

by: Helen Steiner Rice

Time is not measured
by the years that you live
but by the deeds that you do
and the joy that you give
and each day as it comes
brings a chance to each one
to love to the fullest,
leaving nothing undone
that would brighten the life
or lighten the load
of some weary traveller
lost on life's road.
So what does it matter
how long we may live
if as long as we live
we unselfishly give.

The Netherlands and Germany

Submitted by Jenna Waugh

In November 2019, a group of 50 farmers and farm related associates went on the trip to the Netherlands and Germany, organized by The Agromart.

Those in attendance from our community included: Jenna and Stephen Burris, Rudolph and Charlene Blaauwendraat, John and Krista Blaauwendraat, Lloyd Yuill, Andrew and Maria McCurdy, Jonathan Waugh and Melanie Ross.



We spent a day sightseeing in the busy city of Amsterdam.



We toured a Floating Dairy Farm in Rotterdam - an experimental test farm exploring the possibility of moving agriculture (dairy, poultry, greenhouses etc.) onto water as land becomes less available.



On Remembrance Day, we visited the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, where soldiers from WWII are buried.



On to Beerzerveld, Germany and a robotic dairy farm.



We toured Elmsfleur Greenhouse - the largest greenhouse facility in Europe, they sell and export 500 million plants each year.



We visited Marienburg Castle, built in the 1860's by King George V as a gift for his wife.



The final stop was Agritechnica - the largest agricultural show in the world.

Memories of Our Country Music Cruise

Submitted by Karen Archibald-Waugh

During the last week of January, Anthony and I enjoyed a Country Music Cruise at sea. We received the same priority service as did Johnny Lee when boarding. Wheel chairs and canes skipped the long lines. However, the 2500 guests were all on board within the hour. We departed from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on January 25, settling ourselves into our room on the fifth floor with a balcony and got ourselves oriented with our home on the water. Recorded music was playing everywhere.

We sat at a table for eight the first evening. Six others joined us: A couple of ladies from Georgia (Anthony referred to them as his Georgia peaches; they loved him for it.), a mother and daughter from Spokane, Washington and a couple from Atlanta. We soon agreed to meet each evening for dinner. By the end of the week we knew each other well. Everyone had a story and the parts shared were

sad, happy and heartwarming. The first afternoon we were entertained by Moe Bandy on the Pool deck. Larry the Cable Guy provided Redneck humour during Comedy Hour on the main stage in the evening. He did not sail with us, but most other entertainers were on the cruise for the week. It was common to share the buffet area, the elevators or any of the general areas with Ryan Owen, Larry Gatlin and his wife, Moe Bandy, John Berry, Linda Davis and family, the Haggard boys and The Oakridge Boys. Each performer or group had one night on the main stage with other opportunities for autograph signing, small group interviews and more musical entertainment throughout the day.

The first two days we sailed toward the beautiful warm waters of the Caribbean. We learned how to play Corn Hole on the Pool deck and watched others learn the two step or line dancing. Beautiful dancing couples would dance as the entertainers sang in the outdoor areas. Texan cowboys were well represented. Wrangler jeans, cowboy boots, belt buckles and Stetson hats were commonly worn. Dress codes changed with daily themes. Meal time dress was casual. We met new people daily. Anthony met several new Masonic brothers and those who had tales of motor biking. They became instant friends and would often meet again through the week.

We attended Gospel Hour on Sunday morning. This was led by Larry Gatlin and his brothers, Linda Davis and family, Tony Jackson and many others. It was a beautiful time. Their own emotional life stories were shared as they provided the background for some of the songs they wrote.



On Tuesday we saw land. We docked on the island of St Thomas. This is one of the three Virgin Islands. We went ashore and boarded a small open bus for a tour of the island. The island and its views were beautiful. The driving was a bit nerve wracking for me. Driving was on the other side of the road with a one lane road for two lane traffic. The driver honked his horn for seconds before approaching a turn. I gasped repeatedly, warning the other passengers that another vehicle was narrowly skimming by us. St Thomas was hit by two hurricanes in 2017 and were without power for six months.



Both St Thomas and Puerto Rico are territories of the United States. Two states provided support following the hurricanes. The people on this island expressed great appreciation for tourism.



The following day we docked in Puerto Rico. This looked very similar to the area around

Halifax, modern with semi high rises. Many fellow travellers signed up for excursions such as a trip to the rain forest. We did not. I needed to limit my walking. The Oakridge Boys joined us in Puerto Rico. And the biggest part of my day was meeting up with William Lee Golden in our hallway. What an impressive beard he wears!



The Grand Ole Opry at sea was a highlight for us. It was very similar to visiting the Opry in Nashville.



Our third port of call was Half Moon Cay, a beautiful little island off the Bahamas. We went ashore for the day. John Berry and his wife were on our smaller boat that took us ashore. (Cruise Ship and beach)



During the last meal, we exchanged e-mails and Facebook info with our dining companions and vowed to return in three years' time for the tenth anniversary of the Country Music cruise. We truly had a wonderful week of entertainment and friendship.



Exploring Argentina

Submitted by Catherine and Kevin Alexander

We enjoyed the stories that went along with the entertaining. Randy Owen, lead vocalist of Alabama, spoke of his farm of 800 Herefords, the poor life of his father as a cotton picker, the love he has for his mama and the joy that his grandchildren provide. Larry Gatlin and The Gatlin Brothers recognized the Canadians in the audience with our national anthem. Pam Tillis' travelling companion recalled being in Moncton in 2017.

