

Black River News

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

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 11

Lest We Forget Those Who Served

November 2020

*Black River Columns from the War Years 1943-45
originally printed in the Wolfville Acadian*

News from 1943

Pte. Arden Nowlin, son of Emory and Vera Nowlin, who is training at Aldershot spent New Year's with his parents.

Pte. Franzell Spinney and Pte. Gordon Weir of Camp Bordon spent leaves at home with their parents. Pte. Ben Stultz of Yarmouth spent his leave at home.

Word has been received from somewhere in England that Ivan Levy, Irvine Melvin and Clyde Murray, who are serving in the armed forces, had received their Christmas boxes sent by the Black River Community Club, for which they wish to thank most heartily all those who were so kind and thoughtful.

Elsie Levy received word from her son, L-Cpl. Lloyd Levy that he had landed in Newfoundland.

Mr. Byron Long, son of Rupert and Inez Long, got his final call for the army and leaves for Camp the 29 of April.

Sapper Ben Stultz spent the week end at home with his wife and two children. He received an honourable discharge from the army. They are moving into the home of Obed Benjamin.

Pte. Byron Long has been moved from Victoria to Vancouver, B.C.

L-Cpl. Ivan M. Levy, 2nd eldest son of Stanley and Elsie Levy serving the Canadian army overseas, won 2 first prizes in running races at a service athletic meet in England, receiving 2 medals. On furlough he was surprised by friends who gathered to give him a party.

Lawrence Weir, son of Aggie and Edgar Weir was honourably discharged from the army last week. Word has been received by the Weirs that their son Gordon arrived safely overseas.

Gerald Spinney who is employed with National Defence, Halifax, spent the week end at home.

Clyde and Malcolm McInnis, and Clifford Long have received their call to report to Halifax for medical examination for military service.

News from 1944

Pte. Eldon Davidson, was killed in action. We have a lot of satisfaction in knowing that this young man played the game, he could do no more.

Ethel Atwell of the C.W.A.C. and Pte. Byron Long received their Christmas boxes, as did Pte. Franzell Spinney, Pte. Gordon Weir and L-Cpl. Burton Crowe somewhere in England, sent by the Community Club. They all wish to thank the ladies who so cheerfully did their part.

Ivan Levy who has been overseas for some time received his second stripe is now a full corporal.

Lloyd Levy has safely landed in Italy and is with the W.N.S.R. He enlisted in October 1941 in the Pictou Highlanders. In April 1944 he received the rank of Sergeant.

Word is received that Lloyd Levy who is fighting in Italy was wounded in action. We certainly wish him the best of luck for we all remember Lloyd and can recall many good times.

Cpl. Ivan Levy has again excelled in sports. This is not the only time since his stay in

England that he has won medals and cigarettes. He went overseas in February, 1942.

Ben Stultz, who is a patient at Camp Hill Hospital, underwent treatment after having been discharged as medically unfit. On Tuesday evening Ada Long, sister of Ian Long, held a weinie roast at Sunken Lake in honour of Pt. Byron Long, who was home on leave.

Cpl. Lloyd Levy wounded a 2nd time while on active service in Italy. Date and nature of wounds unknown. Brother Ivan Levy is on active service in France.

We are pleased to announce that \$4 was donated to our fund for the soldiers' box. Arnel Levy received his notice to report to Halifax for examination for military training October 26.

Rupert and Inez Long's son Byron arrived safely overseas. We all wish him luck.

News from 1945

Word has been received by Emory and Bessie Spinney that their son, Pte. Franzell Spinney, who has been serving in Italy for many months has been slightly wounded. His wife received word he has lost a finger. Stanley and Elsie Levy received word that their son, Cpl Ivan Levy, has been quite badly hurt in a motorcycle accident while serving on the western front. He was injured on Dec. 3 and he wrote a letter on Dec. 18 stating he was in hospital with a damaged right wrist which had been set twice. The letter was written with his left hand.

May 3, Pte. Keith Schofield, son of Walter
continued on page 2

The History of Peonies

In the past few years, there has been a resurgence in the interest of a certain peony plant that has been growing in the area for over a hundred years. The variety of peony is unknown. Those of us who have a root of it speculate about its origins so I decided to do some research on this plant and may have come up with some answers to that question.

Peonies are native to Asia, southern Europe and western America. The peony has been the symbol of beauty and remembrance for over 2000 years. The name was given to this plant by the Greeks who named it after a student of Asclepius, the Greek god of medicine and healing. Asclepius became jealous of his pupil, Paeon, and Zeus saved Paeon from the wrath of Asclepius by turning him into the peony flower.

