



The River Round Up

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Dolore Burke

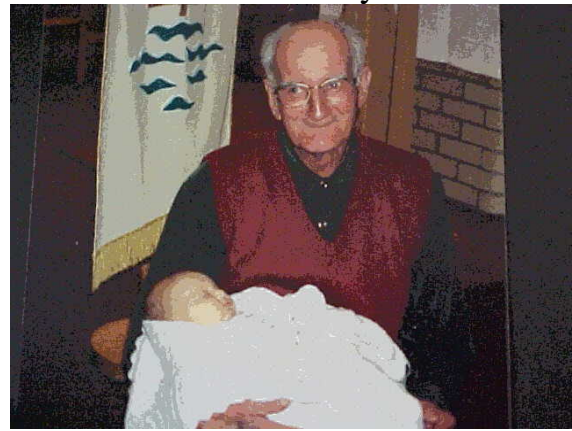


Delore with son Irvin in front of the original store.

Delore is the son of the late Amable and Tillie Burke of the Church Point. As war broke out in Europe, young Delore joined the Navy and set sail overseas on the HMCS Moose Jaw leaving his young bride Hilda Burke at home. Upon arriving in the North Atlantic off the coast of Iceland, the Moose Jaw became the first to sink a German warship. Thirty-seven prisoners of war were taken aboard the Canadian ship. Delore recalls the absolute terror on the faces of these prisoners, most of whom were only in their late teens, as they boarded their vessel. In August 1944, Delore returned home to his love Hilda and to manage the post office and open his country store. Stamps were three cents each, a far cry from the thirty cents in 1980 when he retired after 46 years as the postmaster. Delore and Hilda's store was in the same building as the post office and located directly below the school so as a result the majority of his customers were the children speeding down the hill at recess and lunch time to get their penny's worth of jaw breakers. In 1964 the store and post office were moved to the basement of the house and in 1980 Delore sold the store business to Maurice Landry. Delore and Hilda's favorite pastime was

dancing and they spent countless Saturday nights at the legion doing so. Hilda passed away in 1994 after more than fifty-two years together. They had one son Irvin who lives in Dartmouth and a pride and joy granddaughter, Claudine who resides in Ontario. Delore has been a legion member since 1944 and still loves to dance. He is a member of the church choir and a church reader. These days he loves to strum his guitar and sing while cousin CJ Richards accompanies him on the piano. *Sharon Chilvers*

Leo Landry



Leo Landry shown with great granddaughter Abigail Rose.

Leo is the son of Peter and Celeste Ann Landry of the Southside. At the tender age of ten, Leo became ill with pleurisy followed by pneumonia and was bedridden for eleven months. During this time his grandmother Eugenie Bourque taught him to knit. His initial project was a pair of mittens for his dad. Since then he has graduated to making sweaters, hats, gloves and the christening dress in the above photo. Leo also has completed models of the Bluenose and riverboats. Leo enlisted in the merchant marines and during the war sailed on the ship "Moose Mountain Park" to France, Venezuela, Trinidad, Puerto Rico and California. While in California on shore leave he went to Hollywood where he alleges to have danced

with Greta Garbo. When Greta turned to other men Leo returned home to his childhood sweetheart Theresa and they are now married fifty-one years. Five children resulted as a consequence of this union, Danny in River Bourgeois, Vincent, Ann and Leonard in Halifax and Rose in North Carolina. They have twelve grandchildren and one great grandchild, Abigail Rose. Leo fished most of his life with his dad and Jim Boucher and worked at the Riverside Industry making furniture. These days Leo still knits and can be seen on the veranda with his famous binoculars or in the garden with his infamous hat shooing away those birds. *Sharon Chilvers*

Seniors 50+

On December 2nd over sixty members enjoyed their annual Christmas Dinner at the Bras D'or Inn. A good time was had by all, and instead of exchanging gifts this year members chose to donate food towards the needy families Christmas dinner. The club also donated \$200.00 to this cause and \$500.00 to the Strait Richmond fund to purchase a monitoring system. Our next meeting is January 8th when we will discuss new methods of expanding the social functions of the club. The club welcomes new members and the only requirement is that you can prove you are fifty.

Dues are due in January and are still only \$5.00.

Festival of Choirs



Left to right: Delore Burke, Margaret Morrison, Marion Maltby, Henrietta Doary, Madeline Cook, Mary Touesnard, MaryAnn Robertson, Ethel Stone, Josephine Morrison, Bob Parks, Vera Landry, Joan Owns, George Landry, Michael Owns and Lynn Grenier. Missing: Betty Park, Helen Slade and Agnes Baxter.

Festival of Choirs took place on Sunday, Dec 2nd in West Arichat. This festival was originated by Arthur Doary fourteen years ago and has been held in every community in Richmond County. It is a non-denominational event and each choir plays two Xmas songs. There are two requirements for the parish that

is hosting; it must be a "non-profit" event and the song "Joy to the World" must be sung. The choirs have played to pack churches and/or halls every year since its commencement and next year the host will be Lower River. *Sharon Chilvers*

World Youth Day-July 22-28, 2002

This is an exciting year in our parish as five young people; Michelle Sampson, Heidi Stone, Mark Digout, Nicholas Fougere and Pamela Sampson (who will be a chaperone for the girls) have registered to attend World Youth Day in Toronto.

