Kinmount Gazette

KINMOUNT GAZETTE COMMITTEE
THE KINMOUNT COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

January 2012 Volume 4: Issue 3

What Do Animals Do In Winter

Canada has a "continental climate" which means large seasonal swings. Every Canadian knows it gets warm in the summer and cold in the winter. This means all our flora and fauna must adapt to the changing climate or temperatures. The local fauna have some very interesting ways of surviving the change of seasons. Mother Nature is a complicated, logical and awesome force in our world!

Migrations

Many animals simply migrate or move south to warmer climates. These are mostly birds who have the ability to fly south to avoid the winter. (Many Canadian humans do so as well: they are called snowbirds). These species include robins, geese, ducks , starlings, swallows and dozens of other bird species. They leave at various times of the fall. The barn swallow is among the first to migrate. They start south at the end of August when the their food supply (insects) start to disappear. Likewise they only return to Kinmount in May when the bugs first appear. Staying too late in the Fall could mean they starve to death! Most birds head to the lands bordering the Gulf of Mexico where it is "endless summer" to them. .The trip takes several weeks and can be very dangerous. Many birds die or are killed before they can return. For example, the author counted over 90 barn swallows before departure in August 2009. Only 39 returned in May 2010! One year, the local flock was reduced to only 6 birds! What happens to our migrating birds? Many are killed colliding into buildings, especially high rises in urban areas. Most birds cannot tell the difference between open air and windows and try to fly through high rises. It is estimated 1 billion birds die this way every year in the USA! Artificial light also confuses migrating birds and can lead to confusion and death. Others are killed by predators, hit hydro wires or simply starve to death enroute. Others perish in their winter habitat. These habitats are often very concentrated with thousands of birds jammed in a small space for the winter months. Many habitat are being destroyed by everything from natural disasters such as hurricanes to man-made disasters such as urbanization or habitat destruction. The Arctic Tern wins the prize for the longest migration. It spends the summer in the Canadian Arctic and then flies to Antarctica for the winter season: a one way trip the entire length of the earth! Talk about frequent flyer miles!

One of the most famous migrating bird is the Canada Goose. These travellers are Geese in the Kinmount area

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HAPPY NEW YEAR !
From the KINMOUNT GAZETTE

Visit us at kinmount.ca

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Kinny Elf Hunt Update

In 2010 the K.C.P.E.D. (Kinmount Committee for Planning and Economic Development) introduced the "Kinny the Elf Hunt" as part of the Christmas in the Village activities. The idea was to promote shopping in Kinmount with a little fun, adventure, in-store specials and prizes, for both adults and children. A total of 13 elves were created and hidden at local establishments to provide an opportunity to see what was new in the stores and find each "Kinny." This year the hunt ran for a full week from Saturday, Nov. 26 to Saturday, Dec. 3, with participating businesses offering specials to entice you into their stores both Saturdays. Finding "Kinny," identifying what he was holding, and filling in the contest card entered you in a draw. Winners of this year's hunt were Mark Lawrie of Davis Lake for the adult category and Cruz Simmons Biskup of Kinmount for the children's category.

The Kinny Elves will be back again next year with more surprises and a reminder to shop locally whenever you can.

.

A Message from the Kinny Keeper

Friends and Neighbours: Bobcaygeon

Bobcaygeon's nickname is "The Hub of the Kawarthas" and it is well named. The village is located at the rapids where Sturgeon Lake empties into Pigeon Lake on its way to Lake Ontario. The spot was an obvious site for native villages and was the spot of an early trading post run by a trader named McKeough. But the father of the village was an English entrepreneur named Thomas Need who set up shop in 1832. The local Mississauga Indians called the site "bob-cajeon-unk" which meant "shallow waters" in their dialect. Need liked the name.

Need was granted 400 acres including the 3 islands that were part of the new village. Need built a sawmill & grist mill on the big island and a community began to grow up. In 1834 the government of Upper Canada commissioned the first lock for the Trent Waterway at Bobcaygeon. The lock was finished by 1840. The site was truly the "Hub of the Kawartha Lakes."

In 1844 Need sold his interests to a local farmer named Mossom Boyd and the village really began to prosper under its most famous family.

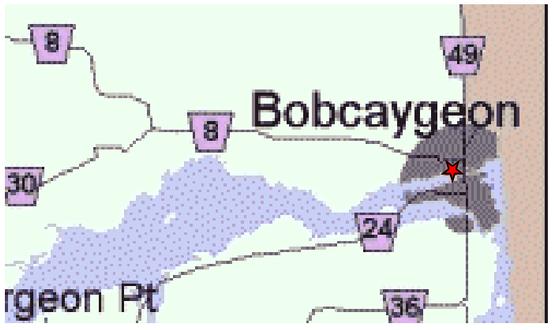
Boyd's main enterprise in the early years was his sawmill business. Ideally located on the Trent Waterway, Boyd floated the massive white pine logs to his mill at the foot of the lock. The dam at Buckhorn (completed in 1844) raised the water levels and forced several re-organizing of the locks & sawmills to the point where Boyd moved his sawmill to a new (and much larger site) on the south-east end of the island.

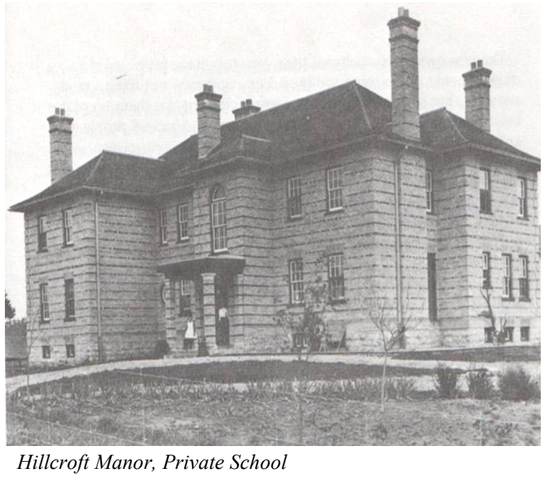
In 1855, the government commissioned a series of colonization roads to open up the Ottawa-Huron Tract north of the Kawartha Lakes. The Bobcaygeon Road was to be a key piece of this scheme and Bobcaygeon Village was to be the start point for the new road. It had regular steam boat connections with both Peterborough (via Bridgenorth) and Lindsay. All the settlers for Haliburton County flowed through Bobcaygeon until the Victoria Railway diverted the flow in 1876. The village prospered and became the largest community in the area. The village contained several large hotels and numerous stores to service travelers on the Road, local farmers & the lumber industry, then approaching its zenith.

The village grew up on the 3 islands and on the north shore where a separate village called Rokeby was surveyed by the government. In 1876 the rival villages amalgamated so they could boast 1,000 residents & qualify for incorporated village status. The name Rokeby disappeared.