Romans brought the peony with them to England, where they have been cherished by gardeners for centuries. Peonies have been appreciated for their medicinal qualities and were used to alleviate a variety of ailments, including toothache, the pain of childbirth, seizures, and headache.



After checking the probable time that the plant arrived in Black River and the bloom time, the colour, the leaf structure, etc., this peony is probably a variety that came from England and was recognized for its hardiness as far back as the 1600's. No real name was given to this plant before it came to North America that I could find but it was normally called the common or wild peony. Perhaps we could name this peony ourselves. Any suggestions?

Ed Schofield

Editor: This peony is a recent addition to the Community Garden at the Hall. It is planted next to the sculpture which was created and given to the garden by Perry Munro in memory of Judi Atwell Munro. I think she would be pleased to have it here as she had a root of it growing in her home garden.

The colour is a deep garnet/red and is the earliest of the peonies to bloom. Peonies like full sun, thrive in zones 3-8, so the Hall garden should be perfect. While its bloom time is short and its perfume not as great as modern peonies, this old variety is certainly worth having. I like the idea that we share a flower with another gardener from another time. A time when it wasn't as easy as trotting down to the nursery to obtain a root. If you want a plant that will stick around with you for awhile a peony is your plant and this is an example of its longevity.

As Ed suggests why don't we have some fun with giving a name this variety of peony? Let me know if you have any ideas, eg. Paeonia "Spurgeon", Paeonia "Black River"..., Paeonia 'Black River Garnet"

continued from page 1

and (?) Schofield, is home on leave. He is presently stationed at Aldershot.

Ptes. Bryon Long and Irvine Melvin wish to thank the Black River Community Club for their Christmas boxes which they received in good order.

Our section in general is very pleased to hear that Pte. Russell Spidel, who was reported missing in action on the Italian front many months ago, has been heard from and is a prisoner of war. He was born in our neighbourhood and we look forward to his home coming.

Edgar and Aggie Weir received a letter from their son, Gordon saying that he is serving in Germany. May 17, quite a number of parents and other relatives feel very elated over the fact that the war is quieted down and they at least look forward to seeing the boys. Byron Long arrived in Belgium. Inez Long received word that her son Byron, had volunteered for service in the Pacific.

Elsie Levy received word from Ottawa that her son Ivan was expected to land on Saturday from the "Letitia". A number of friends gathered to welcome him back from overseas. He claims he feels like getting to work as soon as possible as he is fed up with the idleness of late.

August - Pte. Franzell Spinney returned from overseas, after serving in Italy and Germany, on the troopship Duchess of Bedford which docked in Halifax. Both Corpl. Levy and Pte. Spinney were presented with a billfold from the Black River Community Club at a welcome home party.

Pte. Dempsey Atwell, who has just returned from overseas on leave before proceeding to the Pacific, paid a short visit to his aunt, Inez Long.

Helen Atwell returned from a visit to the USA where she met with her sister, Ethel Atwell, who was on leave from the forces.

Rflmn. Kenneth Smith is convalescing at home on leave from Sussex NB.

A welcome home party was given to Pte. Clyde Murray who arrived from overseas on leave before going to the Pacific. The Club presented him with a billfold.

December - We were glad to hear that Lloyd Levy and Bert Crowe are expected to land in New York on the Queen Elizabeth.

November Events

★
**COVID 19
 Prevention
 Guidelines
 in Effect**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	
1	2	3	4 Seniors Connect 1-3 pm	5	6	7 Fish Chowder/ Hamburger Soup 4-6 pm Pre order with Choice.	
8	9 Ways & Means 7:00-7:30 Directors Meeting 7:00-8 pm	10	11 Remembrance Day Seniors Connect 1-3 pm	12	13	14	
15 Monthly Meeting 7-8 pm	16 Book Club 7-8 pm	17	18 Seniors Connect 1-3 pm	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25 Seniors Connect 1-3 pm	26	27	28	
29	30 Heritage Meeting 7-8 pm	Next Month December TBA					

★
**Masks
 Must
 Be
 Worn**

Fish Chowder/Hamburger Soup TAKE OUT

Black River Community Hall

NOVEMBER 7 PICKUP from 4-6 pm

Fish Chowder **or** Hamburger Soup,
 Roll, Pie Dessert

PRE-ORDER REQUIRED WITH CHOICE

To pre-order please call
 902 542 5125 or 902 542 7913
 or email: sharonlake07@gmail.com

★ \$8



Tribute paid to those who served during the First World War was painted by street artist Jerome Davenport. Depicts woman working in munitions factory, man who was killed in action and an English and German soldier sharing a cigarette.