The parish is fundraising to sponsor the young people and to date we have raised \$200.00 with a bake sale and \$807.00 selling tickets on lobster. Our latest project is selling candles depicting the World Youth Day Logo. The yellow circle in the Logo shows the young people of the world coming together; the large blue section is for water which is so necessary for all life--it represents the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans which border Canada as well as the rivers, lakes and streams; the Cross which points to North, South, East and West means the Cross of Jesus, so essential to the life of the Soul and the Maple Leaf is the emblem of Canada. The cost of these beautiful tall candles is \$12.00 and a small candle with the Logo is on sale in the Church Vestry for \$3.00.

The young people, parents and the committee wish to thank everyone for their support. *Therese Digout*

CWL Notes



The CWL Christmas Dinner was held Dec 8th at Mountain Star Resort. Approximately 35 members and Father Sandy attended and all enjoyed a delicious roast turkey or roast beef dinner, pleasant conversation and lots of laughter. Following dinner a short meeting was held.

Warning for next year: Keep "refreshments" away from Marion Maltby and Annie Burke.

Once again the CWL organized Christmas boxes for families in our area. Fifteen boxes were delivered. We wish to thank everyone for the generous donations. A special thank you to Sharon & Glyn Chilvers for all their work. *Eleanor Pederson*

Anniversary Celebration



Back row-Leslie Pottie, Valerie Fougere, Victor Burke, AJ Landry, Gervase Landry, Mary & Cletus Touesnard. Front Row-George & Sharon Digout, Pene Pottie, Evelyn Burke, Beatrice Landry, and Jane Landry.

On November 25th a special mass, celebrated by Fr. Sandy Mac Neil, was held for couples celebrating anniversary milestones, which was followed by dinner at the Tara Lynne Center, hosted by the CWL. Certificates were given to the following couples 25th-Anthony (AJ) & Beatrice Landry, Gordie & Rita Fougere, Calvin & Nancy Burke, Mike & Valerie Fougere and Leslie & Pene Pottie; 40th-George & Sharon Digout, Stan & Marjorie Digout, Patrick & Dianne Bourque, Robert & Theresa Kyte and Bob and Helen Slade; 50th-Cletus & Mary Touesnard; 55th-Jane & Gervase Landry and William & Mildred Richard. Special acknowledgement was made to the following couples; Alex & Amilda Burke on their 56th, Joe & Margaret Bouchard on their 58th, Roy & Carrie Truman on their 59th; Victor & Evelyn Burke, Andy & Blanche Andrews on their 61st and to James & Caroline Sampson who were married 68 yrs in 2001. Congratulations to all these couples.

Deaths

Sampson-Mary Viola of River Bourgeois passed away on Dec. 9th. She was the daughter of the late Alfred and Josephine Hanlon of Canso. Our sympathy to the family especially to her daughter Theresa (Kyte) and her family.

Thibeau-Joseph (Cossie) Thibeau died on December 2nd at 77 years. Our sympathy to Cossie's family especially sisters Virginia Sampson and Gladys Touesnard.

History

Excerpts from The River Round Up-Jan 18th, 1957:

"Once again at Christmas time we had the usual splendid Christmas Concert, which was held at the Auditorium of the new school and which was given by the pupils. One of the most enjoyable parts was the music supplied by the "Pottie Orchestra". Included in this were Milton Pottie who played both violin and guitar selections, accompanied by his sister Audrey on the Piano. These are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Pottie. With them was their cousin Richard Pottie, son of Mr. and the late Mrs. Willard Pottie who also played both violin and guitar selections. Then the usual Santa Claus party was held at the Parish Hall when over 300 children of the Parish which included all of the children of the parish of school age and under received a gift from Santa. This party, which was introduced by Rev. Fr. Samson after he arrived here, has become one of the highlights of the Xmas season, there; one may see almost all the children of the Parish and many of their parents.

Then came Christmas Eve and mid-night Mass. At this the R.B. Choir under the capable management of Mother Gustave showed itself to advantage. Mass of the Guardian Angel was sung, and included in the many hymns sung was a Dutch Hymn sung by Bennie, Joseph and Tony Konning, three brothers from a Dutch family who came to R.B. several years ago...

