

“Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community.”  
-Anthony J. D'angelo

# Black River COMMUNITY NEWS

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## The Levy's in Black River

By Charlton Levy

Families, like the tree roots and branches often used as a metaphor, expand rapidly. Especially, as many families in the recent past who tended to have large families, those families went on to establish families of their own and so on and so on. One of Black River's founding families, The Levy's, is a case in point. Perhaps in future editions of this newsletter, Levy family members will share some stories of their family branches. The following appears in *The Descendants of Eliphalet and Annie (Jodrey) Levy, 1825-2005* researched and compiled by me and available at the Black River Hall for genealogical research. Eliphalet, in addition to being my grandfather, was the eighth generation from the "first" Levy of whom any information is known. His name was Isaac Levy, born in the 1600's in Germany. As you can understand, my account is fairly recent history.

"I realized many years ago that the descendants of Eliphalet and Annie were fast becoming like the tribes of Israel; numerous, and slowly becoming lost and unknown to each other through distance and time. It was, or has become, my intention to enclose all of the descendants between these covers. I realize that future years produce more descendants and that what lies herein is only temporal. It will remain for someone to fill in the spaces of those yet to come."

My grandfather, Eliphalet, was born in the small hamlet of Sherwood, Lunenburg Co., NS, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1865 and died October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1945 aged 80 years, nine months and three days. Annie Jodrey, his wife, was born in the community of Blockhouse, not far from Chester, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1867 and died August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1936, having just turned 69 years of age.

Eliphalet and Annie continued to live in Sherwood until they moved in 1909. Somehow, perhaps on the advice of his brother Art (Artemus) who was already living in the Greenfield area, Eliphalet learned about a property for sale in the Greenfield area. Eliphalet purchased the property on what is now called the Jehiel Davidson Road (the current home and farm now operated by grandson, Freeman and Violet Levy and great-grandson, Andrew and Joanne).

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*Ode to Eliphalet & Annie Levy*



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*Your Event... Our Location*

Meetings, Parties, Weddings, Anniversaries & More...

Contact us for Dates Available and Rates. Members may also qualify for amazing discounts! Contact Mary Tanner-Long at [Mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com](mailto:Mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com) ~ (902) 542-2511



# DIRECT FROM THE DIRECTORS...



During our last General Meeting held on January 15<sup>th</sup>, we discussed how we would like to celebrate this year for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. While specifics are still in

development, we plan to have an event for the children, a dinner for the community and something special after dark. So stay tuned as we approach the summer for your Canada Day Staycation Activities.

A motion to increase our student bursary from \$500.00 to \$750.00 was presented by Bursary Committee members, Judy Levy and Mildred Levy, and was passed at our February meeting. Applicants must be a High School Student registered to attend university,

community college, trade school or another recognized educational institution in the fall of 2017. The \$750.00 bursary is payable directly to the institution at the beginning of the second semester. Students interested in applying can pick up the application forms and pertinent information at the Black River Hall during any of our community events. The forms and information sheet will be in a large brown envelope labeled 2017 Bursary Applications, located near the bulletin board. A reminder will be posted in our May Newsletter, as the deadline for applications is Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Many subjects are discussed at our General Meetings, and this portion of our monthly Newsletter will hopefully connect you with the decisions that impact our community for the better. We also want you to know, that the General Meetings are open to all. So feel free to come by and see community work at it's finest!

## BLACK RIVER SKATING RINK... DENIED!

Sad news! I first contacted Ducks Unlimited, several month back, about possible funding for a pond construction in the corner across from the Hall. . Their response was...if it had been a site human activity had taken out of wetlands then they would consider a 'restoration' project. However, given that the area has basically returned naturally to swamp grass and alders Ducks Unlimited would not consider restoration interference with the site.

I informed Ducks Unlimited that it had been Dept. of Transportation that was ultimately responsible for the removal of a sluice gate and earthen 'ditch bank' that had retained water for the benefit of ducks and humans. Response was that Highways could ditch for the benefit of 'public highway' maintenance.

From there, I placed a call to Dept. of Environment. Over several days I conversed with NS Dept. of Environment's, Paula Francis, about the building of a small pond suitable for outdoor skating; controlling water level to increase wet area and permitting winter recreational use.

To excavate a small pond (ice surface), by their definition removing it from present "swamp" status, requires an application approval which would necessitate an 'off-set construction of a much greater compensatory wet area' there or somewhere else. I asserted that a 'pond' would be a benefit to aquatic flora and fauna, that excavation need only be 30 cm deep or perhaps not at all if the ditch shoulder were raised.