The Boyds branched out and formed the Kawartha Navigation Company with numerous steam boats that plied the Kawartha Lakes for several decades until the age of steam passed by World War I. They also dabbled in livestock breeding. But the Boyds really wanted a railway for their businesses and when the Victoria Railway was planned in the early 1870s, they tried desperately to get the line to cross the Kawartha Lakes at Bobcaygeon. Unfortunately their designs were stymied by Verulam Township Council who refused to grant a bonus to the company. Fenelon Falls was not so cheap and won the railway. Fenelon's rise was Bobcaygeon's demise and the population actually declined in Bobcaygeon as Fenelon's grew. Bobcaygeon eventually got its railway in 1904, but by then it was too late. The Boyd Family closed their big sawmill in 1898 and the village languished even further. The prosperity brought by the mills and the Road led to a number of prominent industries in the village. The Boyd Family built a series of large, lavish houses along the canal. The only one that survives today is the Boyd "office", now a museum/library. The numerous Boyds also had a private school in the office. The Teachers, a Mr. & Mrs. Comer started a private school for boys called Hillcroft in town. The large structure was converted to a hospital (with 18 beds) in 1958. The small hospital operated until closed by the Ontario Government in the 1970s.

Bobcaygeon also contained all the DNA structures of an established village: 4 churches, high school, newspaper, sawmill, grist mill, Orange Lodge, agricultural fair and numerous businesses. The Trent Canal also contributed to its prosperity, particularly in later years when tourism climbed to the number one industry in the area. Today the village has become a retirement destination, with both condominiums and estates gracing the local lakes.





Hillcroft Manor, Private School

What Do Animals Do In Winter

Continued from page 1

were mostly just "flying over" or resting overnight. This has changed dramatically in recent years with large flocks simply staying in the area. (This may not be a good thing!) Canada Geese do not need to spend the winter on a Caribbean beach, most simply migrate south to open water that does not freeze over. This may be as close as Bobcaygeon or Toronto! In recent years the numbers of Geese have multiplied dramatically.

Animals rarely migrate long distances. No deer or moose is going to walk to Florida for the winter! Bats are one mammal that do migrate. Some species hibernate, others fly south. But a few insects do fly south! One of the most famous is the Monarch Butterfly. Eastern North America (including Kinmount Monarchs) all congregate in a very small area (217 square mile preserve) in Mexico for the winter. That's a 3,000 mile migration for a butterfly! It is estimated there are 25,000,000 butterflies per acre! When they move, it has been called an "orange & black snowstorm! Despite the winter habitat being a protected preserve, illegal logging is threatening the Monarch. The Monarch population is falling dramatically as winter habitat is destroyed!

Hibernation

Other animals hibernate or go to sleep for the winter. Bears are the most famous of the hibernating crowd. The black bear spends the summer packing on weight to carry them through the winter. About the middle of November , the bears seek out holes or burrows in the ground for their winter sleep. How do they know when to hibernate? Scientists believe all hibernating animals have a chemical in their bodies that is activated by the weather (temperatures or sunlight?) and like a sleeping pill, seek out the winter bed. Bear cubs are born in the winter den while mom is still asleep. The black bear usually stays asleep all winter, but other animals do wake up occasionally. Squirrels & chipmunks cannot store enough calories in their small bodies to carry them through the whole winter, so they store away food supplies in their burrows. Thus they literally sleep & eat all winter. Sometimes they venture outside the den as their occasional tracks testify. Raccoons and skunks are another local animals that sleeps (mostly) all winter.

Most insects also hibernate for the winter. Some crawl under the ground, others use water to hide. Some insects such as mosquitoes actually die off (yeah!) but leave their eggs to hibernate over the winter (boo!).

Adapt

Large numbers of local wildlife simply adapt for the winter season. They cannot run or hide so they just adapt. White tailed deer move to winter deer yards where food (cedar or browse) is more readily available. The concentrated population does put pressure on food supplies, but the larger numbers do create trails in the snow. There are several deer yards in our area, with the largest being found at Nogies Creek. Some people try to feed the deer over the winter, much as you would feed livestock. The Ministry of Natural Resources does not endorse deer feeding for a number of reasons. Deer digestion systems have troubles handling livestock feed such as hay. Winter feeding patterns can be messed up by artificial feeding stations and feeding near busy roads can cause more danger from car collisions. Their advice is to let Nature take its course, but it is human nature to help out the winter feed beds that can be

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Kinmount Gazette

Myth Busters: Christmas in the Village Adds New Event

This year's version of Kinmount's Christmas in the Village welcomed the latest event to be brought to Kinmount. The giant snowman making contest was a phenomenal success with three entries for this year's prize of a Kinmount Basket. The organizers of the event express their gratitude to the County of Haliburton for allowing the event to be held at their depot just north of town on Cty. Road 121 (formerly the Department of Highways sheds). The giant snow people were created over a period of three days at the site. Thankfully the weather cooperated and together with the snowmaking machines brought in for the event from Norway, there was enough snow to cover the large sand domes that are situated at the site. If you missed this year's entrants, do not despair. Organizers have stated emphatically that the event will be continued in 2012 (weather permitting). The pictures at right are evidence of the creative talents of the entrants. At the far right is the winning entry entitled, Ursulla, Queen of Kinmount. The trees that were used for her arms were generously donated by Lettie Itsnow and family from their property on the Dutch Line road, the giant buttons were a donation from Freddie Carmichael and the facial features were handcrafted from a pine cut from the property of Sharin Mystuffs and carved by Han Deeman of Irondale.

Crowds stare in awe at the giant snowman created just north of Kinmount on Hwy. 121. Weather permitting, the event will return next year.

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What Do Animals Do In Winter, cont. from p. 3

accessed during the winter from underwater. Other furbearing animals such as otters, muskrats, mink etc also carry on, doing the best in different weather.
feed such as hay. Winter feeding patterns can be messed up by artificial feeding stations and feeding near busy roads can cause more danger from car collisions. Their advice is to let Nature take its course, but it is human nature to help out the winter feed beds that can be accessed during the winter from underwater. Other furbearing animals winter feed beds that can be accessed during the winter from underwater. Other furbearing animals such as otters, muskrats, mink etc also carry on, doing the best in different weather.
Some birds stay at home and don't migrate. These include Blue Jays, chickadees, grey or Canada jays, crows, owls, ravens, These birds simply scavenge for food sources in their area. Many area residents help out the winter birds (we admire their courage: they don't run away south!) by feeding the seed-eating birds via winter bird feeders.
Fish are an interesting case study. Some species remain very active during the win-

Rabbit tracks in winter

KINMOUNT WINTERFEST
Sunday, February 26

Pancake Breakfast
Kinmount Community Centre

All Day Events
Kinmount Arena & Fairgrounds

Full details in the next Gazette.