NEWSLETTER

Website: blackrivercommunityhall.weebly.com
 Facebook: @blackrivercommunityhall
 Newsletter: sharonlake07@gmail.com 902 542 5125
 gladys.zanelong@xplornet.com 902 542 1994

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

CONTACTS

Quilting & Crafts: levy,judy3@gmail.com, 902 542 5182
 Book Club: mary.tanner.long@hotmail.com

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 BRAIDED RUGS - local and handmade, 85 Upper Sunken Lake Road, Sunken Lake B4P 2R2 Tel: 902.542.1552

Looking for KINDLING for the winter season? Look no further. **Jack Spinney is offering QUALITY, DRY KINDLING** at the great price of \$5 for a full feed bag. Call Jack at 902 542 1552.

Birthdays

Eamon Clancey, belated	Sept. 21
Sara Munro, belated	Oct. 20
Brian Schofield	Nov. 1
Ed Schofield	Nov. 3
Mildred Levy	Nov. 7
Tanya Hoyt	Nov. 7
Willie Golar	Nov. 8
Bruce Hoyt	Nov. 9
Pearl Schofield	Nov. 11
Laurie Levy	Nov. 18
Cranswick Golar	Nov. 19
Laura Harris	Nov. 23
Margo Levy	Nov. 29

Anniversaries

Eamon & Sara Munro Clancey	Nov. 3
Morris & Gertie Ells (66 yrs)	Nov. 29

Question ????

Does anyone know what the *Black River Community Club* put in their Christmas Boxes which were sent to those serving in the armed services during the war? We read that veterans received their boxes but what was in them? We think perhaps cigarettes, socks but what else?

EXECUTIVE ...

Black River Community Hall

989 Deep Hollow Road
Black River, NS B4P 2R2

902 542 7913

President - Tina Gertridge

tinagertridge@gmail.com
902.542.4152

Vice-President - Jayn Kenny

jayneileenkenny@msn.com
902.542.0002

Secretary - Gladys Long

gladys.zanelong@xplornet.com
902.542.1994

Treasurer - Tara Lee McLearn

mclearn4@yahoo.ca
902.542.4548

Seniors Connect

Wednesday Afternoons 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm on a trial basis.

Complimentary refreshments, tea & coffee. Cards and Games are available or you may just want to sit and catch up with your friends and neighbours. **No Admission Charge. Masks must be worn. Covid -19 Prevention Guidelines in effect.**

With Appreciation

Thank you to all who participated in our fundraiser - **Breakfast To Go**.

Election

Please note our NEW Executive and Board of Directors. Thank you to the former Executive and Directors who did yeoman's service for the Community Hall and our community in general over many years. We welcome the new executive and board of directors who are going forward with the best interests in mind for the people of our community. Contact information below.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ...

Ed Schofield

nellieed.schofield@gmail.com
902.542.5134

Clara Spinney

claraspinnney123@gmail.com
902.542.3180

Joe McInnis

902.542.2558

Clayton Pick

902.698.1629
clayton-765@hotmail.com

Wanda Schofield

902.542.3206

Sharon Lake

sharonlake07@gmail.com
902.545.5125

Don Feltmate

donfeltmate@gmail.com
902.542.2798

Sunken Lake and Area Journal of Wildlife Observations

recorded by Clara Spinney

Sept. 22 - Zelma Long phoned to say she had five deer on her lawn early this morning, followed by two the next day.

Sept. 24 - Noticed the loons have left for the winter - will look forward for their return in the spring.

Oct. 5- Had a story related to me of a gentleman seeing a pack of seven coyotes on the Lower Sunken Lake Road followed a day or two later by seeing a bear on the same road. Zelma Long recorded a



bear on her trailcam in her yard at 5 pm while all the family was out on the lawn and also at 2 am recorded three coyotes.

Oct. 6 - Sharon Lake, Perry Munro and myself were at the Beaver Pond on Corkum Burns Road today. We were blessed with warm, sunny weather, beautiful leaves and a large flock of geese leisurely swimming around... awe striking beauty.

I watched a video taken by a family friend of three bear running down the road before you get to Hollow Bridge.

Usually by this time of year we have flocks of common mergansers in the lake but so far this year - none.

Oct. 12 - Dave Milligan, Victoria Tait and boys driving up the Lower Sunken Lake Road saw a pack of five coyotes.

Oct. 13 - For two days the geese have been putting on a show for us on Sunken Lake. Never known geese to be on the lake like this.

Oct. 16 - Zelma Long phoned to say two deer ran across the road in front of her on her way home from our Take Out Breakfast.

Oct. 19 - A small flock of mallard ducks landed here on the lake.



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