

Black River News

• Together • We • Can • Accomplish • Great • Things

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 3

Duck and Moose Calling

MARCH 2023

A few months back, with the excitement of moose hunting season opening, I was reminded of a time in the early nineties when I was taught how to call moose by the World Champion.

I was asked by the Winchester Hunting School to give seminars on stalking whitetail deer at the Toronto Sportsman's Show. I was to do three seminars a day for the duration of the show. Since I had written magazine articles about this subject they wondered if I could present a seminar on the topic. So the challenge was on.

The seminars were going well, the attendance was more than I expected and comments were favourable. I had a booth at the show and Saturday morning the show manager asked me if I could help him out! It seemed the World Champion Duck Calling Contest was starting within an hour and the judge for the Eastern flyway was under the weather (something about the water in Toronto). I explained that I didn't hunt waterfowl but that did not deter him and I was signed up.

The judges were introduced to the contestants and I have to say I have never seen so much cammo and duck bands before or since! We were led off to a small room with a table and chair for each of us and a traffic light, red, yellow and green! A person stood in front of the table and placed a paper sheet and pen on the table. No one could speak. The light changed from red to yellow and green. Each contestant did a series of different calls and stopped when the light turned red. We then marked our score on the paper, and it was taken to be tabulated. These gentlemen sounded more like ducks than ducks! The winners were announced and I was relieved that I held my own in scoring.

I was back at my booth and there he was again. A moose calling competition was next. Again one of the judges was ill and would I be a judge for the moose call. I had some experience with duck calls but not moose! NO!

After some discussion, they then asked me if I would go onstage and have the world Champion Moose caller Owen Scott teach me how to call a moose. He gave me a call and proceeded to teach me the different calls that would decide the champion.

I still have the call and someday, perhaps, even with my feeble attempts at moose calling, a moose will arrive.



Photo by Perry Munro

The picture above shows the antlers from the last moose my father-in-law Percy Atwell, his brother Maxi and his father Lawson shot in Black River. They sold some of the meat in Wolfville for 15¢ a pound! That's what I was told.

Perry Munro

(Traditionally moose calls were made of birch bark shaped like a megaphone; today they can be made of fiberglass.)

Cost of Energy!

Have you ever wondered what you can do to reduce your energy costs? There is a lot of talk today about climate change and global warming and there are many home improvements and lifestyle changes we can do, while saving money at the same time! Our Nova Scotia government has many programs available to help people upgrade their heating systems and make their homes more energy efficient.

- Heating Assistance Rebate Programs
- Free Energy Efficiency Products
- PV Solar Panels
- Heat Pumps, Centrally-ducted Heat Pumps
- Wood and Pellet Heating

Join us on Sunday, March 26 from 7-9 pm at the Black River Hall for an information session from energy experts, and get your questions answered. Refreshments will be served. Share your thoughts and some social time with friends and neighbours!

Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal Recipient

MARK LONG is the son of Gladys and Zane Long and grew up in Black River. He is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022.

The medal was created to mark the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne. It is a two-fold honour - a way to honour the Queen's service and to honour significant contributions and achievements made by residents of the province. To be considered for the medal, a person had to be a resident of Nova Scotia, and to have made a significant contribution to Canada, Nova Scotia or a particular region or community.

Formerly a constable with the RCMP and a retired Halifax Regional Police Officer Mark was diagnosed with PTSD in 2016 as a result of his time working in both fields. It is well known that help for those who suffer with PTSD and other mental health issues is scarce. When he sought help he found discrimination, callous disregard for his suffering and various other challenges. He needed help.

"After returning from a PTSD Program in Malibu, California in 2018, called Save A Warrior, run by former military veterans and first responders, Mark was inspired by the message that was taught. *Service to your community is how we heal and gain purpose in life again.* Two months later,

Mark launched **C R A C K E D ARMOUR GEAR**, an online platform and clothing brand that provides information on PTSD, TBI (Traumatic Brain Injuries), and mental health as well as raises awareness for the suicide

epidemic in the military veteran community, the first responder community, and the helping professions."

"Using his online platform, Mark raises awareness to the plight of warriors who commit suicide because there is little help, understanding or support. Something he has experienced first hand."

"Mark has purchased a 76 acre property in Bishopville which he is transforming into a PTSD program. It is a retreat, a safe place for warriors to heal and share their stories. This is the first program of its kind in Canada." *

Photo : Melissa Sheehy-Richard, Member of the Legislative Assembly, West Hants awarding Mark Long the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

* Information gleaned from the internet and facebook



L-R - Melissa Sheehy-Richard, Mark Long



Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal

Black River

... from the Wolfville Acadian

This column was originally printed in the Wolfville Acadian and was printed without the wife's name, as was the practice of the time. Where it is known we have included it in brackets.