Santa Lives Here, submitted by Diane Austin

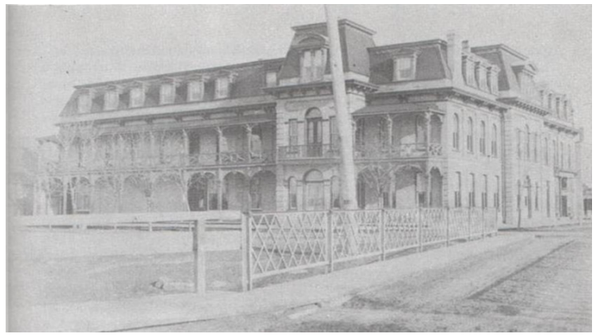
Yes Dear Readers there is a Santa Claus---he lives in the hearts and minds of all the good people in our community of Kinmount and environs. His spirit of cooperativeness is witnessed between and among individuals, groups and all the businesses which consistently strive to make our community the wonderful place we experience. He lives in the hearts of our senior citizens who bake cookies for our Annual Community Tree Lighting and he adds some magic to the delicious hot chocolate served up by members of the Kinmount and District Model Railway Club at the event. Surely Santa is proud of the First Kinmount Sparks and Brownies who sang out so loudly at the tree lighting under the direction of their leader. Santa works tirelessly with the volunteers of the Kinmount Agricultural Society who organize one of the very best Fall Fairs in the Province. It is likely too that Santa inspires the Kinmount Pioneer Society in their work to provide such an excellent exposition of our past in the pioneer tent each year at the Fair.
Santa's presence can be felt too in the good works of the Kinmount and District Health Foundation who have made Kinmount the envy of other communities with our wonderful doctors and such a fine medical centre.
In addition, the presence of the members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441 at our annual Remembrance Day Service and Canada Day Celebration is evidence of Santa's desire to have us remember our veterans and all those presently engaged in keeping our country proud and free. The Kinmount and District Lions Club good works also smacks of the kind of generosity for which Santa is renowned.
The efforts of members of the Kinmount and Area Artisan's Guild is yet another demonstration of how Santa wants us all to work in this spirit of cooperativeness every day throughout the year. The many churches and clergy must be cited among Santa's favorite institutions who provide guidance and support to their respective members exemplifying the true spirit of Christmas and Santa's wish for peace and goodwill in Kinmount and around the world.
Santa's support for the work of the Kinmount Committee For Planning and Economic Development work is linked to the many benefits derived from our connection as a Standing Committee of Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes. Council and Staff provide significant resources to allow for many of enhancement projects carried out. This year, the City of Kawartha Lakes was second only to the City of London, Ontario in the National Communities in Bloom Competition receiving the highest number of blooms achievable, the award for the best community gardeners, nomination for our efforts to preserve our heritage and honourable mention for the volunteerism that occurs in our community. Kinmount was integrally related to these many achievements as a community within the City and for these honours we are very proud.
We have so much in our community for which we must be grateful and among those volunteers to whom huge thanks is extended is the Kinmount Gazette Committee who meet each month under Santa's careful watch to bring us stories of our past and keep us updated on current and upcoming events---thank you for providing space for this reflection on our many blessings and thank you Santa for your role in making us the best we can be.

Diane Austin
Chairperson
Kinmount Committee for Planning and Economic Development

Kinmount Sparks, Brownies & Guides sing at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Hotels of Bobcaygeon Past

Bobcaygeon was a major transportation centre with a lot of people passing through due to the Trent Canal and the Bobcaygeon Road. In order to accommodate the many people passing through, large hotels were built to provide overnight accommodations. Clockwise from right the Old Rockland House, which was destroyed by fire in 1904; the Rockeby Hotel on the North Bank and part of the Village of Rokeby . It was destroyed by fire in 1905; The Temperance House still stands today on the corner of Bolton and King Streets.



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Rentals

Past School Houses of Kinmount and Area

This edition we will be starting a new series called “Schools of the Kinmount Area”. Each edition we will be featuring the history of a school section in the area. There are 12 school sections in the Kinmount district, many of then union sections between townships.

A school section was set up mostly along township boundaries (if possible). Each section covered a specific area, usually no more than an easy walk for small children of 3 miles maximum. That was still a long walk for young children, especially in winter. But in the age before school buses, it was the best that could be done. Children did not start until age 6 (grade 1) and even then, smaller children were kept home during the winter months. Each school section was governed by a board of 3 trustees, elected or appointed from parents in the section. They were responsible for the school building, repairs, upgrades & utilities. In the early days, this was a woodpile & a few coal oil lamps. The trustees also provided text books and hired the teacher! The county board had school inspectors who traveled around to check out conditions in the schools, how the teacher was doing and tested the students for literacy. School teachers were hired from a government list on a yearly basis. Many never stayed for the school year, and often left meaning the trustees had to find a replacement in a hurry part way through the term. In the days before motor cars, the teacher boarded close to the school. Most teachers were young single women and were expected to resign when they married.

Almost all the schools were one room school houses that contained grades 1 - 8. The villages often had multiple room schools and the bigger towns even had high school classes, although high school was very optional. Kinmount village did contain a high school, but few students actually attended.

The schools were primarily funded by ratepayers within the school section. A “school rate” was added to the property tax bill hopefully sufficient to pay the bills. In the 1800s, this sum was usually between 2 – 5 dollars on an average farm. But even that was impossible for some residents, so the trustees would accept labour or firewood in lieu of cash.

USS #2 Galway – Somerville Union Creek School

The Bobcaygeon Road was the earliest route into Kinmount and hence the earliest school sections were along the Road. Since the Road was a boundary between Peterborough & Victoria Counties, the school sections were Union School Sections, hence called USS. The first Union Creek School was started in 1861 on Lot 25, Concession A Galway; just south of the Crystal Lake Road corner. It served students from both Galway & Somerville. The School was patronized by students from the 6,7,8,9,10 concessions of Somerville roughly east of the Burnt River. This included Galena Hill, 9th (Byrnes) Line and north along the Road to the 11th (Doherty) line of Somerville Township. On the Galway side of the Road, students attended from Concession A along the Road and the Crystal Lake Road, the French Line and parts of the Galway Road. Union Creek School covered a large area and never seemed to have less than 30 students. Access to the Union Creek School was easy for most students, thanks to the Bobcaygeon Road. The furthest students came from several miles in the Crystal Lake Road, and often traveled “overland” to the school. Bush travel had its “dangers” and sometimes the students carried firearms with them to defend against wild animals (or add some game to the supper!). Imagine showing up at school today with a loaded shotgun! The weapon was placed behind the door until it was time for the long walk home.

As the school population in Galway Township declined, the one room schools were gradually closed until by 1960 only 2 schools in the township were still open. The last operating school in Galway was the Union Creek School and all students were bussed here until 1965 when the school was closed and the students bussed to Kinmount school. The school house was sold, and torn down. The site now has a private home on it.

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- In memory of Margaret Holman
- In memory of Keith Mark

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Kids' Corner

John Holman, a surprise visitor, arrived at Kinmount Sparks, Brownies & Guides Nov. 21 and gave the girls a $150.00 donation in honour of his wife Margaret who recently passed away. John shared that he & Margaret have had a cottage in the area for 45 years. He said they enjoyed reading the Kinmount Gazette and that his wife, who taught music to children, particularly enjoyed reading about the adventures of the Kinmount Sparks, Brownies & Guides. Since he would not be buying Margaret a Christmas gift this year he decided to give a donation to the girls as a Christmas Gift. After some discussion on how to thank him, the girls decided to make a small donation to the Kinmount Gazette in memory of Margaret and add John to the mailing list for the Gazette. Below are some of the letters the girls wrote to John.

