

Black River News

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VOLUME 17 ISSUE 11

WOMENS WAR WORK

NOVEMBER 2022



During WWII the Canadian Red Cross gave the pin pictured above to women who worked for the war effort. It is a small circular pin with a white border. On the border, in gold lettering it says: "Womens War Work C•R•C•S. (Canadian Red Cross Society). There is a bronze circle in the middle with a red cross on it. It was found in the Maxie Atwell home where subsequently Perry and Maxie's niece Judi Atwell Munro moved in the 1970's.

Perry Munro, who donated the pin to our archives at the Community Hall, remembers that someone said, "the Community Club made care packages for the War effort and the pin was given to recognize the support and effort by the Ladies of Black River." The Ladies extended their charitable work by knitting socks, scarves, mitts, baking goods, etc. which were sent in parcels for the Canadians serving in the military. Some produced "ditty bags, which held sought after items such as chocolate, razor blades and sewing kits".

As we know, women were encouraged to take active roles in the war, as nurses or to enlist and be trained for clerical, administrative and support roles - to become "Rosie the Riveters". They learned to fly planes and took many jobs previously held by men but they also supported the war effort at home. For example, they gathered materials for scrap metal collection drives (sometimes their own aluminum pots and pans), helped the displaced people scattered by the war by providing clothes and setting up refugee centres. This was but a modicum of the jobs in which the women were engaged.

Along with the stress, fear, anxiety of the unknown for their loved ones overseas women had to economize and became skilled at "doing more more with less." A common parlance used today as well and it never seems to bode well for the person doing more with less.

To survive, many women had to plow and hay fields, along with raising chickens, pigs, cows, canning fruits and vegetables, tending their children and senior parents, and cut firewood for the winter. They made their own clothes (some repurposing parachutes to make wedding dresses) and planted (Victory) gardens to feed not only their families but to share with their neighbours. I expect in Black River the women had always planted vegetable gardens and didn't need to be encouraged to plant "Victory" gardens. In short, women acting in the traditional role of homemakers were active in the war by keeping the families and communities together on the home front, as well as contributing to the war effort overseas in any way they could and to the best of their abilities.

Canadians were subject to rationing during the war. As an example, weekly rations of food included 1 1/3 ounces of tea, 5 1/3 ounces of coffee, 1/2 pound of butter and sugar, as well as gas, meat and alcohol. Hard to "do more with less" here. The stylish seamed nylon/silk stockings of the time were in short supply as the silk was made into powder bags and nylon stockings were melted down and re-spun into thread for parachutes. (Women drew lines up the back of their legs to simulate the seams.)

In some jobs, women, because of their "smaller size and manual dexterity worked in electronics, optics and instrument assembly which required precision work." In this line of work women were much valued and considered well suited.

To win the war Canada required a full resume of abilities and talents from all of its people, including women. It is unknown today who received this pin in the Atwell home during WWII but it was meant to display the wearer's patriotism, generosity and recognition of their efforts of support during the war.

Sharon Lake

* Some of the above information was gleaned from the Government of Canada website www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/classroom/fact-sheets/women

Hello, Neighbour! Column by Ed Schofield

Hitch Your Wagon To A Star

"..... annnnnnd ACTION!"

What do you think about when you hear these words? Well Paul Spinney and Shawn Levy know first hand.

In the last few years, these gentlemen have heard these words from the set of a number of movies filmed in our province. They and their horses have been on the sets of movies filmed from Cape Breton to the Halifax area and the South Shore.



June and Trixie with Paul Spinney on the set of "Lizzie Borden"

How did this all start you ask? Well, it started when Paul answered an ad on Kijiji. At that time, a film company was looking for a certain type of horse wagon. When the person came to look at the wagon he inquired about Paul's horses and whether he might be interested in doing a small part in a film. This resulted in a part in a remake of a movie called "Sea Wolf" in 2009. The rest, as they say, is history.



l-r: Paul Spinney and Shawn Levy on the set of "Lizzie Borden"

Shawn said it was a little surprising how some of the sets that look so convincing are really just a facade. What you see is not always real.