Further, Paula added that since the area is 'naturalized' ...naturally returned to a wetland by definition; that approval would be denied even though there was potential for widespread community benefit.

Again, I asked if we could restore what the Department of Transportation interference had removed (ditch shoulder perm and sluice). I was likewise informed Transport could protect the road. Paula did ask if a pond could be dug elsewhere on the Black River Community Hall Property.

Long and short answer.... It is not getting approved!

Laurie M. Levy

*Thank You*  
There are times when not all ventures come to a satisfactory completion. However, the Black River Community, would like to thank, Laurie M. Levy, for his time and efforts spent on this project! While a Skating Rink would have been much enjoyed by us all, perhaps his work will open suggestions and new opportunities for further discussion.

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# ODE TO ELIPHALET & ANNIE LEVY



Now my grandfather's name was Eliphalet,  
And he may have been your grandfather too  
Since many a child he begat,  
So most likely he's related to you.

Now this little poem to preface this book  
Is not written to show I'm a poet.  
It's simply to attract and catch your look  
At some point of interest as you know it.

Now I've always had interest in ancestral hist.  
And to know who my relatives are,  
So some of the facts I have on my list  
I'll relate as they've happened so far.

Now my grandfather, Life, as commonly named,  
Born into this world to strive,  
Begot by Nathan, into this world he came  
In January eighteen sixty-five.

He was born in a community called Sherwood,  
Where they lived until nineteen-o-nine  
But to gain success, he never could  
If in Sherwood he continued to dine.

Now Eliphalet he took unto himself a wife,  
Her maiden name Jodrey, her first name Annie.  
Together they worked through the problems of life  
With simple things they truly were quite canny.

So to Davison Street, on Mount Etna the name,  
With his ox cart the road and some hay  
To take up residence with family they came,  
And there they decided to stay.

There they purchased some land and started to farm  
And raised up their cattle and sheep.  
They fed all their family and kept them from harm  
And provided a home for to sleep.

Together they worked so hard at their chores,  
He, milking the cows and gathering the wood, She, making  
the bread and scrubbing the floors,  
They pooled their resources as best they could.

They laughed and they cried one day with another  
Their joys and their problems were many  
She was kind and gentle a dear loving mother,  
He strived and worked hard for a penny.

Through sunshine and rain, through toil and tears  
At times through anguish they cried,  
But age it appeared through all of those years  
And at sixty-nine my grandmother died.

Now down through those years their toil was heavy  
Their family was large, there were many.  
So out of the fold of the household of Levy  
Were spread the descendants of Grannie.

Now if God be willing, what I aim to do  
Is put the LEVY'S in perspective,  
I'll provide the details and give them to you  
If I'm allowed to reach my objective.

There were fifteen in all as I understand  
From the first on down to the last.  
To feed such a number so large and so grand  
There were times when they had to fast.

So there was Stanley and Howard, and a girl named Mabel,  
And then came Nathan and Fred.  
So Grannie worked hard to garnish the table,  
There were now five kids to be fed.

Now Grannie gave birth to Violet and Emily  
To Sidney, and Wesley and Ida and Bill.  
There were six more kids to add to the family  
To be fed by the land on the hill.

Now a family of eleven was not large in that day  
So, to them was born Freeman and Lawson.  
They just added a leaf and the table made way  
For a total of three girls and ten sons.

Now Grannie conceived once again we're quite sure,  
In the month of the year called Noel.  
Because figure yourself, on September the twelfth  
She gave birth to a son called Lemuel.

Now fourteen is not all in Grannie's dear fate,  
She conceived once again I declare,  
'Cause on December the first in nineteen-o-eight  
She gave birth to Oscar St. Clair.

Now of later I've been told, that fifteen was not all told,  
And that Stanley was not the first to be forged.  
But the first to be seen in a family of sixteen  
Was a son who died, they called George.

Now that's all of the family of Grammy and Grampy,  
But their descendants are many of course.  
So I'll make up this book and try to be snappy  
So you can have it as an information source.

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## FAMILY DAY

### ACTIVITIES HAPPENING IN THE VALLEY

Kentville's Weekend of Winter ~ February 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

Kentville's Weekend of Winter is a weekend of planned activities to celebrate snow, forts, sledding, hockey and everything winter outside! We have some planned activities, but we want people to get outside and enjoy winter all over Kentville! For more info...

[www.facebook.com/events/153395141822051/?ti=icl](http://www.facebook.com/events/153395141822051/?ti=icl)

Snowshoe Demonstration at Ross Farm ~ February 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

From 9am-4pm Ross Farm will be demonstrating the traditional art of snowshoe making. They will also have snowshoes available for you to experience snowshoeing first hand.