Dear John,
We love that you gave $150 of your wife's gift money to us and we are all upset of her passing but enjoy that you gave us money. But not only did you give us that, but you gave us all a smile, a really big one so thanks.
Love, Alayha Crego

Dear John,
Thank you for the money. Everyone is very excited with the money. We can do a lot of things that would be fun and keep us going when we have nothing to do. Every girl is very thankful that you put your own money into our little group that we call girl guides. I'm sure it will help us do great things. Thank you for your generosity.
Your friend, Annabelle Austin

Dear John,
Sorry about your loss. Thanks for the money you gave us. We really appreciate it. Happy that you read about our town and what we do at girl guides. Have a nice Christmas.
Love, Brittany Day

Dear John,
We would like to thank you for the money after such a sad time. We are so sorry about the passing of your wife and it is so wonderful of you to give us the $150.00. I hope you have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Maybe these letters will make your Christmas even happier.
From Cameryn Shaw

Dear John,
Thank you for the present of money. I'm sorry about your wife and I hope you will still have a Merry Christmas. We appreciate the money and will use it wisely. Have a Merry, Merry Christmas.
From Madylin Rensink

Dear John,
My name is Jessica and I am a helper at girl guides. I wasn't there when you gave your donation but I heard what you did and your story behind it. I think this is really sweet and kind of you to give the girl guides $150.00. I'm sure it will help the girls a lot. I am so sorry for your loss. Your wife sounds like a great woman and I'm sure she is looking down at you, loving you, with a smile on her face. Have a Merry Christmas and I wish you all the best.
From Jessica Graham

Dear John,
Thank you for the $150.00 that you gave to the brownie unit. It was very thoughtful and we appreciate it. I want it to go towards a hot tub but I don't think the others are to keen on my idea, but I am sure it will go to something important.
Merry Christmas!
Sincerely, Natasha Austin

Christmas
In the Village

December 3
2011

Kawartha Settlers Village

One of the unique “museums” in our area is the Kawartha Settlers Village in Bobcaygeon. The 10 acre site on the outskirts of the village is literally a pioneer village complete with dozens of buildings representing all aspects of pioneer life. The village consists of 17 pioneer buildings from the local area. All these buildings have historical significance and are restored to their original states. The village features a complete series of special events during the entire year. The Settlers Village is a superb museum and destination.

The Name Kawartha

A common name for this area of Ontario is Kawartha. The Trent Watershed Lakes are dubbed the Kawartha Lakes. When the County of Victoria was created in 1896, the moniker City of Kawartha Lakes was given to the new municipal entity. This set off a bout of jealousy with Peterborough County & City which claimed at least part ownership of the name Kawartha. Both sides had a point, but the name for the western half of the lakes stuck. Actually the original native name for the area was “Kawatha” with no “r”. This meant “bright waters and happy lands” in Mississauga. Even the earliest residents used the non-r name. But the original name grated in the English language and a “r” was added to the pronunciation.

A Pioneer Christmas

The first event on the pioneer's Christmas calendar was the school Christmas pageant. This was a significant occasion as it marked a time when the cares of surviving a harsh winter disappeared and the entire family bundled up and went to the school for an evening of entertainment and socializing. Children performed skits and sang Christmas carols to the delight of proud parents and other family members. Mothers brought baked goods for all to enjoy at evening’s end. Christmas morning was a big event in the lives of pioneer families. Before the festivities began the family had to carry out daily chores. Father and sons would head to the barn to feed the livestock. Wood had to be brought in to heat the house. Mother and daughters busied themselves in the kitchen preparing breakfast. After all the chores were completed, the family sat down to breakfast. The children could barely contain their excitement about the presents that lay beneath the tree. After bolting down their meal, they would urge their parents to allow them to get on with the business of opening presents. In pioneer society, cash was a rare commodity. Settlers often traded goods and services to make ends meet. Although a few gifts might have been purchased at the general store, many of them were hand made. The girls of the family might find a doll, crafted from cloth, and some doll's clothes under the tree. As well, there might be a new dress, made by grandma or mother. The boys might find a pocket knife, or hand carved soldiers, or some other toy under the tree. There would be warm mittens and socks, knitted by mother. The highlight of present-opening for some would be a parcel from relatives back in the home country. A hush would fall over the room as a letter with all the news was read aloud. The parcel might contain candies for the children, and books and newspapers. After presents were opened, the family would get ready to go to a neighbour's or nearby relative's home for Christmas dinner or ready their own home to welcome visitors. Early settlers did not depend upon a supermarket for the fare that would grace the table on Christmas day. Instead, the meal would be from their garden or that of a neighbour's. The usual Christmas dinner would consist of ham or chicken, potatoes and vegetables. Dessert would be Christmas pudding, cakes, pies and other pastries. Christmas festivities would end early as there were animals to feed, wood to chop and other daily chores. The Christmas season provided a time for celebration and a brief respite from the realities of every day life.

The Hot Stove Leak by Lynne Kilby

Back in 1986 I moved to Kinmount from Toronto with my 2 little girls. Imagine my surprise when on Christmas Eve Santa came knocking at our door for a quick visit! It was then I knew I had found the right place to call home.

Response to the loss of the Kinmount Shoe Trees was astounding! In fact, it was so astounding, the Shoe Trees earned themselves a new home in cyberspace. Their history is now preserved at kimountshoetrees.blogspot.com. The site features everything about the Kinmount Shoe Trees including links to sites of those who loved them and took fabulous photos too! History matters.

Speaking of history, I got curious about the history of several Christmas traditions and discovered some interesting facts. For instance do you know about the history of Christmas Tinsel? Around 1610, tinsel was first invented in Germany made from genuine silver. Machines were invented that shredded silver into thin tinsel-sized strips. Silver tinsel tarnishes and loses its shine with time, eventually, artificial replacements were invented. The original inventor of tinsel remains unknown.

The origin of the candy cane goes back over 350 years, when candy-makers both professional and amateur were making hard sugar sticks. The original candy was straight and completely white in color.

How about the history of artificial Christmas trees? Towards the end of the 1800's, another variation of the traditional Christmas tree appeared: the artificial Christmas tree. Artificial trees originated in Germany. Metal wire trees were covered with goose, turkey, ostrich or swan feathers. The feathers were often died green to imitate pine needles. In the 1930's, the Addis Brush Company created the first artificial-brush trees, using the same machinery that made their toilet brushes! The Addis 'Silver Pine' tree was patented in 1950. The Christmas tree was designed to have a revolving light source under it, coloured gels allowed the light to shine in different shades as it revolved under the tree.

From candles to Christmas tree lights, inventor Albert Sadacca was fifteen in 1917 when he first got the idea to make safe Christmas tree lights.

And here are 10 things you never knew about the universal Snowman.

1. A cartoon snowman was found in a 1380-illuminated manuscript in the Royal Library at The Hague. Alongside a solemn passage about Jesus Christ, it is, to date, the earliest drawing of a snowman.

2. The world's largest snowman is actually a snowwoman. Named Olympia, she was built last year in Bethel, Maine and was a record 13 stories high, made from over 13 million pounds of snow.

3. One of America's greatest sculptors Larkin Meads, first important piece was a snowman. The world famous Snow Angel was created in Brattleboro, Vermont on New Years Eve 1856.

4. In the heyday of the snowman's popularity in advertising, the snowman even hocked his own flesh and blood with Snowman brand Re-Usable Canned Ice, a popular product from the 1940s.

5. Snowmen were blamed for one of the bloodiest events in early American history when the guards of Fort Schenectady left their posts to warm up inside leaving only a pair of snowmen to greet French soldiers and Indians on the eve of The Massacre of 1690.

6. Snowman making was an early form of political commentary dating back to the Middle Ages. At a time before most people were literate, this early form of folk-art was a way for townspeople to express themselves when free art supplies fell from the sky.