In 2014, the movie "Lizzie Borden Took An Ax" was filmed in the Halifax area with both Paul and Shawn on set. This was followed up the next year with the "Lizzie Borden Chronicles".

These two wranglers have had some very interesting experiences.

During the filming of the 2017 mini series "Pure" they spent the better part of a

day pulling an airplane from a river that only showed up for a few seconds in the film.

... to be continued next month

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.

July 28, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley (Elsie) Levy and Mr. and Mrs. Arnel (Helen) Levy and family motored to Chester on Sunday to visit Mrs. Florence Isnor.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnel (Helen) Levy entertained six couples on Monday evening at an aluminum demonstration dinner, a very enjoyable time was had.

Mrs. Kenneth (Ida Mae) Smith and two children, White Rock, spent Monday with Mrs. Arnel (Helen) Levy.

Mrs. Percy (Mildred) Atwell recently entertained at two birthday parties for her daughters: Connie, who celebrated her eleventh birthday and Judy (Judi), her third.

Our Community Club met at the home of Mrs. Percy (Mildred) Atwell. A pleasant evening was spent quilting and a tasty lunch was served by Mrs. Clifford (Ada) Long and Mrs. Lenna Cunningham. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Kenneth (Ida Mae) Smith, White Rock.

Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Emery (Vera) Nowlin were Mr. and Mrs. Earl (Zena) Schofield and family, Starrs Point, also Richard Allen, of Grand Pre.

Miss Mabel Nowlin has returned to Hantsport after spending two weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emery (Vera) Nowlin.

Miss Grace Long, of Evangeline Beach, and Jack Allen, Grand Pre, spent Sunday evening at the home of Mrs. Jennie Long.

We had with us at our church service on Sunday, the Girl Guides who were in camp at the lake.

We extend congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arnel (Ruby) Davison, Forest Hill on the birth of a son. Mrs. Davison and infant are spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie (Mae) Ells.

Mrs. Florence Tucker is spending a couple of weeks with her niece, Mrs. and Mr. Raleigh (Abbie) Eagles, Greenwich.

Mrs. Waldo (Dorothy) Long, Kentville, spent a few days at the home of Mr and Mrs. Rupert (Inez) Long.

We are glad to report that Mrs. Clyde (Florence) McInnis has returned from the V.G. Hospital, Halifax, and her condition is improved.

NOVEMBER events ●●●

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Ways/Means 7pm Maintenance 7pm	8	9 Computer Simplified 10:30	10	11 Remembrance Day	12
13	14 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am	15	16	17	18	19
20 Monthly Meeting 7 pm Directors Meeting 7pm-	21 Book Club 7pm-	22	23 Computer Simplified 10:30	24	25	26
27	28 Sewing/Crafts Meeting 11 am Heritage Meeting 7-8 pm	29	30			

• **NOTE: Crafts and Sewing** group will take place on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the Month at 11 am. Please join us at the Hall. We will be discussing plans for upcoming projects, sharing information and generally just enjoying the time spent with each other. A cuppa something always goes down well. Unfortunately *Judy Levy*, who has been the primary support of our group for many years has retired. We miss her already. She was our guide in so many ways and we thank her for opening our eyes to the world of crafting and the opportunities presented. We hope she will be able to drop in from time to time.

NOTE: Please continue to drop off your moneyback bottles at the hall. We will sort and take them to the depot in support of our community hall during the winter months. May 1, if the war in Ukraine has not ended, we will again donate the money in support of the Ukranian relief.