FEBRUARY 23, 1950

Mrs. Susie Long is a patient in EKM Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold (Ruby) Davidson and son, Forest Hill, visited Mr. and Mrs. Leslie (Mae) Ells on Sunday.

Clyde McInnis and Ernest visited Mrs. Florence McInnis at Payzant Memorial Hospital, Windsor on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack (Grace) Allen, Grand Pre, were recent visitors with Mrs. Jennie Long.

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh (Dora) Ells and Lorraine, of North Attleboro, Mass., who have been visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rupert (Inez) Long for the past month, left Sunday to visit the latter's sister, Mrs. Allison (Verna) Chute and Mr. Chute, Waterville. They returned to their home on February 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupert (Inez) Long held a family gathering on Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Byron (Verna) Long and Clara, Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert (Frances) Eagles and Charlotte, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford (Ada) Long and three sons, Mr. and Mrs. Robie (Isabel) Long, New Minas, Mr. and Mrs. Waldo (Dorothy) Long, Kentville, Mr. and Mrs. Allison (Verna) Chute and three children, Waterville and Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh (Dora) Ells and Lorraine.

Mrs. Aggie Weir is confined to her home through illness.

Mrs. Florence Tucker, who has been a patient in hospital for the past six weeks, is progressing nicely.

Alfred Ells was a week end guest of his brother, Freeman and Mrs Mildred Ells, Gaspereau.

April 27, 1950

Florence Amy McInnis, wife of Clyde McInnis, passed away in Payzant Hospital. She had been in ill health for some time. She was a daughter of the late Harry Greenland and Alice (Atwell) Greenland and was born in Wolfville 31 years ago. She is survived by her husband and five children: Hariett (Cecil) Beckwith, Bernice (Frank) Brown, Winnifred (Jack) Thorn, Elizabeth Watson, Madeline and brothers, Russel and Harry Greenlund.

MARCH events ●●●

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Computer Simplified 10:30 am	2	3	4
5	6 Ways/Means 10 am Maintenance 7pm	7	8	9	10	11 BINGO for the whole family 6:30pm-8pm canteen-50/50
12	13 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am	14	15 Computer Simplified 10:30 am	16	17 Beans, Ham, Scallop Potatoes Take-out	18 MOVIE for the whole family 7pm-9m
19 Monthly Meeting 7 pm Directors Meeting 7pm-	20 Book Club 7pm-	21	22	23	24 Sequence, Darts, Crokinole Games Night 7-9 pm	25
26 Reduction of Energy Costs Information Session 7-9 pm	27 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am Heritage Meeting 7:00pm	28	29 Computer Simplified 10:30 am	30	31	

• **MARCH 11 6:30pm-8pm BINGO** for the whole family. Prizes for the lucky winners. It promises to be an exciting evening for parents and children. Admission Free/Donation to Food Bank and free will offering accepted. Canteen and 50/50 Tickets available.

TAKE-OUT: Baked Beans, Ham, Scalloped Potato, Roll, Dessert \$12.00

MARCH 17 PICK UP: 4PM-6PM

Please pre-order call 902 542 5125 or email:

sharonlake07@gmail.com

Let us know if you want to donate baked beans or a dessert to this Take-Out.

FUNDRAISER for the upkeep of the Hall

MOVIE

SECOND HAND LIONS-Starring Robert Duvall, Michael Caine, Haley Joel Osment. **Mar. 18, 7 pm-9 pm.** Bring some snacks and get ready to enjoy a movie for the whole family. Free Admission. Food bank donation / free will offering accepted.

• **MARCH 24 Games Night 7-9 pm. Special Invitation to the Community.** Come out and enjoy a **Games Night** at the Hall. We hope to have enough people to play darts, crokinole, scrabble, sequence, etc. Canteen Available or bring your own snacks. Free will offering and/or food bank item would be accepted but not necessary. The winter days and nights are long so let's get together and have some fun.

Newsletter. The current newsletter can be picked up at the little Library at the front entrance to the Hall. If you are unable to pick it up at the Hall please let us know and we will find a way to deliver it to you. Contact: sharonlake07@gmail.com. or 902 542 5125

Note: Our newsletter will be available at select places in the Valley area (eg. White Rock Hall, Gaspereau Corner Store and Dabro's Farm Market). Some back issues are available at the Hall.