7. The population of snowmen would outnumber humans in Japanese towns for a time during snow festivals. A world record was broken in 2003 when 12,379 snowmen were made in Sapporo, Japan, most with candles planted in their tummies.

8. Michelangelo made a snowman. In 1494, after a heavy snowfall in Florence, Italy, a young 19-yr old Michelangelo was commissioned to sculpt an enormous figure of snow in the courtyard of Piero deMedici, Lord of Florence.

9. A snowman is the subject of one of the earliest photographs ever shot. Mary Dillwyn, a pioneer of photography, shot a picture of a couple making a snowman as part of a photo album made for a sickly niece. The album is now worth close to $100,000.

10. Snowman-making is an aerobic exercise burning an average number of 238 calories per snowman, per hour. As a matter of fact, according to Men's Health magazine in 2008, making a snowman is one of the most romantic winter activities there is.

Keep smiling and keep visiting kinmount.ca. Please call me at (705) 488-2919 or send

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The Hot Stove Leak *continued from page 11*

an e-mail to lynne.kilby@sympatico.ca to leak info through the Hot Stove Leak. And now a toast to you and your loved ones – My sincere wishes for a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous 2012!

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

At the Tree Lighting Ceremony a new Christmas Trees was planted and heart-warmingly dedicated to the Kevin Hill family in appreciation of their years of donating a tree chopped from their property. Though a live tree donated by the Hill's was planted as the Town Christmas Tree a few years ago, it did not survive. With a dash of TLC, the new tree, much smaller in stature, should thrive. Thanks to all supporters of the Christmas in the Village Events. And special thanks of course to Santa who was kept very busy throughout the festivities. Special thanks also to Bruce Boswell for donating his time and musical talents to entertain at Breakfast with Santa.

KINMOUNT CALENDARS

Support the town and get a quality full colour Kinmount Calendar while supplies last. Should this new endeavour prove successful the Kinmount Calendar will become an annual tradition. Got any pics to share for next year? Please submit them to any of the Gazette staff.

SUCH A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Our Kinmount Sparks, Brownies & Guides are so lucky to enjoy such a supportive community. Their Chocolate Mint Cookies were a sell out. Recently, the girls spent an evening at the Quilter's Inn working on a group quilt. Thanks to the brainstorm of proprietor Barb Leffering, early in the New Year the girls will experience the results of their effort. Then Kinmount Artisans Marketplace provided a fun filled evening of Christmas Crafts and a tour of the shop. Special thanks to Susie Q. Elf, who filled in for Santa at the girl's Christmas Party. And the icing on the cake…..To top it off, the girls received a generous Christmas donation from John Holman. See Kids Corner for details.

A MYSTERY SOLVED

I knew in my heart of hearts that the parachute was never stolen from our Community Centre. The parachute, a wonderful, colourful tool for group play, went missing about a year ago. It was always a favourite and was sorely missed. Last winter, the Brownies spent an entire evening searching every inch of the hall to no avail. The parachute was definitely gone. Just a couple of months ago the Brownies purchased a new, larger parachute thanks to a donation from the Kinmount Lions. Then, one day in early December the original parachute was returned by Marion Willemson. Turns out she was unaware she accidentally took it when removing karate equipment from the hall but upon her discovery returned it immediately. At first it seemed a shame that a new parachute had been purchased but really it is now the best of both worlds as far as parachute play goes. If there is a smaller crowd the smaller chute is perfect but often times it can be overcrowded. Now there is choice.

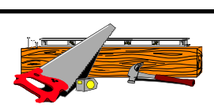
SLEIGH RIDES IN KINMOUNT

Coming up January 21 enjoy Sleigh Rides by Mash Hill Carriages at Pearson's Hunt Camp on Galway Road. Warm up in the cabin, enjoy good food and a toasty campfire. Mash Hill Carriages is also booked to provide Sleigh Rides at this year's Kinmount Winterfest, Sunday February 26. Winterfest Highlights include a Pancake Breakfast at the Community Centre and of course the return of the popular Downhill Dash, a cardboard toboggan race. Adults & children are encouraged to create & decorate a toboggan made only of cardboard. Prizes for best decorated and furthest distance in various age categories. Ongoing Winterfest Events at the Fairgrounds include demonstrations, a bonfire, sledding, skating, hockey, a Chili Contest, children's events and an All Day Snack Bar. Watch the next Gazette for more Winterfest details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 31 - **New Year's Eve Dance** 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Legion.
Jan. 1 - **President's Levee** 2:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion. All Welcome.
Jan. 4 - **Public Transit to Lindsay** leaves Kinmount Library at 8:00 a.m.
Jan. 16 - **Public Transit to Lindsay** leaves Kinmount Library at 8:00 a.m.
Jan. 18 - **Big Buck Bid Euchre** 11:00 a.m. at Kinmount Legion. Cost $10 includes lunch.
Jan. 21 - **Friends of the Library Book Sale** 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. lower level Kinmount Library.
Jan. 21 - **Community Sleigh Rides** 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pearson's Hunt Camp Galway Road
Jan. 25 - **Diner's Dinner** 12:00 p.m. at Burnt River Centre.
Jan. 29 - **Youth Wii Day** tentative at Kinmount Legion. Call 705-488-3462.
Feb. 6 - **Superbowl** at Kinmount Legion. Everyone Welcome.
Feb. 9 - **Casino Rama** trip sponsored by Kinmount Seniors Group. Bus leaves legion parking lot 9:00 a.m. Return 4:00 p.m. Bus $5.00. Free lunch included. To reserve a spot call Theresa at 488-1110.
Feb, 26 - **Kinmount Winterfest** at Kinmount Community Centre & Kinmount Fairgrounds. Lots of fun, activities, prizes and great food .

ONGOING ACTIVITIES



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The Hot Stove Leak, *cont. from p. 12*

Sunday Morning Kids Club: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at St. James Anglican Church
Tai Chi: Mondays & Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Galway Hall.
Contact 705-286-1444.
Kinmount Playschool: Monday & Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - noon at Kinmount Community Centre. **Ontario Early Years Mobile Outreach** visits the 1st & 3rd Monday each month.
Seniors Cards: Enjoy potluck lunch, 12:30 p.m. Mondays followed by bid euchre at 1:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion.
Kinmount Sparks, Brownies, Guides & Pathfinders: Mondays, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre.
Kinmount Public Library Hours:
Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Kidz Corner ages 7+** Tuesdays 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p./m. **Kidz Corner under age 6** Thursdays 4:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m. **Preschool Program** Thursday s 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Yoga: Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre.
Call 705-457-9294.
Friday Night Bingo: 6:45 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion.
$300.00 Must Go Jackpot.