<https://rossfarm.novascotia.ca/events>

**BLACK RIVER EVENTS**

**Move-It Monday with Sharon**

Every Monday morning from 10-11am will be fitness classes with Sharon Lake.

**Quilts & Crafts – Monday afternoons**

\*In hopes of sharing the many talents and interests in our community we are making some changes to our usual format. Beginning on February 6, our sessions will be from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. The quilt we are working on will be set up and anyone who would like to quilt or learn to quilt is invited to do so. We are also offering mini workshops, hopefully once a month, led by various members of the community. These workshops will be advertised closer to their dates. Also posted at the Hall is a list of possible topics for workshops which you are invited to add too if you have an interest that is not on the list. You are welcome to come for the whole day, bring a lunch and coffee and tea will be provided, or drop in anytime to work on your own craft project, or just to see what others are doing.

Our first project is sewing some easy potholders, sometimes called cross over potholders. You need to bring your own sewing machine as well as the basic sewing equipment i.e. scissors, seam ripper, etc. The material needed: cut six 9½ inch squares, one 9½ inch square of insulating fleece and cut one 1½ x 6 inch strip for a hanging loop. This will make one potholder, so bring more squares, etc. if you would like to make more. There will be kits available with enough materials to make two potholders. The cost of each kit is \$4.00.

Please remember if you are not interested in quilting or working on the potholders bring your knitting, crocheting or just drop in! For questions and/or suggestions contact Judy Levy at (902)542-5182 or [levy.judy3@gmail.com](mailto:levy.judy3@gmail.com)

**Card-Making Class – Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

At the Hall from 7-9pm Fee: \$10.

**Directors' Meeting – Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

Meeting will begin at 7pm at the Hall.

**Jam Session – Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Jam will start at 7pm at the Black River Hall. Shortest month but let's make it ring!

**Chase the Ace – Saturday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

Tickets go on sale from 2:00-3:45pm with the draw taking place at 4pm sharp! You must be at the Hall at 4:00pm if your ticket is drawn in order to participate. While you are waiting, enjoy a Café featuring sandwiches, sweets, hot chocolate, tea and coffee. The Internet will be available as well as board games and decks of cards for people to enjoy while they wait for the draw.

**Bookmobile - Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

The Bookmobile will be at the Hall from 10-11am.

**General Meeting (BRCC) – Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

Will begin at 7pm at the Hall

**Computers & More Workshop – Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Do you have questions about your PC, Mac, Tablet, Digital Camera or Smartphone? Drop by the hall with your equipment and questions and let's tame the Binary Beast together! Free Admission!

If you have any information about Events, Birthdays, Anniversaries and more, please contact Raye-Anne at [brch989@gmail.com](mailto:brch989@gmail.com) or (902) 599-2474

**FOR SALE...**

Remember that during this cold and damp weather it's always a good idea to have dry kindling on hand. Call Jack Spinney for all of your kindling needs - (902) 542-1552

**FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS**

**BIRTHDAYS**

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Janet Hiltz, Feb. 3        | Kelvin Davison, Feb. 11    |
| Elizabeth Levy, Feb. 3     | Annette Schofield, Feb. 13 |
| Larry Spinney, Feb. 5      | Noah Tait, Feb. 14         |
| Reta Spinney, Feb. 6       | Joel Sheffield, Feb. 17    |
| Taryn Long, Feb. 7         | Lorna Pick, Feb. 18        |
| Perry Levy, Feb. 7         | Carl Levy, Feb. 19         |
| Samantha Gertridge, Feb. 7 | Trina Long, Feb. 26        |
| Wanda Schofield, Feb. 7    | Tammy Schofield, Feb. 28   |

Congratulations to Violet and Tyler Schofield and their families on the arrival of their son, Tobias Dean Schofield, who was born on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017!

**OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES**

To the family of, Wayne Bezanson, of New Minas who passed away December 12<sup>th</sup>. Our thoughts are with Judy (Stephen) McLearn (Bezanson) and her family.  
 To the family of, Shirley Eileen Brewster, who passed away January 10<sup>th</sup>. Our thoughts are with Brian Schofield and his family.  
 To the Family of, Robert Lawrence England of Wilmot, who passed away January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our thoughts are also with Jeff England and his family.

Website - [www.blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com](http://www.blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com)

Facebook - [@blackrivercommunityhall](https://www.facebook.com/blackrivercommunityhall)

**BLACK RIVER COMMUNITY CLUB  
2016-2017 Executive & Directors**

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