NEWSLETTER : The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

Contacts: • sharonlake07@gmail.com 902 542 5125

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LIVE LINKS TO OUR FACEBOOK, NEWSLETTER & PODCASTS:

<https://www.facebook.com/blackrivercommunityhall/>

<http://blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com/>

<https://anchor.fm/storiesfromblackriver>

<https://open.spotify.com/show/1zMHYxDMwQ9uUjCNQSmN7U?si=m5N2VSSQQZufzbSNR96dyQ>

CONTACTS: Hall Rental/Events Booking: Daily Rental-\$100,

Damage Deposit \$50 Contact: Jayn Kenny 902 542 0002

jayneileenkenny@msn.com

Quilting & Crafts:

Book Club: mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com

Card Games: White Rock contact Tim MacKay 902 697 2374

or email tim.mackay@eastlink.ca

Classifieds...

- **PORCUPINE CREEK PRODUCTIONS** - handcrafted by Nellie Schofield - nellieed.schofield@gmail.com. Tel: 902.542.5134
- **JESSICA MYRA - NATURAL FIBRE CREATIONS**-mothermuse@outlook.com
- **JACK SPINNEY is offering QUALITY, DRY KINDLING \$6** for a full feed bag. **DROP INTO THE HOUSE AT 85 UPPER SUNKEN LAKE RD or CALL 902.713.5094.**
- **HUMBLE HILL HOMESTEAD** offering: farm fresh eggs in a variety of colours, frozen-fresh rabbit, veggies and transplants seasonally. Contact via Facebook Farm Page or call/text 902.300.5482
- **FOR SALE: Locally grown lean ground beef \$5/lb.** Custom beef orders for sides and quarters \$5/lb. Call Shawn Levy 902 300 4432

Birthdays

Lucas Schofield	Mar 1
Larry Long	Mar 2
Susan Haley	Mar 3
Nancy Morton	Mar 8
Alice Clancey	Mar 9
Keisha Levy	Mar 12
Mary Tanner Long	Mar 13
Richard Knott	Mar 17
Wendy Weisner	Mar 18
Millie Whiston	Mar 21
Leland Leggett	Mar 25
Wayne Schofield	Mar 28
Levi Pick	Mar 29
Ethan Levy	Mar 29
Clayton Pick	Mar 31

Anniversary

Richard Knott & Sharon Lake	Mar 29
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Get Well Soon

Get well wishes are extended to Justin Davies and Nancy Morse.

Condolences

Gary Lyon passed away in January. He was the brother of Mildred Levy. We extend our sympathy to Mildred, Leonard and family, m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2067572870118952&id=10005987773156&mibextid=nckXMA

Dr. Arthur "David" Crowe passed away in January. He was the father of Phyllis Crowe and we pass along condolences to her and her family.

www.whitefamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/168032

Charlie MacDougal passed away in January. We extend our condolences to Debbie and Blair Schofield and their families and friends.

With Thanks

We had a great turn out for the Bingo game night in February. It was wonderful to see the children enjoy themselves and the adults as well. A special thanks to the very capable and skillful Gordon Berry who called the bingo.

Annapolis Valley High Speed Internet

We thank the AVHS for the complimentary internet at our community hall. CONTACT them at 902-692-9100 or annapolisvalleyhighspeed.com. LOCAL BUSINESS • NO CONTRACT • UNLIMITED TRANSFER

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Sunken Lake and Area Journal of Wildlife Observations

recorded by Clara Spinney

• **Jan 20** - Tara Lee McLearn reported a male cardinal at their bird feeders. First spotted by Deanna Schofield next door. This is the first report of a cardinal this season.



Cardinal

• **Jan 24** - The nicest of surprises today! Looking out at the lake, which is lightly frozen over, an otter popped up at the water's edge, where the brook comes from the swamp across the road. That is the first time we have seen an otter here. It played around on the ice a bit. Wish it would have stayed longer.

• I have still not had my old count of woodpeckers to the suet feeders; just a downy so far. I do not know what has happened to them. I have noticed a large decline in all species of birds.

• **Feb 4** - As everyone knows we got hit with a very cold, windy blast of Old Man Winter. This weather was very hard on birds; I felt so bad for them. The old Christmas tree we have on our deck came in handy. It filled with the small birds, even two female evening grosbeaks, which I haven't had so far. The tree is out of the wind so that was a bonus.

• It has been a strange winter. I haven't had a problem with squirrels yet. Of course now that I have mentioned it, they will show up.



Otter

• Two pileated woodpeckers at my son Byron's yard this morning. They are so nice to see and only attacking trees that are dying and full of bugs.

• Another wonderful surprise! This morning two otters popped up in the same open water as before. One with an eel in its mouth, the other in hot pursuit. A beautiful way to start the day.

Telephone Clara 902.542.3180 with any of your wildlife observations and she will add them to her own or email: claraspinnney123@gmail.com

HALL RENTAL:

• Daily Rental \$100 • Damage deposit \$50
Effective January 1, 2022

Hall Rental/Events Booking: Jayn Kenny
jayneileenkenny@msn.com, 902 542 0002
Accepting bookings for Hall Rental Now