The death of Mrs. Emile Touesnard, took place at her home here, on Saturday evening Jan 12th. Mrs. Touesnard, who was 69 years of age, had not been in good health for some time but her sudden death came as a shock to relatives and friends. She was the former Minnie Samson daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Anselm Samson one of R.B. oldest and most respected families. Besides her husband, a native of St. Malo France, Mrs. Touesnard is survived by a family of seven sons and three daughters. The sons are Allan, Dave, Joseph and Gerard of R.B., Ernie employed with R.J. Logue at Sydney and Roderick of R.B. and Richard of Halifax. The daughters are Mary Ellen (Mrs. Poirier) of Boston, Regina (Mrs. Edgar Thibeau) of Hamilton Ont. and Catherine at home. She is also survived by four brothers and four sisters. D.A. Samson of R.B. and Paul, Joe, and Murdock Samson of the U.S.A. are brothers, while the sisters are Margaret (Mrs. Clark) of Halifax, Julia (Mrs. Ephrem Boudreau) of Hull, Que., Edith (Mrs. Burke) of the U.S.A. and Phyllis (Mrs. Placide Burke) of R.B....

Louie Pottie, who was employed on a "Lakeboat", has arrived home, and he and his wife, the former Marian MacLean of Barras Head, are spending the

winter with Louie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pottie at Hawker.

Gilbert Burke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Amable I. Burke, who was on a "Lakeboat", has arrived home for the winter months.

Roderick Burke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe P. Burke, who was employed on the "Lakeboat", has arrived home for the winter. Since arriving home Dickie has acquired a truck for himself. His sisters Irene and Ms. Mary who are employed and his brother Richard who was in the Army and stationed at Petawawa spent Christmas at home. Since then Richard has gone over to Germany, where he will be for some time.

Georgie Boudreau, who was employed on a "Lakeboat" (and they must have had a good cook on it too, as Georgie, has put on a lot of weight) has arrived home, to spend the winter.

Georgie was in the woods with Fraser cutting logs one day last week, and though he complained of cold feet, it was only after he got home that he found all the toes and part of one foot were frozen. To add to his misery, and misery it really was, Georgie placed his foot in lukewarm water. Though better that it was, Georgie's foot is still quite numb. We thought his wife, Catherine, had frozen her feet or something like that two Sundays ago when on coming out of Church after Mass, we heard what we thought was the "Explosion of the Atom Bomb" or something similar, and on looking towards the front of the Church, where the noise came from, we saw that Catherine had hooked in the end of one of the kneelers and had landed on the floor, her hat going one way and her Prayer book the other. Several children, who were just coming out of the Pew in front of her, looked for a moment wondering what to do, than proceeded to jump over her. However all's well that end's well and Catherine is feeling no ill effects.

Alec Burke, who was on a "Lakeboat", has arrived to spend the winter with his wife and family.

John Burke, who was employed on the Lakes, and who intended to work in Ontario for the winter arrived home. John was especially welcome by his mother, Mrs. Dominic Burke, who had been quite ill. We are glad to say that she is greatly improved.

Freddie Burke, who had spent some time at St. Rita's Hospital in Sydney, has arrived home, somewhat improved. Freddie is suffering from arthritis.

John Richard, who was on the Lakes arrived home, and as his parents Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Richard are in Ontario John, is spending the winter with his sister Rita (Mrs. John Landry) and family.

Sam and his son Leo Fougere, who are employed at Halifax spent Xmas at their home here."

Bits and Bites:

- First prize for the best Christmas decoration's for a business in the St. Peters area was awarded to our own Grandma's House.
- On November 30th some twenty River residents motored to Malagowash for the 2nd annual Christmas dinner. All enjoyed good food and great fun. Thanks to Gerry Fougere and Arthur Doary for organizing the occasion.
- Are you thinking of joining the CWL? Watch for the date of our Annual Meeting and come join us at the Tara Lynne Center or call Marlaine (2769) or Ann (2726).
- Congratulations to Arthur Doary on his graduation from St. F.X in the lay ministry program.
- The following celebrated special birthdays in December: Margaret Richard on Dec 2nd; Matilda Boudreau on Dec 3rd; Beatrice Landry celebrated her 90th on Dec 5th; Cecelia Baccardax celebrated her 85th on Dec 6th; Edward Sampson and Roderick Burke on Dec 11th; Hilda Burke on Dec 14th; Gladys Touesnard Dec 24th; Fabian Richard on Dec 29th and Eleanor Pederson was 50++ on Dec 2, 2001-Happy Birthday all!
- Parent and Tot Program-Monday's 10-12 at Tara Lynne Center
- CWL monthly Meeting Jan 14th, 2002.
- Monthly RB Community Services Society Meeting to be held Jan 16th, 2002.
- Mini Bingo will be held Jan. 9th at the Seniors' Bldg.
- [C@P](#) site reopens January 3rd.
- Card games will at Seniors' Bldg. on Sunday evenings at 7.
- A reminder that anyone wishing to book the Tara Lynne Center should call Jocelyn Stone at 535-3257; needing a license for a function call Eddie Pottie at 535-2515 and those requiring use of Funeral Home should call Adrian Touesnard at 535-2373.
- The Round Up is available at Howard's Grocery, First Richmond Credit Union or RB Post Office. Subscriptions are available for \$12.00 locally, \$15.00 within Canada and \$16.50 internationally per year.
- Happy 2002 from the RB Community Services and [C@P](#) site Committees.

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