Kings County Seniors' Safety Society

The above Society provides programming for safety and education initiatives that assist seniors living independently. The Project coordinator provides Home Visits; Community Presentation/Events; and Special Events like Coffee Break Gathers and Free Paper Shredding. **Come to our monthly meeting November 20 and meet Bonnah Carey, Project Coordinator** who will explain how the KCSSS works and what we can do to help seniors needing information for example: power of attorney, personal directive for medical and personal care decisions, detection and prevention of scams, where to get help filing your taxes, available tax credits, forms for government grants, to name a few. Any questions call 780 215 3880 or email: bonnahcarey@outlook.com or come to the meeting Nov. 20 at 7:00

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

Contacts: • sharonlake07@gmail.com 902 542 5125
• gladyslong67@gmail.com 902 542 1994

LIVE LINKS TO OUR FACEBOOK, NEWSLETTER & PODCASTS
Password for internet: communitycenter

<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 BRAIDED RUGS** - local and handmade, 85 Upper Sunken Lake Road, Sunken Lake B4P 2R2 Tel: 902.713.5094 or **DROP INTO THE HOUSE AT 85 UPPER SUNKEN LAKE RD.**
- *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

Brian Schofield	Nov 1
Ed Schofield	Nov 3
Mildred Levy	Nov 7
Tanya Hoyt	Nov 7
Willie Golar	Nov 8
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 (68 yrs)	Nov 29

Best Wishes

Best wishes from all of us to Nancy Morse. We hope you are feeling better and will see you soon.

Condolences

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mary L. Spinney who passed away in October

serenityfuneralhome.ca/tribute/details/8855/Mary-Spinney/obituary.html?fbclid=IwAR0h_BO7HBSDK37b4t_-

cni_IL-mm_kV_7ZkS9VcjNPYQ5dDLpjpe

Annapolis Valley Parkinson's Support Group

We meet once a month on the third Tuesday of each month between September and June. If you are living with Parkinson's Disease or a support to someone living with Parkinson's then consider joining our group. We offer opportunities for discussion and awareness of the challenges faced by PD patients and support people. The meetings begin at 10 am at the Baptist Church Annex in New Minas (9453 Commercial St.). You are welcome to join us. Refreshments are served.

Walking to Cape Split

Congratulations to Blake Spinney and Robert Sanford on completing the walk to Cape Split - an inspiration to us all.

Election 2022

The results of the election on October 16 are as below.

EXECUTIVE ...

Black River Community Hall

989 Deep Hollow Road
Black River, NS B4P 2R2
902 542 7913

President - Clayton Pick

clayton-765@hotmail.com
902 698 1629

Vice-President - Ed Schofield

nellieed.schofield@gmail.com
902 542 5134

Secretary - Jayn Kenny

jayneileenkenny@msn.com
902 542 0002

Treasurer - Tara Lee McLearn

mclearn4@yahoo.ca
902 542 4548

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ...

Clara Spinney
claraspinnney123@gmail.com
902 542 3180

Joe McInnis

902 542 2558

Sharon Lake

sharonlake07@gmail.com
902 542 5125

Don Feltmate

donjfeltmate@gmail.com
902 542 2798

Donna (Hank) Levy

902 542 5419
donnaHank@hotmail.com

Sunken Lake and Area Journal of Wildlife Observations

recorded by Clara Spinney

- Recently Janet Hiltz sent me a message saying she had a small hawk in her yard. I can only presume it was a Merlin; they like to watch for small birds.
- The baby loon is still here. One of the parents has stayed with it. It is a beautiful bird but its having a problem flying any distance. Here's hoping it masters this soon.
- We grew two good sized rows of corn this year only to get a few ears from it as the coyotes took them. Not hard to tell as their tracks packed the ground up and down the rows.
- Also grew two rows of sunflowers. The blue jays took most of them. That is all the proof I need to tell me I am not a farmer.
- Earlier this summer, a mother duck and three of her four babies got taken by an eagle. The little orphan stayed here. It stayed close to shore and laid under a birch tree. Safe. I really didn't pay close attention. My grandson Levi kept saying there is something living in one of your hostas. Thinking it was a joke I just laughed at him. Well, no joke, that is where it went at night. The duck is still here but I don't know where he goes now that the hosta has wilted down. The big question is whether it will go south when cold weather comes. Could be interesting.
- There has not been any small birds around yet so I haven't put out any feeders. I usually wait for the first snow but sometimes if its real cold I'll give in.



Photo by Amber Hermie Long

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