1. *Chloe Crawford & Susie Q. Elf at the Brownies Christmas Party.*

New Year's Trivia Quiz

In the Jewish New Year celebration, what is eaten to symbolize a sweet new year?
a) Apples and honey b) Chocolate c) Fruit cake d) Honey cake

2. Ecuador has a unique New Year's Eve tradition, the buring of "old years" in public places. What are they?
a) Bonfires b) Old Clothes
c) Newspapers & magazines from the previous year
d) Effigies representing people and events from the previous year

3. How is the New Year Festival of Songkran celebrated in Thailand?
a) Visiting family b) Parading statues of Buddha
c) Throwing water at passers-by d) All of the above

4. Under which of the following calendars is New Year's Day observed on January 1?
a) Christian b) Roman c) Julian d) Gregorian

5. What does "Auld Lang Syne" mean?
a) New Year's Day b) Till we meet again
c) Sweet memories d) Old long ago

6. What is the Jewish New Year called?
a) Hanukkah b0 Yom Kippur c) Rosh Hashanah d) Bar Mitzvah

7. In the United States, the coming of the New Year is celebrated by the lowering of a gigantic crystal ball. Where does this event take place
a) Central Park b) Times Square c) Yankee Stadium d) Statue of Liberty

8. Why do the Chinese celebrate the New Year by letting off firecrackers?
a) To commemorate departed family members
b) To encourage good luck in the coming year
c) To scare away evil spirits
d) All of the above

9. In Italy, what do people do on New Year's Day to bring good luck in the coming year?
a) Go to mass b) Wear red underwear
c) Eat black-eyed peas d) All of the above

10. What determines the date of the Chinese New Year?
a) The first full moon after the winter solstice
b) The second new moon after the winter solstice
c) The Friday after the first full moon after the winter solstice
d) None of the above

11. To ring in the New Year in Spain, it is traditional to do what on each chime of the clock?
a) Eat a grape b) Take a sip of wine
c) Clap your hands d) Light a candle

ANSWERS

ɐ, d, d, d, d, ɔ, b, ɔ, q, b

Being Santa Claus

Santa Claus is one of the traditional symbols of Christmas; especially for the young and the young-at-heart. There are numerous Santas in operation around the Christmas season, and "playing: Santa is a position that many men aspire to play.

My father B.S. was one of the young-at-heart. He loved Christmas with a passion, and his biggest thrill was watching young children react to the magic of Christmas. Running out of small young in his own family circle, one year he came up with the idea of playing Santa Claus around the town. He engaged a neighbour (lets call him A.S.) to be Santa while he was the "reindeer handler" aka the chauffeur. (DO you realise how hard it is to drive a car in a Santa Suit?) The idea was to visit as many young children around the town as possible and bring some smiles to their faces on Christmas Eve. After a few years & lots of fun, a tradition was in full swing where parents of young children would receive a visit from Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. Santa's job was to check up on what the children had asked Santa for in their Christmas lists. (Good excuse!) After a few years, A.S. decided it was time to retire and I fell into the job. Therefore every Christmas Eve, shortly after supper, I would don the red suit, complete with pillows (my girth at the time was not up to Santa standards), stretch a scratchy beard over my face and away we would go. For a few years my sister would dress up as Mrs. Claus and accompany the expedition. (What did a Mrs. Claus wear, you ask? Basically she wore a Santa suit in blue… and yes, no pillows!)

Santa would approach the door of the residence wherein the believers lived and ring the sleigh bells. Amused parents & excited children would greet Santa and dish out dollops of famous Kinmount hospitality. Santa would hoist the believers onto his lap and proceed to ask the usual questions, especially what they wanted for Christmas. I clearly remember one home where the child proceeded to blurt out a long list of gifts. One look at his puzzled parents led me to realize this list was not going to match their list! They adjourned to the next room where the comment was made "Did you know about that?" Maybe I should have come earlier!

Sometimes the visit was unexpected. At one house I was noticed by the child, but not mother washing dishes. The child could be heard excitedly tugging on mom's clothes and screaming "Santa's at the door!" The quiet reply was "Sure, sure; now go back to the living room". It took 5 minutes before Mom would believe him.

Santa was also rewarded with libations. Curious children would watch to see how Santa would drink with that big beard. (I swear, I will never have a beard!). But matching wits with Santa Claus is not a fair game: Santa always carried a straw in his glove! Christmas Eve visits also inspired some older children. At one stop, the adults got into the spirit as well: a 6'8" "child" can be hard on Santa's legs. The blood circulation was restored within the hour.

I must admit playing Santa Claus was fun. Christmas is such a time of joy and happiness, it should be savoured as much as possible. Many times I could tell Christmas was not as elaborate as some families wished, but the spirit was still there and you cannot put a price on that. Christmas is what you make it.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441 *By Cathy King*

As we begin a brand new year, we hope that everyone had a safe and happy Christmas and New Years. In addition to our weekly Friday night bingo and Saturday afternoon meat draws, January activities include Big Buck Bid Euchre on Wednesday January 18th at 11:00 a.m. Cost is only $10 which includes lunch. On Saturday January 21 at 8pm Karaoke returns with "Back Forty". There is no admission cost and non members are welcome to join us. Calling all youth – plans are in the works for some fun activities for youth in our area. One of the first events we are planning is a "Wii Day", tentative date Sunday January 29. For more information please contact Tracy at 705-488-2810. A reminder to our Legion members, there will be no General meetings in January and February. The next General meeting is Thursday March 15 at 7:30 p.m. Looking ahead to next month, Superbowl Sunday is February 6. Please join us as we watch the 2012 Superbowl on our big screen TV. There is no admission cost – pot luck snacks/luncheon. Non members are welcome to come out and cheer for their favourite team.

Cooking Q & A

What can you tell me about the history of popcorn?
Archaeologists have found 80,000-year-old corn pollen below Mexico City. Because this pollen is almost exactly the same as modern popcorn pollen, researchers believe that "cave people" most likely had popcorn. Popcorn probably grew first in Mexico, though it was also used in China and India hundreds of years before Columbus reached the Americas. The oldest popcorn ever found was discovered in the "Bat Cave" of central New Mexico. It is thought to be about 5,600 years old. In tombs in Peru, archaeologists found ancient kernels of popcorn that are so well preserved that they can still pop. Sometimes, conditions can preserve ancient popcorn so perfectly that it still looks fluffy and white when the dust is blown off of it. In a cave in southern Utah, researchers found surprisingly fresh-looking 1,000-year-old popcorn. Popcorn was an important part of life in the ancient Americas. On a 1,700-year-old painted funeral urn found in Mexico, a corn god is shown wearing a headdress of popcorn. Decorated popcorn poppers from around the same time have been found in Peru. Europeans learned about popcorn from Native Americans. When Cortes invaded Mexico, and when Columbus arrived in the West Indies, each saw natives eating popcorn, as well as using it in necklaces and headdresses. Native Americans brought a bag of popped corn to the first Thanksgiving. A common way to eat popcorn at that time was to hold an oiled ear on a stick over the fire, then chew the popped kernels off it. Natives throughout the Americas also made a popcorn beer. Some made popcorn soup. After learning about the fluffy food, colonists began enjoying the first puffed breakfast cereal—a bowl of popcorn, served with cream or milk.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR
From Kinmount & District Lions Club

Dorothy's Delights
By Dorothy Heath

This recipe is for all those kids out there who, like me hate oatmeal.

Baked Oatmeal

1/2 cup margarine melted
2 eggs
3/4 cup brown sugar
3 cups quick Rolled Oats
2 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. salt
1 cup milk
1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 cup chopped dates, raisins, or chocolate chips
Cream together margarine, eggs & sugar. Add remaining ingredients and pour into a 9"x13" pan. Bake at 350 for 20-30 min. Serve warm with apple sauce or canned peaches (or milk if you must). Delicious on a cold winter morning.