We were all very impressed with one of the younger performers. Megan Mullins has been playing the fiddle and performing since the age of three. Her father grew up "three hollers over" from Loretta Lynn. She is now married to a cousin of Randy Owen of Alabama.

This was a trip where we did not have to clearly explain the geographical location of Nova Scotia. Many had docked in Halifax on cruise ships, had visited the Maritimes or were planning to. We are always encouraging ambassadors for our native land.

Many of those who worked on the Holland American Cruise Line were from Indonesia. The care and service we received was outstanding. Our housekeepers, Martin and Oinoin, took great care of Sir Anthony and Miss Karen. We learned that Martin left his wife and five-day old baby at home for eight months work on the ship. "I must provide for my family." Young mothers left their own young families in Indonesia to be cared for by a grandmother. They go home for three months and then back to work.

From the bustling streets of Buenos Aires, to the majestic Iguazu Falls, and the rugged beauty of the Land of Fire (Tierra del Fuego), Argentina has so much to discover in its scenery and culture. In January, we spent 10 days exploring this beautiful country; trying to fit in as much as we could in such a short period of time.

We started in Buenos Aires, known as the 'Paris of South America', which is full of history, beautiful architecture, abounding with parks, and just an all-around welcoming city with warm and friendly people.

It's unusual for a cemetery to be recommended as one of the top sites to visit, but Recoleta Cemetery is more like a small city, with elaborate carved pillars, statues and house-sized tombs.



Recoleta Cemetery, Buenos Aires

We also attended mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral – Jorge Bergoglio's home parish before he became Pope Francis in 2013.



Metropolitan Cathedral, Buenos Aires

However, most of our time was spent wandering through the different neighbourhoods, exploring street markets, and even watching performers dancing the tango in the streets and parks.



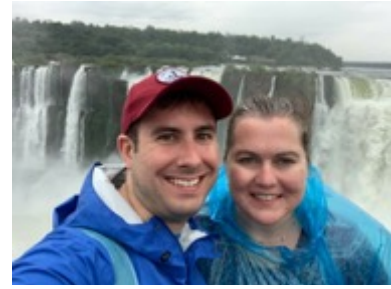
La Boca, Buenos Aires

We took a day trip from Buenos Aires, across Rio de la Plata (the widest river in the world), to Colonial del Sacramento, Uruguay. This historic town is a UNESCO listed city, and full of colorful colonial houses and picturesque cobblestone streets. We climbed to the top of El Faro Lighthouse and had a great view over of the river and the whole historic town from the top.



El Faro Lighthouse, Colonial del Sacramento

Next, we flew north to Iguazu and spent a full day in the National Park looking at, listening to, and being sprayed by the majestic Iguazu Falls. This chain of hundreds of waterfalls covering nearly 3km sits on the border of Argentina and Brazil, and should be at the top of everyone's bucket list.



Kevin and Catherine at Iguazu Falls



Iguazu Falls

The paths through the national park take you to the top of the most powerful falls, and give beautiful panoramic views of the falls through the lush rainforest. We were so impressed both by the falls themselves, and also the overall park which is easy to navigate, wheelchair friendly, and respects the natural environment.



Toucan in Iguazu

Leaving the warmth of the rainforest, we flew south for our last stop of the trip, Ushuaia – the southernmost city in the world, in the Patagonia region of Argentina.



Standing in the Ushuaia City sign

Surrounded by the snow-capped Andes, bordering Chile, and sitting on the Beagle Channel, it felt like we were in another country altogether. Located just north of the Drake Passage, and a mere 1,000 km from Antarctica, it is largely a touristic town where people depart on cruise ships to visit the ice covered continent. Fisheries is the other main industry in Ushuaia, with king crab being one of the main catches. We spent a day on the Beagle Channel traveling towards the Atlantic where we saw Cormorants, Sea Lions, and thousands of Penguins on Martillo Island.



Penguins on Martillo Island

We were lucky enough to be one of 120 permitted to walk on Martillo Island each day, and were able to see the penguins up close – watching them play, nap, and wander about. There were three species of penguins inhabiting the island, and all swim here to nest and raise their babies between October and April. The babies, all around 2 months old, were almost as big as the adults as they were being fattened up before they spend a month fasting as they moult and prepare to enter the frigid waters to fend for themselves.

We also spent time exploring several parks in the area, seeing many ‘flag-trees’ – one-sided trees created by the strong southerly winds constantly pushing the trees over and permanently deforming them.



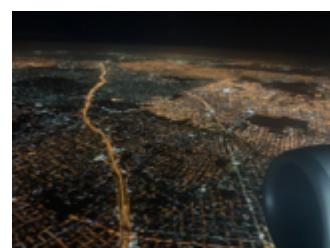
Flag-Tree in Tierra del Fuego

We also learned of the Beaver infestation, threatening the forests and the ecosystem. It all started when somebody had the brilliant idea to bring 25 Canadian beaver couples to the area in 1946 to provide material for a fur industry and bring jobs to the sparsely populated region. What they didn’t expect was that the different climate would not produce an adequate pelt; therefore, there was no incentive to hunt the beavers. Now, with a population of over 200,000, the beavers are taking over the forests and creating huge areas of flooding; killing off thousands of old-growth trees.



Tierra del Fuego National Park

From Ushuaia, we flew back to Buenos Aires for a night, and then continued on to home. While we saw a lot of the country during our visit, there is still so much we wish we could have experienced. Argentina is definitely high on our list of places to visit again if we have a chance!



Buenos Aires from the plane