Popcorn Cake

4 quarts popped popcorn
1 1/2 cups salted peanuts
1 cup cut up gumdrops
1/4 cup butter
1/4 cup oil
1 pkg. marshmallows
Mix popcorn, peanuts & gumdrops. Melt butter, oil and marshmallows. Stir until melted. Pour over first 3 ingredients, stirring until well coated. Press into a well greased angel cake pan or 9"x13" pan. Can be iced & decorated if you wish but is good plain too.

The Trent Valley Navigation Company

One of the more interesting enterprises in Bobcaygeon's history was the Trent Valley Navigation Company. The steamship carrier was a business owned by the famous Boyd Family. Bobcaygeon did not get a railway link to the outside world until 1906, long after the golden age of the lumber era , so it was necessary to have alternate means of getting the goods to market. As early as 1861, Mossom Boyd operated a tug boat to tow scows of lumber from his mills to rail heads in Lindsay or Lakefield. As the lumber business grew, the Boyd Family developed the idea of a steamboat company to operate all over the central Kawartha Lakes. The Trent Valley Navigation Company was chartered in 1883.The company was based at Bobcaygeon: the "hub of the Kawarthas". From this "hub" boat connections could be made all over the Kawartha Lakes from Lakefield to Coboconk. The eastern & western ends were not accessible until 1915, but the main commercial traffic was in the centre anyways. The company had a dry-dock or depot on the south bank of Little Bob Channel called the "ways". By the 1880s most of the locks were open and made travel practical in the area. The company operated regular schedules between villages. The steamships carried passengers and freight between "ports" on the lakes. The Boyds also had a fleet of lumber scows (large barges) that carried their lumber from Bobcaygeon to Lindsay or Lakefield. These were less elaborate work boats. The steamboats operated on the lakes until winter closed the canal. Although the company had competition from the railways, many villages only had steamboat service.

The flagship of the fleet was the steamer Esturion. She was 96' long with a beam (width) of 17'. Her interior was crafted from black ash and bird's eye maple with red plush upholstery. A fine dining salon sold lunches for 25 cents & lunches for 15 cents. Equipped with electricity and powerful engines, she could travel from Bobcaygeon to Lindsay in 2 1/2 hours with a stop at Sturgeon point. She made 2 trips per day: cost $1:00 return. It was estimated she carried 27,000 passengers a year plus freight!

Other steamships plied other routes. The Manita travelled from Coboconk to Fenelon Falls & on to Lindsay. The Ogemah and the Sunbeam worked the eastern section down to Lakefield and on to Peterborough.

The company also operated a fancy excursion scow called the Paloma. It could be leased for picnics or excursions of any sort. The work tug Beaubocage was the utility tug that towed the Paloma. The scow was also used to carry livestock, especially the famous Boyd herd of polled Herefords or cattalo to fairs & exhibitions. The Beaubocage had a steel hull and could break ice, within reason of course!

The golden age of Steamboats on the Trent lasted a mere two decades. Railways were the big competitor for both passengers and freight. When Bobcaygeon got a rail link in 1906, the writing was on the wall for the steamboat age. In 1915 the Trent Valley Navigation Company relinquished it charter. An age had ended for the Kawarthas.

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Hubba Bubba Angel, by Julie Jane Inwood

Hockey in Victoria-Haliburton Counties back in the 1940's and '50's had three cracker-jack referees of the O.M.H.A.. There was Bill Scott - grocer, farmer and politician and my uncle; Jack Campbell of Woodville and Elwood Coombs who was known as the Whirling Dervish on Skates for SIXTY minutes of each game. He is still fondly remembered as Sixty Coombs. The back up security for the refs was the most excellent river runner of the logging industry, and one of my favourite people, Herb Hancock.

Hockey in Kinmount consisted of travelling to Minden by car or to Haliburton and Fenelon Falls by the old steam train to play rival teams in roofed in areas until Mother Nature saw fit to create weather cold enough to build an outdoor rink at the famed Tag Alder Gardens where everyone joined in the fun.

My memories take me back to Kinmount, Ontario and the safety and happiness in the home of my Grandparents, Hazel and Wally Scott. Winter Saturday nights were the best of the best with Foster Hewitt's immortal call "And its HOCK---EEY NIGHT IN CANADA !!!! This was our cue. Everything had been readied; the television had been turned on in time for it to warm up for the game; tea had been made; milk set out with the cups and cookies; and popcorn made. At Foster's call to attention we all scooted to our favourite chairs for the fun and excitement to begin. Cheers, boos. laughter, edge of the seat intensity when fights broke out, then vigorous discussions of every move, echoed throughout the house. Life was perfect.

By 1957 or there abouts, I had just turned eight. Uncle Bill was refereeing in Minden and my grandparents were going up to watch. Best of all, I got to go! I was already bundled up when Uncle Bill dashed through the house giving the last touches with comb and hand to the Brylcream and hair. Snatching up his coat he hollered back "See ya up there", and was out the door. The rest of us piled into the old green Ford and soon arrived at the arena. Grandpa picked a great spot at centre ice and a few seats up amongst friends and neighbours.

Watching intently, I was amazed as the hockey players streamed out onto the ice; banging their sticks down and dancing a to-and-fro from side to side. For some reason they reminded me of huge boulders at the beginning of an avalanche. They were all solid power and ready to roll. Then Uncle Bill and the other refs, decked out in black and white stripped shirts and black pants, flashed onto the ice.

"Wow!!" I thought. "Oh m'gosh!!" and my breath zipped down my throat. Fascinated, I watched as they glided ... floated ... twirled and spun as they sped up and down the arena - black and white streaks of lightning. Another ref, Herb Hancock went running by us on TOP of the boards with the grace and ease of an Olympic gymnast ready for flight...grinning from ear to ear.

Then to me, the world exploded in beautiful wonder, as Uncle Bill came dashing at us, did a sudden, sideways, skidding stop that sent a huge, high rainbow of blue, white, green and pink glittering ice faeries up into the air in a perfect cascading arc that showered down over Grandma, Grandpa and me. A whistle was blown and players arranged themselves; fans focused on the circle in the centre; Bill help the puck up; whistle in hand to mouth. Both went at the same time and the game began.

As hard as I tried, my eyes could not keep up with the speed of the puck or players, so I watched my uncle and Herb's antics instead. Bill blew his whistle; shouted out calls of play along with hand signs of any wrong doings; he would swoosh or run to our left, then our right and right in front of us, he did one of those spraying comet-tail stops again. The ice-crystal faeries went arching up and down showering us again. As I watched them twinkling's down, one powder blue sparkle came floating down past my nose and landed between my feet - right on top of a Hubba Bubba gum wrapper - which I knew had a joke inside. I always liked those little jokes!!

My world went quiet ! The tiny blue light just sat there a little too long and then disappeared. A scuffle on the ice broke my wonder, so I looked up to see Uncle Bill and two players meeting at centre ice. As he raised his arms to drop the puck my attention dropped to the Hubba Bubba wrapper. I reached down to the gift of a giggle at the precise nano second my hand enclosed around the wrapper there was a thunderous slap-shot; a whizzing sound just inches above me and then a deafening whack, as the puck hit the wood behind me and bounced onto my back.

Whatever happened on the ice, people usually cheered, booed, hooted and hollered. This time all there was was silence, for what seemed an eternity and then whispers broke out with the "Oh, oh, ohs" and "Ohhh no!" of something amiss. My Grandparents were crying out my name (what had I done now??). Then there was silence. All the crowd knew was that there had been a fierce slap-shot and a kid was down. In unison my Grandparents lifted my head and shoulders, as my eyes met Uncle Bill's while he vaulted over the boards towards me.

Complete and utter silence engulfed the arena except for the hail of questions raining down on me. "Where are you hurt !"; "Are you ok?" Where did the puck hit you?" Why did you duck down?" ... Baffled by all the attention, I help up my precious comic of the Hubba Bubba and whispered "I just wanted to see the bubble-gum joke." Uncle Bill's head dropped to his chest in disbelief and relief and his feelings rippled out and around us as he gave the 'she's ok folks' signal and a collective sigh of relief echoed throughout the crowd. A miracle had been witnessed.

I believe that the old Minden Arena was the only one in Canada that could boast of having one of the longest standing federal members of parliament, a genuine river runner and a whirling dervish as their referee. Now you also know that it had a tiny powder blue ice-faerie and a Hubba Bubba Angel that saved the life of a child...me!

History of Kinmount Businesses: Lot 15 (East of Main Street)

This lot was an obvious site for a sawmill. It sat on a bend in the Burnt River with the Bobcaygeon Road and the Victoria Railway right beside it. There was no natural waterfall to generate power, but a steam engine quickly cured that deficiency. In 1880 John Dovey purchased the lot and immediately started a sawmill enterprise. He sold out to a Mr. Dixon in 1882 for $3,000 and moved next door to lot 16. Dovey appears to have a shingle specialist, but Dixon sawed lumber. He provided the planks for Kinmount's first sidewalk the next year. A railway siding was built across the road & lumber was loaded right from the mill site. Several houses were built between the Road & the Railway for the owners.

But as was so often the case for sawmills, a massive fire burnt the Dixon Mill at Christmas 1886. The lot passed to the firm of Parkins & Company but it is doubtful if the mill was ever rebuilt for in 1902 the site was sold for back taxes. But in 1922, the Phillips Lumber Company bought the lot and operated a mill & later retail lumber store from the site. The business has gone through several name changes over the years including Phillips Lumber, Rokeby Lumber and finally Tim-Br Mart.

The Library Link

Happy New Year everyone!
Chase the cold away with a warm blanket and a great book from your local library. Visit the City Website and search the library catalogue.
www.city.kawarthalakes.on.ca
The library will be offering free e-book workshops where you will have the opportunity to try different types of e-readers and learn how to find and download free e-books. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible in order to schedule dates. This month's book sale will be held on Saturday, January 21st from 9:00 to 1:00pm. Come to the lower level of the library, to see the many books available to buy. Books are .50 cents each and paperbacks are 4/$1.00. Thank you to the many people who have donated items for these books sales. Proceeds will be used for the 'Reading Garden' in the back.

2012 Children's Programs Starting Tuesday January 10 to Thursday, June 21
Tuesdays @ 4:30-5:30 Kidz Corner
Ready for Reading (7+)
Thursdays @ 4:30-5:30 KIdz Corner
Leading to Reading (up to 6 years old)
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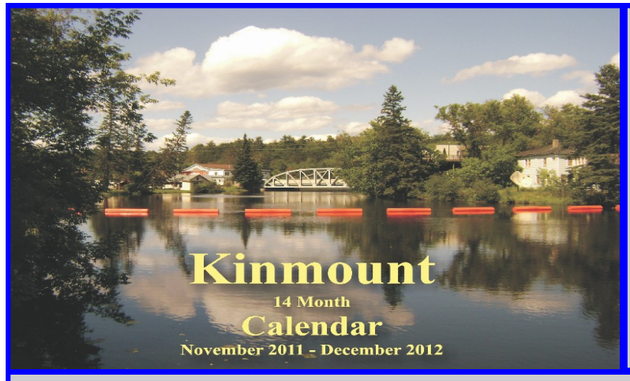
One, Two Buckle my Shoe
Three, Four Open the Door
To Math and Literacy Fun
Please register for these programs. Call 705-488-3199.



Kinmount's First Annual Calendar
showcases scheduled events
so you can make plans to attend!

To All,
Have a Great Year!

Available around town while supplies last!

For Mail Orders or
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The Kinmount Calendar is sponsored by the Kinmount Committee for Planning & Economic Development

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Kinmount...Explore Our Heritage, Experience Our Charm!

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Spot the Shot

Each edition we feature a photo from the Kinmount Area. We challenge you to identify the spot.

Submissions of photos welcome. Please submit to the editor via email with a detailed description of the spot you have captured.

Last month's Spot the Shot:
A no littering sign on County Road 45 West of Kinmount.

Submission Deadline For February Edition: Friday, January 20, 2012

From the Editor's Desk

A tip of the hat to everyone who sent letters to the editor last edition about the Shoe Tree. We appreciate the feedback. But we had so many letters, we were unable to publish them all. But we do appreciate the submissions or indeed any stories that are passed on to the Gazette. If you have a story to tell, let us be your publisher. Everyone loves a good story. Story telling is an art form in itself.
The Gazette has been running stories in a series, such as "Disasters Of Kinmount". This edition we are giving the "Disasters" a rest (but they will be back!) and starting a new series on Schools in the Kinmount District. I have been trying to collect photos (and information) of all the little one room school houses that sprinkled the Kinmount Area. If you have school photos or info on the long gone rural schools, please feel free to give them to any of the Gazette staff. Let's record our history now before it's gone. An old-timer once lamented all the good history is in the cemetery. Once the Gazette gets the information, it will be recorded for all time.

It looks like we will have a "Green Christmas" this year. I was asked if Kinmount has had any such things in recent years. Yep. I remember one year when my neighbour, Arnold Schroter, tilled his garden on Boxing Day. It didn't need it; he just wanted to make a point! If anyone is counting winter on the old pioneer "100 days calendar", the snow came to stay (at least for a while) on November 30. According to this principal, you may start counting down from that date.
As another year comes to a close, I want to thank all the advertisers who have supported the Kinmount Gazette over the past year. Without your support, we could not operate. Also, a big thanks to our patrons who have generously donated to the cause. A special thanks this month to Margaret Mark & Family for a donation in memory of Keith Mark, a Kinmount boy born and bred. In his final illness, Keith got great joy from reading the Gazette. It is comforting that such a small thing as the Gazette can bring a moment of happiness to people.

And speaking of happiness, may the Christmas season be a time of joy and happiness for everyone.
Merry Christmas.
GS

Kinmount Shoe Tree Tribute from the Horseless Carriage Museum

The Horseless Carriage Museum, located on County Road 8 between Fenelon Fall and Bobcaygeon, is a unique, private collection of mechanical antiquities containing some amazing and rare pieces of history that exemplify the ingenuity and artistry of the Horseless Carriage era around the turn of the 19th C. From antique automobiles to mechanical music machines, even a full 1890's General Store, some of the most integral advances in technological history are represented here! Recently the Horseless Carriage Museum created a tribute to the Kinmount Shoe Tree. This is their tribute. Visit horselesscarriage.ca/blog/

Goodbye Kinmount Shoe Tree, Hello Horseless Carriage Shoe Tree!

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